

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

**Applicant & Fiscal Agent:** Mountain Studies Institute  
**Water Activity Name:** Animas River Community Forum  
**Water Activity Purpose:** Education & Outreach  
**County:** La Plata & San Juan  
**Drainage Basin:** Southwest  
**Water Source:** Animas River  
**Amount Requested/Source of Funds:** \$37,850 Southwest Basin Account  
**Matching Funds:** Applicant & 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Match = \$42,920 (\$17,000 cash; \$25,920 in-kind) of total project costs (\$80,770)  
(refer to *Funding Summary/Matching Funds* section)

<b>Staff Recommendation:</b>
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Staff recommends approval of up to \$37,850 from the Southwest Basin Account to help fund the project titled: Animas River Community Forum.
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**Water Activity Summary:** WSRA funds, if approved, will be expended to fund the efforts of the Animas River Community Forum. These one year efforts include: sharing and disseminating information related to the Gold King Mine spill and recovery; provide venues for the community and stakeholders both within the basin and statewide to learn from the spill and benefit from the opportunity to learn about watershed risk, response, and recovery; conduct 1-2 conferences, develop a communications plan, conduct 2-3 educational talks/outreach events to share lessons from the spill and recovery process; inventory baseline information both historical and current, and identify priorities for new monitoring focusing on monitoring questions related to public health, public concerns, and ecosystem resilience; and hire a part time Coordinator to guide the group in achieving its goals and activities listed above, and to manage funds and track in-kind contributions, draft reports and evaluate impacts.

**Discussion:** This project aligns well with many of the Southwest Basin Implementation Plan's Basin Goals, such as: Goal A2: Support specific and unique new IPPs important to maintaining the quality of life in this region, and to address multiple purposes including municipal, industrial, environmental, recreational, agricultural, risk management, and compact compliance needs; Goal A4: Promote dialogue, foster cooperation and resolve conflict among water interests in every basin and between basins for the purpose of implementing solutions to Southwest Colorado's and Colorado's water supply challenges; Goal C2: Provide safe drinking water to Southwest Colorado's citizens and visitors; Goal D1: Maintain, protect and enhance recreational values and economic values to local and statewide economies derived from recreational water uses, such as fishing, boating, hunting, wildlife watching, camping, and hiking; Goal E2: Protect, maintain, monitor and improve the condition and natural function of streams, lakes, wetlands, and riparian areas to promote self-

sustaining fisheries, and to support native species and functional habitat in the long term, and adapt to changing conditions; Goal F1: Monitor, protect and improve water quality for all classified uses (SWBIP, Section 1: Basin Goals and Measurable Outcomes, Table 1: Goals and Measurable Outcomes for the Southwest Basin Implementation Plan, pages 12-17).

In addition this effort advances the Environmental and Recreational goals of Colorado's Water Plan by: protecting and enhancing economic values to local and statewide economies that rely on environmental and recreational water uses, such as fishing, boating, waterfowl hunting, wildlife watching, camping, and hiking; understand, protect, maintain, and improve conditions of streams, lakes, wetlands, and riparian areas to promote self-sustaining fisheries and functional riparian and wetland habitat to promote long-term sustainability and resiliency; maintain watershed health by protecting or restoring watersheds that could affect critical infrastructure and/or environmental and recreational areas (CWP, Chapter 6.6, page 6-157).

**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>
ARCF Partners <sup>(1)</sup>	\$17,000	\$25,920	\$42,920
WSRA Southwest Basin Account	\$37,850	n/a	\$37,850
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>\$54,850</b>	<b>\$25,920</b>	<b>\$80,770</b>

(1) DOLA, tribes, Animas Watershed Partnership, San Juan Basin Health, Trout Unlimited, City of Durango, federal land management agencies, CPW, and the Mountain Studies Institute.

**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.