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Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant Application

Instructions

To receive funding for a Water Plan Grant, applicant must demonstrate how the project, activity, or process (collectively referred to as “project”) funded by the CWCB will help meet the measurable objectives and critical actions in the Water Plan. Grant guidelines are available on the CWCB website.

If you have questions, please contact CWCB at (303) 866-3441 or email the following staff to assist you with applications in the following areas:

Water Storage Projects
Conservation, Land Use Planning
Engagement & Innovation Activities
Agricultural Projects
Environmental & Recreation
Projects

Anna.Mauss@state.co.us
Kevin.Reidy@state.co.us
Ben.Wade@state.co.us
Alexander.Funk@state.co.us
Chris.Sturm@state.co.us

FINAL SUBMISSION: Submit all application materials in one email to [**waterplan.grants@state.co.us**](mailto:waterplan.grants@state.co.us) in the original file formats [Application (word); Statement of Work (word); Budget/Schedule (excel)]. Please do not combine documents. In the subject line, please include the funding category and name of the project.

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
Name of Water Project	Rio Grande Irrigated Meadows
CWP Grant Request Amount	\$ 400,000
SUNCOR Remediation Fund (secured)	\$ 69,400
Colorado Parks & Wildlife Wetlands Program (secured)	\$ 275,980
North American Wetlands Conservation Act (pending)	\$ 36,050
U.S. Partners for Wildlife Program (pending) ¹	\$ 35,000
Private Landowners (pending) ¹	\$ 35,000
Ducks Unlimited, Inc. (secured)	\$ 112,000
Total Project Cost	\$ 963,430
¹ These funds are secured upon execution of a 30-year Site Conservation Agreement between Ducks Unlimited, Partners for Wildlife and the private landowner.	



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Applicant & Grantee Information	
Name of Grantee(s): Ducks Unlimited, Inc.	
Mailing Address: 1825 Sharp Point Drive, Suite 118, Fort Collins, CO 80525	
FEIN: 13-5643799	
Organization Contact: Matthew Reddy	
Position/Title: Regional Biologist	
Email: mreddy@ducks.org	
Phone: 970.381.2876	
Grant Management Contact: same as above	
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	
Mailing Address	
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	
Description of Grantee/Applicant	
Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).	
<p>Ducks Unlimited, Inc. is a member organization structured under section 501(c)(3). The organization was created in 1937 for the conservation of North America's waterfowl and its habitat. Ducks Unlimited conserves, restores, and manages wetlands and associated habitats for North America's waterfowl. These habitats also benefit other wildlife and people. DU is the world's leader in wetland conservation, having conserved more than 14 million acres across the continent. DU's Colorado Field Office in Fort Collins employs experts in biology, engineering, hydrology, water law, agricultural economics, and land protection. Our experience in the region, network of landowners and partners, fundraising capabilities, and diverse skillsets position DU to effectively deliver multi-beneficial projects in this important focus landscape.</p>	



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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: Private parties may be eligible for funding.
X	Non-governmental organizations (NGO): Organization that is not part of the government and is non-profit in nature.
	Covered Entity: As defined in Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes .

Type of Water Project (check all that apply)	
X	Study
X	Construction
	Identified Projects and Processes (IPP)
	Other

Category of Water Project (check the primary category that applies and include relevant tasks)	
	Water Storage - Projects that facilitate the development of additional storage, artificial aquifer recharge, and dredging existing reservoirs to restore the reservoirs' full decreed capacity and Multi-beneficial projects and those projects identified in basin implementation plans to address the water supply and demand gap. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
X	Conservation and Land Use Planning - Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s): 1,3,5,7,9,11 and 13</i>
	Engagement & Innovation - Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
X	Agricultural - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s): 1,3,5,7,9,11 and 13</i>
✓	Environmental & Recreation - Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s): 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13 and 13</i>
	Other

Location of Water Project
Please provide the general county and coordinates of the proposed project below in decimal degrees . The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable.



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County/Countries	Rio Grande
Latitude	Multiple project locations
Longitude	Multiple projects locations

Water Project Overview

Please provide a summary of the proposed water project (200 words or less). Include a description of the project and what the CWP Grant funding will be used for specifically (e.g., studies, permitting process, construction). Provide a description of the water supply source to be utilized or the water body affected by the project, where applicable. 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, and area of habitat improvements, where applicable. 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, Other Funding Sources/Amounts and Schedule.

The goal of this multi-purpose water project is to install, restore and rehabilitate irrigation infrastructure (diversion, delivery, and storage) used to wet critical wildlife habitat acres and productive rangelands associated with the Rio Grande in the San Luis Valley of Colorado. One of the largest threats to wildlife populations and wildlife-oriented recreation in this landscape is the loss of irrigated wetlands on both public and private lands. The focus of this work is on public lands open to recreation and on private lands whose environmental values are permanently protected by conservation easements held by federal or state agencies and local land trusts. Project funds will be used to construct irrigation systems and to develop plans that may, in turn, be used to seek funding from other available sources, including Colorado Parks and Wildlife's Wetlands Program, the North American Wetlands Conservation Act fund, and USDA conservation program funding available to private landowners. Ducks Unlimited (DU) is a member of a broad collaboration of agency, NGO and landowners coming together to sustain irrigated meadows acreage in the Rio Grande watershed.

Both the Colorado Water Plan and the Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan describe the need to provide efficient use of Colorado's water while maintaining and sustaining watershed health. The RGIM project will improve effective and efficient administration and water management of water rights on the private and public lands included in this funding request and will improve habitat conditions for a wide variety of wildlife species. This project will effect irrigation of wetland and riparian areas from the headwaters of the Rio Grande, west of Creede to Alamosa meeting multiple objectives stated in the Colorado Water Plan (CWP) including upholding Colorado water law system namely prior appropriation doctrine, supporting development of multipurpose projects, maintaining wetland and riparian areas and functional riparian habitats, and promoting the sustainability of habitats for threatened and endangered species (Chapters 6 and 9, CWP). This project meets 9 of the 14 goals (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12) of the Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) including meeting multiple benefits for agriculture and environmental water needs. CWP and BIP goals will be met through upgrading new diversion structures and increasing efficiency and effectiveness of irrigation on agricultural and public lands, improving habitat conditions for the federally endangered southwestern willow flycatcher and threatened yellow-billed cuckoo, along with many Tier 1 and 2 species listed in the Colorado State Wildlife Action Plan.

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The RGIM project occurs within a focus area identified in the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Southwest Rivers Business Plan which documents the need to support funding to implement the many different plans and strategies that have been developed in the region by state and federal agencies and conservation organizations such as the SLV Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for southwestern willow flycatcher (SWFL) and yellow-billed cuckoo. Priorities for funding within the Rio Grande watershed include upgrades to infrastructure for riparian habitat that will maintain breeding habitat for the SWFL. A majority of project sites included along the Rio Grande are in or adjacent to core SWFL breeding territories on state lands or are within identified potential habitat for the species documented in the HCP. In addition, project site locations will complement efforts by partners working on improving administration and management of water rights, improve riparian habitat, stream bank stabilization, and stream function through the projects and priorities identified in the Upper Rio Grande Watershed Assessment and the forthcoming Rio Grande Stream Management Plan.

The San Luis Valley Wetland and Wildlife Conservation Assessment (SLV WWCA), partially funded by the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable, was recently completed to help identify where partnerships may more efficiently and effectively manage limiting water resources for wildlife. Changes in irrigation practices over the past 40 years coupled with extreme drought conditions, mining of the aquifer, and promulgation of Groundwater Rules and Regulations have compelled natural resource partners to identify how cooperative efforts across boundaries could better provide resources to high priority wetland dependent wildlife species utilizing the SLV during different times of the year. The SLVWWCA recognized key priority areas where cooperative efforts might be most effective based on corridors of conservation on public and private lands. The SLVWWCA most importantly found that a majority of available wet acres occurred on private lands further demonstrating the need to maintain existing agricultural lands, especially those that continue to flood irrigate native hay meadows such as those found along the Rio Grande. Funding of the RGIM project will help further recommendations made by partners in the SLVWWCA aimed at improving existing habitat and working with private and public lands across boundaries. Specifically, funding of the RGIM will improve administration and water management capabilities for agricultural private landowners and state and federal public lands that will maintain and sustain current irrigated wet meadow (wetlands) and riparian habitats identified as priority areas that provide limited resources important to the overall health of the Rio Grande watershed.

Measurable Results	
To catalog measurable results achieved with the CWP Grant funds, please provide any of the following values as applicable:	
	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)
1,500	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)
	Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms



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	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning	
	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity	
	Other	Explain:

Water Project Justification

Provide a description of how this water project supports the goals of [Colorado's Water Plan](#), the most recent [Statewide Water Supply Initiative](#), and the applicable Roundtable [Basin Implementation Plan](#) and [Education Action Plan](#). 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).

The proposed water project shall be evaluated based upon how well the proposal conforms to Colorado's Water Plan Framework for State of Colorado Support for a Water Project (CWP, Section 9.4, pp. 9-43 to 9-44;)

RIO GRANDE BASIN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

This proposal addresses several needs outlined in the Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan:

Agricultural Needs

Our work will: **"improve aging and poorly functioning agriculture diversions and headgates along Basin rivers and streams. Many diversion structures have outlived their engineered life or were never engineered"** (p.65). Specifically, we are partnering to restore and rehabilitate several critical pieces of irrigation infrastructure associated with productive farms and ranchlands in the basin.

Environmental Needs

Our work will: **"protect and revitalize riparian areas and wetlands are underway to sustain and improve water quality, groundwater recharge, floodplain function, and critical bird, fish, and wildlife habitats"** (p. 75). The focus of this work is on public lands open to recreation and on private lands whose environmental values are permanently protected by conservation easements held by federal or state agencies and local land trusts. The Valley's extensive wetlands and riparian habitats support at least 13 threatened and endangered species and over 160 species of birds, ranging from the iconic greater sandhill crane to the endangered southwestern willow flycatcher.

Recreational Needs

Our work will: **"build upon the existing amount and quality of recreational opportunities in the basin"** (p. 78). Additionally, **"Many projects that would benefit recreational needs may benefit other sectors as well"** One of the largest threats to wildlife populations and wildlife-oriented recreation in this landscape is the loss of irrigated wetlands on both public and private lands. By restoring irrigation infrastructure, we are also positively impacting the diverse range of recreational opportunities which are inseparable from irrigated agriculture in the basin. Both are inherently important to sustaining a vibrant and resilient local economy.

COLORADO WATER PLAN

This project supports several measurable objectives under Section 10.3 (Critical Action Plan) of the Colorado Water Plan. Specifically, following is a description of critical action items this project will

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contribute toward:

10.3.D Agriculture by maintaining 'Colorado's agricultural productivity, support of rural economies, and food security. (p. 10-10). Our work specifically addresses the second and third critical agricultural action items listed in this part of the plan by providing financial and technical assistance to both planning and implementation efforts to update and improve ageing infrastructure.

10.3.F Watershed Health, Environment and Recreation by providing wetland and wet meadow habitat to a host of avian, mammalian and amphibian species that rely on these habitats to survive. The work we propose will have positive benefits on numerous populations of migratory birds, including several threatened and endangered species. Our work will contribute to the 'restoration, recovery, and resiliency of endangered, threatened and imperiled aquatic and riparian dependent species...' (p. 10-12) by rehabilitating and maintaining over 2,000 acres of irrigated wetland habitats.

Related Studies

Please provide a list of any related studies, including if the water project is complementary to or assists in the implementation of other CWCB programs.

The San Luis Valley Wetland and Wildlife Conservation Assessment (SLV WWCA), partially funded by the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable, was recently completed to help identify where partnerships may more efficiently and effectively manage limiting water resources for wildlife. Changes in irrigation practices over the past 40 years coupled with extreme drought conditions, mining of the aquifer, and promulgation of Groundwater Rules and Regulations have compelled natural resource partners to identify how cooperative efforts across boundaries could better provide resources to high priority wetland dependent wildlife species utilizing the SLV during different times of the year. The SLVWWCA recognized key priority areas where cooperative efforts might be most effective based on corridors of conservation on public and private lands. The SLVWWCA most importantly found that a majority of available wet acres occurred on private lands further demonstrating the need to maintain existing agricultural lands, especially those that continue to flood irrigate native hay meadows such as those found along the Rio Grande.

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Previous CWCB Grants, Loans or Other Funding	
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; 6) Percentage of other CWCB funding for your overall project.	
Loans: None CWP: Lafleur Wetlands, North Park Irrigated Meadows WSRF: Bureau of Reclamation – Narrows (SPBRT), North Park Irrigated Meadows II (NPBRT), Sambrito Wetlands (SWBRT), Pedersen Bend Recharge (SPBRT), Bureau of Reclamation – Narrows Feasibility (SPBRT), State Land Board Recharge (SPBRT), Prewitt Reservoir Wetland Enhancements (SPBRT), Flex Water Market Implementation (SPBRT), South Platte Phreatophyte Control (SPBRT), Wetland Recharge Model (SPBRT), North Park Irrigated Meadows I (NPBRT), Weld County School District (SPBRT), Central South Platte Partnership (SPBRT), Fender/DT Ranch/Drakeland Wetlands (SPBRT), Heyborne/Brush Prairie Ponds/Golden Eagle Wetlands (SPBRT).	
Taxpayer Bill of Rights	
The Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) may limit the amount of grant money an entity can receive. Please describe any relevant TABOR issues that may affect your application.	
Not Applicable	
Submittal Checklist	
<input type="checkbox"/>	I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the Standard Contract .
Exhibit A	
X	Statement of Work ⁽¹⁾
X	Budget & Schedule ⁽¹⁾
X	Engineer's statement of probable cost (projects over \$100,000)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ⁽¹⁾
Exhibit C	
X	Map (if applicable) ⁽¹⁾
X	Photos/Drawings/Reports
X	Letters of Support (Optional)
X	Certificate of Insurance (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.) ⁽²⁾
X	Certificate of Good Standing with Colorado Secretary of State ⁽²⁾
X	W-9 ⁽²⁾
<input type="checkbox"/>	Independent Contractor Form ⁽²⁾ (If applicant is individual, not company/organization)
Engagement & Innovation Grant Applicants ONLY	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Engagement & Innovation Supplemental Application ⁽¹⁾

(1) Required with application.

(2) Required for contracting. While optional at the time of this application, submission can expedite contracting upon CWCB Board approval.

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Colorado Water Conservation Board	
Water Plan Grant - Exhibit A	

Statement Of Work	
Date:	1/31/2020
Name of Grantee:	Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
Name of Water Project:	Rio Grande Irrigated Meadows
Funding Source:	Colorado Water Plan Grant
Water Project Overview:	
<p>The goal of this multi-purpose water project is to install, restore and rehabilitate irrigation infrastructure (diversion, delivery, and storage) used to wet critical wildlife habitat acres and productive ranchlands associated with the Rio Grande in the San Luis Valley of Colorado. One of the largest threats to wildlife populations and wildlife-oriented recreation in this landscape is the loss of irrigated wetlands on both public and private lands. The focus of this work is on public lands open to recreation and on private lands whose environmental values are permanently protected by conservation easements held by federal or state agencies and local land trusts. Ducks Unlimited (DU) is a member of a broad collaboration of agency, NGO and landowners coming together to sustain irrigated meadows acreage in the Rio Grande watershed.</p> <p>Both the Colorado Water Plan and the Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan describe the need to provide efficient use of Colorado's water while maintaining and sustaining watershed health. The RGIM project will improve effective and efficient administration and water management of water rights on the private and public lands included in this funding request and will improve habitat conditions for a wide variety of wildlife species. This project will effect irrigation of wetland and riparian areas from the headwaters of the Rio Grande, west of Creede to Alamosa meeting multiple objectives stated in the Colorado Water Plan (CWP) including upholding Colorado water law system namely prior appropriation doctrine, supporting development of multipurpose projects, maintaining wetland and riparian areas and functional riparian habitats, and promoting the sustainability of habitats for threatened and endangered species (Chapters 6 and 9, CWP). This project meets 9 of the 14 goals (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12) of the Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) including meeting multiple benefits for agriculture and environmental water needs. CWP and BIP goals will be met through upgrading new diversion structures and increasing efficiency and effectiveness of irrigation on agricultural and public lands, improving habitat conditions for the federally endangered southwestern willow flycatcher and threatened yellow-billed cuckoo, along with many Tier 1 and 2 species listed in the Colorado State Wildlife Action Plan.</p> <p>The RGIM project occurs within a focus area identified in the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Southwest Rivers Business Plan which documents the need to support funding to implement the many</p>	

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different plans and strategies that have been developed in the region by state and federal agencies and conservation organizations such as the SLV Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for southwestern willow flycatcher (SWFL) and yellow-billed cuckoo. Priorities for funding within the Rio Grande watershed include upgrades to infrastructure for riparian habitat that will maintain breeding habitat for the SWFL. A majority of project sites included along the Rio Grande are in or adjacent to core SWFL breeding territories on state lands or are within identified potential habitat for the species documented in the HCP. In addition, project site locations will complement efforts by partners working on improving administration and management of water rights, improve riparian habitat, stream bank stabilization, and stream function through the projects and priorities identified in the Upper Rio Grande Watershed Assessment and the forthcoming Rio Grande Stream Management Plan.

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Project Objectives:

- 1.) To construct irrigation system improvements on at least six protected properties such that at least 1,500 acres of irrigated wetland wildlife habitats are restored and managed to the benefit of migratory bird populations, other wildlife species, and the citizens of Colorado who enjoy them;
- 2.) To produce irrigated wetland conservation plans on at least three additional properties such that partners in the collaborative have the ability to seek money for construction activities from private, state and federal sources of wetland restoration funds.

Tasks
Task 1 – Rio Grande State Wildlife Area Irrigation Improvements – Planning, Design, and Permitting
Description of Task:
DU and its partners will compile and analyze the ecological, geomorphic and administrative information required to produce a viable construction plan to restore irrigated wetland meadows on the property.
Method/Procedure:



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Tasks
DU technical staff will engage local contractors with knowledge of irrigated wetland ecology to develop a prioritized list of irrigation improvements on Rio Grande SWA that will result in heightened quality and quantity of wildlife habitat and recreation potential. DU's engineering team will survey the property and produce a surface model required to develop and design appropriate infrastructure installations and rehabilitations to achieve identified improvements. DU will produce a draft design and submit for review to CPW and other interested state agencies. DU will secure required permits from federal, state and local agencies regulating the construction of irrigation improvements in wetlands. DU will complete and certify with a P.E. stamp a construction planset used to specify activities and specifications required to restore irrigated wetland habitats on the public State Wildlife Area.
Deliverable:
1.) A planset stamped by a Colorado-certified Professional Engineer suitable to place Rio Grande SWA project construction activities out to public bid; and, 2.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and local permits granted for project construction activities.
Task 2 – Rio Grande State Wildlife Area Irrigation Improvements – Construction
Description of Task:
In order to increase the quality and quantity of irrigated wetland habitats on the property, DU and its partners will construct irrigation infrastructure according to details and specifications contained in a certified wetland conservation construction planset.
Method/Procedure:
DU will solicit construction bids on the project through public posting of the job (including the wetland conservation construction planset, contracting terms, and general conditions of work) on its website. Potential contractors will be hosted at a site showing where the project workplan will be explained in detail. DU will accept blind bids and accept the lowest eligible bid for work. DU will execute a construction contract with the selected bidder and develop a workplan. DU will reserve the right to deliver work under multiple contracts. DU will manage construction under the terms of the contract. Upon construction completion, DU will secure CPW approval of work and thereupon close the construction project. DU and its partners will produce a final project completion report.
Deliverable:
1.) At least 280 acres of irrigated wetland habitat will be conserved through the construction of irrigation improvements; and, 2.) A final project completion report will be submitted.
Task 3 – Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge Irrigation Improvements – Planning, Design, and Permitting
Description of Task:
DU, in cooperation with USFWS staff, will compile and analyze the ecological, geomorphic and administrative information required to produce a viable construction plan to restore irrigated wetland meadows on the property.
Method/Procedure:

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Tasks
<p>DU will engage USFWS staff with knowledge of irrigated wetland ecology on Monte Vista NWR to develop a prioritized list of irrigation improvements that will result in heightened quality and quantity of wildlife habitat and recreation potential. DU's engineering team will survey the property and produce a surface model required to develop and design appropriate infrastructure installations and rehabilitations to achieve identified improvements. DU will produce a draft design and submit for review to USFWS and other interested state agencies. DU will secure required permits from federal, state and local agencies regulating the construction of irrigation improvements in wetlands. DU will complete and certify with a P.E. stamp a construction planset used to specify activities and specifications required to restore irrigated wetland habitats on the public National Wildlife Refuge.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) A planset stamped by a Colorado-certified Professional Engineer suitable to place project construction activities out to public bid; and, 2.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and local permits granted for project construction activities.
<p>Task 4 – Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge Irrigation Improvements – Construction</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p>
<p>In order to increase the quality and quantity of irrigated wetland habitats on the property, DU and its partners will construct irrigation infrastructure according to details and specifications contained in a certified wetland conservation construction planset.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p>
<p>DU will solicit construction bids on the project through public posting of the job (including the wetland conservation construction planset, contracting terms, and general conditions of work) on its website. Potential contractors will be hosted at a site showing where the project workplan will be explained in detail. DU will accept blind bids and accept the lowest eligible bid for work. DU will execute a construction contract with the selected bidder and develop a workplan. DU will reserve the right to deliver work under multiple contracts. DU will manage construction under the terms of the contract. Upon construction completion, DU will secure USFWS approval of work and thereupon close the construction project. DU and its partners will produce a final project completion report.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) At least 190 acres of irrigated wetland habitat will be conserved through the construction of irrigation improvements; and, 2.) A final project completion report will be submitted.
<p>Task 5 – Sweetgrass Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p>
<p>DU, in cooperation with USFWS staff, will compile and analyze the ecological, geomorphic and administrative information required to produce a viable construction plan to restore irrigated wetland meadows on Sweetgrass Ranch, a private property permanently protected by a conservation easement held by Wetlands America Trust.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p>

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Tasks
DU technical staff will engage local contractors and USFWS staff with knowledge of irrigated wetland ecology to develop a prioritized list of irrigation improvements on Sweetgrass Ranch. These improvements will result in heightened quality and quantity of wildlife habitat. DU's engineering team will produce a surface model required to develop and design appropriate infrastructure installations and rehabilitations to achieve identified improvements. DU will produce a draft design and submit for review to the landowners and other interested state agencies. DU will secure required permits from federal, state and local agencies regulating the construction of irrigation improvements in wetlands. DU will complete a construction planset used to specify activities to restore irrigated wetland habitats on the property.
Deliverable:
1.) A plan produced by DU's engineering team suitable to guide project construction activities; and, 2.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and local permits granted for project construction activities.
Task 6 – Sweetgrass Ranch – Construction
Description of Task:
In order to increase the quality and quantity of irrigated wetland habitats on the property, DU and its partners will construct irrigation infrastructure on Sweetgrass Ranch according to details and specifications contained in an irrigated wetland conservation construction plan.
Method/Procedure:
DU will execute a Site Conservation Agreement (SCA) with at least a 30-year term governing the construction of irrigated wetland meadow improvements. It will establish with the landowner and partners a workplan containing construction responsibilities, terms and general conditions. The landowners and/or their agents will select eligible contractors to perform work contained in the conservation plan. DU's engineering team will evaluate and approve all work completed under the workplan included in the SCA. DU and its partners will produce a final project completion report, including a habitat management plan to be performed by the landowner under the term of the SCA
Deliverable:
1.) At least 400 acres of irrigated wetland habitat will be conserved through the construction of irrigation improvements; and, 2.) A final project completion report will be submitted.
Task 7 – Rio Rancho (Outcalt) – Planning, Design, and Permitting
Description of Task:
DU, in cooperation with USFWS staff, will compile and analyze the ecological, geomorphic and administrative information required to produce a viable construction plan to restore irrigated wetland meadows on Rio Rancho (the Ralph Outcalt parcel), a private property permanently protected by a conservation easement held by Wetlands America Trust.
Method/Procedure:

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Tasks
<p>DU technical staff will engage local contractors and USFWS staff with knowledge of irrigated wetland ecology to develop a prioritized list of irrigation improvements on Rio Rancho. These improvements will result in heightened quality and quantity of wildlife habitat. DU's engineering team will produce a surface model required to develop and design appropriate infrastructure installations and rehabilitations to achieve identified improvements. DU will produce a draft design and submit for review to the landowners and other interested state agencies. DU will secure required permits from federal, state and local agencies regulating the construction of irrigation improvements in wetlands. DU will complete a construction planset used to specify activities required to restore irrigated wetland habitats on the property.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p>
<p>1.) A plan produced by DU's engineering team suitable to guide project construction activities; and, 2.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and local permits granted for project construction activities.</p>
<p>Task 8 – Rio Rancho (Outcalt) – Construction</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p>
<p>In order to increase the quality and quantity of irrigated wetland habitats on the property, DU and its partners will construct irrigation infrastructure on Rio Rancho according to details and specifications contained in an irrigated wetland conservation construction plan.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p>
<p>DU will execute a Site Conservation Agreement (SCA) with at least a 30-year term governing the construction of irrigated wetland meadow improvements. It will establish with the landowner and partners a workplan containing construction responsibilities, terms and general conditions. The landowners and/or their agents will select eligible contractors to perform work contained in the conservation plan. DU's engineering team will evaluate and approve all work completed under the workplan included in the SCA. DU and its partners will produce a final project completion report, including a habitat management plan to be performed by the landowner under the term of the SCA.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p>
<p>1.) At least 150 acres of irrigated wetland habitat will be conserved through the construction of irrigation improvements; and, 2.) A final project completion report will be submitted.</p>
<p>Task 9 – Soward Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p>
<p>DU and its partners will compile and analyze the ecological, geomorphic and administrative information required to produce a viable construction plan to restore irrigated wetland meadows on the Soward Ranch, a parcel adjacent to the Rio Grande protected by conservation easements held by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p>



Last Updated: July 2019

Tasks
<p>DU will engage USFWS and Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) staff with knowledge of irrigated wetland ecology to develop a prioritized list of irrigation improvements that will result in heightened quality and quantity of wildlife habitat and recreation potential. DU's engineering team will survey the property and produce a surface model required to develop and design appropriate infrastructure installations and rehabilitations to achieve identified improvements. DU will produce a draft design and submit for review to NRCS, USFWS and other interested state agencies. DU will secure required permits from federal, state and local agencies regulating the construction of irrigation improvements in wetlands. DU will complete and certify with a P.E. stamp a construction planset used to specify activities and specifications required to restore irrigated wetland habitats on the property.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) A planset stamped by a Colorado-certified Professional Engineer suitable to place project construction activities out to public bid; and, 2.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and local permits granted for project construction activities.
<p>Task 10 – Soward Ranch – Construction</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p>
<p>In order to increase the quality and quantity of irrigated wetland habitats on the property, DU and its partners will construct irrigation infrastructure according to details and specifications contained in a certified wetland conservation construction planset.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p>
<p>DU will execute a Site Conservation Agreement (SCA) with at least a 30-year term governing the construction of irrigated wetland meadow improvements. It will establish with the landowner and partners a workplan containing construction responsibilities, terms and general conditions. DU will solicit construction bids on the project through public posting of the job (including the wetland conservation construction planset, contracting terms, and general conditions of work) on its website. Potential contractors will be hosted at a site showing where the project workplan will be explained in detail. DU will accept blind bids and accept the lowest eligible bid for work. DU will execute a construction contract with the selected bidder and develop a workplan. DU will reserve the right to deliver work under multiple contracts. DU will manage construction under the terms of the contract. Upon construction completion, DU will secure USFWS approval of work and thereupon close the construction project. DU and its partners will produce a final project completion report, including a habitat management plan to be performed by the landowner under the term of the SCA.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) At least 350 acres of irrigated wetland habitat will be conserved through the construction of irrigation improvements; and, 2.) A final project completion report will be submitted
<p>Task 11 – Schaefer Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p>
<p>DU and its partners will compile and analyze the ecological, geomorphic and administrative information required to produce a viable construction plan to restore irrigated wetland meadows on the Schaefer Ranch, a parcel adjacent to the Rio Grande protected by conservation easements held by Colorado Open Lands (COL).</p>



Last Updated: July 2019

Tasks
Method/Procedure:
DU technical staff will engage local contractors and COL staff with knowledge of irrigated wetland ecology to develop a prioritized list of irrigation improvements on the Schaefer Ranch. These improvements will result in heightened quality and quantity of wildlife habitat. DU's engineering team will produce a surface model required to develop and design appropriate infrastructure installations and rehabilitations to achieve identified improvements. DU will produce a draft design and submit for review to the landowners and other interested state agencies. DU will secure required permits from federal, state and local agencies regulating the construction of irrigation improvements in wetlands. DU will complete a plan used to specify activities required to restore irrigated wetland habitats on the property.
Deliverable:
1.) A plan produced by DU's engineering team suitable to guide project construction activities; and, 2.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and local permits granted for project construction activities.
Task 12 – Schaefer Ranch – Construction
Description of Task:
In order to increase the quality and quantity of irrigated wetland habitats on the property, DU and its partners will construct irrigation infrastructure on the Schaefer Ranch according to details and specifications contained in an irrigated wetland conservation construction plan.
Method/Procedure:
DU will execute a Site Conservation Agreement (SCA) with at least a 30-year term governing the construction of irrigated wetland meadow improvements. It will establish with the landowner and partners a workplan containing construction responsibilities, terms and general conditions. The landowners and/or their agents will select eligible contractors to perform work contained in the conservation plan. DU's engineering team will evaluate and approve all work completed under the workplan included in the SCA. DU and its partners will produce a final project completion report, including a habitat management plan to be performed by the landowner under the term of the SCA.
Deliverable:
1.) At least 130 acres of irrigated wetland habitat will be conserved through the construction of irrigation improvements; and, 2.) A final project completion report will be submitted.
Task 13 – Naumburg Ranch – Planning and Design
Description of Task:
DU and its partners will compile and analyze the ecological, geomorphic and administrative information required to produce a viable construction plan to restore irrigated wetland meadows on the Naumburg Ranch, a parcel adjacent to the Rio Grande protected by conservation easements held by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust (RiGHT).
Method/Procedure:

Last Updated: July 2019

Tasks
DU technical staff will engage local contractors and RiGHT staff with knowledge of irrigated wetland ecology to develop a prioritized list of irrigation improvements on the Schaefer Ranch. These improvements will result in heightened quality and quantity of wildlife habitat. DU's engineering team will produce a surface model required to develop and design appropriate infrastructure installations and rehabilitations to achieve identified improvements. DU will produce a draft design and submit for review to the landowners, land trust and other interested state agencies. DU will complete a plan used to specify activities and specifications required to restore irrigated wetland habitats on the property.
Deliverable:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) A plan produced by DU's engineering team suitable to guide project construction activities; 2.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and other project funding sources available to fund project activities and a strategy for securing those funds; and, 3.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and local permits required for project construction activities.
Task 14 – Rio Grande WRPs – Planning and Design
Description of Task:
DU and its partners will compile and analyze the ecological, geomorphic and administrative information required to produce viable construction plans to restore irrigated wetland meadows on at least two parcels protected by USDA Wetland Reserve Program conservation easements associated with the Rio Grande.
Method/Procedure:
DU technical staff will engage local contractors and NRCS staff with knowledge of irrigated wetland ecology to develop a prioritized list of irrigation improvements on at least two high-priority WRP easements. These improvements will result in heightened quality and quantity of wildlife habitat. DU's engineering team will produce a surface model required to develop and design appropriate infrastructure installations and rehabilitations to achieve identified improvements. DU will produce a draft design and submit for review to the landowners, land trust and other interested state agencies. DU will complete a plan used to specify activities and specifications required to restore irrigated wetland habitats on the property.
Deliverable:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) A plan produced by DU's engineering team suitable to guide project construction activities; 2.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and other project funding sources available to fund project activities and a strategy for securing those funds; and, 3.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and local permits required for project construction activities.

Last Updated: July 2019

Budget and Schedule

This Statement of Work shall be accompanied by a combined Budget and Schedule that reflects the Tasks identified in the Statement of Work and shall be submitted to CWCB in excel format.

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Colorado Watershed Restoration Grant Budget and Schedule

Prepared Date:		1/31/2020				
Name of Applicant:		Ducks Unlimited, Inc.				
Grant Proposal Name:		Rio Grande Irrigated Meadows				
Project Start Date:		1/1/2020				
Project End Date:		6/30/2023				
Task No.	Task Description	Task Start Date	Task End Date	Grant Funding Request (\$)	Cash Match Funding (\$)	Total (\$)
1	Rio Grande State Wildlife Area Irrigation Improvements – Planning, Design, and Permitting	1/1/2020	12/30/2020	282	34,080	34,362
2	Rio Grande State Wildlife Area Irrigation Improvements – Construction	10/1/2020	6/30/2021	17,700	256,400	274,100
3	Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge Irrigation Improvements – Planning, Design and Permitting	7/1/2020	6/30/2021	4,500	27,660	32,160
4	Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge Irrigation Improvements – Construction	7/1/2021	6/30/2022	22,550	77,790	100,340
5	Sweetgrass Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting	9/1/2020	6/30/2021	13,440	2,000	15,440
6	Sweetgrass Ranch – Construction	7/1/2021	6/30/2022	76,140	42,000	118,140
7	Rio Rancho (Outcalt) – Planning, Design, and Permitting	9/1/2020	6/30/2021	7,840	2,000	9,840
8	Rio Rancho (Outcalt) – Construction	7/1/2021	6/30/2022	61,440	42,000	103,440
9	Soward Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting	9/1/2020	6/30/2022	26,800	2,000	28,800
10	Soward Ranch – Construction	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	54,800	39,500	94,300
11	Schaefer Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting	9/1/2020	6/30/2022	13,440	2,000	15,440
12	Schaefer Ranch – Construction	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	47,140	32,000	79,140
13	Naumburg Ranch -- Planning and Design	9/1/2020	6/30/2023	13,440	2,000	15,440
14	Rio Grande WRPs – Planning and Design	9/1/2020	6/30/2023	21,440	2,000	23,440
	Grant Administration Charges (5%)	9/1/2020	6/30/2023	19,048		19,048
Total				400,000	563,430	963,430



Last Updated: July 2019

Colorado Water Conservation Board								
Water Plan Grant - Detailed Budget Estimate								
Fair and Reasonable Estimate								
Prepared Date:			1/31/2020					
Name of Applicant:			Ducks Unlimited, Inc.					
Name of Grant Proposal:			Rio Grande Irrigated Meadows					
Bio-Engineering								
Non-contract			Subcontracts		Project Total	CWCB Funds	Matching Funds	
Sub-task	\$ Per Hour/Per Day 120	Subtotal (\$)	\$ Per Hour/Per Day 100	Subtotal (\$)				
Task 1 - Rio Grande State Wildlife Area Irrigation Improvements – Planning, Design, and Permitting								
Personnel (Hours)	200	24,000	90	9,000	33,000	220	32,780	
Travel (Days)	6	700	7	662	1,362	62	1,300	
Task 2 - Rio Grande State Wildlife Area Irrigation Improvements – Construction								
Personnel (Hours)	80	9,600	40	4,000	13,600	3,100	10,500	
Travel (Days)	6	700	8	800	1,500	-	1,500	
Task 3 - Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge Irrigation Improvements – Planning, Design and Permitting								
Personnel (Hours)	250	30,000	-	-	30,000	4,500	25,500	
Travel (Days)	18	2,160	-	-	2,160	-	2,160	
Task 4 - Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge Irrigation Improvements – Construction								
Personnel (Hours)	80	9,600	-	-	9,600	9,600	-	
Travel (Days)	6	740	-	-	740	700	40	
Task 5 - Sweetgrass Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting								
Personnel (Hours)	40	4,800	100	10,000	14,800	12,800	2,000	
Travel (Days)	2	240	4	400	640	640	-	
Task 6 - Sweetgrass Ranch – Construction								
Personnel (Hours)	40	4,800	160	16,000	20,800	18,800	2,000	
Travel (Days)	2	240	6	600	840	840	-	
Task 7 - Rio Rancho (Outcalt) – Planning, Design, and Permitting								
Personnel (Hours)	20	2,400	70	7,000	9,400	7,400	2,000	
Travel (Days)	2	240	2	200	440	440	-	
Task 8 - Rio Rancho (Outcalt) – Construction								
Personnel (Hours)	20	2,400	100	10,000	12,400	10,400	2,000	
Travel (Days)	2	240	3	300	540	540	-	
Task 9 - Soward Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting								
Personnel (Hours)	160	19,200	70	7,000	26,200	24,200	2,000	
Travel (Days)	20	2,400	2	200	2,600	2,600	-	
Task 10 - Soward Ranch – Construction								
Personnel (Hours)	200	24,000	100	10,000	34,000	32,000	2,000	
Travel (Days)	20	2,400	4	400	2,800	2,800	-	
Task 11 - Schaefer Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting								
Personnel (Hours)	40	4,800	100	10,000	14,800	12,800	2,000	
Travel (Days)	2	240	4	400	640	640	-	
Task 12 - Schaefer Ranch – Construction								
Personnel (Hours)	40	4,800	160	16,000	20,800	18,800	2,000	
Travel (Days)	2	240	6	600	840	840	-	
Task 13 - Naumburg Ranch -- Planning and Design								
Personnel (Hours)	40	4,800	100	10,000	14,800	12,800	2,000	
Travel (Days)	2	240	4	400	640	640	-	
Task 14 - Rio Grande WRPs – Planning and Design								
Personnel (Hours)	40	4,800	180	18,000	22,800	20,800	2,000	
Travel (Days)	2	240	4	400	640	640	-	
TOTAL		161,020		132,362	293,382	199,602	93,780	
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Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant - Detailed Budget Estimate

Fair and Reasonable Estimate

Prepared Date:

1/31/2020

Name of Applicant:

Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Name of Water Project:

Rio Grande Irrigated Meadows

Construction

Sub-task	Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	CWCB Funds (\$)	Matching Funds (\$)
Task 2 - Rio Grande State Wildlife Area Irrigation Improvements – Construction						
Mobilization and Site Preparation	L.S.	1	20,000	20,000	2,500	17,500
Water-control Structure Installation	EA	10	10,000	100,000	4,500	95,500
Water Conveyance System Installation	L.F.	5,000	10	50,000	2,100	47,900
Embankments and Other Earth-moving	C.Y.	28,000	3	84,000	3,000	81,000
Erosion Control & Re-vegetation	AC	10	500	5,000	2,500	2,500
Task 4 - Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge Irrigation Improvements – Construction						
Mobilization and Site Preparation	L.S.	1	20,000	20,000	-	20,000
Water-control Structure Installation	EA	2	10,000	20,000	3,500	16,500
Water Conveyance System Installation	L.F.	2,500	10	25,000	3,400	21,600
Embankments and Other Earth-moving	C.Y.	8,000	3	24,000	4,950	19,050
Erosion Control & Re-vegetation	AC	2	500	1,000	400	600
Task 6 - Sweetgrass Ranch – Construction						
Mobilization and Site Preparation	L.S.	1	20,000	20,000	15,000	5,000
Water-control Structure Installation	EA	3	10,000	30,000	15,000	15,000
Water Conveyance System Installation	L.F.	2,000	10	20,000	15,000	5,000
Embankments and Other Earth-moving	C.Y.	8,000	3	24,000	9,000	15,000
Erosion Control & Re-vegetation	AC	5	500	2,500	2,500	-
Task 8 - Rio Rancho (Outcalt) – Construction						
Mobilization and Site Preparation	L.S.	1	20,000	20,000	15,000	5,000
Water-control Structure Installation	EA	3	10,000	30,000	15,000	15,000
Water Conveyance System Installation	L.F.	1,000	10	10,000	5,000	5,000
Embankments and Other Earth-moving	C.Y.	10,000	3	30,000	15,000	15,000
Erosion Control & Re-vegetation	AC	1	500	500	500	-
Task 10 - Soward Ranch – Construction						
Mobilization and Site Preparation	L.S.	1	20,000	20,000	5,000	15,000
Water-control Structure Installation	EA	2	10,000	20,000	5,000	15,000
Embankments and Other Earth-moving	C.Y.	5,000	3	15,000	10,000	5,000
Erosion Control & Re-vegetation	AC	5	500	2,500	-	2,500
Task 12 - Schaefer Ranch – Construction						
Mobilization and Site Preparation	L.S.	1	20,000	20,000	15,000	5,000
Water-control Structure Installation	EA	1	10,000	10,000	-	10,000
Water Conveyance System Installation	L.F.	1,000	10	10,000	-	10,000
Embankments and Other Earth-moving	C.Y.	5,000	3	15,000	10,000	5,000
Erosion Control & Re-vegetation	AC	5	500	2,500	2,500	-
TOTAL				349,000	26,850	322,150

Last Updated: July 2019

Reporting Requirements
<p>Progress Reports: The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of issuance of a purchase order, or the execution of a contract. The progress report shall describe the status 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.</p>
<p>Final Report: At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a Final Report on the applicant's letterhead that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarizes the project and how the project was completed. • Describes any obstacles encountered, and how these obstacles were overcome. • Confirms that all matching commitments have been fulfilled. • Includes photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs. <p>The CWCB will pay out the last 10% of the budget when the Final Report is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the Final Report has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the purchase order or grant will be closed without any further payment.</p>
Payment
<p>Payment will be made based on actual expenditures and must include invoices for all work completed. The request for payment must include a description of the work accomplished by task, an estimate of the percent completion for individual tasks and the entire Project in relation to the percentage of budget spent, identification of any major issues, and proposed or implemented corrective actions.</p> <p>Costs incurred prior to the effective date of this contract are not reimbursable. The last 10% of the entire grant will be paid out when the final deliverable has been received. All products, data and information developed as a result of this contract must be provided to CWCB in hard copy and electronic format as part of the project documentation.</p>
Performance Measures
<p>Performance measures for this contract shall include the following:</p> <p>(a) Performance standards and evaluation: Grantee will produce detailed deliverables for each task as specified. Grantee shall maintain receipts for all project expenses and documentation of the minimum in-kind contributions (if applicable) per the budget in Exhibit B. Per Water Plan Grant Guidelines, the CWCB will pay out the last 10% of the budget when the Final Report is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the Final Report has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the purchase order or grant will be closed without any further payment.</p> <p>(b) Accountability: Per Water Plan Grant Guidelines full documentation of project progress must be submitted with each invoice for reimbursement. Grantee must confirm that all grant conditions have been complied with on each invoice. In addition, per Water Plan Grant Guidelines, Progress Reports must be submitted at least once every 6 months. A Final Report must be submitted and approved before final project payment.</p> <p>(c) Monitoring Requirements: Grantee is responsible for ongoing monitoring of project progress per Exhibit A. Progress shall be detailed in each invoice and in each Progress Report, as detailed above. Additional inspections or field consultations will be arranged as may be necessary.</p> <p>(d) Noncompliance Resolution: Payment will be withheld if grantee is not current on all grant conditions. Flagrant disregard for grant conditions will result in a stop work order and cancellation of the Grant Agreement.</p>

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Colorado Water Conservation Board	
Water Plan Grant - Exhibit A	

Statement Of Work	
Date:	1/31/2020
Name of Grantee:	Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
Name of Water Project:	Rio Grande Irrigated Meadows
Funding Source:	Colorado Water Plan Grant
Water Project Overview:	
<p>The goal of this multi-purpose water project is to install, restore and rehabilitate irrigation infrastructure (diversion, delivery, and storage) used to wet critical wildlife habitat acres and productive ranchlands associated with the Rio Grande in the San Luis Valley of Colorado. One of the largest threats to wildlife populations and wildlife-oriented recreation in this landscape is the loss of irrigated wetlands on both public and private lands. The focus of this work is on public lands open to recreation and on private lands whose environmental values are permanently protected by conservation easements held by federal or state agencies and local land trusts. Ducks Unlimited (DU) is a member of a broad collaboration of agency, NGO and landowners coming together to sustain irrigated meadows acreage in the Rio Grande watershed.</p> <p>Both the Colorado Water Plan and the Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan describe the need to provide efficient use of Colorado's water while maintaining and sustaining watershed health. The RGIM project will improve effective and efficient administration and water management of water rights on the private and public lands included in this funding request and will improve habitat conditions for a wide variety of wildlife species. This project will effect irrigation of wetland and riparian areas from the headwaters of the Rio Grande, west of Creede to Alamosa meeting multiple objectives stated in the Colorado Water Plan (CWP) including upholding Colorado water law system namely prior appropriation doctrine, supporting development of multipurpose projects, maintaining wetland and riparian areas and functional riparian habitats, and promoting the sustainability of habitats for threatened and endangered species (Chapters 6 and 9, CWP). This project meets 9 of the 14 goals (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12) of the Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) including meeting multiple benefits for agriculture and environmental water needs. CWP and BIP goals will be met through upgrading new diversion structures and increasing efficiency and effectiveness of irrigation on agricultural and public lands, improving habitat conditions for the federally endangered southwestern willow flycatcher and threatened yellow-billed cuckoo, along with many Tier 1 and 2 species listed in the Colorado State Wildlife Action Plan.</p> <p>The RGIM project occurs within a focus area identified in the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Southwest Rivers Business Plan which documents the need to support funding to implement the many</p>	



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different plans and strategies that have been developed in the region by state and federal agencies and conservation organizations such as the SLV Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for southwestern willow flycatcher (SWFL) and yellow-billed cuckoo. Priorities for funding within the Rio Grande watershed include upgrades to infrastructure for riparian habitat that will maintain breeding habitat for the SWFL. A majority of project sites included along the Rio Grande are in or adjacent to core SWFL breeding territories on state lands or are within identified potential habitat for the species documented in the HCP. In addition, project site locations will complement efforts by partners working on improving administration and management of water rights, improve riparian habitat, stream bank stabilization, and stream function through the projects and priorities identified in the Upper Rio Grande Watershed Assessment and the forthcoming Rio Grande Stream Management Plan.

The San Luis Valley Wetland and Wildlife Conservation Assessment (SLV WWCA), partially funded by the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable, was recently completed to help identify where partnerships may more efficiently and effectively manage limiting water resources for wildlife. Changes in irrigation practices over the past 40 years coupled with extreme drought conditions, mining of the aquifer, and promulgation of Groundwater Rules and Regulations have compelled natural resource partners to identify how cooperative efforts across boundaries could better provide resources to high priority wetland dependent wildlife species utilizing the SLV during different times of the year. The SLVWWCA recognized key priority areas where cooperative efforts might be most effective based on corridors of conservation on public and private lands. The SLVWWCA most importantly found that a majority of available wet acres occurred on private lands further demonstrating the need to maintain existing agricultural lands, especially those that continue to flood irrigate native hay meadows such as those found along the Rio Grande. Funding of the RGIM project will help further recommendations made by partners in the SLVWWCA aimed at improving existing habitat and working with private and public lands across boundaries. Specifically, funding of the RGIM will improve administration and water management capabilities for agricultural private landowners and state and federal public lands that will maintain and sustain current irrigated wet meadow (wetlands) and riparian habitats identified as priority areas that provide limited resources important to the overall health of the Rio Grande watershed.

Project Objectives:

- 1.) To construct irrigation system improvements on at least six protected properties such that at least 1,500 acres of irrigated wetland wildlife habitats are restored and managed to the benefit of migratory bird populations, other wildlife species, and the citizens of Colorado who enjoy them;
- 2.) To produce irrigated wetland conservation plans on at least three additional properties such that partners in the collaborative have the ability to seek money for construction activities from private, state and federal sources of wetland restoration funds.

Tasks

Task 1 – Rio Grande State Wildlife Area Irrigation Improvements – Planning, Design, and Permitting

Description of Task:

DU and its partners will compile and analyze the ecological, geomorphic and administrative information required to produce a viable construction plan to restore irrigated wetland meadows on the property.

Method/Procedure:



Last Updated: July 2019

Tasks
DU technical staff will engage local contractors with knowledge of irrigated wetland ecology to develop a prioritized list of irrigation improvements on Rio Grande SWA that will result in heightened quality and quantity of wildlife habitat and recreation potential. DU's engineering team will survey the property and produce a surface model required to develop and design appropriate infrastructure installations and rehabilitations to achieve identified improvements. DU will produce a draft design and submit for review to CPW and other interested state agencies. DU will secure required permits from federal, state and local agencies regulating the construction of irrigation improvements in wetlands. DU will complete and certify with a P.E. stamp a construction planset used to specify activities and specifications required to restore irrigated wetland habitats on the public State Wildlife Area.
Deliverable:
1.) A planset stamped by a Colorado-certified Professional Engineer suitable to place Rio Grande SWA project construction activities out to public bid; and, 2.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and local permits granted for project construction activities.
Task 2 – Rio Grande State Wildlife Area Irrigation Improvements – Construction
Description of Task:
In order to increase the quality and quantity of irrigated wetland habitats on the property, DU and its partners will construct irrigation infrastructure according to details and specifications contained in a certified wetland conservation construction planset.
Method/Procedure:
DU will solicit construction bids on the project through public posting of the job (including the wetland conservation construction planset, contracting terms, and general conditions of work) on its website. Potential contractors will be hosted at a site showing where the project workplan will be explained in detail. DU will accept blind bids and accept the lowest eligible bid for work. DU will execute a construction contract with the selected bidder and develop a workplan. DU will reserve the right to deliver work under multiple contracts. DU will manage construction under the terms of the contract. Upon construction completion, DU will secure CPW approval of work and thereupon close the construction project. DU and its partners will produce a final project completion report.
Deliverable:
1.) At least 280 acres of irrigated wetland habitat will be conserved through the construction of irrigation improvements; and, 2.) A final project completion report will be submitted.
Task 3 – Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge Irrigation Improvements – Planning, Design, and Permitting
Description of Task:
DU, in cooperation with USFWS staff, will compile and analyze the ecological, geomorphic and administrative information required to produce a viable construction plan to restore irrigated wetland meadows on the property.
Method/Procedure:



Last Updated: July 2019

Tasks
DU will engage USFWS staff with knowledge of irrigated wetland ecology on Monte Vista NWR to develop a prioritized list of irrigation improvements that will result in heightened quality and quantity of wildlife habitat and recreation potential. DU's engineering team will survey the property and produce a surface model required to develop and design appropriate infrastructure installations and rehabilitations to achieve identified improvements. DU will produce a draft design and submit for review to USFWS and other interested state agencies. DU will secure required permits from federal, state and local agencies regulating the construction of irrigation improvements in wetlands. DU will complete and certify with a P.E. stamp a construction planset used to specify activities and specifications required to restore irrigated wetland habitats on the public National Wildlife Refuge.
Deliverable:
1.) A planset stamped by a Colorado-certified Professional Engineer suitable to place project construction activities out to public bid; and, 2.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and local permits granted for project construction activities.
Task 4 – Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge Irrigation Improvements – Construction
Description of Task:
In order to increase the quality and quantity of irrigated wetland habitats on the property, DU and its partners will construct irrigation infrastructure according to details and specifications contained in a certified wetland conservation construction planset.
Method/Procedure:
DU will solicit construction bids on the project through public posting of the job (including the wetland conservation construction planset, contracting terms, and general conditions of work) on its website. Potential contractors will be hosted at a site showing where the project workplan will be explained in detail. DU will accept blind bids and accept the lowest eligible bid for work. DU will execute a construction contract with the selected bidder and develop a workplan. DU will reserve the right to deliver work under multiple contracts. DU will manage construction under the terms of the contract. Upon construction completion, DU will secure USFWS approval of work and thereupon close the construction project. DU and its partners will produce a final project completion report.
Deliverable:
1.) At least 190 acres of irrigated wetland habitat will be conserved through the construction of irrigation improvements; and, 2.) A final project completion report will be submitted.
Task 5 – Sweetgrass Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting
Description of Task:
DU, in cooperation with USFWS staff, will compile and analyze the ecological, geomorphic and administrative information required to produce a viable construction plan to restore irrigated wetland meadows on Sweetgrass Ranch, a private property permanently protected by a conservation easement held by Wetlands America Trust.
Method/Procedure:



Last Updated: July 2019

Tasks
DU technical staff will engage local contractors and USFWS staff with knowledge of irrigated wetland ecology to develop a prioritized list of irrigation improvements on Sweetgrass Ranch. These improvements will result in heightened quality and quantity of wildlife habitat. DU's engineering team will produce a surface model required to develop and design appropriate infrastructure installations and rehabilitations to achieve identified improvements. DU will produce a draft design and submit for review to the landowners and other interested state agencies. DU will secure required permits from federal, state and local agencies regulating the construction of irrigation improvements in wetlands. DU will complete a construction planset used to specify activities to restore irrigated wetland habitats on the property.
Deliverable:
1.) A plan produced by DU's engineering team suitable to guide project construction activities; and, 2.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and local permits granted for project construction activities.
Task 6 – Sweetgrass Ranch – Construction
Description of Task:
In order to increase the quality and quantity of irrigated wetland habitats on the property, DU and its partners will construct irrigation infrastructure on Sweetgrass Ranch according to details and specifications contained in an irrigated wetland conservation construction plan.
Method/Procedure:
DU will execute a Site Conservation Agreement (SCA) with at least a 30-year term governing the construction of irrigated wetland meadow improvements. It will establish with the landowner and partners a workplan containing construction responsibilities, terms and general conditions. The landowners and/or their agents will select eligible contractors to perform work contained in the conservation plan. DU's engineering team will evaluate and approve all work completed under the workplan included in the SCA. DU and its partners will produce a final project completion report, including a habitat management plan to be performed by the landowner under the term of the SCA
Deliverable:
1.) At least 400 acres of irrigated wetland habitat will be conserved through the construction of irrigation improvements; and, 2.) A final project completion report will be submitted.
Task 7 – Rio Rancho (Outcalt) – Planning, Design, and Permitting
Description of Task:
DU, in cooperation with USFWS staff, will compile and analyze the ecological, geomorphic and administrative information required to produce a viable construction plan to restore irrigated wetland meadows on Rio Rancho (the Ralph Outcalt parcel), a private property permanently protected by a conservation easement held by Wetlands America Trust.
Method/Procedure:

Last Updated: July 2019

Tasks
<p>DU technical staff will engage local contractors and USFWS staff with knowledge of irrigated wetland ecology to develop a prioritized list of irrigation improvements on Rio Rancho. These improvements will result in heightened quality and quantity of wildlife habitat. DU's engineering team will produce a surface model required to develop and design appropriate infrastructure installations and rehabilitations to achieve identified improvements. DU will produce a draft design and submit for review to the landowners and other interested state agencies. DU will secure required permits from federal, state and local agencies regulating the construction of irrigation improvements in wetlands. DU will complete a construction planset used to specify activities required to restore irrigated wetland habitats on the property.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p>
<p>1.) A plan produced by DU's engineering team suitable to guide project construction activities; and, 2.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and local permits granted for project construction activities.</p>
<p>Task 8 – Rio Rancho (Outcalt) – Construction</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p>
<p>In order to increase the quality and quantity of irrigated wetland habitats on the property, DU and its partners will construct irrigation infrastructure on Rio Rancho according to details and specifications contained in an irrigated wetland conservation construction plan.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p>
<p>DU will execute a Site Conservation Agreement (SCA) with at least a 30-year term governing the construction of irrigated wetland meadow improvements. It will establish with the landowner and partners a workplan containing construction responsibilities, terms and general conditions. The landowners and/or their agents will select eligible contractors to perform work contained in the conservation plan. DU's engineering team will evaluate and approve all work completed under the workplan included in the SCA. DU and its partners will produce a final project completion report, including a habitat management plan to be performed by the landowner under the term of the SCA.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p>
<p>1.) At least 150 acres of irrigated wetland habitat will be conserved through the construction of irrigation improvements; and, 2.) A final project completion report will be submitted.</p>
<p>Task 9 – Soward Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p>
<p>DU and its partners will compile and analyze the ecological, geomorphic and administrative information required to produce a viable construction plan to restore irrigated wetland meadows on the Soward Ranch, a parcel adjacent to the Rio Grande protected by conservation easements held by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p>



Last Updated: July 2019

Tasks
<p>DU will engage USFWS and Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) staff with knowledge of irrigated wetland ecology to develop a prioritized list of irrigation improvements that will result in heightened quality and quantity of wildlife habitat and recreation potential. DU's engineering team will survey the property and produce a surface model required to develop and design appropriate infrastructure installations and rehabilitations to achieve identified improvements. DU will produce a draft design and submit for review to NRCS, USFWS and other interested state agencies. DU will secure required permits from federal, state and local agencies regulating the construction of irrigation improvements in wetlands. DU will complete and certify with a P.E. stamp a construction planset used to specify activities and specifications required to restore irrigated wetland habitats on the property.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) A planset stamped by a Colorado-certified Professional Engineer suitable to place project construction activities out to public bid; and, 2.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and local permits granted for project construction activities.
<p>Task 10 – Soward Ranch – Construction</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p>
<p>In order to increase the quality and quantity of irrigated wetland habitats on the property, DU and its partners will construct irrigation infrastructure according to details and specifications contained in a certified wetland conservation construction planset.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p>
<p>DU will execute a Site Conservation Agreement (SCA) with at least a 30-year term governing the construction of irrigated wetland meadow improvements. It will establish with the landowner and partners a workplan containing construction responsibilities, terms and general conditions. DU will solicit construction bids on the project through public posting of the job (including the wetland conservation construction planset, contracting terms, and general conditions of work) on its website. Potential contractors will be hosted at a site showing where the project workplan will be explained in detail. DU will accept blind bids and accept the lowest eligible bid for work. DU will execute a construction contract with the selected bidder and develop a workplan. DU will reserve the right to deliver work under multiple contracts. DU will manage construction under the terms of the contract. Upon construction completion, DU will secure USFWS approval of work and thereupon close the construction project. DU and its partners will produce a final project completion report, including a habitat management plan to be performed by the landowner under the term of the SCA.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) At least 350 acres of irrigated wetland habitat will be conserved through the construction of irrigation improvements; and, 2.) A final project completion report will be submitted
<p>Task 11 – Schaefer Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p>
<p>DU and its partners will compile and analyze the ecological, geomorphic and administrative information required to produce a viable construction plan to restore irrigated wetland meadows on the Schaefer Ranch, a parcel adjacent to the Rio Grande protected by conservation easements held by Colorado Open Lands (COL).</p>



Last Updated: July 2019

Tasks
Method/Procedure:
DU technical staff will engage local contractors and COL staff with knowledge of irrigated wetland ecology to develop a prioritized list of irrigation improvements on the Schaefer Ranch. These improvements will result in heightened quality and quantity of wildlife habitat. DU's engineering team will produce a surface model required to develop and design appropriate infrastructure installations and rehabilitations to achieve identified improvements. DU will produce a draft design and submit for review to the landowners and other interested state agencies. DU will secure required permits from federal, state and local agencies regulating the construction of irrigation improvements in wetlands. DU will complete a plan used to specify activities required to restore irrigated wetland habitats on the property.
Deliverable:
1.) A plan produced by DU's engineering team suitable to guide project construction activities; and, 2.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and local permits granted for project construction activities.
Task 12 – Schaefer Ranch – Construction
Description of Task:
In order to increase the quality and quantity of irrigated wetland habitats on the property, DU and its partners will construct irrigation infrastructure on the Schaefer Ranch according to details and specifications contained in an irrigated wetland conservation construction plan.
Method/Procedure:
DU will execute a Site Conservation Agreement (SCA) with at least a 30-year term governing the construction of irrigated wetland meadow improvements. It will establish with the landowner and partners a workplan containing construction responsibilities, terms and general conditions. The landowners and/or their agents will select eligible contractors to perform work contained in the conservation plan. DU's engineering team will evaluate and approve all work completed under the workplan included in the SCA. DU and its partners will produce a final project completion report, including a habitat management plan to be performed by the landowner under the term of the SCA.
Deliverable:
1.) At least 130 acres of irrigated wetland habitat will be conserved through the construction of irrigation improvements; and, 2.) A final project completion report will be submitted.
Task 13 – Naumburg Ranch – Planning and Design
Description of Task:
DU and its partners will compile and analyze the ecological, geomorphic and administrative information required to produce a viable construction plan to restore irrigated wetland meadows on the Naumburg Ranch, a parcel adjacent to the Rio Grande protected by conservation easements held by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust (RiGHT).
Method/Procedure:



Last Updated: July 2019

Tasks
DU technical staff will engage local contractors and RiGHT staff with knowledge of irrigated wetland ecology to develop a prioritized list of irrigation improvements on the Schaefer Ranch. These improvements will result in heightened quality and quantity of wildlife habitat. DU's engineering team will produce a surface model required to develop and design appropriate infrastructure installations and rehabilitations to achieve identified improvements. DU will produce a draft design and submit for review to the landowners, land trust and other interested state agencies. DU will complete a plan used to specify activities and specifications required to restore irrigated wetland habitats on the property.
Deliverable:
1.) A plan produced by DU's engineering team suitable to guide project construction activities; 2.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and other project funding sources available to fund project activities and a strategy for securing those funds; and, 3.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and local permits required for project construction activities.
Task 14 – Rio Grande WRPs – Planning and Design
Description of Task:
DU and its partners will compile and analyze the ecological, geomorphic and administrative information required to produce viable construction plans to restore irrigated wetland meadows on at least two parcels protected by USDA Wetland Reserve Program conservation easements associated with the Rio Grande.
Method/Procedure:
DU technical staff will engage local contractors and NRCS staff with knowledge of irrigated wetland ecology to develop a prioritized list of irrigation improvements on at least two high-priority WRP easements. These improvements will result in heightened quality and quantity of wildlife habitat. DU's engineering team will produce a surface model required to develop and design appropriate infrastructure installations and rehabilitations to achieve identified improvements. DU will produce a draft design and submit for review to the landowners, land trust and other interested state agencies. DU will complete a plan used to specify activities and specifications required to restore irrigated wetland habitats on the property.
Deliverable:
1.) A plan produced by DU's engineering team suitable to guide project construction activities; 2.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and other project funding sources available to fund project activities and a strategy for securing those funds; and, 3.) A memorandum detailing the federal, state, and local permits required for project construction activities.

Last Updated: July 2019

Reporting Requirements
<p>Progress Reports: The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of issuance of a purchase order, or the execution of a contract. The progress report shall describe the status 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.</p>
<p>Final Report: At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a Final Report on the applicant's letterhead that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarizes the project and how the project was completed. • Describes any obstacles encountered, and how these obstacles were overcome. • Confirms that all matching commitments have been fulfilled. • Includes photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs. <p>The CWCB will pay out the last 10% of the budget when the Final Report is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the Final Report has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the purchase order or grant will be closed without any further payment.</p>
Payment
<p>Payment will be made based on actual expenditures and must include invoices for all work completed. The request for payment must include a description of the work accomplished by task, an estimate of the percent completion for individual tasks and the entire Project in relation to the percentage of budget spent, identification of any major issues, and proposed or implemented corrective actions.</p> <p>Costs incurred prior to the effective date of this contract are not reimbursable. The last 10% of the entire grant will be paid out when the final deliverable has been received. All products, data and information developed as a result of this contract must be provided to CWCB in hard copy and electronic format as part of the project documentation.</p>
Performance Measures
<p>Performance measures for this contract shall include the following:</p> <p>(a) Performance standards and evaluation: Grantee will produce detailed deliverables for each task as specified. Grantee shall maintain receipts for all project expenses and documentation of the minimum in-kind contributions (if applicable) per the budget in Exhibit B. Per Water Plan Grant Guidelines, the CWCB will pay out the last 10% of the budget when the Final Report is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the Final Report has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the purchase order or grant will be closed without any further payment.</p> <p>(b) Accountability: Per Water Plan Grant Guidelines full documentation of project progress must be submitted with each invoice for reimbursement. Grantee must confirm that all grant conditions have been complied with on each invoice. In addition, per Water Plan Grant Guidelines, Progress Reports must be submitted at least once every 6 months. A Final Report must be submitted and approved before final project payment.</p> <p>(c) Monitoring Requirements: Grantee is responsible for ongoing monitoring of project progress per Exhibit A. Progress shall be detailed in each invoice and in each Progress Report, as detailed above. Additional inspections or field consultations will be arranged as may be necessary.</p> <p>(d) Noncompliance Resolution: Payment will be withheld if grantee is not current on all grant conditions. Flagrant disregard for grant conditions will result in a stop work order and cancellation of the Grant Agreement.</p>



Natural Resources Conservation Service
Denver Federal Center
Bldg. 56, RM. 2604
P.O. Box 25426
Denver, CO 80225-0426

January 30, 2020

Chris Sturm
Watershed Program Director
Colorado Water Conservation Board

RE: 'Rio Grande Irrigated Meadows' Grant Application to Colorado Water Conservation Board –
Colorado Water Plan Grant Environmental and Recreation

Colorado Water Conservation Board Members,

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) would like to provide this letter of collaboration for the Ducks Unlimited, Inc (DU) water plan grant to coordinate wetland and riparian restoration projects along the Rio Grande on public lands and private land conservation easements. This project will partner with local land trusts, private landowners, conservation organizations, state and federal agencies to further objectives and goals outlined in the Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan, Stream Management Plans in development by the Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project, Intermountain West Joint Venture Implementation Plan, the SLV Wetland and Wildlife Conservation Assessment, the Colorado State Wildlife Action Plan, NFWF's Southwest Rivers Business Plan, and the SLV Habitat Conservation Plan. The DU proposal coordinates and furthers other existing and planned partner efforts in the SLV to improve watershed health and maintain and sustain a healthy agricultural landscape.


This project will involve local, regional, and state staff and support from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Ducks Unlimited, Inc., Wetland Dynamics LLC, Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust, and numerous other individuals, agencies and organizations dedicated to promoting cooperative partnerships to restore, enhance, and improve watershed health across the SLV. These agencies and organizations have developed tools such as a Planning and Restoration database to help prioritize projects, improve partnerships, leverage match, and identify new cooperative efforts.

The NRCS appreciates the opportunity to be a collaborating partner in this project as it will expand and enhance cooperative partnerships on public and private lands that promote the goals and objectives of the Colorado Water Plan and Rio Grande Basin Roundtable along with many other conservation efforts occurring in the SLV.

If you have any questions please contact me at clint.evans@usda.gov or 720-544-2802.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Clint Evans". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

CLINT EVANS
State Conservationist, USDA NRCS, Denver, CO



COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Colorado Watershed Restoration Grant

Budget and Schedule

Prepared Date:

1/31/2020

Name of Applicant:

Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Grant Proposal Name:

Rio Grande Irrigated Meadows

Project Start Date:

1/1/2020

Project End Date:

6/30/2023

Task No.	Task Description	Task Start Date	Task End Date	Grant Funding Request (\$)	Cash Match Funding (\$)	Total (\$)
1	Rio Grande State Wildlife Area Irrigation Improvements – Planning, Design, and Permitting	1/1/2020	12/30/2020	282	34,080	34,362
2	Rio Grande State Wildlife Area Irrigation Improvements – Construction	10/1/2020	6/30/2021	17,700	256,400	274,100
3	Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge Irrigation Improvements – Planning, Design and Permitting	7/1/2020	6/30/2021	4,500	27,660	32,160
4	Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge Irrigation Improvements – Construction	7/1/2021	6/30/2022	22,550	77,790	100,340
5	Sweetgrass Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting	9/1/2020	6/30/2021	13,440	2,000	15,440
6	Sweetgrass Ranch – Construction	7/1/2021	6/30/2022	76,140	42,000	118,140
7	Rio Rancho (Outcalt) – Planning, Design, and Permitting	9/1/2020	6/30/2021	7,840	2,000	9,840
8	Rio Rancho (Outcalt) – Construction	7/1/2021	6/30/2022	61,440	42,000	103,440
9	Soward Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting	9/1/2020	6/30/2022	26,800	2,000	28,800
10	Soward Ranch – Construction	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	54,800	39,500	94,300
11	Schaefer Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting	9/1/2020	6/30/2022	13,440	2,000	15,440
12	Schaefer Ranch – Construction	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	47,140	32,000	79,140
13	Naumburg Ranch -- Planning and Design	9/1/2020	6/30/2023	13,440	2,000	15,440
14	Rio Grande WRPs – Planning and Design	9/1/2020	6/30/2023	21,440	2,000	23,440
	Grant Administration Charges (5%)	9/1/2020	6/30/2023	19,048		19,048
Total				400,000	563,430	963,430

Page 1 of 3

CWCB			Match		
Detailed Bio-engineering	Detailed Construction	Detailed - Study	Detailed Bio-engineering	Detailed Construction	Detailed - Study
282	-	-	34,080	-	-
3,100	14,600	-	12,000	244,400	-
4,500	-	-	27,660	-	-
10,300	12,250	-	40	77,750	-
13,440	-	-	2,000	-	-
19,640	56,500	-	2,000	40,000	-
7,840	-	-	2,000	-	-
10,940	50,500	-	2,000	40,000	-
26,800	-	-	2,000	-	-
34,800	20,000	-	2,000	37,500	-
13,440	-	-	2,000	-	-
19,640	27,500	-	2,000	30,000	-
13,440	-	-	2,000	-	-
21,440	-	-	2,000	-	-
199,602	181,350	-	93,780	469,650	-

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant - Detailed Budget Estimate

Fair and Reasonable Estimate

Prepared Date:1/31/2020

Name of Applicant:Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Name of Grant Proposal:Rio Grande Irrigated Meadows

Bio-Engineering

Non-contract			Subcontracts		Project Total	Matching Funds	
Sub-task	\$ Per Hour/Per Day	Subtotal (\$)	\$ Per Hour/Per Day	Subtotal (\$)		CWCB Funds	
	120		100				
Task 1 - Rio Grande State Wildlife Area Irrigation Improvements – Planning, Design, and Permitting							
Personnel (Hours)	200	24,000	90	9,000	33,000	220	32,780
Travel (Days)	6	700	7	662	1,362	62	1,300
Task 2 - Rio Grande State Wildlife Area Irrigation Improvements – Construction							
Personnel (Hours)	80	9,600	40	4,000	13,600	3,100	10,500
Travel (Days)	6	700	8	800	1,500	-	1,500
Task 3 - Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge Irrigation Improvements – Planning, Design and Permitting							
Personnel (Hours)	250	30,000	-	-	30,000	4,500	25,500
Travel (Days)	18	2,160	-	-	2,160	-	2,160
Task 4 - Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge Irrigation Improvements – Construction							
Personnel (Hours)	80	9,600	-	-	9,600	9,600	-
Travel (Days)	6	740	-	-	740	700	40
Task 5 - Sweetgrass Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting							
Personnel (Hours)	40	4,800	100	10,000	14,800	12,800	2,000
Travel (Days)	2	240	4	400	640	640	-
Task 6 - Sweetgrass Ranch – Construction							
Personnel (Hours)	40	4,800	160	16,000	20,800	18,800	2,000
Travel (Days)	2	240	6	600	840	840	-
Task 7 - Rio Rancho (Outcalt) – Planning, Design, and Permitting							
Personnel (Hours)	20	2,400	70	7,000	9,400	7,400	2,000
Travel (Days)	2	240	2	200	440	440	-
Task 8 - Rio Rancho (Outcalt) – Construction							
Personnel (Hours)	20	2,400	100	10,000	12,400	10,400	2,000
Travel (Days)	2	240	3	300	540	540	-
Task 9 - Soward Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting							
Personnel (Hours)	160	19,200	70	7,000	26,200	24,200	2,000
Travel (Days)	20	2,400	2	200	2,600	2,600	-
Task 10 - Soward Ranch – Construction							
Personnel (Hours)	200	24,000	100	10,000	34,000	32,000	2,000
Travel (Days)	20	2,400	4	400	2,800	2,800	-
Task 11 - Schaefer Ranch – Planning, Design, and Permitting							
Personnel (Hours)	40	4,800	100	10,000	14,800	12,800	2,000
Travel (Days)	2	240	4	400	640	640	-
Task 12 - Schaefer Ranch – Construction							
Personnel (Hours)	40	4,800	160	16,000	20,800	18,800	2,000
Travel (Days)	2	240	6	600	840	840	-
Task 13 - Naumburg Ranch -- Planning and Design							
Personnel (Hours)	40	4,800	100	10,000	14,800	12,800	2,000
Travel (Days)	2	240	4	400	640	640	-
Task 14 - Rio Grande WRPs – Planning and Design							
Personnel (Hours)	40	4,800	180	18,000	22,800	20,800	2,000
Travel (Days)	2	240	4	400	640	640	-
TOTAL		161,020		132,362	293,382	199,602	93,780

Matching Partners				
DU	SUNCOR	CPW	NAWCA	LO
20,000	17,200	46,080	10,500	-
		32,780		
		1,300		
		10,500		
		1,500		
	15,000		10,500	
	2,160			
	40			
2,000				
2,000				
2,000				
2,000				
2,000				
2,000				
2,000				
2,000				
40,000	34,360	92,160	21,000	-



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant - Detailed Budget Estimate

Fair and Reasonable Estimate

Prepared Date:

1/31/2020

Name of Applicant:

Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Name of Water Project:

Rio Grande Irrigated Meadows

Construction

Sub-task	Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	CWCB Funds (\$)	Matching Funds (\$)
Task 2 - Rio Grande State Wildlife Area Irrigation Improvements – Construction						
Mobilization and Site Preparation	L.S.	1	20,000	20,000	2,500	17,500
Water-control Structure Installation	EA	10	10,000	100,000	4,500	95,500
Water Conveyance System Installation	L.F.	5,000	10	50,000	2,100	47,900
Embankments and Other Earth-moving	C.Y.	28,000	3	84,000	3,000	81,000
Erosion Control & Re-vegetation	AC	10	500	5,000	2,500	2,500
Task 4 - Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge Irrigation Improvements – Construction						
Mobilization and Site Preparation	L.S.	1	20,000	20,000	-	20,000
Water-control Structure Installation	EA	2	10,000	20,000	3,500	16,500
Water Conveyance System Installation	L.F.	2,500	10	25,000	3,400	21,600
Embankments and Other Earth-moving	C.Y.	8,000	3	24,000	4,950	19,050
Erosion Control & Re-vegetation	AC	2	500	1,000	400	600
Task 6 - Sweetgrass Ranch – Construction						
Mobilization and Site Preparation	L.S.	1	20,000	20,000	15,000	5,000
Water-control Structure Installation	EA	3	10,000	30,000	15,000	15,000
Water Conveyance System Installation	L.F.	2,000	10	20,000	15,000	5,000
Embankments and Other Earth-moving	C.Y.	8,000	3	24,000	9,000	15,000
Erosion Control & Re-vegetation	AC	5	500	2,500	2,500	-
Task 8 - Rio Rancho (Outcalt) – Construction						
Mobilization and Site Preparation	L.S.	1	20,000	20,000	15,000	5,000
Water-control Structure Installation	EA	3	10,000	30,000	15,000	15,000
Water Conveyance System Installation	L.F.	1,000	10	10,000	5,000	5,000
Embankments and Other Earth-moving	C.Y.	10,000	3	30,000	15,000	15,000
Erosion Control & Re-vegetation	AC	1	500	500	500	-
Task 10 - Soward Ranch – Construction						
Mobilization and Site Preparation	L.S.	1	20,000	20,000	5,000	15,000
Water-control Structure Installation	EA	2	10,000	20,000	5,000	15,000
Embankments and Other Earth-moving	C.Y.	5,000	3	15,000	10,000	5,000

Matching Partners					
DU	SUNCOR	PFW	CPW	NAWCA	LO
92,000	52,200	35,000	229,900	25,550	35,000
2,500	-		15,000		
4,500	-		91,000		
2,000	-		45,900		
3,000	-		78,000		
2,500	-		-		
-	5,000			15,000	
-	10,000			6,500	
-	21,600			-	
-	15,000			4,050	
-	600			-	
5,000					
5,000		10,000			
5,000					
5,000					10,000
5,000					
5,000		10,000			
5,000					10,000
5,000					
5,000		10,000			
5,000					10,000
5,000					

Erosion Control & Re-vegetation	AC	5	500	2,500	-	2,500
Task 12 - Schaefer Ranch – Construction						
Mobilization and Site Preparation	L.S.	1	20,000	20,000	15,000	5,000
Water-control Structure Installation	EA	1	10,000	10,000	-	10,000
Water Conveyance System Installation	L.F.	1,000	10	10,000	-	10,000
Embankments and Other Earth-moving	C.Y.	5,000	3	15,000	10,000	5,000
Erosion Control & Re-vegetation	AC	5	500	2,500	2,500	-
TOTAL				349,000	26,850	322,150
Page 3 of 3						

2,500					
5,000					
5,000		5,000			
5,000					5,000
5,000					
106,500	104,400	35,000	459,800	51,100	35,000



Chris Sturm
Watershed Program Director
Colorado Water Conservation Board

RE: 'Rio Grande Irrigated Meadows' Grant Application to Colorado Water Conservation Board –
Colorado Water Plan Grant Environmental and Recreation

Colorado Water Conservation Board Members,

The Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust (RiGHT) supports the Ducks Unlimited, Inc (DU) water plan grant to coordinate wetland and riparian restoration projects along the Rio Grande on state and federal land and private land conservation easements. In 2015 RiGHT achieved its *Rio Grande Initiative* goal to protect 25,000 acres of private land along the Rio and its tributaries. While we continue to conserve ranchland in this area, RiGHT also recognizes that an important next step is to enhance the streams and wetlands we have already protected within this 'corridor of conservation.'

Because RiGHT does not have land management expertise on staff, we focus on supporting partner organizations like Ducks Unlimited in their restoration work. Typically, we do this in two ways, 1) identifying restoration needs during annual monitoring and other landowner meetings and 2) assisting with fundraising. RiGHT is excited to both help identify projects and fundraise for restoration projects as part of this grant.

RiGHT values DU's presence and partnership ethic here in the San Luis Valley. DU is one of the very few organizations that is equally adept at working with state and federal managers on public lands and with private agricultural landowners. To have the truly landscape-scale impact that we envision for the upper Rio Grande, it is critical to be able to work across boundaries. We wholeheartedly support this grant application and are excited to dive more deeply into improving the habitat and agricultural lands within the corridor that RiGHT spent a decade focused on protecting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Allen Law".

Allen Law

Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust

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CONSERVING
OUR LAND, WATER
AND WAY OF LIFE
IN COLORADO'S
SAN LUIS VALLEY

Michael Schaefer
Horner-Ydren Ditch
1604 County Road 28
Monte Vista, CO 81144

Chris Sturm
Watershed Program Director
Colorado Water Conservation Board

RE: 'Rio Grande Irrigated Meadows' Grant Application to Colorado Water Conservation Board –
Colorado Water Plan Grant Environmental and Recreation

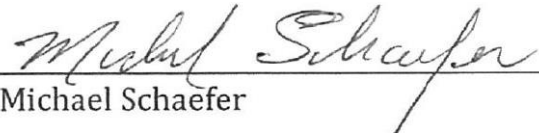
Colorado Water Conservation Board Members,

The Horner Ydren Ditch supports the Ducks Unlimited, Inc (DU) water plan grant to coordinate wetland and riparian restoration projects along the Rio Grande on public lands and private land conservation easements. This project will partner with local land trusts, conservation organizations, and state and federal agencies to further objectives and goals outlined in the Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan, Stream Management Plans in development by the Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project, Intermountain West Joint Venture Implementation Plan, the SLV Wetland and Wildlife Conservation Assessment, the Colorado State Wildlife Action Plan, NFWF's Southwest Rivers Business Plan, and the SLV Habitat Conservation Plan. This DU proposal coordinates and furthers other existing and planned partner efforts in the SLV to improve watershed health and maintain and sustain a healthy agricultural landscape.

This project will involve local, regional, and state staff and support from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Ducks Unlimited, Inc., Wetland Dynamics LLC, Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust, and numerous other individuals, agencies and organizations dedicated to promoting cooperative partnerships to restore, enhance, and improve watershed health across the SLV. These agencies and organizations have developed tools such as a Planning and Restoration database to help prioritize projects, improve partnerships, leverage match, and identify new cooperative efforts. Projects that are mutually beneficial to partners will be developed along the Rio Grande corridor to meet multiple objectives to improve water delivery, restore riparian and floodplain habitats, and promote private landowner collaborations.

The Horner Ydren Ditch Company appreciates the opportunity to support this project as it will expand and enhance cooperative partnerships on public and private lands that promote the goals and objectives of the Colorado Water Plan and Rio Grande Basin Roundtable along with many other conservation efforts occurring in the SLV. We are hopeful that DU will be awarded funding through the Colorado Water Plan Grant – Environmental and Recreation to further complement efforts among organizations to promote water conservation and restoration.

Sincerely,


Michael Schaefer