

December 10, 2019

By Email: [megan.holcomb@state.co.us](mailto:megan.holcomb@state.co.us)

Ms. Megan Holcomb  
Water Supply Planning Section  
Colorado Water Conservation Board  
1313 Sherman St  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Megan,

This final report is submitted to satisfy the requirements of the Colorado Basin Water Supply Reserve Account \$37,500 grant awarded to Roaring Fork Conservancy (RFC) under Purchase Order POGG1 2019-30 for the project entitled: **Roaring Fork Watershed Plan Interactive Information System**. You will notice the project came in under budget in Consultant time, thus funds used from this grant total \$30,420.

RFC and its partners appreciate your generous support on this project. We look forward to continuing to work with the CWCB on innovative and interactive tools that connect people to rivers in the Roaring Fork Valley, and serve as a template for other regions and watersheds. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly if you require any additional information on this project.

Sincerely,

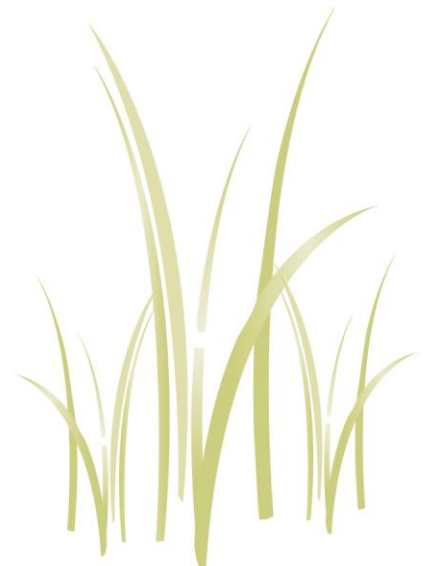
Heather Lewin  
Science and Policy Director

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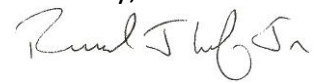
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rick Lofaro".

Rick Lofaro



- **Project Summary and Completion**

The [Roaring Fork Watershed Interactive Information System](#) is a web-based interactive map and information system for the Roaring Fork Watershed that built upon the digital database and map generated by the Colorado River Basin Roundtable's Integrated Water Management Planning Framework Project. It includes information specific to the Roaring Fork Watershed with the addition of data that identifies and provides background and linkages connected to the specific action items detailed in the Roaring Fork Watershed Plan Update. The project houses easily accessible information about the Roaring Fork Watershed so that every user, from grade school students to seasoned scientist, can peruse research and recommended actions regarding a particular stretch of river, sub-basin, or watershed wide. Information is displayed under the headings: Watershed at a glance, Issues, Action Plan, Water Quality, Regulatory status, Streamflow background, Hydrology, and Water Use. Each heading link leads to a page with a short narrative on the topic and a map with data points. A user may then "dig down" into the map to explore the heading as it relates to geographic points within the watershed, thereby linking comprehension of the topic with a specific location and action within the watershed, an outside webpage, or relevant graphic or photo. This interactive information system facilitates a better understanding of dynamics within the Roaring Fork Watershed, renewed momentum towards implementation of projects recommended by the Roaring Fork Watershed Plan and serves as a one-stop-shop for all things Roaring Fork. It visually connects academic description of watershed dynamics with local reference points, allowing a user to understand and explore how and why water acts or is impacted in their own backyard. And, through the display of example projects and descriptions, project histories and needs become apparent to the user without significant additional research.

The Roaring Fork Watershed Tool creation relied on the teamwork and feedback of several individuals, jurisdictions, and organizations within the watershed. With contractor Lotic Hydrological, RFC worked to design a framework that was both informative and accessible. This framework was then shared with the Roaring Fork Watershed Plan working group for revisions. This group includes representatives from: Pitkin, Eagle, and Garfield Counties; Ruedi Water and Power Authority; Pitkin County Healthy Rivers, American Rivers, and Mark Fuller (retired RWAPA Executive Director and Roaring Fork Watershed guru).

- **Obstacles**

The greatest obstacle this project encountered was the urgency of the 2018 drought. With Roaring Fork watershed rivers at near historic lows, coupled with the Lake Christine Fire and associated impacts and obligations, this project was delayed. With the flexibility and generosity of the CWCB, the project team was able to regroup and complete the project with a final product that meets or exceeds our initial goals.

- **Next Steps**

Previews of Roaring Fork Watershed Interactive Information System have been met with great enthusiasm and positive feedback. Both RFC and RWAPA continue to explore uses for this tool in the future. Current plans include:

- Presentation and demonstration to Watershed Plan steering committee in January and subsequently all active stakeholders;
- Promotion, access, and tutorials on RFC and RWAPA's websites;
- Exhibit for use by visitors in RFC's River Center lobby;
- Presentation to elected officials of all RWAPA participating jurisdictions; (Pitkin and Eagle Counties, City of Aspen, Town of Snowmass Village, Town of Basalt, Town of Carbondale, and City of Glenwood)
- Development of school curriculum for middle school through college with input and design from students; and
- Demonstration at next full Roaring Fork Watershed Summit.

Based on feedback from stakeholders who have seen the tool demonstrated, we anticipate use from a variety of groups outside of RFC and RWAPA and will continue to document these uses in the future.

- **Cost Matching**

Matches from Pitkin County Healthy Rivers, Eagle County and Garfield County are documented in Attachment 1.

- **Summaries of meetings and designs.**

Please explore the active webpage [here](#). Because of the nature of website building, project drafts, edits, and designs were not documented but rather altered and/or included in the final web design. Notes on design and feedback can be found in Attachment 2.