



COLORADO

**Colorado Water
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

**WSRF – Gunnison –IWMP – North Fork Gunnison River – Phase 2
POGG1 2020-2099**

July 30, 2020

Western Slope Conservation Center
Attn: Patrick Dooling, Executive Director
P.O. Box 1612
Paonia, CO 81428

Dear Grantee:

We are pleased to inform you that the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) has approved your request for an amendment to your contract pursuant to the WSRF Grant Program (“Program”). This letter authorizes you to proceed with the IWMP – North Fork Gunnison River – Phase 2 Project (“Project”) in accordance with the terms of this Grant Award Letter.

Attached to this letter are the terms and conditions of your Grant. Please review these terms and conditions, as they are requirements of this Grant to which you, Western Slope Conservation Center, agree by accepting the Grant Funds.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the project, please contact Chris Sturm, Project Manager at 303-866-3441 or at Chris.Sturm@state.co.us. Please send all grant correspondence directly to Chris and cc me on your invoice billing requests.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

//s//

Doriann Vigil
Program Assistant II
O 303-866-3441 ext. 3250
1313 Sherman Street, Rm. 719, Denver, CO 80203
Dori.vigil@state.co.us / cwcb.state.co.com

Cc: Jake Hartter, Watershed Coordinator





STATE OF COLORADO
Department of Natural Resources

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ORDER		*****IMPORTANT*****				
Number:	POGG1,PDAA,202000002099	The order number and line number must appear on all invoices, packing slips, cartons, and correspondence.				
Date:	7/30/19					
Description:	WSRF PDAA 2500 WSCC-INTEGRATED WTR MGMT NFORK-PHASE 2	BILL TO				
		COLORADO WATER BOARD CONSERVATION 1313 SHERMAN STREET, ROOM 718 DENVER, CO 80203				
Effective Date:	07/30/19					
Expiration Date:	07/30/21					
BUYER		SHIP TO				
Buyer:		COLORADO WATER BOARD CONSERVATION 1313 SHERMAN STREET, ROOM 718 DENVER, CO 80203				
Email:						
VENDOR		SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS				
WESTERN SLOPE CONSERVATION CENTER PO BOX 1612 PAONIA, CO 81428-8112		Delivery/Install Date: - FOB: FOB Dest, Freight Allowed				
Contact:	.					
Phone:	.					
VENDOR INSTRUCTIONS						
EXTENDED DESCRIPTION						
Line Item	Commodity/Item Code	UOM	QTY	Unit Cost	Total Cost	MSDS Req.
1	G1000		0	0.00	\$18,547.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Description: WSRF PDAA 2500 WSCC-INTEGRATED WTR MGMT NFORK-PHASE 2						
Service From: 07/30/19		Service To: 07/30/21				
Line Item	Commodity/Item Code	UOM	QTY	Unit Cost	Total Cost	MSDS Req.
2	G1000		0	0.00	\$10,000.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Description: WSRF PDAA 2500 WSCC-INTEGRATED WTR MGMT NFORK-PHASE 2						
Service From: 07/30/19		Service To: 07/30/21				
Line Item	Commodity/Item Code	UOM	QTY	Unit Cost	Total Cost	MSDS Req.
3	G1000		0	0.00	\$66,047.00	<input type="checkbox"/>



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Description: WS RESTORE PDAA 5000 WSCC-INTEGRATED WTR MGMT NFORK PHASE 2	
Service From: 07/30/19	Service To: 07/30/19
TERMS AND CONDITIONS	
https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/osc/small-dollar-grant-award-terms-conditions	
REASON FOR MODIFICATION	
Change Order Number: 1	
ADD WATERSHED FUNDING	
DOCUMENT TOTAL = \$94,594.00	

Exhibit A - Scope of Work

GRANTEE and FISCAL AGENT (if different) Western Slope Conservation Center (WSCC), North Fork Water Conservancy District (NFWCD)

PRIMARY CONTACT Jake Hartter , Watershed Coordinator

ADDRESS 204 Poplar Ave, Paonia, CO, 814218

PHONE 970-527-5307 xt 208

PROJECT NAME Integrated Water Management in the North Fork Gunnison River: Phase 2 (IWMP: 2)

GRANT AMOUNT \$94,594.00

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

In 2015, The Western Slope Conservation Center (WSCC), North Fork Water Conservancy District (NFWCD), and Trout Unlimited (TU) partnered to implement the “North Fork Integrated Water Management Plan and Assessment”. The project represented the first step in identifying Stream Management Plan (SMP) objectives for the North Fork. Despite collaborative efforts between partners, early gains in implementing the outlined goals of the project were stymied due to a lack of understanding between water user groups and the information needed for implementation. The project was quickly re-organized to incorporate a phased approach which prioritized preliminary SMP data such as conducting stakeholder interviews, gathering local support, assessment of existing river conditions, and identifying multi-purpose river needs at a reach scale. The Phase 1 project successfully accomplished those goals and produced two comprehensive assessments which identified the agricultural, environmental, and recreation needs along the North Fork and prioritized recommendations for a Phase 2 implementation project.

This Phase 2 proposal, a product of the recommendations from Phase 1, builds upon the priorities described in the 2017 assessments for the purposes of advancing the next installation of the SMP process for the North Fork. This proposal is the result of significant stakeholder outreach and represents the collective strategies from many entities with diverse water backgrounds, within our watershed and the larger Gunnison Basin. The Integrated Water Management in the North Fork Gunnison River: Phase 2 project will focus on 3 objectives prioritized in the 2017 assessments:

The Integrated Water Management in the North Fork Gunnison River: Phase 2 project will focus on 3 objectives prioritized in the 2017 assessments:

- 1) Create the North Fork River Stakeholder Group to gain support for the multi-purpose projects recommended in the Irrigation Management Plan and Environmental and Recreation Needs Assessment.
- 2) Improve boater safety in Reach Two through engineering design and signage.

- 3) Work with water users to increase understanding of river operations. Through the development of a suite of analytical tools

OBJECTIVES

- 1) Create the North Fork River Stakeholder Group to ensure an array of values and ideas related to use of the river and its water are heard, and to develop local support for multi-purpose projects and concepts and recommended in the Irrigation Management Plan and Environmental and Recreation Needs Assessments.
- 2) Improve Boater Safety in Reach Three, which extends from the Stewart Mesa diversion to the North Fork Farmers Ditch Company (Farmers Ditch) diversion, through accepted engineered infrastructure improvements and signage.
- 3) Educate water stakeholders to increase understanding of river operations, including the influence of water use efficiency improvement projects, and associated effects on water quality and quantity through the development of an array of analytical tools (e.g., water right accounting and water use simulation workbooks / spreadsheets) to prioritize future projects.

TASKS

Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format. Detailed descriptions are only required for CWCB funded tasks. Other tasks should be identified but do not require details beyond a brief description.

TASK 1 – Create North Fork River Stakeholder Group

Description of Task

In 2017, an Irrigation Management Plan and Environmental and Recreation Needs Assessment were completed by the North Fork Water Conservancy District and Western Slope Conservation Center. Both assessments are Tier 1 projects from the Gunnison Basin Implementation Plan. Both assessments call for better communication and education between water users and environmental and recreational stakeholders. To date, there have been some efforts to convene a broad set of river stakeholders, but these efforts have been sporadic and have not yet addressed the lack of communication between water user groups. This lack of unified understanding has hindered support for the multi-purpose projects recommended in the Irrigation Management Plan and Environmental and Recreation Needs Assessments.

Improved communication amongst stakeholders will help water managers, irrigators and river advocates make well-informed decisions that benefit the entire river system and meet multi-purpose resource management goals for the North Fork. In this task, the Western Slope Conservation Center and the North Fork Water Conservancy District will work together to convene a series of facilitated engagements with stakeholders to explore operational challenges and river health needs through identification of needed technical assistance and prioritization of multi-purpose project and/or management strategy recommendations.

Method/Procedure

Sub-Task 1.1: Engagement Roadmap

The Western Slope Conservation Center and the North Fork Water Conservancy District will contract with a community engagement facilitator to create a roadmap that will successfully formalize, engage and foster the River Stakeholders Group. The roadmap will identify 8-10 integral members of the North Fork water community and will include key representatives from state and local governments, irrigation ditch boards, area industry, non-profit groups, and representatives of the recreation community. With guidance from NFWCD and WSCC the stakeholders will work together to develop a roadmap which will lay out long-term goals as well as 1 and 2-year outcomes. Specific elements of this plan will include, but not be limited to:

- List of the stakeholders who should be included
- Goals for stakeholder engagement, including expectations and outcomes
- Schedule and objectives for each meeting; anticipate 9 meetings
- Build foundational support to implement irrigation efficiency and related diversion upgrades identified in Sub Task 2.1 for use as a model demonstration project for future multi-benefit projects
- Identify and prioritize river reaches in need of riparian habitat restoration
- Create scope of work for the development of technical tools in Task 3 and define how these tools can best be used to increase Stakeholder understanding of challenges, limitations and opportunities for optimizing river operations for multiple benefits.

Subtask 1.2 – Implement Engagement Roadmap

The Western Slope Conservation Center and the North Fork Water Conservancy District will carry out the tasks outlined in the Engagement Roadmap to convene the River Stakeholders Group every other month for 18 months to further shared goals, oversee development and use of Task 3 analytical tools, and prioritize coordinated project opportunities. The community engagement facilitator will ensure a successful start, with the intent to ultimately hand off facilitation to Western Slope Conservation Center staff member(s) or other appropriate mutually appointed community member(s).

Subtask 1.3 – Promote River Awareness and Implement Community Outreach Events

Engaging the North Fork community about river safety and water efficiency is an integral component of Tasks 1 and 2. Therefore, WSCC will host a river festival (Riverfest) at the Paonia River Park devoted to raising river awareness around river health, water efficiency, recreation safety, water education, and the River Stakeholders Group process. WSCC will hire a Riverfest Coordinator and raise sponsorships for this event. The WSCC watershed committee will also support targeted outreach by hosting an “Irrigation 101 in the North Fork Valley” workshop, focused on providing water efficiency information to new residents

Deliverable

- Engagement Roadmap and reports on its effectiveness
- Nine meetings of the River Stakeholders Group with agendas and minutes
- Host Riverfest 2019 and report on its success
- Host Irrigation workshop and report on its success

TASK 2 – Improve Boater Safety in Reach Two and Three

Description of Task

This task will be a pilot project for the stakeholder group and represents a tangible example of the multipurpose projects the group will identify, prioritize, and implement. The 2017 North Fork of the Gunnison River Environmental and Recreation Needs Assessment, along with the 2017 North Fork Irrigation Management Plan, identified 3 locations at or near diversion structures within River Reaches 2 and 3 that are potentially hazardous to boating recreation at certain river levels. Efforts to improve boater safety (including signage and structural improvements) will avoid future accidents, reduce conflict and bodily risk, and compliment future efficiency projects.

North Fork Farmers Ditch (Farmers ditch) was selected for the pilot project. Farmers ditch is one of the older active diversions in the North Fork. Though the timber and rock structure itself is quite stable, the diversion is able to, and often does, sweep the river, creating an impasse for aquatic species and sediment transport. Additionally, the downstream boulders and upstream metal cribbing represent a significant hazard to boats and boater (see photos in Attachment A).

This task will result in 30% engineering design for improvements to the Farmers ditch diversion. It will also improve boater safety at both the Stewart Mesa and Farmers Ditch diversions with improved signage.

Method/Procedure

Sub-Task 2.1 : 30% Engineering Design

A licensed engineering consultant will complete a 30% rehabilitation design and provide an Engineer's Opinion of Probable Cost for the Farmers Ditch diversion. Engineering will focus on how to leverage an investment in diversion improvements to meet the ditch companies needs and challenges in addition to providing solutions for recreation hazards. This task will also develop a funding plan and schedule for implementation.

Sub-Task 2.2: Signage

This task will design and install appropriate signage upstream of the Stewart Mesa and Farmers Ditch diversion structures directing boaters to the main river channel to avoid dangerous hazards and reduce trespassing.

Deliverable

- 30% Design, Engineer's opinion of probable cost and funding plan for a rehabilitation of the Farmers Ditch diversion that improves boater safety
- Design and installation of safety signage at Stewart Mesa and Farmers diversions

TASK 3 – Increase Understanding of River Operations

Description of Task

Several technical tasks were identified as next steps in the 2017 Irrigation Management Plan and the Environmental and Recreation Needs Assessment. They include:

- Conduct follow-up geomorphological monitoring of 1997 cross sections to improve understanding of changes within the North Fork River System during the past 20 years to help guide future decisions in river channel restoration.
- Identify areas for riparian corridor wetland development to mitigate the extreme tendency of the river channel to migrate during high flows, which leads to significant loss of agricultural land and difficulty operating ditch headgates.
- Conduct water administration impact studies to assess how changes in efficiency may impact individual irrigators and/or provide recreational and/or environmental benefit.
- Implement a prioritized list of proposed projects that involve ditch infrastructure improvements that provide benefits to both irrigators and non-consumptive users.
- Support implementation of additional Colorado River Salinity Control (and other related water efficiency) projects such as off farm conveyance efficiency improvements (e.g., piping open irrigation canals) and on farm application efficiency projects (e.g., sprinkler implementation) as appropriate.

Undertaking all of these recommendations at once is neither financially feasible nor palatable to water users. To further understand and prioritize potential projects, the River Stakeholder Group, with input from water users and direction from WSCC, NFWCD and partners, will develop analytical tools to examine the opportunities, costs and benefits of multi-purpose projects. Outputs from these tools will be used in the implementation of the Engagement Roadmap to increase stakeholder understanding of river operations opportunities and limitations.

Method/Procedure

With support from a licensed engineering consultant, the River Stakeholder Group will develop a set of analytical tools that can be used to simulate and analyze the physical and legal availability of water supplies to meet existing and future demands for a specific water user or group of water users. This will be performed by accounting for diversions and return flows in priority; this will assist in identifying opportunities for potential changes in river operations, accounting, exchanges, etc. It will also be used to assess the impact of future water efficiency improvement projects (e.g., salinity control and EQIP investments).

These analytical tools will be developed and made available at the request of a specific water user group or water efficiency project.

These methods have been used in other sub basins of the Gunnison River and have been very effective. As an example, the “Division 4 workbook” has been an effective tool for stakeholders in the Upper Gunnison and Uncompahgre River watersheds. Such a tool set is effectively missing in the North Fork subbasin.

Deliverable

- Detailed Scope of Work and task orders to develop analytical tools
- Documentation, software and/or scenario oriented results will be created; this will include basic water rights information, irrigation demands, consumptive uses and efficiency estimates that will inform a common stakeholder baseline understanding of river operations related to supply and demands for a specific water user group or water efficiency project identified by the river stakeholder group.

TASK 4 – Phase 3 Action Plan

Description of Task

Based upon the goals, objective and results from Tasks 1-3, the North Fork River Stakeholder Group will identify high priority projects and strategies to undertake in Phase 3 of the Integrated Water Management in the North Fork Gunnison River project.

Method/Procedure

This action plan will examine and analyze the recommendations from the Integrated Water Management in the North Fork Gunnison River Phase 1 reports and will incorporate the results from these Phase 2 tasks described above to develop a unified, well-supported scope of work for the future implementation of Phase 3. The scope of work will include project descriptions, a timeline, a budget, and a lead entity for each task as well as a funding strategy and plan

Deliverable

- Phase 3 Scope of Work including timeline, budget, strategic funding plan, and prioritized project list

TASK 5 – Project Management

Description of Task

The purpose of this task is to support the Western Slope Conservation Center with the project management needs of the project, specifically: tracking project progress, including each subconsultant’s deliverables and costs with respect to the scope of work; supporting the necessary communication and coordination with the Project Team; coordinating with

Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB), as needed; and preparing for and participating in stakeholder meetings. Specific subtasks are described below.

- Subtask 5.1 - Track and report on project tasks, budget, and schedule, oversee invoicing and project accounting
- Subtask 5.2 - Coordinate with the River Stakeholder Group and lead the project team, including regular check-ins, meeting summaries, action items and documentation of consensus
- Sub-task 5.3 - Circulate draft documents for stakeholder review, revision of draft documents as appropriate, and distribution to River Stakeholder Group, interested public, funders and other participants
- Subtask 5.4 - Ensure high quality of deliverables, including grant reports, fund accounting and final report that incorporates all stakeholder input; deliverables will be archived electronically and made available via a public website.

Method/Procedure

The WSCC staff and NFWCD together with staff from Trout Unlimited and other consensus-based, appropriate community members will provide Project Management services as outlined above.

Deliverable

- Progress reports
- Monthly invoices
- Publication and distribution of reports and associated deliverables, as appropriate

REPORTING AND FINAL DELIVERABLE

Reporting: The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of the executed contract. The progress report shall describe the completion or partial completion of the tasks identified in the statement of work including a description of any major issues that have occurred and any corrective action taken to address these issues.

Final Deliverable: At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a final report that summarizes the project and documents how the project was completed. This report may contain photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs.

EXHIBIT B - Budget & Timeline Table

Task	Description	Target Start Date	Target Completion Date	CWCB Funds CO Watershed Restoration Prog.	CWCB Funds WSRF	Other Funding Cash
1	Create North Fork River Stakeholder Group	6/14/2019	7/30/2021	\$20,125.00		\$7,295.00
2	Improve Boater Safety in Reach Two and Three	7/30/2019	7/30/2021	\$12,205.00	\$9,410.00	\$7,205.00
3	Increase Understanding of River Operations	7/30/2019	7/30/2021	\$18,717.00	\$11,283.00	
4	Phase 3 Action Plan	7/30/2019	7/30/2021	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	
5	Project Management	7/30/2019	7/30/2021	\$10,000.00	\$2,854.00	
6						
7						
	TOTALS			\$66,047.00	\$28,547.00	\$14,500.00

This table is a guide. Variations may be submitted. For example, if a task includes purchase of materials, a column that identifies cost per unit should be included.

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\$94,594.00

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Other Funding In-Kind	Total
\$18,000.00	\$45,420.00
	\$28,820.00
	\$30,000.00
	\$10,000.00
\$5,000.00	\$17,854.00
\$23,000.00	\$132,094.00