



COLORADO

**Colorado Water
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Chris Sturm, Watershed and Flood Protection Section

DATE: May 15-16, 2019 Board Meeting

AGENDA ITEM: 29. x-kk Water Plan Grants – Environment and Recreation

Introduction

In 2018, the Environment and Recreation category was appropriated \$1.5 million in funding. In the first round of fiscal year 2018-2019 applications, the CWCB received 6 applications totaling \$1,805,420. Staff recommended approval of the 5 grants totaling \$554,711, leaving \$946,289 available for future rounds of grant funding. In this second round of fiscal year 2018-2019, the CWCB received 18 applications totaling \$1,959,024. Three of these applications will be discussed in the Agriculture category and one other is being addressed through the Conservation and Land Use category. The remaining 14 are included in this agenda item. See attached data sheets for project summaries. The data sheets are grouped after the memo and again as headers to each grant application in the pages that follow.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board Approve the projects/activities listed in the following table for Colorado Water Plan Grant funding contingent upon the applicants' abilities to resolve issues and additional needs discussed below.

Applicant	Project	Grant Request Amount	Staff Recommendation
x. Central Colorado Conservancy	Envision Recreation in Balance - Sediment Control Project	\$49,851	Approve \$49,851
y. Pitkin County Board of Commissioners	Robinson Ditch Diversion Modification	\$171,216	Approve \$171,216
z. Trout Unlimited and Blue River Watershed Group	Blue River Integrated Watershed Management Plan	\$46,000	Approve \$46,000 (1))
aa. Grand Valley Audubon Society	Audubon Nature Preserve Wetlands Improvement Project	\$130,352	Not recommended
bb. Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership	Governor Basin Restoration Project	\$33,250	Approve \$33,250
cc. Gunnison County	Shady Island River Park	\$330,000	Approve \$150,000



dd. National Forest Foundation	Taylor Park, Gunnison County, Watershed Erosion Control and Stream Restoration	\$10,000	Approve \$10,000
ee. Trout Unlimited	Ocate Properties Channel and Irrigation Improvement Project	\$11,589	Approve \$11,589
ff. Trout Unlimited	Cimarron Canal Diversion Gate Replacement and Water Management Planning Project	\$18,918	Approve \$18,918
gg. Gunnison Angling Society	Addressing Water Quality with a Vault Toilet at Cottonwood Pass Day Use Area	\$7,000	Not recommended
hh. Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation	Park Creek Watershed Improvement Project	\$25,800	Approve \$25,800
ii. Colorado Open Lands	Watershed Analysis of Beaver Restoration Potential in Park County	\$45,450	Approve \$45,450
jj. Colorado Open Lands	Riparian Reconnect Project	\$84,290	Approve \$84,290
kk. Valley Floor Preservation Partners	Telluride Valley Floor River Restoration Phase Two	\$215,000	Approve \$215,000

Total \$1,178,716 \$861,364

(1) Staff is recommending funding from two categories of Water Plan Grant funds. \$30,000 from the Environment and Recreation category and \$16,000 from Engagement and Innovation.

Staff Review and Comments

Staff reviewed the applications as a committee with the intent of expending remaining fiscal year 2018-2019 funds equitably on eligible projects among the basins that applied. Projects that did not receive recommendations for funding scored consistently low by the entire committee.

Project Issues/Additional Needs

- All funding awards are contingent upon the applicants' ability to secure match funding
- Grantees should adequately address CWCB staff comments to scopes of work and engineering designs (when applicable). Staff will schedule meetings with each successful applicant to discuss comments and contracting procedures

- 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.
- Project should comply with the CWCB's Rules and Regulations for Regulatory Floodplains in Colorado when applicable.