

Water Supply Reserve Account – Grant and Loan Program
Water Activity Summary Sheet
March 21-22, 2018
Agenda Item 25(i)

Applicant & Program Sponsor: Lakeside Estates Preserve Homeowners Assoc., Inc.

Water Activity Name: Ice Lake Preservation & Augmentation Project

Water Activity Purpose: Implementation; Non-Consumptive Environmental & Recreation

County: Chaffee County

Drainage Basin: Arkansas

Water Source: Franklin Reservoir/Ice Lake

Amount Requested/Source of Funds: \$2,891 Arkansas River Basin Account
\$26,019 Statewide Account
\$28,910

Matching Funds: Basin Account Match (\$6,681) = 11% of Statewide Account request (Meets 10% min);
Applicant's In-kind Match (\$14,286) = 55% of Statewide Account request (Meets 25% min.);
Total Match (Basin & Applicant Match of \$50,000 = 66% of Statewide Account request (meets 50% min). (refer to *Funding Summary/Matching Funds* section)

Staff Recommendation:
Staff recommends approval of up to \$2,891 from the Arkansas River Basin Account and \$26,019 from the Statewide account to help fund the project titled: Ice Lake Preservation & Augmentation Project

Water Activity Summary:

If funded, the objectives of this project are to:

- Preserve critical habitat for migrating birds and mammals
- Preserve historic cultural values associated with Ice Lake
- Install equipment needed to properly administer water rights
- Increase storage for fully consumable water to be utilized in drought years
- Promote integrated water management through a partnership with local Water Conservancy District

Lakeside Estates Preserve Homeowners Association owns Franklin Reservoir (also known as Ice Lake) which its storage was decreed in 1969 with an appropriated date of 1882, but the rights are administered as a 1942 water right and are rarely in priority. Historically, Ice Lake was used for ice manufacturing and was an important part of the Upper Arkansas Valley. After ice manufacturing

was abandoned, homes were built around the lake and it became an attractive recreational and water fowl habitat area.

Due to heightened administration by the State Engineer's Office, the Lakeside Estates Preserve HOA was required to replace the evaporative losses from the Lake. The Association has acquired a water right located on Cottonwood Creek that may be re-purposed to serve as a partial augmentation source. The water right acquired was being threatened by urban encroachment and 88.33 acre feet of water can be preserved for continued use on Cottonwood Creek but will need to be changed to augmentation use. The reservoir will also be used for storage of fully consumable water that would be available during drought years.

The applicant believes Ice Lake provides the best shallow open water habitat and corresponding emergent wetlands in Chaffee County. The Upper Arkansas Valley has limited wetland habitat and suitable habitat that is visible from migrants flying over the Valley. Ice Lake and its wetlands is a vital habitat for birds migrating and is also critical habitat for many mammals in the area.

If approved, WSRF funds would be utilized to assist the HOA with preserving 40 acres of habitat through developing the augmentation requirements needed to preserve Ice Lakes. Funds would be utilized for a survey, data recording equipment, and a historic use analysis.

Discussion: This project is consistent with the measurable objects set forth in the Colorado Water Plan, Objective F - Watershed Health, Environment and Recreational Economic Values: *Protect and enhance river-based environments and recreational opportunities that support local and statewide economies and are important for the enjoyment of current and future generations of Coloradans.*

This project also supports "Protecting Healthy Environments" – *Understand, protect, maintain and improve conditions of streams, lakes, wetlands and riparian areas to promote self-sustaining fisheries and functional riparian and wetland habitat to promote long-term resiliency.* The applicant believes Ice Lake is the best shallow, open water habitat with emergent wetlands in Chaffee County. Enhancement and protection would support over 80 bird species and other native mammals.

Issues/Additional Needs: None.

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

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

Funding Summary/Matching Funds:

<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Cash</u>	<u>In-kind</u>	<u>Total</u>
Lakesides Preserves HOA	\$7,143	\$0	\$7,143
Upper Arkansas Water Conservancy District	\$7,143	\$0	\$7,143
WSRF Arkansas Basin_Account	\$2,891	n/a	\$2,891
WSRF Statewide Account	\$26,019	n/a	\$26,019
Total Project Costs	\$43,196	\$0	\$43,196

CWCB Project Manager: Ben Wade

Arkansas Basin Roundtable

January 10, 2018

Via Electronic Mail: ben.wade@state.co.us

Mr. Ben Wade
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant Application: Ice Lake Preservation & Augmentation Project

Dear Ben:

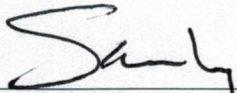
At its January 10, 2018 meeting, the Arkansas Basin Roundtable (ABRT) approved the Ice Lake Preservation & Augmentation Project grant application for \$2,891 in Basin Funds and \$26,630 in Statewide Funds. The applicant is providing \$14,286 in cash and in-kind contributions. There were no dissenting opinions expressed in the consensus decision.

Regarding the Colorado Water Plan, this project directly supports Objective F, Watershed Health, Environment and Recreation: Enhance Environmental and Recreational Economic Values - *Protect and enhance river-based environments and recreational opportunities that support local and statewide economies and are important for the enjoyment of current and future generations of Coloradans.*

Protect Healthy Environments - *Understand, protect, maintain, and improve conditions of streams, lakes, wetlands, and riparian areas to promote self-sustaining fisheries and functional riparian and wetland habitat to promote long-term resiliency.* Ice Lake is perhaps the best shallow, open-water habitat with emergent wetlands in Chafee County. Enhancement and protection pursuant to this grant will support over 80 bird species and native mammals.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me either by telephone, 719-742-6164, or by email, sandy@white-jankowski.com.

With warm regards



Michael D. (Sandy) White
Chair

Copy via email:

Applicant
Mr. Ben Wade
ABRT Executive Committee



Last Update: August 3, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant Application

Instructions

All WSRF grant applications shall conform to the current [2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines](#).

To receive funding from the WSRF, a proposed water activity must be approved by a Roundtable(s) **AND** the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). The process for Roundtable consideration and recommendation is outlined in the 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines. The CWCB meets bimonthly according to the schedule on page 2 of this application.

If you have questions, please contact the current CWCB staff Roundtable liaison:

Arkansas

Ben Wade
ben.wade@state.co.us
303-866-3441 x3238

Gunnison | North Platte | South Platte | Yampa/White

Craig Godbout
craig.godbout@state.co.us
303-866-3441 x3210

Colorado | Metro | Rio Grande | Southwest

Megan Holcomb
megan.holcomb@state.co.us
303-866-3441 x3222

WSRF Submittal Checklist (Required)

X	I acknowledge this request for funding was recommended for CWCB approval by the sponsoring Basin Roundtable(s).
X	I acknowledge I have read and understand the 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines .
X	I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the Standard Contract . ⁽¹⁾
Exhibit A	
X	Statement of Work ⁽²⁾ (Word – see Exhibit A Template)
X	Budget & Schedule ⁽²⁾ (Excel Spreadsheet – see Exhibit A Template)
X	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ⁽²⁾
Exhibit C	
X	Map ⁽²⁾
	Photos/Drawings/Reports
X	Letters of Support
X	Certificate of Insurance ⁽³⁾ (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.)
Contracting Documents	
	Certificate of Good Standing ⁽³⁾
X	W-9 ⁽³⁾
	Independent Contractor Form ⁽³⁾ (If applicant is individual, not company/organization)
	Electronic Funds Transfer (ETF) Form ⁽³⁾

(1) Click "Grant Agreements". For reference only/do not fill out or submit/required for contracting

(2) Required with application if applicable.

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



Last Update: August 3, 2017

Schedule		
CWCB Meeting	Application Submittal Dates	Type of Request
January	December 1	Basin Account; BIP
March	February 1	Basin/Statewide Account; BIP
May	April 1	Basin Account; BIP
July	June 1	Basin Account; BIP
September	August 1	Basin/Statewide Account; BIP
November	October 1	Basin Account/BIP

Desired Timeline	
Desired CWCB Hearing Month:	March 2018
Desired Notice to Proceed Date:	May 2018

Water Activity Summary		
Name of Applicant	Lakeside Estates Preserve Homeowners Association, Inc.	
Name of Water Activity	Ice Lake Preservation & Augmentation Project	
Approving Roundtable(s)	Basin Account Request(s) ⁽¹⁾	
Arkansas Basin Roundtable	\$ 2,891	
Basin Account Request Subtotal	\$ 2,891	
Statewide Account Request ⁽¹⁾	\$ 26,019	
Total WSRF Funds Requested (Basin & Statewide)	\$ 28,910	
Total Project Costs	\$ 43,196	

(1) Please indicate the amount recommended for approval by the Roundtable(s)



Last Update: August 3, 2017

Grantee and Applicant Information	
Name of Grantee(s)	Lakeside Estates Preserve Homeowners Association, Inc.
Mailing Address	Attn. Lindsey Mueller, Treasurer Lakeside Estates Preserve Homeowners' Association, Inc. P.O. Box 4454 Buena Vista, CO 81211
FEIN	
Grantee's Organization Contact ⁽¹⁾	Lindsey Mueller
Position/Title	Treasurer
Email	rlmueller04@yahoo.com
Phone	719-966-9035
Grant Management Contact ⁽²⁾	Chelsey Nutter
Position/Title	UAWCD Project Manager
Email	projects@uawcd.com
Phone	719-539-5425
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	
Mailing Address	
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	

(1) Person with signatory authority

(2) Person responsible for creating reimbursement invoices (Invoice for Services) and corresponding with CWCB staff.

Description of Grantee
Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).
<p>The "Association" is Lakeside Estates Preserve Homeowners Association, Inc., a Colorado non-profit corporation.</p> <p>The "Association" consists of the Owners of 20 building lots, 15 owned by individuals and 5 still owned by the developer and are presently for sale. Some of the individuals' lots presently have homes on them and some have not been built on yet. Separate from the lots owned by individuals, the Association owns two common parcels related to Ice Lake. Parcel A is the property underlying the lake itself. An additional 1.85-acre parcel forms the dam at the south end of the lake.</p>



Last Update: August 3, 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
X	Private Incorporated: mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations
	Private Individuals, Partnerships, and Sole Proprietors: are eligible for funding from the Basin Accounts but not for funding from the Statewide Account.
	Non-governmental organizations: broadly, any organization that is not part of the government
	Covered Entity: as defined in Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes

Type of Water Activity (check one)	
	Study
X	Implementation

Category of Water Activity (check all that apply)		
X	Nonconsumptive (Environmental)	
X	Nonconsumptive (Recreational)	
	Agricultural	
	Municipal/Industrial	
	Needs Assessment	
	Education & Outreach	
	Other	Explain:

Location of Water Activity	
Please provide the general county and coordinates of the proposed activity below in decimal degrees . The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable.	
County/Counties	Chaffee County
Latitude	38°51'17" N
Longitude	106°08'43" W



Last Update: August 3, 2017

Water Activity Overview

Please provide a summary of the proposed water activity (200 words or less). Include a description of the activity and what the WSRF funding will be used for specifically (e.g. studies, permitting, construction). Provide a description of the water supply source to be utilized or the water body affected by the activity. 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, area of habitat improvements. 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, and Schedule.

Lakeside Estates Preserve Homeowners Association owns Franklin Reservoir a.k.a., Ice Lake. Ice Lake storage was decreed in 1969 with an appropriated date of 1882, but the rights are administered as a 1942 and are rarely in priority. Historically, Ice Lake was used for ice manufacturing and was an important part of the Upper Arkansas Valley. After ice manufacturing was abandoned home sites were developed and the lake became an attractive recreational and water fowl habitat area.

Due to heightened administration by the DEO, the Association was required to replace the evaporative losses from the Lake. The Association has acquired a water right located on Cottonwood Creek that may be repurposed to serve as a partial augmentation source. The water right acquired was being threatened by urban encroachment and can be preserved for continued use on Cottonwood Creek but will need to be changed to augmentation use. The reservoir will also be used for storage of fully consumable water that would be available for drought years.

Ice Lake provides the best shallow open water habitat and corresponding emergent wetlands in Chaffee County. The Upper Arkansas Valley has limited wetland habitat and suitable habitat that is visible from migrants flying over the Valley. Ice Lake and its wetlands is a vital habitat for birds migrating and is also critical habitat for many mammals in the area. If approved, WSRF would be utilized to assist the Association with preserving this important habitat through developing the augmentation requirements needed to preserve Ice Lakes. Funds would be utilized for a survey, data recording equipment, augmentation application drafting, and a historical use analysis.

Measurable Results

To catalog measurable results achieved with WSRF funds please provide any of the following values.

	New Storage Created (acre-feet)	
	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive	
88.33 acre-feet	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)	
	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)	
	Efficiency Savings (indicate acre-feet/year OR dollars/year)	
40 Acres	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)	
	Length of Pipe/Canal Built or Improved	
	Other	Explain:



Last Update: August 3, 2017

Water Activity Justification

Provide a description of how this water activity supports the goals of [Colorado's Water Plan](#), the most recent [Statewide Water Supply Initiative](#), and the respective [Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan](#) and [Education Action Plan](#) ⁽¹⁾. 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).

For applications that include a request for funds from the Statewide Account, the proposed water activity shall be evaluated based upon how well the proposal conforms to Colorado's Water Plan criteria for state support (CWP, Section 9.4, pp. 9-43 to 9-44;) (Also listed pp. 4-5 in [2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines](#)).

Ice Lake Preservation & Augmentation Project supports the goals and measurable objectives identified in the Colorado Water Plan, the Arkansas Basin Implementation Plan, and the Statewide Water Supply Initiative.

"Colorado's Water Plan values a strong environment that includes healthy watersheds, rivers, streams, and wildlife: Underlying Colorado's natural splendor are populations and communities of fish, birds, amphibians, and wetland plants. Our brand requires that we protect and restore Colorado's natural environment with the most effective tools available. A resilient natural environment is the long-term goal of the critical actions that address this value and our overall brand" (CWP., Section 10.1, pg. 10-4).

"The Nonconsumptive (Environmental and Recreational) goals for this edition of the Plan fall into four general categories: (a) Protection and improvement of species and habitat; (b) Maintain, improve, and restore wetlands; (c) Increasing the quality of recreational experiences; and (d) Improving watershed health and water quality" (Ark. BIP, Executive Summary, pg. 6).

This project supports the non-consumptive needs of the CWP and the ArkBIP through the preservation of Ice Lake which is considered the best shallow open water habitat and corresponding emergent wetlands in Chaffee County. The Upper Arkansas Valley has limited wetland habitat and suitable habitat that would be visible from migrants flying over the Valley. Locations such as Ice Lake and its wetlands is a vital habitat for birds migrating and need of a resting and feeding area. Ice Lake provides habitat for over 80 species of birds and several mammals (See Exhibit C).

Ice Lake also has significant cultural values in the valley. Historically, Ice lake was used for ice manufacturing and was an important part of the Upper Arkansas Valley and the Town of Buena Vista and surrounding areas. After ice manufacturing was abandoned home sites were developed around the lake and the lake became an attractive recreational and water fowl habitat area.

Lakeside Estates Preservation Homeowners Association has decided to make a commitment to preserving this critical habitat at Ice Lake. The Lake needs augmentation water to keep the lake at its current levels and support the surrounding wetlands and feeding grounds. The Association is asking the State and Basin to help them take the first steps towards achieving this goal. A water right was for sell on the same drainage as Ice Lake and the Association has purchased this right. The Association will need to change the use of the right to be used at Ice Lake for augmentation. This will not cover the entire augmentation need and the Association has decided to purchase additional augmentation water annually to keep the Lake at the optimum levels to sustain the habitat and associated species. The Association hopes that these actions will show the commitment and dedication that the association has towards preserving this critical habitat in the Upper Arkansas Valley.

(1) Access Basin Implementation Plans or Education Action Plans from Basin drop down menu.



Last Update: August 3, 2017

Matching Requirements: Basin Account Requests

Basin (only) Account grant requests require a 25% match (cash and/or in-kind) from the Applicant or 3rd party and shall be accompanied by a **letter of commitment** as described in the 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines (submitted on the contributing entity's letterhead). Attach additional sheet if necessary.

Contributing Entity	Amount and Form of Match (note cash or in-kind)
Total Match	\$
If you requested a Waiver to the Basin Account matching requirements, indicate the percentage you wish waived.	

Matching Requirements: Statewide Account Requests

Statewide Account grant requests require a 50% match as described in the 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines. A minimum of 10% match shall be from Basin Account funds (cash only). A minimum of 10% match shall be provided by the applicant or 3rd party (cash, in-kind, or combination). The remaining 30% of the required match may be provided from any other source (Basin, applicant, or 3rd party) and shall be accompanied by a **letter of commitment**. Attach additional sheet if necessary.

Contributing Entity	Amount and Form of Match (note cash or in-kind):
Arkansas Basin Roundtable	\$ 2,891
Lakeside Preserves Homeowners Association	\$ 7,143 (Cash)
Upper Arkansas Water Conservancy District	\$ 7,143 (Cash + In-Kind)
Total Match	\$ 17,177 66% of State
If you requested a Waiver to the Statewide Account matching, indicate % you wish waived. (Max 50% reduction of requirement).	



Last Update: August 3, 2017

Related Studies

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

This project supports or is complimentary to

- The Colorado Watershed Restoration Program
- The Fish & Wildlife Resource Fund
- The Non-Consumptive Needs Program
- The Colorado Water Plan, and
- The Arkansas Basin Implementation Plan

Previous CWCB Grants

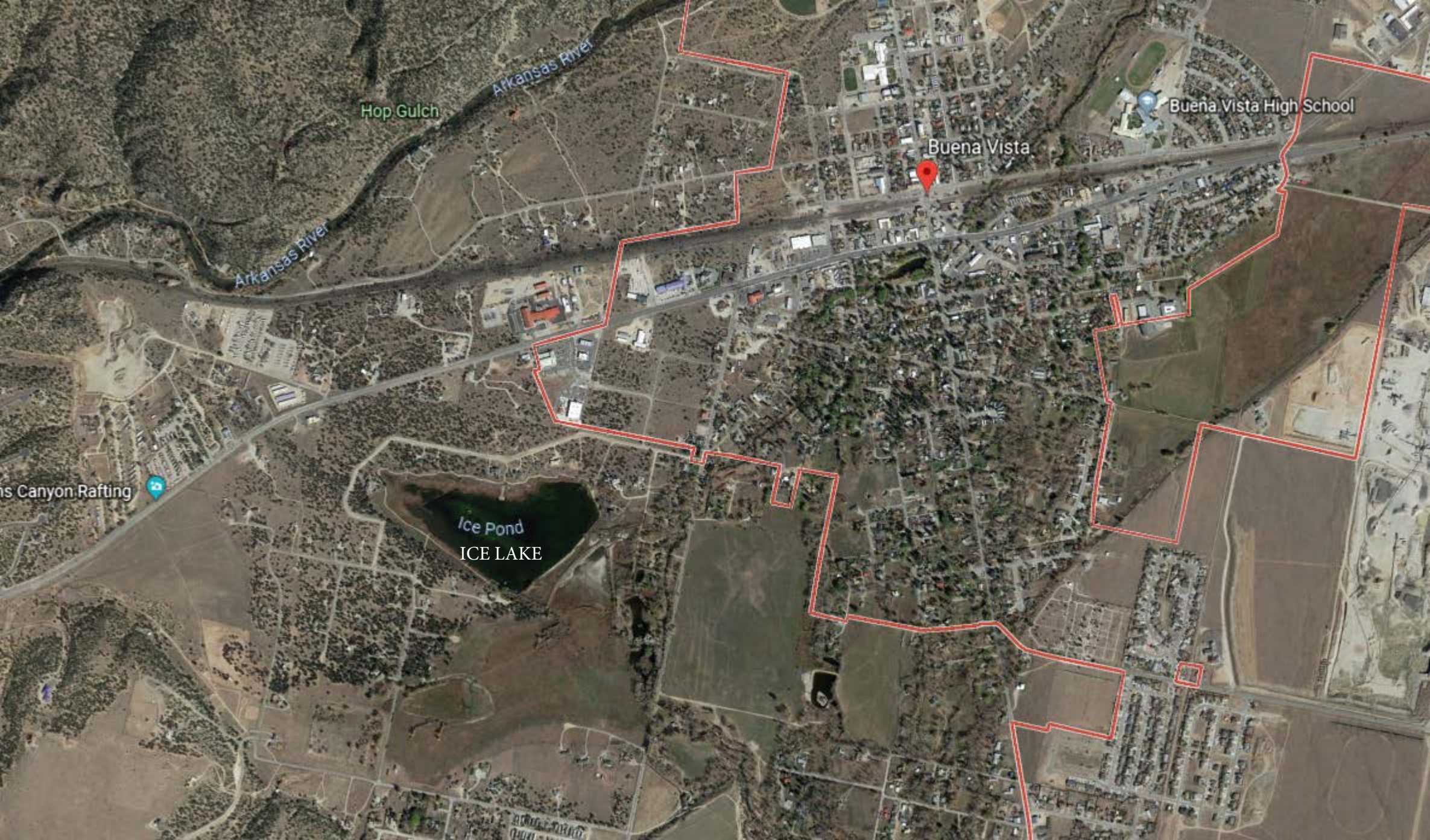
List all previous or current CWCB grants (including WSRF) awarded to both the Applicant and Grantee. Include: 1) Applicant name; 2) Water activity name; 3) Approving RT(s); 4) CWCB board meeting date; 5) Contract number or purchase order

None

Tax Payer Bill of Rights

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

Non-Profit Status. No Tabor Limitations.



Hop Gulch

Arkansas River

Arkansas River

Buena Vista

Buena Vista High School

s Canyon Rafting

Ice Pond
ICE LAKE



Board of Commissioners

P.O. BOX 699
104 Crestone Ave.
SALIDA, CO 81201

PHONE (719) 539-2218

FAX (719) 539-7442

WEBSITE www.chaffeecounty.org

Colorado Water Conservation Board
Attn: Mr. Ben Wade

January 2, 2018

Mr. Ben Wade:

We, the Chaffee County Commissioners, are writing in support of CWCB funding for the Ice Lake project near Buena Vista.

- 1) Ice Lake, and the wetlands surrounding it, provide important habitat for over 80 species of birds. In particular, with its location on the westernmost branch of the Central Flyway, from South Park to the Upper Arkansas River Valley to the San Luis Valley, the 40-acre lake is a key stopover and feeding ground for migratory waterfowl. Due to the arid climate of Chaffee County and the steep gradient of the Arkansas River, still-water and wetlands habitat are in short supply. Ice Lake is an important component of that limited inventory.
- 2) Ice Lake's location in the Cottonwood Creek drainage provides potential additional water storage options in a drainage that has limited water sources and has storage constraint. By protecting the lake, and the water rights that supply it, flexibility is maintained for inclusion of Ice Lake in the integrated water management efforts of the Upper Arkansas Water Conservancy District.
- 3) Ice Lake provides important Open Space in the area west of Buena Vista. This helps to preserve the character of the valley and is in alignment with the Chaffee County Comprehensive Plan.
- 4) Ice Lake features prominently in the history of Chaffee County, providing the ice supply that allowed for successful transport of the significant Buena Vista lettuce crop to Front Range markets during the early to mid-20th century.

Reservoir storage in Chaffee County is in short supply. This impacts water management, as well as the attendant benefits that can accrue to birds and wildlife, quality of life, and preservation of heritage. The Ice Lake project is an example of how consumptive and non-consumptive beneficial use can be accommodated and enhanced through an integrated approach to water management and planning.

We fully support the Lakeside Estates Preserve Homeowner's Association application for CWCB funding assistance on the Ice Lake Project.

Sincerely,

Board of County Commissioners, Chaffee County

Dave Potts, Chair

Greg Felt

Keith Baker

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David M. Potts'.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Greg Felt'.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Keith Baker'.



town of buena vista

Post Office Box 2002
Buena Vista, CO 81211
Phone: (719) 395-8643
Fax: (719) 395-8644

January 9, 2018

Mr. Ben Wade
Colorado Water Conservation Board
Loans and Grants
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver CO 80203

Dear Mr. Wade:

Ice Lake, in Chaffee County, has a significant historical and current value to the Buena Vista community. We understand that the lake has existed since 1882 and was historically used to support both cattle ranching and ice manufacturing. Buena Vista had a booming lettuce-growing industry in the early 1900's. During that time, ice was harvested from the lake and used to transport the lettuce crop to the Front Range cities. The lettuce industry, and Ice Lake's role in it, is an important aspect of the history of Buena Vista that is still revisited in local books and museums. More recently, Ice Lake and its surrounding wetlands provide an important shallow open water habitat in Chaffee County for mammals and for local and migratory bird species.

Ice Lake is located in the Cottonwood Creek drainage, and the Lakeside Estates Preserve Homeowners Association wishes to preserve the lake and its environmental values. The Association plans to improve lake storage infrastructure and to obtain water rights and supplies to provide a legal, reliable water supply to sustain the lake. The Town of Buena Vista, which derives its own water supply primarily from Cottonwood Creek, supports the protection of Ice Lake with appropriate infrastructure and water rights that can be lawfully used to fill and maintain the lake without injury to other water rights, in accordance with Colorado water law. The Town encourages CWCB to provide grant funding or other financial assistance to the Association for this project.

Sincerely yours,

Mark Jenkins, Mayor Pro Tem
Town of Buena Vista



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Salida Service Center
7405 W Highway 50
Salida, CO 81201
P 719.530.5520 | F 719.530.5554

January 09, 2018

Re: Ice Lake Open Water / Wetlands letter of support

To Whom It May Concern:

Northern Chaffee County supports an abundant variety of wildlife. Open water habitat is limited in the area, with the majority of habitat consisting of rugged mountain terrain, prairie grasslands, and pinyon-juniper forests. While all those habitats have an important role, the availability of open water provides significant habitat for a variety of species.

Ice Lake open water and surrounding wetlands makes up the largest aquatic complex in northern Chaffee County. The combination of open water and wetlands provides cover, nesting, feed, and a migration corridor for many species of waterfowl, mule deer, bobcat, coyotes, and a variety of small game and nongame animals. Eagles, hawks, and other raptors frequent the area, and tall grasses that surround the complex provide cover, nesting, and feed for numerous passerine species.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife recognizes and supports the need to sustain open waters such as the Ice Lake complex, and is in support of the landowner's grant funding request to the Colorado Water Conservation Board for infrastructure and survey work purposes, providing that existing water rights are protected.

If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Madler, District Wildlife Manager in Buena Vista at 719-539-8413.

Sincerely,

James L. Aragon
Area Wildlife Manager
Salida Service Center





The Colorado Water Conservation Board

c/o Ms. Lindsey Mueller

PO Box 4454

Buena Vista, Colorado 81211

Dear Water Conservation Board,

Ice Lake has great historical significance to the Buena Vista community as well as to Chaffee County. We at Buena Vista Heritage always share the story of Ice Lake with our local and out of town visitors. In the first half of the 20th century, lettuce and ice were two major drivers of the local economy. Local ranchers were amazed to find that a lettuce crop could earn them \$300 per acre. The Ice Lake allowed the lettuce to be shipped in crushed ice to front range cities. Before refrigeration, 100-pound ice blocks were also shipped to the front range for home delivery to iceboxes. A very large conveyor system was constructed from Ice Lake to the ice house located next to the Rio Grande Railroad tracks.

It would be a real shame if our museum docents had to tell our visitors that Ice Lake no longer exists. The board of directors of Buena Vista Heritage Society strongly recommends that the Ice Lake be preserved as an active lake. If grant dollars are approved and a water supply is secured, Ice Lake may continue to be a visible part of our local history.

Thank you for your consideration,



Victor Kuklin

President, Buena Vista Heritage Society



Upper Arkansas Water Conservancy District

P.O. Box 1090
339 E. HWY 50
Salida, CO 81201
Phone (719) 539-5425
Fax: (719) 539-7579

January 22, 2018

Mr. Ben Wade
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Rom 718
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Wade:

Ice Lake near Buena Vista has cultural and environmental values in the Upper Arkansas Basin. Once used to produce ice, this lake now provides habitat for over 80 species of birds. The Lake provides the best shallow open water habitat and corresponding emergent wetlands in Chaffee County. Ice Lake's storage was decreed in 1969 with an appropriation date of 1882, but the rights are administered as a 1942 right and are seldom in priority. After heightened administration by the Division Engineers Office, Lakeside Estates was required to replace evaporative loss from the Lake. Lakeside Estates has made the decision to preserve Ice Lake's historic lake levels which will protect the critical habitat and they approached the Upper Arkansas Water Conservancy District for support.

The Upper Arkansas Water Conservancy District supports this project and the preservation of Ice Lake and its natural environment. For the purposes of this grant application, the Upper Arkansas Water Conservancy District has agreed to provide Project Management for grant administration and match 50% of Lakeside Estate's matching requirements for this Water Supply Reserve Fund application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. J. Brown", is written over a horizontal line.

UAWCD General Manger