Last Updated: July 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant Application

Instructions

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

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

Supply and Demand Gap Projects	Gregory.Johnson@state.co.us
Water Storage Projects	Anna.Mauss@state.co.us
Conservation, Land Use Planning	Kevin.Reidy@state.co.us
Engagement & Innovation Activities	Mara.MacKillop@state.co.us
Agricultural Projects	Brent.Newman@state.co.us
Environmental & Recreation Projects	Linda.Bassi@state.co.us

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

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

FINAL SUBMISSION: Submit all application materials to *waterplan.grants@state.co.us* in the original file formats [Application (word); Statement of Work (word); Budget/Schedule (excel)]. Please do not combine documents.

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District
Name of Water Project	Rio Grande Basin Soil Moisture Pilot Project

CWP Grant Request Amount	$ 20,000
Other Funding Sources SLVCCI (Pending)	$ 10,000
Other Funding Sources Landowners	$ 10,000
Other Funding Sources CWCD (In-kind)	$ 1,000
Applicant Funding Contribution (In-kind)	$ 2,000
Total Project Cost	$ 43,000

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Applicant & Grantee Information	
Name of Grantee(s)	San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District
Mailing Address	623 Fourth Street, Alamosa, CO 81101
FEIN	84-6027307
Organization Contact	Matt Hildner
Position/Title	Administrative Assistant
Email	Matt@slvwcd.org
Phone	(719) 589-2230
Grant Management Contact	Matt Hildner
Position/Title	Administrative Assistant
Email	Matt@slvwcd.org
Phone	(719) 589-2230
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	
Mailing Address	
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	

Description of Grantee/Applicant
Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).
The San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District (District) was formed in 1949 to operate a reservoir at Wagon Wheel Gap, which was never built. The District now operates an augmentation program within five San Luis Valley counties. Through the program, the District replaces depletions to the Rio Grande and Closed Basin caused by domestic, commercial, and municipal wells. This program ensures senior water rights are protected while allowing for economic growth in the San Luis Valley. The District also works with partners to address issues such as groundwater sustainability, compliance with the Rio Grande Compact, and water supply protection.

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Type of Eligible Entity (check one)	
	Public (Government): Municipalities, enterprises, counties, and State of Colorado agencies. Federal agencies are encouraged to work with local entities. Federal agencies are eligible, but only if they can make a compelling case for why a local partner cannot be the grant recipient.
X	**Public (Districts):** Authorities, Title 32/special districts (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises.
	Private Incorporated: Mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations.
	Private Individuals, Partnerships, and Sole Proprietors: Private parties may be eligible for funding.
	Non-governmental organizations (NGO): Organization that is not part of the government and is non-profit in nature.
	Covered Entity: As defined in Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes.

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

Category of Water Project (check all that apply and include relevant tasks)	
	Supply and Demand Gap - Multi-beneficial projects and those projects identified in basin implementation plans to address the water supply and demand gap. *Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):*
	Water Storage - Projects that facilitate the development of additional storage, artificial aquifer recharge, and dredging existing reservoirs to restore the reservoirs' full decreed capacity. *Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):*
	Conservation and Land Use Planning - Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning. *Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):*
	Engagement & Innovation - Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website. *Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):*
X	Agricultural - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency. *Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):*
	Environmental & Recreation - Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation. *Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):*

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	Other	Explain:

Location of Water Project

Please provide the general county and coordinates of the proposed project below in **decimal degrees**. The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable.

County/Counties	Rio Grande, Saguache, Alamosa, and Conejos Counties
Latitude	37°36'17.86" N
Longitude	106°10'45.81" W

Water Project Overview

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

The proposed project is a pilot program where farmers in Division 3 will have an opportunity to cost-share in the purchase or lease of soil moisture monitoring equipment in an effort to improve irrigation management and reduce water use. The project will use field-level soil mapping and deploy soil moisture probes in different soil types within at least 10 participating fields. Soil moisture data will be paired with real-time weather data, including evaporation, transpiration, humidity, and precipitation to better inform producers of crop irrigation needs. The data will be available on a web-based platform and smartphone application. The goal of the program is to complete a real-world test to determine the effectiveness of the technology in informing irrigation practices to improve timing and reduce surface and groundwater use. If shown to be effective, the use of this technology could be expanded across the San Luis Valley and assist in efforts to improve surface water management and groundwater sustainability in both the unconfined and confined aquifers in Division 3.

This pilot program is being organized by the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District, Conejos Water Conservancy District, Rio Grande Water Conservation District, and Groundwater Management Subdistrict #1. The partners will work together to share outreach materials and enroll farmers in the program. The program will begin with soil mapping in summer 2018, probe deployment in 2018-2019, and final reporting in mid 2020.

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Measurable Results		
To catalog measurable results achieved with the CWP Grant funds, please provide any of the following values as applicable:		
	New Storage Created (acre-feet)	
	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive	
	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)	
	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)	
To Be Determined	Efficiency Savings (indicate acre-feet/year OR dollars/year)	
	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)	
	Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms	
	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning	
	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity	
	Other	Explain:

Water Project Justification
Provide a description of how this water project supports the goals of Colorado's Water Plan, the most recent Statewide Water Supply Initiative, and the applicable Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan and Education Action Plan. The Applicant is required to reference specific needs, goals, themes, or Identified Projects and Processes (IPPs), including citations (e.g. document, chapters, sections, or page numbers). The proposed water project shall be evaluated based upon how well the proposal conforms to Colorado's Water Plan Framework for State of Colorado Support for a Water Project (CWP, Section 9.4, pp. 9-43 to 9-44;)
Colorado's Water Plan: The project aligns with Colorado's Water Plan Goal to "support Colorado's agricultural industry to make it more efficient, resilient, and able to reduce water consumption without impacting agricultural productivity" (CWP, Section 10.3, pp. 10-10). SWSI: The project aligns with SWSI's recommendation to investigate "water conservation and efficiency (agricultural and M/I)," as a way to move forward to address shortages in water supply. Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan (RGBIP): The project aligns with the RGBIP goals to "sustain the confined and unconfined aquifers in accordance with Senate Bill 04-222 and operate within the State Engineer's new Rules and Regulations for the San Luis Valley," and to "manage water use to sustain optimal agricultural economy throughout the Basin's communities." The project meets the goals listed above by providing producers with more data to inform their irrigation management decisions. There has been qualitative success in Division 1 using soil moisture probes to increase on farm efficiency. This project seeks to replicate that success on a larger scale with more detailed data collection to determine the effectiveness of the technology.

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Related Studies

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

In addition to complementing the Colorado Water Plan, SWSI, and Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan, the project supports the local efforts of project partners and the Colorado Division of Water Resources to better manage groundwater and surface water in an over appropriated system. The project specifically seeks to improve water conservation through improve irrigation practices. This is complementary to:

- Compliance with well pumping rules and regulations.
- Development of groundwater management subdistricts and plans of water management.
- Efforts to maintain sustainable aquifer levels to support agriculture communities, wetlands, and wildlife.
- Projects to improve diversion and headgate structures and better manage surface water supplies.

Previous CWCB Grants, Loans or Other Funding

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

The District has received two grants from the CWCB:
- SLVWCD, Ground Water Recharge and Management Project, 1991, Contract No. C153626
- SLVWCD, Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project, 1999, Contract No. C150042

The District has two existing loans with the CWCB:
- SLVWCD, Weaver Water Rights Acquisition, July 2008, Contract No. C150269
- SLVWCD, Anaconda Water Rights Acquisition, March 2013, Contract No. C150348

Taxpayer Bill of Rights

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

The District will receive and manage the grant through its augmentation enterprise program, which is not subject to TABOR limitations.

Last Updated: July 2017

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

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

Last Updated: Jan 16, 2018

Colorado Water Conservation Board
Water Plan Grant - Exhibit A

Statement Of Work	
Date:	**February 1, 2018**
Name of Grantee:	**San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District**
Name of Water Project:	**Rio Grande Basin Soil Moisture Pilot Project**
Funding Source:	**Colorado Water Plan Grant - Agriculture**

Water Project Overview:

The proposed project is a pilot program where farmers in Division 3 will have an opportunity to cost-share in the purchase or lease of soil moisture monitoring equipment in an effort to improve irrigation management and reduce groundwater use. The project will use field-level soil mapping and deploy soil moisture probes in different soil types within at least 10 participating fields. Soil moisture data will be paired with weather data, including evaporation, transpiration, humidity, and precipitation to better inform producers of crop irrigation needs. The data will be available on a web-based platform and smartphone application. This pilot program is being organized by the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District (SLVWCD), Conejos Water Conservancy District (CWCD), Rio Grande Water Conservation District (RGWCD), and Groundwater Management Subdistrict #1 (Subdistrict #1). The partners will work together to share outreach materials and enroll farmers in the program. The program will begin with soil mapping in summer 2018, probe deployment in summer 2018 through summer 2019, and final reporting in early 2020.

Project Objectives:

The goal of the program is to complete a real-world test to determine the effectiveness of soil moisture measurement technology in informing irrigation practices to improve timing and reduce surface and groundwater use. If shown to be effective, the use of this technology could be expanded across the San Luis Valley and assist in efforts to improve surface water management and groundwater sustainability in both the unconfined and confined aquifers in Division 3.

Last Updated: Jan 16, 2018

Tasks
Task 1 – Soil Mapping and Moisture Probe Installation
Description of Task:
The participating farmers will work with the SLVWCD to select a vendor for soil mapping and soil moisture probes. The vendor will complete detailed, site-specific soil mapping of each field, which will generally be a quarter section (160 acres). Soil moisture probes will then be installed.
Method/Procedure:
The participating farmers will enter into contracts with a soil mapping and soil moisture probe vendor. The vendor will complete detailed, site-specific soil mapping of each field using technology such as mobile electromagnetic mapping units, which can be pulled behind an ATV. These units measure the density and conductivity of soil profiles, which allows for mapping of soil types at the field level. The soil moisture probes will be installed in accordance with recommendations from soil mapping. It is anticipated that there will be at least one probe for each distinct soil type in the field. The soil probes will be calibrated to accurately measure soil moisture and will be available as an input, along with weather information, in software that will be made available to farmers to inform irrigation practices. Initial estimates indicate the cost of these activities will be approximately $4,000 per field. The cost of project activities will be cost-shared by participants and the District. The District is in the process of applying for additional grant funding through the San Luis Valley Conservation and Connections Initiative (SLVCCI) to offset the cost of the soil mapping and soil moisture probes. If the SLVCCI grant is not received, the landowners will contribute the remainder of project costs.
Deliverable:
The deliverables of Task 1 are detailed soil maps for the fields included in the pilot program, installation of soil moisture probes at each field, and soil moisture data at each site.

Last Updated: Jan 16, 2018

Tasks
Task 2 – Data Collection and Analysis
Description of Task:
The SLVWCD will collect information from program participants regarding their change in irrigation practices with the soil moisture probes and overall impression of the pilot program. The information will be prepared in a report to share with project partners and the CWCB.
Method/Procedure:
Participants will be required to share the following data with the SLVWCD: - Water District Structure Identification (WDID) of well or diversion structure used to irrigate the field. - Annual quantity of water applied in Water Years 2013-2017 by WDID and water source (surface stream or groundwater). - Quantity of water applied (surface and groundwater) on a minimum of a monthly basis for any water year(s) enrolled in the pilot program. - Soil mapping/soil moisture probe data. At the end of the first year of the pilot program, water application data will be compared to the average water application for the years 2013-2017 to determine if using soil moisture probes can lead to changes in irrigation practices and conservation of water. The irrigation data, soil maps, and lessons learned from the project will be compiled in a report that will be shared with project partners and the CWCB.
Deliverable:
The SLVWCD will provide a report with irrigation data, soil maps, and lessons learned from the project to partners and CWCB. If the results of the project are favorable and there is enough interest, the sponsors may expand the pilot. Further, the report may provide information for the CWCB, which may be useful in working with farmers to improve irrigation practices in other water divisions in the State of Colorado. *Special note: as per C.R.S 37-92-305 (3)(c), any decrease in consumptive use resulting from participation in this pilot program shall not be considered by the water judge in any future historic consumptive use calculations.*

Last Updated: Jan 16, 2018

Tasks
Task 3 – Project Outreach, Management, and Reporting
Description of Task:
The SLVWCD and Project partners will outreach to farmers within the project area to solicit project participation. The SLVWCD will manage the project to ensure it is completed in accordance with the project scope of work and within the project timeline. The SLVWCD will combine information from the project to create the final report and recommendations to share with project partners and the CWCB.
Method/Procedure:
The SLVWCD, CWCD, RGWCD, and Subdistrict #1 will reach out to farmers within the project area to solicit interest in the project using popular methods of communication in the San Luis Valley such as the newspaper, radio, and water management meetings. Partners have begun this outreach and have received positive feedback, indicating that enrolling at least 10 fields in the program will be achieved. Farmers will be allowed to participate in the program on a first-come first-served basis and by committing to project requirements including cost-sharing and providing irrigation data to the SLVWCD. The partners will target farmers across a wide geographic location and with a variety of types of crops grown. The SLVWCD will manage the project to ensure contracting and implementation is completed in accordance with the project scope of work and best practices. The SLVWCD will compile data and prepare periodic reports and final reports for the CWCB and project partners.
Deliverable:
Project outreach materials will be distributed broadly and farmers across a wide geographic area with a variety of crop types will be reached. All contracts and reports will be completed, and the project will be implemented according to the project budget and timeline.

Last Updated: Jan 16, 2018

Budget and Schedule

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

Reporting Requirements

Progress Reports: The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of issuance of a purchase order, or the execution of a contract. The progress report shall describe the status of the tasks identified in the statement of work, including a description of any major issues that have occurred and any corrective action taken to address these issues.

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

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

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

Payment

Last Updated: Jan 16, 2018

Payment

Payment will be made based on actual expenditures and must include invoices for all work completed. The request for payment must include a description of the work accomplished by task, an estimate of the percent completion for individual tasks and the entire Project in relation to the percentage of budget spent, identification of any major issues, and proposed or implemented corrective actions.

Project costs not covered by those or other grants, and are therefore the responsibility of the grantee, will be eligible for CWCB funds at the following percentages of project costs:

	Percent of Project Costs		
Type of Activity	Recommended Grant Funding Request	Max Grant Funding Request (All CWCB Sources)	Minimum Funding Match (Non-CWCB Sources)
Engineering & Construction	20%	50%	50%
Feasibility Study	50%	50%	50%
Reducing Agricultural Dry Up	50%	80%	20%
Conservation/Efficiency Methods	50%	80%	20%
Educational Efforts	50%	80%	20%
Environmental Conservation	50%	80%	20%
Watershed Improvements	50%	80%	20%
Stream Improvements	50%	80%	20%
Land Use Planning	20%	50%	50%
Recreational Projects	20%	80%	20%

Costs incurred prior to the effective date of this contract are not reimbursable. The last 10% of the entire grant will be paid out when the final deliverable has been received. All products, data and information developed as a result of this contract must be provided to CWCB in hard copy and electronic format as part of the project documentation.

Performance Measures

Performance measures for this contract shall include the following:
(a) Performance standards and evaluation: Grantee will produce detailed deliverables for each task as specified. Grantee shall maintain receipts for all project expenses and documentation of the minimum in-kind contributions (if applicable) per the budget in Exhibit B. Per Water Plan Grant Guidelines, the CWCB will pay out the last 10% of the budget when the Final Report is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the Final Report has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the purchase order or grant will be closed without any further payment.
(b) Accountability: Per Water Plan Grant Guidelines full documentation of project progress must be submitted with each invoice for reimbursement. Grantee must confirm that all grant conditions have been complied with on each invoice. In addition, per Water Plan Grant Guidelines, Progress Reports must be submitted at least once every 6 months. A Final Report must be submitted and approved before final project payment.
(c) Monitoring Requirements: Grantee is responsible for ongoing monitoring of project progress per Exhibit A. Progress shall be detailed in each invoice and in each Progress Report, as detailed above. Additional inspections or field consultations will be arranged as may be necessary.
(d) Noncompliance Resolution: Payment will be withheld if grantee is not current on all grant conditions. Flagrant disregard for grant conditions will result in a stop work order and cancellation of the Grant Agreement.

623 Fourth Street
Alamosa, CO 81101
(719) 589-2230
Heather@slvwcd.org

San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District

Heather R. Dutton - Manager

February 1, 2018

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

Re: Rio Grande Basin Soil Moisture Pilot Project – Letter of Matching Commitment

Dear Mr. Newman,

The San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District (SLVWCD) is pleased to submit our application for the Rio Grande Basin Soil Moisture Pilot Project. The project will allow framers to cost-share on the purchase or lease of soil moisture probes, which will be paired with soil mapping. It is our hope that by having field-level soil moisture information readily available, farmers will improve their irrigation practices and conserve water.

The SLVWCD will provide project management and grant administration for the project. This includes data collection and analysis, outreach, administration, and reporting. The value of this in-kind contribution is at least $2,000.00.

Further, the SLVWCD is in the process of applying for grant funding through the San Luis Valley Conservation and Connections Initiative (SLVCCI) to offset project costs. If the SLVCCI grant is secured, landowners will contribute approximately 25% of the costs. If the SLVVCCI grant is not received, the landowners will increase their contribution and match the CWCB funds at a 50/50 rate.

We appreciate the opportunity to apply for funds for this exciting project and look forward to working with you on this effort.

Thank you,

Matt Hildner
Project Manager for the Rio Grande Basin Soil Moisture Pilot Project

Conejos Water Conservancy District
P. O. Box 550
Manassa, CO 81141
Cwcd1971@hotmail.com
Phone 719-843-5261 fax 5452

January 31, 2018

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

Dear Mr. Newman:

The Conejos Water Conservancy District (CWCD) wishes to express support for the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District's (SLVWCD) grant application for the Rio Grande Basin Soil Moisture Pilot Project.

The project, which will allow local farmers to cost-share on soil mapping and soil moisture probes, has the potential to improve irrigation decision-making and water management. The CWCD is supportive of any effort to test new technologies, educate water users, and improve water conservation. Through initial conversations with the CWCB Board of Directors and community members, there has been great interest in project participation among local farmers.

The CWCD is committed to assisting with project outreach and landowner coordination. The value of this partnership is at least $1,000 in-kind for staff time.

We appreciate the Colorado Water Conservation Board making funding available for creative projects, such as this. We hope you will look favorably on the SLVWCD's application for funding.

Sincerely,

Nathan Coombs

Nathan Coombs

Rio Grande Water Conservation District
8805 Independence Way • Alamosa, Colorado 81101
Phone: (719) 589-6301 • Fax: (719) 992-2026
Protecting & Conserving San Luis Valley Water

January 31, 2018

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

Re: Rio Grande Basin Soil Moisture Pilot Project

Dear Mr. Newman:

I am writing to express support for the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District's (SLVWCD) application to the Colorado Water Plan Grant program for the Rio Grande Basin Soil Moisture Pilot Project. The Rio Grande Water Conservation District (RGWCD) is pleased to be a partner on this project, which will provide an opportunity for farmers in the San Luis Valley to cost-share on the purchase or lease of soil moisture probes. The data from the soil moisture probes will be available to help farmers make irrigation decisions, hopefully leading to water conservation.

The RGWCD has led the efforts to improve water conservation and management in the San Luis Valley. As part of our initiative to help recharge the basin's aquifers and sustainably manage water supplies, the RGWCD has overseen the development and operation of special groundwater management districts or subdistricts. The subdistricts are community driven approaches to achieving sustainable groundwater management and offsetting impacts to surface water users caused by well pumping.

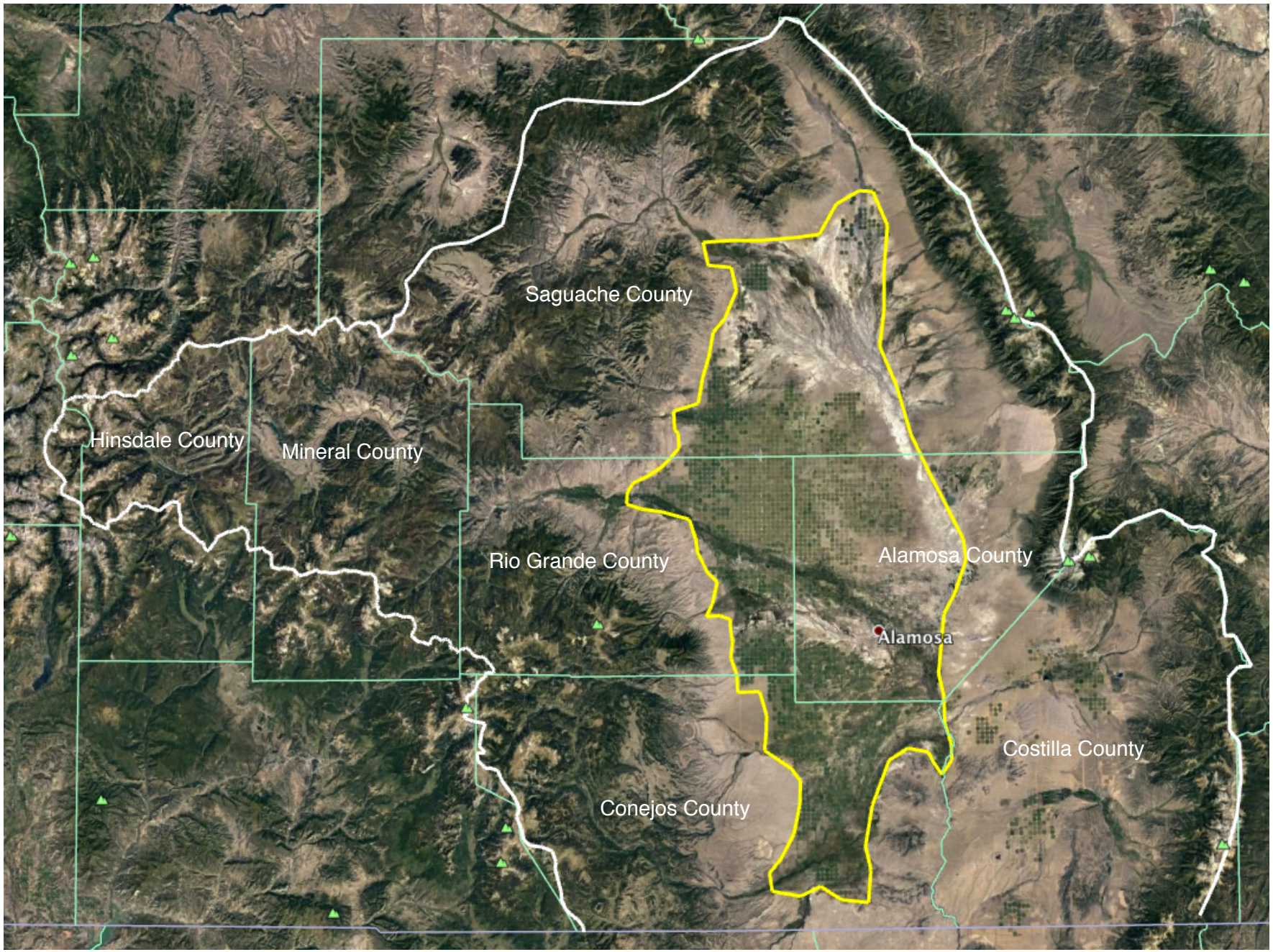
The proposed project provides an opportunity for farmers in the San Luis Valley to reduce their water consumption, which will further the goals of the community and the subdistricts to better manage water supplies. The RGWCD will assist in project outreach to farmers. Further, Subdistrict #1 has recently announced a project through the NRCS' Regional Cooperative Partnership Program (RCPP) to cost-share on projects to improve irrigation efficiency and soil health. There may be an opportunity to partner on the soil moisture probe project through the RCPP project.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the SLVWCD's application. We fully support the application and look forward to the positive impacts programs like this will have on our water community.

Sincerely,

Cleave Simpson
General Manager for the Rio Grande Water Conservation District

Location of the Rio Grande Basin Soil Moisture Pilot Project Area



San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District

Project Area Boundary

Rio Grande Basin in South Central Colorado

N

COLORADO
Colorado Water Conservation Board
Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant - Exhibit B
Budget and Schedule

Date: 2/1/2018

Name of Applicant: San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District

Name of Water Project: Rio Grande Basin Soil Moisture Pilot Project

Task No.	Task Description	Start Date	End Date	Grant Funding Request	Cash Match SLVCCI*	Cash Match Landowners	In-Kind CWCD	In-Kind SLVWCD	Total
1	Soil Mapping and Moisture Probe Installation	August 15, 2018	May 1, 2019	$ 20,000.00	$ 10,000.00	$ 10,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ 40,000.00
2	Data Collection and Analysis	August 15, 2018	November 30, 2019	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000.00	$ 1,000.00	$ 2,000.00
3	Project Outreach, Management, and Reportin	February 1, 2018	May 1, 2020	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000.00	$ 1,000.00
			Total	$ 20,000.00	$ 10,000.00	$ 10,000.00	$ 1,000.00	$ 2,000.00	$ 43,000.00

*The District is in the process of applying for grant funding through the San Luis Valley Conservation and Connections Initiative (SLVCCI) to offset the cost of the soil mapping and soil moisture probes. If the SLVCCI grant is not received, the landowners will contribute the remainder of project costs.