



Last Update: July 31, 2018

Colorado Water Conservation Board
Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant Application

Instructions

All WSRF grant applications shall conform to the current [2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines](#).

To receive funding from the WSRF, a proposed water activity must be approved by a Roundtable(s) **AND** the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). The process for Roundtable consideration and recommendation is outlined in the 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines. The CWCB meets bimonthly according to the schedule on page 2 of this application.

If you have questions, please contact the current CWCB staff Roundtable liaison:

Arkansas

Ben Wade
ben.wade@state.co.us
303-866-3441 x3238

**Gunnison | North Platte |
South Platte | Yampa/White**

Craig Godbout
craig.godbout@state.co.us
303-866-3441 x3210

**Colorado | Metro | Rio Grande |
Southwest**

Megan Holcomb
megan.holcomb@state.co.us
303-866-3441 x3222

WSRF Submittal Checklist (Required)
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X	I acknowledge this request was recommended for CWCB approval by the sponsoring roundtable.
X	I acknowledge I have read and understand the 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines .
X	I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the Standard Contract . ⁽¹⁾
Application Documents	
X	Exhibit A: Statement of Work ⁽²⁾ (<i>Word – see Template</i>)
X	Exhibit B: Budget & Schedule ⁽²⁾ (<i>Excel Spreadsheet – see Template</i>)
X	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ⁽²⁾
X	Map ⁽²⁾
X	Photos/Drawings/Reports
X	Letters of Support
Contracting Documents ⁽³⁾	
	Detailed/Itemized Budget ⁽³⁾ (<i>Excel Spreadsheet – see Template</i>)
	Certificate of Insurance ⁽⁴⁾ (<i>General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.</i>)
	Certificate of Good Standing ⁽⁴⁾
	W-9 Form ⁽⁴⁾
	Independent Contractor Form ⁽⁴⁾ (<i>If applicant is individual, not company/organization</i>)
	Electronic Funds Transfer (ETF) Form ⁽⁴⁾

(1) Click "Grant Agreements". For reference only/do not fill out or submit/required for contracting

(2) Required with application if applicable.

(3) Additional documentation providing a Detailed/Itemized Budget maybe required for contracting. Applicants are encouraged to coordinate with the CWCB Project Manager to determine specifics.

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

Last Update: July 31, 2018

Schedule		
CWCB Meeting	Application Submittal Dates	Type of Request
January	December 1	Basin Account; BIP
March	February 1	Basin/Statewide Account; BIP
May	April 1	Basin Account; BIP
July	June 1	Basin Account; BIP
September	August 1	Basin/Statewide Account; BIP
November	October 1	Basin Account/BIP

Desired Timeline	
Desired CWCB Hearing Month:	March 2020
Desired Notice to Proceed Date:	July 2020 or earlier

Water Activity Summary		
Name of Applicant	Lake Fork Valley Conservancy	
Name of Water Activity	Lake Fork River Enhancement Project Phase III	
Approving Roundtable(s)	Basin Account Request(s) ⁽¹⁾	
Gunnison Basin Roundtable	\$20,000	
Basin Account Request Subtotal	\$20,000	
Statewide Account Request ⁽¹⁾	\$131,355	
Total WSRF Funds Requested (Basin & Statewide)	\$151,355	
Total Project Costs	\$276,555	

(1) Please indicate the amount recommended for approval by the Roundtable(s)

\$20,000 from GBRT WSRF

\$131,355 from State WSRF

Grantee and Applicant Information	
Name of Grantee(s)	Lake Fork Valley Conservancy
Mailing Address	PO Box 123, Lake City, CO 81235
FEIN	84-1487921
Grantee's Organization Contact ⁽¹⁾	Camille Richard
Position/Title	Executive Director
Email	c.richard@lfvc.org
Phone	970-944-5382



Last Update: July 31, 2018

Grantee and Applicant Information	
Grant Management Contact ⁽²⁾	Camille Richard
Position/Title	Executive Director
Email	c.richard@lfvc.org
Phone	970-944-5382
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	N/A
Mailing Address	
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	

(1) Person with signatory authority

(2) Person responsible for creating reimbursement invoices (Invoice for Services) and corresponding with CWCB staff.

Description of Grantee	
Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).	
<p>The Lake Fork Valley Conservancy is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization with a mission to facilitate long term environmental sustainability in the Lake Fork of the Gunnison and Cebolla Creek valleys, through collaborative actions that foster land conservation, ecosystem health, and resilient communities. In its 21 year history, LFVC and its partners have successfully implemented a number of restoration and conservation initiatives, including remediation of nine abandoned mine sites, protection of over 200 acres of wetlands and uplands at Lake San Cristobal and on the toe of Slumgullion Earthflow, and completion of Phases I and II of this river project.</p>	
Type of Eligible Entity (check one)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	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.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public (Districts): authorities, Title 32/special districts (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises
<input type="checkbox"/>	Private Incorporated: mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Private Individuals, Partnerships, and Sole Proprietors: are eligible for funding from the Basin Accounts but not for funding from the Statewide Account.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Non-governmental organizations: broadly, any organization that is not part of the government
<input type="checkbox"/>	Covered Entity: as defined in Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes

Last Update: July 31, 2018

Type of Water Activity (check one)		
	Study	
X	Implementation	
Category of Water Activity (check all that apply)		
X	Nonconsumptive (Environmental)	
X	Nonconsumptive (Recreational)	
	Agricultural	
	Municipal/Industrial	
	Needs Assessment	
X	Education & Outreach	
	Other	Explain:
Location of Water Activity		
Please provide the general county and coordinates of the proposed activity below in decimal degrees . The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable.		
County/Countries	Hinsdale County	
Latitude	38.0301	
Longitude	-107.3133	
Water Activity Overview		
Please provide a summary of the proposed water activity (200 words or less). Include a description of the activity and what the WSRF funding will be used for specifically (e.g. studies, permitting, construction). Provide a description of the water supply source to be utilized or the water body affected by the activity. 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, area of habitat improvements. 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, and Schedule.		
<p>LFVC, in partnership with the Town of Lake City, has completed Phase I and II river improvements along Henson Creek and the Lake Fork of the Gunnison, and below 8½ Street Bridge at the north end of Town, using funds from the CWCB, Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District (UGRWCD), Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW), Gates Family Foundation, and local organizations and residents. This work included restoration of 5,800 linear feet of river channel and associated revegetation, purchase of approximately two acres of river front land for open space, and installation of the first phase of our interpretive river trail. Total investment to date exceeds \$885,000 for community planning, design, and implementation. Phase III involves restoration of 3,200 linear feet of river, which will be covered by WSRF funding (Figure 1). We also seek to complete the interpretive river trail system, which includes design and installation of eight additional plaques with accompanying guide and educational curricula. These efforts are part of the future Lake Fork River Recreation Corridor in the Town of Lake City. The planning process for this corridor is ongoing as part of LFVC's strategic planning for 2020-2024.</p>		

Last Update: July 31, 2018

Measurable Results		
To catalog measurable results achieved with WSRF funds please provide any of the following values.		
	New Storage Created (acre-feet)	
	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive	
	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)	
3200	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)	
	Efficiency Savings (indicate acre-feet/year OR dollars/year)	
5.5	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)	
	Length of Pipe/Canal Built or Improved	
	Other	Explain:
Water Activity Justification		
<p>Provide a description of how this water activity supports the goals of Colorado's Water Plan, the most recent Statewide Water Supply Initiative, and the respective Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan and Education Action Plan ⁽¹⁾. 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).</p> <p>For applications that include a request for funds from the Statewide Account, the proposed water activity shall be evaluated based upon how well the proposal conforms to Colorado's Water Plan criteria for state support (CWP, Section 9.4, pp. 9-43 to 9-44;) (Also listed pp. 4-5 in 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines).</p>		
<p><u>Alignment with the Colorado Water Plan</u></p> <p>The Colorado Water Plan highlights four key goals related to environmental and recreational values in our state (page 6-157).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Promote restoration, recovery, sustainability, and resiliency of endangered, threatened, and imperiled aquatic- and riparian-dependent species and plant communities. 2) Protect and enhance economic values to local and statewide economies that rely on environmental and recreational water uses, such as fishing, boating, waterfowl hunting, wildlife watching, camping, and hiking. 3) Support the development of multipurpose projects and methods that benefit environmental and recreational water needs as well as water needs for communities or agriculture. 4) Understand, protect, maintain, and improve conditions of streams, lakes, wetlands, and riparian areas to promote self-sustaining fisheries and functional riparian and wetland habitat to promote long-term sustainability and resiliency. 5) Maintain watershed health by protecting or restoring watersheds that could affect critical infrastructure and/or environmental and recreational areas. <p>The State of Colorado has developed a framework to determine if a project addresses these goals and meets the criteria for State funding (CWP pages 9-43 to 9-44). This project meets the criteria in the following manner.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <i>Pre-Permitting Work (Initial Studies and Stakeholder Involvement).</i> <p>This project meets the goals and measurable outcomes identified in the Gunnison</p>		



Last Update: July 31, 2018

Measurable Results

Implementation Plan (see below). For ten years we have been conducting feasibility studies, consulting with local stakeholders and partners, and developing plans for restoring the river in the Town of Lake City. Already two sections of the river project have been completed and now we are seeking funding to complete the third and final phase. Completion of earlier phases have strengthened community support.

2) State Support for Projects Aligned with Colorado's Water Values.

This project demonstrates a commitment to collaboration, through partnership with relevant local, state and federal entities and local community members and land owners. The project is multi-objective, meeting both environmental and recreational needs and desires of the community of stakeholders. This has been achieved through 16 community meetings, several one on one conversations, and through surveys. We attempted to use multiple avenues for input and feel that we have reached a broad representation of stakeholders.

The project demonstrates sustainability by improving riparian health and channel stability of the Lake Fork and Henson Creek in town. Restoration of the river improves survivability of fish at current flow levels by enhancing pool development, which allows fish to overwinter and survive drought conditions. This work enhances a world class trout fishery that replaces Gold Metal waters lost with construction of Blue Mesa Reservoir downstream. It also provides better physical access to the river, creates whitewater features, and improved aesthetics, all features that enhance the local economy. Through partnership with local government, we are working to ensure long term management of the project through development of a River Recreation Corridor Plan.

The project has been cost effective to date. Through improvement of the river channel, revegetation, purchase of open space river front land, and trails and other recreational infrastructure in town, we are increasing recreational opportunities for residents and visitors. In addition, our channel improvements helped contain flood waters this past high flow season that previously had created a great deal of erosion and braiding at much lower flow levels. The long-term environmental and recreational benefits outweigh the implementation costs of the project.

Alignment with the Gunnison Basin Needs Assessment and Implementation Plan

The river through the entire project area is a significant segment in the Gunnison Basin's Environmental and Recreational Non-Consumptive Needs Assessment. Henson Creek has been identified as a significant stream segment, primarily for environmental criteria (see Table below). Henson is listed on the EPA's 303 (d) list of impaired streams for Cd and Zn (sculpin) and is recommended for environmental remediation, which has been addressed through cleanup of several abandoned mine sites in the upper watershed, with significant reduction in metal loading. To complement this work, Phase I and II river enhancements along lower Henson Creek and the confluence with the Lake Fork, and below 8½ Street Bridge were completed from 2013 through 2016 and successfully addressed the physical impacts from tailings impoundment breaks in the 1960's and 1970's. This work continues with Phase III.



Last Update: July 31, 2018

Measurable Results

Summary of Non-consumptive Needs Assessment for Henson and the Lower Lake Fork.

	Henson Creek	Lake Fork of the Gunnison (in Town)
Attribute 2 - Aquatic-Dependent State Endangered, Threatened, and Species of Concern (including conservation agreement species)		
c. Flannelmouth Sucker	YES	YES
d. Bluehead Sucker		YES
Attribute 3 - Rare Aquatic-Dependent Plants and Significant Riparian/Wetland Plant		
b. Significant Riparian/Wetland Plant Communities (B2 ranked Blue Spruce-Poplar-	YES	YES
Attribute 4 - Special Value Waters (CWCB instream flow waters, WQCD Outstanding Waters, Wilderness Area Waters, Eligible/Suitable Wild and Scenic)		
b. CWCB Instream Flows	YES	YES
Attribute 5 - Whitewater and Flat-water Boating		
a. Kayaking	YES	YES
b. Rafting and Kayaking		YES
Attribute 6 - Riparian/Wetland Wildlife Viewing and Waterfowl Hunting		
a. Wildlife Viewing and Waterfowl Hunting	YES	YES
Attribute 7 - Significant Cold and Warm-Water Fishing		
b. River and Stream Fishing	YES	YES

In addition, the Lake Fork, which includes the segment through Lake City, is listed in the needs assessment as significant for recreational purposes and is recommended for stream flow augmentation for fisheries. While not actually augmenting flows to the Lake Fork as recommended in the needs assessment, the project will complement CWCB's in-stream flow right by improving the physical habitat for fisheries. Construction of in-channel structures in the Lake Fork will enhance pool development along the river, improving the ability for fish to overwinter and survive drought conditions. This combined with revegetation improves survivability of fish at current in-stream flow rights levels. Enhancements completed during Phase I of the proposed segments and subsequent phases of restoration on the Lake Fork downstream will also help replace up to two miles of Gold Metal waters lost with the construction of Blue Mesa Reservoir. Both rivers also offer good boating opportunities.

This project primarily addresses Goal 5 from the Gunnison Basin Implementation Plan: Quantify and protect environmental and recreational water uses. The Lake Fork is identified as one of 18 project sites expected to help fulfill this goal with the intent to improve environmental and recreational focus areas in existing stream channels and to improve native fish and riparian species populations (GBIP pages 160 and 167).

The project will significantly increase the environmental and recreational amenities for this stretch of river. Fisheries habitat will be improved resulting in greater fish biomass, public access to the river will be safer and of higher quality, boating opportunities will be expanded, and appreciation for our river assets will be promoted. In addition, the physical improvements of the river will complement the chemical remediation that occurred in the upper reaches of the watershed by repairing a degraded stretch of river impacted by tailings impoundment breaks and channelization.

Lake City is one of three signature tourist towns connected by the Alpine Loop, the core of the BLM's Alpine Triangle Recreational Management Zone, a 186,000 acre area that draws over 300,000 tourists per year. Consequently, a significant portion of the income of local residents is

Last Update: July 31, 2018

Measurable Results

derived from tourism and services to seasonal home owners. The project reach lies along both the Alpine Loop and Silver Thread Byways. It is also upstream of the Curecanti National Recreation Area. Improving the recreational value of the river through Town only enhances the visitor experience, translating into improved economic conditions for local residents and state coffers. The northern part of the project river reach has now been restored and protected. This site is the first place people see when they arrive from the north, and previously was an eyesore due to past disturbances. Improving this area created a highly aesthetic public space that visitors experience as they travel along the Byways, and facilitates a more favorable impression of Lake City as a gateway to the Alpine Loop. Phase III restoration links this public space with the Henson stretch completed in Phase I.

Alignment with the Gunnison Basin Round Table Education Action Plan

This project supports these goals from the Education Action Plan:

GOAL 1: Ensure that Basin residents, leaders and decision makers have information about the adopted Gunnison River Basin Implementation Plan, Colorado's Water Plan, basic water information, and challenges facing water users in the Gunnison Basin and the state.

Strategy (e.): Continue collaboration with the Water Center at Colorado Mesa University and other partners on educational seminars, articles and other public forum and field trip opportunities for youth, elected officials, and interested public.

GOAL 3: Support research and Education on Hydrologic Changes and Cycles Affecting Water Resources.

Strategy (b): Support interested partners engaged in conservation studies and projects, and assist with providing information regarding these projects and outcomes to the public and stakeholder water users.

The interpretive river trail system will help to increase knowledge and appreciation of the river's rich cultural and natural history. The target audiences are local residents and their children and the numerous seasonal visitors who are repeat visitors to Lake City. Youth and children will be actively introduced to the river trail through formal education programs through the school, the local child care center and the County Public Health Department that runs a youth program in the summer. These programs provide outreach activities to local kids whose parents work and are often unable to participate in many recreational activities.

Lake Fork Valley Conservancy Ten Year Strategic Watershed Plan (2010-2019) and 2020-2024 Plan (in progress via the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District's Watershed Planning Process)

The River Enhancement Project has been a key focus of LFVC for the past ten years, as part of its strategic watershed plan. This focus continues in our next phase of planning, with completion of a comprehensive River Recreation Corridor along the rivers in Lake City being of high interest to our community. This effort complements and carries forward recommendations made in the 2015 Hinsdale County Recreation Master Plan, which identified the need for trail connections and recreational improvements along the Lake Fork and Henson. It also addresses priorities that have been identified by stakeholders during the UGRWCD watershed planning



Last Update: July 31, 2018

Measurable Results

effort for the Upper Gunnison Basin.

The Lake Fork Valley Conservancy has prioritized both chemical and physical improvements to Henson and the Lake Fork as part of its ten-year stewardship plan. Funding from CWCB will make a significant difference for facilitating an important resource management action as identified in the plan. This action, combined with LFVC's work to improved water quality in this impaired stream through abandoned mine cleanup, effectively addresses both the chemical and physical impacts to this river, thereby improving fisheries habitat.

The LFVC has also identified the importance of designating river front lands as conservation areas. Acquisition of properties for an open space river park help protect key riparian communities that are considered relatively rare, protect an important floodway through Town, and increase the amount of river available to the public. The ongoing restoration of this area will enhance habitat and create a mid-town corridor for wildlife that travel through town from surrounding forests.

Matching Requirements: Statewide Account Requests

Statewide Account grant requests require a 50% match as described in the 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines. A minimum of 10% match shall be from Basin Account funds (cash only). A minimum of 10% match shall be provided by the applicant or 3rd party (cash, in-kind, or combination). The remaining 30% of the required match may be provided from any other source (Basin, applicant, or 3rd party) and shall be accompanied by a **letter of commitment**. Attach additional sheet if necessary.

Contributing Entity	Amount and Form of Match (note cash or in-kind):
Gunnison Basin Round Table	\$20,000 (cash)
CPW Fishing is Fun Program	\$33,000 (cash)
Lake Fork Valley Conservancy	\$14,900 (cash)
River Front Land Owners (see budget for names and amounts)	\$49,300 (cash)
Hinsdale County	\$25,000 (in-kind)
Webco, Inc	\$3,000 (in-kind)
Total Match	\$145,200
If you requested a Waiver to the Statewide Account matching, indicate % you wish waived. (Max 50% reduction of requirement).	

Last Update: July 31, 2018

Related Studies

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

A detailed topographic and cross section survey has been performed of the active channels of the Lake Fork and Henson Creek project reaches to identify bankfull channel geometry, slope, thalweg, pools, riffles, bank height and elevations and scour and deposition features. This topographic data is being used for channel enhancement design. In addition, LIDAR 2' contour and aerial photo data was captured in 2012 to assist with 100-year floodplain modeling and mapping. LiDAR data was again collected in 2019 to assist with flood planning along the Lake Fork.

The geographic setting of the project reaches in the volcanic geology of the San Juan Mountains creates conditions of high suspended and bedload sediment that substantially affect the character and behavior of the streams as well as their responses to impacts including historic channelization and proposed enhancements. In order to understand these sediment conditions and sediment transport study was performed over two runoff seasons during high flow conditions. Both suspended sediment and bedload materials were captured along with stream discharge in order to determine the size and quantity of materials that are transported through the river system at various discharges. This information has been incorporated into the channel design helping to understand why certain river features have developed and in identifying the size of materials that must be transported through the system.

Bankfull and 100-year flows have been modeled for the project reaches using HEC-RAS. The current FEMA floodplain maps were created in the 1980's and there has been substantial development within the floodplain through Lake City as well as encroachment along the river. The modeling effort is assisting with enhancement design by identifying the impacts of the proposed features on flood levels as well as identifying the hydraulics of the system that affect sediment transport. Modelling will again be done in spring of 2020 to capture changes in the river hydrology post flood season in 2019.

Riparian surveys of Henson Creek and the Lake Fork were completed by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program in 2008. The riparian corridor of lower Henson is identified as a site of high biodiversity significance, chosen for an excellent (A-ranked) occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3/S3) thinleaf alder - Drummond's willow tall shrubland (*Alnus incana* - *Salix drummondiana* shrubland) and a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3/S3) narrowleaf cottonwood - blue spruce / thinleaf alder riparian woodland (*Populus angustifolia* - *Picea pungens* / *Alnus incana* woodland). Baseline fish shock and macro-invertebrate data have also been collected prior to construction.

Several community outreach events have been held in town to educate residents about the project. One on one meetings with all land owners along the river have been held. We also completed a public survey and received over 100 responses (25% response rate). Overall opinion and support of the project is high, especially in regard to protecting banks and improving fisheries.

A NEPA was completed in June 2013 for the project as part of the USACE permitting process. BLM staff committed their time to this over the winter, using data already collected by the LFVC.

Last Update: July 31, 2018

Related Studies

A monitoring report was prepared in 2017 to highlight project outcomes from Phase I and II river channel improvements, revegetation, and other activities.

Final reports for Phases I and II have been submitted to CWCB.

A watershed assessment was completed in 2019 along the Lake Fork, including the reach proposed for improvements in this proposal. This assessment will be used for watershed planning for the next five years, as part of the Upper Gunnison River Basin Watershed Plan, funded by CWCB.

Previous CWCB Grants

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

CWCB Grant	Applicant Name	Water Activity Name	RT	CWCB meeting or contract date	Contract or PO Number	
Watershed Restoration Program	Hindale County (Fiscal Agent for LFVC)	Lake Fork River Enhancement Project Feasibility and Planning	GBRT	09/03/09	OE PDA 10000000029	
WSRF	Lake Fork Valley Conservancy	Henson Creek and Lake Fork Confluence Channel Improvement Project (Phase I)	GBRT	03/15/13	C150521	
Watershed Restoration Program	Lake Fork Valley Conservancy	Lake Fork River Enhancement Project Design Phase II	GBRT	06/18/15	POGG1 PDAA 20150000000000000290	
WSRF	Lake Fork Valley Conservancy	Lake Fork River Enhancement Project Phase II	GBRT	03/17/16	CTGG1 2017-532	

Tax Payer Bill of Rights

The Tax Payer Bill of Rights (TABOR) may limit the amount of grant money an entity can receive. Please describe any relevant TABOR issues that may affect the applicant.

N/A

**Water Supply Reserve Fund
Water Activity Summary Sheet
March 11-12, 2020
Agenda Item 23(i)**

Applicant & Grantee: Lake Fork Valley Conservancy
Water Activity Name: Lake Fork River Enhancement Project Phase 3
Water Activity Purpose: Env & Rec/Ed & Outreach - Implementation
County: Hinsdale
Drainage Basin: Gunnison
Water Source: Lake Fork River
Amount Requested: \$20,000 Gunnison Basin Account
\$131,355 Statewide Account
\$151,355 Total Request

Matching Funds: Basin Account Match = \$20,000

- 15% of the statewide request (meets 10% min)

Applicant & 3rd Party Match (cash & in-kind) = \$125,200

- 91% of the statewide request (meets 10% min)

Total Match (Basin & Applicant) = \$145,200

- 110% of the statewide request (meets 50% min)

Staff Recommendation:
Staff recommends approval of up to \$20,000 from the Gunnison Basin Account and up to \$131,355 from the Statewide Account to help fund the project: Lake Fork River Enhancement Project Phase 3.

Water Activity Summary: WSRF Funds, if approved will assist the Lake Fork Valley Conservancy (LVVC) continue their efforts to restoration of 3,200 linear feet of river and the restoration of 5.5 acres of habitat. They also seek to complete the interpretive river trail system, which includes design and installation of eight additional plaques with accompanying guide and educational curricula. These efforts are part of the future Lake Fork River Recreation Corridor in the Town of Lake City. The planning process for this corridor is ongoing as part of LFVC's strategic planning for 2020-2024.

Discussion: This effort will assist the Gunnison Basin Roundtable meet Goal #5: Quantify and protect environmental and recreational water uses as identified in the Gunnison Basin Implementation Plan: Additionally this effort will assist Colorado's Water Plan meet several goals, such as:

- Promote restoration, recovery, sustainability, and resiliency of endangered, threatened, and imperiled aquatic- and riparian-dependent species and plant communities.
- Protect and enhance economic values to local and statewide economies that rely on environmental and recreational water uses, such as fishing, boating, waterfowl hunting, wildlife watching, camping, and hiking.
- Support the development of multipurpose projects and methods that benefit environmental and recreational water needs as well as water needs for communities or agriculture.

- Understand, protect, maintain, and improve conditions of streams, lakes, wetlands, and riparian areas to promote self-sustaining fisheries and functional riparian and wetland habitat to promote long-term sustainability and resiliency.
- Maintain watershed health by protecting or restoring watersheds that could affect critical infrastructure and/or environmental and recreational areas.

Issues/Additional Needs: The applicant shall submit all outstanding letters of matching commitment prior entering into a grant contract with the state; otherwise there are no issues or additional needs.

Eligibility Requirements: The application meets requirements of all eligibility components.

Evaluation Criteria: Staff has determined this activity satisfies the Evaluation Criteria.

Funding Sources/Match	Cash	In-kind	Total	Status
Lake Fork Valley Conservancy	\$14,900	\$0	\$14,900	Secured
Landowners	\$49,300	\$0	\$49,300	Pending
CPW	\$33,000	\$0	\$33,000	Pending
Hinsdale County	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000	Secured
Webco, Inc	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000	Pending
Sub-total	\$97,200	\$28,000	\$125,200	
WSRF Gunnison Basin Account	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	Secured
Sub-total	\$117,200	\$28,000	\$145,200	
WSRF Statewide Account	\$131,355	n/a	\$131,355	
Total Project Costs	\$248,555	\$280,000	\$276,555	

CWCB Project Manager: Chris Sturm

January 30, 2020

Mr. Craig Godbout
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Lake Fork River Enhancement Project Phase III, WSRF Application

Dear Mr. Godbout,

The Gunnison Basin Roundtable has approved the Lake Fork Valley Conservancy's application for WSRF funding for Phase III of its Lake Fork River Enhancement project. The funding requested for this project is \$20,000 in Basin funds and \$131,355 State funds for a total of \$151,355 in WSRF funds and a total project cost of \$276,555.

This project would connect the two other projects the Lake Fork Conservancy has completed on the Lake Fork River. It would involve restoration channel work on 3,200 feet of the Lake Fork, additional interpretive trail development and participation in the future Lake Fork Recreation Corridor. This project was identified in the BIP as part of the Environmental and Recreational Needs Assessment and the two earlier projects were partially funded with WSRF funds. The Gunnison Basin Roundtable recommends approval of the application.

If we can provide any additional information please let us know.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Curry

Chair, Gunnison Basin Roundtable
54542 US Highway 50
Gunnison, CO 81230
970-209-5537
kathleencurry@montrose.net

230 N. Bluff Street
PO Box 544 Lake City, CO 81235
970-944-2333
www.townoflakecity.co

TOWN OF LAKE CITY

November 20, 2019

Gunnison Basin Roundtable
Attn: Craig Godbout
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203
craig.godbout@state.co.us

Mr. Godbout,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Town of Lake City, I wish to express our strong support for the Lake Fork Valley Conservancy (LFVC) to apply for Phase III project implementation grants for the Lake Fork of the Gunnison River Enhancement Project. We were partners during Phase I and II of the project and are very pleased with the outcomes, which improved both the quality of the river and expanded recreational opportunities for our residents and visitors alike. The Town and LFVC developed the newly constructed terrace at the confluence of the Lake Fork and Henson Creek into a highly visited recreational area that has significantly enhanced the aesthetic quality and usability of the Lake Fork Memorial Park. River construction at the north end of town turned a previously braided flood channel into a thriving fishery with public access. In addition, the Town provided support for installation of ten plaques that highlight the ecology and history of the river corridor in town.

We are committed to the following roles in the project:

1. Provide supervised and approved opportunities to work on Town streets and alleys and other Town properties that intersect the project river area.
2. Provide sites for additional interpretive river panels along the public trail system through Town.

We see great value in a project that both improves our Town's natural resources and also increases public recreational opportunities. We hope that with financial assistance we can achieve the goals set forth through a collaborative and supportive public process.

Sincerely,



Bruce Vierheller
Mayor, Town of Lake City



311 N. Henson St. Lake City, Colorado 81235 970-944-2225 www.hinsdalecountycolorado.us

November 20, 2019

Gunnison Basin Roundtable
Attn: Craig Godbout
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203
craig.godbout@state.co.us

Mr. Godbout,

Hinsdale County fully supports the river restoration work of the Lake Fork Valley Conservancy (LFVC). LFVC has spearheaded the planning, design and implementation for the Lake Fork and Henson Creek River Enhancement Project since 2009, in partnership with the Town of Lake City and other organizations. These efforts have built strong community support for the project.

During earlier phases of the project, the County offered both cash and in-kind contributions to the project, including support of LiDAR data collection in 2012. We also will provide LiDAR data for design work for this coming phase of the project, worth an estimated \$25,000. In addition, the Hinsdale County Trails Commission provided labor and equipment to construct new river trails, and will continue to help in the future as new trails are developed.

Thank you for your consideration of this application. This project has many benefits for our residents, both environmental and economic.

Best Regards,

Susan Thompson
Chair, Board of Hinsdale County Commissioners

230 N. Bluff Street
PO Box 544 Lake City, CO 81235
970-944-2333
www.townoflakecity.co

TOWN OF LAKE CITY

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