# Water Supply Reserve Account – Grant and Loan Program Water Activity Summary Sheet September 15-17, 2015 Agenda Item 18(g)

**Applicant & Fiscal Agent:** Bluff Lake Nature Center

Water Activity Name: Aquatic Habitat Improvement Project

Water Activity Purpose: Nonconsumptive

County: Denver

Drainage Basin: Metro

Water Source: none (see application)

**Amount Requested/Source of Funds:** \$10,000 Metro Account

\$200,000 Statewide Account \$210,000 Total Grant Request

**Matching Funds:** Basin Account Match (\$10,000) = 5% of total grant request (meets 5% min);

Basin Account & Applicant Match (\$2,860,000) = 1,366% of total grant request

(meets 25% min);

Applicant/ $3^{rd}$  Party Match (\$2,850,000) = 93% of total project costs (\$3,060,000)

(refer to Funding Summary/Matching Funds section)

### **Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommends approval of up to \$10,000 from the Metro Account and \$200,000 from the Statewide Account to help fund the project titled: Bluff Lake Nature Center: Aquatic Habitat Improvement Project.

Water Activity Summary: WSRA funds, if approved, will be expended to rehabilitate the existing dam at Bluff Lake; install a liner on the bottom of the lake; restore 10 acres of wetlands adjacent to the re-filled lake; and construct a 250 foot pipeline extension to tap into Denver Water's reuse water line along Havana Road in order to provide a water source to fill the lake. Bluff Lake Nature Center is a 123 acre wildlife refuge and science education center established in 1994 east of Denver. The science education component is primarily focused on underperforming schools in Denver, Aurora and Adams County. During 2013-2014 BLNC staff and volunteers interacted with more than 5,000 elementary school children and families, including more than 2,500 as part of the school-based science education program. Is has been estimated that 40,000 site visits occur annual. BLNC is free to the public.

**Discussion:** This project aligns with well with several of the Goals and Measurable Outcomes as addressed in Section 1.9; such as: Municipal Water Conservation, Reuse and Efficiency (Section 1.9.2); Environmental and Recreational (Section 1.9.7); and while not specifically called out as an Education, Participation, and Outreach Project and Methods, staff considers this effort complimentary and supportive of the SP/Metro Education, Participation, and Outreach. activities.

Issues/Additional Needs: No issues or additional needs have been identified.

Threshold and Evaluation Criteria: The application meets all four Threshold Criteria.

### **Tier 1-3 Evaluation Criteria:**

This project has undergone review and evaluation per the Supplemental Scoring Matrix and staff has determined that this request satisfies the Evaluation Criteria. Further analysis of the project, and how the project will meet Tiered Evaluation Criteria, is provided by the applicant in the WSRA Application.

## **Funding Summary/Matching Funds:**

	<u>Cash</u>	<u>In-kind</u>	<u>Total</u>
WSRA Metro Account	\$50,000	n/a	\$50,000
WSRA Statewide Account	\$150,000	n/a	\$150,000
Box Springs Canal and Reservoir Co	\$100,000	<u>n/a</u>	\$100,000
Total Project Costs	\$300,000	n/a	\$300,000

# **CWCB Project Manager:** Craig Godbout

All products, data and information developed as a result of this grant must be provided to the CWCB in hard copy and electronic format as part of the project documentation. This information will in turn be made widely available to Basin Roundtables and the general public and will help promote the development of a common technical platform. In accordance with the revised WSRA Criteria and Guidelines, staff would like to highlight additional reporting and final deliverable requirements. The specific requirements are provided below.

**Reporting:** The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of the executed contract. The progress report shall describe the completion or partial completion of the tasks identified in the scope of work including a description of any major issues that have occurred and any corrective action taken to address these issues.

**Final Deliverable:** At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a final report that summarizes the project and documents how the project was completed. This report may contain photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs.

**Engineering:** All engineering work (as defined in the Engineers Practice Act (§12-25-102(10) C.R.S.)) performed under this grant shall be performed by or under the responsible charge of professional engineer licensed by the State of Colorado to practice Engineering.