

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

**Applicant & Fiscal Agent:** Colorado Ag Water Alliance  
**Water Activity Name:** CAWA Agricultural Water Workshop  
**Water Activity Purpose:** Educational  
**County:** n/a  
**Drainage Basin:** South Platte  
**Water Source:** n/a  
**Amount Requested/Source of Funds:** \$2,550 South Platte Basin Account  
**Matching Funds:** Applicant/3<sup>rd</sup> Party Match (\$2,550) = 50% of total project costs (\$5,100)  
(refer to *Funding Summary/Matching Funds* section)

<b>Staff Recommendation:</b>
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Staff recommends approval of up to \$2,550 from the South Platte Basin Account to help fund the project titled: CAWA Agricultural Water Workshop.
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**Water Activity Summary:** WSRA funds, if approved, will be expended to fund the project titled: CAWA Agricultural Water Workshop. The Colorado Ag Water Alliance (CAWA), is an association of agricultural organizations that represent a variety of producers across the state and in the South Platte Basin. CAWA aims to disseminate information so that producers can make better choices in regard to Colorado's water resources. CAWA has worked to advance knowledge concerning water issues facing the agricultural sector in Colorado. A lot of attention has been devoted to water conservation and increasing irrigation efficiency. We have worked to better communicate the legal, physical, and economic factors that constrain farmers who are trying to conserve water to be transferred for other uses. It is necessary to specify what agricultural water can be conserved and transferred and what cannot, especially when there is a significant water supply gap to be met.

This request for funding seeks \$2,550 to run a day-long workshop in the South Platte Basin for agricultural producers and professionals interested in agricultural water conservation. The focus of his meeting will be about the finalized Colorado Water Plan and a "Use it or lose it" component that discusses misconceptions and issues about the implications of agricultural water conservation in Colorado. This project will require an event coordinator to organize and implement a day-long workshop at Morgan County Fairgrounds in Brush. The budget will include food, event materials, and accommodations for speakers.

**OBJECTIVES**

The project objectives are:

1. Further the involvement and learning for all South Platte Basin/Colorado citizens as we move towards 2050.

2. Implement a day-long workshop to further understanding of water conservation and irrigation efficiency in the agricultural sector, and disseminate information from the finalized Colorado Water Plan. It is CAWA's long-term goal to implement this same workshop throughout the state.
3. Work to support the future of Ag in Colorado and close the "Ag water gap" through water-use efficiency improvement.

**Discussion:** This project aligns with the goals and actions identified in the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan.

This project also aligns with actions related to education and outreach identified in Colorado's Water Plan.

**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>
CAWA	\$2,550	\$0	\$2,550
WSRA South Platte Basin Account	\$2,550	n/a	\$2,550
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>\$5,100</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$5,100</b>

**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.