

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

**Applicant & Fiscal Agent:** East Mesa Water Company

**Water Activity Name:** East Mesa Water Company Thomas Creek Crossing and Pipeline replacement and measuring flume at headgate

**Water Activity Purpose:** Agricultural

**County:** Garfield

**Drainage Basin:** Colorado

**Water Source:** Crystal River

**Amount Requested/Source of Funds:** \$30,000 Colorado Basin Account  
\$30,000 Total Basin Account request

**Matching Funds:** Applicant Match: \$53,945 = 47% of the total project cost of \$113,945  
(refer to *Funding Summary/Matching Funds* section below)

<b>Staff Recommendation:</b>
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Staff recommends approval of up to \$30,000 from the Colorado Basin Account to help fund the project titled: East Mesa Water Company - Thomas Creek Crossing and pipeline replacement and measuring flume at headgate.
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**Water Activity Summary:** WSRA funds, if approved, will help fund the project titled: East Mesa Water Company - Thomas Creek Crossing and pipeline replacement and measuring flume at headgate. The East Mesa Water Company will install a 48 inch ADS plastic pipeline over Thomas Creek to replace the existing failing flume. This pipeline is located about 5 miles south of the intersection of Highway 82 and 133 at Carbondale, Colorado. Current plans are to complete the proposed work this spring or this fall and winter while the ditch is not in use.

The proposal is to construct a 140 ft. of 48-inch diameter pipe over the creek. The other small project of the Ditch is to replace about 140 feet of rusted pipe with 48 inch plastic ADS pipe in a section of the ditch that has historically leaked and the ditch embankment fails. This pipeline is located about 8.5 miles south of the intersection of Highway 82 and 133 at Carbondale, Colorado.

The third phase will be the replacement of the failing measuring flume and short pipe section at the headgate. A new 48 inch Parshall Flume will be installed along with a 20 ft. section of 46 inch elliptical Corrugated Metal Pipe. The new Parshall Flume will provide the ditch company with accurate reading for the amount of water diverted. This portion of the project is located nine miles south of Carbondale, Co. This project and service area lies in the Crystal River Valley in the western portion of Pitkin County and serves an area in the southeastern portion of Garfield County, Colorado. The Ditch Company has approximately 8.5 miles of distribution ditch starting at the diversion 9 miles south of the intersection of Highway 82 and 133 at Carbondale, Colorado. The service area is 740 acres in size and is known locally as East Mesa of the Crystal River and lies approximately one to

five miles south of Carbondale, Colorado. It should also be noted that much of this acreage is in numerous conservation easements held by Aspen Valley Land Trust. Therefore, the inherent continued irrigation of this property protects the beauty of Mount Sopris, the open space and agricultural setting of the area.

The ditch company services the 740 total acres with 12 users including private landowners and home owners association. The land use is nearly 100% agricultural. Irrigated acreage within the service area is primarily used for cattle ranching, nursery trees, and to grow hay and forage crops. The hay crop is used as cattle and horse feed, or is sold.

**Discussion:** The Colorado Basin Roundtable voted unanimously at its May 23, 2016, meeting to support the East Mesa Water Co. WSRA grant request, but at the 50 percent level: \$30,000. This is not a reflection on the merits of the project but of the fact that Severance Tax Funds are down and affecting WSRA Basin Account funding.

This project meets three major themes of the Colorado Basin Implementation Plan; 1) Sustain, Protect, and Promote Agriculture; 2) Encourage Conservation, and 3) Stream Health.

This project also meets additional critical actions identified in the Critical Action Plan (Chapter 10) of Colorado's Water Plan:

- **D2:** Encourage ditch-wide and regional planning to explore system-wide conservation and efficiency opportunities and tradeoffs, the potential for water sharing, and long-term infrastructure maintenance needs.
- **D3:** Provide grants, loans, and technical support to update and improve Colorado's aging agricultural infrastructure, especially where improvements provide multiple benefits.

**Issues/Additional Needs:** Staff will work with applicant to update budget and schedule, based on the Colorado Basin Roundtable's decision to fund this project at 50% of the request.

**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>
CRWCD	\$35,000	\$0	\$35,000
Ditch Company funds	\$18,945	\$0	\$18,945
Subtotal Matching Funds	\$53,945	\$0	\$53,945
WSRA Colorado Basin Account	\$30,000	n/a	\$30,000
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>\$83,945</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$83,945</b>

**\* Staff will work with project proponent to ensure that sufficient funds are in-hand to fully fund the project, given the CBRT decision to fund at 50%.**

**CWCB Project Manager:** Brent Newman

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

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

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

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