

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

Applicant & Fiscal Agent: Mancos Conservation District

Water Activity Name: Mancos River Habitat and Diversion Project – Phase III

Water Activity Purpose: Agricultural/Implementation

County: Montezuma

Drainage Basin: Southwest

Water Source: Mancos River

Amount Requested/Source of Funds: \$59,000 Southwest Basin Account

Matching Funds: Applicant & 3rd Party Match = \$26,646 (\$18,200 cash; \$8,446 in-kind) of total project costs (\$85,646)
(refer to *Funding Summary/Matching Funds* section)

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of up to \$59,000 from the Southwest Basin Account to help fund the project titled: Mancos River Habitat and Diversion Project - Phase III.

Water Activity Summary: WSRA funds, if approved, will be expended to complete two simultaneous efforts. One effort will physically improve the agricultural and ecological function of a 2-mile reach of the East Mancos River, by installing improved diversion structures at 3 irrigation ditch headings. The improved structures will save irrigators annual maintenance costs of irrigating 413 acres, while also allowing fish and sediment passage at higher flows, and promoting channel stability. The other effort will convene a collaborative process to integrate existing data into an assessment of the resiliency of the Mancos River in light of a changing climate. This stakeholder assessment will be useful to land owners and managers interested in where/how to invest resources to maintain/improve the value of the Mancos River for multiple uses into the future. The Mancos River Habitat and Diversion Project – Phase III is a multipurpose project building on and integrating the products of Phases I and II. Phase III will continue to implement the findings developed in the Mancos River Diversion Project- Phase I to improve the ecological and agricultural function of an additional 1.5-mile reach of the lower East Mancos River.

Discussion: This project aligns well with several of the Southwest Basin Implementation Plan's Basin Goals and Measurable Outcomes as indicated in the grant application; such as B. Meet Agricultural Needs; B2: Implement efficiency measures to maximize beneficial use and production; and B3: Implement IPPs that work towards meeting agricultural water supply need; D. Meet Recreational Water Needs; D1: Maintain, protect and enhance recreational values and economic values to local and statewide economies from recreational water uses, such as fishing, boating, hunting, wildlife watching, camping, and hiking; E. Meet Environmental Water Needs; E2: Protect, maintain, monitor and improve the condition of natural function of streams, lakes, wetlands, and riparian areas to promote self-sustaining fisheries, and to support native habitat in the long term, and

adapt to changing conditions (Section 1: Basin Goals and Measurable Outcomes, Table 1, pages 12-16). While this effort has not been specifically identified as an IPP in the Southwest Basin Implementation Plan, it could be considered a continuation of the Mancos River Habitat and Diversion Project – Phase 2 (SWBIP, Appendix A, Mancos River Basin IPP List, ID # 3-M, page 12 of 18). In addition this effort advances the Critical Goals and Actions to: Maintain Agricultural Viability, and Support Agricultural Conservation and Efficiency (CWP Chapter 10.3, D. Agriculture; page 10-10); and F. Watershed Health, Environment, and Recreation (CWP Chapter 10.3, page 10-12).

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: n/a

Funding Summary/Matching Funds:

	<u>Cash</u>	<u>In-kind</u>	<u>Total</u>
Mancos Conservation District	\$15,700	\$1,348	\$17,048
US National Park Service	\$2,500	\$877	\$3,377
Mountain Studies Institute	\$0	\$2,148	\$2,148
Other Entities & Volunteers	\$0	\$4,073	\$4,073
Subtotal matching funds	\$18,200	\$8,446	\$26,646
WSRA Southwest Basin Account	\$59,000	n/a	\$59,000
Total Project Costs	\$77,200	\$8,446	\$85,646

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.