

**Water Supply Reserve Fund  
Water Activity Summary Sheet  
March 21-22, 2018  
Agenda Item 25(n)**

**Applicant & Grantee:** Eagle River Watershed Council

**Water Activity Name:** Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan

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

**County:** Eagle

**Drainage Basin:** Colorado

**Water Source:** Eagle River mainstem from headwaters to confluence with the Colorado River

**Amount Requested:** \$75,000 Colorado Basin Account

**Matching Funds:** Applicant Match (cash & in-kind) = \$314,945

- 420% of the Basin Account request (meets 25% min)
- 81% of the total project cost of \$389,945

<b>Staff Recommendation:</b>
Staff recommends approval of up to \$75,000 from the Colorado Basin Account to help fund the project titled: Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan.

**Water Activity Summary:** WSRF grant funds, if approved, will assist Eagle River Watershed Council (ERWC) in the development of the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP). ERWC has a mission to advocate for the health and conservation of the Upper Colorado and Eagle River basins through research, education and projects. The Integrated Water Management Plan will develop proactive water management recommendations that anticipate changes to local hydrology due to 1) population growth and increasing municipal demand for water in Eagle County, 2) climate change, and 3) projects related to the Eagle River MOU (ERMOU), an intergovernmental agreement for developing municipal water supplies in the upper Eagle River watershed.

The ER-IWMP will be developed through a stakeholder process with local conservation organizations, state and federal agencies, recreational users, ERMOU partners, commercial fishing/rafting guides, local municipalities, agriculture, and other local stakeholders to develop strategies that can respond to these changes in a way that meets municipal demands, while also maintaining and improving ecological attributes in the Eagle River watershed.

The ER-IWMP will integrate both consumptive and non-consumptive water uses to ensure that all existing and future uses are considered. The ER-IWMP will safeguard the interests of the community and extended stakeholders, which include the environmental and recreational use needs. ERWC will provide the opportunity for all interested parties to participate and will educate the community so that the results of this plan are accepted as a fair and reasonable approach to managing our precious water resources.

**Discussion:** As described in the Colorado basin roundtable (BRT) chair's recommendation letter, this project was supported and recommended for approval by the roundtable on January 22, 2017. The project scored 12.25 of a possible 14.25 points on the Colorado BRT scoring matrix which measures how grants address roundtable objectives. This project assists in satisfying Colorado's Water Plan Critical Goals and Actions as identified in Chapter 10.3, F. Watershed Health, including the development of watershed coalitions and watershed master plans that address the needs of a diverse set of local stakeholders. The Colorado BRT refers to streamflow/watershed planning as Integrated Water Management Planning as a way to show that this type of work involves all stakeholder groups from ag, to municipal, to environmental, to recreation.

Eagle River Watershed Council has been doing such work in the Eagle River watershed since 2004, but will take the next step with the ER-IWMP. The plan demonstrates a commitment to protecting stream health, agriculture, and non-consumptive uses, while planning for change, and engaging the community with a focus on cooperation and collaboration between stakeholders with disparate views.

It is important to note that the Eagle River MOU partners are currently evaluating project alternatives to develop water storage and conveyance projects in the Eagle River basin for West Slope and East Slope interests. It is anticipated there will be strong proponents and opponents to each alternative, however by providing a forum for balanced conversation based upon mutually developed understandings of environmental and recreational use needs and by coming to consensus on what those needs are, partners can create a plan that is in the best interest of all stakeholders.

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

**Eligibility Requirements:** The application meets requirements of all eligibility components.

**Evaluation Criteria:** Staff has determined this activity satisfies the Evaluation Criteria.

**Funding Summary / Matching Funds:**

<b><u>Funding Source</u></b>	<b><u>Cash</u></b>	<b><u>In-Kind</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
Homestake Water Project Partners cash	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000
Eagle Park Reservoir Company	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$30,000
Vail Resorts (pending)	\$15,000	\$0	\$15,000
Eagle River Watershed Council in-kind	\$0	\$12,000	\$12,000
Climax Mine	\$11,000	\$0	\$11,000
Colorado River District	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
Eagle County (pending)	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
Town of Vail	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
Town of Avon	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
Town of Gypsum	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
Town of Minturn	\$500	\$0	\$500
CWCB Watershed Restoration Grant	\$181,445	n/a	\$181,445
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$287,945</b>	<b>\$27,000</b>	<b>\$314,945</b>
WSRF Colorado Basin Account	\$75,000	n/a	\$75,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$256,445</b>	<b>\$27,000</b>	<b>\$389,945</b>

**CWCB Project Manager:** Megan Holcomb

***THE COLORADO BASIN ROUNDTABLE***  
***C/O P.O. BOX 1120***  
***GLENWOOD SPRINGS, COLORADO 81602***

January 31, 2018

**Colorado Water Conservation Board**

**WSRF Grants**

1313 Sherman Street

Denver CO

(303) 866-3441

[megan.holcomb@state.co.us](mailto:megan.holcomb@state.co.us)

Dear Staff:

The Colorado Basin Roundtable voted unanimously at its January 22, 2018 meeting to forward the Eagle River Watershed Council grant application for CWCB staff review and Board approval. The amount is for \$75,000 from the CBRT's Basin Account. The grant scored a 12.25 on our scoring matrix, a ratio of .86.

The CBRT BIP lists Healthy River and Streams as one of its key themes. Colorado's Water Plan sets a goal that 80 percent of the state's stream miles will have watershed planning. This project addresses both goals. The CBRT refers to streamflow/watershed planning as Integrated Water Management Planning as a way to show that this type of work involves all stakeholder groups from ag, to municipal, to environmental to recreation. We strive for projects that ultimately benefit as many of these factors as possible.

This project will bring together the necessary stakeholders required for such work and, importantly, is meant to be informative to the Eagle River MOU process, which 30 years after its signing, is active in investigation water supply solutions for the West Slope, Aurora, Colorado Springs and the Climax Mine.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jim Pokrandt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Jim Pokrandt  
Chair, Colorado Basin Roundtable

Attachment: CBRT Grant Matrix Scoring Sheet



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## 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](mailto:ben.wade@state.co.us)  
303-866-3441 x3238

#### Gunnison | North Platte | South Platte | Yampa/White

Craig Godbout  
[craig.godbout@state.co.us](mailto:craig.godbout@state.co.us)  
303-866-3441 x3210

#### Colorado | Metro | Rio Grande | Southwest

Megan Holcomb  
[megan.holcomb@state.co.us](mailto: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 <a href="#">2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines</a> .
X	I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the <a href="#">Standard Contract</a> . <sup>(1)</sup>
Exhibit A	
X	<a href="#">Statement of Work</a> <sup>(2)</sup> (Word – see Exhibit A Template)
X	<a href="#">Budget &amp; Schedule</a> <sup>(2)</sup> (Excel Spreadsheet – see Exhibit A Template)
X	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Commitments <sup>(2)</sup>
Exhibit C	
X	Map <sup>(2)</sup>
	Photos/Drawings/Reports
X	Letters of Support
	Certificate of Insurance <sup>(3)</sup> (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.)
Contracting Documents	
X	Certificate of Good Standing <sup>(3)</sup>
X	W-9 <sup>(3)</sup>
	Independent Contractor Form <sup>(3)</sup> (If applicant is individual, not company/organization)
	Electronic Funds Transfer (ETF) Form <sup>(3)</sup>

(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.



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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:	April 2018

Water Activity Summary		
Name of Applicant	Eagle River Watershed Council	
Name of Water Activity	Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP)	
Approving Roundtable(s)		Basin Account Request(s) <sup>(1)</sup>
Colorado Basin Roundtable		\$75,000
Basin Account Request Subtotal		\$75,000
Statewide Account Request <sup>(1)</sup>		\$
Total WSRF Funds Requested (Basin & Statewide)		\$75,000
Total Project Costs		\$389,945

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



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Grantee and Applicant Information	
Name of Grantee(s)	Eagle River Watershed Council
Mailing Address	PO Box 5740, Eagle, CO 81631
FEIN	20-4448864
Grantee's Organization Contact <sup>(1)</sup>	Holly Loff
Position/Title	Executive Director
Email	<a href="mailto:loff@erwc.org">loff@erwc.org</a>
Phone	970-827-5406
Grant Management Contact <sup>(2)</sup>	Holly Loff
Position/Title	Executive Director
Email	<a href="mailto:loff@erwc.org">loff@erwc.org</a>
Phone	970-827-5406
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).
Eagle River Watershed Council (ERWC) has a mission to advocate for the health and conservation of the Upper Colorado and Eagle River basins through research, education and projects. ERWC has a 13 year history of tackling complex issues through a consensus-building, stakeholder-driven process, as well as success in coordinating large-scale projects. Past successful projects include: the drafting of the Eagle River Watershed Plan and the Colorado River Inventory & Assessment; progress in the Eagle Mine Superfund cleanup; successful completion of the Edwards Eagle River Restoration Project; and the drafting of Water Quality Action Plans for several Eagle County communities.



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Type of Eligible Entity (check one)	
	<b>Public (Government):</b> 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.
	<b>Public (Districts):</b> authorities, Title 32/special districts (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises
	<b>Private Incorporated:</b> mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations
	<b>Private Individuals, Partnerships, and Sole Proprietors:</b> are eligible for funding from the Basin Accounts but not for funding from the Statewide Account.
X	<b>Non-governmental organizations:</b> broadly, any organization that is not part of the government
	<b>Covered Entity:</b> as defined in <a href="#">Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes</a>

Type of Water Activity (check one)	
X	Study
	Implementation

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

Location of Water Activity	
Please provide the general county and coordinates of the proposed activity below in <b>decimal degrees</b> . The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable.	
County/Countries	Eagle County
Latitude	
Longitude	

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.

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### Water Activity Overview

The Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP) will develop proactive water management recommendations that anticipate changes to local hydrology due to 1) population growth and increasing municipal demand for water in Eagle County, 2) climate change, and 3) projects related to the Eagle River MOU (ERMOU), an intergovernmental agreement for developing municipal water supplies in the upper Eagle River watershed.

The ER-IWMP will be developed through a stakeholder process with local conservation organizations, state and federal agencies, recreational users, ERMOU partners, commercial fishing/rafting guides, local municipalities, agriculture, and other local stakeholders to develop strategies that can respond to these changes in a way that meets municipal demands, while also maintaining and improving ecological attributes in the Eagle River watershed.

The ER-IWMP will integrate both consumptive and non-consumptive water uses to ensure that all existing and future uses are considered. The ER-IWMP will safeguard the interests of the community and extended stakeholders, which include the environmental and recreational use needs. ERWC will provide the opportunity for all interested parties to participate and will educate the community so that the results of this plan are accepted as a fair and reasonable approach to managing our precious water resources.

### 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
	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)
	Length of Pipe/Canal Built or Improved
X	Other Explain: <i>Integrated water management planning for the Eagle River mainstem from its headwaters to the confluence with the Colorado River. The effort will include assessment of the East Fork of the Eagle River, Gore Creek from Black Lakes to the confluence with the Eagle River, and Homestake Creek from Homestake Reservoir to the confluence with the Eagle River.</i>

### 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](#) <sup>(1)</sup>. 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).



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## Water Activity Justification

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](#)).

Colorado Water Plan's (CWP) section 7.1 (page 7-3) outlines a goal to promote watershed health and support the development of watershed coalitions and watershed master plans that address the needs of a diverse set of local stakeholders. Eagle River Watershed Council has been doing such work in the Eagle River watershed since 2004, but will take the next step with the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP), which is further highlighted below. The ER-IWMP demonstrates a commitment to protecting stream health, agriculture, and non-consumptive uses, while planning for change, and engaging the community with a focus on cooperation and collaboration between stakeholders with disparate views.

It is important to note that the Eagle River MOU (ERMOU) partners are currently evaluating project alternatives to develop water storage and conveyance projects in the Eagle River basin for West Slope and East Slope interests. It is anticipated that there will be strong proponents and opponents to each alternative, however by providing a forum for balanced conversation based upon mutually developed understandings of environmental and recreational use needs and by coming to consensus on what those needs are, we can create a plan that is in the best interest of all stakeholders.

The very creation of a stream management plan (which ERWC refers to as an integrated water management plan) assists in meeting the Colorado Water Plan's "measurable objective to cover 80 percent of the locally prioritized lists of rivers with stream management plans... by 2030." (page 6-178) As the Eagle River's first stream management plan, the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan will assist the state in meeting this 80% goal.

It does all of this in accordance with and support of not only the goals of the CWP, but also the goals and themes in the Statewide Water Supply Initiative 2010 (SWSI), Colorado Basin Implementation Plan (CBIP), and the Colorado Basin Roundtable's (CBRT) Draft Education Action Plan 2017-2020. Reference to the support of specific goals and themes from the before-mentioned plans are described below.

### **PROTECTING STREAM HEALTH AND WATER QUALITY**

CWP Section 7.3's goal (page 7-13) to "promote waters that fully support their classified uses by 2050 through strategies designed to meet Colorado's current and future consumptive, recreational, and environmental water needs. These strategies incorporate the protection and restoration of water quality as a key objective," CBIP's goal 1A to "protect and rehabilitate healthy rivers, streams, lakes and riparian areas" (p.47) and goal 1C to "preserve high quality recreational river and stream reaches with appropriate flows" (p.48) are all supported by the ER-IWMP in task 2 as it identifies and maps reaches of the Eagle River that have current impairments or will likely experience impairments under specific future scenarios (e.g., diversions, climate change, etc). The ER-IWMP will also identify and map current ideal conditions which should be protected. Task 2 will characterize and prioritize ecosystem services delivery, including recreational use and flow preference surveys. The information will be compiled into tables, maps and reports and will also be used in the conceptual modeling for



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### Water Activity Justification

the ER-IWMP and in task 5 will be included in prioritized recommendations.

#### **PLANNING FOR CHANGE**

CWP Section 7.2 (page 7-11) outlines a goal to “promote water resource resilience from natural disasters through strategic preparedness and response.” The ER-IWMP will support that, as well as the CBIP goal 3C: “Protect drinking water supplies from natural impacts such as extended droughts, forest fires, climate change, etc.” (page 58). The very intent of the ER-IWMP is to develop proactive water management recommendations that anticipate changes to local hydrology due to population growth, climate change and projects related to the Eagle River MOU. ER-IWMP subtask 3.1 will consider management issues that anticipate some altered future hydrological condition brought about by climate change, in-basin demand growth, development of water storage projects under the ERMOU, or some combination of the three. By understanding how natural impacts might affect flows, we can protect water uses, including drinking water.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND EDUCATION**

In the CWP, Section 6.2 (pg. 6-15) it mentions the goals and measurable objectives of all of the BIPs in the state and explains that there are “several major themes that reach across all BIPs.” It goes on to list four of those themes, the final theme being “continue participation, education, outreach, and communication.” CBRT’s Education Action Plan 2017-2020 has a goal “to promote better stewardship and decision-making related to water resources. This will require improved public understanding of both consumptive and nonconsumptive water needs, as well as efforts to address them through the Colorado Water Plan and the Colorado Basin Implementation Plan.” In the initial ER-IWMP stakeholder meetings it was established that the local community does not have a good understanding of how water is managed in the watershed and the community engagement plan was identified as a necessary component for a successful ER-IWMP. The community engagement plan will outline how education and outreach will improve this understanding. Our community must understand the roles of the Shoshone and Cameo Calls and the Interstate Compact if it is to understand the water systems of the valley and the recommendations that the ER-IWMP will put forth.

#### **COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION**

CBIP’s goal 5C aims to “expand regional cooperation efforts to improve efficiency, provide water supply flexibility, and enhance environmental and recreational amenities,” which is addressed in the overall approach of the ER-IWMP process. There is a strong emphasis on collaboration in this process and the stakeholders in the ER-IWMP advisory committee have already been engaged in establishing the objectives of the ER-IWMP. More specifically collaboration is addressed in task 1: Engage Stakeholders and then again in subtask 5.1 where stakeholders with the greatest ability to exert control on outcomes or who are likely to be impacted by the direct or indirect effects of the proposed alternatives will be identified. This subset of the advisory committee will help to evaluate the feasibility and effectiveness of the management recommendations identified throughout the ER-IWMP process.

There are a number of recommendations within SWSI 2010 that speak to this cooperation and collaboration, as well. This includes these recommendations listed in *SWSI 2010 Mission*

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## Water Activity Justification

*Statement, Key Findings, and Recommendations* (p. 8):

- “3. Continue to lead the dialogue and foster cooperation among water interests in every basin and between basins for the purpose of implementing solutions to Colorado’s water supply challenges.
- 4. Support water project proponents and opponents in resolving conflict and addressing concerns associated with implementing IPPs that will reduce the M&I water supply gap.
- 5. Support meeting Colorado’s nonconsumptive water needs by working with Colorado’s water stakeholders...”

### **CONSERVATION**

CBIP goal 5B says “support, preserve and promote local authorities management of stream health, development and conservation efforts” (page 67). The ER-IWMP advisory committee will explore opportunities for conservation within the watershed. Recommendations within the ER-IWMP may include ways to “pursue continued municipal and industrial conservation” (CBIP goal 4B, page 63) and to “promote agricultural conservation” (CBIP goal 4C, page 64).

### **AGRICULTURE**

Goals within the CBIP Theme 2: Sustain Agriculture will be less directly supported through the ER-IWMP due to the fact that agriculture is limited in the Eagle River basin. However, a number of ag water users have participated in the stakeholder process thus far and will serve on the advisory committee as they agree that the ER-IWMP will help to reduce ag water shortages (CBIP goal 2A, p.52) and may minimize potential for transfer of ag water rights (CBIP goal 2B, p.52).

### **NONCONSUMPTIVE USES**

Although the topic of nonconsumptive uses of water, that is environmental and recreational needs, are intertwined within all of the above, it is important to call special attention to these here as this is a primary focus of the ER-IWMP and central to the work of the Eagle River Watershed Council. The CWP outlines the importance of this as well in the section 6.6 goal (page 6-157) which begins: “to identify and implement environmental and recreational projects and methods to achieve the following statewide long-term goals:” it then goes on to list five such goals, which are summarized here with a brief description of how the ER-IWMP will help to accomplish each.

1. restore and protect plant and animal species of concern (endangered, threatened, imperiled)- Subtask 2.5 of the ER-IWMP will characterize ecological integrity, evaluate natural recovery potential of ecologically impaired reaches and will map the presence of threatened and endangered species, as well as rare or significant plant communities. In task 5, these will be prioritized into recommended actions.
2. protect economies relying on environmental and recreational water uses- ER-IWMP subtask 2.6 will characterize ecosystem goods and services and will evaluate qualitative and quantitative data related to recreational use opportunities. Attributes at-risk will be mapped. In task 5, these will be prioritized into recommended actions.
3. support projects that benefit environmental, recreational, municipal and agricultural water needs- ER-IWMP subtask 3.2 will select specific management objectives and



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### Water Activity Justification

describe measureable results that respond to the high-priority issues identified. Management targets may focus on a specific component of the aquatic or riparian ecosystem, a measure of ecosystem integrity, or on the quality and quantity of ecosystem goods and services. In task 5, these will be prioritized into recommended actions.

4. protect and improve habitat- refer to #3 above
5. maintain watershed health- refer to #3 above

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

### Matching Requirements: Basin Account Requests

**Basin (only) Account** grant requests require a 25% match (cash and/or in-kind) from the Applicant or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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)
Homestake Water Project Partners	\$20,000 cash
Eagle Park Reservoir Company	\$15,000 cash \$15,000 in-kind
Vail Resorts (pending)	\$15,000 cash
Eagle River Watershed Council	\$12,000 in-kind
Climax Mine	\$11,000 cash
Colorado River District	\$10,000 cash
Eagle County (pending)	\$10,000 cash
Town of Vail	\$10,000 cash
Town of Avon	\$10,000 cash
Town of Gypsum	\$5,000 cash
Town of Minturn	\$500 cash
Total Match	\$133,500*

*\*ERWC has also submitted a request to CWCB for ER-IWMP support in the amount of \$181,445 over the three year project period. If granted the total match from the above with CWCB-CWRP will be \$314,945.*

### 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 3<sup>rd</sup> party (cash, in-kind, or combination). The remaining 30% of the required match may be provided from any other source (Basin, applicant, or 3<sup>rd</sup> party) and shall be accompanied by a **letter of commitment**. Attach additional sheet if necessary.

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Matching Requirements: Statewide Account Requests	
Contributing Entity	Amount and Form of Match (note cash or in-kind):
Total Match	\$
If you requested a Waiver to the Statewide Account matching, indicate % you wish waived. (Max 50% reduction of requirement).	

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.
<p>Related studies and sources of relevant information that will help to develop the ER-IWMP are not limited to, but include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Colorado Water Plan</u>: serves as the foundation of the ER-IWMP by providing initiatives, connections, and values to meet Colorado's current and future consumptive, recreational, and environmental water needs. Section 7.1 recommends a collaborative approach to watershed planning; one that includes stakeholder involvement and management actions supported by sound science and it applies equally to stream management plans. An inclusive stakeholder approach expedites cooperative and integrated project planning, which leads to successful implementation of measures that will meet the needs the stream management plan identifies.</li> <li>• <u>Colorado Basin Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan (BIP)</u>: identifies a basin-wide stream management plan as a top priority in its BIP. The CBRT states that such planning is vital to providing sufficient water for environmental needs among the many competing uses and demands for water, thereby restoring and protecting ecological processes that connect land and water while ensuring that streams also serve the needs of human populations.</li> <li>• <u>Eagle River Watershed Council's Eagle River Watershed Plan (ERWP) (2013)</u>: provides information, goals, strategies and action items related to water and land management practices in the Eagle River basin. The 2013 document updates and replaces the 1996 version and includes significant new information and the vision for watersheds in Eagle County. Several issues and recommendations are discussed which provide relevant background to the development of an IWMP. The ERWP is organized around five water related topics (Quantity, Quality, Land Use, Wildlife and Recreation) all of which provide direction and insights for the ER-IWMP.</li> <li>• <u>The Eagle River Assembly Report (1994)</u>: The Eagle River Assembly (a group comprised of representatives from the County, Towns, water districts and the holders of out-of-basin water rights) was tasked with evaluating local water issues and identifying potential strategies that would 1) improve the condition of the river, and 2) assure adequate water supplies for future needs. The resulting assessment concluded that flows in the Eagle River were inadequate to meet existing environmental and water supply demands in average years and dryer than average years, principally in late summer and winter months. Environmental concerns were based on identified "stream flow deficits" where the amount of water in the stream was not adequate to meet recommended instream flow rights that had been implemented years earlier for the protection of fish. The ER-IWMP would complement this report by identifying the flow deficit, which the Assembly Report did not attempt to identify, but is an objective of the CWP.</li> <li>• <u>Eagle River Inventory and Assessment (ERIA) (2005)</u>: an inclusive, scientific baseline inventory and assessment of the Eagle River with a prioritized list of restoration and conservation projects, which ERWC has used to successfully complete numerous projects for over a decade. The nearly \$4million project along the Eagle River in Edwards was one such project, which was funded in part with CWCB grant dollars. The ERIA also measures public support for various prospective projects and other recommended actions. A very comprehensive</li> </ul>



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### Related Studies

list of ten watershed restoration principles from scientific literature and case studies to improve the likelihood of success was included for reference and subsequent work plans.

- Eagle River Memorandum of Understanding Project Alternatives Study (2016): provides evaluations of project alternatives to develop water storage and conveyance projects in the Eagle River basin for West Slope and East Slope interests. The ERMOU, executed in 1998, is comprised of cooperative partners and signatories. Numerous development alternatives are currently being considered and will have a bearing on water quantity in the Eagle River. For instance, trans-basin diversions can reduce the intensity of spring runoff flows that are important in the maintenance of aquatic habitat. Spring flows flush fine sediments from the channel substrate and provide the high-quality gravel beds needed by aquatic insects and fish for reproduction. High flows also maintain riparian communities through flooding of the banks and riparian zones adjacent to the river. Studies to determine how much of a “flushing” flow is actually needed on the Eagle River to maintain optimal habitat for aquatic life and bank recharge have not been conducted. The ER-IWMP would take this next step.

### 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

1. Applicant: ERWC
  2. Water Activity: Colorado Basin Education Action Plan
  3. Approving RT: Colorado River BRT
  4. Date funds received: 7/11/2016; 6/29/2015
  5. Check #: 8001284598; Check #: 8000581884 (PEPO Funds)
1. Applicant: ERWC
  2. Water Activity: Edwards Eagle River Restoration Project
  3. Approving RT: Colorado River BRT
  4. Dates: 2009-2011
  5. PO #: OE PDA 11000000022 (Watershed Tax Checkoff Grant); OE PDA 09000000130 (Watershed Grant); OE PDA 12000000019 (Severance Tax)
1. Applicant: ERWC
  2. Water Activity: Eagle River Watershed Plan
  3. Approving RT: Colorado River BRT
  4. Dates: 2010-2011
  5. PO #: OE PDA 11000000038 (CO Healthy Rivers Fund)
1. Applicant: ERWC
  2. Water Activity: Colorado River Inventory & Assessment
  3. Approving RT: Colorado River BRT
  4. Dates: 2012-2014
  5. PO #: OE PDA 13000000020 (Multi Sev Grant); OE PDA 13IBC000003 (WSRA)

### 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.

None



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<b>Colorado Water Conservation Board</b>	
<b>Water Supply Reserve Fund</b>	
<b><u>Exhibit A - Statement of Work</u></b>	
<b>Date:</b>	<b>November 6, 2017</b>
<b>Water Activity Name:</b>	<b>Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP)</b>
<b>Grant Recipient:</b>	<b>Eagle River Watershed Council (ERWC)</b>
<b>Funding Source:</b>	<b>Colorado Basin Roundtable WSRF</b>
<b>Water Activity Overview:</b> (Please provide brief description of the proposed water activity (no more than 200 words). Include a description of the overall water activity and specifically what the WSRF funding will be used for.	
<p>The Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP) intends to develop proactive water management recommendations that anticipate changes to local hydrology due to 1) population growth and increasing municipal demand for water in Eagle County, 2) climate change, and 3) projects related to the Eagle River MOU (ERMOU), an intergovernmental agreement for developing municipal water supplies in the upper Eagle River watershed.</p> <p>The ER-IWMP will be developed through a stakeholder process with local conservation organizations, state and federal agencies, recreational users, ERMOU partners, commercial fishing/rafting guides, local municipalities, agricultural, and other local stakeholders to develop strategies that can respond to these changes in a way that helps meet municipal demands, while maintaining and improving ecological attributes in the Eagle River watershed.</p> <p>The ER-IWMP will integrate both consumptive and non-consumptive water uses to ensure that all existing and future uses are considered. The ER-IWMP will safeguard the interests of the community and extended stakeholders, which include the environmental and recreational use needs. ERWC will provide the opportunity for all interested parties to participate and will educate the community so that the results of this plan are accepted as a fair and reasonable approach to managing our precious water resource.</p>	
<b>Objectives:</b> (List the objectives of the project)	
<p>Planning activities will focus on the mainstem Eagle River from its source on the East Fork Eagle River below Eagle Park Reservoir to the confluence with the Colorado River. Homestake Creek and Gore Creek will also be included in the assessment effort.</p> <p>ERWC, in partnership with River Network, began to engage the ER-IWMP stakeholders in the fall of 2017 to better understand their concerns, constraints and individual objectives. The intent was to build stakeholder engagement and buy-in for the planning effort and to create ER-IWMP goals/objectives that truly reflect the interests and concerns of the stakeholders and that of the broader community. When the full ER-IWMP effort launches in the spring of 2018, it will further refine the purpose and scope detailed in this document and will conclude with the evaluation and prioritization of alternative actions. Peak Facilitation and ERWC will be responsible for convening and managing the stakeholder group that will help inform and guide the process. The anticipated tasks associated with this project are summarized through extension of the Rational Planning Model (Taylor, 1998).</p> <p>At a minimum, the remaining tasks and objectives will include: 1) assessing ecosystem condition, developing environmental flow needs, and evaluating recreational use preferences, 2) characterizing the type and location of environmental and recreational attributes at risk and working with stakeholders to identify specific planning goals around them, 3) working with stakeholders to identify collaborative</p>	



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opportunities for projects and processes that may help meet the diversity of use needs present in the basin, 4) evaluating the relative effectiveness and feasibility of each identified opportunity to prioritize them according to their anticipated implementation success, and 5) develop and implement a community engagement plan to raise community understanding surrounding river health. The specific tasks associated with each planning phase listed above may require supplementation, modification or removal prior to completion of the proposed work. Implementation, monitoring, and adaptive management of planning recommendations are expected to occur after this effort is completed.

## Tasks

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

### **TASK 1: Engaging Stakeholders**

#### **Subtask 1.1 Advisory Committee**

ERWC will work with Lotic and Peak Facilitation to engage key stakeholders in an Advisory Committee to develop the ER-IWMP. Key stakeholders include major water rights owners, environmental interest groups, recreational user groups local government, and state/federal agencies. The Advisory Committee's role will be to provide input on the goals, technical methodologies, and identification of high-priority planning issues and project/management options. At the first Kickoff Meeting, the Advisory Committee will have an opportunity to refine the scope and help shape the timeline and guiding principles for the project.

#### **Deliverables:**

- Coordinate and provide minutes for 10 meetings throughout the 36 month ER-IWMP planning process
- Memorandum defining the collective, purpose statement and guiding principles for the planning effort, including roles and responsibilities of each member.

#### **Subtask 1.2 Community Engagement Plan**

Peak Facilitation and ERWC will develop a community engagement plan for keeping members of the general public informed on ER-IWMP processes and outcomes and on opportunities and concerns for protecting/improving river health. Additionally the community engagement plan will outline activities for increasing community understanding of how the current (and potential) water system of the Eagle River watershed is operated. This plan will include a timeline for community engagement, the topics to be covered at key points in the process, needed supporting documentation or educational material, and strategies for soliciting public comment/feedback and using it to inform the ER-IWMP effort. The ER-IWMP Advisory Committee will be engaged in developing the community engagement plan, and ERWC will implement its recommendations during the project timeline. ERWC's education and outreach coordinator will assist in the development of the community engagement plan as well as the engagement tools, which is an in-kind match by ERWC.

#### **Deliverables:**

- A community engagement plan with timeline for implementation by ERWC
- Community engagement tools (to be determined in subtask 1.2, but may include (but not be limited to) videos, a website or webpage, flyers, posters, articles or advertisements, public meetings)

### **TASK 2: Assess Conditions & Identify Risks**

#### **Subtask 2.1 Review Existing Data and Information**

Local organizations, federal and state agencies, the CBRT and others have produced information and data relevant to characterizing ecological integrity and the delivery of ecosystem goods and services on





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## Tasks

streams and rivers throughout the Eagle River watershed. Some need exists to aggregate this information for the planning reaches to ensure that planning activities are informed by and grounded in the rich historical context of assessment activities.

### Deliverables:

- Technical report summarizing the availability of data relevant to environmental and recreational needs assessments. Report will also summarize findings of existing reports or studies that relate land and water use activities to conditions of ecological or recreational attributes on stream reaches in the planning area

### Subtask 2.2 Characterize Hydrological Regimes

River systems subject to hydrological change under human management are vulnerable to shifts in the composition and resiliency of both structural and biological components of the ecosystem. The Natural Flow Paradigm (Poff et al., 1997) postulates that streamflows represent the key driver of riverine structure and function. Changes in the timing and magnitude of various elements of the hydrological regime can produce cascading effects (or positive feedback loops) between: 1) the availability and quality of aquatic habitat, 2) the condition and extent of riparian zones, and 3) the dynamics and evolutionary trajectory of channel structure. Therefore, a detailed understanding of the hydrological regime at various locations throughout a watershed provides important context for understanding changes to other ecosystem components. Critically, in order to provide this understanding in Colorado, it is necessary to characterize the administrative and operational conditions that govern the way that water is stored, diverted, consumed, and returned to river systems in time and place. Lotic will utilize results from a StateMod simulation model developed by the Eagle River Water and Sanitation District for the Eagle River watershed to characterize daily streamflow behavior at all major tributary confluences and surface water diversion points in the project area.

### Deliverables:

- Data tables containing statistical characterizations of hydrological regime behavior at major tributary junctions and surface water diversions throughout the study area. Simulated conditions may include:
  - 1) natural conditions,
  - 2) existing conditions,
  - 3) maximum in-basin demand projections (no change in climate),
  - 4) moderate-dry climate change future conditions (no change in demand),
  - 5) maximum in-basin demand and moderate-dry climate change future conditions,
  - 6) ERMOU project development (no change in climate or demand),
  - 7) ERMOU development with maximum in-basin demand (no change in climate),
  - 8) ERMOU development with maximum in-basin demand and moderate-dry climate change future conditions
- Graphics characterizing typical hydrographs under wet, average, and dry conditions at major tributary junctions, reservoirs, and surface water diversions throughout the study area for the selected scenarios.
- Technical memorandum describing the hydrological simulation results and characterizing the scenarios producing the greatest changes in hydrological regime behavior.

### Subtask 2.3 Classify Fluvial Geomorphological Forms and Processes

Classifying river channel types provides a useful framework to understand the dominant physical processes at a position in the stream network. This process based understanding of channel form is useful for contextualizing historical impacts to riverine ecosystem function or for anticipating future shifts in ecosystem function following some altered condition. In this way, river classification not only simplifies communication about the ways that dynamic physical processes manifest themselves across the landscape, but also aids in natural resource use decision-making. The River Styles framework is an



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## Tasks

example of an appropriate approach for channel classification in the project area, as it encourages process level understanding of channel forms. River Styles or a similar framework could be used for Task 2.3 of the ER-IWMP. Rapid field assessment methodologies will be applied to assess the geomorphic condition of each channel segment and the natural recovery potential of impaired segments will be characterized.

### Deliverables:

- Map of channels classified down to the level of the floodplain and instream geomorphic features for reaches in the study area.
- Map of geomorphic condition assessment results for reaches in the study area.
- Technical report discussing the geomorphic condition and natural recovery potential of segments for reaches in the study area.

### Subtask 2.4 Characterize Water Quality

Lotic will evaluate historical stream temperature and water chemistry data against State of Colorado water quality standards for streams and rivers in the project area to develop an index of water quality concern. This index will be based on nonparametric statistical characterizations that identify multiple impairment thresholds (e.g., satisfactory, concern, poor, impaired) for each water quality parameter relevant to aquatic life or recreational use. Particular attention will be paid to water quality parameters that are somewhat controlled by use and management of water (e.g. water temperature, suspended sediment, selenium). Results from this assessment will provide important context for understanding the dominant climatic, land cover, and land use controls on a suite of water quality parameters that constrain ecological function or recreational use opportunities.

### Deliverables:

- Table of water quality impairment thresholds for all historical water quality data collection locations throughout the project area.

### Subtask 2.5 Characterize Ecological Integrity

Lotic will apply desktop assessment methods (e.g. GIS and aerial photography analysis, hydrological time series evaluation, etc.) and rapid assessment field techniques to corroborate and supplement existing information regarding the hydrological conditions necessary for supporting resilient ecological systems. Lotic anticipates data reviews and field assessments in the summer of 2018 will allow for adequate characterization of aquatic habitat quality, stream network connectivity for aquatic organism passage, floodplain inundation and riparian recruitment, channel maintenance and flushing flows, and other ecosystem attributes. A significant focus of this planning effort will be on water management and use. Therefore, Lotic will use the hydrological assessment performed in Task 2.2 to understand relationships between changes in the flow regime and other components of the ecosystem. Assessment results will inform the selection of specific management goals and objectives. The specific type and number of methods applied will be based on data availability, refinement of project geographic scope and scale (see Task 1), and preferences expressed by stakeholders. In addition to characterizing ecological integrity on each stream reach in the project area, Lotic will map the type and location of ecological attributes with particularly high ecological value and Lotic will evaluate the natural recovery potential of ecologically impaired reaches. Mapped attributes may include, but will not be limited to, Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP) Potential Conservation Areas, native trout and non-native sport fish ranges, presence of threatened and endangered species, location of rare or significant plant communities, etc.

### Deliverables:

- Technical report summarizing ecological integrity assessment methodologies and results.
- Map of known high-value aquatic biota attributes throughout the project area.
- Map of known high-value riparian attributes throughout the project area.

### Subtask 2.6 Characterize Ecosystem Services Delivery



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Lotic will work with local stakeholders to characterize and prioritize the ecosystem goods and services that local communities derive from the riverine landscape. Relevant categories of ecosystem services include regulating services (e.g. flood abatement, groundwater recharge, water purification), provisioning services (e.g. agricultural production, drinking water supply, capture fisheries), and cultural services (e.g. boating recreation, angling recreation, aesthetic values). Lotic will evaluate qualitative information (e.g. local perceptions and anecdotal evidence) in addition to quantitative data (e.g. StateMOD hydrological simulation results, proximity of infrastructure to floodplains) to characterize the relative demand for ecosystem goods and services on stream reaches throughout the project area. American Whitewater (AW) will be contracted to conduct recreational use and flow preference surveys for stream segments in the planning area. Lotic will work with USFS, BLM and CPW to aggregate similar information describing preferred conditions for anglers. Lotic will subsequently work with stakeholders to characterize perceptions about the primary constraints on recreational use opportunity on each reach. Identified constraints may include: streamflow variability, access, structural impediments, etc.

### Deliverables:

- Tables indicating the type and relative demand for ecosystem goods and services on stream segments throughout the project area.
- Map of known high-value recreational attributes on the priority stream reaches.
- Map of existing and contemplated river access points and other recreational features.
- Memorandum detailing the results from whitewater boating surveys and the “boatable days” assessment.
- Memorandum detailing the results from angler surveys and the “fishable days” assessment and discussing the primary constraint(s) on recreational use on various reaches.

### Subtask 2.7 Develop Conceptual Models

Lotic will use the assessment results produced above to develop conceptual models that describe the biophysical setting and the primary direction and strength of bi-directional interactions between different ecosystem components (e.g. hydrology and riparian recruitment, sediment transport and aquatic habitat quality, etc.) that contribute to overall ecosystem integrity, the ecosystem services that local communities receive from riverine landscapes, and the capacity for stream reaches in the project area to deliver these services. Lotic will, additionally, identify the primary anthropogenic and/or natural sources for degraded ecological integrity or constraints on delivery of ecosystem services on a given stream reach. Finally, Lotic will consider the potential vulnerability of ecological integrity or delivery of ecosystem services to changes in hydrology contemplated in Subtask 2.2. These conceptual models will help inform subsequent discussions regarding specific planning goals and objectives and identification of collaborative projects and processes to help meet those goals. Output from this assessment effort will be compiled in color-coded ranking tables that promote discussion about critical relationships between ecological integrity and the high-value ecosystem services that local communities derive from rivers and riparian areas. This output may be organized around the FACStream framework or a similar framework under development by Colorado Mesa University and the CBRT.

### Deliverables:

- Color-coded ranking tables illustrating the relationships between concepts like ecosystem integrity, the capacity for delivering ecosystem services, and the demand for those services on stream segments in the project area.
- Map of at-risk riparian and aquatic biota attributes.
- Map of at-risk recreational attributes.
- Technical report detailing conceptual models developed for stream reaches with at-risk environmental and/or recreational attributes.

## **TASK 3: Articulate Planning Objectives and Measureable Results**



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## Tasks

### Subtask 3.1 Identify High-Priority Management Issues and Locations

Lotic will work with stakeholders to prioritize river segments and management issues for subsequent planning steps. Lotic will rely heavily on the deliverables produced in Subtask 2.7 to support these conversations. Lotic will consider management issues that anticipate some altered future hydrological condition brought about by climate change, in-basin demand growth, development of water storage projects under the ERMOU, or some combination of the three. Throughout the issue identification process, Lotic and Peak Facilitation will work with stakeholders to refine and/or expand the planning considerations listed above to ensure they sufficiently reflect local concerns and perspectives.

#### Deliverables:

- Memorandum detailing high-priority planning issues identified by stakeholders.
- Map of high-priority stream reaches.

### Subtask 3.2 Select Objectives and Measureable Results

Lotic will work with stakeholders to select specific management objectives and describe measureable results that respond to the high-priority issues identified previously. This effort will include discussions of morphologically-based, biologically-based, or flow-based management targets used as a direct or indirect measure of riparian area health, health of aquatic biota recreational use opportunity, or receipt of ecosystem services. Management targets may focus on a specific component of the aquatic or riparian ecosystem (e.g. trout biomass), a measure/indicator of whole ecosystem integrity (e.g. Multi-Metric scores for aquatic macroinvertebrates), or on the quality and quantity of ecosystem goods and services received by local communities (e.g. number of “boatable days” available to recreational users). The characterization of planning objectives is necessary to identify and evaluate the feasibility and effectiveness of alternative management actions or projects.

#### Deliverables:

- Memorandum detailing planning objectives and measureable results identified by stakeholders.

### **TASK 4: Identify Potential Alternatives**

Lotic will identify several candidate structural projects, collaborative processes or management actions that respond to the planning objectives. Candidate actions will be drawn from several sources. Lotic will initially identify alternatives through internal assessment of hydrological conditions, water use and administration, and ecological needs. Discussions with local stakeholders may also point to some unique local opportunities not apparent to us. While there may be significantly more than ten candidate projects suggested or identified, Lotic will use a high-level, expert assessment of feasibility and effectiveness to limit the list to only those actions that have the greatest chance of occurring and/or succeeding.

#### Deliverables:

- Table identifying candidate structural projects, collaborative processes or management actions that respond to the planning goals and objectives. Table will reference candidate actions against high-priority planning reaches and the management issues present on those reaches.

### **TASK 5: Evaluate & Prioritize Actions**

#### Subtask 5.1 Identify and assemble relevant stakeholders

It is important to identify stakeholders with the greatest ability to exert control on outcomes or who are likely to be impacted by the direct or indirect effects of the proposed alternatives. Peak Facilitation will work with Lotic and ERWC to ensure that the assembled stakeholder group includes all parties that should be engaged in discussions about the relative merits of the identified alternatives. In cases where all stakeholders are not appropriately engaged, Peak Facilitation will conduct outreach and engagement activities.

#### Deliverables:

- Memorandum listing the stakeholders critical to successful evaluation of effectiveness and feasibility of each alternative action.



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## Tasks

### Subtask 5.2 Characterize Effectiveness

Lotic will utilize process-based conceptual models (see Subtask 2.7) to predict ecological and recreational use outcomes of each candidate alternative action. Where identified alternatives are expected to impact hydrology (e.g. reservoir release schedules), Lotic will use the hydrological simulation tools developed in Subtask 2.2 to assess the likely hydrological effects. For structural projects (e.g. diversion structure improvements), Lotic will use conceptual level engineering assessments and/or 1D hydraulic models to evaluate effects. Predicted outcomes will be assessed against stakeholder-identified management objectives. Actions will then be ranked against each other based on their predicted ability to meet those objectives.

#### Deliverables:

- Expansion of the table developed in TASK 4 to include the relative effectiveness rank assigned to each alternative.
- Technical report discussing the employed methodologies and assessment results characterizing the effectiveness of each proposed alternative.

### Subtask 5.3 Characterize Feasibility

The characterization of feasibility for each alternative is a social exercise that requires careful evaluation of administrative, legal, financial, and institutional constraints. Lotic will initially utilize streamflow records, hydrological simulation products, records from the Colorado Department of Water Resources, existing engineering reports, and/or discussions with local water users to characterize the demands, efficiencies, and use shortages associated with various uses of water from the high-priority reaches. Lotic will utilize available engineering assessments or secure new conceptual level assessments to provide important information about the costs of structural projects. Lotic will work with the local Water Commissioner to identify critical administrative constraints on water management alternatives. Lotic will also work with stakeholders to further characterize land ownership and institutional constraints and understand local perceptions of equitable cost allocation for E&R use projects. Through this process, we hope to identify likely proponents/champions for specific issues and areas of broad stakeholder interest and support. Lotic will subsequently work with the stakeholders to rank alternatives according to their relative feasibility.

#### Deliverables:

- Expansion of the table developed in Subtask 5.2 to include the relative feasibility rank assigned to each alternative.
- Technical report discussing the employed methodologies and stakeholder discussions characterizing the feasibility of each proposed alternative.

### Subtask 5.4 Prioritize Actions

Lotic will integrate the results from the effectiveness and feasibility assessments above to identify high-priority actions for protecting or improving environmental and/or recreational flows. Lotic will identify a conceptual level implementation plan for each action. The implementation plan will identify project champions, affected stakeholders, recommendations for overcoming technical, financial, or legal constraints, anticipated outcomes, and a monitoring plan for assessing long-term effectiveness.

#### Deliverables:

- Technical report integrating all previous maps, graphics, memoranda, and technical reports. Report will additionally include identification of high-priority management recommendations and corresponding discussions for implementation and monitoring of each.

## REFERENCES

Mahoney and Rood, 1998. A device for studying the influence of declining water table on poplar growth and survival. *Tree Physiology* 8:305–314.





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### Tasks

Poff, N.L., J.D. Allan, M. B. Bain, J.R. Karr, K.L. Prestegard, B. Richter, R. Sparks, and J. Stromberg. 1997. The natural flow regime: a new paradigm for riverine conservation and restoration. *BioScience* 47:769-784.

Schmidt, L.J. and J.P. Potyondy, 2004, Quantifying channel maintenance instream flows: An approach for gravel-bed streams in the western United States, General Technical Report RMRS-GTR-128, Fort Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, pp. 33

Taylor, N., 1998. *Urban Planning Theory since 1945*. London: Sage Publications. pp. 67–68.

### Budget and Schedule

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

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

### Reporting Requirements

**Reporting:** The grantee shall provide their respective Roundtable(s) and the CWCB a Progress Report every 6 months, beginning from the date of executed contract. The Progress Report shall describe the status of the water activity, the completion or partial completion of the tasks identified in the Statement of Work including a description of any major issues that have occurred and any corrective action to address these issues. The CWCB may withhold reimbursement until satisfactory Progress Reports have been submitted.

**Final Deliverable:** At the completion of the water activity, the grantee shall provide their respective Roundtable(s) and the CWCB a final report on the grantee's letterhead that:

- Summarizes the water activity and how the water activity was completed
- Describes any obstacles encountered, and how these obstacles were overcome
- Explains the Proposed Budget versus the Actual Budget
- Confirms that all matching commitments have been fulfilled
- Includes photographs, summaries of meeting and engineering reports/design, if appropriate

The CWCB will withhold the last 10% of the entire water activity 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 water activity and purchase order or contract will be closed without any further payment. Any entity that fails to complete a satisfactory Final Report and submit to CWCB within 90 days of the expiration of a purchase order or contract may be denied consideration for future funding of any type from CWCB.

Last Update: May 19, 2017



**COLORADO**

Colorado Water  
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

**Colorado Water Conservation Board**

**Water Supply Reserve Fund  
Exhibit " - BUDGET AND SCHEDULE**

**Date: 11/6/2017**

**Water Activity Name: Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP)**

**Grantee Name: Eagle River Watershed Council (ERWC)**

<u>Task No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Start Date</u> <sup>(1)</sup>	<u>End Date</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u> (cash & in-kind) <sup>(2)</sup>	<u>WSRF Funds</u> (Basin & Statewide combined) <sup>(2)</sup>	<u>Total</u>
1	Engage Stakeholders	Month 1	Month 36	\$48,900	\$9,000	<b>\$57,900</b>
2	Assess Conditions & Identify Risks	Month 2	Month 16	\$161,800	\$39,800	<b>\$201,600</b>
3	Articulate Planning Objectives & Measureable Results	Month 17	Month 21	\$28,600	\$6,800	<b>\$35,400</b>
4	Identify Potential Alternatives	Month 21	Month 23	\$25,800	\$6,700	<b>\$32,500</b>
5	Evaluate & Prioritize Actions	Month 24	Month 36	\$49,900	\$12,700	<b>\$62,600</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$315,000</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>	<b>\$390,000</b>

***ERWC anticipates a start date between May and June 2018.***

**(1)** Start Date for funding under \$100K - 45 Days from Board Approval; Start Date for funding over \$100K - 90 Days from Board Approval.

**(2)** Round values up to the nearest hundred dollars.

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

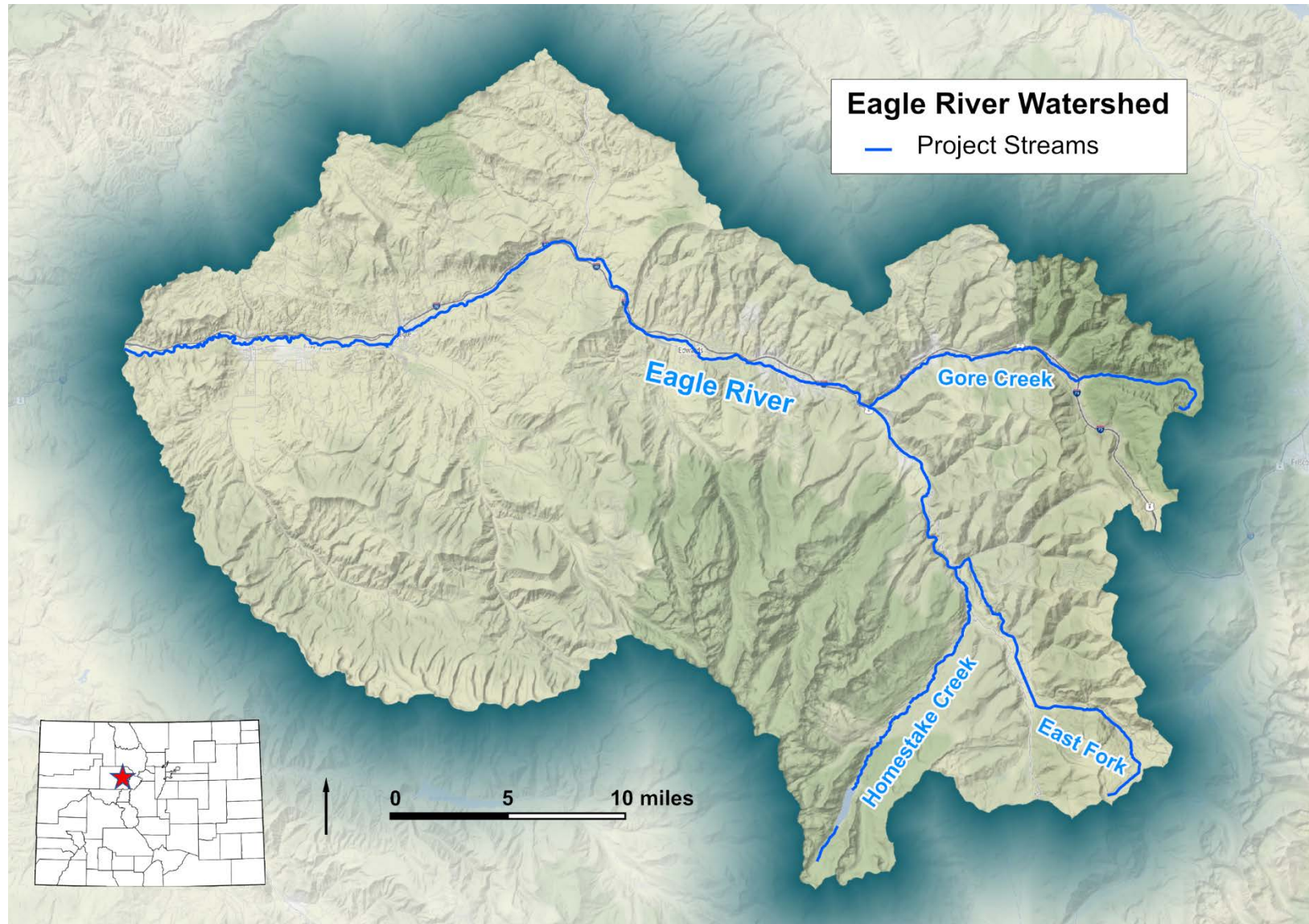
NTP will not be accepted as a start date. Project activities may commence as soon as the grantee enters contract and receives formal NTP if prior to the listed "Start Date"

CWCB will withhold the last 10% of the entire grant budget until the Final Report (Deliverable) is completed and accepted (2016 WSRF Criteria & Guidelines).

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

# Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP)

## Exhibit C: Project Area Map







## HOMESTAKE WATER PROJECT

Otero Pump Station  
37200 North Highway 24  
P.O. Box 1821  
Buena Vista, CO 81211

719-395-1595 or 719-668-9595 (Phone)  
719-395-1590 or 719-668-9590 (FAX)

October 27, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
ATTN: Chris Sturm  
1313 Sherman St., Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Chris Sturm:

We are writing this letter on behalf of the Homestake Water Project in support of the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP) being coordinated by Eagle River Watershed Council.

The ER-IWMP will utilize a stakeholder process to identify the environmental and recreational flow needs in the Eagle River and assess its current impairments and how those may change with future water supply development. We support this planning process and effort to build consensus, because of the importance of the Eagle River and its watershed to the Homestake Water Project partners existing and future water supplies.

The ER-IWMP clearly fits Homestake Water Project partner's mission of finding solutions to developing our joint use water supplies while minimizing environmental impacts. We understand that the total project estimate is at \$363,000 with a positive, ambitious scope. The Homestake Water Project partners are able to commit a \$20,000 cash match toward grant funding of ER-IWMP to be used in years 2018 and 2019. We intend to actively participate to increase our understanding of stakeholder needs in this important watershed and work toward productive assessments and future planning that takes into consideration all stakeholders of this resource.

If you have any questions in regards to our support, please do not hesitate to contact either of the Homestake Water Project partners below.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Davis  
Deputy Director of Water Resources  
Aurora Water  
(303) 739-7274  
[aldavis@auroragov.org](mailto:aldavis@auroragov.org)

Brett Gracely  
Water Resources Manager  
Colorado Springs Utilities  
(719) 668-4052  
[bgracely@csu.org](mailto:bgracely@csu.org)



October 27, 2017

Sent Via Email

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
Attn: Chris Sturm  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Chris:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Eagle River Water & Sanitation District, Upper Eagle Regional Water Authority and Eagle Park Reservoir Company in support of the grant application being submitted for the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP) being coordinated by the Eagle River Watershed Council.

The ER-IWMP will utilize a stakeholder process to identify the environmental and recreation flow needs in the Eagle River, and assess any current impairments and how those may change with future water supply development. We support this planning process and effort to build community consensus. Our community values its rivers, which provide drinking, irrigation and snowmaking water, fish habitat and aesthetic values, and understands that the available water in the basin must be balanced between these uses for a successful and sustainable community and economy.

Participating in ER-IWMP development process clearly fits the mission of our entities, which is to provide efficient, effective, and reliable water and wastewater utility services in a manner that respects the natural environment. We therefore commit to a dollar match of **\$15,000**. Other services in-kind that we are willing to contribute are: 1) consulting time to assist in peer review of our StateMOD hydrology/water rights model and model runs needed for the identification of stream flow deficits, and 2) staff time to provide historical perspective of water issues in the study area and an understanding of how the current water system is operated and the resulting impacts on stream flows.

If you have any questions in regards to our support, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 970-477-5444.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linn Brooks".

Linn Brooks  
General Manager

Clean Water. Quality Life.™

Vail Resorts  
PO Box 915  
Avon, CO 81620



October 30, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
ATTN: Chris Sturm  
1313 Sherman St., Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Chris Sturm:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Vail Resorts in support of the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP) being coordinated by Eagle River Watershed Council.

The ER-IWMP will utilize a stakeholder process to identify the environmental and recreational flow needs in the Eagle River and assess its current impairments and how those may change with future water supply development. We support this planning process and effort to build consensus, because the Eagle River and surrounding watershed is pertinent to Vail Resorts businesses and surrounding economy. Ensuring the health and proper management of this resource will ensure that businesses, residents and visitors alike can enjoy it for years to come.

The ER-IWMP clearly fits the interests of Vail Resorts which owns and operates Vail Mountain and Beaver Creek Resort which both fall into the Eagle River Watershed. We will work with the Eagle River Watershed Council on budgeting funding for this project.

If you have any questions in regards to our support, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 970-754-4125

Sincerely,

Mike Jackson  
Director of Mountain Planning  
Vail Mountain and Beaver Creek Resort



**COLORADO OPERATIONS**  
Climax Mine  
11236 Highway 91 - Fremont Pass  
Climax, CO 80429  
Phone (719) 486-2150  
Fax (719) 486-2251

October 27, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
ATTN: Chris Sturm  
1313 Sherman St., Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Sturm:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Climax Molybdenum Company in support of the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP) being coordinated by Eagle River Watershed Council.

The ER-IWMP will utilize a stakeholder process to identify the environmental recreational flow and supply needs in the Eagle River, assess its current impairments and evaluate how those may change with future water supply development. We support this planning process and effort to build consensus because of its importance to regional water supply planning.

The ER-IWMP clearly fits the interests of Climax Molybdenum Company in developing joint-use water supply projects in concert with the needs of our Eagle River MOU partnership while managing specific community values surrounding water for all beneficial and environmental uses. Climax Molybdenum Company plans to participate in this planning effort and further commits \$11,000 towards matching funds needed to complete this project. We look forward to the collaborative effort with the numerous stakeholders in this process.

If you have any questions in regards to our support, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (720) 942-3231.

Sincerely,

Bryce Romig  
Manager, Administration  
Climax Molybdenum Company  
[bromig@fmi.com](mailto:bromig@fmi.com)



Colorado Water Conservation Board  
ATTN: Chris Sturm  
1313 Sherman St., Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

10/25/2017

Dear Chris;

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Colorado River District in support of the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP) being coordinated by Eagle River Watershed Council.

The Eagle River and its tributaries serve a wide range of interests and this management plan process will bring stakeholders to a common table to identify the environmental and recreational flow needs and opportunities in the basin. The plan offers a chance to leverage broad participation to enhance the stream systems economic and social benefits. We support this process because River District experience has shown that the best approach to managing our water is through a holistic and collaborative approach. Accordingly, the River District has committed a \$10,000 cash match to the effort.

The ER-IWMP clearly fits the mission of the Colorado River District to lead in the protection, conservation, use, and development of the water resources of the Colorado River basin for the welfare of the District.

If you have any questions in regard to our support, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

R. Eric Kuhn  
General Manager  
Colorado River District  
970.945.8522  
ekuhn@crwcd.org



75 South Frontage Road West  
Vail, Colorado 81657  
vailgov.com

**Community Development Department**  
970.479.2138  
970.479.2452 fax

October 18, 2017

Chris Sturm  
Colorado Water Conservation Board  
1313 Sherman St., Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Sturm,

I am writing on behalf of the Town of Vail to express our strong support for the effort by Eagle River Watershed Council (ERWC) to develop an Integrated Management Plan for the Eagle River Watershed. Vail plans to join its neighboring communities in supporting this effort financially with \$5,000 contributions in 2018 and 2019.

From my perspective as a member of the stakeholder group that has already convened several times, Holly Loff and ERWC are doing an outstanding job of gathering a wide variety of community stakeholders to contribute to this process. The stakeholder group will collaborate to assess current threats to the quantity and quality of our water in Eagle County and work to develop a plan which ensures that the needs of all stakeholders are met and the aquatic and riparian ecosystems in our valley are protected.

It is our belief that the collaborative approach envisioned by ERWC will be a thorough and effective way to proactively address the challenges our water supply is likely to face in the future. The stakeholder group consists of representatives of a wide variety of entities, some of which have had disagreements over water-related issues in the past. This collaborative approach will foster cooperation and ensure that conflicts are uncovered and remedied in productive, mutually-beneficial ways. This strategy has high potential to guarantee that the Eagle River and its tributaries are wisely managed while protecting the rights and needs of the individuals, communities and businesses that depend on this watershed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Peter Wadden, M.A.  
Watershed Education Coordinator  
Town of Vail



October 30, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
ATTN: Chris Sturm  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

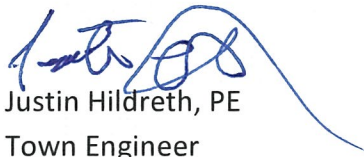
Dear Mr. Sturm:

The Town of Avon is in full support of the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP) coordinated by the Eagle River Watershed Council. The ER-IWMP will identify the water quality, water quantity and recreation flow requirements of the Eagle River today and in the future. We anticipate long-term demands on the watershed because of additional growth, water storage development and climate change. The long-term protection of the Eagle River is vital to Avon's recreation based economy.

Completing the ER-IWMP will assist Avon and the entire Vail Valley in managing this valuable resource today and in the future. Therefore, the Town of Avon fully supports the ER-IWMP and will contribute \$10,000 over two-years for the development of the plan.

If you have any questions regarding Avon's support, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 970-748-4045.

Sincerely,



Justin Hildreth, PE  
Town Engineer



October 19, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
ATTN: Chris Sturm  
1313 Sherman St., Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Chris Sturm:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Town of Gypsum in support of the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP) being coordinated by Eagle River Watershed Council.

The ER-IWMP will utilize a stakeholder process to identify the environmental and recreational flow needs in the Eagle River and assess its current impairments and how those may change with future water supply development. Last year, the Town of Gypsum completed a Source Water Protection Plan for the Gypsum Creek basin which was developed through a stakeholder process and we are very satisfied with the result. Through collaboration with a disparate group of landowners, water users, citizens and local, state and federal agencies, a broad community has been formed that has a much deeper understanding Respect and concern for the current condition, threats and opportunities in our Gypsum Creek watershed.

We support this planning process and effort to build consensus, because we are a small part of a greater Eagle River watershed and we want to be a contributing part of that community and to better understand how we impact and contribute to it. From this perspective, the ER-IWMP is a great opportunity. We will be contributing \$5,000 to the effort.

If you have any questions in regards to our support, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (970) 524-1723.

Sincerely,



Jeff Shroll, Gypsum Town Manager

ADMINISTRATION

Town Manager  
Jeff Shroll

Asst. Town Manager  
Frances Barela

Town Clerk  
Danette Schlegel

Finance Officer  
Mark Silverthorn

Sales Tax Auditor  
Lynn Trudeau

Special Projects Coordinator  
Krista DeHerrera



TOWN OF MINTURN  
P.O. Box 309 ♦ 302 Pine Street  
Minturn, CO 81645  
Phone: 970-827-5645 Fax: 970-827-5545

Janet Hawkinson, MLAP  
Minturn Planning Director



Town Council  
Matt Scherr - Mayor  
Earle Bidez - ProTem Mayor  
Terry Armistead - Council  
Sidney Harrington - Council  
Kristina Krone - Council  
Sage Pierson - Council  
John Widerman - Council

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October 23, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
ATTN: Chris Sturm  
1313 Sherman St., Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Chris Sturm:

The Town of Minturn is in support of the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP) being coordinated by Eagle River Watershed Council. We have many development projects being proposed in our town and find this plan to be of great importance to our town and Eagle County. It is important that a comprehensive plan be developed in order for intelligent decisions to be made in regards to development, recreation and the health of wildlife and the environment.

We support this planning process and effort to build consensus, benefiting the community and protecting the health of rivers, streams and watersheds. The Town of Minturn has committed to support the ER-IWMP by a public vote and cash contribution by the Minturn Town Council on October 18, 2017.

If you have any questions in regards to our support, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 970-827-5645 ext.3.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet Hawkinson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Janet" being more prominent.

Janet Hawkinson, MLAP  
Minturn Planning Director  
planner@minturn.org  
970-827-5645 e. 3

OFFICE OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
970-328-8605  
FAX: 970-328-8629  
[eagleadmin@eaglecounty.us](mailto:eagleadmin@eaglecounty.us)  
[www.eaglecounty.us](http://www.eaglecounty.us)



JILL H. RYAN  
KATHY CHANDLER-HENRY  
JEANNE MCQUEENEY

October 24, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
ATTN: Chris Sturm  
1313 Sherman St., Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Sturm,

We're writing in support of the Eagle River Watershed Council (ERWC) as they seek grant funding from your organization to develop an Integrated Water Management Plan (IWMP) for critical segments of Eagle River that are likely to be impacted by projects identified by the parties who signed the Eagle River MOU. It is our hope that the IWMP will inform Eagle River management decisions that remain protective of the non-consumptive needs which are vital to protecting our local economy.

Protection of the natural environment is a priority in our strategic plan and maintaining healthy rivers and streams is paramount to our constituents. The ERWC recently held a stakeholder meeting with a wide variety of river users and special interests to discuss the development of an IWMP. All in attendance agreed that this effort will result in a positive outcome and not threaten senior water right holders. Eagle County supports the ERWC as they advocate for the health and conservation of the Eagle River through research, education and projects. They have a proven track record of implementing many successful projects and we're confident that the development of an IWMP will be no exception.

If you have any questions in regards to our support, please do not hesitate to contact our Environmental Health Director, Ray Merry at (970) 328-8757.

Sincerely,

Jill H. Ryan  
Chair

Kathy Chandler-Henry  
Commissioner

Jeanne McQueeney  
Commissioner



200 Lion Park Circle  
Rifle, CO 81650  
Phone: 970-625-1829

October 26, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
ATTN: Chris Sturm  
1313 Sherman St., Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Chris Sturm:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Middle Colorado Watershed Council in support of the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP) being coordinated by Eagle River Watershed Council.

The mission of the Middle Colorado Watershed Council (MCWC) is to evaluate, protect and enhance the health of the middle Colorado River watershed through the cooperative effort of watershed stakeholders. Our organization is supportive of the ER-IWMP effort for a few reasons.

The MCWC's geographic area of interest lies immediately downstream of the Eagle River Watershed Council's (ERWC) focus area. The MCWC is intending to undertake a similar IWMP process in the middle Colorado River beginning in 2018, subject to funding approval. We look forward to collaborating with the ERWC as both organizations embark on this important work. We see the benefits that can accrue from our two organizations working concurrently on IWMP planning processes by sharing technical data, experiences, and outcomes and intend to communicate these on a regular basis. As a downstream neighbor, we may realize both direct and indirect benefits from any projects, processes or actions that may be taken to address environmental and recreation flow needs through the ER-IWMP process. The ER-IWMP will advance one of the top goals of the Colorado Basin Roundtable to "Protect and Restore Streams, Rivers, Lakes and Riparian Areas". For these reasons, the MCWC expresses its full support for the ER-IWMP and urges the Colorado Water Conservation Board to do the same.

If you have any questions in regards to our support, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 303-204-4164.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laurie Rink".

Laurie Rink  
Executive Director

October 25, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
ATTN: Chris Sturm  
1313 Sherman St., Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Chris Sturm:

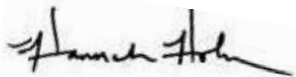
I am writing in support of the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP) being coordinated by Eagle River Watershed Council.

The ER-IWMP will utilize a stakeholder process to identify the environmental and recreational flow needs in the Eagle River and assess its current impairments and how those may change with future water supply development. This work directly responds to the Colorado Basin Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan priority goal of extending stream management planning throughout the basin.

I coordinate the Colorado Basin Roundtable Integrated Water Management Planning Framework Project for the Ruth Powell Hutchins Water Center at Colorado Mesa University, and I believe that the ER-IWMP will complement the Framework Project, as well as help demonstrate to other communities how they can use the tools developed through the framework project. The Hutchins Water Center will support this project through helping to ascertain how the products developed through the Framework project can be applied to the benefit of the Eagle River planning process.

If you have any questions in regards to our support, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at [hholm@coloradomesa.edu](mailto:hholm@coloradomesa.edu) or 970-248-1968.

Warm Regards,



Hannah Holm,  
Coordinator



*Richard Van Gytenbeek, Colorado River Basin Outreach Coordinator, Colorado Water Project*

October 25, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
Mr. Chris Sturm  
Stream Restoration Coordinator  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

Delivered Via Email

RE: Support for the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan.

Dear Chris

Trout Unlimited would like to express their support for the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ERIWMP) which is being coordinated by the Eagle River Watershed Council. The Eagle River sub-basin is one of western Colorado's most important high elevation watersheds, a current and future stronghold for cold water fisheries.

As you know TU has been a strong supporter of Stream Management Plans (aka Integrated Water Plans) since their inception. Our organization strongly supports the need to determine environmental and recreational flow gaps in many of our rivers and streams. To understand and define those gaps, we must have the support of water right holders. A collaborative water planning process that includes all water users, respects existing water rights and seeks innovative management opportunities that help both consumptive and non-consumptive users is the essence of integrated planning.

With guidance from River Network, the ERWC has already cast a wide net. Their initial efforts to reach out via focus group calls and to bring those consumptive and non-consumptive user groups to the table are a good start and have set an open and collaborative tone to their process. The ERWC will also be working with the Colorado Basin Roundtable to help inform the CBRT-IWMP framework plan. A strong CBRT-IWMP framework plan will help the roundtable in their goal to integrate sub-basin SMP's into a basin-wide Colorado River IWMP. We hope that you will give serious consideration to this grant application as we believe it has a very strong chance of being successful and resulting in a community driven integrated water plan.

Sincerely,

*Richard Van Gytenbeek*

Richard Van Gytenbeek

*Trout Unlimited: America's Leading Coldwater Fisheries Conservation Organization*

1156 N. 5<sup>th</sup> St., Suite #409, Grand Junction , Colorado 81501

(307) 690-1267 • [r.vangytenbeek@tu.org](mailto:r.vangytenbeek@tu.org) • [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org)

*Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan  
Exhibit C: Letters of Support, page 4 of 9*



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
COLORADO RIVER VALLEY FIELD OFFICE  
2300 River Frontage Road  
Silt, CO 81652  
[www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/crvfo.html](http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/crvfo.html)



In Reply Refer to:  
7220 (CON040)

October 26, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
ATTN: Chris Sturm  
1313 Sherman St., Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Chris Sturm:

I write to express my strong support for the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP) being coordinated by Eagle River Watershed Council for their application to the Colorado Watershed Restoration grant. This project will take important steps towards improving security for all water uses in the Eagle River Watershed planning area by understanding existing and future use needs and gaps, developing strategies for meeting shortages, and planning for the protection and maintenance of healthy riverine ecosystems.

The ER-IWMP will utilize a stakeholder process to identify the environmental and recreational flow needs in the Eagle River and assess its current impairments and how those may change with future water supply development. The Bureau of Land Management Colorado River Valley Field Office (BLM CRVFO) is located in Silt, CO. The mission of the BLM is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the multiple use and enjoyment of present and future generations. Considering the mission of the BLM, the BLM CRVFO supports the ER-IWMP project because we are dedicated to preserving and protecting water resources along the Eagle River as the land we manage for multiple uses relies on the water quality and quantity supplied by the river.

The BLM CRVFO manages a variety of uses along the Eagle River including, but not limited to; recreational uses, agricultural lands, terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat, upland and riparian ecosystems, and natural resource development activities. All of these uses rely on and can impact the health of the Eagle River. Therefore, we are interested in making sure we have sufficient flows in the river to help maintain suitable conditions for the aforementioned uses.

The BLM CRVFO is ready to be engaged and supportive of ER-IWMP project. We are prepared to serve the public interest in the planning and evaluation of these resources. We are able to commit to in kind resource donations in the form of data collection, data analysis and environmental assessments if necessary. Please give the ER-IWMP application the highest consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Gloria Tibbetts  
Acting Field Office Manager  
(970) 876-9000





United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

White River  
National  
Forest

Eagle/Holy Cross Ranger District  
24747 US Hwy 24  
P.O. Box 190  
Minturn, CO 81645  
(970) 827-5715  
FAX (970) 827-9343

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Date: October 24, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
ATTN: Chris Sturm  
1313 Sherman St., Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Chris Sturm,

The Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger District of the White River National Forest strongly supports the efforts of the Eagle River Watershed Council towards the coordination and creation of the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan.

The planning process and stakeholder engagement is consistent with White River National Forest goals of connecting communities and maintaining resilient landscapes, and the Integrated Water Management Plan looks to be a great tool for building consensus around environmental and recreational flow needs on the Eagle River.

Because the Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger District manages most of the land that makes up the Eagle River Watershed, we have a strong interest in the viability and success of this plan, and I look forward to continuing our involvement in – and support for – the process as it moves forward.

If you have any questions in regards to our support, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (970) 827-5150, or [awmayville@fs.fed.us](mailto:awmayville@fs.fed.us).

Sincerely,

AARON W. MAYVILLE  
District Ranger





## COLORADO

### Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Glenwood Springs Service Center  
0088 Wildlife Way  
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601  
P 970.947.2920 | F 970.947.2936

October 26, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
ATTN: Chris Sturm  
1313 Sherman St., Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Sturm:

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is supporting the development of the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP) being coordinated by Eagle River Watershed Council. This plan will help identify issues both with environmental and recreational flows and if they would change with future water developments.

CPW is pleased to support this process to develop consensus and further integrate the importance of the Eagle River in maintaining essential terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat along with promoting the diversity of wildlife species within the watershed.

The mission for CPW is: To perpetuate the wildlife resources of the state, to provide a quality state park system, and to provide enjoyable and sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities that educate and inspire current and future generations to serve as active stewards of Colorado's natural resources. The development of the ERIWMP will certainly fit well within CPW's mission statement.

If you have any questions in regards to our support, please feel free to contact District Wildlife Managers Bill Andree at 970-390-2240 or Craig Wescoatt at 970-948-0354.

Sincerely,



Perry Will  
Area Wildlife Manager

Xc: JT Romatzke, B Andree, C Wescoatt







October 19, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
ATTN: Chris Sturm  
1313 Sherman St., Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Chris Sturm:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Vail Valley Anglers in support of the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP) being coordinated by Eagle River Watershed Council.

The ER-IWMP will utilize a stakeholder process to identify the environmental and recreational flow needs in the Eagle River and assess its current impairments and how those may change with future water supply development. We support this planning process and effort to build consensus because of the ongoing strain on water resources throughout the State, but specifically in the Eagle River watershed. Our business depends on the health and well-being of the watershed including the fish habitat and related riparian zones that help to maintain the overall health of any river system. We utilize the Eagle River for guided fly fishing trips on a year round basis. It is important to maintain minimum flows throughout the year to support the aquatic life and to make the Eagle River an attractive and viable watershed for years to come.

The Eagle River is one of the last of a dying breed in the State of Colorado. It remains one of the larger freestone rivers in the State. Meaning, from its origin to the confluence with the Colorado River in Dotsero, it has no impedance or alterations other than the straightening that occurred to the extreme upper reaches during the height of the Camp Hale days.

I have been amazed over the 28 years I have lived in the Eagle River Valley at the resilience and general health of this watershed that parallels a major interstate for much of its length and has such a large group of diverse users. The last time I counted there were 14 golf courses in the Vail area as well as snowmaking operations at the resorts of Vail and Beaver Creek and yet, the Eagle has never been better from a fishing perspective. Much of that credit can go to the Gilman Mine cleanup but I know we have a long way to go there as well.

I look forward to contributing along with my staff to make an excellent plan for the future of the Eagle River. I hope you will consider the importance of this step and recognize that planning now will preserve much of what I have described above for future generations.

The ER-IWMP clearly fits the interests of Vail Valley Anglers because of our close connection with the river and how we rely on it to make our living. We support over 50 jobs locally and contribute to the community in many different ways.

If you have any questions in regards to our support, please do not hesitate to contact me or my staff directly at:

John Cochran, General Manager - [john@vailvalleyanglers.com](mailto:john@vailvalleyanglers.com)  
Patrick Perry, Store and Guide Service Manager - [pperry@vailvalleyanglers.com](mailto:pperry@vailvalleyanglers.com)  
Madeline Grande, Admin / Marketing - [madeline@vailvalleyanglers.com](mailto:madeline@vailvalleyanglers.com)

Sincerely,

John Cochran  
970-926-0900



Fly Fishing Outfitters  
P.O.Box 5346  
Eagle, CO 81631

October 22, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
ATTN: Chris Sturm  
1313 Sherman St., Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Chris Sturm:

I am writing this letter on behalf of my business Fly Fishing Outfitters in support of the Eagle River Integrated Water Management Plan (ER-IWMP) being coordinated by Eagle River Watershed Council.

Since 1992 Fly-fishing Outfitters has been the Vail Valley's Orvis endorsed year around outfitters. We employ over 30 guides at the height of our season.

The ER-IWMP will utilize a stakeholder process to identify the environmental and recreational flow needs in the Eagle River and assess its current impairments and how those may change with future water supply development. We support this planning process and effort to build consensus, because as a group of 30 plus local fly fishing guides we depend on the health of the Eagle river for our livelihoods.

The ER-IWMP clearly fits the mission our company's commitment to help preserve our cold-water fishery.

If you have any questions in regards to our support, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 970-845-8090.

Sincerely,  
John Packer  
Owner