



June 12, 2019

Ben Wade
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St. Suite 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: POGG1 PDAA 20180000598

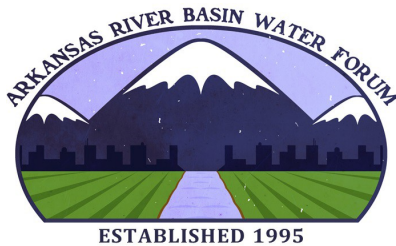
Dear Ben,

This letter serves as the final report for the CWCB Colorado Water Plan Engagement and Innovation grant that the Arkansas River Basin Water Forum (ARBWF) received on December 22, 2017. The ARBWF is the fiscal agent for the Arkansas Basin Roundtable (ABRT), Public Education, Participation and Outreach (PEPO) grant for \$24,350. The projects utilized \$22,057.83 in grant funds and the PEPO Workgroup and project partners provided a total of \$15,806 in in-kind time and cash. The grant funded projects hosted approximately 2,700 students and attendees at the various events.

The grant scope addressed the Arkansas Basin Implementation Plan (ArkBIP) identified concerns, provided education, and promoted action through multiple outreach mechanisms. The projects/programs included in this funding are listed below:

1. Tour of Ark Basin WSRF projects for the Rio Grande Roundtable members - The ABRT PEPO hosted a tour for 20 members of the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable of WSRF funded projects in the upper Arkansas basin. The tour was conducted on July 26, 2018. The RGRT met representatives from the ABRT in Buena Vista. Morning coffee and refreshments and transportation to the three tour locations were provided by ABRT PEPO. The locations included the following:
 - UAWCD multi-Use Project at Trout Creek Ranch
 - The Helena Ditch Diversion / Buena Vista Boat Chute & Voluntary Flow Management Program
 - Parkville Water District Flume Replacement ProjectGrant funds in the amount of \$259.06 were used to cover the cost of refreshments and transportation.

2. Arkansas River Basin Water Forum Education & Outreach Programs - Grant



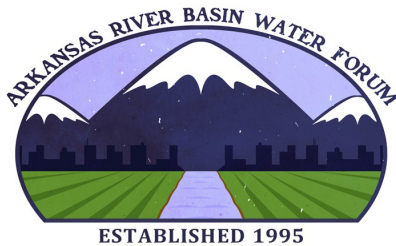
funds supported the annual ARBWF VIP Dinner and associated educational materials. The event was held April 10 – 12, 2018 in the City of La Junta at several different venues and focused on agricultural water use and water quality specifically impacting the lower Arkansas River Valley. The CWP Engagement and Innovation grant funds of \$4,682.76 supported the annual VIP Dinner and the associated educational materials provided to those in attendance. This included the cost of the dinner, libations, venue expenses, the educational program, and the ARBWF water infographic, which illustrated various water facts. The infographic is provided to all the VIP dinner and the ARBWF attendees, approximately 400 people.

3. Support of Community Water Festivals:

- This program was designed to provide education and outreach through community-led water festivals. The program continued to support water festivals in Trinidad and Colorado Springs in May 2018 approximately 1500 students were in attendance. Each festival was provided \$500 each for a total of \$1000.
- PEPO worked with and supported Colorado State University Extension in Prowers, Bent, Las Animas and El Paso counties to host an AgFest event in those locations. AgFest reached over 10,000 fifth and sixth grade students and 580 teachers and adult educators. These events were held in various locations in April and May 2019. The program focused on the STEM aspects behind the production of our food, fiber and natural resources, including water. PEPO provided \$500 in support of the development of a Water Table that demonstrated how agriculture water is used in food production. PEPO also provided 1,000 Colorado Foundation for Agriculture the “Understanding Water Activity Books” that were distributed at the various Ag Fests to students as a classroom resource.

4. Creek Week on the Purgatoire River - The Purgatoire Watershed Partnerships conducted a Creek Week clean up on a one mile stretch of the Purgatoire River on October 6, 2018. The local event drew an enthusiastic crowd of 45 volunteers who cleaned up more than 75 trash bags worth of weeds and trash along the Trinidad River Walk trail. Each registered volunteer received a Purgatoire Watershed Steward wristband and a free lunch for their efforts. Guest speakers provided educational presentations related to the Purgatoire River Creek Week activities. There were twelve partnering entities that helped to support this worthwhile effort. Grant funding of \$801.05 for PEPO’s support of the project.

5. State of the Purgatoire Event - On August 8, 2018 the first Purgatoire River



Watershed Forum. PEPO assisted with developing this event and provided financial support in the amount of \$1,020.62. The event was organized by a small committee of volunteers, who met monthly to arrange and organize the event. The event was held at Trinidad State Junior College and featured seven topics and 11 speakers. The topics included climatology, forestry management, wildlife management, urban forestry, regenerative grazing, noxious weeds, and water quality. There were 46 attendees, 11 speakers, and 9 committee members for a total of 66 in attendance.

6. Arkansas River Watershed Collaborative (ARWC) Outreach Program - In support of the Basin Roundtable, ARWC hired a GIS expert to develop a story map that will display the successes associated with the Arkansas Basin Implementation Plan. The story map will be posted on the Roundtable's website for ease of access to Roundtable members and other interested individuals. PEPO is working very closely with ARWC in the development of the story map and supported the development by utilizing CWP grant funds of \$1000 to pay the GIS expert for their services. The map is in it's final draft and review period and should be posted the Roundtable's website summer of 2019.
7. Support the PEPO Coordinator - The PEPO Coordinators have provided leadership in water education and has promoted and supported ArkBIP identified education to action projects & programs throughout the basin. The PEPO Coordinator has communicated and worked with all partners who are responsible for providing in-kind support and for implementation of ArkBIP identified programs. The Coordinators have performed the organization, coordination, task management, and reporting on all proposed educational ArkBIP projects. The Coordinators also monitored and reported on all of PEPO activities to the ARBWF, CWCB, Executive Committee and ABRT membership. The total cost of this subtask is \$10,884.75.
8. Education to Action Programs / Projects:
 - PEPO provided CO Parks & Wildlife, Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area \$1000 in December 2018 to assist with the development of a 3-D model of the Fry-Ark system that will be used for school education activities. This is a topographic model with the ability to transfer water from one area to another, representing the Fry-Ark project that will greatly increase the knowledge base of students with the help of a working model as a visual aid that will enhance the curriculum in schools so that students may better understand the Fry-Ark system. The contribution will be directly used for the education for



- approximately 500 students per year.
- PEPO supported the Hayden Pass Fire & Flood Recovery Open Meeting held in Coaldale in the amount of \$230 on February 9, 2019. This supported the efforts of the ARWC Coalition with refreshments for approximately 100 attendees. Landowners, agencies, and organizations concerned about fire and flood recovery in the area gathered to share concerns, explain priorities, and begin to get organized for action. This collaboration will continue to meet and gain stakeholder feedback in order to serve them in a meaningful way.
 - PEPO supported the HCWCD Storage Collaborative Meeting held on 11/29/18 in the amount of \$427.28. The meeting focused on the in-stream flow update and geotechnical investigation. This meeting was instrumental to the 30 attendees as the CWCB grant application was discussed for the 30% design in order to finish the geotechnical investigation. This dam will be incredibly important to the region and this meeting was an important step in informing the stakeholders involved.
 - PEPO worked on a Flood Expo event in Huerfano County with Kyle Freeburg. The Flood Expo was Kyle's Eagle Scout project. PEPO provided the project \$256 in support of developing, printing and distributing information cards, animal identification cards, and to help develop evacuation procedures during an emergency. This event was planned to address the large potential for flooding to happen this spring/summer in the Spring Fire burn scar areas. The emergency preparation package was distributed to over 50 attendees at a Flood Expo held on March 23, 2019 in Walsenburg. The resources were also provided at the County Barns in Huerfano County and Las Animas County. The materials were distributed to the health department, realtors, grocery stores, gas stations, courthouse, and the local vet. The intent of the handouts is to inform people on what to do and where to go when an emergency happens. Eagle Scout Kyle agreed to letting PEPO sharing these valuable resources with the Arkansas River Watershed Collaborative (ARWC) who works within the basin on fire and flood projects. These resources are now available to other groups who are confronting and being impacted by the same types of post-fire / flood problems.

The Arkansas River Basin Water Forum and Ark Basin PEPO workgroup would like to request a change of scope for our 2018-0598 CWP and 2019-2538 CWP grants. As you know, we have included in the scope of work for our 2019 grant the development



of six webisode. We have received requests from numerous Roundtable members to develop an educational webisode for other BIP identified project. We have decided to add two more to the six for a total of eight, which increased the budget. We currently have \$2,292.17 left in our 2018-0598 CWP grant that we would like to move to the 2019-2538 grant to cover these additional costs.

A CWCB Invoice tracking sheet and an ARBWF invoice are included as Attachment 1. A revised budget for 2019-2538 is also attached. Please let me know if you need anything else or if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your time, effort, and most of all for the support you have provided these important projects and programs.

Sincerely,

Jean Van Pelt
ABRT PEPO Coordinator