



**COLORADO**

**Colorado Water  
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 718  
Denver, CO 80203

April 24, 2017

Northstar Horse Rescue, Inc.  
Attn: Elizabeth E. Dickerson, Executive Director  
1478 CR 335  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

RE: Notice to Proceed – WSRF Grant – **POGG1 2017-876** – Renovation of Little Blanco Highline Ditch  
in the Southwest River Basin

Dear Elizabeth,

This letter is to inform you that purchase order to assist in the above WSRF grant project has been approved. The original contract documents in the email serve as your copy.

With the executed agreement, you are now able to proceed with the project and invoice the State of Colorado for costs incurred through June 20, 2018 according to the Exhibit A schedule. Please provide the project name, contract/PO number, and basin when corresponding with or invoicing for your project along with back-up documentation of cost incurred for the WSRF portion of the grant according to the original scope of work. Upon receipt of your invoice(s), the State of Colorado will provide payment no later than 30 days after review and signed approval of the project manager.

Please refer to the WSRF Criteria & Guidelines reporting requirements for the six month progress reports and final deliverable details in order to avoid a delay in payment. A 30-day advance notice is required in the event you are seeking an amendment to the term of the contract and will require an official letter of request to the CWCB project manager briefly describing the need for the extension, updated insurance certificates and updated schedule.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this project, please contact Megan Holcomb, Project Manager at 303-866-3441 ext. 3222 or at [Megan.Holcomb@state.co.us](mailto:Megan.Holcomb@state.co.us). When submitting invoices and progress reports, send them to Anna and cc me at [dori.vigil@state.co.us](mailto:dori.vigil@state.co.us). You can contact me at 303-866-3441 ext. 3250 for additional invoicing and payment disbursement questions.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

//s//

**Doriann Vigil**  
**Program Assistant II**  
O 303-866-3441 ext. 3250  
1313 Sherman Street, Rm. 719, Denver, CO 80203  
[Dori.vigil@state.co.us](mailto:Dori.vigil@state.co.us) / [cwcb.state.co.com](http://cwcb.state.co.com)  
Attachments





STATE OF COLORADO  
Department of Natural Resources

<b>ORDER</b>		<b>** IMPORTANT **</b>				
Number: POGG1 PDAA 201700000876		The order number and line number must appear on all invoices, packing slips, cartons and correspondence				
Date: 04/24/17						
Description: pdaa 2500 WSRF grant No.Star Horse Rescu to fund Ditch Reno		<b>BILL TO</b>				
Effective Date: 04/24/17      Expiration Date: 06/20/18		COLORADO WATER BOARD CONSERVATION 1313 SHERMAN STREET, ROOM 718 DENVER, CO 80203				
<b>BUYER</b>		<b>SHIP TO</b>				
Buyer:		COLORADO WATER BOARD CONSERVATION				
Email:		1313 SHERMAN STREET, ROOM 718 DENVER, CO 80203				
<b>VENDOR</b>		<b>SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS</b>				
NORTHSTAR HORSE RESCUE INC 1478 COUNTY ROAD 335 PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO 81147		Delivery/Install Date:				
Contact: .		F.O.B: FOB Dest, Freight Allowed				
Phone: .		<b>VENDOR INSTRUCTIONS:</b>				
<b>Line Item</b>	<b>Commodity/Item Code</b>	<b>UOM</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>Unit Cost</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>MSDS Req.</b>
1	G1000		0	0.00	\$7,500.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Description: pdaa 2500 WSRF grant No.Star Horse Rescu to fund Ditch Reno						
Service From: 04/24/17      Service To: 06/20/18						
<b>TERMS AND CONDITIONS</b>						
<a href="https://www.colorado.gov/osc/purchase-order-terms-conditions">https://www.colorado.gov/osc/purchase-order-terms-conditions</a>						
<b>DOCUMENT TOTAL = \$7,500.00</b>						

**Exhibit A**  
**Statement of Work**  
**Date: February 14, 2017**

**WATER ACTIVITY NAME: Little Blanco Highline Ditch Renovation**  
**GRANT RECIPIENT: Northstar Horse Rescue Inc**  
**FUNDING SOURCE: WSRF- Basin Funding**

**INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:**

The Little Blanco Highline Ditch is reputedly the oldest water ditch in Archuleta County, dug by horse and human power. Spanning a little over 4 miles, the ditch traditionally brought water out of the Rito Blanco River to the Lower Blanco Basin. The region was settled by farmers in the late 1800s and is still dominantly a ranching and farming area, though now including some residential housing development. Digging of the ditch commenced on September 1, 1894.

Northstar Horse Rescue encompasses 13 acres of grazing land, however, this land is very dry and when initially developed for agricultural use in the times of the settlers, depended on irrigation in order to be productive. The Little Blanco Ditch provided the needed water. The ditch has run pretty much continuously since 1894, but, in the past five years, approximately, the ditch has fallen out of use.

Currently, the ditch is unable to carry water. The pastures for the horses are in desperate need of irrigation, and we would like to preserve this historic ditch both as a continuous record of agricultural use in the Blanco Basin and because of the many benefits that additional water would bring to our valley.

There are five total holders of water rights on the ditch. A chart is on this application, in the section above, showing the water rights on the ditch and the carriage amounts per each stakeholder, in addition to total carriage of the ditch.

The ditch has historic significance as the oldest if not one of the oldest water ditches in Archuleta County. We are located down Rt 84, near the Chama Diversion, which takes a significant amount of water from our region. We feel that given the historic significance of the ditch, the importance of maintaining historic water rights, the importance of maintaining agricultural activities, and the benefit of raising the water table for all residents along County Road 335 make this an important project.

**MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE COLORADO WATER PLAN:**

**Critical Action Plan Implementation Goals Met:**

- 1. Supply and Demand: (A)** This project allows for better management of water resources and increased water availability in drought scenarios.
- 2. Conservation: (B)** This project will increase the available water in the Little Blanco valley, raising water tables and decreasing the need to haul in water or deplete wells.
- 3. Land Use: (C)** This project will help with land use planning in that water will be more readily available, making more efficient use of the land possible.
- 4. Agriculture: (D)** The project will increase the ability of the horse farm to sustainably support its residents, and also increase the amount of forage and foods grown for both animals and humans.

5. **Storage (E)** There is a large pond dug in one pasture that was intended as a storage area for water, but is now dry. This pond will be renovated and used for storage.
6. **Watershed Health, Environment, and Recreation (F)** The project will raise water levels in the valley area, making the area more attractive to wildlife and more environmentally healthy. The area will not be specifically a recreation area, as most of the land is on private property, however, the area will become more attractive to residents and visitors who wish to walk along the roadway or recreate in the adjacent national forest.
7. **Funding (G)** This project uses a variety of funding mechanisms, from in-kind matches to private funding.
8. **Education, Outreach and Innovation (H)** Northstar Horse Rescue's mission statement includes a clause stating that one purpose of the organization is to educate the public about equine issues. We engage in outreach activities through social media, our website, and on-site volunteer days.

## **OBJECTIVE**

1. **Renovate the Little Blanco Highline Ditch so that irrigation water can once again flow.**

## **TASKS**

### **TASK A: Blow out 11 culverts**

#### Description of task

There are eleven culverts that are filled with silt. One of the culverts travels under Hwy 84 and is quite large and quite filled with silt.

#### Method/procedure

These culverts will need to be hydro-excavated.

### **TASK B: Clean out 3 miles of water ditch below Hwy 84**

#### Description of Task

The water ditch is grown in with plant material and filled in with silt and will need to be dug out.

#### Method/procedure

Using backhoe and/or excavator, the ditch will be dug out and graded.

### **TASK C: Clean out 0.6 miles of ditch above Hwy 84**

#### Description of Task

The water ditch is grown in with plant material and filled in with silt and will need to be dug out.

#### Method/procedure

Using backhoe and/or excavator, the ditch will be dug out and graded.

**TASK D: Deliverables for Tasks A-D and Final Reporting**

Upon completion of project, receipts will be furnished to WSRA, and a report showing the completed project. The project will be documented on the Northstar Horse Rescue website so that donors to the horse rescue can see the improvements made, and a new website will be created for residents of the area so that they can be kept abreast of water ditch activities.

**WATER BALANCE BUDGET AND SCHEDULE**

<b>Task</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Finish Date</b>
<b>A</b>	Blow out 11 culverts	June 20, 2017	June 20, 2018
<b>B</b>	Clean 3 miles of ditch below hwy 84	June 20, 2017	June 20, 2018
<b>C</b>	Clean out 0.6 miles of ditch above Hwy 84	June 20, 2017	June 20, 2018
<b>E</b>	Reporting	June 20, 2017	June 20, 2018

**WATER BALANCE BUDGET AND SCHEDULE**

<b>TASK</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>CASH MATCH</b>	<b>IN KIND CONTRIBUTION</b>	<b>BASIN ACCOUNT</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>A</b>	Blow out 11 culverts			<b>5300.00</b>	<b>5300.00</b>
<b>B</b>	Clean 3 miles of ditch below hwy 84	<b>6000.00</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	<b>2000.00</b>	<b>9241.00</b>
<b>C</b>	Clean out 0.6 miles of ditch above Hwy 84	<b>400.00</b>	<b>564.00</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>923.00</b>
<b>D</b>	Reporting				<b>No cost</b>
<b>Totals</b>		<b>6400.00</b>	<b>1564.00</b>	<b>7500.00</b>	<b>15464.00</b>
<b>Percent Totals</b>		<b>41.50%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>48.50%</b>	<b>100%</b>



# Rito Blanco Highline Ditch



Diversion and headgate on Rito Blanco flume currently submerged. Evaluate once ditch is cleaned to determine if flume needs to be reset.

Item 1 - Ditch from headgate to Hwy 84 - 0.6 miles  
Requires cleaning but not the extent as ditch below Hwy 84

Item 2 - Ditch from Hwy 84 to end - 3 miles  
Requires extensive cleaning

Hwy 84

Item 3 - 11 culverts from Hwy 84 to end of ditch  
Approximately 2/3 full of soil-gravel mix  
Cleaning required

0 650 1,300 2,600 3,900 5,200 Feet