

Water Supply Reserve Account – Grant and Loan Program
Water Activity Summary Sheet
March 16-17, 2016
Agenda Item 14(o)

Applicant & Fiscal Agent: Lake Fork Valley Conservancy

Water Activity Name: Lake Fork of the Gunnison River Enhancement Project

Water Activity Purpose: Nonconsumptive

County: Gunnison

Drainage Basin: Gunnison

Water Source: Lake Fork of the Gunnison River

Amount Requested/Source of Funds: \$23,295 Gunnison Basin Account
 \$209,653 Statewide Account
 \$232,948 Total Grant Request

Matching Funds: Basin Account Match (\$23,295) = 10% of total grant request (meets 5% min);
Applicant / 3rd Party Match (\$367,522) = 158% of total grant request with pending funds; 66% without pending funds (meets 25% min);
Basin Account & Applicant Match (\$390,817) = 168% of total grant request with pending funds; 76% of total grant request without pending funds (meets 25% min)
(refer to *Funding Summary/Matching Funds* section)

Note: Application identifies an incorrect total project cost of \$733,545 with land acquisition and \$499,045 without land acquisition. Actual total is \$600,470 with land acquisition and \$376,674 without land acquisition.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of up to \$23,295 from the Gunnison Account; and \$209,653 from the Statewide Account to help fund the project titled: Lake Fork of the Gunnison River Enhancement Project.

Water Activity Summary: The Lake Fork Valley Conservancy began a planning process in 2009 to restore over 7,500 linear feet of the Lake Fork Gunnison River in Lake City. Phase I improvements were completed in October 2014. This work included 3,300 linear feet at a cost of \$500,000. Phase II covers 3,400 linear feet. Major project components include in-channel improvements, re-vegetation of riparian areas, installation of interpretive river trail system, and acquisition of properties and easements to create an open space river park. River channel and re-vegetation efforts will enhance aquatic and riparian habitats, stabilize banks, improve hydraulic function, and improve recreational experiences. Acquisition of properties for an open space river park will help preserve key riparian communities that are considered relatively rare, protect the floodway, and increase public access.

Specific objectives include increasing fish habitat quality to result in a 50% increase in trout biomass, improve hydraulic function to maintain existing base flood elevations, facilitate the transport of sediment to maintain flood capacity, stabilize banks to protect property, and improve recreational access and safety.

Discussion: This project is a Tier 1 Identified Project and Process (IPP) in Table 18 Proposed Project List) of the Gunnison BIP. It also aligns with Chapters 6.6 (Environmental and Recreational Projects and Methods) and 7.1 (Watershed Health and Management) of the Colorado Water Plan. The project has the potential to improve ecological and flood resilience in the Lake City reach of the Lake Fork of the Gunnison River.

Issues/Additional Needs:

- The applicant should provide staff with a detailed monitoring plan that describes vegetative monitoring methodologies.

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

Tier 1-3 Evaluation Criteria:

This project has undergone review and evaluation 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>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Cash</u>	<u>In-kind</u>	<u>Total</u>
CWCB WSRP (confirmed)	\$19,950	\$0	\$19,950
Upper Gunnison Water Conservancy District (confirmed)	\$12,500	\$0	\$12,500
DWP FIF (confirmed)	\$33,000	\$0	\$33,000
Lake Fork Valley Conservancy (confirmed)	\$43,695	\$0	\$43,695
Upper Gunnison Water Conservancy District (pending)	\$47,500	\$0	\$47,500
American Rivers (pending)	\$23,300	\$0	\$23,300
EPA Five Star (pending)	\$37,377	\$0	\$37,377
Gates Family Foundation (pending)	\$105,000	\$0	\$105,000
Trail Volunteers	\$0	\$3,500	\$3,500
Town of Lake City	\$0	\$4,200	\$4,200
Silver River	\$0	\$37,500	\$37,500
Subtotal matching	\$322,322	\$45,200	\$367,522
WSRA Gunnison Basin Account	\$23,295	n/a	\$23,295
WSRA Statewide Account	\$209,653	n/a	\$209,653
Total Project Costs	\$555,270	\$45,200	\$604,470

CWCB Project Manager: Chris Sturm

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.