

Water Supply Reserve Fund – Grant and Loan Program
Water Activity Summary Sheet
March 20-21, 2019
Agenda Item 24(c)

Applicant & Grantee: Big Thompson Watershed Coalition

Water Activity Name: Big Thompson River Envisioning Project

Water Activity Purpose: Multipurpose (Env/ Rec/M&I/Ag/ Ed & Outreach)/Study

County: Larimer

Drainage Basin: South Platte

Water Source: Big Thompson River

Amount Requested: \$20,000 South Platte Basin Account
\$20,000 Statewide Account
\$40,000 Total Request

Matching Funds: Applicant & 3rd Party Match (cash & in-kind) = \$254,020
• 1,270% of the Statewide Account request (meets 10% min)
Basin Account Match = \$20,000
• 100% of the Statewide Account Match (meets 10% min)
Total Match (Applicant/3rd Party & Basin Account) = \$274,020
• 1,370% of the Statewide Account request (meets 50% min)

Staff Recommendation:
Staff recommends approval of up to \$20,000 from the South Platte Basin Account, and \$20,000 from the Statewide Account to help fund the project titled: Big Thompson River Envisioning Project.

Water Activity Summary: WSRF grant funds, if approved, will assist the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition, along with an Advisory Committee composed of diverse interests, in the development of a Stream Management Plan along approximately 15 miles of river corridor. The overall goal of the plan is to engage citizens and stakeholders to create a shared vision for improving the Big Thompson River by identifying strategies and action plans that respect property and water rights, address water user needs, and enhance environmental conditions and recreational opportunities.

Objectives of this effort include:

- Engage citizens and stakeholders in a process to identify common values and goals related to various water uses, including agriculture, municipal, recreation, fisheries, and riparian habitat.
- Assess river function within the project area, currently identified as the reach between the mouth of the Big Thompson Canyon to I-25, by analyzing existing information and new data as needed, to identify key issues and their locations and causes.
- Assess impacts of future population growth, development, and climate and weather changes on river health and user needs and identify opportunities to mitigate these impacts.
- Identify and prioritize voluntary, multi-purpose projects and actions that will meet collective needs and values and protect or enhance the Big Thompson River corridor.

Discussion: This effort will assist the South Platte Roundtable achieve the following measurable objectives and goals as outlined in the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan: Maintain, enhance and proactively manage water quality for all use classifications, and; Fully recognize the importance of, and support the development of environmental and recreational projects and multipurpose projects that support water availability for ecologically and economically important habitats and focus areas.

In addition, this effort assists the state achieve the measurable objective of covering 80% of locally prioritized list of rivers with stream management plans as called for in Chapter 10, Section 10.3 of Colorado's Water Plan.

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

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

Evaluation Criteria: This activity has undergone review and evaluation and staff has determined that it satisfies the Evaluation Criteria. Please refer to Basin Roundtable Chair's Recommendation Letter and the WSRF Grant Application for applicant's detailed response.

Funding Summary/Matching Funds:

<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Cash</u>	<u>In-kind</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Status</u>
CWCB Watershed Restoration Grant	\$146,440	\$0	\$146,440	Secured
New Belgium Brewing	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500	Secured
City of Loveland – Stormwater Dept.	\$7,500	\$0	\$7,500	Secured
City of Loveland – Water Dept.	\$7,500	\$0	\$7,500	Secured
City of Greeley	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	Secured
Larimer County	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	Secured
Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District	\$5,000	\$20,280	\$25,280	Secured
Big Thompson Watershed Forum	\$0	\$49,800	\$49,800	Secured
Sub-total	\$183,940	\$70,080	\$254,020	
WSRF South Plate Basin Account	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	Secured
Sub-total	\$203,940	\$70,080	\$274,020	
WSRF Statewide Account	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	
Total Project Costs	\$223,940	\$70,080	\$294,020	

CWCB Project Manager: Chris Sturm

South Platte Basin Roundtable
Garrett Varra, Chair
February 19, 2019

Craig Godbout
Water Supply Planning Section
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

****VIA EMAIL to craig.godbout@state.co.us****

RE: Letter of support for the BTWC Stream Management Plan Grant Application

Dear Craig:

The South Platte Basin Roundtable supports the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) and partners on the “Big Thompson River Envisioning Project” submitted to the South Platte Basin Roundtable Water Supply Reserve Fund and Colorado Water Conservation Board grant programs.

I serve as the Chair of the South Platte Basin Roundtable, one of the many entities with a long-term interest in the successful management of the Big Thompson Watershed. Like the BTWC and partners, we are concerned about the future pressures on the watershed and communities. The Roundtable supports the BTWC and its partners in their project goal to “engage citizens and stakeholders to create a shared vision for improving the Big Thompson River by identifying strategies and actions plans that respect property and water rights, address diverse water user needs, and enhance environmental conditions and recreational opportunities”. At the January meeting of the South Platte Basin Roundtable a quorum was present, and the membership voted in support of the “Big Thompson River Envisioning Project”.

We believe that the BTWC’s proposed stream management planning project is closely aligned with the goals and objectives of the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan. We see the BTWC as one of the on-the-ground implementers of the CO Water Plan and the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan. The BIP calls for solutions to reduce water supply gaps that are pragmatic, balanced and consistent with Colorado water law and property rights, which are a central component in the BTWC proposed project. Further the proposed BTWC stream management plan will help further develop key objectives of the BIP, including: develop community support for tools to sustain irrigated agriculture, promote the development of multiple purpose projects that provide environmental and recreation considerations, promote projects that help protect and enhance economic values derived from environmental and recreational uses of the river corridor, maintains and enhances water quality, and promote education, outreach and public awareness and support for management of the Big Thompson river corridor.

The BTWC has demonstrated its effectiveness in managing other complicated federal and state grants in its river restoration work since the 2013 flood. As a non-profit, non-governmental organization, it has also been effective in bringing together public agencies, private landowners and environmental groups to collaborate on issues of common ground.

We therefore urge approval of this project for the full funding of the project, which consists of \$40,000 from the WSRF Grant Program, including \$20,000 from the Statewide Account and \$20,000 from the South Platte Basin Account.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Garrett Varra", with a stylized, cursive script.

Garrett Varra



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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
303-866-3441 x3238

Gunnison | North Platte | South Platte | Yampa/White

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

Colorado | Metro | Rio Grande | Southwest

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

WSRF Submittal Checklist (Required)

X	I acknowledge this request was recommended for CWCB approval by the sponsoring roundtable.
X	I acknowledge I have read and understand the 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines .
X	I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the Standard Contract . ⁽¹⁾
Application Documents	
X	Exhibit A: Statement of Work ⁽²⁾ (<i>Word – see Template</i>)
X	Exhibit B: Budget & Schedule ⁽²⁾ (<i>Excel Spreadsheet – see Template</i>)
X	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ⁽²⁾
X	Map ⁽²⁾
	Photos/Drawings/Reports
X	Letters of Support
Contracting Documents ⁽³⁾	
	Detailed/Itemized Budget ⁽³⁾ (<i>Excel Spreadsheet – see Template</i>)
	Certificate of Insurance ⁽⁴⁾ (<i>General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.</i>)
	Certificate of Good Standing ⁽⁴⁾
	W-9 Form ⁽⁴⁾
	Independent Contractor Form ⁽⁴⁾ (<i>If applicant is individual, not company/organization</i>)
	Electronic Funds Transfer (ETF) Form ⁽⁴⁾

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

(2) Required with application if applicable.

(3) Additional documentation providing a Detailed/Itemized Budget maybe required for contracting. Applicants are encouraged to coordinate with the CWCB Project Manager to determine specifics.

(4) 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 2019
Desired Notice to Proceed Date:	July 2019

Water Activity Summary		
Name of Applicant	Big Thompson Watershed Coalition	
Name of Water Activity	Big Thompson River Envisioning Project	
Approving Roundtable(s)	Basin Account Request(s) ⁽¹⁾	
South Platte Basin Roundtable	\$20,000	
Basin Account Request Subtotal	\$ 20,000	
Statewide Account Request ⁽¹⁾	\$ 20,000	
Total WSRF Funds Requested (Basin & Statewide)	\$ 40,000	
Total Project Costs	\$ 294,020	

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



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Grantee and Applicant Information	
Name of Grantee(s)	Big Thompson Watershed Coalition
Mailing Address	PO Box 1923, Loveland CO 80539
FEIN	81-0753905
Grantee's Organization Contact ⁽¹⁾	Shayna Jones
Position/Title	Director
Email	Shayna.jones@bigthompson.co
Phone	970-800-1126
Grant Management Contact ⁽²⁾	Shayna Jones
Position/Title	Director
Email	Shayna.jones@bigthompson.co
Phone	970-800-1126
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).
The Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) is a collaborative group of local government, private property owners, and non-profit organizations that formed after the 2013 floods to plan and implement watershed restoration. BTWC obtains resources for long-term restoration projects and facilitates communication between agencies, stakeholders and landowners. The BTWC's mission is to protect and restore the ecological health of the Big Thompson Watershed for the use and enjoyment of our community today and for future generations. Since 2014, the BTWC led 15 river projects, of which 11 have been successfully implemented, and 4 others that will be constructed by June 2019.



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Type of Eligible Entity (check one)	
	Public (Government): municipalities, enterprises, counties, and State of Colorado agencies. Federal agencies are encouraged to work with local entities. Federal agencies are eligible, but only if they can make a compelling case for why a local partner cannot be the grant recipient.
	Public (Districts): authorities, Title 32/special districts (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises
	Private Incorporated: mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations
	Private Individuals, Partnerships, and Sole Proprietors: are eligible for funding from the Basin Accounts but not for funding from the Statewide Account.
X	Non-governmental organizations: broadly, any organization that is not part of the government
	Covered Entity: as defined in Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes

Type of Water Activity (check one)	
X	Study
	Implementation

Category of Water Activity (check all that apply)		
X	Nonconsumptive (Environmental)	
X	Nonconsumptive (Recreational)	
X	Agricultural	
	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 decimal degrees . The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable.	
County/Counties	Larimer County
Latitude	40.400669
Longitude	-105.123975

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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.

The Big Thompson watershed is an important resource locally for the Loveland community, for the many Front Range communities who obtain their water supply from the Big Thompson River, and the millions that visit the corridor each year on their way to Rocky Mountain National Park. The Big Thompson River supports recreational trout fishing, wildlife and the local tourist economy, as well as municipal, agricultural and industrial water uses. Given the wide variety of uses of the river corridor and predicted changes to land use and hydrology, a plan that balances river health with waters users' needs would ensure that the communities and wildlife that rely on the Big Thompson River could continue to do so well into the future.

The BTWC, along with an Advisory Committee composed of diverse interests, will lead the development of a Stream Management Plan along approximately 15 miles of river corridor. The overall goal of the plan is to engage citizens and stakeholders to create a shared vision for improving the Big Thompson River by identifying strategies and action plans that respect property and water rights, address water user needs, and enhance environmental conditions and recreational opportunities.

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: Study and Implementation/Action plan along approximately 15 miles of river highlighting prioritized, multi-purpose projects that benefit municipal, industrial, agricultural, environmental and recreational uses.

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Water Activity Justification

Provide a description of how this water activity supports the goals of [Colorado's Water Plan](#), the most recent [Statewide Water Supply Initiative](#), and the respective [Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan and Education Action Plan](#) ⁽¹⁾. The Applicant is required to reference specific needs, goals, themes, or Identified Projects and Processes (IPPs), including citations (e.g. document, chapters, sections, or page numbers).

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

The Colorado Water Plan calls for 80 percent of locally prioritized rivers to be covered by Stream Management Plans by 2030 (pg 6-178). The Big Thompson Watershed Coalition will work to advance the state's goal by conducting planning on approximately 15 miles of the mainstem of the Big Thompson River, an important tributary of the South Platte. The purpose of the plan is engage citizens and stakeholders to create a shared vision for improving the Big Thompson River, by identifying strategies and action plans that respect property and water rights, address water user needs, and enhance environmental conditions and recreational opportunities. The planning approach for this project aligns with the Colorado Water Plan's call to "set forth a water management roadmap to achieve a productive economy, vibrant and sustainable cities, productive agriculture, a strong environment, and a robust recreation industry"(page xvii).

From Section 6-6, Environmental and Recreational Projects and Methods (page 6-157), the policy of the State of Colorado is to identify and implement environmental and recreational projects and methods to achieve the following statewide long-term goals:

- Promote restoration, recovery, sustainability, and resiliency of endangered, threatened, and imperiled aquatic and riparian-dependent species and plant communities.
- Protect and enhance economic values to local and statewide economies that rely on environmental and recreational water uses, such as fishing, boating, waterfowl hunting, wildlife watching, camping, and hiking.
- Support the development of multipurpose projects and methods that benefit environmental and recreational water needs as well as water needs for communities or agriculture.
- Understand, protect, maintain, and improve conditions of streams, lakes, wetlands, and riparian areas to promote self-sustaining fisheries and functional riparian and wetland habitat to promote long-term sustainability and resiliency.
- Maintain watershed health by protecting or restoring watersheds that could affect critical infrastructure and/or environmental and recreational areas.

The objectives and tasks associated with the proposed planning effort in the Big Thompson have been developed with these specific long-term state goals in mind.

Section 7.1 of the Colorado Water Plan, Watershed Health and Management, states the goal of promoting watershed health and supporting the development of watershed coalitions and watershed master plans that address the needs of a diverse set of local stakeholders (page 7-1). The Colorado Water Plan also states that "A holistic watershed planning approach will provide the most technically sound and economically efficient means of addressing watershed health concerns. The involvement of stakeholders strengthens the process. This approach will address all of the beneficial uses of the water that the watershed supplies, the criteria needed to protect the uses, and the strategies required to restore or protect ecosystem processes. This approach also expedites cooperative and integrated water-supply planning, which leads to successful implementation of watershed health management strategies" (page 7-7). Further "Future Stream Management Plans should build off of existing watershed plans and other available studies" (page 6-169).

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Water Activity Justification

The BTWC as the grantee will manage and facilitate the planning process for a diverse group of partners and stakeholders. The BTWC is an organization that values collaboration and sound science, and will work to ensure diverse water users and uses in the watershed are part of the planning process. The BTWC developed the Big Thompson River Restoration Master Plan (2015) and served as an Advisory Technical Committee Member on the City of Loveland River Corridor Master Plan (2017), both of which involved multiple groups in the watershed. These plans and their assessments will serve as a starting point for the proposed stream management plan.

In addition to the Colorado Water Plan, the proposed project is also well aligned with the SWSI 2010 Recommendations, including: “Support meeting Colorado’s nonconsumptive water needs by working with Colorado’s water stakeholders to help protect or enhance environmental and recreational values that benefit local and statewide economies; and encourage multi-purpose projects that benefit both water users and native species”(SWSI, ES-41).The Big Thompson SMP will also incorporate the “Scenario Planning and Gap Analysis Methodology” developed by the CWCB for the SWSI Update, in order to evaluate future scenarios and potential gaps and impacts for the proposed project area.

The proposed project furthers the goals, strategies and needs detailed in the South Platte Basin Roundtable Implementation Plan. The BIP notes that “Because of the diverse population and economic drivers in the basin, as well as the host of specific challenges on the waters available for developing new supply, the South Platte Basin faces an enormous challenge in meeting its future water needs” (page S-9). The BIP further notes that “Solutions for reducing the basin’s water supply gaps need to be pragmatic, balanced and consistent with Colorado water law and property rights” The Big Thompson SMP was developed to help plan for the challenge of meeting future water needs in the Big Thompson in a way that incorporates multiple water uses and users, and in a manner that is consistent with prior appropriation law and private property rights. The BIP articulates several guiding principles, as well as provides specific goals and measurable outcomes. Many of these principles, strategies, goals and projects are a central part of the Big Thompson SMP framework, as discussed below.

Guiding principles described in the South Platte BIP include “1) Minimize adverse impacts to agricultural economies; 2) Develop new multipurpose projects that either offset transfers from agricultural uses or provide additional water to reduce agricultural shortages; and 3) Proactively identify and implement methods to protect and enhance environmental and recreational water uses” (page S-10).

The proposed SMP for the Big Thompson specifically includes municipal, agricultural, environmental and recreational water users in the process and assessments, which will ensure that the SMP identifies strategies and projects that benefit each of these sectors. Further, to help address agricultural needs, as agricultural stakeholders are interested and willing, the Big Thompson SMP contains an assessment of irrigation diversion infrastructure and water uses that will assist in defining shortages and evaluating alternatives for meeting deficits through optimization of water management or infrastructure upgrades. This assessment will help identify additional multiple purpose projects that provide benefit to irrigation and municipal uses, as well as environmental and recreational uses. The BTWC is currently leading a project with partners City of Loveland and Loveland Ready Mix that improves the Rist Goss ditch and diversion for local water users, and also improves river function including fish passage and sediment conveyance. It also provides a portion of the compensatory mitigation required of Northern Water for their Chimney Hollow/Windy Gap IPP water project. The BTWC project is expected to be constructed by mid-2019 and will provide a tangible demonstration project that can illustrate the potential for future multi-purpose projects along the identified stretch of the Big Thompson River. This aligns with the BIP Measurable Outcome related to storage and infrastructure to “Maximize implementation of the IPP list” and to “Encourage multiple purpose projects that provide environmental and recreational considerations” (Page 1-27, MO#1 and E & R MO#1 for Goal 1.9.4).

In addition to the guiding principles stated, the BIP also outlines several implementation strategies that



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Water Activity Justification

the Big Thompson SMP will help further. These include the following strategies:

Maximize use and effectiveness of native South Platte supplies (S.5.3)

The BIP recommends encouraging surface water and groundwater availability/hydrologic modeling to provide more detailed and reliable estimates of water availability (Page S-13). The Big Thompson SMP will help further this goal related to surface water, by using the SPDSS StateMod surface water modeling framework to summarize how water is currently stored, diverted, consumed and returned, and to characterize current and potential future daily point flows in the study area. The Big Thompson SMP will also project future changes in hydrology and water availability patterns using the planning scenarios developed by CWCB for the SWSI update.

Minimize traditional agricultural “buy and dry” and maximize use of Alternative Transfer Mechanisms to the extent practical and reliable (S.5.4)

The BIP recommends continuing to study water sharing practices and adjust the water court process to encourage water sharing practices, while protecting the vested rights of water rights holders (page S-13). While these efforts are underway to varying degrees in the watershed and basin, and this project will not directly set up additional ATMs, additional opportunities for ATMs could be considered through the SMP process with willing stakeholders. Further, the ATM currently under development at Sylvan Dale Ranch will be featured by the BTWC in its Community Engagement and Education Program that is developed and implemented as part of the SMP. The Big Thompson SMP will also include agricultural and irrigation water use into its assessments of how well the river is meeting water user needs. These efforts will help advance the BIP goal to “fully recognize the importance of agriculture to Colorado’s well being and support continued success and develop new voluntary measures to sustain irrigation agriculture” as well as its related measurable outcomes to “Support strategies to reduce permanent dry-up of irrigated acreage through implementation of others solutions such as successful implementation of ATMs (MO#1) and “Develop local tools and political/community support for tools to sustain irrigated farmland” (MO#4) (page 1-28).

Protect and enhance environmental and recreation attributes (S.5.5)

The BIP recommends filling existing data gaps regarding protection of environmental and recreational attributes in order to better understand the adequacy of existing and future protections for all South Platte Focus Areas (page S-14). The Big Thompson SMP will help fill data gaps for environmental and recreational attributes for a segment of the Big Thompson River that was included in the BIP (Segment 16) as an Environmental and Recreational Focus Area (BIP, Appendix B). This segment was identified as containing habitat for plains fish that are listed as state, endangered, threatened, and species of concern. The proposed Big Thompson SMP will build on the nonconsumptive needs analysis conducted as part of the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan and help promote projects that improve habitat, provide channel and floodplain restoration, and are multi-purpose projects that take into account a diverse set of water user needs. This will help further the BIP Environmental and Recreation Goals and Measurable Outcomes #1-3, including promoting restoration, recovery and sustainability of endangered and threatened aquatic, riparian, and wetland species, protecting and enhancing economic values derived from environmental and recreational uses, and protecting, maintaining, and improving condition of streams (pages 1-27-1-28).

The Big Thompson SMP will also incorporate water quality assessments conducted by the Big Thompson Watershed Forum and identify projects that help improve water quality, while taking into account diverse water user needs. This will help further the BIP Water Quality Goals to “Maintain, enhance, and proactively manage water quality for all use classifications” and the Measurable Outcome to “Maintain or improve the delivery of safe water supplies throughout the basin” (MO#1 for 1.9.5 Water Quality, page 1-27).

Manage the risk of increased demands and reduced supplies due to climate change (S.5.8)

The BIP recommends additional research to disaggregate the basin’s M & I supply gap to gather more specific data on the quantity, time and geography of gaps within each county (page S-15) . For the

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Water Activity Justification

identified project area in the Big Thompson SMP, the project will assess how projected changes in river flows due to climate change are expected to impact river health variables and river user needs within the project area.

Facilitate effective South Platte communications and programs that complement the state's overall program (S.5.9)

The BIP recommends designing and implementing “intensive education, participation and outreach programs designed to generate a lasting baseline of public awareness and support” (page S-15). The Big Thompson SMP proposes to develop and implement a local community outreach and education program that will increase community understanding of how the water system of the Big Thompson River is operated, uses recently completed BTWC projects to illustrate how multiple purpose projects can benefit diverse river users and uses, and highlight actions the community can support that will improve or protect the Big Thompson River while honoring local water users. This work will help further the BIP communication strategy at the local level.

(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 3rd party and shall be accompanied by a **letter of commitment** as described in the 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines (submitted on the contributing entity's letterhead). Attach additional sheet if necessary.

Contributing Entity	Amount and Form of Match (note cash or in-kind)



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Matching Requirements: Basin Account Requests	
Total Match	
If you requested a Waiver to the Basin Account matching requirements, indicate the percentage you wish waived.	

Matching Requirements: Statewide Account Requests	
<p>Statewide Account grant requests require a 50% match as described in the 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines. A minimum of 10% match shall be from Basin Account funds (cash only). A minimum of 10% match shall be provided by the applicant or 3rd party (cash, in-kind, or combination). The remaining 30% of the required match may be provided from any other source (Basin, applicant, or 3rd party) and shall be accompanied by a letter of commitment. Attach additional sheet if necessary.</p>	
Contributing Entity	Amount and Form of Match (note cash or in-kind):
SPBRT Basin Account	\$20,000 (cash)
CWCB – Colorado Watershed Restoration Grant Fund	\$146,440 (cash)
New Belgium Restoration Grant	\$2,500 (cash)
City of Loveland – Stormwater Dept	\$7,500 (cash)
City of Loveland – Water Dept	\$7,500 (cash)
City of Greeley	\$10,000 (cash)
Larimer County (Cash – requested)	\$5,000 (cash)
Northern Water	\$5,000 (cash) and \$20,280 (in-kind)
Big Thompson Watershed Forum	\$49,800 (in-kind)
Total Match	\$274,020
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.



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Related Studies

See Appendix C (Existing Studies in the Big Thompson Watershed)

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

CWCB Watershed Restoration Grant
Applicant name: Big Thompson Watershed Coalition and Larimer County
Water Activity Name: Adaptively Managing the Big Thompson Watershed
Approving Roundtable: N/A
CWCB Board Meeting Date: January 2018
Contract Number: CTGG1 PDAA 2019*00197

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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Colorado Water Conservation Board	
Water Supply Reserve Fund	
<u>Exhibit A - Statement of Work</u>	
Date:	11/01/2018
Water Activity Name:	Big Thompson River Envisioning Project
Grant Recipient:	Big Thompson Watershed Coalition
Funding Source:	\$40,000 South Platte Basin Roundtable WSRF
Water Activity Overview: (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 Big Thompson watershed is an important resource locally for the Loveland community, for the many Front Range communities who obtain their water supply from the Big Thompson River, and the millions that visit the corridor each year on their way to Rocky Mountain National Park. The Big Thompson River supports recreational trout fishing, wildlife and the local tourist economy, as well as municipal, agricultural and industrial water uses. Given the wide variety of uses of the river corridor and predicted changes to land use and hydrology, a plan that balances river health with waters users' needs would ensure that the communities and wildlife that rely on the Big Thompson River could continue to do so well into the future.</p> <p>The BTWC, along with an Advisory Committee composed of diverse interests, will lead the development of a Stream Management Plan along approximately 15 miles of river corridor. The overall goal of the plan is to engage citizens and stakeholders to create a shared vision for improving the Big Thompson River by identifying strategies and action plans that respect property and water rights, address water user needs, and enhance environmental conditions and recreational opportunities.</p>	
Objectives: (List the objectives of the project)	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Engage citizens and stakeholders in a process to identify common values and goals related to various water uses, including agriculture, municipal, recreation, fisheries, and riparian habitat.2. Assess river function within the project area, currently identified as the reach between the mouth of the Big Thompson Canyon to I-25, by analyzing existing information and new data as needed, to identify key issues and their locations and causes.3. Assess impacts of future population growth, development, and climate and weather changes on river health and user needs and identify opportunities to mitigate these impacts.4. Identify and prioritize voluntary, multi-purpose projects and actions that will meet collective needs and values and protect or enhance the Big Thompson River corridor.	



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Tasks
Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format:
<u>Task 1 – Community Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement</u>
Description of Task:
This task will create an Advisory Committee to guide the project, develop and implement a strategy for involving stakeholders in the project, use feedback from the Advisory Committee to refine the objectives and scope of work, establish an on-going education program for community members, and develop a web-based resource to house watershed data and assessment information and other relevant educational materials.
Method/Procedure:
<p><u>Sub-task 1.1</u> – Convene an Advisory Committee to guide the project, provide technical expertise, and inform project goals and priorities. Advisory Committee members will include major water rights owners/users, riparian land owners and business owners, environmental interest groups, recreational user groups, county and municipal government, and land development interests. The Advisory Committee size will be considered and managed to ensure efficient governance and decision-making.</p> <p><u>Sub-task 1.2</u> – Develop and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan that identifies tangible participation goals targeting consumptive and non-consumptive stakeholders. Specific elements of this plan will include, but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop list of the stakeholders who should be included• Develop goals for stakeholder engagement, including expectations and outcomes• Create schedule and objectives for each meeting; anticipate 8 meetings• Identify and prioritize ecological values that could be protected or enhanced, needs related to irrigation diversions and other structures in the river, and needs of floodplain management (including enhancement, restoration and maintenance) and land and recreation planners <p><u>Sub-task 1.3</u> – Based on Advisory Committee and stakeholder feedback, the BTWC Project Coordinator will refine the project's objectives and scope of work to ensure project tasks are focused on collaboratively agreed-upon outcomes.</p> <p><u>Sub-task 1.4</u> – The BTWC Project Coordinator, with help from an Engagement Consultant, will develop a Community Education Program to keep local residents informed on the project's progress and outcomes. The Community Education Program will: outline activities for increasing community understanding of how the water system of the Big Thompson River watershed is operated, use recently completed BTWC projects such as the Rist Goss River and Ditch improvement project to illustrate how multi-purpose projects can benefit multiple water users and uses, and highlight actions the community can support that will improve or protect the Big Thompson River while also honoring local water users. Specific elements of this plan will include, but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Timeline for community engagement, with topics to be covered at key points• Needed supporting documentation or educational material• Strategies for soliciting public comment/feedback and using it to inform the project <p>The Advisory Committee and relevant stakeholders (local watershed groups, ditch companies, recreation groups, and others) will help develop the community engagement plan, and BTWC staff and board members will implement its recommendations during the project timeline. We plan to host up to three Community Engagement events that will aim to meet the objectives of the Plan.</p> <p><u>Sub-task 1.5</u> – The BTWC Project Coordinator will synthesize the literature review in Task 3.1 to ensure that all relevant data is accessible. BTWC will work with a contractor to create online resources that are publically accessible on the BTWC's website, such as links to existing data, results from new</p>



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Tasks
assessments, and education resources and information on river health and water use.
Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minutes from at least quarterly Advisory Committee meetings throughout the project term• Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and reports on its effectiveness• Revised Project Scope of Work that incorporates stakeholder feedback• Community Education Program, including at least three community education events, and reports on its effectiveness• Community education materials developed to help communicate river function assessments, water user needs assessments, current and future potential multi-purpose projects and other topics as needed• BTWC online resource that contains technical and community educational resources
CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stakeholder Engagement and Community Education Program Plans

Tasks
Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format:
<u>Task 2 – Current and Projected Hydrology Characterization</u>
Description of Task:
The purpose of this task is to summarize how water is currently stored, diverted, consumed, and returned, and to characterize current and potential future point flows in the study area. This task will be accomplished using hydrologic modeling tools developed by CWCB. The South Platte Decision Support System (SPDSS) is an integrated system of hydrologic data, water allocation modeling, and crop consumptive use modeling often used for developing detailed and reliable estimates of water availability under a wide range of potential future hydrologic conditions and a broad range of current and future water management scenarios.
Method/Procedure:
<u>Sub-task 2.1</u> – Using the SPDSS StateMod surface water modeling framework, develop estimated daily point flows for the study area at major tributaries, diversion points, and in-stream flow reaches. The SPDSS includes river flow data for historical conditions (1950 through 2012), as well as natural conditions (no diversions, imports, or releases) and existing conditions (current diversions), and will therefore allow for a comprehensive understanding of river flows during wet, dry, and average conditions.
<u>Sub-task 2.2</u> – Working from the results of sub-task 2.1, project future changes in hydrology and water availability patterns as a result of the five planning scenarios developed by CWCB (refer to CWCB's scenario planning fact sheet for more information: http://cwcb.state.co.us/water-management/water-supply-planning/Documents/SWSI2016/FactSheets/3_PlanningScen.pdf). These planning scenarios include factors such as population growth, land-use change, changes in water demands, regulatory scenarios, and social considerations, and some of the planning scenarios use climate-adjusted hydrology. Integrate the Statewide Water Supply Initiative (SWSI) updated hydrologic modeling outputs that provide time-series data for all the planning scenarios for wet, dry, and normal water years. As part of this task, assess potential future demand increases for municipal, agricultural, and recreational water users by



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Tasks
contacting water providers and water users, reviewing existing information, and considering stakeholder input gathered as part of sub-task 1.2. Assess the extent to which these demand increases may impact point flows in the study area.
Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Technical report summarizing hydrological characterization and modeling output. The report should include data tables and appropriate graphics summarizing estimated daily hydrology at tributaries, major diversions, and in-stream flow reaches under natural, existing, and projected future conditions, as well as graphics characterizing typical hydrographs under wet, average, and dry conditions at the same points, as appropriate.
CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Technical report summarizing hydrological characterization and modeling output and summarizing subtasks 2.1-2.2

Task 3 – River Health and Benefits Assessments

Description of Task:

The purpose of this task is to assess existing ecological conditions of the study area within the Big Thompson River corridor, and to characterize the ability of the system to deliver desired ecosystem goods and services to the local community. This task will apply data and analyses compiled from Tasks 1.2, 1.5, and 2, as well as additional desktop analyses and field investigation as needed.

Method/Procedure:

Sub-task 3.1 – Review existing information and publicly available databases, and conduct literature reviews to form the basis for an assessment of ecological condition. At a minimum, the literature review should consider the documents identified in Appendix C.

Sub-task 3.2 – Evaluate the best available information and evidence to complete a baseline assessment of ecological condition. The assessment framework should consider existing frameworks such as the City of Loveland's River Corridor Master Plan and the Colorado Stream Health Assessment Framework. Watershed-scale variables to be evaluated include flow regime, sediment regime, water quality, and network connectivity. Reach-scale variables include floodplain hydrology, riparian vegetation, fluvial geomorphology, structural complexity, and aquatic biota. For each reach identified in the Big Thompson River Restoration Master Plan within the identified project area, assessment of these variables will be completed through thorough review of existing information, desktop analyses (e.g., GIS and aerial photography analysis, hydrological time-series evaluation, etc.), rapid field assessments, and/or intensive field investigations, as applicable. Field investigations will include water quality data collection and analysis performed by the Big Thompson Watershed Forum. The extent of the evaluations (desktop to intensive) will depend on the quality and quantity of existing data (reviewed in sub-task 3.1) for each variable at each reach.

As part of the ecological health assessment, identify the dominant stressors, causes of impairment, and constraints on ecological integrity within the study area. Describe the location and causes of key river health concerns and identify opportunities to protect well-functioning stream reaches.

Sub-task 3.3 – Conduct an assessment to evaluate the capacity of each reach within the study area to provide benefits to the local community. Using results of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (sub-task



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1.2), work with the Advisory Group and local community to characterize and prioritize the ecosystem goods and services that local communities derive from the study reaches of the Big Thompson River corridor.

Categories of ecosystem goods and services that may be included are: irrigation supplies, clean drinking water, flood attenuation, groundwater recharge, aesthetic values, recreational use, etc). This assessment will evaluate qualitative information (e.g., input from stakeholders and community, local perceptions, anecdotal evidence, etc.) and quantitative data (e.g., hydrologic time series, consumptive water use demands, proximity of infrastructure to floodplains, recreational use surveys, environmental results from Task 3.3, etc.) to characterize the relative demand for specific ecosystem goods and services on each reach in the project area.

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

- Technical report summarizing ecological health assessment methodologies and results, with narrative and quantitative rationale for all conclusions. Report will include companion maps and graphics, as applicable.
- Report summarizing the type, relative demand, and relative local priorities for ecosystem goods and services on reaches in the project area, including a map that identifies relevant features (existing or contemplated river access points, public use areas, known high-value recreational attributes, etc.).
- Report or technical memorandum integrating the results of the ecological health assessment and ecosystem goods and services assessment. This deliverable will illustrate the relationship between ecosystem health, environmental and other stressors, and the ability of the system to deliver desired goods and services to the local community.

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

- All reports listed above

Task 4 – Irrigation and Other Infrastructure Assessment

Description of Task:

In-river structures support water uses such as irrigation and industry that are important economic drivers in the study area, but more thorough and updated documentation about current water users' specific needs does not exist. This task will perform an inventory of in-river infrastructure to document local needs. This task will build on existing studies of some of the diversion infrastructure in the identified project area, such as the Big Thompson River Fish Passage 30% Design Study (Aloterra 2017).

Method/Procedure:

BTWC Project Coordinator will work with a contractor to conduct site visits on a maximum of 10 river structures. The structures will be selected based on the relative size of current diversions, input from the Advisory Committee and water commissioners, and review of previously developed conceptual design and feasibility assessment for infrastructure improvements that were part of the previous Big Thompson River Fish Passage study. This information will be combined with water user input gained from Task 1.2 to ensure the ability of infrastructure to meet water user's needs is also considered. The contractor will work with the Project Coordinator to request permission to access private property. If permission is not granted, the structure will not be included in the inventory. The site visit will be a field inspection of the river headgate, diversion and ditch conditions to the measurement device. The site visit will inventory and assess:

- Type of control structure at the headgate
- Type of measurement device and level of functionality



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- Overall structural integrity and diversion functionality
- Ability of the structure to divert a wide range of flows and meet water users' needs
- Apparent deficiencies that may negatively affect river function variables considered in Task 3
- Apparent deficiencies that may negatively affect recreational boating
- Feasibility of previously developed conceptual ideas for retrofits, if applicable

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

- Memo documenting the literature review of previous fish passage/diversion infrastructure studies, and site visits, including maps and photographs of structures and findings from the field inspection. The contractor will provide their professional opinion about the likelihood of infrastructure improvement having a significant impact on diversion efficiency and/or river health to help with prioritization of recommendations.
- GIS layers of the infrastructure assessed

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

- Memo documenting literature review and site visits, including maps and photographs of structures and findings from the field inspection

Task 5 – Future Conditions: Growth and Development

Description of Task:

The purpose of this task is to assess how future infrastructure, land-use, water management and use, and water quality changes could impact river health variables and user needs within the project area.

Method/Procedure:

Sub-task 5.1 – Review existing planning documents and conduct interviews with appropriate planning department staff to determine expected or projected changes to infrastructure (e.g., new developments, removal or retrofitting of existing infrastructure), land use (e.g., agricultural or pasture lands, zoning, new development), water management (e.g., diversions, water user changes, water conservation efforts), water use (e.g., surface water and groundwater), and water quality (e.g., pollutant loads) within the project area in the next 15-20 years.

Documents to be reviewed include, but are not limited to, the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan, updated County floodplain maps, County comprehensive plan, recreation plans, subdivision plans, and future land use plans. Interviews with planning personnel will help to highlight anticipated future changes that have not yet been documented, as well as potential ecosystem benefits from future changes that may not be explicitly stated.

Sub-task 5.2 – Use the conclusions discussed in sub-task 3.2, particularly identification of the existing stressors and current trajectories of each river health indicator, to qualitatively assess the ways in which the projected future changes discerned in sub-task 5.1 are expected to impact each of the river health variables and river user needs identified in sub-tasks 3.2 and 3.3. Perform a qualitative assessment of these impacts that characterizes likely trajectories for river health indicators and stakeholder needs, including identification of target areas that may be positively affected or challenged by likely future changes.

Some examples of qualitative assessment questions include: Would increased impervious area and hydromodification due to urban development in the watershed be likely to have positive or negative



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effects on the hydrologic regime? Given the projected increase in development, would a small, medium, or large effect be expected? What components of river hydrology would be most affected (baseflow, peak flows, etc.)? What other river health indicators would likely be affected by the hydrologic changes? What human uses would be affected and how large and in what direction (positive or negative) would the effect be?

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

- Technical memorandum or report summarizing anticipated changes to infrastructure, land use, and other water-related changes within the study area and the likelihood of future projects. The document will assess possible impacts of these projected future changes to each of the each of the river health variables and river user needs. It will also include a companion map that depicts, at a minimum, (1) discrete locations of projected changes, and (2) the spatial extent of general areas of greatest challenge or potential in terms of anticipated future changes.

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

- Technical memorandum or report summarized above

Task 6 – Information Synthesis and Reporting

Description of Task:

After existing and future conditions are documented in Tasks 2-5, the information will be synthesized in a final report.

Method/Procedure:

This report will characterize the capacity of the river to deliver desired goods and services to the community both now and in the future. This analysis will identify the primary drivers and greatest risks to unsatisfied demand for desired river benefits. Drivers may include hydrologic flow regime modification, floodplain land uses and development, invasive species, lack of access points, non-point source pollution, or other stressors. The report will also lay out next steps for the SMP, including prioritization of risks, project ideas and implementation actions.

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

- Comprehensive technical report summarizing the results of the conditions assessment, identifying trends, probable drivers and stressors of environmental conditions
- Community oriented report that synthesizes and shares key findings for a broader public audience that will be used in Task 1.4.

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

- Reports outlined above



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Task 7 – Action Strategies and Implementation Plan	
Description of Task:	
Once the assessment process is complete, BTWC will lead the Advisory Committee through a process of prioritizing the risks for water users and river health and identifying action strategies to mitigate them. The Implementation Plan will also include recommendations for periodic updates to the assessments conducted and the specific actions strategies and projects in the Implementation Plan.	
Method/Procedure:	
<p><u>Sub-Task 7.1</u> - the Advisory Committee will select decision making criteria that will be used to prioritize, rank and evaluate the issues and risks found during the assessment process.</p> <p><u>Sub-Task 7.2</u> – For the high priority risks/issues, the Advisory Committee will work with stakeholders to brainstorm and compile potential options to make measurable progress on the priority issues. A document will outline, for each option, the level of feasibility and return on investment. Options will include a broad array of actions, including construction of multi-purpose infrastructure projects, river restoration, flow management scenarios, recreation opportunities, and recommended changes to plans guiding land use and development.</p> <p><u>Sub-Task 7.3</u> – For those action strategies that are deemed feasible, an Implementation Memo will outline a project description, a time line, a budget, and a lead agency. The Advisory Committee will provide their findings to stakeholders and will coordinate with identified lead agencies on implementation of high priority projects. This Memo will be used by the Advisory Committee to raise funds and implement future projects.</p>	
Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prioritized list of issues/risks found during the assessment process• Options document that identified an array of actions that could be taken to mitigate the high priority issues/risks• Implementation Memo for feasible actions	
CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Options document and Implementation Memo summarized above	



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<u>Task 8 – Project Management</u>
<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>The purpose of this task is to support the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition board and staff with the project management needs of the project, specifically: tracking project progress, including each consultant's deliverables and costs against the scope of work; supporting the BTWC with the necessary communication and coordination with the Project Team; coordinating with Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB), as needed; and preparing for and participating in public education and stakeholder meetings.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <p>The BTWC staff will provide Project Management services as outlined in the sub-tasks below.</p> <p><u>Subtask 8.1</u> - Track and report on project tasks, budget, and schedule, oversee invoicing.</p> <p><u>Subtask 8.2</u> - Coordinate with the Advisory Committee and lead the project team, including regular check-ins and review/revision of documents as appropriate.</p> <p><u>Subtask 8.3</u> - Oversee quality of deliverables, including grant reports and final report.</p>
<p>Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised scope of work, schedule, and budget upon project kickoff • Progress reports • Monthly invoices
<p>CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for Payment including progress report

Budget and Schedule

Exhibit B - 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. A separate excel formatted Budget is required for engineering costs to include rate and unit costs.

Reporting Requirements

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

Final Report: At completion of the project, the grantee shall provide the CWCB a Final Report on the grantee'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.



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Reporting Requirements

- Includes photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs.

Payments

Payment will be made based on actual expenditures, must include invoices for all work completed and must be on grantee's letterhead. 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.

The CWCB will pay the last 10% of the entire water activity 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 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.

Performance Requirements

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

(b) Accountability: Per the 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 the 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.



Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Supply Reserve Fund

EXHIBIT B - BUDGET AND SCHEDULE - Direct & Indirect (Administrative) Costs

Date: 11/01/2018

Water Activity Name: Big Thompson River Envisioning Project

Grantee Name: Big Thompson Watershed Coalition

Task No. ⁽¹⁾	Description	Start Date ⁽²⁾	End Date	Matching Funds (cash & in-kind) ⁽³⁾	WSRF Funds (Basin & Statewide combined) ⁽³⁾	Total
1	Community Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement	7/1/2019	7/30/2021	\$ 36,690.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 44,190.00
2	Current and Project Hydrology Characterization	9/1/2019	12/31/2019	\$ 22,110.00	\$ -	\$ 22,110.00
3	River Health and Benefits Assessments	9/1/2019	9/30/2020	\$ 83,800.00	\$ -	\$ 83,800.00
4	Irrigation and Other Infrastructure Assessment	9/1/2019	8/30/2020	\$ 8,200.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 18,200.00
5	Future Conditions: Growth and Development	7/1/2020	3/30/2021	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
6	Information Synthesis and Reporting	1/1/2021	6/1/2021	\$ 32,900.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 35,400.00
7	Action Strategies and Implementation Plan	3/1/2021	6/30/2021	\$ 33,100.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 38,100.00
8	Project Management	7/1/2019	7/30/2021	\$ 12,220.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 17,220.00
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
Total				\$254,020	\$40,000	\$294,020

(1) The single task that include costs for Grant Administration must provide a labor breakdown (see Indirect Costs tab below) where the total WSRF Grant contribution towards that task does not exceed 15% of the total WSRF Grant amount.

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

(3) Round values up to the nearest hundred dollars.

• Additional documentation providing a Detailed/Itemized Budget may be required for contracting. Applicants are encouraged to coordinate with the CWCB Project Manager to determine specifics.

• 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 signed State Agreement.

The CWCB will pay the last 10% of the entire water activity budget when the Final Report is completed to the satisfaction of the CWCB staff project manager. Once the Final Report has been accepted, the final payment has been issued, the water activity and purchase order (PO) or contract will be closed without any further payment. Any entity that fails to complete a satisfactory Final Report and submit to the CWCB with 90 days of the expiration of the PO or contract may be denied consideration for future funding of any type from the CWCB.

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

• Standard contracting procedures dictate that the Expiration Date of the contract shall be 5 years from the Effective Date.

Big Thompson River Envisioning Project
Grantee: Big Thompson Watershed Coalition

Appendix B: Map of Project Area





Mr. Jeffrey Boring
South Platte Basin Roundtable

October 16, 2018

RE: Letter of support for the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant

Dear Mr. Boring:

Northern Water is pleased to support the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition's (BTWC) application to the South Platte Basin Roundtable Water Supply Reserve Fund. Northern Water, along with the US Bureau of Reclamation, manages the Colorado-Big Thompson (C-BT) Project, which delivers over 200,000 acre feet of water a year from the upper Colorado River watershed to the communities of the Front Range. The Project provides water to nearly one million people in 60 municipal and rural water districts across eight counties of northern Colorado, as well as 640,000 irrigated acres served by 120 ditch, reservoir, and irrigation companies. All C-BT Project water is delivered via reservoirs and infrastructure in the Big Thompson Watershed. The BTWC has become a valuable partner in engaging local stakeholders and implementing river and forest restoration projects that benefit the Big Thompson Watershed, and ultimately the C-BT Project.

The Big Thompson Watershed provides immense value to multiple sectors including agricultural production, municipal water supply, fish and wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities for residents and visitors. These are also all key drivers of the local economy. In partnership with the BTWC, Northern Water supports the proposed Big Thompson River Envisioning Project which will identify common goals, evaluate river flows, and better understand the conditions necessary to support agricultural production, desired river uses, native species, and essential ecosystem functions in the plains reach of the Big Thompson River. Ultimately the Envisioning Project will identify actions that lead to improved river conditions. Our commitment to this effort is underscored by our \$5,000 contribution to the project.

Northern Water maintains a seat on the board of the BTWC and is currently involved in its Rist-Goss Ditch and River Improvement project. This project benefits multiple sectors and illustrates potential future project opportunities throughout the plains reach of the Big Thompson River. The BTWC has demonstrated its effectiveness in managing this and many other major river restoration projects funded by detailed federal and state grants through its work to provide river restoration and recovery in response to the September 2013 flood.

Funding and support from the South Basin Roundtable for Big Thompson Envisioning Project is a critical step for our community to ensure that water users from all sectors are involved in developing long-term management strategies that improve our ability to meet current and future water demands. For our part, Northern Water will leverage our existing point flow modeling to provide daily historic flows from 1950 to present at all diversions in the study reach as in-kind support for this project. We estimate that this dataset has required 338 staff hours to compile, which at an encumbered rate of \$60/hr for a mid-level employee provides an in-kind value of approximately \$20,280.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Esther Vincent", is written over a horizontal line.

Esther Vincent
Director of Environmental Services
Northern Water

12/20/2018

Big Thompson Watershed Coalition
PO Box 1923
Loveland, CO 80539

Grant Cycle: Water Conservation and Restoration
Purpose of Grant: Big Thompson River Envisioning Project
Amount of Grant: \$2500

This grant awarded from New Belgium Brewing Company is subject to the following terms and conditions:

- A. By cashing this check, Big Thompson Watershed Coalition certifies that New Belgium's check for \$2500 has been received.
- B. This grant must be used for the project identified above, as described in the Grantee's proposal and related correspondence, and may not be expended for any other purposes without the New Belgium's prior written approval.
- C. For grants in the amount of \$2500 or more, For grants in the amount of \$2500 or more, please complete the Grant Follow Up Report by October 31, 2019.

<https://newbelgiumbrewing.submittable.com/submit/7de231da-8434-4147-b833-b3d25b8945aa/new-belgium-grant-follow-up-report>".

For grants less than \$2500 no reporting is required. However, we welcome emailed correspondence with any updates, photos, or video you'd like to share with us- grants@newbelgium.com.

We request that in any publicity regarding this grant, acknowledgement be made that funds were received from New Belgium Brewing Company. If posting on social media, please use #NewBelgium. Please send/email copies of any publicity. For our most recent logo and press materials, please email grants@newbelgium.com with your request.

To reduce paper waste, please refrain from adding us to your annual campaign mailing or any other mass mailed requests for funding. Thank you for your hard work to improve the health of the planet and inspire others to joyously embrace sustainable choices.

Sincerely,



Meghan Oleson
Philanthropy Coordinator



LARIMER COUNTY | ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

P.O. Box 1190, Fort Collins, Colorado 80522-1190, 970.498.5700, Larimer.org

November 1, 2018

Jeffrey Boring
South Platte Basin Roundtable WSRF Needs Committee
1313 Sherman St.
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Big Thompson Watershed Coalition Stream Management Plan Grant Application

Dear Mr. Boring:

I am writing in support of the grant application entitled the "Big Thompson Envisioning Project" submitted by the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) to the Colorado Watershed Restoration Program – Stream Management Planning Grant.

I am the Director of the Larimer County Engineering Department and with our involvement in floodplain regulation, flood recovery and resiliency, stormwater master planning and permitting, and County infrastructure design, we have a strong interest in the Big Thompson watershed. We have a record of success in working with the BTWC to carry out stream restoration projects under the NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Program and are currently partnering with them on vegetative reestablishment on the flood recovery work that was completed on North Fork Big Thompson and tributaries.

If approved, the grant will help identify future projects and carry forward with efforts that will benefit our citizens and improve the health of the river for fishing and wildlife habitat. It also compliments and expands upon Loveland's river corridor master plan completed earlier this year on a shorter reach of river.

The BTWC has demonstrated its effectiveness in managing other complicated federal and state grants in its river restoration work since the 2013 flood. As a non-profit, non-governmental organization, it has also been effective in bringing together public agencies, private landowners and environmental groups to collaborate on issues of common ground.

We urge your continued support of the BTWC and approval of their grant application.

Sincerely,



Mark Peterson, PE
Engineering Director/County Engineer





January 29, 2019

Shayna Jones, Director
Big Thompson Watershed Coalition
P.O. Box 1923
Loveland, CO 80539

Dear Big Thompson Water Coalition:

We are pleased to inform you that the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) has approved your application, **Big Thompson River Envisioning Project**, for funding pursuant to the Colorado Watershed Restoration Program (CWRP) in the amount of \$146,440. Please contact me to schedule a time to discuss the contracting process and additional needs.

General additional needs include:

- Stream Management Plan grantees must demonstrate that the planning effort put as much or more emphasis on environmental and recreational water uses as it does on other water uses.
- All CWRP funding awards are contingent upon applicant's ability to secure match funding.
- All grantees should adhere to their organizational procurement policies when hiring contractors and consultants. CWCB recommends that State procurement policies be used as a guide if an organization does not have procurement policies.
- Grantees should adequately address CWCB staff comments to scopes of work, engineering designs, and applications. This may result in changes. Comments are forthcoming.

The CWRP Grant Program Guidance can be located on our website for additional information.

Sincerely,
Vivian Pinelli
Administrative Assistant II



P (303) 866-3441 | F (303) 866-4474
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718 | Denver, CO 80203
vivian.pinelli@state.co.us | cwcb.state.co.us



BIG THOMPSON WATERSHED FORUM

THE FUTURE OF WATER QUALITY IS IN OUR HANDS

2/7/2019

Mr. Jeffrey Boring
South Platte Basin Roundtable WSRF Grant Committee
1313 Sherman St, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of support for the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition Stream Management Plan Grant Application

Dear WSRF Grant Committee:

The Big Thompson Watershed Forum is writing in support of the grant application submitted by the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) to the Colorado Watershed Restoration Program – Stream Management Plan Grant.

The Big Thompson Watershed provides water and water related services to a number of sectors such as municipal water supply, agricultural production, habitat for fish and other species, and recreational and tourism opportunities that serve as a key driver in the local economy. Given the central importance of these services, the Big Thompson Watershed is not only an ideal place to develop a long-term water management plan but also requires such a plan to ensure sustainability of the watershed to these various sectors. The Big Thompson Watershed Forum views this type of planning effort as a necessary step towards sustainability, particularly given recent impacts to the watershed including the 2013 flood and subsequent Highway 34 reconstruction which invested tens of millions of dollars in state, federal and local funds in the Big Thompson Watershed.

In partnership with the BTWC, Big Thompson Watershed Forum proposes that this effort, titled the Big Thompson Envisioning Project, will identify common goals, evaluate flows, better understand the conditions that are needed to support desired river uses, agricultural production, native species and essential ecosystem function, and identify actions to improve existing and future conditions. Our commitment to this effort is underscored by our willingness to potentially provide in-kind matching funds of approximately \$49,800 to the project should it be funded.

This application is a critical step for our community to ensure diverse stakeholders are involved in long-term management strategies that improve our ability to meet current and future water related demands. Therefore, the Big Thompson Watershed Forum fully supports this application and encourages the Colorado Water Conservation Board to fully fund the request.

Sincerely,
Andrew Fayram

Andrew Fayram
Monitoring Program Manager
Big Thompson Watershed Forum
800 South Taft Avenue
Loveland, CO 80537

**The Forum, EIN #06-1682189, is a recognized 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization
under the Internal Revenue Code.**



BIG THOMPSON WATERSHED FORUM

THE FUTURE OF WATER QUALITY IS IN OUR HANDS

10/1/2018

Mr. Jeffrey Boring
South Platte Basin Roundtable Needs Committee
1313 Sherman St, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of support for the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition Stream Management Plan Grant Application

Dear Mr. Boring:

The Big Thompson Watershed Forum is writing in support of the grant application submitted by the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) to the South Platte Basin Roundtable Water Supply Reserve Fund grant.

The Big Thompson Watershed provides water and water related services to a number of sectors such as municipal water supply, agricultural production, habitat for fish and other species, and recreational and tourism opportunities that serve as a key driver in the local economy. Given the central importance of these services, the Big Thompson Watershed is not only an ideal place to develop a long-term water management plan but also requires such a plan to ensure sustainability of the watershed to these various sectors. The Big Thompson Watershed Forum views this type of planning effort as a necessary step towards sustainability, particularly given recent impacts to the watershed including the 2013 flood and subsequent Highway 34 reconstruction which invested tens of millions of dollars in state, federal and local funds in the Big Thompson Watershed.

In partnership with the BTWC, Big Thompson Watershed Forum proposes that this effort, titled the Big Thompson Envisioning Project, will identify common goals, evaluate flows, better understand the conditions that are needed to support desired river uses, agricultural production, native species and essential ecosystem function, and identify actions to improve existing and future conditions. Our commitment to this effort is underscored by our willingness to potentially provide in-kind matching funds of approximately \$50,000 to the project should it be funded.

This application is a critical step for our community to ensure diverse stakeholders are involved in long-term management strategies that improve our ability to meet current and future water related demands. Therefore, the Big Thompson Watershed Forum fully supports this application and encourages the South Platte Basin Roundtable to fully fund the request.

Sincerely,
Andrew Fayram

Andrew Fayram
Monitoring Program Manager
Big Thompson Watershed Forum
800 South Taft Avenue
Loveland, CO 80537

**The Forum, EIN #06-1682189, is a recognized 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization
under the Internal Revenue Code.**



**CITY OF LOVELAND
PUBLIC WORKS
STORMWATER**

2525 W. First Street, Loveland, CO 80537
(970) 962-2627, FAX (970) 962-2908, TDD (970) 962-2620
www.ci.loveland.co.us

October 24, 2018

Mr. Jeffrey Boring
South Platte Basin Roundtable Needs Committee
1313 Sherman Street, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of support for the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition Stream Management Plan Grant Application

Dear Mr. Boring:

The City of Loveland Stormwater Engineering Division is writing in support of the grant application submitted by the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) to the South Platte Basin Roundtable Water Supply Reserve Fund grant.

The Big Thompson Watershed is illustrative of conditions across the Front Range of Colorado, with river flows and services used by multiple sectors, such as municipal water supply, agricultural production, habitat for fish and other species, and recreational and tourism opportunities for residents and visitors that serve as a key driver in the local economy. Given these factors, the Big Thompson Watershed is an ideal place to develop a long-term water management plan, and City of Loveland views this type of planning effort as a necessary next step following the recent 2013 flood recovery effort, which invested tens of millions dollars in state, federal and local funds in the Big Thompson Watershed.

In partnership with the BTWC, the City of Loveland proposes that this effort, titled the Big Thompson Envisioning Project, will identify common goals, evaluate flows, better understand the conditions that are needed to support desired river uses, agricultural production, native species and essential ecosystem function, and identify actions to improve existing and future conditions. Our commitment to this effort is underscored by our \$7,500 contribution to the project.

The City of Loveland's Public Works Department, Stormwater Engineering Division, has been involved with the BTWC since its inception, with several projects such as BTWC's Rossum-Wilson river restoration and Rist-Goss ditch projects located partially on our property. We appreciate the staff's professionalism and commitment to improving the watershed. We believe that the proposed project will build on our recent master planning efforts and provide a comprehensive plan for the identified segment of river. We feel BTWC is an important leader and advocate for the Big Thompson River's health and we are excited to support the Envisioning Project.

This application is a critical step for our community to ensure diverse stakeholders are involved in long-term management strategies that improve our ability to meet current and future water related demands. Therefore, The City of Loveland fully supports this application and encourages the South Platte Basin Roundtable to fully fund the request.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (970) 962-2774.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chris Carlson".

Chris Carlson, P.E., CFM
Stormwater Capital Improvement Program Manager /
River Team Lead
City of Loveland, Public Works Department

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joseph H. Chaplin Jr.". The signature is written in a fluid, connected style.

Joe Chaplin
Stormwater Quality Specialist
City of Loveland, Public Works Department

Greeley and Loveland Irrigation Company
808 23rd Ave
Greeley, CO 80634
970-352-0495

October 16, 2018

Mr. Jeffrey Boring
South Platte Basin Roundtable
1313 Sherman St, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of support for the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition Stream Management Plan Grant Application

Dear Mr. Boring:

I am writing in support of the grant application entitled the "Big Thompson Envisioning Project" submitted by the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) to the South Platte Basin Roundtable Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant program.

I am General Manager of the Greeley and Loveland Irrigation Company, one of the many water diversion companies that use Big Thompson water for irrigation and municipal purposes. As we think about the future of our watershed, we are concerned about the pressures of population growth, its impact on water quality and quantity, the threats of future flooding and wildfires, the drying up of agricultural land and the diminution in stream flows in the section of river being assessed by the BTWC.


The grant, if approved, will help us and other ditch companies work with other stakeholders to identify projects in the river corridor that will benefit us as water users as well as improve the health of the river for fishing and wildlife habitat.

The BTWC has demonstrated its effectiveness in managing other complicated federal and state grants in its river restoration work since the 2013 flood. As a non-profit, non-governmental organization, it has also been effective in bringing together public agencies, private landowners and environmental groups to collaborate on issues of common ground.

We are hoping that by bringing stakeholders together to create an action plan for our section of the river, the BTWC will be able credibly advocate for implementation funds to improve the watershed in the future.

We therefore urge approval of this project for full funding.

Sincerely,



Ronald Brinkman
General Manager
Greeley and Loveland Irrigation Company

Greeley and Loveland Irrigation Company
808 23rd Ave
Greeley, CO 80634
970-352-0495

October 16, 2018

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

RE: Letter of support for the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition Stream Management Plan Grant Application

Dear Mr. Sturm:

I am writing in support of the grant application entitled the "Big Thompson Envisioning Project" submitted by the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) to the Colorado Watershed Restoration Program – Stream Management Planning Grant.

I am General Manager of the Greeley and Loveland Irrigation Company, one of the many water diversion companies that use Big Thompson water for irrigation and municipal purposes. As we think about the future of our watershed, we are concerned about the pressures of population growth, its impact on water quality and quantity, the threats of future flooding and wildfires, the drying up of agricultural land and the diminution in stream flows in the section of river being assessed by the BTWC.

The grant, if approved, will help us and other ditch companies work with other stakeholders to identify projects in the river corridor that will benefit us as water users as well as improve the health of the river for fishing and wildlife habitat.

The BTWC has demonstrated its effectiveness in managing other complicated federal and state grants in its river restoration work since the 2013 flood. As a non-profit, non-governmental organization, it has also been effective in bringing together public agencies, private landowners and environmental groups to collaborate on issues of common ground.

We are hoping that by bringing stakeholders together to create an action plan for our section of the river, the BTWC will be able credibly advocate for implementation funds to improve the watershed in the future.

We therefore urge approval of this project for full funding by the Colorado Water Conservation Board.

Sincerely,



Ronald Brinkman
General Manager
Greeley and Loveland Irrigation Company

**South Side Ditch Company
1574 West County Road 16
Loveland, CO 80537**

November 1, 2018

Mr. Jeffrey Boring
South Platte Basin Roundtable
1313 Sherman St, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of support for the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition Stream Management Plan Grant Application

Dear Mr. Boring:

I am writing in support of the grant application entitled the "Big Thompson Envisioning Project" submitted by the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) to the South Platte Basin Roundtable Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant program.

I am President of the South Side Ditch Company, one of the many water diversion companies that use Big Thompson water for irrigation and municipal purposes. As we think about the future of our watershed, we are concerned about the pressures of population growth, its impact on water quality and quantity, the threats of future flooding and wildfires, the drying up of agricultural land and the diminution in stream flows in the section of river being assessed by the BTWC.

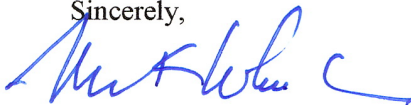
The grant, if approved, will help us and other ditch companies work with other stakeholders to identify projects in the river corridor that will benefit us as water users as well as improve the health of the river for fishing and wildlife habitat.

The BTWC has demonstrated its effectiveness in managing other complicated federal and state grants in its river restoration work since the 2013 flood. As a non-profit, non-governmental organization, it has also been effective in bringing together public agencies, private landowners and environmental groups to collaborate on issues of common ground.

We are hoping that by bringing stakeholders together to create an action plan for our section of the river, the BTWC will be able credibly advocate for implementation funds to improve the watershed in the future.

We therefore urge approval of this project for full funding.

Sincerely,



William K. Wheeler
President
South Side Ditch Company



PO BOX 299
LOVELAND, CO 80539

OFFICE 970.667.2680
FAX 970.667.0092

October 23, 2018

Mr. Jeffrey Boring
South Platte Basin Roundtable
1313 Sherman St, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of support for the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition Stream
Management Plan Grant Application

Dear Jeffrey:

Loveland Ready-Mix Concrete, Inc. is writing in support of the grant application submitted by the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) to the South Platte Basin Roundtable Water Supply Reserve Fund grant.

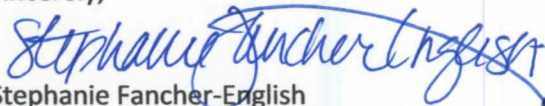
As urbanization continues to infiltrate the Big Thompson Watershed, river flows and services are increasingly challenged by multiple users. Municipal water demands, agricultural production, fish and wildlife, along with recreational and tourism demands, all compete for Big Thompson Watershed resources. The competition continues to intensify; therefore, this is an ideal time to develop a long-term water management plan. Loveland Ready-Mix believes this type of planning effort is a necessary next step in the investment in the Big Thompson Watershed.

We believe the Big Thompson Envisioning Project will: identify common goals, evaluate flows; provide better understanding of conditions needed to support competing river uses; identify native species and essential ecosystem functions; and produce a plan to improve existing and future conditions.

As a land owner in the Rossum to Wilson reach of the Big Thompson Watershed, LRM has spent a significant amount of our own resources in repairing the river after the 2013 flooding. However, we realize private resources are not enough. We appreciate the BTWC staff's professionalism and commitment to improving the watershed and feel BTWC is an important leader and advocate for its health.

It is our understanding that this application is a critical step for our community to ensure diverse stakeholders are involved in long-term management strategies focused on meeting current and future water related demands. We respectfully request the approval of this application to support the Coalition's long term goals. If you have any questions, or require additional information please advise.

Sincerely,


Stephanie Fancher-English
Loveland Ready-Mix Concrete, Inc.



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Area 2 - Lon Hagler State Wildlife Area
4207 W CR 16E
Loveland, CO 80537
P 970.472.4460 F 970.472.4468

October 19, 2018

Mr. Jeffrey Boring
South Platte Basin Roundtable
1313 Sherman St, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of support for the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition Water Supply Reserve Fund Application

Dear Mr. Boring:

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is pleased to support the application submitted by the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) to the South Platte Basin Roundtable Water Supply Reserve Fund grant program.

The Big Thompson Watershed is typical of conditions across the Front Range of Colorado, where river flows and services are used by multiple sectors including municipal water supply, agricultural production, habitat for fish and other species, and recreational and tourism opportunities for residents and visitors, all of which are key drivers in our local economy.

In partnership with the BTWC, CPW supports the proposed Big Thompson River Envisioning Project that will identify common goals, evaluate river flows, and better understand the conditions necessary to support desired river uses, native species, and essential ecosystem functions. The project will identify actions that lead to improved existing and future river conditions.

The BTWC has demonstrated its effectiveness in managing other complicated federal and state grants in its river restoration work since the 2013 flood. As a non-profit, non-governmental organization, it has also been effective in bringing together public agencies, private landowners and environmental groups to collaborate on issues of common ground. CPW has worked with the BTWC on several large-scale river restoration and flood recovery projects over the last three years. We feel BTWC is an important leader and advocate for the Big Thompson River's health and we are excited to support the River Envisioning Project.

This application is a critical step for our community to ensure diverse stakeholders are involved in long-term management strategies that improve our ability to meet current and future water related demands. Therefore, CPW fully supports this application and encourages the South Platte Basin Roundtable to fully fund the request.

Sincerely,

Kristin Cannon
Area Wildlife Manager





BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Suzanne Peterson, Chair
Ray Caraway, President
Greg Anderson
Tom Behr
Rhys Christensen
Mark Driscoll
Paula Edwards
Jason Ells
Richard Fagerlin
Craig Greenslit
Cindy Horner
Doug Hutchinson
Lisa Larsen
Mark Newendorp
Earl Sethre

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL

Mike Dellenbach
Connie Dohn
Dave Edwards
Bruce Hach
Wynne Odell
Chris Otto

October 8, 2018

Mr. Jeffrey Boring
South Platte Basin Roundtable
1313 Sherman St, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of support for the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition Stream Management Plan Grant Application

Dear Mr. Boring:

I am writing in support of the grant application entitled the "Big Thompson Envisioning Project" submitted by the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) to the South Platte Basin Roundtable Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant program.

I am President of the Northern Colorado Community Foundation, which has long been involved in projects that help citizens preserve and protect the landscapes that make this such a wonderful place to live. As we think about the future of our watersheds, we are concerned about the pressures of population growth, its impact on water quality and quantity, the threats of future flooding and wildfires, the drying up of surrounding agricultural land and the diminution in stream flows in the section of river being assessed by the BTWC.

The grant, if approved, will help our community to work collaboratively to identify projects in the river corridor that will benefit our citizens and improve the health of the river for fishing and wildlife habitat.

The BTWC has demonstrated its effectiveness in managing other complicated federal and state grants in its river restoration work since the 2013 flood. As a non-profit, non-governmental organization, it has also been effective in bringing together public agencies, private landowners and environmental groups to collaborate on issues of common ground.

We are hoping that by bringing stakeholders together to create an action plan for our section of the river, the BTWC will be able credibly advocate for implementation funds to improve the watershed in the future.

We therefore urge approval of this project for full funding.

Sincerely,

Ray Caraway
President
Community Foundation of Northern Colorado

TRUSTEES

President
Mickey McGuire

Vice-President
Linda Jefferies

Treasurer
Ryan Hogan

Secretary
Ruth Ketola

Past President
Coy Wylie

At Large:
Frank Bub
Colin Glover



TROUT UNLIMITED
Chapter 010
www.rockymtnflycasters.org

October 15, 2018

Jeffrey Boring
South Platte Basin Roundtable
Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant
1313 Sherman St.
Denver CO 80203

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Community Outreach
Wil Huett

Conservation
Frank Bub

Fishing Trips
Mark Miller

Membership
Linda Jefferies

Newsletter
Bob Green

Raffles
Domingo Rodriguez

Webmaster
Paul Wehr

Youth Outreach
Dennis Cook

Youth Water Festivals
Jerry Pelis

Women's Initiative
Linda Jefferies

Veterans Program
Dave Morse

RE: Letter of support for the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition Stream Management Plan Grant Application

Dear Mr. Boring:

Rocky Mountain Flycasters (RMF), a chapter of Trout Unlimited, is pleased to support the application submitted by the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) to the Colorado Watershed Restoration Program – Stream Management Plan Grant.

The Big Thompson Watershed is typical of conditions across the Front Range of Colorado, where river flows and services are used by multiple sectors including municipal water supply, agricultural production, habitat for fish and other species, and recreational and tourism opportunities for residents and visitors. These are all key drivers in the local economy, so a healthy river is very important. Conservation is one of the key elements of the RMF charter.

Given these factors, the Big Thompson Watershed is an ideal place to develop a long-term water management plan. RMF believes this type of planning effort is especially necessary following the recent 2013 flood recovery, where tens of millions of dollars in state, federal and local funds have been invested in restoring the Big Thompson Watershed.

In partnership with the BTWC, RMF supports the proposed Big Thompson Envisioning Project which is to identify common government and civilian goals, evaluate the river environment and flows, and improve our understanding of the conditions necessary to ensure proper river uses, support agricultural production,

TRUSTEES

President
Mickey McGuire

Vice-President
Linda Jefferies

Treasurer
Ryan Hogan

Secretary
Ruth Ketola

Past President
Coy Wylie

At Large:
Frank Bub
Colin Glover

**LEADERSHIP
COUNCIL**

Community Outreach
Wil Huett

Conservation
Frank Bub

Fishing Trips
Mark Miller

Membership
Linda Jefferies

Newsletter
Bob Green

Raffles
Domingo Rodriguez

Webmaster
Paul Wehr

Youth Outreach
Dennis Cook

Youth Water Festivals
Jerry Pelis

Women's Initiative
Linda Jefferies

Veterans Program
Dave Morse

enhance native species, and improve essential ecosystem functions. The project will identify actions that lead to improved existing and future river conditions. RMF has been involved with the BTWC since its inception, including membership on the board of directors and volunteering on many projects including the Jasper Lake improvement and US 34 Fishing Pier replacement. We will continue our involvement and feel that BTWC is an important leader and advocate for the Big Thompson River's health. We are excited to support the Envisioning Project.

This application is a critical step for our community to ensure diverse stakeholders are involved in long-term management strategies that improve our ability to meet current and future water related demands. Therefore, the Rocky Mountain Flycasters fully supports this application and encourages the Colorado Water Conservation Board to fully fund the request.

On behalf of the Rocky Mountain Flycasters, I commit a minimum of 100 hours of volunteer support for the duration of this project.

Sincerely,



Mickey McGuire, President
Rocky Mountain Flycasters
president@rockymtnflycasters.org

TROUT UNLIMITED MISSION

To conserve, protect and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.
720 Milner Ct, Loveland CO 80537



October 9, 2018

Mr. Jeffrey Boring
South Platte Basin Roundtable
1313 Sherman St, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of support for the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition Stream Management Plan Grant Application

Dear Mr. Sturm:

Horse & Dragon Brewing Company (and Tim and I personally) enthusiastically supports the application of the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) to the Colorado Water Conservation Board Watershed Restoration Program – Stream Management Plan Grant.

As both residents and business owners dependent upon the many functions of the Big Thompson Watershed we urge you to support this group in its work building upon well-researched efforts and cross-sector collaboration to protect and maintain the resources the watershed harbors. The health of the watershed directly impacts our product (craft beer), but also impacts our lives in countless other ways – from our own recreation, to the tourism it draws, to the many other industries it supports along the Front Range and further downstream, to its ability to mitigate naturally occurring “disasters” (flood, fire).

The people of the BTWC have proven themselves adept at working across the delicate boundaries of those of us with an interest in the watershed and at handling the federal & state requirements for previous grants. They propose to collect data that will inform their (and our) actions in preserving and rehabilitating the watershed for future residents (human and non-), businesses, and visitors, ensuring that we move forward in ways that best utilize limited human resources available to those working for a healthy water future. The information they gather will no doubt be useful in many other watersheds across the US, and the BTWC people are just the types to make the connections necessary for the research you are considering funding to spread. Thank you for considering being a part of their work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol A. Cochran". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Carol" being more prominent.

Carol Cochran

HORSE & DRAGON BREWING COMPANY
124 RACQUETTE DRIVE • FORT COLLINS, CO 80524



October 9, 2018

Mr. Jeffrey Boring
South Platte Basin Roundtable
1313 Sherman St, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of support for the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant

Dear Mr. Boring:

Gilded Goat Brewing Company is pleased to support the application submitted by the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) to the South Platte Basin Roundtable Water Supply Reserve Fund grant.

The Big Thompson Watershed is typical of conditions across the Front Range of Colorado, where river flows and services are used by multiple sectors including municipal water supply, agricultural production, habitat for fish and other species, and recreational and tourism opportunities for residents and visitors. These are all key drivers in the local economy. As a local brewery we use water from the Big Thompson and other sources as a key ingredient in our products, and we are invested in protecting and maintaining these important resources for the future.

In partnership with the BTWC, Gilded Goat Brewing Company supports the proposed Big Thompson River Envisioning Project which will identify common goals, evaluate river flows, and better understand the conditions necessary to support desired river uses, agricultural production, native species, and essential ecosystem functions. The project will identify actions that lead to improved existing and future river conditions.

The BTWC has demonstrated its effectiveness in managing other complicated federal and state grants in its river restoration work since the 2013 flood. As a non-profit, non-governmental organization, it has also been effective in bringing together public agencies, private landowners and environmental groups to collaborate on issues of common ground.

This application is a critical step for our community to ensure diverse stakeholders are involved in long-term management strategies that improve our ability to meet current and future water related demands. Therefore, Gilded Goat Brewing Company supports this application and encourages the South Platte Basin Roundtable to fully fund the request.

Sincerely,

Dylan Dems

Assistant Brewer

Gilded Goat Brewing Company



LARIMER COUNTY | ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

P.O. Box 1190, Fort Collins, Colorado 80522-1190, 970.498.5700, Larimer.org

November 1, 2018

Jeffrey Boring
South Platte Basin Roundtable WSRF Needs Committee
1313 Sherman St.
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Big Thompson Watershed Coalition Stream Management Plan Grant Application

Dear Mr. Boring:

I am writing in support of the grant application entitled the "Big Thompson Envisioning Project" submitted by the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) to the Colorado Watershed Restoration Program – Stream Management Planning Grant.

I am the Director of the Larimer County Engineering Department and with our involvement in floodplain regulation, flood recovery and resiliency, stormwater master planning and permitting, and County infrastructure design, we have a strong interest in the Big Thompson watershed. We have a record of success in working with the BTWC to carry out stream restoration projects under the NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Program and are currently partnering with them on vegetative reestablishment on the flood recovery work that was completed on North Fork Big Thompson and tributaries.

If approved, the grant will help identify future projects and carry forward with efforts that will benefit our citizens and improve the health of the river for fishing and wildlife habitat. It also compliments and expands upon Loveland's river corridor master plan completed earlier this year on a shorter reach of river.

The BTWC has demonstrated its effectiveness in managing other complicated federal and state grants in its river restoration work since the 2013 flood. As a non-profit, non-governmental organization, it has also been effective in bringing together public agencies, private landowners and environmental groups to collaborate on issues of common ground.

We urge your continued support of the BTWC and approval of their grant application.

Sincerely,



Mark Peterson, PE
Engineering Director/County Engineer



Big Thompson River Envisioning Project
Grantee: Big Thompson Watershed Coalition

Appendix C: Existing Studies of the Big Thompson Watershed

- Aloterra/Colorado Trout Unlimited Big Thompson River Fish Passage 30% Design Final Report (January 2017)
- Big Thompson Watershed Coalition/Ayres Associates – Big Thompson River Restoration Master Plan (May 2015)
- Big Thompson Watershed Forum- State of the Watershed Report (2015)
- Big Thompson Watershed Forum Annual Water Quality Report (2016)
- City of Loveland – Big Thompson River Corridor Master Plan (December 2017)
- City of Loveland, Larimer County, and Great Outdoors Colorado – A Bigger Vision for the Big T: Recreation and Conservation Assessment (July 2015)
- City of Loveland Parks and Recreation Master Plan (July 2014)
- City of Loveland Comprehensive Plan (July 2016)
- Colorado Parks and Wildlife Big Thompson River Fish Survey and Management Data (2017)
- CWCB/CDOT Big Thompson River Updated Hydrology (2015)
- CWCB/CHAMP Big Thompson Floodplain Maps (2018)
- Hydrosphere Resources Consultants Mariano Exchange Ditch System Assessment Report (Dec 2005)
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