



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	Colorado Cattlemen’s Association	
Name of Water Project	Agriculture Water Collaborative	
CWP Grant Request Amount		\$ 152,400
Other Funding Sources: <u>CAWA</u>		\$ 78,700
Other Funding Sources _____		\$
Applicant Funding Contribution		\$78,700
Total Project Cost		\$309,800



Last Updated: July 2017

Applicant & Grantee Information	
Name of Grantee(s)	Colorado Cattlemen's Association
Mailing Address	8833 Ralston Road, Arvada, CO 80002
FEIN	84-0174480
Organization Contact	Terry Fankhauser
Position/Title	CCA Executive Vice President
Email	terry@coloradocattle.org
Phone	303-431-6422
Grant Management Contact	Erin Karney
Position/Title	CCA Industry Advancement Director
Email	erin@coloradocattle.org
Phone	303-431-6422
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	Same as Grantee
Mailing Address	NA
Position/Title	NA
Email	NA
Phone	NA



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Last Updated: July 2017

Description of Grantee/Applicant

Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).

The mission of Colorado Cattlemen's Association (CCA) Agricultural Water NetWORK is to help "keep ag water connected with ag land." Through outreach, education and technical assistance, the Ag Water NetWORK helps equip ag water right holders statewide with contextual, in-depth knowledge about their water rights and ag water-related challenges and opportunities in Colorado.

The Colorado Ag Water Alliance (CAWA) is an association of agricultural organizations that have aligned to disseminate information to producers so they can make informed choices about their water rights. We also help educate non-producers about how water is used in agriculture through farm tours, which demonstrate irrigation methods and agricultural water use and administration.



Last Updated: July 2017

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
	Construction
X	Identified Projects and Processes (IPP)
	Other

Category of Water Project (check all that apply and include relevant tasks)	
	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):</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>
	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):</i>
X	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>
X	Agricultural Projects - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
	Environmental & Recreation Projects – Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>



Last Updated: July 2017

	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	All Counties in Colorado
Latitude	37° N to 41° N Latitude
Longitude	102°03' W to 109°03' W Longitude

Water Project Overview

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.

The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit A, a detailed Statement of Work, Budget, Other Funding Sources/Amounts and Schedule.

This project will utilize multiple proven outreach methods to engage and inform ag water right holders and non-ag water interests about contemporary ag water issues, including the direct and indirect benefits of irrigated agriculture and how agriculture and other water interests can benefit from mutual collaboration. The project will dispel confusion around ag water leasing-related issues and raise the level and depth of understanding about ATMs among the irrigated ag and non-ag water communities. The educational tools – webinars, workshops, presentations, tours, videos, publications, and media outreach will be strategically utilized to synthesize a factual, comprehensive body of resources that will be presented both in live venues around the state and also accessible on demand for all Colorado citizens to access at any time.

The project will influence ag water decision-makers in all river basin, with particular focus on the Colorado (mainstem and tributaries), Rio Grande, and South Platte River Basins. The locations of workshops, tours and meetings will be identified with the goal of reaching as many individual ag water right holders and ditch company members as practicable. We will engage with non-ag water interests through these efforts to facilitate sharing of perspectives and needs among the disparate water groups.

CWCB funding will be used to help support the planning, implementation and follow-up work related to the workshops, tours, presentations, webinars, videos, lease screening tool use analysis and refinement, and other statewide outreach efforts that will be accomplished through this project.



Last Updated: July 2017

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)	
	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive	
	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)	
	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	
20 workshops, 6 webinars, 4 videos, 3 ag water tours, 6 publications, 1 screen tool refinement	Other	Inform and engage ag and non-ag producers statewide

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 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;)



Last Updated: July 2017

Water Project Justification

Through continuing to engage producers and non-producers about agricultural water use, the proposed joint CCA Ag Water NetWORK / Colorado Ag Water Alliance project will advance the goals of the Colorado Water Plan and the Basin Roundtables. The Colorado Water Plan calls for maintaining Colorado's agricultural productivity (Section 6.5) and elevating the awareness of Colorado's citizens when it comes to water issues affecting the state (Section 9.5). CCA's Ag Water NetWORK and CAWA specifically focus on providing information to producers on water conservation, irrigation efficiency, water rights and ATMs in order to help the agricultural industry become more efficient, resilient, and able to sustainably share water with other water interests using a market-driven approach.

The Water Plan references this type of support, focusing on ditch-wide and regional conservation and efficiency opportunities and tradeoffs, long-term infrastructure maintenance needs, and the potential benefits of water sharing agreements (Sections 6.3.4, 6.4 6.5).

The Education and Outreach section of the Water Plan also calls for "education for farmers on available incentives for on-farm implementation of agricultural conservation measures, water sharing opportunities, and other tools available to growers" (Section 9.5). The Statewide Water Supply Initiative (SWSI) 2010 also call for efforts to educate and promote stewardship of water resources that recognizes water's critical role in supporting the quality of life and economic prosperity of all Coloradoans (SWSI, 8-2). The Colorado Water Education Task Force (2008) also emphasizes the need for education programs "beyond information transfer through printed or other media informational campaigns" (Final Report, 3).

Education toward and support for the agricultural community is emphasized in the majority of Basin Implementation Plans (BIPs) and Education Action Plans. The South Platte Basin Roundtable and Metro Roundtable Education Action Plan 2016-2018 calls for the long-term goal of hosting events focused on agriculture (page 1) and the South Platte BIP calls for "Improving public understanding about the goals, needs, and plans of the state and the South Platte Basin will help to improve public acceptance of the need for innovative water rate structures, energetic conservation measures, and more integrated land use and water supply planning (S-15). The Arkansas Basin Roundtable PEPO Workgroup Education Action Plan Scope of Work Years 2016-2019 emphasizes partnership in Arkansas Basin specific education, including agriculture (1). The Yampa/White/Green BIP calls for protecting and encouraging "encourage agricultural uses of water in the YWG Basin within the context of private property rights" (1.2.4). Sustaining, protecting, and promoting agriculture is major theme of the Colorado BIP (16). The Gunnison BIP also emphasizes the goal to "discourage the conversion of productive agricultural land to all other uses within the context of private property rights" (2). The Southwest Basin Roundtable Public Education, Outreach, and Participation Education Action Plan calls to "coordinate and implement workshop(s) focused on on-farm efficiencies and improvement" (6). The Rio Grande BIP also cites the need for "outreach events designed for agricultural water users [emphasis added], public officials, and community members" (160).

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

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Last Updated: July 2017

Related Studies

NA

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.

\$5,000 Colorado River Water Conservation District; \$3,000 Community Agricultural Alliance; \$1,000 Arkansas Basin Roundtable. ** More details available through Colorado Ag Water Alliance.

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.

No TABOR related-constraints are known or anticipated.



Last Updated: July 2017

Submittal Checklist	
X	I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the Standard Contract .
Exhibit A	
X	Statement of Work ⁽¹⁾
X	Budget & Schedule ⁽¹⁾ (<i>Spreadsheet</i>)
X	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ⁽¹⁾
Exhibit C	
NA	Map (if applicable) ⁽¹⁾
NA	Photos/Drawings/Reports
X	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⁾
NA	Independent Contractor Form ⁽²⁾ (If applicant is individual, not company/organization)
Engagement & Innovation Grant Applicants ONLY	
X	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.

ENGAGEMENT & INNOVATION GRANT FUND SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION

Introduction & Purpose

Colorado's Water Plan calls for an outreach, education, public engagement, and innovation grant fund in Chapter 9.5.

The overall goal of the Engagement & Innovation Grant Fund is to enhance Colorado's water communication, outreach, education, and public engagement efforts; advance Colorado's water supply planning process; and support a statewide water innovation ecosystem.

The grant fund aims to engage the public to promote well-informed community discourse regarding balanced water solutions statewide. The grant fund aims to support water innovation in Colorado. The grant fund prioritizes measuring and evaluating the success of programs, projects, and initiatives. The grant fund prioritizes efforts designed using research, data, and best practices. The grant fund prioritizes a commitment to collaboration and community engagement. The grant fund will support local and statewide efforts.

The grant fund is divided into two tracks: engagement and innovation. The Engagement Track supports education, outreach, communication, and public participation efforts related to water. The Innovation Track supports efforts that advance the water innovation ecosystem in Colorado.

Application Questions

*The grant fund request is referred to as "project" in this application.

Overview (answer for both tracks)
<p>In a few sentences, what is the overall goal of this project? How does it achieve the stated purpose of this grant fund (above)?</p> <p>The purpose of the CCA Ag Water Network / CAWA collaborative education and outreach project is to elevate understanding of agricultural water issues among Colorado's ag water right holders and non-ag water stakeholders alike. This means increasing and improving producer access to information that results in a greater depth of knowledge on issues like historical consumptive use, irrigation efficiency, conservation, storage and ATMs. For non-producers, the project provides the opportunity to learn directly from ag producers and other experts about how the agricultural industry uses water, including issues of delivery, efficiency, conservation, and return flows, as well as ATMs. Through these efforts, the project increases knowledge, breaks down cross-cultural barriers and helps reduce misconceptions.</p>
<p>Who is/are the target audience(s)? How will you reach them? How will you involve the community?</p> <p>We have two target audiences. The first audience is irrigated ag producers: farmers and ranchers. In the past, we've reached this group through our respective memberships, member organizations, conservation districts, conservancy districts, ditch companies and general media channels. These entities represent a critical component of our outreach and engagement efforts. The other audience is non-producers, specifically non-ag stakeholders representing municipal, industrial, conservation and recreational water interests, as well as the State Assembly. We rely on organizations like the Colorado Foundation for Water Education, Colorado Watershed Assembly, Colorado Municipal League, and the Colorado Ag Council to help reach and engage this audience. The events geared toward this audience involve tours and webinars that build off dialog. The videos and other media outreach efforts also combine to help answer non-producers questions, increase knowledge and reduce misunderstanding about ag water use and help both groups find common ground around water.</p>



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Overview (answer for both tracks)
Describe how the project is collaborative or engages a diverse group of stakeholders. Who are the partners in the project? Do you have other funding partners or sources?
<p>The regional workshops specifically target the irrigated agricultural community and will emphasize reaching producers who have not previously been involved in conversations about water. Previous CAWA / CCA workshops averaged 85 people in attendance with the majority being producers. This type of engagement will be broadened and deepened as we reach out more extensively to all ag water right holders. The planned videos and webinars will focus on water-related issues that are of interest and importance to both ag and non-ag water right holders alike.</p> <p>Outreach efforts focused on non-producers brings that audience to farms and ranches so they can meet local producers, learn about agricultural practices, and engage in discussion with the agricultural community.</p> <p>This project also includes testing and refining the Ag Water NetWORK's on-line lease decision support tool, which is currently under development. This online utility is being designed to provide ag water right holders with a way to quickly and easily learn more about their water rights and gauge their lease potential.</p> <p>We are partnering with CCA membership and CAWA member groups, Soil Conservation Districts, Rio Grande Basin Roundtable, Southwest Basin Roundtable, Arkansas Basin Roundtable, Community Ag Alliance, Colorado River Water Conservation District, North Fork Water Conservancy District, Republican River Conservation District, and Arkansas Groundwater Users Association.</p> <p>We are also obtaining funding from the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable, Southwest Basin Roundtable, Community Ag Alliance, Walton Family Foundation, American Ag Credit, Tri-State Generation, Colorado Special District Association, the Colorado River Water Conservation District and Colorado Corn.</p>
Describe how you plan to measure and evaluate the success and impact of the project?
<p>Metrics related to attendance of workshops, webinars, tours, video, webinar and on-line resource viewing will all be tracked.</p> <p>Additionally, we will continue using surveys with workshops and webinars. The use of surveys has been of great assistance in identifying topics of greatest interest, as well as areas of misconception that need further clarification. Financial sponsorship also provides an idea of how useful other organizations view outreach events.</p>
What research, evidence, and data support your project?
<p>According to "Public Opinions, Attitudes and Awareness Regarding Water in Colorado" (2013), the majority of Coloradoans did not know agriculture is the largest user of water in the state. Also, people in the survey rated water for agriculture highest among water quantity related concerns. A 2011 survey of the Rocky Mountain States by Colorado College found that "loss of family farms and ranches" as the <u>most</u> serious environmental problem across western region, ahead of "pollution of rivers, lakes and streams," and "inadequate water supplies." The "Public Attitudes of the Role of Food and Agriculture on Colorado's Economy, Environment and Overall Health" (2017) by CSU shows just how important agriculture is to citizens of Colorado, with 56% saying "very important" and 32% saying "moderately important" that "agriculture is an important part of Colorado's economy, and its quality of life." However, despite this interest many people are unfamiliar with agricultural water use and are prone to serious misconceptions about irrigation efficiency, water quality, water conservation, and how water is administered in agriculture.</p> <p>There is also a lack of understanding among ag water right holders. The results of the CCA Ag Water</p>



Overview (answer for both tracks)

NetWORK Ag Water Survey (2016) found that there are significant gaps in knowledge among producers relating to the meaning of historical consumptive use; a fundamental tenet of an ag water right. The surveys from CAWA's recent regional meetings also show this same pattern, as well as confusion over the difference between irrigation efficiency and conservation.

CAWA has been using comprehensive surveys to gauge the value of workshops and the desire for similar programming. 29% of regional workshop attendees completed surveys and the majority of responses were positive to CAWA efforts to engage producers:

Key Questions:

I found the following information helpful.....	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither	Agree	Strongly Agree
Today's workshop as a whole		<1%	8%	55%	36%
The role of CAWA and what they are doing		<1%	16%	50%	33%

From CAWA's recent Ag Water Tours geared toward non-producers, 85% of attendees completed the survey. In response to the question "Overall, today's program was helpful for me to learn more about water in agriculture," 70% responded "strongly agree", 28% responded "agree" and 2% responded "neutral." In response to the question "I would attend a future CAWA tour," 77% said "strongly agree" and 23% said "agree."

Feedback regarding the Ag Water NetWORK's first webinar, which focused on successful ag water leasing projects, also indicated significant interest in this topic. CCA's second webinar, which focused on irrigation efficiency and historic consumptive use, had 77 participants.

Describe potential short- and long-term challenges with this project.

Short term challenges are quickly identifying local producers engaged in irrigation efficiency projects and conservation projects that are willing to speak. We are planning to compensate speakers and rely on our past outreach efforts, industry partners and CCA's membership to identify potential speakers. The long-term challenge is in making these outreach efforts part of a longer-term, statewide commitment to achieving a well-informed community of both ag and non-ag water right stakeholders as it relates to both ag water issues and ag water usage, as well as M & I, conservation, and recreational water needs going forward. Part of the key to this process will be in compiling survey information, gathering input, and building a comprehensive resource of farmer-led projects throughout the state and disseminating the agricultural benefits of those projects.

Please fill out the applicable questions for either the Engagement Track or Innovation Track, unless your project contains elements in both tracks. If a question does not relate to your project, just leave it blank. Please answer each question that relates to your project. Please reference the relevant documents and use chapters and page numbers (Colorado's Water Plan, Basin Implementation Plan, PEPO Education Action Plan, etc.).

Engagement Track

Describe how the project achieves the education, outreach, and public engagement measurable objective set forth in Colorado's Water Plan to "significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues statewide by 2020, as determined by water awareness surveys."



<p>CCA and CAWA have taken the lead on educating Colorado's ag water right holders and the public on agricultural water issues. Through workshops, webinars, tours, videos, presentations, the project informs participants on pertinent water issues. Workshops targeting ag producers will include an array of topics that affect irrigators, including efficiency, water conservation, leasing fundamentals and important concepts of water law like consumptive use and the value of a water right. The last series of workshops had robust turnout and received significant support and attention. This project will push forward on multiple outreach fronts, engaging producers that have thus far not been involved in dialogues about ag water.</p>
<p>Describe how the project achieves the other measurable objectives and critical goals and actions laid out in Colorado's Water Plan around the supply and demand gap; conservation; land use; agriculture; storage; watershed health, environment, and recreation; funding; and additional.</p>
<p>The goal of the Ag Water NetWORK is to "keep ag water connected with ag land" by helping producers expand sustainable, income-diversifying opportunities that enable them to optimize the value of their water rights and preserve their irrigated ag land for generations to come. CAWA's goal is to preserve irrigated agriculture and empower producers to make the best decisions possible regarding how they manage and maximize the value and utility of their water rights. The overarching goal of this project is to help minimize buying and drying of irrigated ag land by creating a knowledgeable ag water right holder community that brings a balanced and innovative perspective to the challenge of closing the demand-supply gap. Topics including storage, conservation, conjunctive use, ATMs, and flow re-timing are of interest to both ag and non-ag interest groups, and ultimately will lead to innovative approaches to increasing conservation, improving watershed health, recreation and the environment, securing irrigated agricultural land near towns and cities, protecting food security, and building a framework which enables a more sustainable ag industry.</p>
<p>Describe how the project achieves the education, outreach, and public engagement goals set forth in the applicable Basin Implementation Plan(s).</p>
<p>The South Platte Basin Implementation Plan calls for efforts to garner community and political support to develop tools to sustain irrigated agriculture (1.9.1). The Yampa/White/Green BIP calls for protecting and encouraging "agricultural uses of water in the YWG Basin within the context of private property rights" (1.2.4). Sustaining, protecting, and promoting agriculture is major theme of the Colorado BIP (16). The Gunnison BIP also emphasizes the goal to "discourage the conversion of productive agricultural land to all other uses within the context of private property rights" (2). The Rio Grande BIP also cites the need for "outreach events designed for <i>agricultural water users</i> [emphasis added], public officials, and community members" (160). The focus of the CCA/CAWA project is to provide information and support to producers to benefit irrigated agriculture by identifying and supplying information that can address and benefit both the irrigated ag industry and non-ag water uses.</p>
<p>Describe how the project achieves the basin roundtable's PEPO Education Action Plans.</p>
<p>Education toward and support for the agricultural community is emphasized in many of the basin Education Action Plans. The South Platte Basin Roundtable and Metro Roundtable Education Action Plan 2016-2018 calls for the long term goal of hosting events focused on agriculture (page 1). The Arkansas Basin Roundtable PEPO Workgroup Education Action Plan Scope of Work Years 2016-2019 emphasizes partnership in Arkansas Basin specific education, including agriculture (1). The Southwest Basin Roundtable Public Education, Outreach, and Participation Education Action Plan includes a call to "coordinate and implement workshop(s) focused on on-farm efficiencies and improvement" (6). Our workshops, webinars, videos and other outreach provide opportunities for producers to learn more about the various goals expressed among the basin roundtables.</p>



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Innovation Track
Describe how the project enhances water innovation efforts and supports a water innovation ecosystem in Colorado.
Describe how the project engages/leverages Colorado's innovation community to help solve our state's water challenges.
Describe how the project helps advance or develop a solution to a water need identified through TAP-IN and other water innovation challenges. What is the problem/need/challenge?
Describe how this project impacts current or emerging trends; technologies; clusters, sectors, or groups in water innovation.



Last Updated: July 5, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant - Exhibit A

Statement Of Work

Date:	July 30, 2017
Name of Applicant:	CCA Ag Water NetWORK (incorporates CAWA as a subcontractor)
Name of Water Project:	Agriculture Water Collaborative
Funding Source:	Engagement and Innovation and/or Agricultural Projects

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.

This project will utilize multiple, proven outreach methods to engage and inform ag water right holders and non-ag water interests about contemporary ag water issues. The project will dispel confusion around ag water issues and raise the level and depth of understanding about ATMs among the ag and non-ag water communities. The educational tools will be strategically utilized to synthesize a factual, comprehensive body of resources that will be presented both in live venues around the state and also accessible on demand for all Colorado citizens to access at any time.

The project will influence ag water decision-makers in all river basins, with special focus on the Colorado, Rio Grande, and South Platte River Basins. The locations of workshops, tours and meetings will be identified with the goal of reaching as many individual ag water right holders and ditch company members as practicable. We will engage with non-ag water interests through these efforts to facilitate sharing of perspectives and needs among the disparate water groups. The Ag Water Decision Support Tool being developed by CCA Ag Water NetWORK will be tested by ag water right holders and refined.

Objectives: List the objectives of the project.

This project will accomplish the following objectives (see TASKS for details):

- Twenty (20) workshops in the following basins: 12 CRB & tributaries, 2 Rio Grande, 4 South Platte, 2 Arkansas. Additionally, presentations will be made at twelve (12) or more Colorado agricultural industry conferences.
- Ten (10) Ag Water Tours (6 full-day tours and 4 mini-tours).
- Six (6) Webinars on ag water-related topics.
- Three (3) Videos based on individual ag water topics of importance.
- Six (6) Publications covering ag water-related subjects.
- One (1) Lease Screening Tool Testing and Refinement which gives ag water right holders the ability to assess the leasing potential of their water right(s) and better understand the ATM principles.
- Outreach Support and Amplification: Multi-media channels plus interviews, presentations, convention booths, conferences, and meeting engagement.
- Ongoing organization and project management.



Last Updated: July 5, 2017

Tasks
Provide a detailed description of each project task using the following format:
Task 1 – WORKSHOPS (20) and conference outreach
Description of Task: Regional workshops around the state for producers. The focus is on irrigation improvement projects and conservation. Workshops feature experts in the field and presentations by producers actively involved in irrigation and conservation projects that benefit agriculture. In the past, these workshops have been well-attended (80-100 participants) and the goal of these workshops is to continue connecting with irrigators about the goals of the water plans and other initiatives that will benefit irrigated agriculture. CAWA will also be presenting at the conferences of its member groups and other agricultural organizations on the topics of irrigation efficiency and agricultural water conservation.
Method/Procedure: In collaboration with local agricultural interests and the Basin Roundtable, an agenda will be set and relevant speakers will be identified. Events will be promoted through the CAWA organizations, soil conservation districts, ditch companies, water conservancy districts, and local media outlets.
Grantee Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task 1. Expanding outreach efforts to inform and educate ag water stakeholders statewide. 2. Gather relevant presentations on irrigation and agricultural projects that will be hosted on the CAWA and partner websites and written about in the CAWA newsletter and other editorials. 3. There will be a final document of farmer-led projects in the state that address irrigation efficiency, conservation projects, ATMs, multi-use storage, and diverse stakeholder-led water infrastructure and provisioning approaches. 4. Gathering feedback on producer knowledge and on what issues CAWA needs to focus.
CWCB Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task 1. Report on attendance, cost per attendee, and survey feedback. 2. Final document of farmer-led projects in the state that address irrigation efficiency and conservation projects.

Tasks
Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format:
Task 2 – WEBINARS (6)
Description of Task:



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Last Updated: July 5, 2017

Tasks
Webinars have proven to have direct and indirect viewership. Colorado Ag Irrigators and stakeholders are often limited by meeting location, weather, and ability to travel and subsequently report through survey feedback that they desire this format of information and education when an in-person meeting isn't an option. We will utilize the AWN Advisory Group and the CAWA membership, in conjunction with ag water holder survey data, to determine webinar topics that are of interest and lead to confusion. This methodology will ensure relevant material and lasting availability (webinars will be recorded and posted online).
Method/Procedure:
Each webinar will feature one or more speakers with expertise on the specific topic. Webinars will be conducted in a manner similar to the two previous webinars that have been accomplished by the Ag Water NetWORK. Each webinar will invite participants to provide questions or comments during the webinar. Questions not addressed during the webinar will be captured and addressed after the webinar with the responses posted on the Ag Water NetWORK and/or CAWA website.
Grantee Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task.
At a minimum, six (6) webinars covering ag water topics of interest and importance to ag and non-ag water stakeholders will be conducted. The seminars are designed to advance and deepen understanding of water supply-demand challenges facing Colorado, how the projected deficit can be closed, how agriculture uses water, the role irrigated agriculture can play in providing water for other uses while preserving irrigated agricultural production for the long term, and related subjects.
CWCB Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task.
The deliverable will include a description of each completed webinar including title, speaker(s), topic(s), number of participants, media outreach efforts, number of views within a one-month time frame after the webinar, feedback and questions received from participants and post-webinar viewers, as well as insights gleaned from webinar and feedback.

Tasks
Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format:
Task 3 – TOURS (10)



Last Updated: July 5, 2017

Tasks
<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>There will be six (6) day-long tours for legislators, city council members, conservationists, water resources specialists, and other people outside of the agricultural community to learn firsthand how water is used in agriculture. Topics focused on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. irrigation efficiency and methods2. ditches, water administration, storage3. soil health4. water quality5. groundwater issues <p>There will also be four (4) short mini-tours in the Metro Denver area that focus on specifics like irrigation efficiency and agricultural water conservation.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <p>Tours are based in specific regions or on certain topics with CAWA member organizations. Key groups are targeted to attend and learn more about critical issues in the agricultural community.</p>
<p>Grantee Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Expanding CAWA's network: new contacts, attendees, and registrants2. Gathering feedback on what issues CAWA needs to focus.
<p>CWCB Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Report on attendance, cost per attendee, and survey feedback.



Last Updated: July 5, 2017

Tasks
Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format:
Task 4 –VIDEOS (3)
Description of Task:
<p>Video has become a critical element and means of business communication, training, and education. Since video appeals to both sight and sound, it has become the most-used marketing method throughout all age demographics. By the end of 2017, video will account for 69% of all internet traffic. According to a recent survey conducted by CSU, ag producers learn and trust the greatest amount of information from their peer group, so utilizing producers to deliver the message is imperative. Each video will feature producers addressing a single topic that is relative and of interest to AWN and CAWA stakeholders, and will be available through the websites of both organizations.</p>
Method/Procedure:
<p>The following items will accompany the development and completion of each video:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Video content outlining and conceptualization, script and storyboard drafting, review and rewrite(s) with identification of subject matter(s), people, locations, concepts to convey, and images to capture. 2. Shooting video components, conducting interviews, preparing graphics, assembling first draft, editing, adding narration, additional editing, and production of final copy. <p>Outreach / Promotion for each video:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Post video on CCA, PWC, CAWA websites and YouTube. 2. Media release to over 300 media outlets, post on CCA, PWC and CAWA websites and social media. 3. Personal notification to ag water stakeholder organizations about video availability. 4. Work to put video on agendas of water stakeholder meetings, conferences.
Grantee Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completion of three (3) high-quality, succinct and easy-to-understand videos covering ag water topics of interest and importance to ag water stakeholders. 2. Use of videos by CCA, PWC, CWA, Colorado Corn, and other ag and non-ag organizations, municipalities, and conservation and recreational interests in helping inform and enlighten water stakeholders about crucial ag water issues confronting the irrigated agricultural community; and their relationships with non-ag water interests. 3. Collection of data regarding use of each video as described below and insights gleaned from viewer feedback that can inform future outreach and information needs by the ag water stakeholder community.
CWCB Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Four (4) high-quality videos as described above. 2. Data indicating the distribution and use of each video, including number of plays, media coverage, use as references in other publications and broadcasts, links by other websites. 3. Viewer feedback metrics, description of any challenges encountered, and identification of additional video-related information needs.



Last Updated: July 5, 2017

Tasks
Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format:
Task 5 – Publications (6)
Description of Task: Six articles will be published related to ag water issues. The articles will coincide with webinar and video topics and be utilized collaboratively and as stand-alone resources in multiple-outreach venues. These will be published in popular media outlets such as local newspapers, magazines, trade organizations' newsletters, etc.
Method/Procedure: Each draft article will be internally written and reviewed, and the final copy will be released in conjunction with a multi-platform media announcement and solicitations with select individual media sources for secondary publication / posting. All articles will be posted or linked among CCA, PWC and CAWA websites. All release and reader feedback data will be tracked and reported.
Grantee Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task Significant improvement in awareness and understanding of ag water-related issues among ag water right holders and non-ag water stakeholders. Advancement of knowledge and interest among stakeholders regarding basin-wide and local ag water-related issues within the context of projected growth, the water plan's demand-supply gap closure methodology and goals, and how irrigated agriculture in Colorado can be part of the supply solution and also be sustained and preserved in the process.
CWCB Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task Electronic copies or links to each of the publications, along with distributorship, promotional and reader feedback metrics.



Last Updated: July 5, 2017

Tasks
Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format:
Task 6 – Ag Water Decision Support Tool Testing, Refinement and Use Statewide.
Description of Task:
<p>The ag water decision support tool (currently under development) will be promoted, tested among ag water right holders statewide, and refined based on user interface metrics and user feedback received.</p> <p>The ag water decision support tool is an online resource that is being built specifically for Colorado ag water right holders. The tool is designed to provide a convenient and simple means for ag water right holders to assess a variety of attributes related to their ag water rights; including but not limited to, adjudication information, values associated with leases and purchase prices, likelihood of ATM participation availability, infrastructure considerations, and other features. The tool is based on user-inputted data (location, type, size and age of water right(s), method(s) of irrigation, proximity to other potential non-ag water interests, and other criteria in comparison with ag water right features that are known to be most favorable for accommodating a lease arrangement. It is based on attributes of successful ag water leases around Colorado that are currently ongoing. Users will be provided with both a numeric ranking and a narrative description regarding their score, as well as semi-customized information pertaining to their river basin, along with links to other resources. The AWN advisory group, in cooperation with the state, will consider further tool additions that complement the overarching aspects of this project and the existing work of AWN and CAWA.</p>
Method/Procedure:
<p>The following items will be accomplished:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Media Promotion and Outreach describing lease screening tool availability and functionality, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• media release with companion mini-article.• e-mailing lease screening tool web-link to select ag water right holders and groups.• promotion via social media outlets, websites, radio interview, other media channels.• present / highlight lease screening tool at a minimum of four (4) meetings or conferences.• Analyze user metrics including use patterns, compatibility, and user feedback.• Identify and define problems encountered and changes / improvements needed.• Define and describe program design changes / additional functionality needed.• Oversee design functionality modifications and any additions.• Beta-test revised lease screening tool and identify any functional challenges and issues to resolve.• Identify and oversee modifications needed and release final revised lease screening tool.• Analyze user metrics, along with use patterns and user feedback.• Capture and store user data and scores for contacting in conjunction with potential ATM projects that may fit their water right(s).
Grantee Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task
1. A simple and efficient Decision Support Tool that provides ag water right holders with a numeric ranking and narrative explanation regarding the likely lease potential of their water rights, and stores user information for use in matching with future ATM projects that may be compatible.
CWCB Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task



Last Updated: July 5, 2017

Tasks

Decision Support tool use and score metrics over the project period. Metrics provided will include number of users who have accessed the tool; and corresponding ranking results by category, promotional and training efforts accomplished, insights gleaned from users, lessons learned, and future functionality needed to further improve tool utility. Note: Individual user data will remain anonymous.

Tasks

Provide a detailed description of each project task using the following format:

Task 7 – Ongoing Organization and Project Management.

Description of Task:

In order to ensure a functional and consistent approach to the efforts of this project and the supporting collaborative comprised of the AWN and CAWA, an allocation of resources is necessary. This task represents those efforts supportive of, but not immediately corresponding to, the prior-listed tasks in this application. Specifically, the allocation of these funds to ensure the integrity of the ongoing dialogue and efforts between CAWA and the AWN; such as meeting organization and facilitation, networking, surveying, planning, and fielding inquiries associated with this project. A retainer-based approach will be used to ensure unlimited access to consulting coordinators in achieving this task.

Method/Procedure:

In order to ensure the quality and integrity of this project, the consulting coordinators will have to meet defined performance criteria. These criteria will be delineated by the organization structure of CAWA and AWN which maintain the direct oversight of the coordinators. For the term of the project, the primary focus of both entities will be this project, in order to provide the necessary focus and resources in implementing the corresponding attributes expressed in the Colorado Water Plan and the grant's funding objectives.

Grantee Deliverable: Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task

Managing the day-to-day operation of the organizations, including the facilitation and oversight of all tasks and transactional activity.

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

The coordinators will establish and maintain an accounting and reporting infrastructure for the project and ultimately ensure to CWCB that all tasks have been fulfilled.

- Provide scheduled updates to CWCB regarding the project's operations, and seek feedback to enhance implementation.
- Produce an annual report detailing the project's scope and success.
- Confirm financial and performance guarantees are in place for project reporting.



Last Updated: July 5, 2017

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 of 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.

Last Updated: July 5, 2017



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant - Exhibit A Budget and Schedule

Date: August 1, 2017

Name of Applicant: Colorado Cattlemen's Association

Name of Water Project: Agriculture Water Collaborative

Task No.	Task Description	Start Date ⁽¹⁾	End Date	Grant Funding Request	Match Funding	Total
1	Workshops	1/15/2018	12/31/2018	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
2	Stakeholder Event/Conference Engagement	1/15/2018	12/31/2018	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$7,000
3	Webinars	1/15/2018	12/31/2018	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$15,000
4	Tours	1/15/2018	12/31/2018	\$6,200	\$6,200	\$12,400
5	Videos	1/15/2018	12/31/2018	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$15,000
6	Supportive Media Outreach	1/15/2018	12/31/2018	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$20,000
7	Ag Water Decision Support Tool Refinement	5/1/2018	12/31/2018	\$16,500	\$16,500	\$33,000
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
Total				\$76,200	\$76,200	\$152,400

(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.

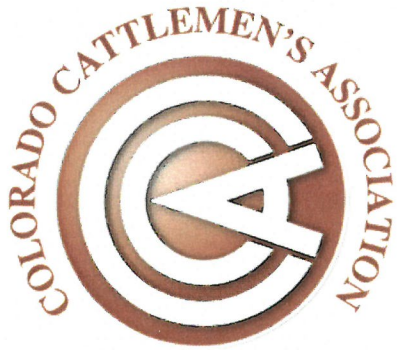
·Round values up to the nearest hundred dollars.

·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 prior to the listed "Start Date".

·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 (2017 CWP Grant



ADVANCING THE LEGACY

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

August 1, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Matching Funding

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association, we intend to match \$78,700 to Colorado Water Conservation Board grant application entitle Agriculture Water Collaborative. CCA will guarantee these funds through our organization but reserves the right to add/replace match with approved matching funding sources from other entities such as (foundations, donations, etc).

Sincerely,

Terry Fankhauser
Executive Vice President



Colorado Ag Water Alliance

"Committed to the preservation of agriculture through the wise use of Colorado's water resources"

Phone: 720-244-4629

Email: petersongap@comcast.net

August 1, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Matching Funding

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Colorado Ag Water Alliance, we intend to match \$78,700 to Colorado Water Conservation Board grant application entitle Agriculture Water Collaborative. CAWA will guarantee these funds through our organization but reserves the right to add/replace match with approved matching funding sources from other entities such as (foundations, donations, etc).

Sincerely,

Greg Peterson

Greg Peterson
Executive Director



July 17, 2017

Dear Colorado Water Conservation Board,

It serves the Colorado River District's interests to join a concerted outreach program to educate producers and others about critical agricultural challenges. The Colorado River District plans to support the Colorado Ag Water Alliance's (CAWA) Education and Outreach program. CAWA's program is a combination of engaging producers and non-producers across the state concerning agricultural water issues.

The programming focuses on historical consumptive use and having producers give presentations on actual conservation and efficiency projects around the state. This effort includes 11 workshops, taking place in the South Platte, Yampa/White/Green, Colorado, Gunnison, Southwest, Rio Grande and Arkansas Basins. We will also present these same topics at the annual conventions of CAWA's member groups.

The other branch of our outreach is for non-producers, and better acquainting them with how water used in agriculture, including three to four bus tours and two mini-workshops that focus on the mechanics of irrigation. The other branch of this outreach is a series of webinars (3-4 separate webinars) for non-producers addressing specific issues: crop switching, alfalfa, efficiency vs. conservation and return flows and irrigation.

The Colorado River District plans to support CAWA in the following ways:

- 1) Helping to coordinate CAWA workshops and Ag tours taking place on the Western Slope.
- 2) Financially supporting Western Slope Ag workshops in the Colorado, Gunnison, Yampa/White/Green and the Southwest Basins.
- 3) Helping to identify landowners who would be willing to talk about and showcase their irrigation efficiency improvement projects as part of the Lower Gunnison Basin Regional Conservation Partnership Program on which the River District serves as Lead Sponsor.
- 4) Staff presentations on various Colorado River Ag issues as requested by CAWA.

The Colorado River District also is contributing \$5,000 to this effort.

Jim Pokrandt
Community Affairs Director
Colorado River District



community
agriculture
alliance

July 21, 2017

To: Colorado Water Conservation Board
Department of Natural Resources
1313 Sherman Street, Room 721
Denver CO 80203

From: Marsha Daughenbaugh, Executive Director
Community Agriculture Alliance

Community Agriculture Alliance (CAA) supports the grant application submitted by Colorado Ag Water Alliance (CAWA) to acquire funding for public education on water issues, based on the following:

- A collaborative education effort is necessary to provide unbiased, pertinent and accurate information to Colorado's populace.
- CAA and CAWA worked together earlier this year to provide a workshop for the eastern portion of the Yampa-White-Green (YWG) Rivers Basin. A four-hour workshop was attended by over 100 people, covered a wide variety of topics and received positive evaluations from the participants. Our two groups recognize our need to strengthen our relationship to provide additional forums, workshops and tours.
- Water issues in NW Colorado are complex. The public needs and is asking for more education on subjects related to water law, availability and use. Our organizations are eager to join forces and provide opportunities in the YWG Basin.
- Our workshops, forums and tours are open to the public and we encourage everyone with an interest in water use, quantity and quality to attend. We address issues related to agriculture production and consumer use.

Community Agricultural Alliance will support CAWA by:

- Helping develop and implement workshops and tours in Routt, Rio Blanco and Moffat Counties.
- Providing up to \$3,0000 of financial support for CAWA workshops and tours in the YWG Basin.
- Helping CAWA identify landowners who would be willing to talk about and showcase their irrigation efficiency improvement projects

We appreciate your consideration of this grant application and encourage your approval.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jenna Keller, Co-chair
Ryan Wattles, Co-chair
Kent Sandstedt, Secretary
Bill Badaracca, Treasurer
Greg Brown
Adele Carlson
Donna Mae Hoots
Ren Martyn
Lore Marvin
Erika Murphy
Kelly Romero-Heaney
Brian Smith
Joella West
Shiloh Whaley

ADVISORS

Carol Atha
Jody Camilletti
Jia Carroll
Christina Gumbiner
Chris Hamilton
Cari Hermacinski
Jeannie Maneotis
Karen Massey
Kris Middledorf
Whitney Neelis
Chayla Rowley
Nadia Tereschenko
Chad Stewart
Rich Tremaine

STAFF

Marsha Daughenbaugh
Michele Meyer
Mona Kanciper

Community Agriculture Alliance
141 9th Street, Suite102
PO Box 774134
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477
970.879.4370

www.communityagalliance.org



July 17, 2017

Mara MacKillop
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St. Rm. 721
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mara,

I am writing in support of a Colorado Water Agriculture Alliance Engagement and Innovation grant application. I have had several conversations with Greg Peterson with CAWA and we are collaborating to plan some educational events that will be held in the Arkansas River Basin. The events may include a tour of irrigated agriculture and a water quality workshop for agriculture producers. We are very excited to be able to partner with other non-profits like the Colorado Watershed Assembly, Ditch and Reservoir Company Alliance and Colorado Foundation for Water Education to make these educational events outstanding and of great benefit. The Arkansas Basin Roundtable PEPO workgroup has committed \$1,000 towards these valuable efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jean Van Pelt".

Jean Van Pelt
ABRT PEPO Coordinator

"To inform, involve, and educate the citizens of the Arkansas River Basin about
local water resources"

August 3, 2017

Mara MacKillop
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Colorado Ag/Water Alliance
Colorado Water Plan Grant – Education & Innovation

Dear Ms. MacKillop,

The Metro Roundtable would like to express our support for the Colorado Ag/Water Alliance's Colorado Water Plan grant application. It serves the Metro Basin Roundtable's interests to join a concerted outreach program to educate producers and others about critical agricultural challenges. The Metro Basin Roundtable co-sponsored a tour of agricultural infrastructure in the northern metropolitan area. The tour was a great success. We plan to continue to partner with the Colorado Ag/Water Alliance as part of our Roundtable Public Education, Participation and Outreach (PEPO) program.

CAWA's program, a combination of engaging producers and non-producers across the state concerning agricultural water issues serves the Roundtables by leveraging our efforts to connect with urban and rural water users, new and seasoned agricultural producers, decision makers and taxpayers, Colorado newcomers and natives. We feel that the Colorado Ag/Water Alliance provides outreach that informs the public with how water is used in agriculture. The series of three to four bus tours and two mini-workshops focusing on the mechanics of irrigation will compliment a series of webinars (3-4 separate webinars) for non-producers addressing specific issues: crop switching, alfalfa, efficiency and conservation, return flows and irrigation.

The Metro Basin Roundtable plans to support CAWA in the following ways:

- 1) Helping to coordinate CAWA Ag tours for non-producers and other similar projects.
- 2) Identify people to attend Ag tours and help publicize the tours.
- 3) Helping to identify speakers and sites for tours.

The Metro Basin Roundtable PEPO Committee also commits to contributing \$1,500 to this effort.

Partnering with the Colorado Ag/Water Alliance benefits the Roundtables and helps to reach a diverse community audience to provide important contextual background for meaningful public participation in the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan.

We encourage you to fund this project.

Please let me know if you need any additional information. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Barbara Biggs

Barbara Biggs, Chairwoman
Metro Round Table