



**COLORADO**

**Colorado Water  
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

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**TO:** Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

**FROM:** Craig Godbout  
Program Manager – Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant Program  
Water Supply Planning Section

**DATE:** July 05, 2017

**AGENDA ITEM:** 15 (a-f): WSRF Grant Requests

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### Staff Recommendation – Action Items: WSRF Grant Requests

A summary of staff's recommendation for each WSRF application is provided in the first component of the attached table. If applicable, the table also includes a breakdown of match amounts for applications that include a request for Statewide Account WSRF funds.

Favorable recommendations may be contingent on providing the CWCB with additional information, clarifications, or modifications in the scope of work. Please refer to the Water Activity Summary Sheets contained within this agenda item to find a summary of staff's review and any conditions associated with each recommendation.

### Background:

For this agenda item the Board is provided with a brief overview of applications to the Water Supply Reserve Fund (WSRF). Attachments to this memo include:

- Summary spreadsheet detailing funding requests for the basin and statewide accounts;
- Summary spreadsheet displaying current WSRF Balance Summary of Fund Appropriations and Receipts by Fiscal Year, and Fund Distribution by Basin and Statewide Account.
- Water Activity Summary Sheets which provide an overview, discussion, issues/additional needs, and staff recommendation regarding funding, partial funding, or not funding the applications.

Staff's review of the applications involves the following steps:

- 1) Applications are reviewed for completeness based on the information requirements, which are primarily outlined in the Criteria and Guidelines (C&G).
- 2) Applications are reviewed to verify that the water activity meets the eligibility requirements in Section 39-29-108 (III) C.R.S. (C&G, Part 2) and the threshold criteria, which are based on the requirements of Section 39-29-108 (III) C.R.S., and two



sections of the Water for the 21st Century Act (House Bill 1177); Section 37-75-102 and Section 37-75-104(2)(c) (C&G, Part 3). Staff also verifies that the applicant was an eligible entity to receive funding (C&G, Part 2).

- 3) Staff then prepares the Water Activity Summary Sheet which documents the outcome of the review process and contains staff's recommendations.

**Water Supply Reserve Fund Balance Summary and Project Status Report:**

To provide the Board updates on the status of specific Water Supply Reserve Fund grant applications and projects, staff can provide a status report of the following information upon request:

- List of completed WSRF projects;
- List of WSRF projects in progress; and
- List of WSRF projects in the contracting and procurement process.



# Water Supply Reserve Fund Applications for Consideration at the July 2017 CWCB Board Meeting

Agenda Item	Basin	Applicant	Name of Water Activity	Basin(s) Account Request	Statewide Account Requests	Total Request	Non-WSRF Cash Match	Non-WSRF In-Kind Match	Non-WSRF Total Match	Total Project Costs	Staff Recommendations	PM
15a	Metro	Colorado Watershed Assembly	South Platte Basin Education Coordinator	\$25,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	Staff recommends approval of up to \$25000 from Metro Basin Account, & up to \$25000 from South Platte Basin Account	Megan Holcomb
	South Platte			\$25,000								
15b	Colorado	Vail Ditch Water Management Improvements	Grand County Irrigated Land Company	\$11,000	\$0	\$11,000	\$10,000	\$2,000	\$12,000	\$23,000	Staff recommends approval of up to \$11,000 from the Southwest Basin Account	Megan Holcomb
15c	Gunnison	Leon Lake Ditch & Reservoir Company	Leon Lake Reservoir/Dam Groin Seep Hole Repair Project	\$41,000	\$0	\$41,000	40,990	0	\$40,990	\$81,990	Staff recommends approval of up to \$41,000 from the Gunnison Basin Account	Craig Godbout
15d	Southwest	Big Stick Ditch Company	Lightner Creek Canal Improvement and Water Efficiency Project	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000	\$41,900	\$18,200	\$60,100	\$90,100	Staff recommends approval of up to \$30,000 from the Southwest Basin Account	Megan Holcomb
15e	Metro	Denver Trout Unlimited	Biological and Ecological Benefits from Chatfield Reallocation Environmental Pool Increased Releases	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$31,500	\$5,000	\$36,500	\$90,100	Staff recommends approval of up to \$10,000 from the Metro Basin Account	Megan Holcomb
15f	Southwest	Mountain Studies Institute	Animas River Community Forum	\$28,919	\$0	\$28,919	\$24,000	\$28,696	\$52,696	\$90,100	Staff recommends approval of up to \$28,919 from the Southwest Basin Account	Megan Holcomb
Total Requests				\$170,919	\$0	\$170,919						

<u>Basin</u>	<u>Basin Account Requests</u>	<u>Statewide Account Requests</u>	<u>Total Requests</u>	<u>Current Basin Account Balances</u>	<u>Remaining Basin Account Balances (if all requests approved)</u>	<u>Current Statewide Account Balance</u>	<u>Remaining Statewide Account Balance (if all requests approved)</u>
Arkansas Basin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,436	\$9,436		
Colorado Basin	\$11,000	\$0	\$11,000	\$244,077	\$233,077		
Gunnison Basin	\$41,000	\$0	\$41,000	\$434,854	\$393,854		
Metro Basin	\$35,000	\$0	\$35,000	\$334,337	\$299,337		
North Platte	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$924,700	\$924,700	\$87,198	\$87,198
Rio Grande	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$143,656	\$143,656		
Southwest	\$58,919	\$0	\$58,919	\$227,305	\$168,386		
South Platte	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$337,772	\$312,772		
Yampa/White/Green	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$723,949	\$723,949		
<u>Water Supply Reserve Fund Total Requests</u>	<u>\$170,919</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$170,919</u>	<u>\$3,380,086</u>	<u>\$3,209,167</u>		

**COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD**  
**Water Supply Reserve Fund - Balance Summary**  
**July 1, 2017**

7/3/2017

<b>Fund Appropriation and Receipts</b>				
<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Legislative Appropriation</b>	<b>Funds Received</b>	<b>Statewide Account</b>	<b>Basin Account</b>
2006/2007	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$5,500,000	\$4,500,000
2007/2008	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$4,200,000	\$1,800,000
2008/2009	\$10,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$4,300,000	\$2,700,000
2009/2010	\$5,775,000	\$5,775,000	\$4,215,750	\$1,559,250
2010/2011	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$4,380,000	\$1,620,000
2011/2012	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$4,732,000	\$2,268,000
2012/2013	\$10,000,000	\$7,157,724	\$4,580,943	\$2,576,781
2013/2014	\$10,000,000	\$10,091,639	\$6,458,649	\$3,632,990
2014/2015	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$6,400,000	\$3,600,000
2015/2016	\$10,000,000	\$9,103,590	\$5,826,298	\$3,277,292
2016/2017	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2017/2018	PENDING	PENDING	PENDING	PENDING
Interest	N/A	\$2,857,935	\$1,829,078	\$0
Prior Years Interest Adjustment			\$1,028,856	\$0
2014/2015 Interest	N/A	\$ 240,216	\$240,216	\$0
2015/2016 Interest	N/A	\$ 219,458	\$219,458	\$0
2016/2017 Interest	N/A	\$ 187,322	\$187,322	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$84,775,000</b>	<b>\$81,632,883</b>	<b>\$54,098,570</b>	<b>\$27,534,313</b>

Interest diverted to SW per DNR reconciliation

Note: The WSRF is a Severance Tax "Tier II" program with 40% of funds distributed on July 1, 30% on January 1, and the final 30% on April 1.

In FY 2008/2009 the final 30% installment of \$3,000,000 was not received due to the State's budgetary shortfall.

*In January 2012 interest for the program from its inception to date was credited directly to the Statewide Account.*

*Interest from January 2012 on is regularly calculated by the Treasury and credited to the Statewide Account.*

<b>Fund Distribution</b>					
<b>Basin</b>	<b>Approved Basin Grants</b>	<b>Total Basin Funds</b>	<b>Basin Account Balance</b>	<b>Approved State Grants</b>	<b>Statewide Account Balance</b>
Arkansas	\$3,049,932	\$3,059,368	\$9,436	\$9,421,051	
Colorado	\$2,790,079	\$3,059,368	\$269,289	\$6,283,985	
Southwest *	\$2,832,063	\$3,059,368	\$227,305	\$7,259,911	
Gunnison *	\$2,624,514	\$3,059,368	\$434,854	\$4,619,681	
Metro	\$2,725,031	\$3,059,368	\$334,337	\$7,501,732	
North Platte	\$2,134,668	\$3,059,368	\$924,700	\$540,942	
Rio Grande	\$2,915,712	\$3,059,368	\$143,656	\$10,385,323	
South Platte *	\$2,721,596	\$3,059,368	\$337,772	\$7,184,112	
Yampa/White	\$2,335,419	\$3,059,368	\$723,949	\$814,635	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$24,129,014</b>	<b>\$27,534,313</b>	<b>\$3,405,299</b>	<b>\$54,011,372</b>	<b>\$87,198</b>
<b>TOTAL APPROVED GRANTS</b>					<b>\$78,140,386</b>

Note: Only includes grants approved by CWCB

COLORADO BASIN APPROVED GRANTS DECREASED BY \$25,212 DUE TO ORCHARD MESA IRRIGATION DISTRICT NO LONGER NEEDING WSRF GRAND FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT THAT WAS APPROVED MARCH 2011.

**Water Supply Reserve Fund – Grant and Loan Program**  
**Water Activity Summary Sheet**  
**July 19-20, 2017**  
**Agenda Item 15(a)**

**Applicant & Grantee:** Colorado Watershed Assembly

**Water Activity Name:** South Platte Basin Education Coordinator

**Water Activity Purpose:** Educational Implementation

**County:** All counties within South Platte Basin

**Drainage Basin:** South Platte

**Water Source:** N/A

**Amount Requested:** \$25,000 South Platte Basin Account  
\$25,000 Metro Account

**Matching Funds:** N/A. As stated in the 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines: “For requests that result directly from Basin Implementation Plans, and are initiated by the respective Roundtable, all funds needed to complete the proposed water activity may be provided from the WSRF.”

<b>Staff Recommendation:</b>
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Staff recommends approval of up to \$25,000 from the Metro Account and \$25,000 from the South Platte Basin Account to help fund the project titled: South Platte Basin Education Coordinator.
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**Water Activity Summary:** This WSRF grant, if approved, will be used by the South Platte Basin Roundtable (SPBRT) and the Metro Roundtable (MRT) to support an Education Coordinator to oversee internal roundtable and external stakeholder educational activities as the roundtables proceed to implement their Education Action Plan (EAP), South Platte Basin Implementation Plan (BIP), and Colorado’s Water Plan (CWP). The position will also serve as a Public Education, Participation, and Outreach (PEPO) liaison for the roundtables and will work to carry out the responsibilities of the PEPO workgroup. Decision making and oversight will be jointly managed through both roundtables’ Education and Executive Committees. Specific activity plans, content, and messages will be developed with Committee participation; a minimum of two events/activities per quarter for the six quarter-year period are being proposed in the region.

With guidance from the Strategic Communications Plan referenced in Section 4.1.3 of the South Platte BIP (currently being developed by the roundtables), the Coordinator will: provide regular progress reports to the SPBRT and MRT; establish sound working relationships and cooperative arrangements with watershed stakeholders and enhance collaboration among those with goals that align with those from the CWP and BIP; represent the SPBRT at community events; compile and create outreach materials that can be used by this or future Education Coordinators and SPBRT and MRT members; and respond to stakeholder inquiries.

Funds will also be used to support the upkeep and maintenance of the South Platte Basin web page ([www.southplattebasin.com](http://www.southplattebasin.com)) to provide necessary materials and supplies to accomplish the objectives noted above and to provide communications and travel reimbursement to the Education Coordinator.

**Discussion:** As described in the South Platte Basin and Metro Roundtable Chairs' Recommendation Letters, this project supports a focused and professional effort acknowledging local interests and defining local priorities. The position of Education Coordinator for the Metro and South Platte Roundtables will add energy and coordination for the PEPO workgroup, bringing the South Platte perspective to a statewide public education initiative. As noted in the SPBIP, Section 4.1.3, "The South Platte Basin is home to 80% of the State's population and accounts for 80% of the State's economy and tax base. It is an area with great diversity both economically and demographically that is facing 75% of the projected statewide municipal water supply gap. The South Platte Basin deserves and needs an intensive education, participation, and outreach program designed to generate a lasting baseline of public awareness and support."

This project directly assists in satisfying CWP Critical Goals and Actions as identified in *Chapter 10.3.H: Education, Outreach, and Innovation* to inform Coloradans about water issues to encourage engagement and innovation in determining Colorado's water future. To realize the goals of the SPBIP will require an increased level of cooperation among water providers, water users, legislators, and the business community. This need for cooperation will only be accomplished if we can convene meaningful deliberative discussions that are facilitated to bring forward a willingness to compromise and take risks to advance innovative solutions. This request is made with the understanding that the Education Coordinator will also endeavor to identify opportunities, through additional grants or other funding, to leverage the WSRF grant for this position and to research and apply for additional funding to advance the SPBRT and MRT priorities identified in the EAP, BIP and CWP.

**Issues/Additional Needs:** No issues or additional needs have been identified.

**Eligibility Requirements:** The application meets requirements of all eligibility components: General Eligibility, Entity Eligibility, Water Activity Eligibility, and Eligibility Based on Match Requirements.

**Evaluation Criteria:** This activity has undergone review and staff has determined it satisfies the Evaluation Criteria outlined in Colorado's Water Plan, Section 9.4. Please refer to Basin Roundtable Chairs' Recommendation Letters and the Application for a detailed response.

**Funding Summary / Matching Funds:**

<b><u>Funding Source</u></b>	<b><u>Cash</u></b>	<b><u>In-Kind</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
WSRF South Platte Basin Account	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000
WSRF Metro Basin Account	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>

**CWCB Project Manager:** Megan Holcomb

**Water Supply Reserve Fund – Grant and Loan Program**  
**Water Activity Summary Sheet**  
**July 19-20, 2017**  
**Agenda Item 15(b)**

**Applicant & Grantee:** Grand County Irrigated Land Company  
**Water Activity Name:** Vail Ditch Flow Monitoring Improvements  
**Water Activity Purpose:** Agricultural Implementation  
**County:** Grand  
**Drainage Basin:** Colorado  
**Water Source:** Meadow Creek Reservoir  
**Amount Requested:** \$11,000 Colorado Basin Account  
**Matching Funds:** Applicant Match (cash & in-kind) = \$12,000

- 109% of Basin Account request (meets 25% min)
- 52% of total project cost of \$23,000

<b>Staff Recommendation:</b>
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Staff recommends approval of up to \$11,000 from the Colorado Basin Account to help fund the project titled: Vail Ditch Flow Monitoring Improvements.
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**Water Activity Summary:** This WSRF grant, if approved, will help replace the Grand County Irrigated Land Company's (GCILC) Parshall flume in Strawberry Creek that blew out during a high water event in 2010. The damaged flume will be removed from the stream channel and 100 feet of stream habitat will be restored above and below the flume. The new flume will be designed by the Natural Resource Conservation Service to safely by-pass high flows. The project will also include the procurement and installation of a stage discharge recorder (SDR) and telemetry system that will allow for cost effective, continuous, real-time monitoring of the water released from Meadow Creek Reservoir and provide the District 51 Water Commissioner with flow data.

GCILC is a mutual ditch company that maintains about 10 miles of ditch to convey water from Meadow Creek Reservoir to the mesa for irrigation of approximately 1,000 acres of agricultural land, distributing water to the approximately 50 shareholders on Granby Mesa. The Parshall flumes located at Upper Vail Ditch and Strawberry Creek are both located in the Arapahoe National Forest, Sulphur Ranger District, and will require concurrence by the District Ranger. The location is several miles from the nearest road and difficult to access other than by hiking in; an easement has been granted by the U.S. Forest Service for the Vail Ditch water conveyance system to GCILC. The Forest Service has requested that the old flume be removed, the habitat be restored at the site, and the access to the site avoids wetlands. A work plan will be submitted to the District Ranger and concurrence is not expected to be an issue.

**Discussion:** As described in the Colorado Basin Roundtable Chair's Recommendation Letter, this project supports the Colorado Basin Implementation Plan by improving irrigation water delivery, modernizing flow monitoring, and restoring habitat where high flows caused damage in 2010.

This project assists in satisfying Colorado's Water Plan Critical Goals and Actions as identified in *Chapter 10.3.A: Supply-Demand* as the project supports the basin roundtable in moving forward with identified projects. The flume replacement, along with a stage discharge recorder and telemetry system, will improve ditch conservation and efficiency through continuous flow data, as requested by the District 51 Water Commissioner.

**Issues/Additional Needs:** Support funds from the Grand County Mutual Ditch and Reservoir Company are secured, but applicant is awaiting a letter of support. Contracting will only proceed after all project funding sources are confirmed.

**Eligibility Requirements:** The application meets requirements of all eligibility components: General Eligibility, Entity Eligibility, Water Activity Eligibility, and Eligibility Based on Match Requirements.

**Evaluation Criteria:** This activity has undergone review and staff has determined it satisfies the Evaluation Criteria outlined in Colorado's Water Plan, Section 9.4. Please refer to Basin Roundtable Chair's Recommendation Letter and the Application for a detailed response.

**Funding Summary / Matching Funds:**

<b><u>Funding Source</u></b>	<b><u>Cash</u></b>	<b><u>In-Kind</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>Status</u></b>
Natural Resource Conservation Service	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	Secured
Grand County Mutual Ditch and Reservoir Co.	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	Secured
Grand County Irrigated Land Company	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	Secured
<b>Subtotal Matching Funds</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>\$12,000</b>	
WSRF Colorado Basin Account	\$11,000	\$0	\$11,000	
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>\$21,000</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>\$23,000</b>	

**CWCB Project Manager:** Megan Holcomb



**Water Supply Reserve Fund – Grant and Loan Program**  
**Water Activity Summary Sheet**  
**July 19-20, 2017**  
**Agenda Item 15(c)**

**Applicant & Grantee:** Leon Lake Ditch and Reservoir Company  
**Water Activity Name:** Leon Lake Reservoir/Dam Groin Seep Hole Repair Project  
**Water Activity Purpose:** Agricultural/Environmental & Recreational/M&I  
**County:** Mesa  
**Drainage Basin:** Gunnison  
**Water Source:** Leon Creek  
**Amount Requested:** \$41,000 Gunnison Basin Account  
**Matching Funds:** Applicant Match (cash) = \$49,100

- 120% of Basin Account request (meets 25% min)
- 60% of total project cost of \$81,990

<b>Staff Recommendation:</b>
Staff recommends approval of up to \$41,000 from the Gunnison Basin Account to help fund the project titled: Leon Lake Reservoir/Dam Groin Seep Hole Repair Project.

**Water Activity Summary:** This WSRF grant, if approved, will assist Leon Lake Ditch and Reservoir Company repair an existing dam abutment on Leon Lake and therefore to removing an existing State Engineer's fill restriction. This facility provides irrigation water for a portion of the southern Grand Mesa and the 5,000 acre Surface Creek Valley farm. In addition, Leon Lake provides domestic supplies to the towns of Cedaredge and Orchard City, as well as the Upper Surface Creek Domestic Water Users Association and Colby Domestic Water.

The proposed repairs include excavation and stockpiling of material, applying resin grout, compaction, installation of fabric and pond liners, backfilling, engineering and geotechnical inspections, and site cleanup.

**Discussion:** This project is listed in as a Tier 1 Project in the Gunnison Basin Implementation Plan. This project also assists in satisfying Colorado's Water Plan Critical Goals and Actions as identified in *Chapter 10.3.D: Agriculture* to support agriculture conservation and efficiency; and *Chapter 10.3 E: Storage* to meet growing needs and face the changing climate.

**Issues/Additional Needs:** No issues or additional needs have been identified.

**Eligibility Requirements:** The application meets requirements of all eligibility components: General Eligibility, Entity Eligibility, Water Activity Eligibility, and Eligibility Based on Match Requirements.

**Evaluation Criteria:** This activity has undergone review and staff has determined it satisfies the Evaluation Criteria outlined in Colorado's Water Plan, Section 9.4. Please refer to Basin Roundtable Chair's Recommendation Letter and the Application for a detailed response.

**Funding Summary / Matching Funds:**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b><u>Cash</u></b>	<b><u>In-kind</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
Leon Lake Ditch & Reservoir Company	\$40,990	\$0	\$40,990
WSRF Gunnison Basin Account	\$41,000	n/a	\$41,000
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>\$81,990</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$81,990</b>

**CWCB Project Manager:** Craig Godbout

**Water Supply Reserve Fund – Grant and Loan Program**  
**Water Activity Summary Sheet**  
**July 19-20, 2017**  
**Agenda Item 15(d)**

**Applicant & Grantee:** Big Stick Ditch Company  
**Water Activity Name:** Lightner Creek Canal Improvement and Water Efficiency Project  
**Water Activity Purpose:** Agricultural Implementation  
**County:** La Plata  
**Drainage Basin:** Southwest / La Plata  
**Water Source:** La Plata River  
**Amount Requested:** \$30,000 Southwest Basin Account  
**Matching Funds:** Applicant Match (cash & in-kind) = \$60,100

- 200% of Basin Account request (meets 25% min)
- 67% of total project cost of \$90,100

<b>Staff Recommendation:</b>
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Staff recommends approval of up to \$30,000 from the Southwest Basin Account to help fund the project titled: Lightner Creek Canal Improvement and Water Efficiency Project.
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**Water Activity Summary:** This WSRF grant, if approved, will assist the Big Stick Ditch Company in cleaning and regrading 8,000 ft. of the Lightner Creek Canal within its existing right of way from the Sawmill Canyon headgate to the La Plata River. The current system experiences over 70% loss due to seepage. Efforts will line sections of the canal ditch bottom and sides with soil amendments of bentonite and lime, while portions traveling through gravel and fractured rock will be treated with sac-crete to prevent further seepage. Five culvert pipes with hand-wheel controlled gates will be installed along the ditch to allow draining in winter months, helping to prevent ditch backup and erosion. The project contractor will survey and stake the canal to accurately define ditch elevation and ensure proper alignment and grade. The Big Stick Ditch Company's annual budget is around \$12,800; funds are spent on existing operations and management commitments leaving little budget for canal maintenance.

**Discussion:** The proposed work will promote maximum utilization of state waters by improving the delivery system to benefit local irrigators. As described in the Southwest Basin Roundtable Chair's Recommendation Letter, this project supports the Southwest Basin Implementation Plan (SWBIP) IPP #12-LaP because the improvement project brings water from a tributary of the Animas River (considered water abundant) to help meet irrigation demands in La Plata Basin (considered water short). The project supports IPP #13-LaP because the added source will support additional deliveries from the Big Stick Ditch using canal improvement methods to increase efficiency and use existing infrastructure to conserve water used for irrigation. The project meets three of the seven SWBIP goals including: balance all needs and reduce conflict, meet agriculture needs, and environmental needs through increased La Plata River base flows.

This project also assists in satisfying Colorado's Water Plan Critical Goals and Actions as identified in *Chapter 10.3.D: Agriculture* to support agriculture conservation and efficiency.

**Issues/Additional Needs:** No issues or additional needs have been identified.

**Eligibility Requirements:** The application meets requirements of all eligibility components: General Eligibility, Entity Eligibility, Water Activity Eligibility, and Eligibility Based on Match Requirements.

**Evaluation Criteria:** This activity has undergone review and staff has determined it satisfies the Evaluation Criteria outlined in Colorado's Water Plan, Section 9.4. Please refer to Basin Roundtable Chair's Recommendation Letter and the Application for a detailed response.

**Funding Summary / Matching Funds:**

<b><u>Funding Source</u></b>	<b><u>Cash</u></b>	<b><u>In-Kind</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>Status</u></b>
Southwestern Water Conservation District	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000	Secured
Big Stick Ditch Board	\$11,900	\$6,000	\$17,900	Secured
Jeff Helmer, surveyor	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	Secured
Tony Meador, contractor	\$0	\$2,200	\$2,200	Secured
<b>Subtotal Matching Funds</b>	<b>\$41,900</b>	<b>\$18,200</b>	<b>\$60,100</b>	
WSRF Southwest Basin Account	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000	
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>\$71,900</b>	<b>\$18,200</b>	<b>\$90,100</b>	

**CWCB Project Manager:** Megan Holcomb

**Water Supply Reserve Fund – Grant and Loan Program**  
**Water Activity Summary Sheet**  
**July 19-20, 2017**  
**Agenda Item 15(e)**

**Applicant & Grantee:** Denver Trout Unlimited

**Water Activity Name:** Biological and Ecological Benefits from Chatfield Reallocation Environmental Pool Increased Releases

**Water Activity Purpose:** Multi-purpose Study

**County:** Denver Metropolitan Area (within State Highway 470 beltway)

**Drainage Basin:** South Platte

**Water Source:** South Platte River

**Amount Requested:** \$10,000 Metro Basin Account

**Matching Funds:** Applicant Match (cash & in-kind) = \$36,500

- 365% of Basin Account request (meets 25% min)
- 78% of total project cost of \$46,500

<b>Staff Recommendation:</b>
Staff recommends approval of up to \$10,000 from the Metro Basin Account to help fund the project titled: Biological and Ecological Benefits from Chatfield Reallocation Environmental Pool Increased Releases.

**Water Activity Summary:** This WSRF grant, if approved, will help fund a study by Denver Trout Unlimited to determine the biological and ecological benefit of additional flows by season in the South Platte River downstream from Chatfield Dam. Funding will also help in the development of a Stream Management Plan that provides guidance on operational flow releases. The study takes previous evaluations to the next step of a multi-phased plan and will support both consumptive and non-consumptive needs throughout the Metro and downstream areas and benefit many users and uses along the river corridor.

The ultimate goal of this multi-phased plan is to develop a decision support matrix to understand how flows available through the Chatfield Reallocation Environmental Pool can be put to their most beneficial use downstream, taking into account time-varied flows and during which time of the year the flows are most beneficial. The decision support system analysis will include determination of: (1) a change in wetted area by stream flow as a metric for biological productivity; (2) water depths as a function of flow as a metric to determine the amount of refuge habitat for fish by season; and (3) annual peak flows as a metric for evaluation of bankfull and overbank flow for riparian benefits. The study will support non-consumptive use by providing a “new” water source to the downstream users, the Central Water Conservancy District, by allowing water for agricultural use throughout the area and by providing a greater volume of water in the river for stormwater and wastewater effluent dilution.

**Discussion:** As described in the Metro Roundtable Chair’s Recommendation Letter, this project assists in satisfying Colorado’s Water Plan (CWP) Critical Goals and Actions as identified in

*Chapter 10.3.F: Watershed Health, Environment, and Recreation* to develop Stream Management Plans for 80% of prioritized rivers. This study will help to meet the South Platte basin’s environmental and recreation goal to “fully recognize the importance of, and support the development of environmental and recreational projects and multipurpose projects that support water available for ecologically and economically important habitats and focus areas.” The study will also support *CWP Chapter 10.3.H: Education, Outreach, and Innovation* by providing information at public outreach events including Denver Trout Unlimited (DTU) general meetings and DTU’s annual fundraising event where the project will be presented. The information will be available to the public and can be presented at meetings requested by the CWCB.

This project received \$20,500 in support from the CWCB Watershed Restoration Program at the January 2017 Board meeting.

**Issues/Additional Needs:** The decision support system is impacted by a State Statute and it will need to operate within this structure. As Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) will be the ultimate user of the plan, the applicant notes it would be helpful in project evaluation to have the CPW materials necessary to inform their obligation. As such, CPW has been included in project discussions thus far.

**Eligibility Requirements:** The application meets requirements of all eligibility components: General Eligibility, Entity Eligibility, Water Activity Eligibility, and Eligibility Based on Match Requirements.

**Evaluation Criteria:** This activity has undergone review and staff has determined it satisfies the Evaluation Criteria outlined in Colorado’s Water Plan, Section 9.4. Please refer to Basin Roundtable Chair’s Recommendation Letter and the Application for a detailed response.

**Funding Summary / Matching Funds:**

<b><u>Funding Source</u></b>	<b><u>Cash</u></b>	<b><u>In-Kind</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>Status</u></b>
CWCB Watershed Restoration Program	\$20,500	\$0	\$20,500	Secured
Denver Trout Unlimited	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$15,000	Secured
Colorado Trout Unlimited Golmacheck Grant	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	Secured
<b>Subtotal Matching Funds</b>	<b>\$31,500</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$36,500</b>	
WSRF Metro Account	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>\$41,500</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$46,500</b>	

**CWCB Project Manager:** Megan Holcomb

**Water Supply Reserve Fund – Grant and Loan Program**  
**Water Activity Summary Sheet**  
**July 19-20, 2017**  
**Agenda Item 15(f)**

**Applicant & Grantee:** Mountain Studies Institute

**Water Activity Name:** Animas River Community Forum 2017

**Water Activity Purpose:** Educational Implementation

**County:** La Plata

**Drainage Basin:** Southwest / Animas

**Water Source:** N/A

**Amount Requested:** \$28,919 Southwest Basin Account

**Matching Funds:** Applicant Match (cash & in-kind) = \$52,696

- 182% of Basin Account request (meets 25% min)
- 65% of total project cost of \$81,615

<b>Staff Recommendation:</b>
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Staff recommends approval of up to \$28,919 from the Southwest Basin Account to help fund the project titled: Animas River Community Forum 2017.
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**Water Activity Summary:** This WSRF grant, if approved, will support the Animas River Community Forum (ARCF) in consolidating lessons learned from the Gold King Mine (GKM) emergency into a longer term structure for outreach, information exchange, and coordinated monitoring based on multi-partner cooperation on the Animas River. The ARCF's initial focus during the first year was to provide a forum for coordinating community response and recovery efforts from the GKM spill. During the last meeting of 2016, the Forum's partners reflected on the value of the Forum and determined the next steps were to complete the Data Gaps Assessment through a report to the community, while continuing to hold bi-monthly meetings to facilitate information exchange and relationship building. The Forum has made a decision to be active for a second year and will assess its utility and future function at the GKM spill's two-year anniversary (Aug. 2017). Specifically, the ARCF will execute four main tasks this year: (1) coordinate information exchange among watershed partners at bi-monthly meetings; (2) develop and distribute an "Animas River Report Card" to promote community awareness of river health and resiliency issues; (3) increase awareness between the efforts and issues being addressed in the headwaters by Silverton and San Juan County and the efforts and concerns downstream in Durango, La Plata County, and the Southern Ute Tribe (increasingly important given the recently designated Bonita Peak Mining District Superfund site); and (4) maintain a coordinator to guide the group and manage actions and goals.

**Discussion:** As described in the Southwest Basin Roundtable Chair's Recommendation Letter, this project supports a variety of Southwest Basin Implementation Plan goals, strategies, and outcomes including education, outreach, water quality monitoring, and multi-party collaboration. Many partners have collaborated for this effort including: Animas Watershed Partnership, Animas Stakeholders Group, San Juan Basin Health, Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife, Mountain Studies Institute, local and regional elected officials from San Juan and La Plata Counties, Durango,

and Silverton, Trout Unlimited, Colorado Departments of: Mining, Reclamation. ARCF's overall objective is to: promote communication, coordination, and collaborative action; foster public confidence; support resiliency in our communities; and enhance planning, improved public safety, and health for the future of all while honoring the institutional authorities and decision making of governmental and community organizations.

This project assists in satisfying Colorado's Water Plan Critical Goals and Actions as identified in *Chapter 10.3.H: Education, Outreach, and Innovation* to inform Coloradans about water issues to encourage engagement within the largest, most populated, and complex river in the Southwest Basin. The efforts associated with the forum advance the Environmental and Recreational goals of Colorado's Water Plan by maintaining watershed health through the protection and restoration of watersheds that could affect critical infrastructure and/or environmental and recreational areas as well as working to understand, protect, maintain, and improve conditions of streams, wetland, and riparian areas to promote self-sustaining fisheries and functional riparian habitat to promote long-term sustainability and resiliency.

The CWCB previously awarded a grant in the amount of \$37,850 to Mountain Studies Institute for year one (2016) of the Animas River Community Forum.

**Issues/Additional Needs:** No issues or additional needs have been identified.

**Eligibility Requirements:** The application meets requirements of all eligibility components: General Eligibility, Entity Eligibility, Water Activity Eligibility, and Eligibility Based on Match Requirements.

**Evaluation Criteria:** This activity has undergone review and staff has determined it satisfies the Evaluation Criteria outlined in Colorado's Water Plan, Section 9.4. Please refer to Basin Roundtable Chair's Recommendation Letter and the Application for a detailed response.

**Funding Summary / Matching Funds:**

<b><u>Funding Source</u></b>	<b><u>Cash</u></b>	<b><u>In-Kind</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>Status</u></b>
Southwestern Water Conservation District	\$14,840	\$0	\$14,840	Secured
CO Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	Secured
Other grants and private contributions	\$7,160	\$0	\$7,160	<i>Pending</i>
Forum Partner Volunteer Time	\$0	\$15,408	\$15,408	Secured
VISTA Volunteer Time	\$0	\$12,048	\$12,048	Secured
Meeting Room Rentals	\$0	\$1,240	\$1,240	Secured
<b>Subtotal Matching Funds</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>	<b>\$28,696</b>	<b>\$52,696</b>	
WSRF Southwest Basin Account	\$28,919	\$0	\$28,919	
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>\$52,919</b>	<b>\$28,696</b>	<b>\$81,615</b>	

**CWCB Project Manager:** Megan Holcomb