



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)

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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)

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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

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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.

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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

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.

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- 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.

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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.

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- 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.

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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: 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)
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