

Last Updated: July 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant Application

Instructions

To receive funding for a Water Plan Grant, applicant must demonstrate how the project, activity, or process (collectively referred to as “project”) funded by the CWCB will help meet the measurable objectives and critical actions in the Water Plan. Grant guidelines are available on the CWCB website.

If you have questions, please contact CWCB at (303) 866-3441 or email the following staff to assist you with applications in the following areas:

Supply and Demand Gap Projects: Gregory.Johnson@state.co.us

Water Storage Projects: Anna.Mauss@state.co.us

Conservation, Land Use Planning: Kevin.Reidy@state.co.us

Engagement & Innovation Activities: Mara.MacKillop@state.co.us

Agricultural Projects: Brent.Newman@state.co.us

Environmental & Recreation Projects: Linda.Bassi@state.co.us

Applicants interested in submitting an ‘Intent to Apply’ in the future are encouraged to check here ☐ and fill in all sections with the best information available at the time. Exhibits excluded.

This “Intent to Apply” will help CWCB prioritize Projects that are not ready for fully completed Water Plan Grant Application due to the initial timeframe and deadlines required.

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Trout Unlimited on behalf of the Windy Gap Reservoir Bypass Partnership	
Name of Water Project	Windy Gap Reservoir Bypass Project (Bypass Project)	
CWP Grant Request Amount		\$1,950,000
Other Funding Sources _____		\$14,189,684
Other Funding Sources _____		
Applicant Funding Contribution		
Total Project Cost		\$16,139,684

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Applicant & Grantee Information	
Name of Grantee(s)	Trout Unlimited
Mailing Address	1777 N. Kent Street, Suite 100, Arlington, VA 22209
FEIN	38-1612715
Organization Contact	Amelia (Mely) Whiting
Position/Title	Legal Counsel, Colorado Water Project
Email	mwhiting@tu.org
Phone	720-470-4758
Grant Management Contact	Same
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	
Mailing Address	
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	

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Description of Grantee/Applicant

Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).
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<p>Trout Unlimited (TU) is a non-profit national conservation organization with more than 150,000 members and over 400 chapters nationwide. Our mission is to conserve, protect and restore cold water fisheries and their habitat. In Colorado, Trout Unlimited has developed a number of partnerships to implement cooperative projects and is the fiscal agent for a number of CWCB grants for these projects. TU has a history of involvement in the project area, playing a role in negotiations leading to ground-breaking cooperative agreements and working closely with our partners to improve the conditions of headwater streams.</p>

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Type of Eligible Entity (check one)	
	Public (Government): Municipalities, enterprises, counties, and State of Colorado agencies. Federal agencies are encouraged to work with local entities. 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: Private parties may be eligible for funding.
X	Non-governmental organizations (NGO): Organization that is not part of the government and is non-profit in nature.
	Covered Entity: As defined in Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes .

Type of Water Project (check all that apply)	
	Study
X	Construction
X	Identified Projects and Processes (IPP)
	Other

Category of Water Project (check all that apply and include relevant tasks)	
X	Supply and Demand Gap Projects - Multi-beneficial projects and those projects identified in basin implementation plans to address the water supply and demand gap. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s): Construction of the Windy Gap Reservoir Bypass enables development of Windy Gap Firming Project; identified as a high priority environmental/recreational project in the Colorado River BRT.</i>
	Water Storage Projects - Projects that facilitate the development of additional storage, artificial recharge into aquifers, and dredging existing reservoirs to restore the reservoirs' full decreed storage capacity. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
X	Conservation and Land Use Planning Projects - Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s): The Bypass will improve resiliency of the Colorado River and its fisheries in the face of water development and climate change.</i>
	Engagement & Innovation Projects - Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application available on the website. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
	Agricultural Projects - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>

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X	Environmental & Recreation Projects – Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s): The Bypass is included in the Colorado River BRT Basin Implementation Plan and is considered essential for meeting the BRT environmental and recreational goals.</i>	
	Other	Explain:

Location of Water Project	
Please provide the general county and coordinates of the proposed project below in decimal degrees . The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable.	
County/Counties	Grand
Latitude	N40° 6' 17.99"
Longitude	E105° 58' 52.95"

Water Project Overview
<p>Please provide a summary of the proposed water project (200 words or less). Include a description of the project and what the CWP Grant funding will be used for specifically (e.g., studies, permitting process, construction). Provide a description of the water supply source to be utilized or the water body affected by the project, where applicable. Include details such as acres under irrigation, types of crops irrigated, number of residential and commercial taps, length of ditch improvements, length of pipe installed, and area of habitat improvements, where applicable. If this project addresses multiple purposes or spans multiple basins, please explain.</p> <p>The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit A, a detailed Statement of Work, Budget, Other Funding Sources/Amounts and Schedule.</p>

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Water Project Overview

The Bypass Project will re-establish approximately one mile of the Colorado River channel currently inundated by Windy Gap Reservoir, reconnecting the Colorado River and its habitat upstream and downstream of the reservoir. The project is expected to significantly improve aquatic habitat conditions which have deteriorated after years of transmountain diversions that supply water to Northern Colorado and the Front Range. Evaluation of the feasibility of the bypass project was required as part of the CWCB approved Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Plan for both the Windy Gap Firming Project and the Moffat Collection System Project. The Bypass Project will further the Colorado River Habitat Restoration Project's goal to restore aquatic life downstream of the reservoir. Sponsored by partners with very diverse interests and a long history of conflict, the project is the linchpin that connects regional restoration efforts in the headwaters of the Colorado River and provides a model for watershed cooperation to preserve river health while at the same time serving future municipal water supply needs. CWP funds will be used to develop final design and engineering and for construction of the Bypass.

Measurable Results

To catalog measurable results achieved with the CWP Grant funds, please provide any of the following values as applicable:

	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
48,000 AF firm yield	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive
	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
5,280	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)
	Efficiency Savings (indicate acre-feet/year OR dollars/year)
	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)
	Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms
	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning
	Other Explain:

Water Project Justification

Provide a description of how this water project supports the goals of [Colorado's Water Plan](#), the most recent [Statewide Water Supply Initiative](#), and the applicable Roundtable [Basin Implementation Plan](#) and [Education Action Plan](#). The Applicant is required to reference specific needs, goals, themes, or

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Water Project Justification

Identified Projects and Processes (IPPs), including citations (e.g. document, chapters, sections, or page numbers).

The proposed water project shall be evaluated based upon how well the proposal conforms to Colorado's Water Plan Framework for State of Colorado Support for a Water Project (CWP, Section 9.4, pp. 9-43 to 9-44;)

Colorado River Basin Roundtable IPPs – Windy Gap Reservoir Bypass Project

Related Studies

Please provide a list of any related studies, including if the water project is complementary to or assists in the implementation of other CWCB programs.

Colorado River Aquatic Resources Investigations Federal Aid Project F-237R-18, Division of Wildlife, R. Barry Nehring (2011) (evaluates impacts of Windy Gap Reservoir on downstream aquatic life and concludes reconnecting the river is necessary to restore lost aquatic habitat).

Windy Gap Firming Project Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Plan, adopted by the Colorado Wildlife Commission and the CWCB pursuant to C.R.S. 37-60-122.2 (2011) (provides for evaluation of Bypass and implementation of the Colorado River Habitat Restoration Project)

Moffat Collection System Project Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Plan, adopted by the Colorado Wildlife Commission and the CWCB pursuant to C.R.S. 37-60-122.2 (2011) (see above)

The Bypass is needed to attain the goals of the Colorado River Habitat Restoration Project. The CWCB holds instream flow rights in the Colorado River downstream of Windy Gap Reservoir. The project will benefit the aquatic environment within the CWCB instream flow reaches.

Previous CWCB Grants, Loans or Other Funding

List all previous or current CWCB grants (including WSRF) awarded to both the Applicant and Grantee. Include: 1) Applicant name; 2) Water activity name; 3) Approving RT(s); 4) CWCB board meeting date; 5) Contract number or purchase order; 6) Percentage of other CWCB funding for your overall project.

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Previous CWCB Grants, Loans or Other Funding

POGG1 PDAA 2016-900 - The CWCB, through the Colorado River BRT, awarded \$30,000 toward preliminary engineering for the Bypass Project. Trout Unlimited applied on behalf of the Windy Gap Reservoir Partners and was the fiscal agent for the grant. Preliminary engineering has been completed and the final report submitted.

The state legislature appropriated \$2.2 million as part of the CWCB construction fund for the Bypass Project. The percentage CWCB funding for the project is currently \$14.6%.

TU has been the fiscal agent for CWCB funding of a number of projects, including:

CTGG1 2015-3313 - River Ranch Irrigation Diversion River Restoration Project (ILVK Pilot); CRBRT (completed)

CTGG1 2017-667 – ILVK Project; CRBRT

CTGG1 2018-298 – Abrams Creek Project; CBRT

POGG1 PDAA 2016-800 – San Miguel River Stream Management Plan Pilot; SWBRT

Taxpayer Bill of Rights

The Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) may limit the amount of grant money an entity can receive. Please describe any relevant TABOR issues that may affect your application.

N/A

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Submittal Checklist	
	I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the Standard Contract .
Exhibit A	
	Statement of Work ⁽¹⁾
	Budget & Schedule ⁽¹⁾ (<i>Spreadsheet</i>)
	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ⁽¹⁾
Exhibit C	
	Map (if applicable) ⁽¹⁾
	Photos/Drawings/Reports
	Letters of Support (Support letter from Basin Roundtable encouraged)
	Certificate of Insurance (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.) ⁽²⁾
	Certificate of Good Standing with Colorado Secretary of State ⁽²⁾
	W-9 ⁽²⁾
	Independent Contractor Form ⁽²⁾ (If applicant is individual, not company/organization)
Engagement & Innovation Grant Applicants ONLY	
	Engagement & Innovation Supplemental Application ⁽¹⁾

(1) Required with application.

(2) Required for contracting. While optional at the time of this application, submission can expedite contracting upon CWCB Board approval.

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Colorado Water Conservation Board	
Water Plan Grant - Exhibit A	

Statement Of Work	
Date:8/1/2017	
Name of Applicant:	Trout Unlimited
Name of Water Project:	Windy Gap Reservoir Bypass Project
Funding Source:	CWP Grants
<p>Water Project Overview: Please provide a summary of the proposed water project (200 words or less). The same summary can be used from Page 5 of the CWP Grant Application.</p> <p>The Bypass Project involves the construction of a new river channel (nearly a mile in length) that will reconnect the Colorado River upstream and downstream of Windy Gap Reservoir to allow for movement of fish and macroinvertebrates and cobbles needed for aquatic habitat, and to improve stream temperature. The reservoir will be reduced in size, with a new berm to be constructed to separate it from the new channel. (See Concept Plan, Exhibit C). A structure to regulate flows into the reservoir, equipped with a fish screen, will be installed. The channel will be constructed to mimic a natural channel and will include aquatic habitat features. In addition, two diversion structures upstream and downstream of the reservoir will be improved to further improve fish passage. The project is expected to significantly improve aquatic habitat conditions in the face of additional diversions through the Windy Gap Firing Project and Moffat Collection System Project.</p> <p>Preliminary engineering (approximately 25% design) has been completed for the project and the results are reported in TetraTech's <i>Final Report, Windy Gap Reservoir Modification Study</i> (February 2015) and <i>Supplemental Report for the Windy Gap Reservoir Modification Study</i> (June 2017).</p> <p>Requested CWP funds will be used to develop final design and engineering and construction of the Bypass.</p>	
<p>Objectives: List the objectives of the project.</p> <p>(1) Re-establish connectivity with upstream tributaries, expanding available habitat and range for fish, macroinvertebrates and other aquatic life, (2) Re-establish transport of coarse sediment from the upstream river reaches past reservoir to alleviate downstream gravel depletion and armoring, (3) Improve water quality by moderating water temperatures, (4) Reduce nutrient loading by taking the existing shallow reservoir off-line, and (5) Reduce the transport of aquatic vegetation from the reservoir that has degraded downstream riverine habitats.</p>	

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Tasks
Provide a detailed description of each project task using the following format:
Task 1 – NEPA and Watershed Management Plan
Description of Task:
<p>Conduct environmental impacts review as required by NEPA. Significant funding from NRCS has been committed for the project and such funding requires preparation of a Watershed Management Plan. No funds are being requested under this grant application to complete Task 1.</p>
Method/Procedure:
<p>An environmental assessment will be prepared and public meetings and outreach conducted. An economic impacts analysis will be prepared as required by NRCS.</p>
Grantee Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task
<p>Watershed Management Plan and NEPA document (EA or other as required)</p>
CWCB Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task
<p>Watershed Management Plan and NEPA document (EA or other as required)</p>

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Tasks
Task 2 – Final Investigations, Design and Engineering
Description of Task:
<p>Conduct final investigations, design and engineering to enable construction of the various components of the Bypass Project, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete geotechnical investigation to determine thickness and extent of unsuitable materials below the proposed berm, foundation soil conditions, and available borrow sources and material properties for berm soils • Complete hydrology and floodplain analysis for submittal to the State Engineers Office (SEO) • Final design and engineering of diversion structure and associated structures • Final design and engineering of reservoir modifications • Final design and engineering of bypass channel • Channel hydraulics and floodplain design
Method/Procedure:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Geotechnical investigation: conduct new borings along proposed embankment alignment and along the existing embankment; dig test pits along proposed channel; prepare seepage analysis; prepare soils report with recommendations for final design b. Hydrology and floodplain analysis: Prepare a hydrology report for submittal to the SEO; review the incremental flood study prepared by IEC (IEC 1980); coordinate with SEO to determine if updates will be required; review FEMA floodplain mapping and determine if mapping revisions are required. c. Diversion structure: assess use of a shorter lateral weir; assess use of a short bridge over weir; final design and engineering of diversion and associated structures d. Reservoir modification: review pumping operations, assess reservoir volumes to reduce excavation; complete final design and engineering e. Channel hydraulics and floodplain design: prepare final channel hydraulics and assess and detail pool design for stability, hydraulics and habitat enhancement; develop details for channel bank to create enhanced habitat, while providing stability; assess floodplain hydraulic characteristics and develop a floodplain grading plan, with secondary channels, disconnected oxbows and a roughened overbank; evaluate and design confluence area with Habitat Project reach for hydraulic and sediment continuity, fish passage and suitability for aquatic habitat (cover).
Grantee Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task
Hydrology and Floodplain Analysis Report; Soils Report; Final Design and Engineering report
CWCB Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task

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Tasks
Hydrology and Floodplain Analysis Report; Soils Report; Final Design and Engineering
Provide a detailed description of each project task using the following format:
Task 3 – Construction
Description of Task:
Construct the components of the Bypass Project
Method/Procedure:
<p>General sequence of construction is presented below. This sequencing is subject to modification pending the completion of final design, construction plans, and project bid and award.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lower the reservoir to about elevation 7820 with the use of the auxiliary and bypass outlets. 2. Construct a temporary coffer dam. 3. Excavate and remove unsuitable material for embankment. 4. Construct slurry wall and clay core. 5. Clear, grub and strip areas 1, 2, and 3 and borrow material for use as embankment shell. 6. Place the embankment shell material and embankment protection. 7. Excavate reservoir and place material to dry in areas 1, 2 and 3. Once dry stockpile for use as topsoil. 8. Prune willows for clipping, transplant willows and cut sod mats for the proposed channel and floodplain within the existing reservoir footprint. 9. Construct the portion of the proposed channel located within the existing reservoir footprint. 10. Strip, clear and grub remaining portions of the proposed channel and floodplain. Stockpile material for use in floodplain topsoil. 11. Construct remainder of proposed channel and floodplain. 12. Place embankment for the tailrace and spillway runout restoration area and grade. 13. Construct sod mats and soil wraps along the connectivity channel. 14. Transplant willows and willow clippings into the new floodplain and spillway runout restoration area. 15. Construct spillway runout channel. 16. Construct new channel from diversion structure to reservoir. 17. Construct connectivity channel from confluence to the diversion structure. 18. Divert flows into the connectivity channel. 19. Complete floodplain revegetation. 20. Perform final site clean-up and demobilize <p>In addition to the site work, a diversion structure, upstream fish structure and restoration of existing Granby diversion structure will be completed at any time in the sequence.</p>

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Tasks
Grantee Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task
Final construction report
CWCB Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task
Final construction report.
Task 5 – Administration
Description of Task:
Method/Procedure:
<p>Oversee grant implementation and payments to consultants to complete the work</p> <p>Coordinate in-kind work to be conducted by the partners</p> <p>Coordinate NEPA and permitting</p> <p>Reporting</p>
Grantee Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task

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Tasks
Delivery of final reports outlined above
CWCB Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task
Delivery of final reports outlined above
Task 6 - Monitoring
Description of Task:
Method/Procedure:
<p>a. Biological monitoring. Project outcomes will be evaluated by comparing baseline conditions with post-project conditions. Monitoring will include electrofishing operations to evaluate changes in fish growth, abundance, and species composition in the post-bypass environment, and macroinvertebrate evaluations to see how the bypass affects aquatic insect life, and how species abundance and composition progresses through time. Monitoring may also include stocking of marked fish to determine movement patterns and reseeding of insect populations into upstream locations and PIT tagging of fish and subsequent electronic monitoring of their movements from below Windy Gap dam upstream past the new diversion structure, and their return to downstream locations.</p> <p>b. The newly constructed Bypass channel will be monitored annually for the first five years and after significant flood events. Ocular surveys will be conducted of the channel banks, treatment (wood, rock and vegetated), instream structures, overbanks and the diversion structure. Monitoring cross sections will be established with end points to survey during the monitoring period to assess lateral stability, degradation and aggradation. Vegetation will be inspected following the first full growing season and then yearly thereafter. Photo points will be established and used for photo documentation of site conditions in the channel and on the floodplain overbanks. Temperature monitoring has been ongoing by both the Subdistrict and GCWIN providing valuable temperature baseline data.</p>
Grantee Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task

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Monitoring plan as part of the Final Report

CWCB Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task

Monitoring plan as part of the Final Report

Budget and Schedule

This Statement of Work shall be accompanied by a combined Budget and Schedule that reflects the Tasks identified in the Statement of Work and shall be submitted to CWCB in excel format.

Reporting Requirements

Progress Reports: The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of issuance of a purchase order, or the execution of a contract. The progress report shall describe the status 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. The CWCB may withhold reimbursement until satisfactory progress reports have been submitted.

Final Report: At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a Final Report on the applicant's letterhead that:

- Summarizes the project and how the project was completed.
- Describes any obstacles encountered, and how these obstacles were overcome.
- Confirms that all matching commitments have been fulfilled.
- Includes photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs.

The CWCB will withhold disbursement the last 10% of the budget until the Final Report is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the Final Report has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the purchase order or grant will be closed without any further payment.

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COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant - Exhibit A Budget and Schedule

Date:

Name of Applicant:

Name of Water Project:

Task No.	Task Description	Start Date ⁽¹⁾	End Date	Grant Funding Request	Match Funding	Total
1	Bypass NEPA & watershed plan	10/1/2017	4/30/2019	\$0	\$500,000	\$500,000
2	Final Design & Engineering / permitting	5/1/2019	4/30/2020	\$309,237	\$1,680,000	\$1,989,237
3	Bypass Project Construction	5/1/2020	5/30/2022	\$1,415,763	\$11,845,814	\$13,261,577
4	Monitoring	10/1/2017	9/30/2022	\$175,000		\$175,000
5	Administration	10/1/2017	3/1/2023	\$90,000	\$123,870	\$213,870
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
Total				\$1,990,000	\$14,149,684	\$16,139,684

(1) Start Date for funding under \$100K, minimum 45 Days from Board Approval; Start Date for funding over \$100K, minimum 90 Days from Board Approval. Round values up to the nearest hundred dollars.

• Reimbursement eligibility commences upon the grantee's receipt of a Notice to Proceed (NTP)

• NTP will not be accepted as a start date. Project activities may commence as soon as grantee enters contract and receives formal NTP if

• The applicant shall provide a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of contract execution.

• CWCB will withhold disbursement of the last 10% of the total grant amount until a Final Report is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff





United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Denver Federal Center
Bldg. 56, RM. 2604
P.O. Box 25426
Denver, CO 80225-0426

September 15, 2016

Mely Whiting
Trout Unlimited
1777 N. Kent Street, Suite 100
Arlington, VA 22209
mwhiting@tu.org

RE: RCPP FY 2017 Proposal, Project ID# 1550

Dear Ms. Whiting:

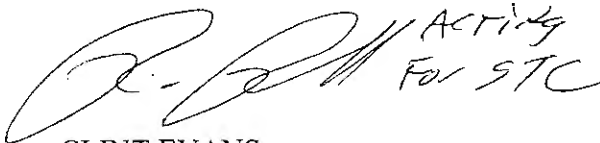
Thank you for submitting your Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) proposal for our review and concurrence. As you know, we have been assigned as the lead state for your proposal for your RCPP FY17 full-proposal, Colorado River Headwaters Project.

Based on the information we have reviewed, it appears this proposal fulfills all the basic requirements of RCPP, and also addresses the appropriate conservation goals, objectives, and resource concerns listed in the Fiscal Year 2017 Announcement for Program Funding (FY 2017 APF). Upon meeting all submission requirements, your proposal will receive a formal review prior to any RCPP selection, which this in-state review is intended to help inform, but not replace.

This letter is not an endorsement of the project. Rather, it documents that Colorado NRCS has reviewed this RCPP proposal in accordance with the FY 2017 APF, and based on the information provided and discussions held to date, has a reasonable expectation that the proposed project, if selected, could be implemented within the covered program rules.

Thank you again for your RCPP proposal.

Sincerely,



CLINT EVANS
State Conservationist

cc:

Dawn Jackson, Assistant State Conservationist for Programs, NRCS, Denver, CO
Randy Randall, Assistant State Conservationist for Partnerships, NRCS, Denver, CO

Helping People Help the Land

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer



Municipal Subdistrict

Northern Colorado
Water Conservancy District

220 Water Avenue Berthoud, Colorado 80513
Phone 1-800-369-7246 • Fax 1-877-851-0018
www.northernwater.org

September 14, 2016

Trout Unlimited

1777 N. Kent Street, Suite 100

Arlington, VA 22209

Attn. Mely Whiting

Via email: mwhiting@tu.org

RE: RCPP ID #17-C-CO-1550 - Colorado River Headwaters Project Dear Project Leader:

I am writing to document the support of the **Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District, Municipal Subdistrict (Municipal Subdistrict)** for Trout Unlimited's proposal to the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), titled "**Colorado River Headwaters Project**". The Municipal Subdistrict is familiar with the proposal, understands the general expectations, and supports the efforts to address the natural resource concerns identified therein.

If this RCPP proposal is selected for funding, the Municipal Subdistrict will be the sponsor of the Windy Gap Reservoir Bypass Project for which P.L.83-566 funds will be applied. The Municipal Subdistrict also expects to provide Financial Assistance of \$5.5 million in cash contributions and Technical Assistance of \$950,000 (\$500,000 in cash and \$450,000 of in kind contributions) for a partner contribution equal to the total amount of \$6,450,000 over 5 years to this project. Our expected contributions include:

Year	Specific Activities/Deliverable (Action)	Associated Local, State, or Federal Program or Initiatives	Amount	Limitations	Contribution Type		
					FA ¹	TA ²	(Cash or In Kind)
2017	Funding for Windy Gap Bypass Final Design and Engineering	Bypass Agreement	\$500,000	Permits and approvals for WGFP ³		X	Cash
2018-2019	Funding for Windy Gap Bypass Construction	Bypass Agreement	\$1.5 million	Contract for construction of WGFP signed	X		Cash

¹ FA - Financial Assistance


² TA - Technical Assistance

³ WGFP - Windy Gap Firming Project, a project by the Municipal Subdistrict to provide municipal water supplies in Northern Colorado.

2018	Easement/Right of Way for Bypass construction and use	Bypass Agreement	\$150,000			X	In Kind
2019-2022	Perpetual operation and maintenance of Bypass	Bypass Agreement	\$75,000			X	In Kind
2018-2019	Management and oversight of Windy Gap Bypass project construction	Bypass Agreement	\$100,000			X	In Kind
2017-2021	Administration of Windy Gap Bypass Contract with NRCS (PL83-566)	Bypass Agreement	\$25,000			X	In Kind
2019-2021	Colorado River Habitat Project Construction	CPW Enhancement Plan	\$3 million	Permits and approvals for WGFP	X		Cash
2021	Colorado River Habitat Project Maintenance	CPW Enhancement Plan	\$1 million		X		Cash
2019-2021	Colorado River Habitat Project labor, equipment and materials	CPW Enhancement Plan	\$100,000			X	In Kind

The Municipal Subdistrict is pleased to be a part of the Colorado River Headwaters Project, which will result in improved reliability to agricultural water supplies for water users diverting from the Colorado River and for municipal, domestic and industrial water users on the Front Range of Colorado, while also improving and protecting aquatic habitat in the Colorado River.

Sincerely,



Eric Wilkinson, P.E.

General Manager

Authorized Signatory for Municipal Subdistrict, Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District

eal



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

1111 Sherman Street, Room 711
Denver, CO 80202

September 14, 2015

Trout Unlimited
1777 N. Kent Street, Suite 100
Arlington, VA 22209
Attn: Mely Whiting

RE: RCPP ID #17-CO-1550 Colorado River Headwaters Project

Dear Ms. Whiting,

I am writing to express and document the support of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) for Trout Unlimited's proposal to the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), titled "Colorado River Headwaters Project." The CWCB is familiar with the proposal, understands general expectations, and supports the efforts to address the natural resource concerns identified in the proposal. If this RCPP proposal is selected for funding, the CWCB will provide partner contribution equal to the total amount of \$2.2 million for this project. Our expected contributions include:

Year	Specific Activities/Deliverable (Action)	Associated Local, State, or Federal Program or Initiatives	Amount	Limitations	Contribution Type		
					FA	TA	(Cash or in Kind)
2019 (est.)	Funds for planning, design and construction of the Windy Gap Bypass Project	CWCB Construction Fund	\$2.2 million		X	X	Cash

The Colorado River Headwaters Project is very important to Colorado because it will mitigate environmental effects of the Windy Gap Firing Project, which will improve the reliability of water supply in northeastern Colorado. Colorado's Water Plan specifically acknowledged the Colorado River Headwaters Project as one of the top-priority environmental and recreational project identified by the Colorado River Basin Roundtable. The CWCB strongly supports this project and believes it is worthy of RCPP funding.

Sincerely,

James Eklund, Director





COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 618
Denver, CO 80203
P 303-866-3203 ext. 4613 | F 303-866-3206

Colorado Trout Unlimited
1536 Wynkoop Street, Suite 320
Denver, CO 80202

September 15, 2016

RE: RCPP #17-C-CO-1550 Colorado River Headwaters Project

Dear Project Leader:

I am writing to document the support of Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) for Colorado Trout Unlimited's proposal to the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), titled "Colorado River Headwaters Project". CPW is familiar with the proposal, understands general expectations, and supports the efforts to address the natural resource concerns identified therein.

If this RCPP proposal is selected for funding, CPW will provide in-kind Technical Assistance partner contribution equal to the total amount of \$115,000 per year for five years, totaling \$575,000 to this project. Our expected contributions include:

Year	Specific Activities/Deliverable (Action)	Associated Local, State, or Federal Program or Initiatives	Amount	Limitations	Contribution Type		
					Financial Assistance	Technical Assistance	(Cash or In Kind)
2017-2022	Biological Monitoring Program for the Windy Gap Bypass and ILVK Projects		\$36,250 ^a \$16,250 ^b \$9,250 ^c	Availability of funding and personnel		X	In Kind
2017-2022	Habitat/Hydrological Monitoring and Oversight of Habitat Improvement projects in the upper Colorado River		\$53,250 ^d	Availability of funding and personnel		X	In Kind

^aInvertebrate and Sculpin Evaluations (Research)

^bColorado River Rainbow Trout Establishment (Research)

^cColorado River Rainbow Trout Establishment (Management)

^dStream Hydrology, Channel Function, and Habitat Evaluations

Sincerely,

Bob Broscheid, Director





BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

E. JANE TOLLETT
District I, Tabernash 80478
MERRIT S. LINKE
District II, Granby 80446
KRISTEN MANGUSO
District III, Kremmling 80459

E-Mail: grndctyl@co.grand.co.us
PHONE: 970/725-3100
Fax: 970/725-0565
LEE A. STAAB
County Manager
ALAN N. HASSLER
County Attorney

September 13, 2016

Trout Unlimited
1777 N. Kent Street, Suite 100
Arlington, VA 22209

RE: RCPP ID #17-C-CO-1550 Colorado River Headwaters Project

Dear Project Leader:

The Grand County Board of County Commissioners are writing to document Grand County's support of Trout Unlimited's proposal to the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), titled "**Colorado River Headwaters Project**". Grand County is familiar with the proposal, understands general expectations, and supports the efforts to address the natural resource concerns identified in therein.

If this RCPP proposal is selected for funding, Grand County will provide in-kind Technical Assistance (TA) partner contributions equal to the total amount of **\$386,853,910** over 5 years to this project. Our expected contributions include:

- List specific activities, initiatives and funding amounts, with specific limitations (e.g. \$1,000,000 in direct financial assistance to area producers to address erosion, subject to final approval by legislature)

Year	Specific Activities/Deliverable (Action)	Associated Local, State, or Federal Program or Initiatives	Amount	Limitations	Contribution Type		
					FA	TA	(Cash or In Kind)
2017-2022	5,412.5 acre feet West Slope environmental water stored in Granby Reservoir	Grand County, Northern Water, Bureau of Reclamation and US Fish & Wildlife	\$270.625 million (Value = \$10K/ac.ft. x 5 yrs.)	No limitations. Firm, available annually in perpetuity to Grand County.		X	In Kind

2017-2021	Grand County Management Staff representation on Windy Gap Bypass Project team	Grand County, Northern Water, Colorado River District, Upper Colorado River Alliance and Trout Unlimited	\$40,000 (Value = \$8,000 x 5 yrs.)	No limitations.		X	In Kind
2017-2021	1,000 acre feet Fraser River environmental bypass water	Colorado River Cooperative Agreement - Denver Water	\$75 million (Value = \$15K/ac.ft. x 5 yrs.)	Contingent on Denver Water's Moffat Collection System Project - ACOE 404 Permit issuance. Denver Water has already provided bypass flows in 2015 and 2016.		X	In Kind
2017-2021	Grand County Stream Management Plan – Annual Work (Grand County share of cost)	Colorado River District, Denver Water, Northern Water, Trout Unlimited and Grand County	\$64,410 (Value = 12,882 x 5 yrs.)	No limitations.		X	In Kind
2017-2021	Grand County Technical Staff Learning By Doing Meetings and adaptive management calls to regulate stream flow and temperatures.	Colorado River Cooperative Agreement - Learning By Doing: Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Colorado River District, Denver Water, Northern Water, Middle Park Water, Trout Unlimited and Grand County	\$5,000 (Value = \$1,000 x 5 yrs.)	No limitations.		X	In Kind
2017-2021	Grand County Management Staff Learning By Doing – Governance Meetings and Calls	Colorado River Cooperative Agreement - Learning By Doing: Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Colorado River District, Denver Water, Northern Water, Middle	\$40,000 (Value = \$8,000 x 5 yrs.)	No limitations.		X	In Kind

		Park Water, Trout Unlimited and Grand County					
2017-2021	Grand County Staff participation of Weekly State of the River or Historic User Pool (HUP) Calls April –September, annually, re: reservoir operations, trans-mountain diversions and river flows/conditions.	Denver Water, Northern Water, Colorado River District, Bureau of Reclamation, Colorado Water Conservation Board, State Engineers Office, West Slope water districts and municipalities, US Fish & Wildlife, USGS	\$4,500 (Value = \$900 x 5 yrs.)	No limitations.		X	In Kind
2017-2021	1000 AF bypassed at Williams Fork	CRCA	\$700,000 (Value = \$700/ac.ft. x 5 yrs.)	Contingent on Denver Water's Moffat Collection System Project - ACOE 404 Permit issuance.		X	In Kind
2017-2021	Cost to pump water to Granby Reservoir for release to environment (est. 3,000 acre feet)	Windy Gap Firming Project IGA	\$375,000 (Value = \$75,000/yr. x 5 yrs. if pumping)	Contingent upon Windy Gap Firming Project permitting and available water		X	In Kind
2017-2021	Unallocated water for Middle Park Water (avg. 800 acre feet)	Windy Gap Firming IGA	\$40 million (Value = \$10,000/ac.ft. x 5 yrs.)	Contingent upon Windy Gap Firming Project permitting and available water		X	In Kind
		Total	\$386,853,910			TA	In Kind

We appreciate Trout Unlimited's commitment to the Colorado River Headwaters Project and requesting the necessary RCPP funding to complete the Windy Gap Reservoir Bypass Project and the Colorado River Habitat Restoration Project that will restore this vital and historic section of the Colorado River.

Sincerely,


E. Jane Tollett
Commissioner Chair


Kristen Manguso
Commissioner


Merritt Linke
Commissioner



Colorado River District

Protecting Western Colorado Water Since 1937

September 9, 2016

Trout Unlimited
1777 N. Kent Street Suite 100
Arlington, VA 22209

Via email to: mwhiting@tu.org

RE: RCPP ID #17-C-CO-1550 Colorado River Headwaters Project

Dear Project Leader:

I am writing to document the support of the **Colorado River Water Conservation District (River District)** for **Trout Unlimited's** proposal to the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), titled "**Colorado River Headwaters Project**". The River District is familiar with the proposal, understands general expectations, and supports the efforts to address the natural resource concerns identified therein.

If this RCPP proposal is selected for funding, the River District will provide \$100,000.00 in financial assistance to this project. Our expected contributions include:

A contribution of \$25,000.00 in direct financial assistance, subject to budgeting and appropriations, for the Windy Gap Reservoir Bypass portion of the Colorado Headwaters Project in 2017. In addition, the River District will contribute an additional \$75,000.00 in in-kind services, in the form of technical assistance, over the five year term of the Colorado River Headwaters Project.

As you know the River District has previously made a contribution of \$20,000.00 in direct financial assistance for engineering and construction design services for the Windy Gap Reservoir Bypass as well as in-kind services in reviewing engineering and design proposals.

Sincerely,

R. Eric Kuhn
General Manager
Authorized Signatory for Colorado River Water Conservation District



September 9, 2016

Trout Unlimited
1777 N Kent St, Ste 100
Arlington, VA 22209
Attn: Mely Whiting
MWhiting@TU.org

RE: RCPP ID #17-C-CO-1550 Colorado River Headwaters Project

Dear Project Leader:

I am writing to document the support of the **Upper Colorado River Alliance (UCRA)** for **Trout Unlimited's** proposal to the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), titled "**Colorado River Headwaters Project**". UCRA is familiar with the proposal, understands general expectations, and supports the efforts to address the natural resource concerns identified therein.

If this RCPP proposal is selected for funding, UCRA will provide cash (FA) partner contribution equal to the total amount of \$260,000 over three years to this project. Our expected contributions include:

Year	Specific Activities/Deliverable (Action)	Associated Local, State, or Federal Program or Initiatives	Amount	Limitations	Contribution Type		(Cash or In Kind)
					FA	TA	
2017	\$85,000 For construction		\$85,000		X		CASH
2018	\$85,000 For construction		\$85,000		x		CASH
2019	\$90,000 For construction		\$90,000		x		CASH

To date UCRA has contributed \$325,800 to bringing this project to its current status in the form of legal and engineering contributions.

Sincerely,

V. A. Isaacs
Authorized Signatory for (UCRA)

American Rivers
1536 Wynkoop St. STE 321
Denver, Colorado 80202
Via email to: mrice@americanrivers.org
Date

Trout Unlimited

Trout Unlimited
1777 N. Kent Street, Suite 100
Arlington, VA 22209
Via email to: mwhiting@tu.org

RE: RCPP ID #17-C-CO-1550 Colorado River Headwaters Project

Dear Project Leader:

I am writing to document the support of the **American Rivers** for **Trout Unlimited's** proposal to the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), titled "**Colorado River Headwaters Project**". American Rivers is familiar with the proposal, understands general expectations, and supports the efforts to address the natural resource concerns identified in therein.

If this RCPP proposal is selected for funding, American Rivers will provide in-kind Technical Assistance partner contribution equal to the total amount of \$100,000 over 5 years to this project. Our expected contributions include:

- American Rivers will assist in project management for the ILVK component of the project by assisting producers sign up for EQIP contracts and reporting on project outcomes.
- American Rivers will assist in monitoring downstream water savings achieved through irrigation system and pumping improvements.
- American Rivers will conduct state, regional, and national outreach to expand methodologies and accomplishments to other geographic focal areas with similar resource challenges.

Year	Specific Activities/Deliverable (Action)	Associated Local, State, or Federal Program or Initiatives	Amount	Limitations	Contribution Type		
					FA	TA	(Cash or In Kind)
2017	EQIP signup		\$20,000			X	In-Kind

2018	EQIP sign up, reporting, outreach		\$20,000			X	In-Kind
2019	EQIP sign up, reporting, outreach, monitoring		\$20,000			X	In-Kind
2020	Project reporting, outreach, monitoring		\$20,000			X	In-Kind
2021	Project reporting, monitoring, outreach		\$20,000			X	In-Kind

Sincerely,

Matt Rice



Director, Colorado River Basin Program
American Rivers

September 13, 2016

Trout Unlimited

1777 N. Kent Street, Suite 100

Arlington, VA 22209

Via email to: mwhiting@tu.org

RE: RCPP ID #17-C-CO-1550 Colorado River Headwaters Project

Dear Project Leader:

On behalf of Denver Water, I am writing in support of **Trout Unlimited's** proposal to the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) titled "**Colorado River Headwaters Project**". Denver Water is familiar with the proposal, understands the general expectations, and supports the efforts to address the natural resource concerns identified therein.

If this RCPP proposal is selected for funding, Denver Water will provide cash and in-kind partner contributions through its Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Plan (June 9, 2011) and IGA with Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) (March 26, 2014), which total to \$2.05 million over approximately four years. Our expected contributions include:

Year	Specific Activities/Deliverable (Action)	Associated Local, State, or Federal Program or Initiatives	Amount	Limitations	Contribution Type		
					FA	TA	(Cash or In-Kind)
2019-2022 (Est.)	Upper Colorado River Habitat Project Construction	CPW IGA and Fish & Wildlife Enhancement Plan	\$1.5 million	Subject to receiving acceptable permits and approvals, and issuing the construction contract for the Moffat Project	X		Cash
2019-2022 (Est.)	Upper Colorado River Habitat Project Maintenance	CPW IGA and Fish & Wildlife Enhancement Plan	\$0.5 million	Same limitations as above	X		Cash
2019-2022 (Est.)	Upper Colorado River Habitat Project Equipment and materials	CPW IGA and Fish & Wildlife Enhancement Plan	\$50,000 (Est.)	Same limitations as above		X	In-Kind

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paula Daukas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paula" and last name "Daukas" clearly distinguishable.

Paula Daukas
Manager of Environmental Planning



8833 Ralston Road
Arvada, CO 80002
303.431.6422
info@coloradocattle.org

To Whom It May Concern:

The CCA is the nation's oldest cattlemen's association, representing Colorado's more than 14,000 beef producers, and has over 40 affiliates. CCA's membership consists of cow/calf producers, stockers/feeders, landowners, collegiate members, and business supporters; and CCA has been a leader and strong industry advocate for 149 years.

The Colorado River Headwaters Project addresses four priorities for the Colorado River Basin that will help not only the local communities, but also assist in restoring the headwaters of the Colorado River. The four key areas of the project are: insufficient water, decline in water quality, soil degradation, and the lack of substantial habitat for fish and wildlife. This collaborative effort is precisely the effort that we need to see in order to accomplish improvements dealing with water, our most valuable resource.

The broad support from the community, organizations, and water stakeholders is reassuring to us that this project will provide innovative solutions to benefit working lands and rivers, and will represent what can be accomplished through cooperation and creativity among those who use the water. According to the project summary "[w]hen fully implemented, the Project will directly benefit 30 miles of the Colorado River and 4,500 acres of irrigated lands that provide sage grouse habitat." A project that improves our resources, while benefiting fish and wildlife; coupled with the diverse stakeholders involved, seems to be a step in the right direction for the Colorado River.

Sincerely,

Tim Lehmann
CCA President

September 9, 2016

Mr. Jason Weller, Chief
Natural Resources Conservation Service
United States Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 5105-A

Re: Colorado River Headwaters Project
ID #17-C-CO-1550

Dear Chief Weller,

The Farm Bureau of Middle Park supports the Colorado River Headwaters Project. The Producers involved in the ILVK project are active Farm Bureau members. We are excited to see our producers join with recreationists, conservationists, and our government on this Colorado River project. Completion of this entire project will help with fish and wildlife habitat as well as help the agriculture producers as well as local shop owners and recreation companies stay in business along the Colorado River in Grand County.

Sincerely,

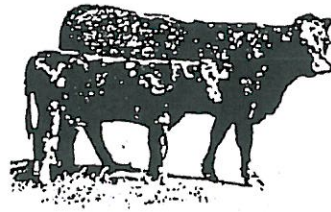
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wendy Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Wendy Thompson, President

Farm Bureau of Middle Park

Middle

Park



Stockgrowers

Association

PO Box 161, Granby, CO 80446
970.531.0127 mpstockgrowers@gmail.com

September 15, 2015

RE: RCPP ID #17-C- CO-1550 Colorado River Headwaters Project (CRHP)

To Whom It May Concern:

The Middle Park Stockgrowers Association was the very first stockgrowers association to establish in the State of Colorado in the year 1874. Ever since, we have been working with the local community, as well as state and federal agencies, to maintain sustainable agricultural production in Grand and Summit Counties. Many of our stockgrowers members rely on the Colorado River to irrigate their hayfields and water their stock. In fact, most of the 12 ranchers involved in the ILVK Project (one of the three focus areas of the CRHP) are members of the Middle Park Stockgrowers Association.

We believe ranchers are some of the best stewards of the land and that maintaining a strong agricultural presence across the landscape will contribute to the long-term conservation of natural resources in Middle Park and beyond. Not only will the CRHP help to maintain agriculture in Middle Park, it will also improve the river health and flow so that downstream ag producers can also benefit from that water that originates right here in Grand County.

For this reason, we support the Colorado River Headwaters Project and hope you will consider it for RCPP funding.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors

Middle Park Stockgrowers Association

Kathleen Miller,
Secretary MPSG

CORY GARDNER
COLORADO

SUITE SR-354
SENATE RUSSELL OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-5941

United States Senate

COMMITTEES:
COMMERCE, SCIENCE,
AND TRANSPORTATION
ENERGY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES
FOREIGN RELATIONS
SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

September 15, 2016

Ms. Jason Weller, Chief
Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave SW #5105-A
Washington, DC 20250

RE: Colorado River Headwaters Project Grant Application for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

Dear Chief Weller:

On behalf of Colorado River Headwaters Project supporters, I am writing to ask for your full and fair consideration of its application to the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Regional Conservation Partnership Program.

The headwaters of the Colorado River are a vital water resource for the entire State of Colorado and all of the Western United States. As water resource projects have been put into place over the past century, there have been concerns raised about the quality of the water flowing naturally down the river.

In collaboration with municipal, conservation, and agricultural organizations, the Colorado River Headwaters Project will address the four priorities for the region: streamflow, water quality degradation, soil degradation, and fish and wildlife habitat.

Three main projects will support the Colorado River Headwaters Project: a bypass channel to reconnect the Colorado River, channel and habitat improvement downstream of the bypass, and targeted projects to improve irrigation and soil quality. Once implemented, this project will affect 30 miles of the Colorado River, and 4,500 acres of irrigated lands.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Cory Gardner
United States Senator