



Last Update: July 31, 2018

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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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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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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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

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

Big Thompson River Envisioning Project
Grantee: Big Thompson Watershed Coalition

Appendix B: Map of Project Area

