



COLORADO

**Colorado Water
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street
Denver, CO 80203

P (303) 866-3441

F (303) 866-4474

John Hickenlooper, Governor

Robert W. Randall, DNR Interim
Executive Director

James Eklund, CWCB Director

TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Craig Godbout
Program Manager - Water Supply Reserve Account Grant Program
Water Supply Planning Section

DATE: May 4, 2016

AGENDA ITEM: 18 (a-e) WSRA Grant Requests

Staff Recommendation - Action Items: WSRA Grant Requests

A summary of staff's recommendation for each WSRA application is provided in the first component of the attached table. If applicable, the table also includes a breakdown of match amounts for applications that include a request for Statewide Account WSRA funds.

Favorable recommendations may be contingent on providing the CWCB with additional information, clarifications, or modifications in the scope of work. Please refer to the Water Activity Summary Sheets contained within this agenda item to find a summary of staff's review and any conditions associated with each recommendation.

Background:

For this agenda item the Board is provided with a brief overview of applications to the Water Supply Reserve Account (WSRA). Attachments to this memo include:

- Summary spreadsheet detailing funding requests for the basin and statewide accounts;
- Summary spreadsheet displaying current WSRA Balance Summary of Fund Appropriations and Receipts by Fiscal Year, and Fund Distribution by Basin and Statewide Account.
- Water Activity Summary Sheets which provide an overview, discussion, issues/additional needs, and staff recommendation regarding funding, partial funding, or not funding the applications.

Staff's review of the applications involves the following steps:

- 1) Applications are reviewed for completeness based on the information requirements, which are primarily outlined in Part 2 of the Criteria and Guidelines (C&G).
- 2) Applications are reviewed to verify that the water activity meets the eligibility requirements in Section 39-29-108 (III) C.R.S. (C&G, Part 2) and the threshold criteria, which are based on the requirements of Section 39-29-108 (III) C.R.S., and two



sections of the Water for the 21st Century Act (House Bill 1177); Section 37-75-102 and Section 37-75-104(2)(c) (C&G, Part 3). Staff also verifies that the applicant was an eligible entity to receive funding (C&G, Part 2).

- 3) Staff then prepares the Water Activity Summary Sheet which documents the outcome of the review process and contains staff's recommendations.

Water Supply Reserve Account Balance Summary and Project Status Report:

To provide the Board updates on the status of specific Water Supply Reserve Account grant applications and projects, staff provides a status report in the CWCB Director's Report. The WSRA status report includes the following information:

- List of completed WSRA projects;
- List of WSRA projects in progress; and
- List of WSRA projects in the contracting and procurement process.



Water Supply Reserve Account Applications for Consideration at the CWCB May 2016 Board Meeting

Agenda Item	Basin	Applicant	Name of Water Activity	CWCB Meeting	Basin(s) Account Request	Statewide Account Requests	Total Request	Cash Match	In-Kind Match	Total Match	Total Project or Study Costs	Staff Recommendations	PM
18(a)	Arkansas	Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District	Pueblo Channel Debris Removal and Habitat Restoration Project		\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$74,000	\$0	\$74,000	\$79,000	Staff recommends approval of up to \$5,000 from the Arkansas Basin Account.	Brent Newman
18(b)	Rio Grande	Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation	Upper Rio Grande Assessment		\$67,000	\$0	\$67,000	\$133,000	\$0	\$133,000	\$200,000	Staff recommends approval of up to \$67,000 from the Rio Grande Basin Account.	Craig Godbout
18(c)	Yampa/White/Green	Community Agriculture Alliance	Yampa/White/Green River Basins Roundtable Education Outreach		\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$150,000	Staff recommends approval of up to \$150,000 from the Yampa/White/Green Basin Account.	Mara MacLillop
18(d)	Yampa/White/Green	Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable (Colorado River Water Conservation District acting as Fiscal Agent)	Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan Modeling		\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$150,000	Staff recommends approval of up to \$150,000 from the Yampa/White/Green Basin Account.	Craig Godbout
					\$372,000	\$0	\$372,000						
Change of Fiscal Agent													
Agenda Item	Basin	Current Fiscal Agent	Proposed Fiscal Agent	Name of Water Activity	Basin Account Request	Statewide Account Request	Total Request						
18(e)	Rio Grande	Rio Grande Watershed Conservation and Education Initiative	Colorado Open Lands	Implementing Public Education & Public Outreach in the Rio Grande River Basin: Education to Implementation									

<u>Basin</u>	<u>Basin Account Requests</u>	<u>Statewide Account Requests</u>	<u>Total Requests</u>	<u>Current Basin Account Balances</u>	<u>Remaining Basin Account Balances (if all requests approved)</u>	<u>Current Statewide Account Balance</u>	<u>Current Statewide Account Requests</u>	<u>Remaining Statewide Account Balance (if all requests approved)</u>
<u>Arkansas Basin</u>	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$184,903	\$179,903			
<u>Colorado Basin</u>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$473,327	\$473,327			
<u>Gunnsion Basin</u>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$702,572	\$702,572			
<u>Metro Basin</u>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$334,337	\$334,337			
<u>North Platte</u>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$953,900	\$953,900	\$2,146,325	\$0	\$2,146,325
<u>Rio Grande</u>	\$67,000	\$0	\$67,000	\$412,156	\$345,156			
<u>Southwest</u>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$580,057	\$580,057			
<u>South Platte</u>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$423,806	\$423,806			
<u>Yampa/White/Green</u>	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000	\$1,185,624	\$885,624			
<u>Water Supply Reserve Account Total Requests</u>	\$372,000	\$0	\$372,000	\$5,250,682	\$4,878,682			

COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Water Supply Reserve Account - Balance Summary
May 2016

5/2/2016

Fund Appropriation and Receipts				
Fiscal Year	Legislative Appropriation	Funds Received	Statewide Account	Basin Account
2006/2007	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$5,500,000	\$4,500,000
2007/2008	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$4,200,000	\$1,800,000
2008/2009	\$10,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$4,300,000	\$2,700,000
2009/2010	\$5,775,000	\$5,775,000	\$4,215,750	\$1,559,250
2010/2011	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$4,380,000	\$1,620,000
2011/2012	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$4,732,000	\$2,268,000
2012/2013	\$10,000,000	\$7,157,724	\$4,580,943	\$2,576,781
2013/2014	\$10,000,000	\$10,091,639	\$6,458,649	\$3,632,990
2014/2015	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$6,400,000	\$3,600,000
2015/2016	\$10,000,000	\$9,103,590	\$5,826,298	\$3,277,292
Interest	N/A	\$2,857,935	\$1,829,078	\$0
Prior Years Interest Adjustment			\$1,028,856	\$0
2014/2015 Interest	N/A	\$ 240,216	\$240,216	\$0
2015/2016 Interest	N/A	\$ 180,824	\$180,824	\$0
TOTAL	\$84,775,000	\$81,406,927	\$53,872,614	\$27,534,313

Note: The WSRA is a Severance Tax "Tier II" program with 40% of funds distributed on July 1, 30% on January 1, and the final 30% on April 1.

In FY 2008/2009 the final 30% installment of \$3,000,000 was not received due to the State's budgetary shortfall.

In January 2012 interest for the program from its inception to date was credited directly to the Statewide Account.

Interest from January 2012 on is regularly calculated by the Treasury and credited to the Statewide Account.

Fund Distribution					
Basin	Approved Basin Grants	Total Basin Funds	Basin Account Balance	Approved State Grants	Statewide Account Balance
Arkansas	\$2,874,465	\$3,059,368	\$184,903	\$8,739,504	
Colorado	\$2,586,041	\$3,059,368	\$473,327	\$5,612,524	
Southwest *	\$2,479,311	\$3,059,368	\$580,057	\$7,199,911	
Gunnison *	\$2,356,796	\$3,059,368	\$702,572	\$4,249,681	
Metro	\$2,725,031	\$3,059,368	\$334,337	\$7,346,148	
North Platte	\$2,105,468	\$3,059,368	\$953,900	540,942	
Rio Grande	\$2,647,212	\$3,059,368	\$412,156	\$10,350,323	
South Platte *	\$2,635,562	\$3,059,368	\$423,806	\$6,955,510	
Yampa/White	\$1,873,744	\$3,059,368	\$1,185,624	\$731,747	
TOTAL	\$22,283,631	\$27,534,313	\$5,250,682	\$51,726,289	\$2,146,325
TOTAL APPROVED GRANTS					\$74,009,919

Note: Only includes grants approved by CWCB

*See Comments - Figures have changes due to grantee's withdrawn funding

Water Supply Reserve Account – Grant and Loan Program
Water Activity Summary Sheet
May 18-19, 2016
Agenda Item 18(a)

Applicant & Fiscal Agent: Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District

Water Activity Name: Pueblo Channel Debris Removal and Habitat Restoration Project

Water Activity Purpose: Multipurpose

County: Pueblo

Drainage Basin: Arkansas

Water Source: Fountain Creek

Amount Requested/Source of Funds: \$5,000 Arkansas Basin Account (total grant request)

Matching Funds: Applicant/3rd Party Match (\$274,000) = 98.2% of total project costs (\$279,000)
(refer to *Funding Summary/Matching Funds* section)

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of up to \$5,000 from the Arkansas Basin Account to help fund the project titled: Pueblo Channel Debris Removal and Habitat Restoration Project.
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Water Activity Summary: WSRA funds, if approved, will be expended to fund the project titled: Pueblo Channel Debris Removal and Habitat Restoration Project. The purpose of this project is to remove debris from the Fountain Creek channel within the City of Pueblo and to restore habitat areas within the channel that have been degraded by recent flood activity. In 2012 and again in 2013, significant wildfires occurred in the upper reaches of Fountain Creek. Subsequent flood events, and to some extent even ordinary heavy rains, have caused deposition of debris within the channel. The project's multiple purposes include incremental restoration of possibly degraded habitat (environmental), but also increased public safety (municipal) and reduction of flood risk.

The Basin Fund account request of \$5,000 has two purposes: 1) To engage the Arkansas Basin Roundtable in the initial phase of what is hoped to become a multi-year, multi-project initiative to fully restore the Fountain Creek corridor within the City of Pueblo, and; 2) Through that awareness, develop enthusiasm for a subsequent WSRA grant request requesting Basin and Statewide funds in the third quarter of 2016.

The objectives of the project are as follows:

- Objective 1 – Coordinate the debris removal/habitat restoration activity with interested agencies, including procurement of a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (“COE”) Nationwide Permit #27, *Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment and Enhancement Activities*.

- Objective 2 –Removal of flood-placed debris, trash and other foreign matter currently residing in the stream channel and banks of Fountain Creek between the Highway 47 bridge (north) downstream to approximately 8th Street (south) in Pueblo, Colorado, resulting in restored aquatic habitat and increased public safety.
- Objective 3 – Manage the project through construction to completion, with a final report submitted to funding and permitting agencies.

Discussion: This project is consistent with the goals and actions identified in the Arkansas Basin Implementation Plan. The project is also consistent with the key action items, goals, and measurable objectives identified in Colorado’s Water Plan, specifically critical action items identified in Chapter 10 which direct the CWCB to work with BRTs and project proponents to fund projects which have been prioritized by basin roundtables.

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

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

Tier 1-3 Evaluation Criteria: n/a

Funding Summary/Matching Funds:

<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Cash</u>	<u>In-kind</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pueblo County	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000
Fountain Creek District	\$74,000	\$0	\$74,000
LAVWCD	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000
Subtotal Matching Funds	\$274,000	\$0	\$274,000
WSRA Arkansas Basin Account	\$5,000	n/a	\$5,000
Total Project Costs	\$279,000	\$0	\$279,000

CWCB Project Manager: Brent Newman

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.

Arkansas Basin Roundtable

April 18, 2016

Via Electronic Mail: craig.godbout@state.co.us

Mr. Craig Godbout
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Water Supply Reserve Account Grant Application: Pueblo Channel Debris Removal Project

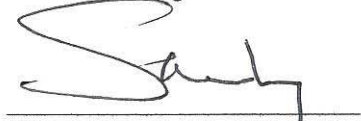
Dear Craig:

At its April 13, 2016 meeting, the Arkansas Roundtable approved the Pueblo Channel Debris Removal Project for \$5,000 in Basin Funds, with \$250,000 cash matching funds from a consortium of participating agencies, including Pueblo County, the Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District and the Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District. There were no dissenting opinions expressed in the consensus decision.

This project has been expedited to offset the impending consequences of debris deposited in the Fountain Creek channel as it traverses the City of Pueblo. Wild fires in the upper reaches of the Fountain Creek Watershed (Waldo, 2012; Black Forest, 2013) coupled with flood events in September, 2013 and in 2015, have resulted in extraordinary quantities of debris within the streambed. With a demonstrable wet cycle active, removal of the debris is imperative to avoid additional flooding.

This project furthers the goals and objectives of the Arkansas Basin Implementation Plan and the Colorado Water Plan, particularly Objectives E. Watershed Health, Environment, and Recreation: "*Protect and Restore Critical Watersheds*," and I. Additional Critical Actions: "*Prepare for and Respond to Natural Disasters*" (Section 10.3). Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me either by telephone, 719-742-6164, or by email, sandy@white-jankowski.com.

With warm regards



Michael D. (Sandy) White
Chair

Copy via email:

Applicant

ABRT Executive Committee



COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD



WATER SUPPLY RESERVE ACCOUNT APPLICATION FORM

Today's Date: April 11, 2016

Pueblo Channel Debris Removal and Habitat Restoration Project

Name of Water Activity/Project

Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District

Name of Applicant

Arkansas Basin

Amount from Statewide Account:

none

Amount from Basin Account(s):

\$5,000.00

Total WSRA Funds Requested:

\$5,000.00

Approving Basin Roundtable(s)

(If multiple basins specify amounts in parentheses.)

FEIN: 48-1298144

Application Content

Application Instructions	page 2
Part I – Description of the Applicant	page 3
Part II – Description of the Water Activity	page 5
Part III – Threshold and Evaluation Criteria	page 7
Part IV – Required Supporting Material	
Water Rights, Availability, and Sustainability	page 10
Related Studies	page 10
Signature Page	page 12

Required Exhibits

- A. Statement of Work, Budget, and Schedule
- B. Project Map
- C. As Needed (i.e. letters of support, photos, maps, etc.)

Appendices – Reference Material

- 1. Program Information
- 2. Insurance Requirements
- 3. WSRA Standard Contract Information (Required for Projects Over \$100,000)
- 4. W-9 Form (Required for All Projects Prior to Contracting)

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Instructions

To receive funding from the Water Supply Reserve Account (WSRA), a proposed water activity must be approved by the local Basin Roundtable **AND** the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). The process for Basin Roundtable consideration and approval is outlined in materials in Appendix 1.

Once approved by the local Basin Roundtable, the applicant should submit this application **with a detailed statement of work including budget and schedule as Exhibit A** to CWCB staff by the application deadline.

WSRA applications are due with the roundtable letter of support 60 calendar days prior to the bi-monthly Board meeting at which it will be considered. Board meetings are held in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Meeting details, including scheduled dates, agendas, etc. are posted on the CWCB website at: <http://cwcb.state.co.us> Applications to the WSRA Basin Account are considered at every board meeting, while applications to the WSRA Statewide Account are only considered at the March and September board meetings.

When completing this application, the applicant should refer to the WSRA Criteria and Guidelines available at: <http://cwcb.state.co.us/LoansGrants/water-supply-reserve-account-grants/Documents/WSRACriteriaGuidelines.pdf>. In addition, the applicant should also refer to the [Supplemental Scoring Matrix](#) applied to Evaluation Criteria Tiers 1-3 for Statewide Account requests .

The application, statement of work, budget, and schedule **must be submitted in electronic format** (Microsoft Word or text-enabled PDF are preferred) and can be emailed or mailed on a disk to:

Craig Godbout - WSRA Application
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203
Craig.godbout@state.co.us

If you have questions or need additional assistance, please contact Craig Godbout at: 303-866-3441 x3210 or craig.godbout@state.co.us.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Part I. - Description of the Applicant (Project Sponsor or Owner);

1.	Applicant Name(s):	Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District		
	Mailing address:	801 Swink Avenue Rocky Ford, CO 81067		
	FEIN #:	48-1298144		
	Primary Contact:	Jay Winner	Position/Title:	General Manager
	Email:	jwinner@centurytel.net		
	Phone Numbers:	Cell: 719-469-8935	Office:	719-254-5115
	Alternate Contact:	Brenda Fillmore	Position/Title:	
	Email:	Bfillmore13@centurytel.net		
	Phone Numbers:	Cell:	Office:	719—254-5115

2. Eligible entities for WSRA funds include the following. What type of entity is the Applicant?

- ☐ Public (Government) – municipalities, enterprises, counties, and State of Colorado agencies. Federal agencies are encouraged to work with local entities and the local entity should be the grant recipient. Federal agencies are eligible, but only if they can make a compelling case for why a local partner cannot be the grant recipient.
- ☒ Public (Districts) – authorities, Title 32/special districts, (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises.
- ☐ Private Incorporated – mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations.
- ☐ Private individuals, partnerships, and sole proprietors are eligible for funding from the Basin Accounts but not for funding from the Statewide Account.
- ☐ Non-governmental organizations – broadly defined as any organization that is not part of the government.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

3. Provide a brief description of your organization

The Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District (LAVWCD) is a water conservancy district established in 2002 pursuant to Colorado law, C.R.S. § 37-45-101 et seq. The Lower Ark District's mission is to acquire, retain and conserve water resources within the Lower Arkansas River; to encourage the use of such water for the socio-economic benefit of the District citizens; and to participate in water-related projects that will embody thoughtful conservation, responsible growth, and beneficial water usage within the Lower Arkansas Valley. As such, this includes promoting and protecting agriculture in the Lower Arkansas Basin.

4. If the Contracting Entity is different then the Applicant (Project Sponsor or Owner) please describe the Contracting Entity here.

The Lower Ark District formed a Water Activity Enterprise in 2003 to manage the District's water assets and provide services to the District on a reimbursable basis. The Lower Arkansas Valley Water Enterprise Fund will be the contracting entity for this project.

5. Successful applicants will have to execute a contract with the CWCB prior to beginning work on the portion of the project funded by the WSRA grant. In order to expedite the contracting process the CWCB has established a standard contract with provisions the applicant must adhere to. A link to this standard contract is included in Appendix 3. Please review this contract and check the appropriate box.

☒ The Applicant will be able to contract with the CWCB using the Standard Contract

☐ The Applicant has reviewed the standard contract and has some questions/issues/concerns. Please be aware that any deviation from the standard contract could result in a significant delay between grant approval and the funds being available.

6. The Tax Payer Bill of Rights (TABOR) may limit the amount of grant money an entity can receive. Please describe any relevant TABOR issues that may affect the applicant.

LAVWCD's property tax levy is exempt from TABOR pursuant to the election that formed the district in 2002.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Part II. - Description of the Water Activity/Project

1. What is the primary purpose of this grant application? (Please check only one)

- ☐ Nonconsumptive (Environmental or Recreational)
- ☐ Agricultural
- ☐ Municipal/Industrial
- ☐ Needs Assessment
- ☐ Education
- ☒ Other Explain:

2. If you feel this project addresses multiple purposes please explain.

The purpose of this project is to remove debris from the Fountain Creek channel within the City of Pueblo and to restore habitat areas within the channel that have been degraded by recent flood activity. In 2012 and again in 2013, significant wild fires occurred in the upper reaches of Fountain Creek. Subsequent flood events, and to some extent even ordinary heavy rains, have caused deposition of debris within the channel. The project's multiple purposes include incremental restoration of possibly degraded habitat (environmental), but also increased public safety (municipal) and reduction of flood risk.

3. Is this project primarily a study or implementation of a water activity/project? (Please check only one)

- ☐ Study ☒ Implementation

4. To catalog measurable results achieved with WSRA funds can you provide any of the following numbers?

- New Storage Created (acre-feet)
- New Annual Water Supplies Developed, Consumptive or Nonconsumptive (acre-feet)
- Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
- Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)
- Length of Pipe/Canal Built or Improved (linear feet)
- Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year OR ~~dollars/year~~ – **circle one**)
- Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)
- ☒ Other -- Explain:

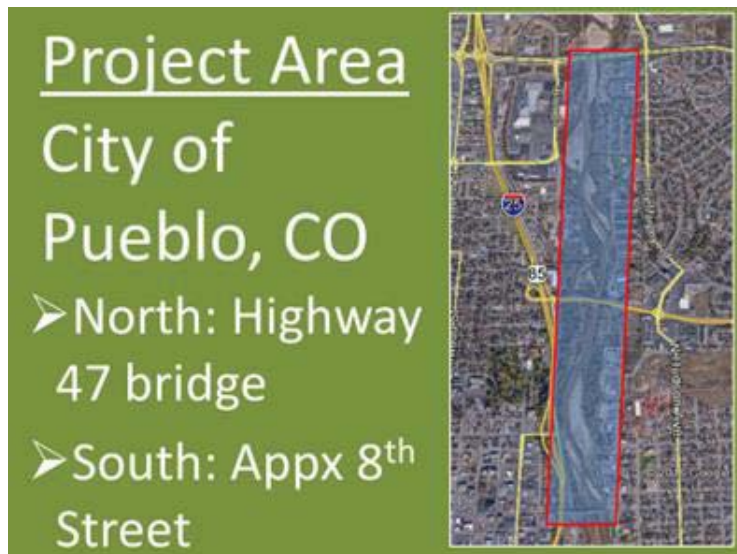
Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

4. To help us map WSRA projects please include a map and provide the general coordinates below:

Latitude: 39.30

Longitude: -104.60



5. Please provide an overview/summary of the proposed water activity (no more than one page). Include a description of the overall water activity and specifically what the WSRA funding will be used for. A full **Statement of Work** with a detailed budget and schedule is required as **Exhibit A** of this application.

The objectives are as follows:

- **Objective 1** – Coordinate the debris removal/habitat restoration activity with interested agencies, including procurement of a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (“COE”) Nationwide Permit #27, Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment and Enhancement Activities.
- **Objective 2** – Removal of flood-placed debris, trash and other foreign matter currently residing in the stream channel and banks of Fountain Creek between the Highway 47 bridge (north) downstream to approximately 8th Street (south) in Pueblo, Colorado, resulting in restored aquatic habitat and increased public safety.
- **Objective 3** – Manage the project through construction to completion, with a final report submitted to funding and permitting agencies.

Part III. – Threshold and Evaluation Criteria

1. Describe how the water activity meets these **Threshold Criteria**. (Detailed in Part 3 of the Water Supply Reserve Account Criteria and Guidelines.)

a) The water activity is consistent with Section 37-75-102 Colorado Revised Statutes.¹

¹ 37-75-102. Water rights - protections. (1) It is the policy of the General Assembly that the current system of allocating water within Colorado shall not be superseded, abrogated, or otherwise impaired by this article. Nothing in this article shall be interpreted to repeal or in any manner amend the existing water rights adjudication system. The General Assembly affirms

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

The project will not supersede, abrogate, or otherwise impair the State's current system of allocating water within Colorado nor does it in any manner repeal or amend the existing water rights adjudication system. The project does not affect the State Constitution's recognition of water rights as a private usufructuary property right nor is it intended to restrict the ability of the holder of a water right to use or to dispose of that water right in any manner permitted under Colorado law.

- b) The water activity underwent an evaluation and approval process and was approved by the Basin Roundtable (BRT) and the application includes a description of the results of the BRT's evaluation and approval of the activity. At a minimum, the description must include the level of agreement reached by the roundtable, including any minority opinion(s) if there was not general agreement for the activity. The description must also include reasons why general agreement was not reached (if it was not), including who opposed the activity and why they opposed it. Note- If this information is included in the letter from the roundtable chair simply reference that letter.

Chairman's letter under separate cover.

- c) The water activity meets the provisions of Section 37-75-104(2), Colorado Revised Statutes.² The Basin Roundtable Chairs shall include in their approval letters for particular WSRA grant applications a description of how the water activity will assist in meeting the water supply needs identified in the basin roundtable's consumptive and/or non-consumptive needs assessments.
- d) Matching Requirement: For requests from the **Statewide Fund**, the applicants will be required to demonstrate a **25 percent** (or greater) match of the total grant request from the other sources, including but not limited to Basin Funds. A minimum match of 5% of the total grant amount shall be from Basin funds. A minimum match of 5% of the total grant amount must come from the applicant or 3rd party sources. Sources of matching funds include but are not limited to Basin Funds, in-kind services,

the state constitution's recognition of water rights as a private usufructuary property right, and this article is not intended to restrict the ability of the holder of a water right to use or to dispose of that water right in any manner permitted under Colorado law. (2) The General Assembly affirms the protections for contractual and property rights recognized by the contract and takings protections under the state constitution and related statutes. This article shall not be implemented in any way that would diminish, impair, or cause injury to any property or contractual right created by intergovernmental agreements, contracts, stipulations among parties to water cases, terms and conditions in water decrees, or any other similar document related to the allocation or use of water. This article shall not be construed to supersede, abrogate, or cause injury to vested water rights or decreed conditional water rights. The General Assembly affirms that this article does not impair, limit, or otherwise affect the rights of persons or entities to enter into agreements, contracts, or memoranda of understanding with other persons or entities relating to the appropriation, movement, or use of water under other provisions of law.

² 37-75-104 (2)(c). Using data and information from the Statewide Water Supply Initiative and other appropriate sources and in cooperation with the on-going Statewide Water Supply Initiative, develop a basin-wide consumptive and nonconsumptive water supply needs assessment, conduct an analysis of available unappropriated waters within the basin, and propose projects or methods, both structural and nonstructural, for meeting those needs and utilizing those unappropriated waters where appropriate. Basin Roundtables shall actively seek the input and advice of affected local governments, water providers, and other interested stakeholders and persons in establishing its needs assessment, and shall propose projects or methods for meeting those needs. Recommendations from this assessment shall be forwarded to the Interbasin Compact Committee and other basin roundtables for analysis and consideration after the General Assembly has approved the Interbasin Compact Charter.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

funding from other sources, and/or direct cash match. Past expenditures directly related to the project may be considered as matching funds if the expenditures occurred within 9 months of the date the contract or purchase order between the applicant and the State of Colorado is executed. Please describe the source(s) of matching funds. (NOTE: These matching funds should also be reflected in your Detailed Budget in **Exhibit A** of this application)

Proposed is \$250,000 cash match representing 98% of the project cost. There are no Statewide funds requested. The Basin Fund account request of \$5,000 has two purposes: 1) To engage the Arkansas Basin Roundtable in the initial phase of what is hoped to become a multi-year, multi-project initiative to fully restore the Fountain Creek corridor within the City of Pueblo, and; 2) Through that awareness, develop enthusiasm for a subsequent WSRA grant request requesting Basin and Statewide funds in the third quarter of 2016.

2. For Applications that include a request for funds from the **Statewide Account**, describe how the water activity/project meets all applicable **Evaluation Criteria**. (Detailed in Part 3 of the Water Supply Reserve Account Criteria and Guidelines and repeated below.) Projects will be assessed on how well they meet the Evaluation Criteria. **Please attach additional pages as necessary.**

Evaluation Criteria – the following criteria will be utilized to further evaluate the merits of the water activity proposed for funding from the Statewide Account. In evaluation of proposed water activities, preference will be given to projects that meet one or more criteria from each of the three “tiers” or categories. Each “tier” is grouped in level of importance. For instance, projects that meet Tier 1 criteria will outweigh projects that only meet Tier 3 criteria. The applicant should also refer to the Supplemental Scoring Matrix applied to Evaluation Criteria Tiers 1-3 for Statewide Account requests. WSRA grant requests for projects that may qualify for loans through the CWCB loan program will receive preference in the Statewide Evaluation Criteria if the grant request is part of a CWCB loan/WSRA grant package. For these CWCB loan/WSRA grant packages, the applicant must have a CWCB loan/WSRA grant ratio of 1:1 or higher. Preference will be given to those with a higher loan/grant ratio.

Tier 1: Promoting Collaboration/Cooperation and Meeting Water Management Goals and Identified Water Needs

- a. ~~The water activity addresses multiple needs or issues, including consumptive and/or non-consumptive needs, or the needs and issues of multiple interests or multiple basins. This can be demonstrated by obtaining letters of support from other basin roundtables (in addition to an approval letter from the sponsoring basin).~~
- b. ~~The number and types of entities represented in the application and the degree to which the activity will promote cooperation and collaboration among traditional consumptive water interests and/or non-consumptive interests, and if applicable, the degree to which the water activity is effective in addressing intrabasin or interbasin needs or issues.~~
- e. ~~The water activity helps implement projects and processes identified as helping meet Colorado’s future water needs, and/or addresses the gap areas between available water supply and future need as identified in SWSI or a roundtable’s basin-wide water needs assessment.~~

Tier 2: Facilitating Water Activity Implementation

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

- ~~d. Funding from this Account will reduce the uncertainty that the water activity will be implemented. For this criterion the applicant should discuss how receiving funding from the Account will make a significant difference in the implementation of the water activity (i.e., how will receiving funding enable the water activity to move forward or the inability obtaining funding elsewhere).~~
- ~~e. The amount of matching funds provided by the applicant via direct contributions, demonstrable in-kind contributions, and/or other sources demonstrates a significant & appropriate commitment to the project.~~

Tier 3: The Water Activity Addresses Other Issues of Statewide Value and Maximizes Benefits

- ~~f. The water activity helps sustain agriculture & open space, or meets environmental or recreational needs.~~
- ~~g. The water activity assists in the administration of compact entitled waters or addresses problems related to compact entitled waters and compact compliance and the degree to which the activity promotes maximum utilization of state waters.~~
- ~~h. The water activity assists in the recovery of threatened and endangered wildlife species or Colorado State species of concern.~~
- ~~i. The water activity provides a high level of benefit to Colorado in relationship to the amount of funds requested.~~
- ~~j. The water activity is complimentary to or assists in the implementation of other CWCB programs.~~

Part IV. – Required Supporting Material

1. **Water Rights, Availability, and Sustainability** – This information is needed to assess the viability of the water project or activity. Please provide a description of the water supply source to be utilized, or the water body to be affected by, the water activity. This should include a description of applicable water rights, and water rights issues, and the name/location of water bodies affected by the water activity.

The water body affected by this activity is Fountain Creek, a tributary of the Arkansas River with its confluence in the City of Pueblo. The manifold interaction between multiple local jurisdictions regarding the historic, current and future conditions of the Fountain Creek channel include intergovernmental agreements, 1041 permitting requirement, state and federal permitting and local initiatives, like the Fountain Creek Vision Task Force.

2. Please provide a brief narrative of any related studies or permitting issues.

Recent studies of the Fountain Creek watershed began following a flood event in 1999, culminating in a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers study that commenced in April, 2003 and was completed in 2006. Intensive permitting associated with Fountain Creek was triggered under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) when Colorado Springs Utilities Southern Delivery System project triggered a public process in 2005. Permitting includes a Record of Decision for an Environmental Impact Statement by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and a 1041 Permit issued by Pueblo County. Subsequent studies include the Fountain Creek Vision Task Force Strategic Plan, the Fountain Creek Master Plan and USGS Scientific Investigations Report 2014-5019, Remediation Scenarios for Attenuating Peak Flows and Reducing Sediment Transport in Fountain Creek, Colorado, 2013.

With its WSRA grant request approved by CWCB in March, 2016, the Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District will commence a study to assess the downstream impact on senior water rights as a result

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

of addressing the recommendations in USGS SIR 2014-5019 described above.

3. Statement of Work, Detailed Budget, and Project Schedule

STATEMENT OF WORK ATTACHED AS EXHIBIT A

The statement of work will form the basis for the contract between the Applicant and the State of Colorado. In short, the Applicant is agreeing to undertake the work for the compensation outlined in the statement of work and budget, and in return, the State of Colorado is receiving the deliverables/products specified. **Please note that costs incurred prior to execution of a contract or purchase order are not subject to reimbursement.** All WSRA funds are disbursed on a reimbursement basis after review invoices and appropriate backup material.

REPORTING AND FINAL DELIVERABLE

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 statement 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.

PAYMENT

Payment will be made based on actual expenditures and invoicing by the applicant. Invoices from any other entity (i.e. subcontractors) cannot be processed by the State. The request for payment must include a description of the work accomplished by major task, and estimate of the percent completion for individual tasks and the entire water activity in relation to the percentage of budget spent, identification of any major issues and proposed or implemented corrective actions. The last 10 percent of the entire water activity budget will be withheld until final project/water activity documentation is completed. 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 help promote the development of a common technical platform.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form
Revised October 2013

The above statements are true to the best of my knowledge:

Signature of Applicant:



Print Applicant's Name: Jay Winner, General Manager

Project Title: Pueblo Channel Debris Removal and Habitat Restoration Project

Return an electronic version (hardcopy may also be submitted) of this application to:

Craig Godbout – WSRA Application
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203
303-866-3441, ext. 3210 (office)
303-547-8061 (cell)
craig.godbout@state.co.us

Exhibit A: Statement of Work

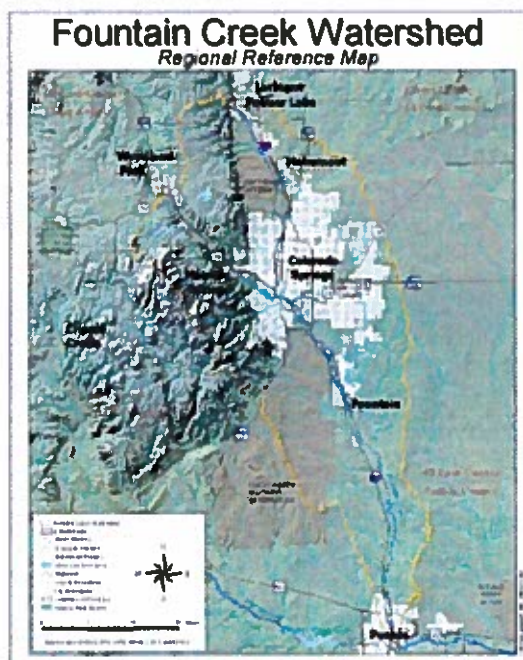
WATER ACTIVITY NAME – Pueblo Channel Debris Removal and Habitat Restoration Project

GRANT RECIPIENTS – Pueblo County; Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District, and; Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District. **FISCAL AGENT:** Lower Arkansas Water Conservancy District Enterprise

FUNDING SOURCE – Water Supply Reserve Account: \$5,000; **Matching Funds:** Pueblo County - \$100,000; Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District - \$50,000, and Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District - \$100,000. **Total Budget: \$255,000**

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Fountain Creek Watershed (HUC #11020003) transects an elevation change from 14,110' to just above 4,000' as the stream flows through the City of Pueblo, Colorado. The combination of substantial forest fires in 2012 and 2013 in the upper reaches of the watershed and a series of hydrologically wet years in 2013 and 2015 have resulted in an extraordinary deposition of debris in the Fountain Creek channel just above the confluence with the Arkansas River. The deposited



Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

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Exhibit A: Statement of Work

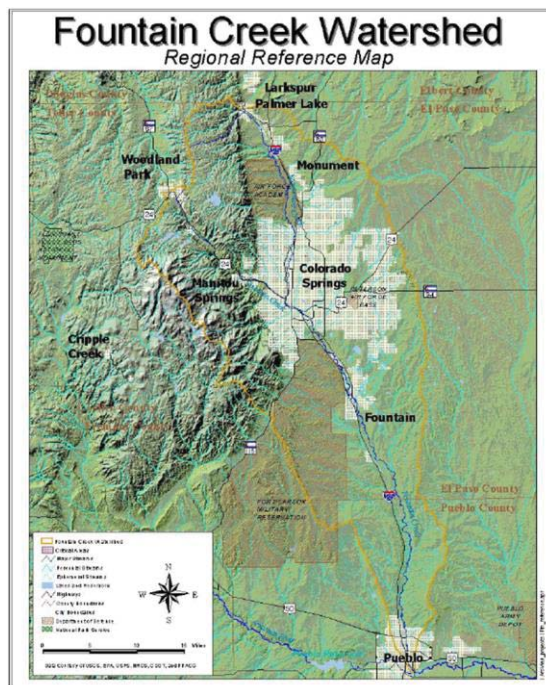
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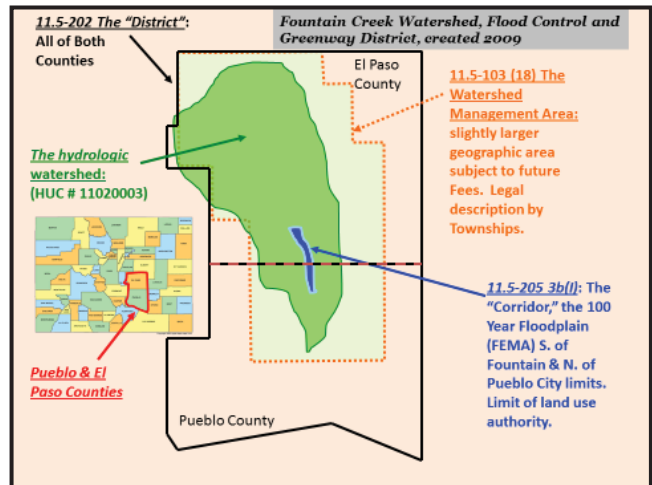


Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

debris not only impacts aquatic habitat within the corridor but may also represent a hazard to public safety. A rain event of any significance upstream of the channel may cause debris dams, debris piling up against transportation structures and localized flooding out of proportion to the precipitation event.

The Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District (the “District”) was formed by the Colorado General Assembly in 2009 to mitigate the impacts of changes to hydrology upstream on Fountain Creek’s reaches on the channel downstream. While the District is studying and promulgating strategies for mitigation in the long-term, limited resources are available to address the more immediate consequences of recent catastrophic events such as fire and flood. This grant request brings several local agencies together to support the removal and appropriate disposition of the flood-borne debris field with the goal of improving and restoring the channel without modifying the fluvial morphology of the channel itself.



OBJECTIVES

The objectives are as follows:

- **Objective 1** – Coordinate the debris removal/habitat restoration activity with interested agencies, including procurement of a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (“COE”) Nationwide Permit #27, *Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment and Enhancement Activities*.
- **Objective 2** – Removal of flood-placed debris, trash and other foreign matter currently residing in the stream channel and banks of Fountain Creek between the Highway 47 bridge (north) downstream to approximately 8th Street (south) in Pueblo, Colorado, resulting in restored aquatic habitat and increased public safety.
- **Objective 3** – Manage the project through construction to completion, with a final report submitted to funding and permitting agencies.

TASKS

There are three tasks as follows:

TASK 1 – Coordination with Permitting & Interested Agencies

Description of Task



Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

This task is integral with the Task #3, Project Management, but is stated as a separate task since the coordination may be limited or extensive. The current proposed schedule of work is likely to require limited permitting.

Method/Procedure

Telephone calls, face-to-face meetings, e-mails and other correspondence.

Deliverable

At a minimum, this task deliverable likely consists of issuance of a COE 404 Nationwide Permit #27 and verbal acknowledgement by engaged entities that the project construction can and should proceed as contemplated.

TASK 2 – Removal/Disposition of Debris in the Channel and Stream Banks

Subtask A: Remove Debris from Channel and Stream Banks

The depositional material, tree trunks, stumps, waste debris like tires, yard waste or other foreign material, will require a variety of construction equipment in order to remove that material from the stream channel. In addition, there may be islands infested with invasive species which, under the direction of permitting agencies, are candidates for removal without excavation in the channel.

Method/Procedure

One potential method of removal of the debris is by “drag line,” an established construction method for water resource development with a long history in the Arkansas River basin. A drag line can remove debris without placing the entire piece of equipment into the channel. Other types of construction equipment will be required, particularly if the execution of the project includes transporting material to a landfill or other location offsite. See Subtask B

Deliverable

Using photography and documentation from site visits, the project will deliver a “before and after” cleanup of the stream channel in the final report. The aesthetic and public safety improvements, while valid deliverables, will be more difficult to chronicle.

Subtask B: Evaluation, Transportation & Disposition of Materials

The permitting process will guide the extent and methodology for permanent disposition of the debris.

Method/Procedure

The first step in disposition is an evaluation of the types material. Wood products, trash and especially tires may require various dispositional methods. The more material that can be disposed of on site will increase the overall scale of the project.

Deliverable

The objective is to efficiently dispose of the foreign matter in an environmentally prudent manner. The deliverable will be project progress reports and a final report documenting such disposition.

Subtask C: Related Expenses for Disposition

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

The permitting process will help define the range of potential disposition methods. There is the possibility that some debris may require removal to a toxic land fill. If so, third party expertise will be engaged to validate the identification and disposition of that material.

Method/Procedure

Identify qualified agencies or vendors to provide this service. Manage the vendor to completion of the project.

Deliverable

If required, the vendor will provide documentation of appropriate disposal. The final report will describe this activity (if required).

Subtask D: Sediment Control & Land Restoration as Appropriate

The permitting process will help identify areas where sediment and erosion controls are necessary to mitigate the impacts of the project activity. Where appropriate, land restoration methods, like soil erosion blanket for exposed banks, will be applied.

Method/Procedure

The project will employ Best Management Practices for these activities at the direction of the permitting entities.

Deliverable

Completed Best Management Practices on a case-by-case basis.

TASK 3 – Project Management

Description of Task

This task provides permitting, contracting, pre-construction, on-site and post construction oversight of the project activity.

Method/Procedure

Prior to construction start, with Task #1 completed, the designated project manager will have a minimum of one on-site, pre-construction meeting with the contractor. Details of schedule, activity, manpower and inclement weather alternatives will be discussed. Project management includes allocation of contingency funding where required, based on interaction with the project partners.

During the construction activity, the project manager will visit the site regularly, via both scheduled and unscheduled site visits. As each stage of construction is completed, the project manager will coordinate with the interested agencies to affirm appropriate post-construction conditions.

Deliverable

Project completion on time and on budget.

BUDGET

Provide a detailed budget by task including number of hours and rates for labor and unit costs for other direct costs (i.e. mileage, \$/unit of material for construction, etc.).

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Anticipated budget tables for the Project are provided below. These tasks correspond to those identified above.

Pueblo Channel Debris Removal and Habitat Restoration Project							
Budget							
	Task 1	Task 2				Task 3	Total
	Coordination with Permitting & Interested Agencies	A. Remove Debris from Channel & Stream Banks	B. Evaluation, Transportation & Disposition of Materials	C. Related Expenses for Disposition (Testing)	D. Sediment Control & Land Restoration as Appropriate	Project Management & Final Report	Cost
Project Costs (Phase 1)							
Project Manager	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$11,000
Contractor Bid (Estimate)		\$155,000	\$20,000	\$3,500	\$15,000		\$193,500
Contingency for Construction							\$30,000
							\$234,500
Direct Cost	Task 1	Task 2				Task 3	Total
Fees for Land Fill	\$0	\$0	\$7,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,500
Fees for Toxic Land Fill			\$7,500	\$0			\$7,500
Travel Costs (\$.56/mile)	\$560	\$560	\$560	\$560	\$560	\$0	\$2,800
Lodging & Per Diem	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$900	\$1,800	\$0	\$2,700
Total Direct Expenses	\$560	\$560	\$560	\$1,460	\$2,360	\$0	\$20,500
Project Rates						TOTAL:	\$255,000
Project Manager	Mileage		As a % of Total		Matching Funds		\$250,000
\$145/hour	\$.56/mile	Contingency	11.8%		WSRA Grant Request		\$5,000
					PROJECT COST TOTAL:		\$255,000

SCHEDULE

Provide a project schedule including key milestones for each task and the completion dates or time period from the Notice to Proceed (NTP). This dating method allows flexibility in the event of potential delays from the procurement process. Sample schedules are provided below. Please note that these schedules are examples and will need to be adapted to fit each individual application.

Pueblo Channel Debris Removal and Habitat Restoration Project					
Schedule	NTP+30 Days	NTP+60 Days	NTP+90 Days	NTP+150 Days	
Task 1 Coordinate with Agencies					
Task 2 Removal of Debris/Restoration					
Task 3 Project Management					

Water Supply Reserve Account – Grant and Loan Program
Water Activity Summary Sheet
May 18-19, 2016
Agenda Item 18(b)

Applicant & Fiscal Agent: Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation
Water Activity Name: Upper Rio Grande Assessment
Water Activity Purpose: Nonconsumptive
County: Rio Grande, San Juan, Hinsdale, Mineral
Drainage Basin: Rio Grande
Water Source: Rio Grande and Tributaries
Amount Requested/Source of Funds: \$67,000 Rio Grande Basin Account (total grant request)
Matching Funds: Applicant & 3rd Party Match: \$133,000 (cash) = 66.5% of the total project cost (\$200,000)
(refer to *Funding Summary/Matching Funds* section below)

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of up to \$67,000 from the Rio Grande Basin Account to help fund the project titled: Upper Rio Grande Assessment.

Water Activity Summary: WSRA funds, if approved will be expended to assess the ecological condition of the mainstem of the Rio Grande, major tributaries, and upland ecosystems within the project area, identify causes of concern, and develop a list of prioritized projects that will improve the function of uplands, and aquatic and the riparian ecosystems. The assessment will concurrently identify projects that involve infrastructure as related to recreational, environmental, agricultural, and municipal/industrial needs in the basin. This effort will be a stakeholder driven watershed assessment that encompasses the Upper Rio Grande Basin, from the headwaters to the town of South Fork. There are many environmental challenges facing the Upper Rio Grande watershed, including extended drought, forest fires, extensive beetle kill, water quality impairments, endangered species, degraded habitat, and other anthropogenic impacts. While the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable and stakeholders recognize the vital need to implement projects to address these concerns, the current condition of the Upper Rio Grande watershed is largely undocumented, which this effort aims to remedy.

Discussion: The proposed project aligns well with many of the Goals and Measurable Outcomes in the Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan (#1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, & 14), while simultaneously furthering the goals of Colorado's Water Plans as highlighted by the five stated goals in Section 6.6: Environmental and Recreational Projects and Methods

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>Source</u>	<u>Cash</u>	<u>In-kind</u>	<u>Total</u>
REACT	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000
CDPHE	\$33,000	\$0	\$33,000
Subtotal Non-WSRA Match	\$133,000	\$0	\$133,000
Rio Grande Basin WSRA Account	\$67,000	n/a	\$67,000
Total	\$200,000	\$0	\$200,000

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.

Rio Grande Basin Roundtable
623 Fourth Street
Alamosa, CO 81101
cwcd1971@hotmail.com

March 17, 2016

Mr. Craig Godbout and CWCB Board Chair
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Re: WSRA Application for the Upper Rio Grande Assessment

Dear Mr. Godbout,

On behalf of the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable (Roundtable), please accept this letter of support for the Upper Rio Grande Assessment (Assessment) sponsored by the Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation. The Water Supply Reserve Account Application for the Assessment was evaluated by the Roundtable and was approved by voting members at the March 8, 2016 BRT meeting. The Assessment received support from all but one of the BRT members. The member opposed funding the Assessment because they do not think it will help provide additional real water supplies for agriculture, which he feels should be the Rio Grande BRT's primary goal. That being said the Roundtable does support this project's application for WSRA funding.

The Roundtable recognizes that the Assessment will be a valuable tool that will inform future decision-making and project development in the Rio Grande Basin. The Assessment will document the ecological condition of the uplands and key riparian areas in the upper Rio Grande Watershed, identify causes of concern and prioritize projects that will address environmental, agricultural, municipal, and industrial water needs. The Assessment and prioritized projects will meet the following Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan Goals (Rio Grande BIP):

- 1.. Protect, preserve, and/or restore the sustainability of the Rio Grande Basin watersheds by focusing on watershed health and ecosystem function.
2. Protect and preserve the doctrine of prior appropriation and vested water rights, and fully utilize Colorado's compact entitlements as specified under the Rio Grande and Costilla Creek Compacts.
4. Operate, maintain, rehabilitate, and create necessary infrastructure to meet the Basin's long-term water needs including storage.
6. Support the development of projects and methods that have multiple benefits for agricultural, municipal and industrial, and environmental and recreational water needs.
7. Meet new demands for water, to the extent practicable, without impacting existing water rights and compact obligations.
9. Make progress towards meeting applicable water quality standards throughout the Basin.
10. Promote water management and administrative practices that are adaptive, flexible, and

responsive to optimize multiple benefits.

11. Protect, preserve, and enhance terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitats throughout the basin.
12. Conserve, restore, and maintain wetlands and riparian areas for the benefit of a healthy watershed.
13. Work to sustain active river flows throughout the year in cooperation with water users and administrators to restore and sustain ecological function of the rivers and floodplain habitats within the context of existing water rights and compact obligations.
14. Maintain and enhance water dependent recreational activities.

In addition to meeting many of the Rio Grande BIP goals, this project aligns the Colorado Water Plan's policy to identify and implement environmental and recreational projects and methods, and to cover priority watersheds with watershed protection plans.

Thank you for your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "N. Coombs".

Nathan Coombs
Chair, Rio Grande Basin Roundtable



COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD



WATER SUPPLY RESERVE ACCOUNT APPLICATION FORM

Today's Date: March 1, 2016

Upper Rio Grande Assessment

Name of Water Activity/Project

Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation

Name of Applicant

Rio Grande Basin
Roundtable

Amount from Statewide Account:

\$0.00

Amount from Basin Account(s):

\$67,000

Total WSRA Funds Requested:

\$67,000

Approving Basin Roundtable(s)

(If multiple basins specify amounts in parentheses.)

FEIN: 75-3169057

Application Content

Application Instructions	page 2
Part I – Description of the Applicant	page 3
Part II – Description of the Water Activity	page 5
Part III – Threshold and Evaluation Criteria	page 7
Part IV – Required Supporting Material	
Water Rights, Availability, and Sustainability	page 10
Related Studies	page 10
Signature Page	page 12

Required Exhibits

- A. Statement of Work, Budget, and Schedule
- B. Project Map
- C. As Needed (i.e. letters of support, photos, maps, etc.)

Appendices – Reference Material

- 1. Program Information
- 2. Insurance Requirements
- 3. WSRA Standard Contract Information (Required for Projects Over \$100,000)
- 4. W-9 Form (Required for All Projects Prior to Contracting)

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Instructions

To receive funding from the Water Supply Reserve Account (WSRA), a proposed water activity must be approved by the local Basin Roundtable **AND** the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). The process for Basin Roundtable consideration and approval is outlined in materials in Appendix 1.

Once approved by the local Basin Roundtable, the applicant should submit this application **with a detailed statement of work including budget and schedule as Exhibit A** to CWCB staff by the application deadline.

WSRA applications are due with the roundtable letter of support 60 calendar days prior to the bi-monthly Board meeting at which it will be considered. Board meetings are held in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Meeting details, including scheduled dates, agendas, etc. are posted on the CWCB website at: <http://cwcb.state.co.us> Applications to the WSRA Basin Account are considered at every board meeting, while applications to the WSRA Statewide Account are only considered at the March and September board meetings.

When completing this application, the applicant should refer to the WSRA Criteria and Guidelines available at: <http://cwcb.state.co.us/LoansGrants/water-supply-reserve-account-grants/Documents/WSRACriteriaGuidelines.pdf>. In addition, the applicant should also refer to the [Supplemental Scoring Matrix](#) applied to Evaluation Criteria Tiers 1-3 for Statewide Account requests .

The application, statement of work, budget, and schedule **must be submitted in electronic format** (Microsoft Word or text-enabled PDF are preferred) and can be emailed or mailed on a disk to:

Craig Godbout - WSRA Application
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203
Craig.godbout@state.co.us

If you have questions or need additional assistance, please contact Craig Godbout at: 303-866-3441 x3210 or craig.godbout@state.co.us.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Part I. - Description of the Applicant (Project Sponsor or Owner);

1.	Applicant Name(s):	Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation		
	Mailing address:	623 Fourth St Alamosa, CO 81101		
	FEIN #:	75-3169057		
	Primary Contact:	Emma Regier	Position/Title:	Coordinator
	Email:	emmaregier@gmail.com		
	Phone Numbers:	Cell: 316.217.5129	Office:	719.589.2230
	Alternate Contact:	Heather Dutton	Position/Title:	SLVWCD Manager
	Email:	heatherrdutton@gmail.com		
	Phone Numbers:	Cell: 719.850.1480	Office:	719.589.2230

2. Eligible entities for WSRA funds include the following. What type of entity is the Applicant?

- ☐ Public (Government) – municipalities, enterprises, counties, and State of Colorado agencies. Federal agencies are encouraged to work with local entities and the local entity should be the grant recipient. Federal agencies are eligible, but only if they can make a compelling case for why a local partner cannot be the grant recipient.
- ☐ Public (Districts) – authorities, Title 32/special districts, (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises.
- ☐ Private Incorporated – mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations.
- ☐ Private individuals, partnerships, and sole proprietors are eligible for funding from the Basin Accounts but not for funding from the Statewide Account.
- ☒ Non-governmental organizations – broadly defined as any organization that is not part of the government.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

3. Provide a brief description of your organization

The Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation (Foundation), a 501(c)(3) Colorado non-profit organization, is the fiscal agent for the Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project (RGHRP). The mission of the Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project is “to restore and conserve the historical functions and vitality of the Rio Grande in Colorado for improved water quality, optimal agricultural water use, riparian habitat, wildlife and aquatic species habitat, recreation, and community safety, while meeting the requirements of the Rio Grande Compact.”

The RGHRP was formed to implement the recommendations of a study completed in 2001. The 2001 Study was prompted by local stakeholders due to a realized deterioration of the historic functions of the Rio Grande, which include providing high quality water, healthy riparian areas, fish and wildlife habitat, and a functioning floodplain. The 2001 Study analyzed the condition of the riparian area and structures along a 91-mile reach of the Rio Grande and provided recommendations for improvement. The 2001 Study was sponsored by the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District and funded with a \$250,000 grant from the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). In 2004, the need was identified for a well-defined Rio Grande Watershed Restoration Strategic Plan (Strategic Plan). Completed in 2007, the Strategic Plan highlighted the importance of continued efforts to implement the recommendations from the 2001 Study. Since establishment, the RGHRP has accrued a successful record of performing projects on the Rio Grande through collaboration with landowners and local, state, and federal entities.

The RGHRP has four Programs: The Streambank Stabilization and Riparian Restoration Program, the In-Stream Infrastructure Improvement Program, the Watershed Stewardship Program, and the Outreach and Education Program. Through the Streambank Stabilization and Riparian Restoration Program, the RGHRP has administered seven (7) cost-share restoration projects on sixty (60) sites with \$1.8 million grant funding raised. The projects have improved river function using a multi-faceted approach to riparian restoration and streambank stabilization, and have resulted in the treatment of approximately eleven (11) miles of streambanks. Including contributions from partners and landowners, the total value of these projects is \$2.2 million. The techniques used include bank and channel shaping, revegetation, installation of rock and log structures, and implementation of grazing best management practices. These Projects reduce sediment loading by stabilizing the streambanks, improve the riparian and upland habitat by increasing willow and riparian vegetation cover, and enhance the fishery. Additionally, the capacity of the Rio Grande to transport sediment that has entered the system from upstream reaches is increased. Finally, improvements to riparian habitat and floodplain function improve the condition of wetlands located throughout the riparian areas within the Project boundaries. The RGHRP works with the Colorado Watershed Assembly’s Colorado Measurable Results Program (MRP) to complete long-term monitoring of the Projects.

Through the In-Stream Infrastructure Improvement Program, the RGHRP is working with ditch companies to address concerns surrounding aging and inefficient diversion and headgate structures. The first of these projects was the Plaza Planning Project – Phase 1 (Phase 1) in the Sevenmile Plaza area of Rio Grande County. The RGHRP worked with stakeholders to determine the primary issues in the area, identify remediation methods, and develop an implementation plan, The Plaza Plan, to improve the health and function of the Rio Grande in the Sevenmile Plaza area. The identified issues include streambank instability in the 2.8-mile project reach, a degraded wetland, and aging, hazardous, and inefficient diversion structures. Implementation of the Plaza Plan is underway through the Plaza Project – Phase 2: The McDonald Ditch Implementation Project (Phase

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

2) and the Plaza Project Phase 3: The Prairie Ditch Implementation Project (Phase 3). Phase 2 includes the replacement of the McDonald Ditch diversion dam. This project is close to completion with a new diversion and headgate in place with automated measuring gates and floodgates. Phase 3 includes the replacement of the aging Prairie Ditch diversion and headgate. This project is also nearing completion with the new diversion structure complete and the headgate under construction. Both new diversions will make irrigation more efficient and additionally include passage for fish and improvements to community safety. These efforts will improve continuity and function of the Rio Grande.

Through the Watershed Stewardship Program, the RGHRP works with partners to complete forest restoration and wildfire hazard mitigation projects. In the summer of 2013, the West Fork Complex Fire burned over 110,000 acres of critical natural resources in the upper Rio Grande watershed. In response, the Rio Grande Watershed Emergency Action Coordination Team (RWEACT) was formed. The RGHRP has taken the lead in coordinating RWEACT's natural resources committee and implementing projects in the aftermath of the fire. For example, the RGHRP and Colorado School of Mines deployed 6 water quality monitoring probes through the watershed to observe the effects of the wildfire on riparian areas and aquatic health. The RGHRP continues to monitor water quality. Additionally, the RGHRP designed and implemented 10 experimental plots within the burned area to investigate methods to improve vegetative cover, increase soil water holding capacity, and reduce hill slope erosion. Data gathered from monitoring the plots will influence the methods used in future wildfire restoration projects. Finally, the RGHRP partnered with the US Forest Service in 2015 to implement a noxious weed management project that inventoried and treated noxious weed infestations in and around the West Fork Complex Fire burn scar.

The RGHRP administers a robust Outreach and Education Program. Informative press releases are submitted to local and regional media with notable project updates. Talks and tours are routinely given to local schools, community groups, and water related organizations. Volunteer events encourage community members to get involved and connected with the Rio Grande. The RGHRP website provides project updates and information. Additionally, the RGHRP holds a Water Leaders course each spring in conjunction with other partners to educate community members on water issues in the San Luis Valley. Content of the Outreach and Education program includes details about projects, partnerships, funding entities, and the importance of protecting and conserving the Rio Grande.

4. If the Contracting Entity is different then the Applicant (Project Sponsor or Owner), please describe the Contracting Entity here.

The Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation is the Contracting Entity, on behalf of the Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

5. Successful applicants will have to execute a contract with the CWCB prior to beginning work on the portion of the project funded by the WSRA grant. In order to expedite the contracting process the CWCB has established a standard contract with provisions the applicant must adhere to. A link to this standard contract is included in Appendix 3. Please review this contract and check the appropriate box.

<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/>
--

The Applicant will be able to contract with the CWCB using the Standard Contract

<input type="checkbox"/>

The Applicant has reviewed the standard contract and has some questions/issues/concerns. Please be aware that any deviation from the standard contract could result in a significant delay between grant approval and the funds being available.

6. The Tax Payer Bill of Rights (TABOR) may limit the amount of grant money an entity can receive. Please describe any relevant TABOR issues that may affect the applicant.

The Applicant, The Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation, is not subject to TABOR limitations, as it is a Colorado nonprofit organization operating under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Part II. - Description of the Water Activity/Project

1. What is the primary purpose of this grant application? (Please check only one)

☒ Nonconsumptive (Environmental or Recreational)

☐ Agricultural

☐ Municipal/Industrial

☐ Needs Assessment

☐ Education

☐ Other Explain:

2. If you feel this project addresses multiple purposes please explain.

The purpose of this Project is to assess the ecological condition of the mainstem of the Rio Grande and major tributaries within the project area, identify causes of concern, and develop a list of prioritized project that will improve the function of uplands, and aquatic and riparian ecosystems. Projects identified in the Upper Rio Grande Assessment will address environmental, recreational, agricultural, and municipal/industrial water needs.

3. Is this project primarily a study or implementation of a water activity/project? (Please check only one)

☒ Study ☐ Implementation

4. To catalog measurable results achieved with WSRA funds can you provide any of the following numbers?

New Storage Created (acre-feet)

New Annual Water Supplies Developed, Consumptive or Nonconsumptive (acre-feet)

Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)

Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)

Length of Pipe/Canal Built or Improved (linear feet)

Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year OR dollars/year – **circle one**)

Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)

1 Other -- Explain: Watershed Assessment for Upper Rio Grande Basin

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

4. To help us map WSRA projects please include a map (Exhibit B) and provide the general coordinates below:

Latitude:

37°49'46.83"N

Longitude:

106°55'3.48"W

5. Please provide an overview/summary of the proposed water activity (no more than one page). Include a description of the overall water activity and specifically what the WSRA funding will be used for. A full **Statement of Work** with a detailed budget and schedule is required as **Exhibit A** of this application.

Overall Water Activity: The Upper Rio Grande Assessment (URGA) is a stakeholder driven watershed assessment that encompasses the Upper Rio Grande Basin, from the headwaters to the town of South Fork. There are many environmental challenges facing the Upper Rio Grande Watershed, including extended drought, forest fires, extensive beetle kill, water quality impairments, endangered species, degraded habitat, and other anthropogenic impacts. While the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable and stakeholders recognize the vital need to implement projects to address these concerns, the current condition of Upper Rio Grande Watershed is largely undocumented. This Project will result in a comprehensive assessment of the Upper Rio Grande watershed that partners, including watershed groups, federal, state, and local entities, and private landowners, can use to prioritize, secure funding, and implement collaborative, multi-benefit projects that improve the health of the Upper Rio Grande Watershed.

The goals of the URGA are to assess the ecological condition of the mainstem of the Rio Grande, major tributaries, and upland ecosystems within the project area, identify causes of concern, and develop a list of prioritized projects to that will improve the function of uplands, and aquatic and the riparian ecosystems. The assessment will concurrently identify projects that involve infrastructure as related to recreational, environmental, agricultural, and municipal/industrial needs in the basin.

The URGA and projects prioritized in the URGA will meet the following Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan Goals:

1. Protect, preserve, and/or restore the sustainability of the Rio Grande Basin watersheds by focusing on watershed health and ecosystem function.
2. Protect and preserve the doctrine of prior appropriation and vested water rights, and fully utilize Colorado's compact entitlements as specified under the Rio Grande and Costilla Creek Compacts.
4. Operate, maintain, rehabilitate, and create necessary infrastructure to meet the Basin's long-term water needs including storage.
6. Support the development of projects and methods that have multiple benefits for agricultural, municipal and industrial, and environmental and recreational water needs.
7. Meet new demands for water, to the extent practicable, without impacting existing water rights and compact obligations.
9. Make progress towards meeting applicable water quality standards throughout the Basin.
10. Promote water management and administrative practices that are adaptive, flexible, and responsive to optimize multiple benefits.
11. Protect, preserve, and enhance terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitats throughout the basin.
12. Conserve, restore, and maintain wetlands and riparian areas for the benefit of a healthy watershed.
13. Work to sustain active river flows throughout the year in cooperation with water users and administrators to restore and sustain ecological function of the rivers and floodplain habitats within the context of exciting water rights and compact obligations.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

14. Maintain and enhance water dependent recreational activities.

Additionally, this project aligns with goals stated in the Colorado Water Plan. Section 6.6 of the Plan emphasizes, “the policy of the State of Colorado is to identify and implement environmental and recreational projects and methods” with long-term goals of promoting the restoration, recovery, and resiliency of aquatic and riparian habitat and species, supporting the development of multipurpose projects and methods, and maintaining watershed health. In Section 10, Colorado’s Water Plan “sets a measurable objective to cover 80 percent of the locally prioritized lists of rivers with stream management plans, and 80 percent of critical watersheds with watershed protection plans, all by 2030”. The URGA helps meet these statewide goals and measureable objectives by creating a comprehensive watershed assessment that will cover the headwaters of the Rio Grande and identify and prioritize collaborative, multi benefit projects that will address watershed health.

Use of Funds: The Foundation is requesting \$67,000 from Rio Grande Basin WSRA, or 34% of the total project cost of \$200,000. Matching funds are as follows: \$100,000 or 50% from the Rio Grande Watershed Emergency Action Coordination Team (RWEACT); and \$33,000 or 13% from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). Funds will be used to support data collection by local entities and hire a contractor that will collaborate with project partners to pull together data to complete the URGA.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Part III. – Threshold and Evaluation Criteria

1. Describe how the water activity meets these **Threshold Criteria**. (Detailed in Part 3 of the Water Supply Reserve Account Criteria and Guidelines.)

- a) The water activity is consistent with Section 37-75-102 Colorado Revised Statutes.¹

The Assessment is consistent with Section 37-75-102 C.R.S. because this Project does not supersede, abrogate, or otherwise impair the State's current system of allocating water within Colorado or in any manner repeal or amend the existing water rights adjudication system. This project does not affect the State constitution's recognition of water rights as a private usufructuary property right nor is it intended to restrict the ability of the holder of a water right to use or to dispose of that water right in any manner permitted under Colorado law.

- b) The water activity underwent an evaluation and approval process and was approved by the Basin Roundtable (BRT) and the application includes a description of the results of the BRT's evaluation and approval of the activity. At a minimum, the description must include the level of agreement reached by the roundtable, including any minority opinion(s) if there was not general agreement for the activity. The description must also include reasons why general agreement was not reached (if it was not), including who opposed the activity and why they opposed it. Note- If this information is included in the letter from the roundtable chair simply reference that letter.

This information is included in the letter from the Rio Grande Inter-Basin Roundtable Chairman, Nathan Coombs.

¹ 37-75-102. Water rights - protections. (1) It is the policy of the General Assembly that the current system of allocating water within Colorado shall not be superseded, abrogated, or otherwise impaired by this article. Nothing in this article shall be interpreted to repeal or in any manner amend the existing water rights adjudication system. The General Assembly affirms the state constitution's recognition of water rights as a private usufructuary property right, and this article is not intended to restrict the ability of the holder of a water right to use or to dispose of that water right in any manner permitted under Colorado law. (2) The General Assembly affirms the protections for contractual and property rights recognized by the contract and takings protections under the state constitution and related statutes. This article shall not be implemented in any way that would diminish, impair, or cause injury to any property or contractual right created by intergovernmental agreements, contracts, stipulations among parties to water cases, terms and conditions in water decrees, or any other similar document related to the allocation or use of water. This article shall not be construed to supersede, abrogate, or cause injury to vested water rights or decreed conditional water rights. The General Assembly affirms that this article does not impair, limit, or otherwise affect the rights of persons or entities to enter into agreements, contracts, or memoranda of understanding with other persons or entities relating to the appropriation, movement, or use of water under other provisions of law.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

- c) The water activity meets the provisions of Section 37-75-104(2), Colorado Revised Statutes.² The Basin Roundtable Chairs shall include in their approval letters for particular WSRA grant applications a description of how the water activity will assist in meeting the water supply needs identified in the basin roundtable's consumptive and/or non-consumptive needs assessments.

This information is included in the letter from the Rio Grande Inter-Basin Roundtable Chairman, Nathan Coombs.

- d) Matching Requirement: For requests from the **Statewide Fund**, the applicants will be required to demonstrate a **25 percent** (or greater) match of the total grant request from the other sources, including by not limited to Basin Funds. A minimum match of 5% of the total grant amount shall be from Basin funds. A minimum match of 5% of the total grant amount must come from the applicant or 3rd party sources. Sources of matching funds include but are not limited to Basin Funds, in-kind services, funding from other sources, and/or direct cash match. Past expenditures directly related to the project may be considered as matching funds if the expenditures occurred within 9 months of the date the contract or purchase order between the applicant and the State of Colorado is executed. Please describe the source(s) of matching funds. (NOTE: These matching funds should also be reflected in your Detailed Budget in **Exhibit A** of this application)

Matching funds are as follows: \$100,000 or 50% from the Rio Grande Watershed Emergency Action Coordination Team (RWEACT); and \$33,000 or 13% from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). The Foundation is requesting \$67,000 from Rio Grande Basin WSRA, or 34% of the total project cost of \$200,000.

² 37-75-104 (2)(c). Using data and information from the Statewide Water Supply Initiative and other appropriate sources and in cooperation with the on-going Statewide Water Supply Initiative, develop a basin-wide consumptive and nonconsumptive water supply needs assessment, conduct an analysis of available unappropriated waters within the basin, and propose projects or methods, both structural and nonstructural, for meeting those needs and utilizing those unappropriated waters where appropriate. Basin Roundtables shall actively seek the input and advice of affected local governments, water providers, and other interested stakeholders and persons in establishing its needs assessment, and shall propose projects or methods for meeting those needs. Recommendations from this assessment shall be forwarded to the Interbasin Compact Committee and other basin roundtables for analysis and consideration after the General Assembly has approved the Interbasin Compact Charter.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

2. For Applications that include a request for funds from the **Statewide Account**, describe how the water activity/project meets all applicable **Evaluation Criteria**. (Detailed in Part 3 of the Water Supply Reserve Account Criteria and Guidelines and repeated below.) Projects will be assessed on how well they meet the Evaluation Criteria. **Please attach additional pages as necessary.**

Evaluation Criteria – the following criteria will be utilized to further evaluate the merits of the water activity proposed for funding from the Statewide Account. In evaluation of proposed water activities, preference will be given to projects that meet one or more criteria from each of the three “tiers” or categories. Each “tier” is grouped in level of importance. For instance, projects that meet Tier 1 criteria will outweigh projects that only meet Tier 3 criteria. The applicant should also refer to the Supplemental Scoring Matrix applied to Evaluation Criteria Tiers 1-3 for Statewide Account requests. WSRA grant requests for projects that may qualify for loans through the CWCB loan program will receive preference in the Statewide Evaluation Criteria if the grant request is part of a CWCB loan/WSRA grant package. For these CWCB loan/WSRA grant packages, the applicant must have a CWCB loan/WSRA grant ratio of 1:1 or higher. Preference will be given to those with a higher loan/grant ratio.

Project funds are being requested from the Rio Grande Basin Account only.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Part IV. – Required Supporting Material

1. **Water Rights, Availability, and Sustainability** – This information is needed to assess the viability of the water project or activity. Please provide a description of the water supply source to be utilized, or the water body to be affected by, the water activity. This should include a description of applicable water rights, and water rights issues, and the name/location of water bodies affected by the water activity.

Water Body Affected: The water body affected by the URGA is the Rio Grande and major tributaries to the Rio Grande in the upper watershed. The Rio Grande watershed in Colorado covers 8,200 square miles (Exhibit B. Maps – Figure 1). The river flows 200 miles through Colorado, originating near the Continental Divide. Numerous tributaries converge on the east slope of the Continental Divide from elevations near 13,000 feet to form the Rio Grande mainstem. The river flows to the east through the Rio Grande National Forest and then through private property for approximately 55 miles, where it passes near the town of Creede, located at approximately 8,850 feet. The Rio Grande continues its relatively steep descent for another 22 miles to the confluence with the South Fork of the Rio Grande at approximately 8,200 feet elevation, where the town of South Fork is located. The Rio Grande enters the San Luis Valley, the largest intermountain basin in Colorado, at the town of South Fork.

The URGA will assess the condition of the mainstem of the Rio Grande and major tributaries, from the headwaters to the town of South Fork. For a detailed map of all the tributaries to be included in the project see Exhibit B. Maps – Figure 2

Water Rights: The URGA will not change or affect any water rights or their allocation.

2. Please provide a brief narrative of any related studies or permitting issues.

The URGA will tie into the 2001 Study, a similar riparian assessment that analyzed the condition of the riparian area and structures along a 91-mile reach of the Rio Grande from the town of South Fork to the Alamosa – Conejos County line. The 2001 Study was sponsored by the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District and funded with a \$250,000 grant from the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). The study evaluated the condition of the river's functions as they related to:

- a. The condition of riparian habitat and fisheries;
- b. Accessibility of the river to existing irrigation structures and their condition and performance;
- c. The protection of lives and property;
- d. The protection of channel and flood plain from flood damage;
- e. The maintenance of river channel and over bank capacity;
- f. The ability to meet the Rio Grande Compact requirements.

The URGA will include rigorous data collection, along with incorporating existing data and studies in the assessment. This existing data will include:

- Willow Creek Reclamation Committee's Watershed Monitoring and Water Quality data
- Rio Grande Watershed Emergency Action Coordination Team's Water Quality Study
- USFS Forest Plan Assessment Data
- USFS Beetle Kill and Burn Severity Layers and the BAER Report from the West Fork Complex Fire

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

- Colorado Parks and Wildlife and Aquatic Population Data and User Information
- National Resource Conservation Service Data
- Colorado Natural Heritage Area Reports

No permits will be required for this project.

3. Statement of Work, Detailed Budget, and Project Schedule

The statement of work will form the basis for the contract between the Applicant and the State of Colorado. In short, the Applicant is agreeing to undertake the work for the compensation outlined in the statement of work and budget, and in return, the State of Colorado is receiving the deliverables/products specified. **Please note that costs incurred prior to execution of a contract or purchase order are not subject to reimbursement.** All WSRA funds are disbursed on a reimbursement basis after review invoices and appropriate backup material.

Please provide a detailed statement of work using the template in Exhibit A. Additional sections or modifications may be included as necessary. Please define all acronyms and include page numbers.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

REPORTING AND FINAL DELIVERABLE

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 statement 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.

PAYMENT

Payment will be made based on actual expenditures and invoicing by the applicant. Invoices from any other entity (i.e. subcontractors) cannot be processed by the State. The request for payment must include a description of the work accomplished by major task, and estimate of the percent completion for individual tasks and the entire water activity in relation to the percentage of budget spent, identification of any major issues and proposed or implemented corrective actions. The last 10 percent of the entire water activity budget will be withheld until final project/water activity documentation is completed. 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 help promote the development of a common technical platform.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

The above statements are true to the best of my knowledge:

Signature of Applicant:



Print Applicant's Name: Emma Regier

Project Title: Upper Rio Grande Assessment

Date: March 1, 2016

Return an electronic version (hardcopy may also be submitted) of this application to:

Craig Godbout – WSRA Application
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203
303-866-3441, ext. 3210 (office)
303-547-8061 (cell)
craig.godbout@state.co.us

Exhibit A
Statement of Work
Date: March 1, 2016

WATER ACTIVITY NAME – Upper Rio Grande Assessment

GRANT RECIPIENT – Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation

FUNDING SOURCE – WSRA Rio Grande Basin Account

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Upper Rio Grande Assessment (URGA) is a stakeholder driven watershed assessment that encompasses the Upper Rio Grande Basin, from the headwaters to the town of South Fork. The goals of the URGA are to assess the ecological condition of the mainstem of the Rio Grande, major tributaries, and upland ecosystems within the project area, identify causes of concern, and develop a list of prioritized projects to that will improve the function of uplands, and aquatic and the riparian ecosystems. The assessment will concurrently identify projects that involve infrastructure as related to recreational, environmental, agricultural, and municipal/industrial needs in the basin.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the URGA are to:

1. Assess the condition of the Upper Rio Grande, including major tributaries, from the headwaters to the town of South Fork by collecting data characterizing riparian habitat, aquatic habitat, geomorphology, recreation, flow regimes, water quality, adjacent uplands, and infrastructure.
2. Analyze and compile data into a comprehensive watershed assessment.
3. Identify causes of degradation and priority projects within the project area.

TASKS

TASK 1 – Riparian Habitat Assessment

Description of Task

Assess the condition of riparian habitat throughout project reach through site visits, targeted surveying and data collection. Determine the percent of vegetative cover in riparian areas and along streambanks, assess impacts to vegetation from fire, flooding, recreation, livestock grazing, and landuse activities. Establish trends, if possible.

Method/Procedure

A hired contractor will collect data to assess the condition of riparian habitat throughout the project reach.

Deliverables

Data relating to the condition of riparian habitat throughout the project area. Specific data will include percent of vegetative cover in riparian areas and along streambanks, species composition,

impacts to vegetation from fire, flooding, recreation, livestock grazing, and landuse activities and establish trends in riparian habitat condition. Data will be analyzed and incorporated into the overall assessment

TASK 2 – Geomorphology Assessment

Description of Task

Assess streambank stability throughout project area, with a focus on burned areas and areas of high recreation. Identify bed material and areas of sedimentation from high erosion, and categorize streams using basic Rosgen Stream Classification types. Measure floodplain function.

Method/Procedure

A hired contractor will collect and use data to assess the geomorphology of the project area.

Deliverable

Data relating to the geomorphology throughout the project area. Data will be analyzed and incorporated into the overall assessment

TASK 3 – Aquatic Habitat

Description of Task

Assess the condition of aquatic habitat and populations at shocking sites, Colorado Parks and Wildlife survey sites, and targeted survey areas.

Method/Procedure

Project partners, with Trout Unlimited as the lead, will complete this task. Partners will complete macroinvertebrate sampling, fish shocking, and identify suitable habitat to support native fish populations. Utilize Existing data from CPW and RWEACT's Water Quality Study will be utilized and macroinvertebrate sampling will be paired with fish shocking.

Deliverable

Data relating to the condition of aquatic habitat and populations at shocking sites and targeted survey areas. Specific data will include macroinvertebrate sampling, fish shocking, and habitat suitability analysis. Data will be analyzed and incorporated into the overall assessment.

TASK 4 – Recreation

Description of Task

Assess the environmental impacts and economic contribution of recreation in the Upper Rio Grande.

Method/Procedure

A hired contractor will collect and use data to assess the effects of recreation in the project area. Existing USFS Forest Plan Assessment Data and CPW User Info will be used in this task.

Deliverable

Data relating to high use recreation areas including rafting, fishing, hiking, horse riding, and OHV use. Data will be analyzed to prioritize improvements to recreational facilities to ensure sustainability and reduce environmental impacts from recreation. Additionally, economic contribution from river-based recreation data will be assessed and quantified.

TASK 5 – Flow Regimes

Description of Task

Assess the timing of flows on the Rio Grande Mainstem, Beaver Creek, the South Fork, and Clear Creek to maximize beneficial environmental and recreational impacts.

Method/Procedure

Project partners, including Trout Unlimited, SLVID, DWR, SLVWCD, and CPW, will identify opportunities for retiming reservoir releases in order to maximize beneficial environmental and recreational impacts.

Deliverable

Data relating to timing of flows in specified reaches of the Rio Grande and applicable tributaries. Data will be analyzed and incorporated into the overall assessment for tasks such as extending the boating season, improving spawning conditions, cooling rivers in hot spells, and flushing sediment from fire, within the operating constraints of irrigators and other entities that utilize storage water.

TASK 6 – Water Quality

Description of Task

Assess water quality impairments with a focus on streams impacted by human-influenced point or non-point sources, WQCC issues, and fire on Miners Creek, Willow Creek, and streams below reservoirs.

Method/Procedure

Project partner, Willow Creek Reclamation Committee, will analyze existing WCRC and RWEACT data as well as collect data on pH levels, metals, contaminant, TSS, and TDS data to monitor impacts on water quality.

Deliverable

Data on pH levels, metals, contaminant, TSS and TDS. Data will be analyzed and incorporated into the overall assessment of the project area.

TASK 7 – Adjacent Uplands

Description of Task

Assess the adjacent uplands in the entire project area.

Method/Procedure

A hired contractor will use mapping, USFS Assessments, and ground truthing to identify landuse activities, ecological conditions, including fire (historic and potential), beetle kill, and livestock grazing, and infrastructure that influences riparian areas.

Deliverable

Data on condition of adjacent uplands on all reaches, including analysis of current USFS Assessments and Burn and Beetle Kill layers. Data will be incorporated into the overall assessment.

TASK 8 – Infrastructure

Description of Task

Assess the impacts of infrastructure on recreation and aquatic/riparian condition on project area below wilderness.

Method/Procedure

A hired contractor will use the existing data from the BAER Report and other assessments, and collect current data on bridges, roads, diversions and commercial/residential property. The contractor will assess this information

Deliverable

Data on bridges, roads, diversions and commercial/residential property related to recreation and aquatic/riparian condition. Data will be incorporated into the overall assessment.

TASK 9 – Identify Causes of Degradation and Priority Projects

Description of Task

Assess the causes of degradation on all reaches in the project area.

Method/Procedure

A hired contractor and the Project Partners will analyze data from all previous tasks to summarize the causes of current and future degradation. The Project Partners will use data to prioritize projects for implementation to improve the river health and show real ecological and/economic benefits.

Deliverable

Synthesized data detailing current conditions causes of degradation, and prioritized projects in the Upper Rio Grande. Data will be presented in the final Upper Rio Grande Assessment Report.

TASK 10 – Project Administration

Description of Task:

Complete all necessary contracts, status reports, and internal and external documents. Ensure Tasks are completed within approved costs and timelines.

Method/Procedure:

The RGHRP will administer the Upper Rio Grande Assessment. This includes completing contracts with the CWCB, project partners, and contractors; managing budgets and reimbursement requests; and completing reports. Additionally, the RGHRP will perform Project oversight; making certain implementation is timely and accurate.

Deliverable:

All appropriate contracts, external and internal reports, and Project activities completed within planned period and anticipated costs.

REPORTING AND FINAL DELIVERABLE

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 statement 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.

BUDGET

Task	Description	Responsible Party	Total	Sources of Funds		
				CDPHE	RWEACT	RG Basin Account
1	Riparian Habitat	Contractor	\$32,250.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$32,250.00
2	Geomorphology	Contractor	\$23,250.00	\$ -	\$23,250.00	\$ -
3	Aquatic Habitat	TU	\$15,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$15,000.00
4	Recreation	Contractor	\$27,000.00	\$ -	\$27,000.00	\$ -
5	Flow Regimes	TU	\$4,000.00	\$ -	\$4,000.00	\$ -
6	Water Quality	WCRC	\$33,000.00	\$33,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
7	Adjacent Uplands	Contractor	\$15,500.00	\$ -	\$15,500.00	\$ -
8	Infrastructure	Contractor	\$24,000.00	\$ -	\$24,000.00	\$ -
9	Identify Causes of Degradation and Priority Projects	Contractor	\$10,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$10,000.00
10	Project Administration	RGHRP	\$16,000.00	\$ -	\$6,250.00	\$9,750
			\$200,000.00	\$33,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$67,000.00







SCHEDULE

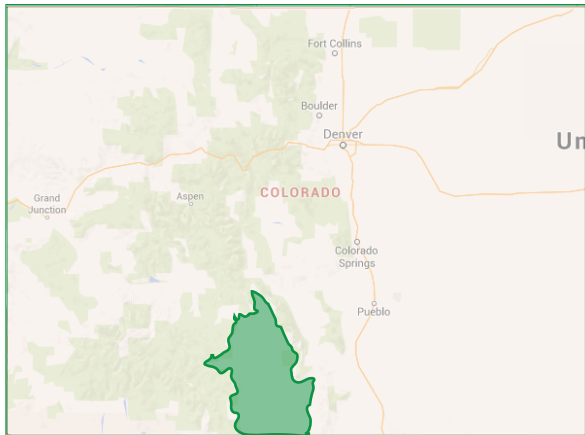
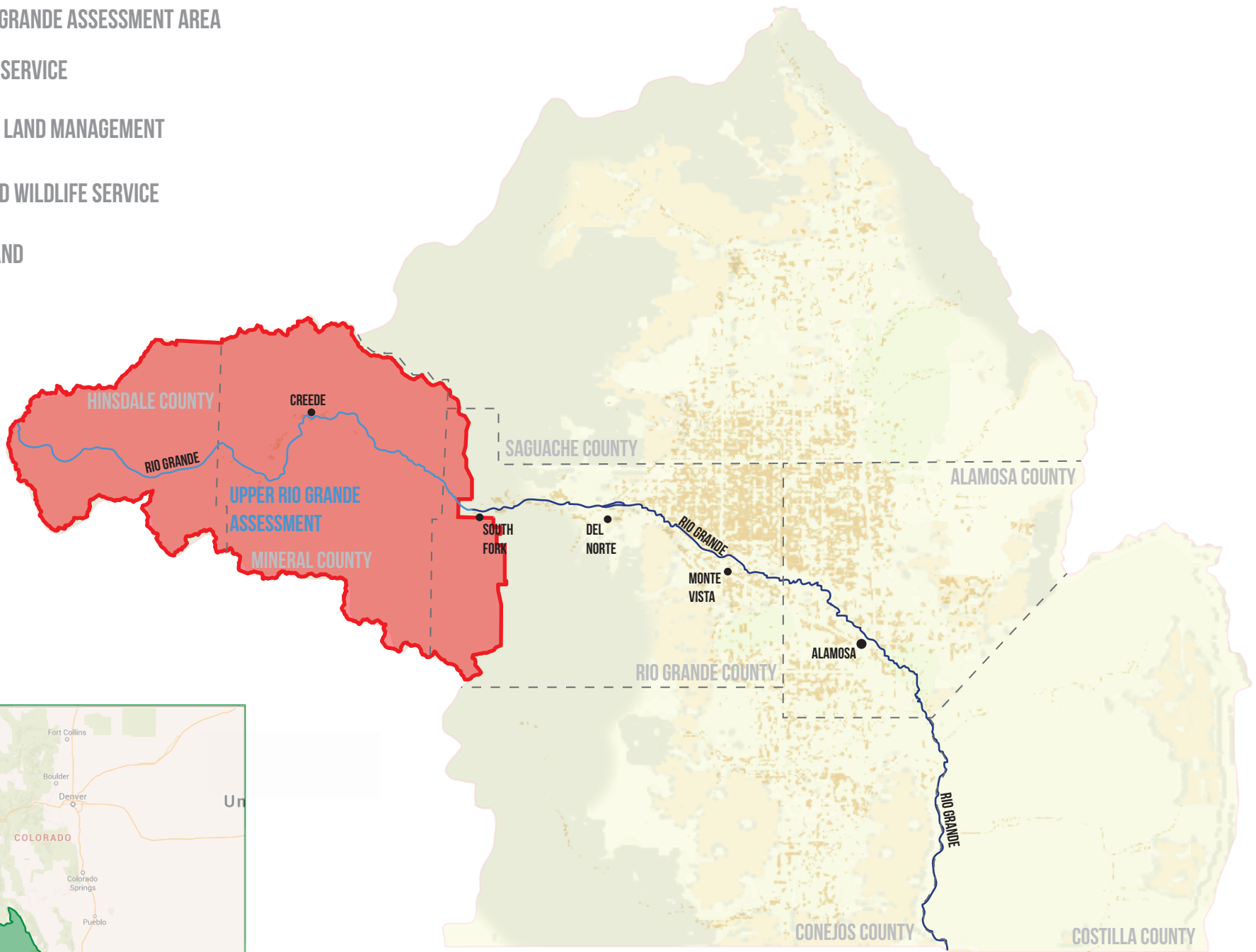
Task	Start Date	Finish Date
1 Riparian Habitat	July 1, 2016	July 1, 2017
2 Geomorphology	July 1, 2016	July 1, 2017
3 Aquatic Habitat	July 1, 2016	July 1, 2017
4 Recreation	July 1, 2016	July 1, 2017
5 Flow Regimes	July 1, 2016	July 1, 2017
6 Water Quality	July 1, 2016	July 1, 2017
7 Adjacent Uplands	July 1, 2016	July 1, 2017
8 Infrastructure	July 1, 2016	July 1, 2017
9 Identify Causes of Degradation and Priority Projects	July 1, 2016	July 1, 2017
10 Project Administration	July 1, 2016	November 1, 2018

PAYMENT

Payment will be made based on actual expenditures and invoicing by the applicant. Invoices from any other entity (i.e. subcontractors) cannot be processed by the State. The request for payment must

include a description of the work accomplished by major task, and estimate of the percent completion for individual tasks and the entire water activity in relation to the percentage of budget spent, identification of any major issues and proposed or implemented corrective actions. The last 5 percent of the entire water activity budget will be withheld until final project/water activity documentation is completed. All products, data and information developed as a result of this grant must be provided to the CWCBC 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 help promote the development of a common technical platform.

-  UPPER RIO GRANDE ASSESSMENT AREA
-  US FOREST SERVICE
-  BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
-  US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
-  PRIVATE LAND
-  WELL

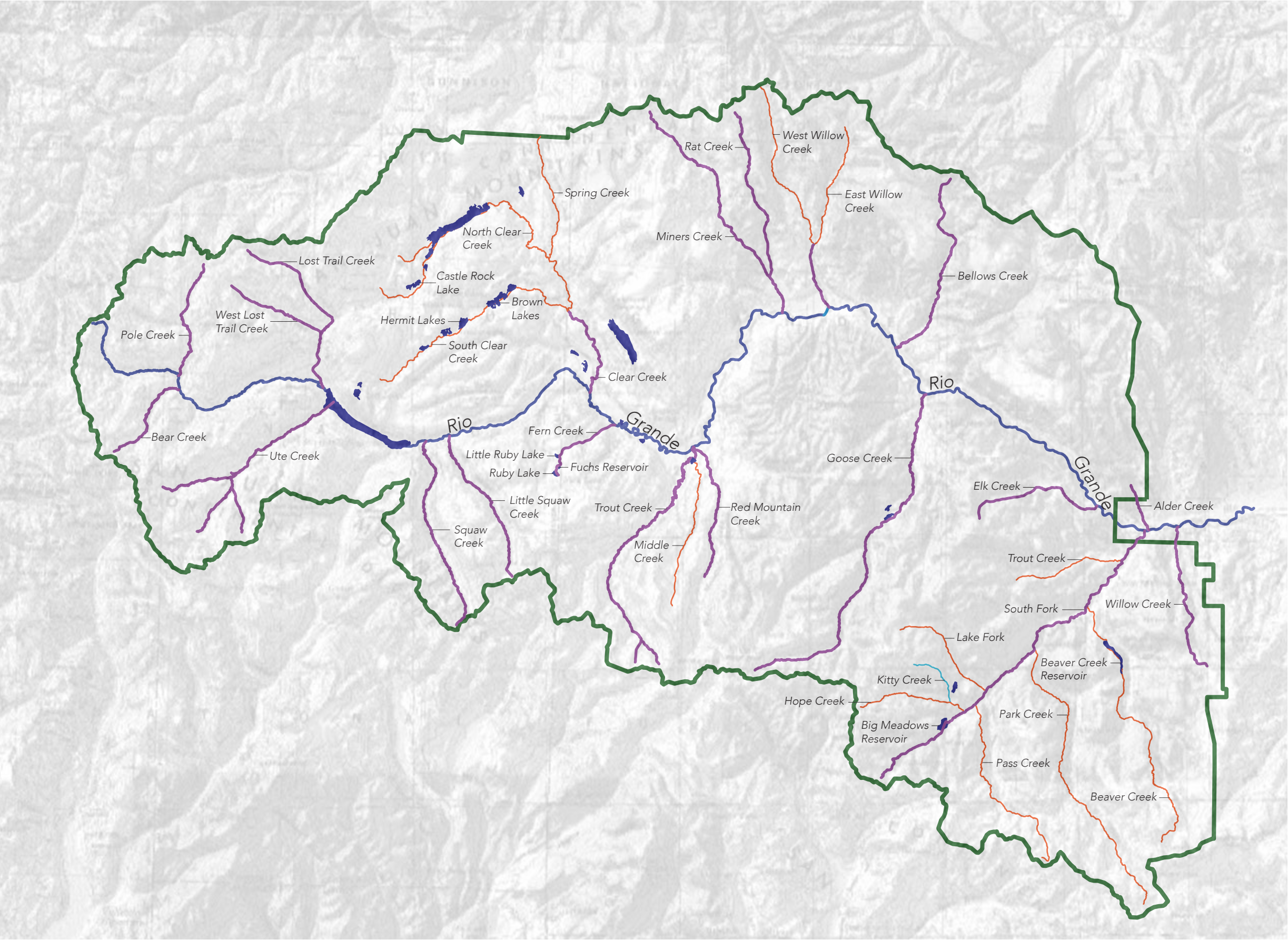


SAN LUIS VALLEY, CO

RIO GRANDE BASIN WATERSHED

Exhibit B. Maps – Figure 1

UPPER RIO GRANDE ASSESSMENT



KEY

RGNF Boundary Selection

Order 4 Rio Grande Mainstem

Order 3 reach

Order 2 reach

Order 1 reach



Water Supply Reserve Account – Grant and Loan Program
Water Activity Summary Sheet
May 18-19, 2016
Agenda Item 18(c)

Applicant: Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable

Fiscal Agent: Community Agriculture Alliance Inc (CAA)

Water Activity Name: Development and Implementation of Water Education and Outreach: A 3-Year Program of Collateral Dissemination, Media Networking, Forums and Workshops.

Water Activity Purpose: Education & Outreach

County: Entire Yampa/White/Green River Basins

Drainage Basin: Yampa/White/Green

Water Source: n/a

Amount Requested/Source of Funds: \$150,000 Yampa/White/Green Rivers Basin Account (total grant request)

Matching Funds: none required, none provided

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of up to \$150,000 from the Yampa/White/Green Basin Account to help fund the project titled: Development and Implementation of Water Education and Outreach: A 3-Year Program of Collateral Dissemination, Media Networking, Forums and Workshops.
--

Water Activity Summary: The Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable recognizes the increased need for, and the importance of, ongoing education and outreach as it pertains to all water concerns. The purpose of this project is to help the YWG Basin Roundtable develop and implement a collateral and media outreach plan; raise public awareness about: the YWG Roundtable activities, Basin Implementation Plan and Colorado's Water Plan; implement and facilitate a series of Water Education Forums/Workshops/Tours in Craig, Meeker, Rangely and Steamboat; assure that ongoing education events align with YWG Basin Roundtable goals and objectives; coordinate the grant applications submitted to the YWG Basin Roundtable for review and consideration; and develop and implement a system to inform the members of the YWG Basin Roundtable of projects and activities within their basins. The project also aims to increase collaborations and partnerships with other YWG Basin organizations.

The YWG Basin Roundtable, led by their PEPO representative and education committee, will provide coordination with the CWCB; guidance, decision-making and approval of all YWG Basin Roundtable education activities; and evaluations of all YWG Basin Roundtable education activities. Community Agriculture Alliance Inc (CAA) will collaborate with the YWG Basin Roundtable on this project and, jointly, they will develop specific plans for YWG Basin Roundtable education activities for the three-year granting program and full utilization of partnership opportunities with other water-interest organizations, agencies, stakeholder groups and civic groups.

Discussion: The proposed project aligns with the Projects and Methods in Section 4.0 of the Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan, specifically Section 4.1: Education, Participation

and Outreach, pg. 4-3. This effort also supports the Outreach, Education and Public Engagement goals as highlighted in Section 9.5 of Colorado's Water Plan. In addition, this project aligns with the basin roundtable's Public Education, Participation, and Outreach (PEPO) Workgroup Education Action Plan approved in 2015.

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: none required, none provided

CWCB Project Manager: Mara MacKillop

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.

To: Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 721
Denver CO 80203

March 30, 2016

From: Mary Brown, Chair 
Yampa-White-Green Rivers Basin Roundtable

The Yampa-White-Green Rivers Basin Roundtable (YWGRT) recommends approval of the attached grant application submitted by Community Agriculture Alliance (CAA) to CWCB. In partnership with CAA our Roundtable is requesting \$150,000.00 to be utilized during 2017-2019 fiscal years for education and outreach on behalf of the Round Table.

The application was considered by at first reading on January 13, 2016, amended per recommendations of the Round Table members, and approved at second reading on March 9, 2016.

These funds will be used to:

- Raise public awareness of the YWG Basin Implementation Plan and the Colorado's Water Plan
- Raise public awareness of YWG Roundtable activities
- Plan, implement and facilitate a series of Water Education Forums/Workshops/Tours in Craig, Meeker, Rangely and Steamboat
- Increase collaborations and partnerships with other YWG basin organizations that to promote water education, encourage locally driven collaborative solutions and encourage community participation in solution based discussions, issues and solutions
- Provide professional, informative and educational activities in the region
- Provide information on regional water projects, studies and related issues
- Engage with area water interest groups to encourage constructive discussions and actions regarding water issues and projects in Northwest Colorado
- Assure that ongoing education events align with YWGRT goals and objectives
- Coordinate the grant applications submitted to the YWGRT for review and consideration
- Develop and implement a system to inform the members of the YWGRT of projects and activities within their basins

Your positive consideration of this grant application will be appreciated.



COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD



WATER SUPPLY RESERVE ACCOUNT APPLICATION FORM

April 1, 2016

Development and Implementation of Water Education and Outreach:
A 3 Year Program of Collateral Dissemination, Media Networking, Forums and Workshops

Name of Water Activity/Project

Yampa-White-Green Rivers Basin Round Table Educational Outreach

Name of Applicant

Yampa-White-Green
Rivers Basin Roundtable

Amount from Statewide Account:

Amount from Basin Account(s):

Total WSRA Funds Requested:

\$150,000

\$150,000

Approving Basin Roundtable(s)

(If multiple basins specify amounts in parentheses.)

FEIN:

Application Content

Application Instructions	page 2
Part I – Description of the Applicant	page 3
Part II – Description of the Water Activity	page 5
Part III – Threshold and Evaluation Criteria	page 7
Part IV – Required Supporting Material	
Water Rights, Availability, and Sustainability	page 10
Related Studies	page 10
Signature Page	page 12

Required Exhibits

- A. Statement of Work, Budget, and Schedule
- B. Project Map
- C. As Needed (i.e. letters of support, photos, maps, etc.)

Appendices – Reference Material

- 1. Program Information
- 2. Insurance Requirements
- 3. WSRA Standard Contract Information (Required for Projects Over \$100,000)
- 4. W-9 Form (Required for All Projects Prior to Contracting)

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Instructions

To receive funding from the Water Supply Reserve Account (WSRA), a proposed water activity must be approved by the local Basin Roundtable **AND** the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCBC). The process for Basin Roundtable consideration and approval is outlined in materials in Appendix 1.

Once approved by the local Basin Roundtable, the applicant should submit this application **with a detailed statement of work including budget and schedule as Exhibit A** to CWCBC staff by the application deadline.

WSRA applications are due with the roundtable letter of support 60 calendar days prior to the bi-monthly Board meeting at which it will be considered. Board meetings are held in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Meeting details, including scheduled dates, agendas, etc. are posted on the CWCBC website at: <http://cwcb.state.co.us> Applications to the WSRA Basin Account are considered at every board meeting, while applications to the WSRA Statewide Account are only considered at the March and September board meetings.

When completing this application, the applicant should refer to the WSRA Criteria and Guidelines available at: <http://cwcb.state.co.us/LoansGrants/water-supply-reserve-account-grants/Documents/WSRACriteriaGuidelines.pdf>. In addition, the applicant should also refer to the Supplemental Scoring Matrix applied to Evaluation Criteria Tiers 1-3 for Statewide Account requests .

The application, statement of work, budget, and schedule **must be submitted in electronic format** (Microsoft Word or text-enabled PDF are preferred) and can be emailed or mailed on a disk to:

Craig Godbout - WSRA Application
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203
Craig.godbout@state.co.us

If you have questions or need additional assistance, please contact Craig Godbout at: 303-866-3441 x3210 or craig.godbout@state.co.us.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Part I. - Description of the Applicant (Project Sponsor or Owner);

1.	Applicant Name(s):	Yampa-White-Green Rivers Basin Roundtable		
	Mailing address:	Attention: Kelly Romero-Heaney: PEPO Chair, YWGRT PO Box 774134 Steamboat Springs CO 80477		
	FEIN #:	84-1506246		
	Primary Contact:	Marsha Daughenbaugh	Position/Title:	Executive Director
	Email:	marshad@communityagalliance.org		
	Phone Numbers:	Cell: 970-846-7054	Office:	970-879-7034
	Alternate Contact:	Kelly Romero-Heaney	Position/Title:	PEPO Chair
	Email:	kromeroheaney@steamboatsprings.net		
	Phone Numbers:	Cell: 970-846-5750	Office:	970-871-8205

2. Eligible entities for WSRA funds include the following. What type of entity is the Applicant?

- ☐ Public (Government) – municipalities, enterprises, counties, and State of Colorado agencies. Federal agencies are encouraged to work with local entities and the local entity should be the grant recipient. Federal agencies are eligible, but only if they can make a compelling case for why a local partner cannot be the grant recipient.
- ☐ Public (Districts) – authorities, Title 32/special districts, (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises.
- ☐ Private Incorporated – mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations.
- ☐ Private individuals, partnerships, and sole proprietors are eligible for funding from the Basin Accounts but not for funding from the Statewide Account.
- ☒ Non-governmental organizations – broadly defined as any organization that is not part of the government.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

3. Provide a brief description of your organization

The Yampa-White-Green Rivers Basin Round Table (YWGRT) has partnered with the Community Agriculture Alliance (CAA) since 2009 to provide water education in the region. Past events, forums and water tours have proven very successful and plans are being developed for ongoing events in 2016-2018. The partnership has been strengthened by the involvement of Kelly Romero-Heaney, who serves as the Yampa White Green Rivers Basin Round Table PEPO Chair and on CAA's Board of Directors and Executive Committee.

The collaboration will ensure the potential to provide water education and outreach in multiple forms to stakeholders across the Yampa-White-Green Rivers Basin. The YWGRT will serve as the fiscal agent for this grant.

All YWGRT members are encouraged to provide input and suggestions to the Education sub-committee. The Education sub-committee seeks to represent the agriculture, municipal and industrial interests of the basin and will meet one hour prior to each Round Table meeting. Current members include: Kelly Romero-Heaney, YWGRT PEPO Chair and Routt County Municipality Representative; Mary Brown, YWGRT Chair and Agriculture Representative; Alden Vanden Brink, YWGRT Vice-chair and Rio Blanco Municipality Representative; Jay Gallagher, CWCB Board Representative; Jeff Devere, IBCC Member and At-Large Representative; Doug Monger, Routt County Commissioner; Kevin McBride, Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District Representative; Bill Badaracca, At Large Representative, Steve Hinkemeyer, Moffat County Municipality and Marsha Daughenbaugh, Community Agriculture Alliance. Education sub-committee goals focus on the development and implementation of an EAP that facilitates educational opportunities for the public. Priority will be given to facilitating discussions on water management issues and encouraging locally driven collaborative solutions.

4. If the Contracting Entity is different then the Applicant (Project Sponsor or Owner) please describe the Contracting Entity here.

Community Agriculture Alliance (CAA) is an incorporated, non-profit community organization serving Routt County and the Yampa River Valley region. CAA was established in 1999 in response to concerns over the loss of agriculture and the community's desire to ensure ongoing support, allowing agriculture to adapt to changes in the local and regional economy. The overall goal is to allow agriculture to remain an active and vital part of the area for generations to come. CAA's mission is *"To preserve the agricultural heritage of the Yampa River Valley by initiating, supporting and encouraging actions, programs and policies that mutually benefit and connect agricultural producers and consumers"*.

CAA is legally registered as a 501(c)3 with the State of Colorado and IRS. The organization carries insurance for general liability, director liability and worker compensation. CAA's by-laws require that the Board of Directors and Advisors be recruited from agriculture, business, community and resort interests representing the geographic and demographic mix of the region. The Board meets quarterly and maintains a membership of approximately 15 Directors and 15 Advisors. CAA has one full time and two part time employees.

The over-arching strategic anchors of CAA are:

1. The Enhancement and Promotion of Local Agriculture (Food, Fiber, Products and Services)
2. Providing Education about the Critical Importance of Agriculture and Agricultural Issues
3. Service as an Ag Resource Connector

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

CAA is a member based organization, with over 400 individuals, businesses and organizations supporting the mission. A volunteer base of well over 150 people and a strong partnership base with numerous non-profit organizations, government agencies and local businesses ensure that all programs and initiatives implemented by CAA provide pertinent and neutral information.

5. Successful applicants will have to execute a contract with the CWCB prior to beginning work on the portion of the project funded by the WSRA grant. In order to expedite the contracting process the CWCB has established a standard contract with provisions the applicant must adhere to. A link to this standard contract is included in Appendix 3. Please review this contract and check the appropriate box.

☒ The Applicant will be able to contract with the CWCB using the Standard Contract

☐ The Applicant has reviewed the standard contract and has some questions/issues/concerns. Please be aware that any deviation from the standard contract could result in a significant delay between grant approval and the funds being available.

6. The Tax Payer Bill of Rights (TABOR) may limit the amount of grant money an entity can receive. Please describe any relevant TABOR issues that may affect the applicant.
Not Applicable

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Part II. - Description of the Water Activity/Project

1. What is the primary purpose of this grant application? (Please check only one)

☐

Nonconsumptive (Environmental or Recreational)

☐

Agricultural

☐

Municipal/Industrial

☐

Needs Assessment

☒

Education

☐

Other

Explain:

2. If you feel this project addresses multiple purposes please explain.

3. Is this project primarily a study or implementation of a water activity/project? (Please check only one)

☐

Study

☒

Implementation

4. To catalog measurable results achieved with WSRA funds can you provide any of the following numbers?

New Storage Created (acre-feet)

New Annual Water Supplies Developed, Consumptive or Nonconsumptive (acre-feet)

Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)

Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)

Length of Pipe/Canal Built or Improved (linear feet)

Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year OR dollars/year – **circle one**)

Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)

Other -- Explain:

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

4. To help us map WSRA projects please include a map (Exhibit B) and provide the general coordinates below:

Latitude:

Longitude:

4. Please provide an overview/summary of the proposed water activity (no more than one page). Include a description of the overall water activity and specifically what the WSRA funding will be used for. A full **Statement of Work** with a detailed budget and schedule is required as **Exhibit A** of this application

The Yampa-White-Green Rivers Basin Round Table (YWGRT) in partnership with Community Agriculture Alliance requests \$150,000 in funding for a three year period (2017-2019FY).

Goals of this education and outreach plan are to:

- Raise public awareness of the YWG Basin Implementation Plan and the Colorado's Water Plan
- Raise public awareness of YWG Roundtable activities
- Plan, implement and facilitate a series of Water Education Forums/Workshops/Tours in Craig, Meeker, Rangely and Steamboat
- Increase collaborations and partnerships with other YWG basin organizations that wish to:
 - Promote water education
 - Encourage locally driven collaborative solutions
 - Encourage community participation in solution based discussions, issues and solutions
 - Provide professional, informative and educational activities in the region
 - Provide information on regional water projects, studies and related issues
 - Engage with area water interest groups to encourage constructive discussions and actions regarding water issues and projects in Northwest Colorado
- Assure that ongoing education events align with YWGRT goals and objectives
- Coordinate the grant applications submitted to the YWGRT for review and consideration
- Develop and implement a system to inform the members of the YWGRT of projects and activities within their basins

Project Coordinator – The YWGRT as the fiscal agent will contract with Community Agriculture Alliance to ensure the success of these programs.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Part III. – Threshold and Evaluation Criteria

1. Describe how the water activity meets these **Threshold Criteria**. (Detailed in Part 3 of the Water Supply Reserve Account Criteria and Guidelines.)
 - a) The water activity is consistent with Section 37-75-102 Colorado Revised Statutes.¹ This application is education based and will not harm any water rights.
 - b) The water activity underwent an evaluation process on September 10, 2015 with the acceptance of the YWGRT Education Action Plan (EAP) as proposed by the Education sub-committee. The plan was unanimously approved by the RT members present at the meeting. This application followed the Basin protocol with first reading on January 13, 2016, second reading on March 9, 2016. Approval was unanimously approved by YWGRT members present on March 9, 2016.
 - c) The water activity meets the provisions of Section 37-75-104(2), Colorado Revised Statutes.² A memo from Mary Brown, Chair of YWGRT is attached with this application.
 - d) Matching Requirement: Not Applicable
 - e) The water activity will provide:
 - The public, stakeholders and Roundtable members with direct engagement, educational information and increased understanding of water issues in Northwest Colorado. Outreach and participation efforts will encourage balanced discussions and problem-solving related to regional water issues.
 - A consistent, easier-to-navigate system for YWGRT grants applications. Both the applicants and the YWGRT will benefit from a coordinated, detailed plan.
 - A method to chart water related projects and activities in the YWG basins
2. For Applications that include a request for funds from the **Statewide Account**, describe how the water activity/project meets all applicable **Evaluation Criteria**: Not Applicable

¹ 37-75-102. Water rights - protections. (1) It is the policy of the General Assembly that the current system of allocating water within Colorado shall not be superseded, abrogated, or otherwise impaired by this article. Nothing in this article shall be interpreted to repeal or in any manner amend the existing water rights adjudication system. The General Assembly affirms the state constitution's recognition of water rights as a private usufructuary property right, and this article is not intended to restrict the ability of the holder of a water right to use or to dispose of that water right in any manner permitted under Colorado law. (2) The General Assembly affirms the protections for contractual and property rights recognized by the contract and takings protections under the state constitution and related statutes. This article shall not be implemented in any way that would diminish, impair, or cause injury to any property or contractual right created by intergovernmental agreements, contracts, stipulations among parties to water cases, terms and conditions in water decrees, or any other similar document related to the allocation or use of water. This article shall not be construed to supersede, abrogate, or cause injury to vested water rights or decreed conditional water rights. The General Assembly affirms that this article does not impair, limit, or otherwise affect the rights of persons or entities to enter into agreements, contracts, or memoranda of understanding with other persons or entities relating to the appropriation, movement, or use of water under other provisions of law.

² 37-75-104 (2)(c). Using data and information from the Statewide Water Supply Initiative and other appropriate sources and in cooperation with the ongoing Statewide Water Supply Initiative, develop a basin-wide consumptive and nonconsumptive water supply needs assessment, conduct an analysis of available unappropriated waters within the basin, and propose projects or methods, both structural and nonstructural, for meeting those needs and utilizing those unappropriated waters where appropriate. Basin Roundtables shall actively seek the input and advice of affected local governments, water providers, and other interested stakeholders and persons in establishing its needs assessment, and shall propose projects or methods for meeting those needs. Recommendations from this assessment shall be forwarded to the Interbasin Compact Committee and other basin roundtables for analysis and consideration after the General Assembly has approved the Interbasin Compact Charter.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Evaluation Criteria: Not Applicable

The following criteria will be utilized to further evaluate the merits of the water activity proposed for funding from the Statewide Account. In evaluation of proposed water activities, preference will be given to projects that meet one or more criteria from each of the three “tiers” or categories. Each “tier” is grouped in level of importance. For instance, projects that meet Tier 1 criteria will outweigh projects that only meet Tier 3 criteria. The applicant should also refer to the Supplemental Scoring Matrix applied to Evaluation Criteria Tiers 1-3 for Statewide Account requests. WSRA grant requests for projects that may qualify for loans through the CWCB loan program will receive preference in the Statewide Evaluation Criteria if the grant request is part of a CWCB loan/WSRA grant package. For these CWCB loan/WSRA grant packages, the applicant must have a CWCB loan/WSRA grant ratio of 1:1 or higher. Preference will be given to those with a higher loan/grant ratio.

Tier 1: Promoting Collaboration/Cooperation and Meeting Water Management Goals and Identified Water Needs

- a. The water activity addresses multiple needs or issues, including consumptive and/or non-consumptive needs, or the needs and issues of multiple interests or multiple basins. This can be demonstrated by obtaining letters of support from other basin roundtables (in addition to an approval letter from the sponsoring basin).
- b. The number and types of entities represented in the application and the degree to which the activity will promote cooperation and collaboration among traditional consumptive water interests and/or non-consumptive interests, and if applicable, the degree to which the water activity is effective in addressing intrabasin or interbasin needs or issues.
- c. The water activity helps implement projects and processes identified as helping meet Colorado’s future water needs, and/or addresses the gap areas between available water supply and future need as identified in SWSI or a roundtable’s basin-wide water needs assessment.

Tier 2: Facilitating Water Activity Implementation

- d. Funding from this Account will reduce the uncertainty that the water activity will be implemented. For this criterion the applicant should discuss how receiving funding from the Account will make a significant difference in the implementation of the water activity (i.e., how will receiving funding enable the water activity to move forward or the inability obtaining funding elsewhere).
- e. The amount of matching funds provided by the applicant via direct contributions, demonstrable in-kind contributions, and/or other sources demonstrates a significant & appropriate commitment to the project.

Tier 3: The Water Activity Addresses Other Issues of Statewide Value and Maximizes Benefits

- f. The water activity helps sustain agriculture & open space, or meets environmental or recreational needs.
- g. The water activity assists in the administration of compact-entitled waters or addresses problems related to compact entitled waters and compact compliance and the degree to which the activity promotes maximum utilization of state waters.
- h. The water activity assists in the recovery of threatened and endangered wildlife species or Colorado State species of concern.
- i. The water activity provides a high level of benefit to Colorado in relationship to the amount of funds requested.
- j. The water activity is complimentary to or assists in the implementation of other CWCB programs.

Continued: Explanation of how the water activity/project meets all applicable **Evaluation Criteria**.

Please attach additional pages as necessary.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Part IV. – Required Supporting Material

1. **Water Rights, Availability, and Sustainability** – This information is needed to assess the viability of the water project or activity. Please provide a description of the water supply source to be utilized, or the water body to be affected by, the water activity. This should include a description of applicable water rights, and water rights issues, and the name/location of water bodies affected by the water activity.

No water supply source will be utilized and no water body will be affected by this water and natural resource conservation education activity. This project does not affect any water rights.

2. **Please provide a brief narrative of any related studies or permitting issues.**

Not Applicable

3. **Statement of Work, Detailed Budget, and Project Schedule**

The statement of work will form the basis for the contract between the Applicant and the State of Colorado. In short, the Applicant is agreeing to undertake the work for the compensation outlined in the statement of work and budget, and in return, the State of Colorado is receiving the deliverables/products specified. **Please note that costs incurred prior to execution of a contract or purchase order are not subject to reimbursement.** All WSRA funds are disbursed on a reimbursement basis after review invoices and appropriate backup material.

Please provide a detailed statement of work using the template in Exhibit A. Additional sections or modifications may be included as necessary. Please define all acronyms and include page numbers.

REPORTING AND FINAL DELIVERABLE

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 statement 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.


PAYMENT

Payment will be made based on actual expenditures and invoicing by the applicant. Invoices from any other entity (i.e. subcontractors) cannot be processed by the State. The request for payment must include a description of the work accomplished by major task, and estimate of the percent completion for individual tasks and the entire water activity in relation to the percentage of budget spent, identification of any major issues and proposed or implemented corrective actions. The last 10 percent of the entire water activity budget will be withheld until final project/water activity documentation is completed. 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 help promote the development of a common technical platform.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

The above statements are true to the best of my knowledge:

Signature of Applicant: 

Print Applicant's Name: Mary Brown, YWG Chair

Project Title: Yampa-White-Green Rivers Basin Round Table Educational Outreach

Return an electronic version (hardcopy may also be submitted) of this application to:

Craig Godbout – WSRA Application
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203
303-866-3441, ext. 3210 (office)
303-547-8061 (cell)
craig.godbout@state.co.us

Exhibit A
Statement of Work
April 1, 2016

WATER ACTIVITY NAME: Yampa-White-Green Rivers Basin Round Table Educational Outreach

GRANT RECIPIENT: Yampa-White-Green Rivers Basin Round Table (YWGRT), Fiscal Agent
Community Agriculture Alliance Inc (CAA), Sub-contractor

FUNDING SOURCE: Yampa-White Rivers Basin Account

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

WSRA funding will be utilized to develop and implement:

- A collateral and media plan specific to water issues in the region and how we relate to the Colorado River Basin and Colorado's State Water Plan
- Regional workshops and forums to explain the YWGRT Basin Implementation Plan, the studies executed for the YWGRT and the work completed/in progress/proposed in the basins
- A series of public education and participation events with focus on helping residents, organizations and stakeholders better understand water related issues in Northwest Colorado
- A communication plan that will inform the public of the availability and application process for use of YWGRT project funds
- A method to be utilized by the YWGRT to accept and review grant applications
- Collaboration with area water interest groups to encourage constructive discussions and actions regarding water issues and projects in Northwest Colorado
- Networking opportunities between YWGRT, water stakeholders and the general public
- A method to chart water related projects in the YWG Basins

YWGRT, led by their PEPO representative and education committee, will provide:

1. Coordination with CWCB
2. Guidance, decision making and approval of all YWGRT education activities
3. Evaluations of all YWGRT education activities

CAA will provide the following:

1. Full cooperation and disclosure with YWGRT
2. Coordination and structure for the YWGRT education activities
3. Development of workshops, forums and/or tours, each open and accessible to the public
4. Full implementation and completion of YWGRT education activities, including but not limited to contracting speakers, facilities, sponsors, volunteers, advertising and agenda development
5. Use of timely, up-to-date and accurate resources including CWCB and CFWE publications
6. Region wide marketing and collaboration

Jointly, YWGRT and CAA will provide:

1. Development of specific plans for YWGRT education activities for the three year granting program
2. Full utilization of partnership opportunities with other water-interest organizations, agencies, stakeholder groups and civic groups

OBJECTIVES

- Raise public awareness of the YWG Basin Implementation Plan and the Colorado's Water Plan
- Raise public awareness of YWG Roundtable activities
- Increase public awareness of water related issues, projects and program in Northwest Colorado
- Encourage collaboration and partnerships to promote better water education, discussions and locally driven collaborative solutions
- Coordinate the grants applications process submitted to the YWGRT for review and consideration
- Develop and implement a system to inform the members of the YWGRT of projects and activities within their basins

TASKS

TASK 1 – Implement a Collateral and Media Plan

Description of Task:

Development, implementation and dissemination of a collateral and media outreach plan to raise public awareness water issues in the region and how we relate to the Colorado River Basin and Colorado's State Water Plan.

Method/Procedure/Deliverable:

CAA will convene the YWGRT PEPO sub-committee for a review of already suggested ideas, identify and narrow the focus, implement the program(s) and disseminate the final product(s). This outreach will be designed to reach the general populace who normally will not attend a Round Table meeting or scheduled educational event. We will strive to highlight context that provides a snapshot of water issues. Ideas include:

- Development of a Handbook specific to the YWG region
- Placement of "Water Ads" in Regional Papers
- Development of informational "Rack Cards"
- Development of a YWG documentary video

TASK 2 - Raise Public Awareness of the Yampa-White-Green Round Table

Description of Task:

Development and Implementation of a three year plan to better inform the public of the purpose of YWGRT, the content of studies executed by YWGRT, the YWG Basin Implementation Plan, past accomplishments of the YWGRT and future opportunities available through the YWGRT.

Method/Procedure/Deliverable:

CAA will convene the YWGRT PEPO sub-committee to develop and implement a plan to better educate and engage community members and regional stakeholders. We will better enhance existing networking opportunities between YWGRT, water stakeholders and the general public. This task may be completed through a media campaign and a series of regional forums, workshops and /or tours.

TASK 3 – Increase Public Knowledge about Water Issues

Description of Task:

Development and Implementation of a three year plan to further focus on community education, outreach and stakeholder participation.

Method/Procedure/Deliverable:

CAA will convene the YWGRT PEPO sub-committee to focus on community education, outreach and stakeholder participation. We will engage a variety of partners and experts to help inform the public about water law, water use, water availability, regional and national water needs, permits/reporting, return flow benefits, etc. This task may be completed through a media campaign and a series of regional forums, workshops and /or tours.

TASK 4 – Coordinate YWGRT Grant Process

Description of Task:

Development and Implementation of a plan to inform the public of the availability of YWGRT project funds. Development and Coordination of a system for the YWGRT to review grant applications.

Method/Procedure/Deliverable:

CAA, in consultation with the YWGRT chair and PEPO Chair will develop a plan that will:

- Communicate with stakeholders about the availability of YWGRT and CWCB grant funds.
- Better facilitate the process for YWGRT to review, recommend and process grant applications

TASK 5 – Raise Awareness for YWGRT about Water Projects and Activities in the Basins

Description of Task:

Develop a method to chart water related activities in Moffat, Rio Blanco and Routt Counties

Method/Procedure/Deliverable:

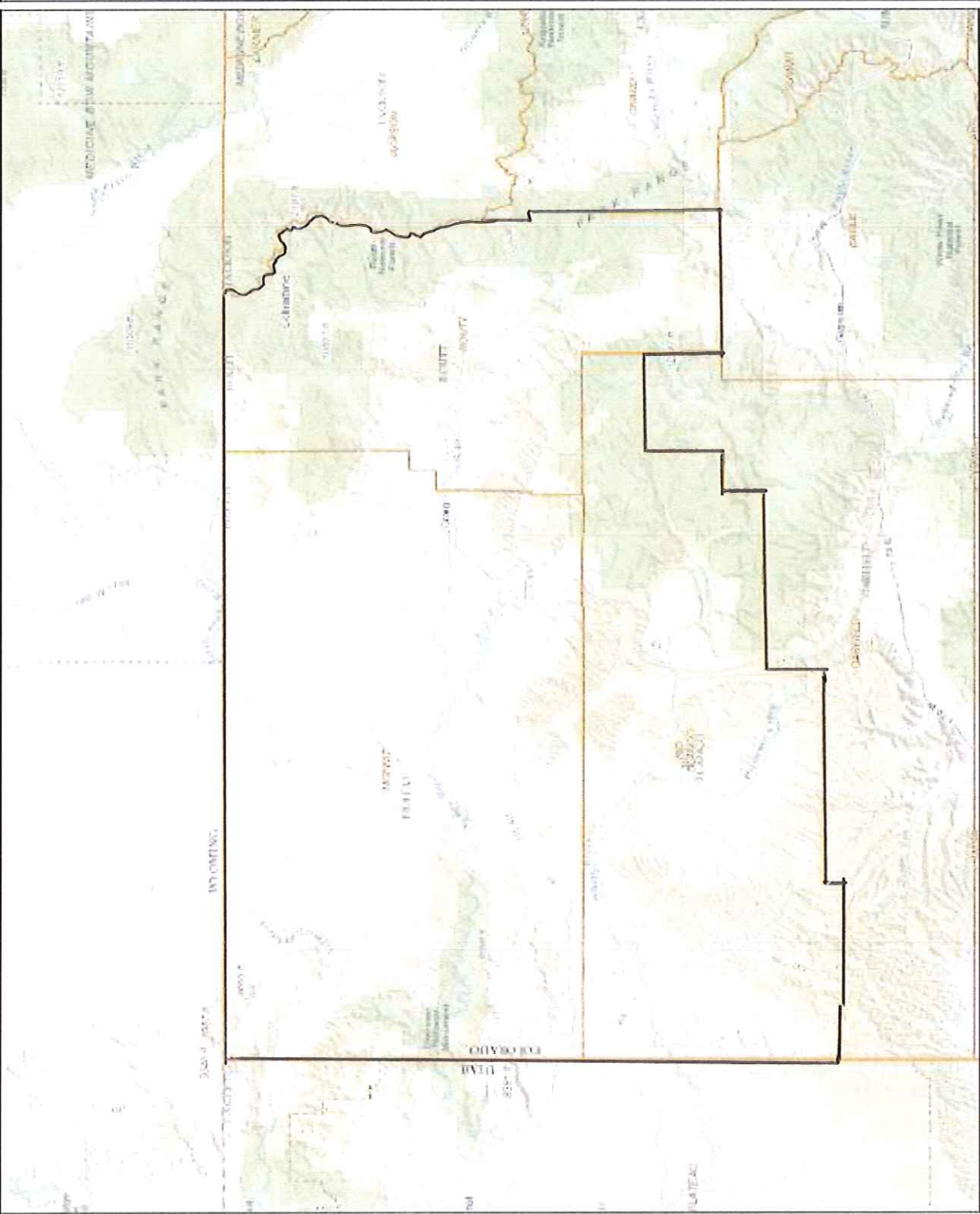
CAA will research, collate and update information about water projects that are recently completed, in progress and/or proposed throughout the region. We will engage a variety of partners and experts to determine the status of different proposals and projects. A report will be presented at each YWGRT meeting to help inform the YWGRT members of projects and activities happening in Northwest Colorado

BUDGET

Task	2017FY Costs	2018FY Costs	2019FY Costs	Total 3-Year Request
#1 Implement a Collateral and Media Plan	\$23,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$31,000
#2 - Raise Public Awareness of the Yampa-White-Green Round Table	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$24,000
#3 – Increase Public Knowledge about Water Issues	\$15,300	\$15,4000	\$15,300	\$46,000
#4 – Coordinate Grant Process	\$10,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$26,000
#5 – Raise YWGRT Awareness of Projects and Activities	\$13,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$23,000
	\$69,300	\$40,400	\$40,300	\$150,000

SCHEDULE

Task	Start Date	Completion Date
#1 Implement a Collateral and Media Plan	Upon NTP	Annual Through 12-31-18
#2 - Raise Public Awareness of the YWGRT	Upon NTP	Annual Through 12-31-18
#3 – Increase Public Knowledge about Water Issues	Upon NTP	Annual Through 12-31-18
#4 – Coordinate Grant Process	Upon NTP	Annual Through 12-31-18
#5 – Raise YWGRT Awareness of Projects and Activities	Upon NTP	Annual Through 12-31-18



Water Supply Reserve Account – Grant and Loan Program
Water Activity Summary Sheet
May 18-19, 2016
Agenda Item 18(d)

Applicant: Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable
Fiscal Agent: Colorado River Water Conservation District
Water Activity Name: Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan Modeling
Water Activity Purpose: Study: Nonconsumptive & Consumptive
County: Routt, Garfield, Rio Blanco, Moffat
Drainage Basin: Yampa/White/Green
Water Source: Yampa/White and tributaries
Amount Requested/Source of Funds: \$150,000 Yampa/White/Green Basin Account (total grant request)
Matching Funds: none required, none provided

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of up to \$150,000 from the Yampa/White/Green Basin Account to help fund the project titled: Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan Modeling.
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Water Activity Summary: The Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan Modeling project provides the next steps to advance the Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan (BIP). The project builds on previous BIP modeling efforts to help the basin roundtable (BRT) understand the potential benefits and impacts of identified projects and processes (IPPs), and ultimately, which IPPs may merit moving to the next stage of implementation. In addition, the project seeks to illuminate how operations in the basin would be affected by water rights administration. During the development of the model, the contractor will work closely with the full BRT, the modeling Subcommittee, and project proponents to deliver a fully documented, adaptable model that captures the vision and needs defined by the BRT. The effort is designed to solicit input from diverse stakeholders and build consensus on the most effective ways to meet identified needs in the basin.

Objectives:

- Maintain close communication between the contractor, the BRT Subcommittee, full BRT membership, and project proponents;
- Clearly define and document modeling assumptions;
- Foster understanding and consensus regarding the baseline model to ensure everyone is on the same page;
- Provide modeling workshops to set up, run, and examine results "on the fly";
- Execute modeling simulations that examine the IPPs individually and in combination, and;
- Document final model results in concise technical memos, a final report, and a presentation to the BRT.

Discussion: The proposed project aligns well with many of the Goals and Measurable Outcomes in the Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan, while simultaneously furthering the goals of Colorado's Water Plan.

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: none required, none provided

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.

March 31, 2016

Mr. Craig Godbout
Colorado Water Conservation Board

(via email: craig.godbout@state.co.us)

Dear Craig:

On July 8, 2015, the Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable approved a Water Supply Reserve Account grant in the amount of \$150,000, using basin funds, to take next steps to further our Basin Implementation Plan. Additionally, the BRT wishes to use remaining BIP grant funds which total approximately \$50, 000 for Next Steps as well. The total work effort will therefore total \$200,000.

The Colorado River District will be acting as fiscal agent for this work.

Transmitted herewith, on behalf of the BRT, is the WSRA grant application, including scope of work, budget and schedule for the proposed work, which we understand will be on the CWCB May agenda for approval.

If you need any additional information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Sincerely,


Mary Brown, Chair
Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable

Attachment

COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD

WATER SUPPLY RESERVE ACCOUNT APPLICATION FORM



Today's Date: April 1, 2016

Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan Modeling

Name of Water Activity/Project

Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable
(Fiscal Agent: Colorado River Water Conservation District)

Name of Applicant

Yampa/White/Green

Amount from Statewide Account:

N/A

Amount from Basin Account(s):

\$150,000

Total WSRA Funds Requested:

\$150,000

Approving Basin Roundtable(s)

(If multiple basins specify amounts in parentheses.)

FEIN: 84-6000156 (fiscal agent)

Application Content

Application Instructions	page 2
Part I – Description of the Applicant	page 3
Part II – Description of the Water Activity	page 5
Part III – Threshold and Evaluation Criteria	page 7
Part IV – Required Supporting Material	
Water Rights, Availability, and Sustainability	page 10
Related Studies	page 10
Signature Page	page 12

Required Exhibits

- Statement of Work, Budget, and Schedule
- Project Map
- As Needed (i.e. letters of support, photos, maps, etc.)

Appendices – Reference Material

- Program Information
- Insurance Requirements
- WSRA Standard Contract Information (Required for Projects Over \$100,000)
- W-9 Form (Required for All Projects Prior to Contracting)

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Instructions

To receive funding from the Water Supply Reserve Account (WSRA), a proposed water activity must be approved by the local Basin Roundtable **AND** the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). The process for Basin Roundtable consideration and approval is outlined in materials in Appendix 1.

Once approved by the local Basin Roundtable, the applicant should submit this application **with a detailed statement of work including budget and schedule as Exhibit A** to CWCB staff by the application deadline.

WSRA applications are due with the roundtable letter of support 60 calendar days prior to the bi-monthly Board meeting at which it will be considered. Board meetings are held in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Meeting details, including scheduled dates, agendas, etc. are posted on the CWCB website at: <http://cwcb.state.co.us> Applications to the WSRA Basin Account are considered at every board meeting, while applications to the WSRA Statewide Account are only considered at the March and September board meetings.

When completing this application, the applicant should refer to the WSRA Criteria and Guidelines available at: <http://cwcb.state.co.us/LoansGrants/water-supply-reserve-account-grants/Documents/WSRACriteriaGuidelines.pdf>. In addition, the applicant should also refer to the Supplemental Scoring Matrix applied to Evaluation Criteria Tiers 1-3 for Statewide Account requests .

The application, statement of work, budget, and schedule **must be submitted in electronic format** (Microsoft Word or text-enabled PDF are preferred) and can be emailed or mailed on a disk to:

Craig Godbout - WSRA Application
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203
Craig.godbout@state.co.us

If you have questions or need additional assistance, please contact Craig Godbout at: 303-866-3441 x3210 or craig.godbout@state.co.us.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

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Part I. - Description of the Applicant (Project Sponsor or Owner);

1.	Applicant Name(s):	Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable (Fiscal Agent: Colorado River Water Conservation District)		
	Mailing address:	POB 1120 Glenwood Springs, CO 81602		
	FEIN #:	84-6000156		
	Primary Contact:	Daniel R. Birch	Position/Title:	Deputy General Manager
	Email:	dbirch@crwcd.org		
	Phone Numbers:	Cell: 970-846-4128	Office:	970-945-8522 x239
	Alternate Contact:	Alesha Frederick	Position/Title:	Business Support Specialist
	Email:	afrederick@crwcd.org		
	Phone Numbers:	Cell: 662-574-6024	Office:	970-945-8522

2. Eligible entities for WSRA funds include the following. What type of entity is the Applicant?

- ☐ Public (Government) – municipalities, enterprises, counties, and State of Colorado agencies. Federal agencies are encouraged to work with local entities and the local entity should be the grant recipient. Federal agencies are eligible, but only if they can make a compelling case for why a local partner cannot be the grant recipient.
- ☒ Public (Districts) – authorities, Title 32/special districts, (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises.
- ☐ Private Incorporated – mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations.
- ☐ Private individuals, partnerships, and sole proprietors are eligible for funding from the Basin Accounts but not for funding from the Statewide Account.
- ☐ Non-governmental organizations – broadly defined as any organization that is not part of the government.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

3. Provide a brief description of your organization

The Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable (YWG Roundtable) is one of nine basin roundtables created by the Colorado Water for the 21st Century Act (H.B. 05-1177) to facilitate discussions on water management issues and encourage locally driven collaborative solutions. The YWG Roundtable covers roughly 10,500 square miles in northwest Colorado, including the largest cities of Steamboat Springs (pop. 10,402) and Craig (pop. 9,185). The YWG Roundtable successfully completed its Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) in 2015 as part of the Colorado Water Plan process, and now seeks to develop more refined modeling tools in the basin to more thoroughly assess identified projects and processes (IPPs) included in the BIP.

4. If the Contracting Entity is different then the Applicant (Project Sponsor or Owner) please describe the Contracting Entity here.

The Colorado River Water Conservation District (also known as the Colorado River District or the River District) was created by the Colorado General Assembly in 1937 to lead in the protection, conservation, use and development of the water resources of the Colorado River Basin for the welfare of the District, and to safeguard for Colorado all waters of the Colorado River to which the state is entitled. Fifteen counties in western Colorado comprise the District and each appoints a member to the Board of Directors. The District covers all the lands and waters of Grand, Summit, Eagle, Pitkin, Routt, Garfield, Moffat, Rio Blanco, Mesa, Delta, Gunnison and Ouray counties and parts of Montrose, Saguache and Hildale counties.

5. Successful applicants will have to execute a contract with the CWCB prior to beginning work on the portion of the project funded by the WSRA grant. In order to expedite the contracting process the CWCB has established a standard contract with provisions the applicant must adhere to. A link to this standard contract is included in Appendix 3. Please review this contract and check the appropriate box.

☒ The Applicant will be able to contract with the CWCB using the Standard Contract

☐ The Applicant has reviewed the standard contract and has some questions/issues/concerns. Please be aware that any deviation from the standard contract could result in a significant delay between grant approval and the funds being available.

6. The Tax Payer Bill of Rights (TABOR) may limit the amount of grant money an entity can receive. Please describe any relevant TABOR issues that may affect the applicant.

The Colorado River Water Conservation District does not anticipate any TABOR issues.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Part II. - Description of the Water Activity/Project

1. What is the primary purpose of this grant application? (Please check only one)

☐

Nonconsumptive (Environmental or Recreational)

☐

Agricultural

☐

Municipal/Industrial

☐

Needs Assessment

☐

Education

☒

Other

Explain: This effort seeks to address all uses, per diverse IPPs

2. If you feel this project addresses multiple purposes please explain.

As a broad modeling effort, this project will address all uses by helping to evaluate the impacts and benefits of various projects across all sectors, combined with an analysis of different hydrologic scenarios.

3. Is this project primarily a study or implementation of a water activity/project? (Please check only one)

☒

Study

☐

Implementation

4. To catalog measurable results achieved with WSRA funds can you provide any of the following numbers?

☐

New Storage Created (acre-feet)

☐

New Annual Water Supplies Developed, Consumptive or Nonconsumptive (acre-feet)

☐

Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)

☐

Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)

☐

Length of Pipe/Canal Built or Improved (linear feet)

☐

Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year OR dollars/year – **circle one**)

☐

Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)

☒

Other -- Explain: Will assist with IPP evaluation, and ultimately implementation

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

4. To help us map WSRA projects please include a map (Exhibit B) and provide the general coordinates below:

Latitude:

N/A

Longitude:

N/A

5. Please provide an overview/summary of the proposed water activity (no more than one page). Include a description of the overall water activity and specifically what the WSRA funding will be used for. A full **Statement of Work** with a detailed budget and schedule is required as **Exhibit A** of this application.

The Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan Modeling project (project) provides the next steps to advance the Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan (BIP). The project builds on previous BIP modeling efforts to help the basin roundtable (BRT) understand the potential benefits and impacts of identified projects and processes (IPPs). In addition, the project seeks to illuminate how operations in the basin would be affected by water rights administration. During the development of the model, the contractor will work closely with the full BRT, the modeling Subcommittee, and project proponents to deliver a fully documented, adaptable model that captures the vision and needs defined by the BRT. The modeling effort is also intended to help build consensus among various stakeholders.

The contractor, Wilson Water Group (WWG), was selected through a competitive request for qualifications (RFQ) process based on their extensive modeling experience. WWG will provide the necessary modeling expertise, while using close communication with BRT members to provide the basin expertise, resulting in a useful model with meaningful results. While specific IPPs will be modeled per direction from the BRT, the modeling work is not intended to be prescriptive or otherwise provide specific project recommendations. Instead, it is intended to serve as a useful tool to examine the viability of various projects and how they may potentially complement and/or compete with one another. As such, this effort is designed to assist the BRT with determining which IPPs may merit moving to the next stage of implementation.

Objectives

- Maintain close communication between the contractor, the BRT Subcommittee, full BRT membership, and project proponents,
- Clearly define and document modeling assumptions,
- Foster understanding and consensus regarding the baseline model to ensure everyone is on the same page,
- Provide modeling workshops to set up, run, and examine results “on the fly”,
- Execute modeling simulations that examine the IPPs individually and in combination, and
- Document final model results in concise technical memos, a final report, and a presentation to the BRT.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Part III. – Threshold and Evaluation Criteria

1. Describe how the water activity meets these **Threshold Criteria**. (Detailed in Part 3 of the Water Supply Reserve Account Criteria and Guidelines.)
 - a) The water activity is consistent with Section 37-75-102 Colorado Revised Statutes.¹

This activity is consistent with Section 37-75-102 Colorado Revised Statutes. By using and refining the Colorado Decision Support System modeling tools for the basin, this project supports a thorough analysis that is specifically designed to incorporate the existing water rights adjudication system.

- b) The water activity underwent an evaluation and approval process and was approved by the Basin Roundtable (BRT) and the application includes a description of the results of the BRT's evaluation and approval of the activity. At a minimum, the description must include the level of agreement reached by the roundtable, including any minority opinion(s) if there was not general agreement for the activity. The description must also include reasons why general agreement was not reached (if it was not), including who opposed the activity and why they opposed it. Note- If this information is included in the letter from the roundtable chair simply reference that letter.

This water activity was approved by the full YWG Roundtable on July 8th, 2015, as noted in the attached letter from the roundtable chair, Mary Brown (dated March 31st, 2016).

¹ 37-75-102. Water rights - protections. (1) It is the policy of the General Assembly that the current system of allocating water within Colorado shall not be superseded, abrogated, or otherwise impaired by this article. Nothing in this article shall be interpreted to repeal or in any manner amend the existing water rights adjudication system. The General Assembly affirms the state constitution's recognition of water rights as a private usufructuary property right, and this article is not intended to restrict the ability of the holder of a water right to use or to dispose of that water right in any manner permitted under Colorado law. (2) The General Assembly affirms the protections for contractual and property rights recognized by the contract and takings protections under the state constitution and related statutes. This article shall not be implemented in any way that would diminish, impair, or cause injury to any property or contractual right created by intergovernmental agreements, contracts, stipulations among parties to water cases, terms and conditions in water decrees, or any other similar document related to the allocation or use of water. This article shall not be construed to supersede, abrogate, or cause injury to vested water rights or decreed conditional water rights. The General Assembly affirms that this article does not impair, limit, or otherwise affect the rights of persons or entities to enter into agreements, contracts, or memoranda of understanding with other persons or entities relating to the appropriation, movement, or use of water under other provisions of law.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

- c) The water activity meets the provisions of Section 37-75-104(2), Colorado Revised Statutes.² The Basin Roundtable Chairs shall include in their approval letters for particular WSRA grant applications a description of how the water activity will assist in meeting the water supply needs identified in the basin roundtable's consumptive and/or non-consumptive needs assessments.

As noted in the attached letter from the roundtable chair, Mary Brown (dated March 31, 2016), this project will directly advance the next steps to further the YWG Basin Implementation Plan. As a broad and detailed modeling effort, this project will build on previous BIP modeling to help the basin roundtable understand the potential benefits and impacts of identified projects and processes (IPPs), and ultimately, which IPPs may merit moving to the next stage of implementation. The effort is designed to solicit input from diverse stakeholders and build consensus on the most effective ways to meet identified needs in the basin.

- d) Matching Requirement: For requests from the Statewide Fund, the applicants will be required to demonstrate a **25 percent** (or greater) match of the total grant request from the other sources, including by not limited to Basin Funds. A minimum match of 5% of the total grant amount shall be from Basin funds. A minimum match of 5% of the total grant amount must come from the applicant or 3rd party sources. Sources of matching funds include but are not limited to Basin Funds, in-kind services, funding from other sources, and/or direct cash match. Past expenditures directly related to the project may be considered as matching funds if the expenditures occurred within 9 months of the date the contract or purchase order between the applicant and the State of Colorado is executed. Please describe the source(s) of matching funds. (NOTE: These matching funds should also be reflected in your Detailed Budget in **Exhibit A** of this application)

N/A - This application does not seek Statewide WSRA funds. However, In addition to the WSRA funds considered in this application, the YWG BRT and the Colorado River Water Conservation District (fiscal agent) has authorized an additional \$51,000 (approximately) for the project from remaining YWG BIP funds to address any issues that may arise (such as the potential need to create a daily model).

² 37-75-104 (2)(c). Using data and information from the Statewide Water Supply Initiative and other appropriate sources and in cooperation with the on-going Statewide Water Supply Initiative, develop a basin-wide consumptive and nonconsumptive water supply needs assessment, conduct an analysis of available unappropriated waters within the basin, and propose projects or methods, both structural and nonstructural, for meeting those needs and utilizing those unappropriated waters where appropriate. Basin Roundtables shall actively seek the input and advice of affected local governments, water providers, and other interested stakeholders and persons in establishing its needs assessment, and shall propose projects or methods for meeting those needs. Recommendations from this assessment shall be forwarded to the Interbasin Compact Committee and other basin roundtables for analysis and consideration after the General Assembly has approved the Interbasin Compact Charter.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

2. For Applications that include a request for funds from the **Statewide Account**, describe how the water activity/project meets all applicable **Evaluation Criteria**. (Detailed in Part 3 of the Water Supply Reserve Account Criteria and Guidelines and repeated below.) Projects will be assessed on how well they meet the Evaluation Criteria. **Please attach additional pages as necessary.**

Evaluation Criteria – the following criteria will be utilized to further evaluate the merits of the water activity proposed for funding from the Statewide Account. In evaluation of proposed water activities, preference will be given to projects that meet one or more criteria from each of the three “tiers” or categories. Each “tier” is grouped in level of importance. For instance, projects that meet Tier 1 criteria will outweigh projects that only meet Tier 3 criteria. The applicant should also refer to the Supplemental Scoring Matrix applied to Evaluation Criteria Tiers 1-3 for Statewide Account requests. WSRA grant requests for projects that may qualify for loans through the CWCW loan program will receive preference in the Statewide Evaluation Criteria if the grant request is part of a CWCW loan/WSRA grant package. For these CWCW loan/WSRA grant packages, the applicant must have a CWCW loan/WSRA grant ratio of 1:1 or higher. Preference will be given to those with a higher loan/grant ratio.

Tier 1: Promoting Collaboration/Cooperation and Meeting Water Management Goals and Identified Water Needs

- a. The water activity addresses multiple needs or issues, including consumptive and/or non-consumptive needs, or the needs and issues of multiple interests or multiple basins. This can be demonstrated by obtaining letters of support from other basin roundtables (in addition to an approval letter from the sponsoring basin).
- b. The number and types of entities represented in the application and the degree to which the activity will promote cooperation and collaboration among traditional consumptive water interests and/or non-consumptive interests, and if applicable, the degree to which the water activity is effective in addressing intrabasin or interbasin needs or issues.
- c. The water activity helps implement projects and processes identified as helping meet Colorado’s future water needs, and/or addresses the gap areas between available water supply and future need as identified in SWSI or a roundtable’s basin-wide water needs assessment.

Tier 2: Facilitating Water Activity Implementation

- d. Funding from this Account will reduce the uncertainty that the water activity will be implemented. For this criterion the applicant should discuss how receiving funding from the Account will make a significant difference in the implementation of the water activity (i.e., how will receiving funding enable the water activity to move forward or the inability obtaining funding elsewhere).
- e. The amount of matching funds provided by the applicant via direct contributions, demonstrable in-kind contributions, and/or other sources demonstrates a significant & appropriate commitment to the project.

Tier 3: The Water Activity Addresses Other Issues of Statewide Value and Maximizes Benefits

- f. The water activity helps sustain agriculture & open space, or meets environmental or recreational needs.
- g. The water activity assists in the administration of compact-entitled waters or addresses problems related to compact entitled waters and compact compliance and the degree to which the activity promotes maximum utilization of state waters.
- h. The water activity assists in the recovery of threatened and endangered wildlife species or Colorado State species of concern.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

- i. The water activity provides a high level of benefit to Colorado in relationship to the amount of funds requested.
- j. The water activity is complimentary to or assists in the implementation of other CWCB programs.

Continued: Explanation of how the water activity/project meets all applicable **Evaluation Criteria**.

Please attach additional pages as necessary.

N/A - This application does not seek Statewide WSRA funds.

Part IV. – Required Supporting Material

1. **Water Rights, Availability, and Sustainability** – This information is needed to assess the viability of the water project or activity. Please provide a description of the water supply source to be utilized, or the water body to be affected by, the water activity. This should include a description of applicable water rights, and water rights issues, and the name/location of water bodies affected by the water activity.

As a broad modeling effort throughout the basin that employs the State's Colorado Decision Support System, by design this project will incorporate all adjudicated water rights (individually or in aggregate). As such, the project will help to assess water availability and the viability of numerous IPPs within current and future water rights administration scenarios.

2. Please provide a brief narrative of any related studies or permitting issues.

This project directly builds on all the previous needs assessment efforts in the YWG basin, specifically the most recent modeling and documentation compiled in the YWG Basin Implementation Plan. As a modeling effort, the project does not entail any permitting issues.

3. **Statement of Work, Detailed Budget, and Project Schedule**

The statement of work will form the basis for the contract between the Applicant and the State of Colorado. In short, the Applicant is agreeing to undertake the work for the compensation outlined in the statement of work and budget, and in return, the State of Colorado is receiving the deliverables/products specified. **Please note that costs incurred prior to execution of a contract or purchase order are not subject to reimbursement.** All WSRA funds are disbursed on a reimbursement basis after review invoices and appropriate backup material.

Please provide a detailed statement of work using the template in Exhibit A. Additional sections or modifications may be included as necessary. Please define all acronyms and include page numbers.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

REPORTING AND FINAL DELIVERABLE

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 statement 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.

PAYMENT

Payment will be made based on actual expenditures and invoicing by the applicant. Invoices from any other entity (i.e. subcontractors) cannot be processed by the State. The request for payment must include a description of the work accomplished by major task, and estimate of the percent completion for individual tasks and the entire water activity in relation to the percentage of budget spent, identification of any major issues and proposed or implemented corrective actions. The last 10 percent of the entire water activity budget will be withheld until final project/water activity documentation is completed. 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 help promote the development of a common technical platform.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

The above statements are true to the best of my knowledge:

Signature of Applicant:



Print Applicant's Name: Daniel R. Birch

Project Title: Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan Modeling

Date: April 1st, 2016

Return an electronic version (hardcopy may also be submitted) of this application to:

Craig Godbout – WSRA Application
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203
303-866-3441, ext. 3210 (office)
303-547-8061 (cell)
craig.godbout@state.co.us

Water Activity Name – Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan Modeling

Grant Recipient: Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable

(Fiscal Agent: Colorado River Water Conservation District)

Funding Source: Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable Basin Account - \$150,000, with an additional \$51,173 from the River District (fiscal agent) in previously authorized YWG BIP finds.

Introduction and Background

The Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan Modeling project (project) provides the next steps to advance the Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan (BIP). The project builds on previous BIP modeling efforts to help the basin roundtable (BRT) understand the potential benefits and impacts of identified projects and processes (IPPs). In addition, the project seeks to illuminate how operations in the basin would be affected by water rights administration. During the development of the model, the contractor will work closely with the full BRT, the modeling Subcommittee, and project proponents to deliver a fully documented, adaptable model that captures the vision and needs defined by the BRT. The modeling effort is also intended to help build consensus among various stakeholders.

The contractor, Wilson Water Group (WWG), was selected through a competitive request for qualifications (RFQ) process based on their extensive modeling experience. WWG will provide the necessary modeling expertise, while using close communication with BRT members to provide the basin expertise, resulting in a useful model with meaningful results. While specific IPPs will be modeled per direction from the BRT, the modeling work is not intended to be prescriptive or otherwise provide specific project recommendations. Instead, it is intended to serve as a useful tool to examine the viability of various projects and how they may potentially complement and/or compete with one another. As such, this effort is designed to assist the BRT with determining which IPPs may merit moving to the next stage of implementation.

Objectives

- Maintain close communication between the contractor, the BRT Subcommittee, full BRT membership, and project proponents,
- Clearly define and document modeling assumptions,
- Foster understanding and consensus regarding the baseline model to ensure everyone is on the same page,
- Provide modeling workshops to set up, run, and examine results “on the fly”,
- Execute modeling simulations that examine the IPPs individually and in combination, and
- Document final model results in concise technical memos, a final report, and a presentation to the BRT.

Task 1: Model Development

The Model Development task includes the following three subtasks:

- Task 1A - Initial Modeling Understanding
- Task 1B - Future Condition Scoping
- Task 1C - Output Design

Task 1A - Initial Model Understanding: The important goal of this task is for both WWG and the BRT to come to the same understanding about how the baseline model represents current uses, operations, and administration in the Yampa and White river basins. It is critical that the BRT feels comfortable that the model accurately represents current uses and operations. Without that confidence, none of the subsequent modeling results will be credible.

- WWG will rely on the State's official CDSS model as the basis for the baseline model because it is well documented, accepted, and reviewed. WWG recently completed the model extension and update. As part of the update, WWG discussed reservoir and municipal operations with the project operators. If necessary, WWG will confirm with the project operators that the model is correctly capturing their current operations and will work with the BRT to make sure that a sufficient level of detail is incorporated in the model. WWG will incorporate any changes into the State's official CDSS model and documentation. This will assure that future modeling efforts begin with a model that the basin water users have reviewed and accepted.
- For the Yampa and White StateMod update, WWG reviewed the model changes made for the Projects and Methods Study and the Basin Implementation Plan. WWG addressed and clarified discrepancies. For this project, WWG will review the changes made with the BRT to provide a common level of understanding and comfort.

Task 1B - Future Condition Scoping: The goal of this task is for WWG to work closely with the BRT to understand and enhance, if necessary, the SWSI demand projections and the IPPs that will be evaluated. WWG is on the team selected by CWCB to update the SWSI demand projections and perform water availability analyses; therefore WWG will be able to clearly articulate both the procedure used and the results for the updated demands. The following are the specific issues that need to be determined prior to beginning future demand modeling efforts:

- Hydrology – What are the appropriate natural flows to use as the input to the modeling efforts? Historical flow (1908 through 2013), paleohydrology (1000 through 2002), and CMIP3 climate projected hydrology (representing projections for 2040 and 2070) are currently available for use in the Yampa and White models. Although these inflow hydrology data sets are available, our past experience indicates the use of “too many” hydrologic variations may not be desirable. WWG will work with the BRT to determine the appropriate inflow hydrology that will be used for all model scenarios.

- Future Demands – Is the BRT comfortable with the SWSI demands? WWG will work with the BRT to determine how future demands should be represented in StateMod – specifically where demands projected on a county-level should be represented in the modeling effort. WWG will clearly document the results of this discussion so the BRT can understand which nodes in the model represent current demands and which nodes represent future demands. WWG will document how the future demands can be met, either through direct diversion rights and the priority of those rights, or releases from reservoirs and the operational assumptions that are made to provide storage water.
- IPPs – WWG and the Subcommittee will review the BIP report and determine which IPPs can and should be included in StateMod. For example, the BRT identified “Restore, maintain, and modernize water storage and distribution infrastructure” as a Basin Goal. While improvements to existing headgates are not captured by StateMod, the flow-based impacts to a systematic canal lining program could be reflected in the model. For each IPP that will be modeled, WWG will meet with the project proponents identified by the BRT.

WWG will develop a “fact sheet” summarizing the project after meeting with the project proponents. For example, a reservoir fact sheet will include the following:

- Reservoir location and whether it is located on or off-channel and, if off-channel, the pipeline or ditch location and capacity for filling will be included
- Reservoir right for filling (conditional or new junior right)
- Account sizes and uses if the reservoir is multi-use; note that the reservoir size will be for initial use, as the model will be used to determine the most appropriate reservoir size to meet the required uses
- Demands on the reservoir and operations; which existing consumptive or non-consumptive demands can receive water and which future consumptive and non-consumptive demands may be met by the reservoir

If a project proponent is not identified for an infrastructure IPP, WWG will develop the fact sheet based on previous reports and modeling efforts and input from the Subcommittee.

Task 1C - Output Design: The BRT and WWG will work together to identify meaningful, useful output. The goal is to present simple and consistent information for all of the scenarios, including individual project simulations and combined project simulations. The results will focus on critical periods in the hydrologic record, frequency of key metrics, and seasonal variations. Because consistent information will be presented, WWG may find joint uses for a previously envisioned single use project and will examine how projects interact.

- Results will primarily be presented as comparisons with the baseline condition model and the future demand model, and highlight the changes to the river system in response to IPPs.
- Results will include changes in consumptive and non-consumptive use shortages. In addition, results will include spatial distribution of shortages and changes through time, both in terms of critical periods, year types, and seasonal variations. Non-consumptive use

shortages will consider how frequently and with what severity instream flow water rights and targets are not met. The flow targets from the Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, the Yampa River Programmatic Biological Opinion, and the Biological Opinion for the Taylor Draw Project in the White basin will be considered.

- WWG will start with the non-consumptive use metrics identified in the 2012 Yampa-White BRT Watershed Flow Evaluation Tool Study and used in the Projects and Methods and Basin Implementation Plan reports. WWG will confirm with the BRT that this is a complete list of metrics and add more if necessary.
- Results will be presented spatially, graphically, and in tables since individuals' process information in different ways.
- WWG will summarize the results by providing observations in bullet format explaining what the maps, graphs, and tables show.
- The performance of existing reservoirs will be measured in changes to end of month storage, ability to meet existing demands, and yield in specific year types.
- The results from implementing each IPP and IPPs in combination will be documented in separate technical memos using a common format.
- WWG will start with a monthly model to understand the issues and represent the level of detail currently available for some of the IPPs. If there are areas where flows on a daily time step are critical to evaluating the project performance, WWG will explore the use of a disaggregation approach before implementing a full daily time step. If a daily model is determined by the BRT to be necessary, WWG will develop a cost estimate clearly outlining the level of effort required.

To accomplish Task 1, Wilson Water Group will coordinate a workshop with the BRT Subcommittee and a series of meetings with the IPP project proponents. During the *Baseline Model and Future Demand Scenario Scope Workshop*, Wilson Water Group will review how they updated the State's official CDSS model and determine if additional conversations are needed with operators of current projects. The details of the Future Demand Scenario will be finalized. WWG will review the BIP and determine with IPPs can and should be represented in the model. Finally, Wilson Water Group will present examples of output graphs, tables and maps as discussed in Task 1C.

The BRT will then prepare a list of project proponents for each of the IPPs, enabling WWG to efficiently meet with the list of contacts. WWG envisions spending up to five consecutive days in the Yampa and White basins meeting individually with project operators and proponents as needed. WWG will create the Fact Sheets described in Task 1B from the project proponent meetings.

Task 2: Future Conditions Model Runs

The Future Conditions Model Runs task includes the following three subtasks:

- 2A – Model runs based on meeting consumptive use with no IPPs
- 2B – Model runs with IPPs incorporated to meet consumptive uses
- 2C – Adjusted model runs to meet a balance of consumptive, environmental, and recreational flows

Task 2A - Model runs based on meeting consumptive use with no IPPs: This “future demand” modeling scenario builds on the baseline dataset by including future demands, as determined by the BRT in Task 1B, with junior water rights. Depending on the location and seasonal distribution of future demands, a portion of the demands may be met with available flow in the river. This task will determine remaining shortages that could be met from IPPs. The following approach is will be used:

- StateMod will be simulated with the BRT approved SWSI consumptive demand amount and locations with a current-day junior water right. WWG will evaluate how well the demands can be met under the current river conditions.
- WWG will present the output as determined in Task 1C, so the BRT can understand the impacts of the SWSI demands on existing streamflow conditions.

Task 2B - Model runs with IPPs incorporated to meet consumptive uses: This is a series of modeling scenarios that build on the future demand scenario developed for Task 2A. Since the likelihood of every IPP being developed in the future is relatively low, and because many of the IPPs would use the same available water supply, this task will determine the benefits of individual IPPs, as well as their benefits in combination. The following approach is will be used:

- The IPPs model location, capacity, water rights, and operations will be based on the fact-sheets developed through discussions with the project proponents and reviewed by the BRT as described in Task 1B.
- WWG will incorporate the selected IPPs into the StateMod input files using the data-centered approach used for the CDSS that “self-documents” changes to the baseline data input file so modelers in the future can clearly understand modeling approach.
- Projects will be simulated (turned on) individually and then in combination.
- WWG will present the output as determined in Task 1C so the BRT can understand the impacts of both the SWSI demands and the IPPs on existing streamflow conditions.

After Task 2A and 2B have been started by Wilson Water Group, initial comparison results will be presented to the Subcommittee. This will be an iterative process to ensure that the Subcommittee is comfortable with the assumptions and results of Task 2A and 2B, before the start of Task 2C.

Task 2C - Adjusted model runs to meet a balance of consumptive, environmental, and recreational flows: This is a series of modeling scenarios that adjust IPPs plus current project operations to optimize both consumptive and non-consumptive needs. WWG will use a more interactive modeling approach

than the previous tasks, including a combination of prepared model simulations based on likely solutions, plus model simulations identified during “on the fly” modeling workshops with a technical subcommittee. WWG will modify the IPP operations and re-run the model in real time based on input and ideas from the Subcommittee. Results for key metrics identified in Task 1C will be automated so the impacts of the changes can be quickly reviewed and understood. The number of workshops will depend on the number of IPPs that the Subcommittee decides to investigate.

Task 3: Final Report

WWG will compile individual technical memos to describe the modeling approach and assumptions for each IPP simulation in Task 1B, based on meetings with project proponents, as well as the results presented per Task 1C. Since it is important to preserve these individual project technical summaries, they will be included as appendices in the final report. As noted in the RFQ, the report is not intended to be prescriptive, but will provide results in comprehensive matrices that can be used as a roadmap for future efforts.

- The primary documentation will be the State’s official CDSS model documentation. WWG will focus on detailing changes and assumptions represented in the scenarios that were generated.
- Results will compare the key metrics identified in Task 1C between the baseline model, future demand scenario, and each scenario of individual and combined IPPs.
- Results will be presented in each of the final report sections based on the output presentation developed and approved with BRT in Task 1C.

The following provides a preliminary outline of the final report, referencing the project task where the supporting analyses occur. The final report outline will be determined jointly with the BRT.

- **BRT Modeling Approach** (brief overview of CDSS model, inflow hydrology, future demands and demand locations, IPPs investigated and interaction with proponents) **Tasks 1A and 1B**
- **Baseline Model Results** (provides the output designed in Task 1C summarizing the shortages to current consumptive and non-consumptive needs based on current conditions) **Understanding from Task 1A**
- **Future Demand Scenario Results Compared to Baseline Results** (provides the output designed in Task 1C to analyze future demand impacts to the river system without IPPs) **Task 2A**
- **Results with Individual and Combined IPPs Compared to Future Demand Scenario Results** (provides the output designed in Task 1C to analyze impacts to the river system of individual and combined IPPs) **Task 2B**
- **Combined Scenario including Potential Changes to Current Operations Results** (scenarios to optimize meeting future consumptive and non-consumptive needs including potential changes to existing basin project operations) **Task 2C**
- **Appendix A** (Individual IPP documentation that include modeling “fact sheets”, approach, and results) **Task 1B and 2B**

Wilson Water Group will present final results to the full BRT at a regularly scheduled BRT meeting. If requested, WWG will attend additional BRT meetings throughout the project duration to provide project status, summary of results to date, and summary of future efforts. In addition, WWG will provide monthly reports of progress and budget status with each invoice.

Project Schedule and Budget

The project will be completed by December 2017, depending on the availability of the BRT, Subcommittee, and project proponents. In addition to the WSRA funds considered in this application, the YWG BRT and the Colorado River Water Conservation District (fiscal agent) has authorized an additional \$51,173 for the project from remaining YWG BIP funds. The table below is the tentative schedule and budget.

Task	Cost (\$)	Anticipated Completion
Task 1: Model Development		
1A - Initial Model Understanding*	27,579	July 2016
1B - Future Condition Scoping*	23,594	September 2016
1C - Output Design	27,776	December 2016
Task 2: Future Conditions Model Runs		
2A - Model runs based on meeting consumptive use with no IPPs	18,520	February 2016
2B - Model runs with IPPs incorporated to meet consumptive uses	31,636	May 2017
2C - Adjusted model runs to meet a balance of consumptive, environmental, and recreational flows	37,016	September 2017
Task 3: Final Report		
3A -Final Report	29,736	November 2017
3B - Final Presentation	5,316	December 2017
Total	\$201,173	

* Subtasks 1A and 1B will be funded by the \$51,173 remaining YWG BIP funds.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Grant and Loan Program
Water Activity Summary Sheet
Request for Change of Fiscal Agent
May 18-19, 2016
Agenda Item 18(e)

Current Applicant & Fiscal Agent: Rio Grande Watershed Conservation and Education Initiative (RGWCEI)

Proposed Fiscal Agent: Colorado Open Lands

Water Activity Name: Implementing Public Education and Public Outreach in the Rio Grande River Basin: Education to Implementation

Water Activity Purpose: Education

County: Throughout Rio Grande Basin

Drainage Basin: Rio Grande

Water Source: Rio Grande River and tributaries

Amount Requested/Source of Funds: \$90,000 Rio Grande Basin Account

Matching Funds: Applicant & 3rd Party Match: (\$7,500 cash; \$42,000 in-kind)
(refer to *Funding Summary/Matching Funds*)

Staff Recommendation
Staff recommends approval of change of fiscal agent from Rio Grande Watershed Conservation and Education Initiative to Colorado Open Lands for the project titled: Implementing Public Education and Public Outreach in the Rio Grande River Basin: Education to Implementation

Water Activity Summary: WSRA funds, if this Change in Fiscal Agent request is approved, will be expended to provide funding to hire a Coordinator to manage a three year outreach and education effort within the Rio Grande Basin. The coordinator will implement, and administer outreach and education activities under direction of the PEPO and the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable Education Committee. The objectives of this effort are to: showcase the collaborative work of the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable Education Committee and that of water users of all types across the Rio Grande Basin; begin a mentoring program that will pave a pathway for younger community members to engage with the water community and to provide them with an opportunity to step forward and become water leaders; continue long established newspaper articles, the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable webpage and radio interviews; project tours to provide a connection between constituents and water project funding, and produce nine video vignettes. Targeted audiences for the vignettes may include: local and regional governments; universities and schools, and private organizations

Discussion: This request on behalf of the Rio Grande Watershed Conservation and Education Initiative was originally approved by CWCB during the March 2016 meeting.

This project aligns with well with the Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan's Basin Goal #8: *Establish a long-term education and outreach effort for water use and needs in the San Luis*

Valley/Rio Grande Basin (Chapter 3, page 59). This effort is also specified as a Project and Method to meet the Basin's needs and goals (Chapter 6.5: Other Projects and Methods; Table 10; #5: Basin-wide Water Public Education Program; page 156). In addition this effort advances Outreach, Education and Public Engagement goals (CWP Chapter 9.5, pages 9-53 thru 9-61) and the Measurable Objectives and Adaptive Management goals of Colorado's Water Plan (CWP Chapter 10.2, page 10-5 thru 10-7), such as: H. Education, Outreach, and Innovation.

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>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Cash</u>	<u>In-kind</u>	<u>Total</u>
RGWCEI	\$7,500	\$27,000	\$34,500
RGBRT Partners ⁽¹⁾	\$0	\$15,000	\$15,000
Subtotal matching funds	\$7,500	\$42,000	\$49,500
WSRA Rio Grande Basin Account	\$90,000	n/a	\$90,000
Total Project Costs	\$97,500	\$42,000	\$139,500

(1) RGBRT Partners include: USFS, Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado DWR, CPW, BLM, NRCS, & NPS.

CWCB Project Manager: Mara MacKillop

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.

COLORADO OPEN LANDS

355 South Teller Street, Suite 210, Lakewood CO 80226
www.ColoradoOpenLands.org 303.988.2373

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

April 12, 2016

Attn: Craig Godbout – WSRA Application

Re: Change of Fiscal Agent for the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable Grant Entitled: Implementing Public Education & Public Outreach in the Rio Grande River Basin: Education to Implementation

Dear Mr. Godbout,

Colorado Open Lands is requesting approval to assume responsibility as fiscal agent for the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable WSRA Grant Entitled: Implementing Public Education & Public Outreach in the Rio Grande River Basin: Education to Implementation that was approved at the Colorado Water Conservation Board March 2016 Board meeting.

The grant will continue to be managed by Judy Lopez, Colorado Open Lands Conservation Project Manager for the San Luis Valley and Rio Grande Roundtable PEPO liaison and member. This change will not affect the scope of work proposed in the grant, nor will it affect the implementation of grant tasks. Judy Lopez resigned her position as Executive Director of RGWCEI and started with Colorado Open Lands as the San Luis Valley Conservation Project Manager effective April 1, 2016. Further she will be maintaining her role as the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable PEPO liaison.

Sincerely,



Tony Caligiuri, President/CEO

Colorado Open Lands is a 501©3 tax exempt organization dedicated to preserving the significant open lands and natural heritage of Colorado through private and public partnerships, innovative land conservation techniques and strategic leadership.



Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Attn: Craig Godbout – WSRA Application

April 8, 2016

Re: Change of Fiscal Agent for the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable Grant Entitled:
Implementing Public Education & Public Outreach in the Rio Grande River Basin: Education to Implementation

Dear Mr. Godbout,

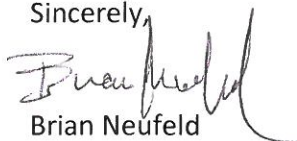
The Rio Grande Watershed Conservation and Education Initiative (RGWCEI) is withdrawing as fiscal agent for Rio Grande Basin Roundtable WSRA Grant Entitled:
Implementing Public Education & Public Outreach in the Rio Grande River Basin: Education to Implementation that was approved at the Colorado Water Conservation Board March Board meeting.

The Rio Grande Watershed Conservation and Education Initiative requests that fiscal agent responsibility be transferred to Colorado Open Lands, 355 South Teller Street, Suite 210, Lakewood, CO 80226. The grant will be managed by Judy Lopez, Colorado Open Lands Conservation Project Manager for the San Luis Valley and Rio Grande Roundtable PEPO liaison and member.

This change will not affect the scope of work proposed in the grant, nor will it affect the implementation of grant tasks, since Judy Lopez is resigning her position as Executive Director of RGWCEI and is moving to Colorado Open Lands where she will be the San Luis Valley Conservation Project Manager. Further she will be maintaining her role as the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable PEPO liaison.

Thank you in advance for your help in implementing this change.

Sincerely,



Brian Neufeld
RGWCEI, Board Chairman

**0048 CR 10 N - Po Box 1257
Center, Colorado 81125**

Office— 719-754-3400

Fax — 719-754-3109

Cell — 719-580-5300