

Water Supply Reserve Account – Grant and Loan Program
Water Activity Summary Sheet
November 19-20, 2014
Agenda Item 11(a)

Applicant & Program Sponsor: Riverside Ranch Company, LLLP

Water Activity Name: Riverside Ranch Irrigation Diversion & River Restoration Project

Water Activity Purpose: Agricultural/Implementation

County: Grand

Drainage Basin: Colorado

Water Source: Colorado River

Total Amount Requested: \$113,000

Source of Funds: \$113,000 Colorado Basin Account

Matching Funds: Applicant Match (\$70,000) = 38.2% of total project costs (\$183,000)
(refer to *Funding Summary/Matching Funds*)

Staff Recommendation
Staff recommends approval of up to \$113,000 from the Colorado Basin Account to help fund the project titled: Riverside Ranch Irrigation Diversion & River Restoration Project.

Water Activity Summary: WSRA funds will be expended to assist in the engineering design and permitting of two self-sustaining, engineered riffle grade control structures as well as significant bank stabilization over a one mile reach of the Colorado River. The riffle grade control structures will provide improved hydraulic conditions at the two existing pump stations where Riverside Ranch diverts irrigation water. Additionally, these engineered riffles will provide valuable habitat for benthic invertebrates, a necessary food source for trout. This project includes the engineering design of bank stabilization activities for areas of significant bank erosion and is part of a larger irrigation and river restoration project currently being developed by URS on behalf of Irrigators of Lands in the Vicinity of Kremmling (ILVK) which will cover approximately 10 miles of the Colorado River. More specifically, WSRA funds will be expended to perform Tasks 5-9 as indicated in the Statement of Work, Budget and Schedule.

Discussion: In this reach of the Colorado River there is evidence of channel headcutting, bank erosion, and channel aggradation. Historically this reach of river has experienced hydromodifications in the way of trans-basin diversions, in-channel and off-channel dams, channelization, and the loss of riparian vegetation. The landowner applicants have been experiencing issues with the elevation of the intakes and pump operations. The issues with the elevations of the pump intakes are directly related to the historic hydromodification of the river and its associated geomorphic response. The solution(s) to the irrigation problems need(s) to work within the overall river system to be sustainable, cost effective and reduce long-term operations and maintenance. A systems-based approach to resolving the irrigation issues will directly impact other functions of the river such as flood conveyance, riparian and aquatic habitat, and sediment transport.

The current applicant is leveraging previous work funded by a WSRA Colorado Basin Account grant request awarded by CWCB on September 24, 2013. The previous WSRA award was \$50,000, with a \$54,000 cash match by ILVK.

Issues/Additional Needs:

- Riverside Ranch Company, LLLP should work with CWCB Staff to ensure that geomorphic monitoring conforms to CWCB Measurable Results Program criteria.
- All proposed river channel work shall conform to the CWCB Rules and Regulations for Regulatory Floodplains in Colorado.

Threshold and Evaluation Criteria:

The application meets all four Threshold Criteria

Tier 1-3 Evaluation Criteria:

n/a

Funding Summary/Matching Funds:

	<u>Cash</u>	<u>In-kind</u>	<u>Total</u>
WSRA Colorado Basin Account	\$113,000	n/a	\$113,000
Riverside Ranch Company, LLLP	\$70,000	\$0	\$70,000
Total Project Costs	\$183,000	\$0	\$183,000

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.