

Water Supply Reserve Account – Grant and Loan Program
Water Activity Summary Sheet
July 20-21, 2016
Agenda Item 16(h)

Applicant & Fiscal Agent: City of Steamboat Springs

Water Activity Name: Steamboat Springs Yampa River Management Plan

Water Activity Purpose: Nonconsumptive/Study

County: Routt

Drainage Basin: Yampa

Water Source: Yampa River

Amount Requested/Source of Funds: \$21,000 Yampa/White/Green Basin Account
\$21,000 Total Grant Request

Matching Funds: Applicant & 3rd Party Match (\$88,875: cash & in-kind) =
76% of total project costs (\$109,875)
(refer to *Funding Summary/Matching Funds* section)

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of up to \$21,000 from the Yampa/White/Green Basin Account to help fund the project titled: Steamboat Springs Yampa River Management Plan.
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Water Activity Summary: WSRA funds, if approved, will be expended to assist in funding a Stream Management Plan for the Yampa River through Steamboat Springs to include the reach from the Chuck Lewis State Wildlife Area to the Steamboat Springs Waste Water Treatment Plant. that engages its community and acts upon the guidance of the 2003 Yampa River Management Plan, the State of the Watershed Report, and the Yampa/White/Green's Basin Implementation Plan. By assessing water quality, aquatic life, and channel morphology, flow targets can be refined that are data-based and that fit within the context of water rights administration. As the Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable's Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) and Colorado's Water Plan point out, the link between water quality and water supply is in-severable. Employing flow management strategies to meet the non-consumptive needs, such as storage releases from Stagecoach Reservoir, helps to mitigate the potential environmental impacts to our river. But a long-term strategy for supplying non-consumptive needs of the Yampa River has yet to be secured. This effort addresses this need. WSRA Funds will be expended to complete Tasks 3, 4 and 7 as presented in the attached Statement of Work.

Discussion: This project meets many of the goals and objectives identified in the Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan (YWG BIP). This project has been identified in the YWG BIP as: IPP #10 – Yampa Preferred Target Flow Through Steamboat Springs, and; IPP #11—Recreational, habitat, & management strategy improvements (Yampa River through Steamboat.) Stream Management Plans have also been identified as a need and goal in 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:**

<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Cash</u>	<u>In-kind</u>	<u>Total</u>
CWCB Watershed Restoration Grant	\$51,875	\$0	\$51,875
City of Steamboat Springs	\$15,000	\$12,000	\$27,000
Rout County	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
Yampa Valley Flyfishers – Trout Unlimited	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
Subtotal Matching Funds	\$76,875	\$12,000	\$88,875
WSRA Yampa/White/Green Basin Account	\$21,000	n/a	\$21,000
Total Project Costs	\$97,875	\$12,000	\$109,875

CWCB Project Manager: Chris Sturm

All products, data and information developed as a result of this grant must be provided to the CWCB in hard copy and electronic format as part of the project documentation. This information will in turn be made widely available to Basin Roundtables and the general public and will help promote the development of a common technical platform. In accordance with the revised WSRA Criteria and Guidelines, staff would like to highlight additional reporting and final deliverable requirements. The specific requirements are provided below.

Reporting: The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of the executed contract. The progress report shall describe the completion or partial completion of the tasks identified in the scope of work including a description of any major issues that have occurred and any corrective action taken to address these issues.

Final Deliverable: At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a final report that summarizes the project and documents how the project was completed. This report may contain photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs.

Engineering: All engineering work (as defined in the Engineers Practice Act (§12-25-102(10) C.R.S.)) performed under this grant shall be performed by or under the responsible charge of professional engineer licensed by the State of Colorado to practice Engineering.

Yampa White Green Basins Roundtable

June 3, 2016

Re: City of Steamboat Springs Yampa River Stream Management Plan

Mr. Godbout,

At the May 11th, 2016 meeting of the Yampa White Green Basin Roundtable, the membership voted unanimously to support the aforementioned project.

The City of Steamboat Springs proposes to develop a Stream Management Plan that supports a resilient and healthy river and appropriate river recreation along a highly used reach of the Yampa River from the Chuck Lewis State Wildlife Area to the Steamboat Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Yampa River is the last remaining wild free flowing river in the Colorado River Basin and one of the last free flowing rivers in the Western United States. It is home to a variety of aquatic life including native and non-native fish and other organisms, as well as riparian vegetation. The river is also heavily used by recreationalists for activities including boating, tubing, swimming, and fishing and is used as a source of drinking water for the communities of the Yampa Valley.

The City prepared and adopted a Yampa River Management Plan in 2003, but significant accomplishments and policy changes in the past 13-years warrant an update to the plan. Warming temperatures have emerged as a water quality concern and this reach of the river was recently listed on the State's 303d Impaired Waterbody List. Temperature and the concern that nutrients, channel geometry, and over-use by recreation are putting our unique waterbody at risk are evidence that our community must develop a Stream Management Plan that advises how to prevent our river from crossing a threshold that cannot be reversed.

Acting upon the guidance of the 2003 Yampa River Management Plan, the State of the Watershed Report, and the Yampa/White/Green's Basin Implementation Plan, and by assessing water quality, aquatic life, and channel morphology, the project will refine flow targets that are data-based and that fit within the context water rights administration. The updated plan will concentrate on protecting the health and longevity of the Yampa River, while remaining an important recreation amenity for people.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jackie Brown

Jackie Brown, Vice- Chair
(970) 819-2484
jbrown@tristategt.org

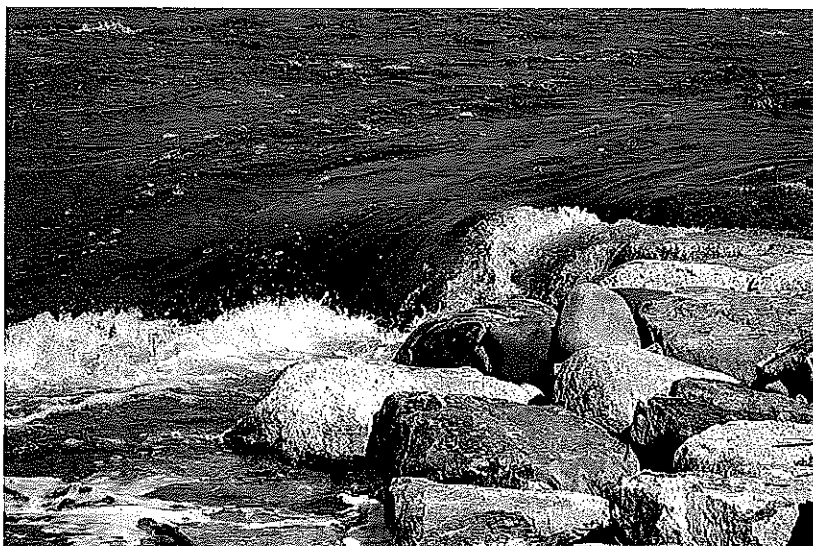


Hahns Peak Webcam



39°

Fair
Hi 59° Lo 29°



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The Routt County Board of Commissioners agreed April 19 to supply a \$5,000 matching grant toward a new Yampa River plan meant to make the river more drought resistant.

Commissioners are on board with matching grant for new Yampa River Study

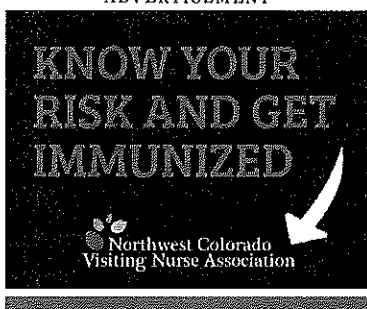
By Tom Ross

Updated April 20, 2016 at 2:25 p.m.

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Steamboat Springs — The last time the community funded a Yampa River management plan, in 2004, it was all about balancing the health of the town stretch of the Yampa with recreation. More than a decade later, plans are underway for a new river management plan, and this time there is more emphasis on protecting the health of the river to help ensure ample water for the community in times of drought.

“In part, this is an update of the 2004 plan. But it’s more of a streamflow management

plan where we’ll be looking for target flows that support aquatic life and water quality,” city of Steamboat Springs Water Resources Manager Kelly Heaney said Tuesday after meeting with Routt County officials. “It’s almost like a drought resiliency plan for the river.”

And the new study will take in a longer stretch of the river – from the Chuck Lewis State Wildlife Area downstream to the city’s wastewater treatment plant west of town.

The Routt County Board
of Commissioners (BOC)

agreed Tuesday to earmark \$5,000 in its 2017 budget for a contribution toward a 50 percent local match of a \$51,875 grant to fund the new management plan. The grant is part of \$1 million allocated to the Colorado Water Conservation Board in accordance with one of the measurable objectives in Colorado's landmark 2015 state water plan.

FROM OUR PARTNERS: COLORADO'S DELEGATES WERE DECIDED, 10 SECONDS AT A TIME

"I think it's probably a small price for Routt County to pay for something as important as guarding the health of the Yampa River," Commissioner Tim Corrigan said.

He was joined by commissioners Doug Monger and Cari Hermacinski in affirming the county's support for the \$5,000 share of the grant match.

The 2015 Water Plan set the goal of covering 80 percent of a list of locally prioritized rivers with new Stream Management Plans (SMP) by 2030.

Heaney told the BOC that with this grant, the Yampa will be among the first in the state to be the subject of such a study.

There is a plan underway on the Crystal River (upstream from Carbondale), Aspen and Pitkin County have begun work on a plan for the Roaring Fork, and plans are in the works for the Colorado river and the San Miguel on the western side of the San Juan Mountains, Heaney reported.

"We're kind of like pioneers along with them," she said.

Heaney said the Colorado Water Trust, which has in the past facilitated efforts to secure supplemental summer flows for the Yampa in drought years like 2002 and 2012, will participate in the study. 2002 and 2012 Colorado Parks and Wildlife put a voluntary ban on fishing in the town stretch of the Yampa in place because the shallow flows were too warm to hold desirable levels of dissolved oxygen for trout.

Water temperature and dissolved oxygen will be a part of the new new river study, which will include a streamflow management plan meant to manage for target flows that support both aquatic life and water quality, Heaney said.

"We're working with the Colorado Water Trust to get us to a place where we have a sustainable plan," Heaney said.

The Water Trust will undertake a legal analysis of the city's water rights and advise on different strategies to make the best use of them, she said. For example, strategies could include securing storage contracts, stream improvement projects and re-timing flows through wetlands.

To reach Tom Ross, call 970-871-4205, email tross@SteamboatToday.com or follow him on Twitter @ThomasSRoss1

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Water quality testing in Yampa River could lead to new classification and regulations
Water testing on Yampa River could lead to more regulations after reclassification
Yampa being considered for supplementary flows for third time in four years
State officials to assess Northwest Colorado drought conditions during Tuesday tour

Ginger Scott

From: Kelly Romero-Heaney
Sent: Friday, May 27, 2016 9:42 AM
To: Ginger Scott
Subject: FW: YVF--Yampa River Stream Management Plan

FYI

From: Bruce Carta [<mailto:logovudu@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, May 09, 2016 12:55 PM
To: Kelly Romero-Heaney
Subject: Re: YVF--Yampa River Stream Management Plan

We will be providing you with this; \$5,000 to match the WSRA Application

Bruce Carta

President
Yampa Valley Fly Fishers / Trout Unlimited
970-819-3633 Cell
logovudu@gmail.com
www.yvfftu.org

On Wed, Mar 30, 2016 at 12:42 PM, Kelly Romero-Heaney <kromeroheaney@steamboatsprings.net> wrote:

Hi Bruce,

I thought I'd check back in with you and the Flyfishers to see if you've had any additional discussions about YVF's level of involvement with the proposed Stream Management Plan. I am really hoping that the Flyfishers will want to play a key role in improving the resiliency of the Yampa River to withstand drought.

Let me know if you need anything else from me.

Thanks,

K



October 14, 2015

1420 Ogden Street, Suite A2
Denver, Colorado 80218

TEL: 720.570.2897

FAX: 720.907.0377

WEB: www.coloradowatertrust.org

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Chris Sturm
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Sturm,

Please receive this letter of support for the City of Steamboat Springs' Yampa River Management Plan update grant application.

The Colorado Water Trust is a private, non-profit organization that engages in and supports voluntary efforts to restore and protect streamflows in Colorado to sustain healthy aquatic ecosystems. These efforts include water acquisitions, other creative transfers of water, on-the-ground physical solutions, and providing technical assistance to land trusts.

Since 2012, we have worked closely with water users, including the City of Steamboat Springs, on restoring flows to the Yampa River downstream of Stagecoach Reservoir. An important part of that work is to define the preferred flow through the City – particularly in times of drought – that will best support the Yampa River as a healthy place for fish to live and people to recreate. With that goal established, the Water Trust can better utilize its tools to support the City and the river.

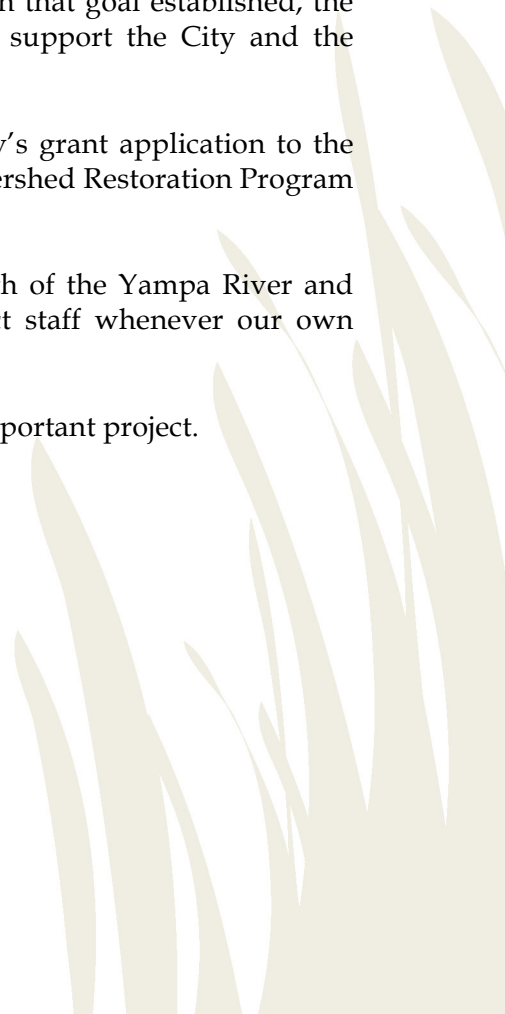
As such, we are in full support of the City's grant application to the Colorado Water Conservation Board's Watershed Restoration Program to create a Yampa River Management Plan.

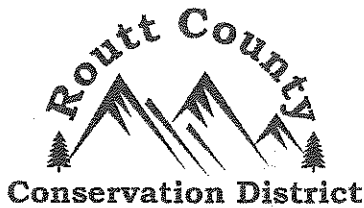
The Water Trust is committed to the health of the Yampa River and will be available to City and other project staff whenever our own expertise is needed.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

Zach Smith, Staff Attorney
Colorado Water Trust





UPPER YAMPA RIVER WATERSHED GROUP

October 14, 2015

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Rm 721
Denver, CO 80203

Attn: Chris Sturm

Dear Mr. Sturm,

Please accept this letter from the Upper Yampa River Watershed Group (UYRWG) in support of the City of Steamboat Springs' grant request to fund an update of the 2003 Yampa River Management Plan for the reach between the Chuck Lewis State Wildlife Area and the Steamboat Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant. A stream management plan that focuses on maintaining a healthy watershed is a priority for our group. The UYRWG is committed to being a resource through this process by providing scientific information on water quality and quantity; providing guidance for the management of human development and the environment; restoring and maintaining habitat and riparian health; addressing water storage; and managing non-consumptive uses.

The UYRWG is an organization comprised of representatives from local government, water suppliers, environmental organizations, the US Forest Service, Colorado Parks & Wildlife, industry, and other stakeholders in the Upper Yampa Basin. The UYRWG recently published the 2014 State of the Watershed Report (SOTWR) and is currently drafting a Watershed Implementation Plan that identifies and prioritizes projects and strategies that will help support the health of the watershed.

While the recent SOTWR indicates that water quality of the Upper Yampa River Basin is generally good, potential concerns have been identified including within the sub-basin where the proposed project is located (see SOTWR at <http://routtcountycd.com/>). Accordingly, the UYRWG strongly supports the City's request for funding to create an updated Yampa River Management Plan as defined above to evaluate and address these concerns further.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this important project. I can be reached at 970.879.6323 should you have questions or additional needs.

Sincerely,

Lyn Halliday

Lyn Halliday, Member, Interim Coordinator
Upper Yampa River Watershed Group



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Parks and Wildlife- Steamboat
925 Weiss Drive
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487
P 970.871.2855

February 8, 2016

Re: Steamboat Springs Yampa River Management Plan

Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable
Chairwoman Mary Brown
PO Box 772975
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487

Dear Ms. Brown:

On February 4, 2016, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) staff and City of Steamboat Springs staff met to discuss the direction of the proposed Yampa River Management Plan. CPW staff would like to express interest in the future of the Yampa River Management Plan.

It is our understanding that the plan addresses water quality conditions of the Yampa River within the reach from the Chuck Lewis State Wildlife Area to the Steamboat Springs Waste Water Treatment Plant.

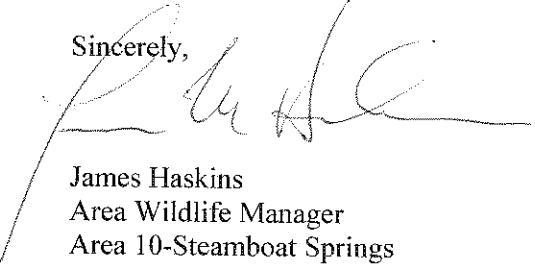
CPW staff is in support of the current scope of plans, as delineated by city staff, to assess water quality, aquatic life, and channel morphology on this reach of the Yampa River.

Varieties of efforts have been and continue to be made to monitor and improve this section of the Yampa River by CPW staff. Such efforts include river and riparian restoration activities, temperature monitoring and fish population monitoring in response to restoration activities, environmental influences and management actions.

In concert with the proposed Water Quality Management Plan CPW staff will continue to monitor water temperature through this corridor, as well as fish population dynamics on an annual or bi-annual basis, or as deemed necessary by CPW staff.

CPW staff is happy to discuss the direction of this project in the future. For any further questions regarding this matter, please contact District Wildlife Manager, Andrea Sponseller at 970-875-4303 and Bill Atkinson at 970-871-2868.

Sincerely,


James Haskins
Area Wildlife Manager
Area 10-Steamboat Springs
CC: Velarde, Haskins, Sponseller, Area file





Friends of the Yampa

PO Box 774703,
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

May 4, 2016

Yampa/White/Green Roundtable
c/o Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

Attn: Mary Brown, Chairperson

Dear Ms. Brown,

Please accept this letter from the Friends of the Yampa in support of the City of Steamboat Springs' effort to update the 2003 Yampa River Management Plan for the reach between the Chuck Lewis State Wildlife Area and the Steamboat Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant. A stream management plan that focuses on maintaining a healthy river flow is a priority for our organization. We are committed to providing input throughout the plan update process.

The Friends of the Yampa is a river advocacy group and movement based on one common passion, a shared love for the Yampa River. We are a 501(c)3 organization and have deep roots in the regional community. Established in 1981, we have a long standing history of working for the river by organizing clean ups, holding discussions about the Yampa's important and rare attributes, funding and helping build river features/habitats as well as participating in a variety of local, regional and national policy efforts and campaigns.

Friends of the Yampa strongly supports the City's request for funding to create an updated Yampa River Management Plan as defined above to evaluate and address these concerns further.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project. I can be reached at charliept@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Charlie Preston-Townsend
President, Friends of the Yampa Board of Directors

The Friends of the Yampa's mission is to protect and enhance the Yampa River's environmental and recreational integrity through stewardship, advocacy, education and partnerships.



COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD



WATER SUPPLY RESERVE ACCOUNT APPLICATION FORM

Today's Date: May 31st, 2016

Steamboat Springs Yampa River Management Plan

Name of Water Activity/Project

City of Steamboat Springs

Name of Applicant

Yampa/White/Green Basin
Roundtable

Amount from Statewide Account:

Amount from Basin Account(s):

Total WSRA Funds Requested:

21,000

21,000

Approving Basin Roundtable(s)

(If multiple basins specify amounts in parentheses.)

FEIN: 84-6000721

Application Content

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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):	City of Steamboat Springs		
	Mailing address:	P.O. Box 775088 Steamboat Springs, CO 80477		
	FEIN #:	84-6000721		
	Primary Contact:	Kelly Romero-Heaney	Position/Title:	Water Resources Mgr
	Email:	kheaney@steamboatsprings.net		
	Phone Numbers:	Cell: 970-846-5750	Office:	970-871-8205
	Alternate Contact:	Craig Robinson	Position/Title:	Parks, Open Space & Trails
	Email:	crobinson@steamboatsprings.net		
	Phone Numbers:	Cell: 970-819-2867	Office:	970-871-7034

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 City of Steamboat Springs is a municipality in Northwest Colorado and the county seat of Routt County. Steamboat Springs is a small rural resort community in Northwest Colorado. Our 2010 census population is 12,088 and the population of Routt County is 23,509. Within the City of Steamboat Springs organization, the Public Works Department has a Utilities Division that works with water rights, water distribution, sewer collection, and stormwater quality management. The City established a Stormwater Task Force to assess the effectiveness of the stormwater system and make recommendations on future management practices. The City implemented the recommendations from the task force by hiring a Water Resources Manager who implements the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) Program to comply with the Clean Water Act, oversees drainage improvements, and manages the city's water portfolio to meet both the consumptive and non-consumptive needs of its community. The City has representation on the Yampa/White Basin Roundtable, the Yampa River Legacy Project, and the Upper Yampa Watershed Group and has successfully completed many grant funded restoration projects along the Yampa River including improvements at the Chuck Lewis State Wildlife Area south of Steamboat Springs, Rich Weiss Park (Town Run) in downtown, Bear River Park, and Fournier Open Space property. Projects at these sites have involved bank and channel stabilization, riparian rehabilitation, river channel grading and shaping, and improved public access points. In addition the City was closely involved in the formation of the original Yampa River Management Plan (2003), the Yampa River Structural Master Plan (2008), the State of the Watershed Report (2014), and the Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan (2015), and has systematically acquired open space parcels along the Yampa River, instituted conservation easements in riparian areas, and provided river access where appropriate.

The lead contact on this project will be Kelly Heaney, Water Resources Manager for the City of Steamboat Springs. She will be assisted by Craig Robinson, Parks, Open Space & Trails Manager for expertise on recreational aspects of the river. Kelly has worked for over 15 years in watershed management, environmental compliance, and water supply planning. Craig has over 15 years of experience with the City working on Yampa River, open space, parks and trail projects. Kelly and Craig will be supported in this project by Shelly St. Pierre, the City's Purchasing and Contracts Division, on the procurement of goods, services, and construction in compliance with federal, state, and local law, and with the City's two attorneys who are available to review and endorse contracts on a daily basis. The City also has a grant accountant to ensure all required reporting is done and grant files are maintained.

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

N/A

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

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

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 City of Steamboat Springs “de-bruced” in 1997 and would not be affected by TABOR.

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.

While the primary purpose of this project is to meet non-consumptive environmental and recreational needs on the Yampa River through Steamboat Springs, an indirect municipal benefit will result. The Water Quality Control Commission recently added this segment of the Yampa River to the 303d List of Impaired Waterbodies for temperature which will greatly impact the ability for municipalities to discharge their community's wastewater. By improving stream flow for aquatic life and, consequently, reducing stream temperatures to support cold water species, this segment could be de-listed. This would allow municipalities within this segment to avoid multi-million dollar capital improvements at wastewater facilities (such as cooling tower construction) that would likely provide only a limited benefit to the river as opposed to investing funds in projects that improve watershed health.

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:

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 City of Steamboat Springs proposes to develop a Stream Management Plan that supports a resilient and healthy river and appropriate river recreation along a highly used reach of the Yampa River from the Chuck Lewis State Wildlife Area to the Steamboat Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Yampa River is the last remaining wild free flowing river in the Colorado River Basin and one of the last free flowing rivers in the Western United States. It is home to a variety of aquatic life including native and non-native fish and other organisms, as well as riparian vegetation. The river is also heavily used by recreationalists for activities including boating, tubing, swimming, and fishing and is used as a source of drinking water for the communities of the Yampa Valley.

The City prepared and adopted a Yampa River Management Plan in 2003, but significant accomplishments and policy changes in the past 13-years warrant an update to the plan. Warming temperatures have emerged as a water quality concern and this reach of the river was recently listed on the State's 303d Impaired Waterbody List. Temperature and the concern that nutrients, channel geometry, and over-use by recreation are putting our unique waterbody at risk are evidence that our community must develop a Stream Management Plan that advises how to prevent our river from crossing a threshold that cannot be reversed.

Acting upon the guidance of the 2003 Yampa River Management Plan, the State of the Watershed Report, and the Yampa/White/Green's Basin Implementation Plan, and by assessing water quality, aquatic life, and channel morphology, we can refine flow targets that are data-based and that fit within the context water rights administration. The updated plan will concentrate on protecting the health and longevity of the Yampa River, while remaining an important recreation amenity for people.

Although the full Statement of Work in Exhibit A outlines all of the objectives, tasks, and associated budget, the following is a summary of how the WSRA Basin Account funds will be applied:

Task 3 – Evaluate Existing Reports & Water Quality/Habitat Data; Identify Data Gaps **WSRA Funds = \$6,000**

Numerous studies, such as the 2003 Yampa River Management Plan, have been conducted on this reach of the Yampa River. The Project Team will review existing reports to determine which information is useful, capable of providing solid baseline information on water temperature and aquatic life, and to assure the SMP is working in conjunction with other previous plans. Using review of USGS station data, CDSN, Yampa River Monitoring Data 2004/2005 and other information sources, the team will determine a baseline for measuring future success in meeting stream health and water

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quality targets. Information will also be used to identify data and expertise gaps and to determine where additional monitoring should occur.

Task 4—Identification of Water Quality Targets and a *Preferred Target Flow*

WSRA Funds = \$5,000

The Project Team will identify Water Quality Targets and a *Preferred Target Flows* that support stream health parameters, such as temperature and aquatic life. Data analysis will inform the development of a discharge vs. temperature curve. It is anticipated that R2CROSS or some other method to identify aquatic life flow needs will be performed to refine the *Preferred Target Flow*.

Tasks 7 – Final Report

WSRA Funds = \$10,000

The Project Manager will compile Technical Summaries and stakeholder input to generate a Final Report with targets and implementation scenarios. The Project Team and other interested stakeholders will review draft versions of the report. The Final Report will be presented at a public stakeholder meeting.

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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 proposed Stream Management Plan will not interfere with Colorado Water Law. The primary outcome of the proposal will be to identify a voluntary *preferred target flow* and opportunities to meet that flow for this reach of the Yampa River. A *preferred target flow* does not constitute a water right and will not affect the allocation of water in the State of Colorado.

- 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.

See Basin Chair approval letter.

- c) The water activity meets the provisions of Section 37-75-104(2), Colorado Revised Statutes.² The Basin

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 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.

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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.

See Basin Chair approval letter.

The proposed Stream Management Plan helps to further the following YWG Basin Roundtable Goals:

- **Identify and address municipal and industrial water shortages.**
 - A shortage of water quality that meets Water Quality Control Division (WQCD) stream standards can become a municipal water shortage when wastewater discharge is limited by the ability for a waterbody to receive the discharge.
- **Quantify and protect environmental and recreational water uses at locations identified in the non-consumptive needs study of the YWG BRT.**
 - The non-consumptive needs study of the YWG BRT prioritized this reach for protection of its environmental and recreational water uses and future dry scenarios indicate that aquatic life are at high risk. Therefore, the SMP will quantify the flows needed to protect environmental uses by identifying a *Preferred Target Flow*.
- **Maintain and consider the existing natural range of water quality that is necessary for current and anticipated water uses.**
 - According to the Water Quality Control Divisions 303d List of Impaired Waterbodies, this segment of the Yampa River has already exceeded its natural range of water quality for temperature. High stream temperatures directly correlate to low-flow, drought conditions. The SMP will identify strategies to improve flow conditions and, consequently, water quality parameters, such as temperature.
- **Develop an integrated system of water use, storage, administration and delivery to reduce water shortages and meet environmental and recreational needs.**
 - Achieving a *Preferred Target Flow* will require an integrated strategy of storage releases, administration, delivery mechanisms, and stream and wetland restoration. Improving low flow conditions in drought years for non-consumptive uses bolsters stream flows to benefit multiple uses, including agricultural, municipal, and industrial uses. Although the project area ends at the Steamboat Springs Wastewater Treatment Facility, the benefits to the river and downstream users extend well beyond this lower terminus.

The YWG Roundtable identified the following Non-Consumptive IPP's that are components of the proposed SMP in its Basin Implementation Plan to help achieve the goals referenced above:

IPP #10—Yampa Preferred Target Flow Through Steamboat Springs

IPP #11—Recreational, habitat, & management strategy improvements (Yampa River through Steamboat.)

- 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

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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)

The YWG Roundtable funds will be matched by over 80% with other funds. See budget below:

Project Cost & Funding Sources:

<u>CWCB Watershed Restoration Grant:</u>	<u>\$51,875</u>
<u>City of Steamboat Springs:</u>	<u>\$15,000</u> (Cash)
	<u>\$12,000</u> (In-Kind)
<u>Routt County:</u>	<u>\$5,000</u>
<u>Yampa Valley Flyfishers – TU</u>	<u>\$5,000</u>
<u>Yampa/White/Green BRT WRSA Account</u>	<u>\$21,000</u>
<u>Total Project Cost:</u>	<u>\$109,875</u>

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. WSR 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.

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- 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.

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 intent of the Stream Management Plan is to refine non-consumptive flow needs for this reach of the Yampa River and then to assess the availability of direct flow and/or storage water rights that could help to meet that target flow. Assessing which water supplies could be utilized to support stream flows in the Yampa River from the Chuck Lewis State Wildlife Area to the City of Steamboat Springs Wastewater Treatment Facility is a component of the project.

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

The City has access to a number of existing plans, reports, and data that have already been collected or created that will inform the development of the Stream Management Plan.

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- Aquatic and terrestrial habitat conditions were evaluated between 2004 and 2008 and this info will be cross referenced and compared with new studies to see if any changes have occurred.
- The 2003 Yampa River Management Plan provided a thorough analysis of the geomorphic conditions of this reach and made management and data collection strategy recommendations, many of which have been implemented over the last 13-years. Given the dynamic natural system of the Yampa River, plan recommendations do not reflect the current state of the river, recent challenges such as the proliferation of invasive species like Northern Pike, flood events that have shifted hydrology followed by multi-year droughts, increased water demand, emerging water quality impairments such as temperature, and an increase in recreational use of the river that has triggered conflict in the community, or recent opportunities such as legislation and State Engineer policies that allow for more flexible flow deliveries for non-consumptive needs and the understanding that was gained by modeling the basin for Roundtable's BIP.
- The USGS Water Quality Assessment and Macro-Invertebrate Data for the Upper Yampa Watershed, Colorado 1975-2009 compiled and analyzed data from the watershed, predicted load-sources, and identified trends. The assessment provides statistically relevant data sets from the 5th Street Bridge Stream Gauge within downtown Steamboat Springs. Trend data will help to predict stream flow and water quality needs for the river.
- The Upper Yampa Watershed Group produced the 2014 State of the Upper Yampa Watershed Report that took a watershed-scale look at stream health, water quality, and factors that influence both. The Report identified several concerns for the city reach of the Yampa, including hydrologic conditions that advantage non-native species, warming temperatures, low flow drought conditions, nutrient-loading, and recreational conflicts. A Watershed Action Plan that prioritizes projects that address these concerns is under development with a current draft calling for an update to the Yampa River Management Plan and a *Preferred Target Flow*.
- The Yampa/White/Green BIP modeled current and future flow conditions that help to predict water supplies to proposed consumptive and non-consumptive needs, such as the Steamboat Springs Yampa River *Preferred Target Flow*. It also identified eight basin goals, including the goals to quantify and protect non-consumptive water uses and to develop an integrated system of water use, storage, administration and delivery to reduce water shortages and meet environmental and recreational needs. The proposed Stream Management Plan will be the next step as outlined in the Yampa/White/Green's BIP.

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

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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.

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

Signature of Applicant:



Print Applicant's Name: Gary Suiter

Project Title: Interim City Manager, City of Steamboat Springs

Date: 5/26/16

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: May 31st, 2016

WATER ACTIVITY NAME - Steamboat Springs Yampa River Management Plan

GRANT RECIPIENT – City of Steamboat Springs

FUNDING SOURCE – Water Supply Reserve Account – Basin Account

Introduction and Background

As the last remaining wild free flowing river in the Colorado River Basin and one of the last free flowing rivers in the Western United States, the Yampa River is a natural asset for the Steamboat Springs community and Colorado alike. To protect this asset, the City of Steamboat Springs proposes to develop a Stream Management Plan for the Yampa River through Steamboat Springs to include the reach from the Chuck Lewis State Wildlife Area to the Steamboat Springs Waste Water Treatment Plant.

As the Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable's Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) and Colorado's Water Plan point out, the link between water quality and water supply is inseverable. As the Yampa River Basin experienced back to back years of drought in 2012 and 2013, employing flow management strategies to meet the non-consumptive needs, such as storage releases from Stagecoach Reservoir, helped to mitigate the potential environmental impacts to our river. But a long-term strategy for supplying non-consumptive needs of the Yampa River has yet to be secured.

Therefore, the City is proposing to develop a Stream Management Plan that engages its community and acts upon the guidance of the 2003 Yampa River Management Plan, the State of the Watershed Report, and the Yampa/White/Green's Basin Implementation Plan. By assessing water quality, aquatic life, and channel morphology, we can refine flow targets that are data-based and that fit within the context water rights administration. Warming temperatures have emerged as a water quality concern and this reach of the river has been placed on the State's 303d Impaired Waterbody List for temperature. Temperature and the concern that nutrients, channel geometry, invasive species and over-use by recreation are putting our unique waterbody at risk are evidence that our community must collaborate on a Stream Management Plan that advises how to prevent our river from crossing a threshold that cannot be reversed.

Objectives

This project to develop a Stream Management Plan has the objectives of protection of a natural resource, engagement and buy-in from stakeholders, and creation of clearly defined prioritized projects for moving forward. Our steps to achieve these objectives are:

- 1) Convene a project team

-
- 2) Develop a Stream Management Plan capable of identifying a preferred target flow, a baseflow that is needed to support temperature, water quality, and aquatic life for the Yampa River from the Chuck Lewis State Wildlife Area to the Steamboat Springs Wastewater Treatment Facility.
 - 3) Engage diverse stakeholders to inform and drive decisions on how best to accomplish the primary objective.
 - 4) Review existing water quality data from USGS stations and other sources located within the subwatershed to disseminate information, identify trends, and understand shortfalls within existing data and infrastructure.
 - 5) Analyze and review selected components of the Steamboat Springs' water rights portfolio to determine source, quantity, and location of right and determine how to apply water for river health benefits.
 - 6) Quantify historic wetland and riparian habitat and compare to water quantity and quality to help prioritize restorations and protections.
 - 7) Review water quantity and quality data to determine most strategic locations for stream and wetland enhancement, restoration, creation that may help address stream temperature, water quality, and aquatic life goals.
 - 8) Develop and deliver and final report.

TASKS

Task 1 – Convene a Project Team, Refine Objectives, Contract a Project Manager

Description of Task: A Project Team will form to operate as a steering committee that refines objectives and that engages throughout the life of the project. The City will contract a qualified consulting Project Manager to develop and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan, to coordinate and facilitate meetings, to track project milestones, to review existing reports and literature (with the support of the Project Team), to compile Technical Summaries and stakeholder input, and to generate implementation scenarios within the Final Report.

Method/Procedure: Kelly Romero-Heaney, the City's Water Resources Manager, will lead the Project Team of representatives from the City's Parks & Community Services Division, Colorado Parks & Wildlife, the Colorado Water Trust, and the Project Manager. Other Project Team members may be identified as a component of this task. The Project Team will meet to refine the objectives. The City will incorporate these objectives into a Scope of Work or RFP for the Project Manager and will follow its contracts & procurement processes.

Deliverable: A Project Team kick-off meeting and a refined Scope of Work or RFP for a Project Manager. An executed contract with a Project Manager.

Task 2 –Develop and Implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Description of Task: Input from diverse stakeholders will be crucial to successfully developing a SMP that is implementable due to substantial public support from engaged groups. The Project Team will convene general stakeholder meetings with topic-specific stakeholder meetings occurring as warranted to capture their insights, concerns, and needs and to adapt the plan to

address stakeholder input to the greatest extent possible. The Project Team will identify potential stakeholders, and to develop a Stakeholder Engagement & Communications Plan.

Method/Procedure: The Project Team will identify potential stakeholders and determine whether targeted or general outreach is appropriate for each entity. The Project Manager will then develop a Stakeholder Engagement Plan. The Project Team will use the Stakeholder Engagement Plan to establish regular meetings with stakeholders, including at least two public meetings for the general public to have input on the SMP. Communication will be conducted via email blasts, personal calls, and notification in the newspaper. Potential stakeholders may include but are not limited to:

- Division 6 Engineer, Erin Light
- Upper Yampa Watershed Group
- Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District
- Ducks Unlimited
- Colorado Parks & Wildlife
- Trout Unlimited
- Yampa Valley Flyfishers (Local TU Chapter)
- Colorado Water Trust
- Tri-State Generation
- Xcel
- Community Agricultural Alliance
- CSU Extension
- Routt County Conservation District
- Yampa Valley Land Trust
- Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable
- Routt County Environmental Health Department
- The Nature Conservancy
- Friends of the Yampa
- Flyfishing Businesses
- Mount Werner Water
- City of Steamboat Springs WWTF Manager
- CDPHE
- USGS
- NRCS
- US Forest Service
- US Fish & Wildlife
- Town of Hayden
- City of Steamboat City Council
- Routt County Board of Commissioners
- Yampatika
- River Watch
- Ranchers & Farmers
- Steamboat Ski & Resort Corp
- Yampa Valley Sustainability Council
- Town of Milner
- Yampa River Legacy Partners
- Tubing & Rafting Companies
- Steamboat Chamber of Commerce
- City of Steamboat Planning Department
- Routt County Planning Department
- CDOT
- CWCB
- Interested Community Members
- American Rivers
- American Whitewater

Deliverable: A Stakeholder Engagement Plan. Meeting minutes.

Task 3 – Evaluate Existing Reports & Water Quality/Habitat Data; Identify Data Gaps

Description of Task: Numerous studies, such as the 2003 Yampa River Management Plan, have been conducted on this reach of the Yampa River. The Project Team will review existing reports to determine which information is useful, capable of providing solid baseline information on water temperature and aquatic life, and to assure the SMP is working in conjunction with other previous plans. Using review of USGS station data, CDSN, Yampa River Monitoring Data 2004/2005 and other information sources, the team will determine a baseline for measuring future success in meeting stream health and water quality targets. Information will also be used to identify data and expertise gaps and to determine where additional monitoring should occur.

Method/Procedure: The Project Team will review and compile information. The Project Team will review existing databases (USGS and CDSN) and will reach out to specific stakeholders to compile other data sources. The Project Team will determine the best water quality and habitat monitoring sites based on completeness of historic data and locations where stream improvements due to flow regimen and restoration changes may be evaluated.

Deliverable: Technical Summary to be used as addendum to interim and final reports. A Technical Summary of baseline conditions, stream health and water quality targets, and data gaps. Following review and comprehension of existing reports and data, the Project Team will identify shortfalls within the team's expertise and seek either in-kind or contracted expertise. Potential contractors may include fisheries biologists, fluvial geomorphologists, and data analysts. Additional contracts are beyond the scope of this grant and will be funded through other sources.

Task 4—Identification of Water Quality Targets and a *Preferred Target Flow*

Description of Task: The Project Team will identify Water Quality Targets and a *Preferred Target Flows* that support stream health parameters, such as temperature and aquatic life. Data analysis will inform the development of a discharge vs. temperature curve. It is anticipated that R2CROSS or some other method to identify aquatic life flow needs will be performed to refine the *Preferred Target Flow*.

Method/Procedure: The Project Team will synthesize the outcomes from Task #4 and stakeholder engagement to identify water quality and stream health targets. The Project Manager with the support of the Project Team will analyze stream health-flow relationships, such as temperature vs. discharge, to identify flow targets. In-kind expertise will be utilized to conduct R2CROSS or other aquatic life flow needs assessments.

Deliverable: A Technical Summary identifying the *Preferred Target Flow*.

Task 5 – Water Rights Research

Description of Task: The Colorado Water Trust will perform analysis of portions of the Steamboat Springs water rights portfolio including source, quantity, and location of application.

Method/Procedure: The CWT has already conducted significant review of Steamboat water rights, and will continue to provide that expertise. Note that components of this analysis must remain confidential due to the legal nature of water rights. It is anticipated that CWT will provide two versions of the Technical Summary—the first, a summary to be made publicly available, the second a more detailed yet privileged summary that will guide various scenarios aimed at meeting *Preferred Target Flows*. This

is a necessary step to protect the City's water rights portfolio and to ensure the long-term viability of the community's drinking water supplies.

Deliverable: Two versions of a Technical Summary (one confidential and the other to be included as an addendum to the Final Report) of opportunities identified to help meet the *Preferred Target Flow*.

Task 6 – Habitat Improvement, Protection, and Wetland Recharge

Description of Task: Wetland and riparian habitat provides many functions to improve life functions for wildlife, fish, water quantity and quality, and flood attenuation. The Project Team will explore existing data and perform stakeholder interviews to determine the potential for wetlands and riparian restoration to aid in water quality issues such as temperature, assess river base flow augmentation through wetland aquifer recharge, and identify opportunities for riparian enhancement.

Method/Procedure: The Project Team will review water quantity and quality data to determine most strategic locations for wetland and riparian habitat enhancement, restoration, creation that may help address stream temperature and aquatic life goals.

Deliverable: A Technical Summary will be developed for inclusion in interim and final reports.

Tasks 7 – Final Report

Description of Task: Completion of a Final Report

Method/Procedure: The Project Manager will compile Technical Summaries and stakeholder input to generate a Final Report with targets and implementation scenarios. The Project Team and other interested stakeholders will review draft versions of the report. The Final Report will be presented at a public stakeholder meeting.

Deliverable: Final Report & Presentation.

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

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.). A detailed and perfectly balanced budget that shows all costs is required for the State's contracting and purchase order processes. Sample budget tables are provided below. Please note that these budget tables are examples and will need to be adapted to fit each individual application. Tasks should correspond to the tasks described above.

Task	Description	Target Start Date	Target Completion Date	CWCB Funds	Yampa/White/Green BRT WSRA Basin Account (Proposed)	Routt County Cash Match	Yampa Valley Flyfishers TU Cash Match	City Cash Match	City In-Kind Match	Total
1	Convene a Project Team, Refine Objectives, Contract a Project Manager	8/15/2016	11/15/2016						2,500.00	2,500.00
2	Identify and Implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan	11/15/2016	3/30/2017	10,000.00					2,500.00	12,500.00
3	Evaluate Existing Reports & Water Quality/Habitat Data; Identify Data Gaps	12/12/2016	3/11/2017	3,875.00	6,000.00		2,500.00		2,500.00	14,875.00
4	Identification of Water Quality Targets and a Preferred Target Flow	3/11/2017	5/1/2017	18,000.00	5,000.00					23,000.00
5	Water Rights Research	1/1/2017	4/15/2017					15,000.00	2,000.00	17,000.00
6	Habitat Improvement, Protection, and Wetland Recharge	4/15/2017	9/15/2017	20,000.00			2,500.00			22,500.00
7	Final Report	9/15/2017	3/15/2018	0.00	10,000.00	5,000.00			2,500.00	17,500.00
				51,875.00	21,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	15,000.00	12,000.00	109,875.00
									Current Budget	\$109,875.00

In-Kind Contributions (If Applicable)				
Project Personnel:	City Water Resources Manager	City Parks, Open Space, & Trails Manager		
Hourly Rate:	(\$50)	(\$50)		Total
Task 1 - Convene a Project Team, Refine Objectives, Contract a Project Manager	2000	500		2,500
Task 2 - Identify and Implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan	2,000	500		2,500
Task 3 - Evaluate Existing Reports & Water Quality/Habitat Data; Identify Data Gaps	2,000	500		2,500
Task 5 - Water Rights Research	2,000			2,000
Task 7 - Final Report	1,000	500		2,500
Total Hours:	200	40		240
Total Cost:	\$10,000	\$2,000		\$12,000

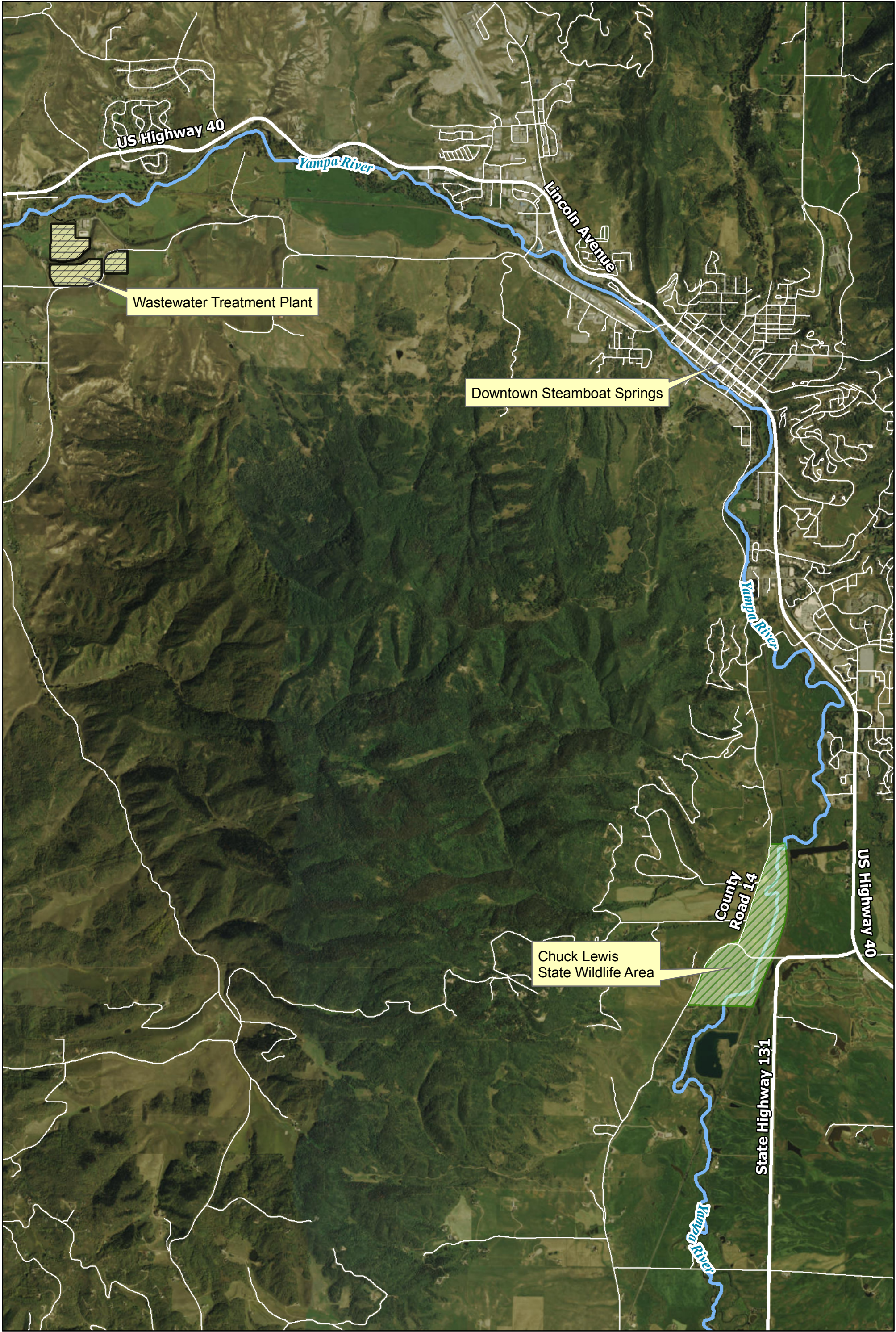
SCHEDULE

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.

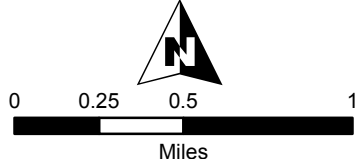
Water Supply Reserve Account - Yampa/White/Green BRT		Target Start Date	Target Completion Date
Steamboat Springs Yampa River Management Plan			
Task	Description		
1	Convene a Project Team, Refine Objectives, Contract a Project Manager	8/15/16	11/15/16
2	Identify and Implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan	11/15/16	3/30/17
3	Evaluate Existing Reports & Water Quality/Habitat Data; Identify Data Gaps	12/12/16	3/11/17
4	Identification of Water Quality Targets and a <i>Preferred Target Flow</i>	3/11/17	5/1/17
5	Water Rights Research	1/1/17	4/15/17
6	Habitat Improvement, Protection, and Wetland Recharge	4/15/17	9/15/17
7	Final Report	9/15/17	3/15/18

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 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.



Yampa River Management Plan Project Area
City of Steamboat Springs



Yampa River Photos

Recreation Photos – Tubers and Kayakers



Flyfishing at Chuck Lewis State Wildlife Area



Flyfishing at the A Hole



Rich Weiss Park



Fournier Open Space



Bear River Park



Flooding on the Yampa River



Before and After - Erosion at Bear River

