

# **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) <u>AND</u> 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 <u>megan.holcomb@state.co.us</u> 303-866-3441 x3222

	I acknowledge this request for funding was recommended for CWCB approval by the sponsoring Basin Roundtable(s).		
Х	I acknowledge I have read and understand the 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines.		
Х	I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the Standard Contract. <sup>(1)</sup>		
Exhib	it A		
Х	Statement of Work <sup>(2)</sup> (Word – see Exhibit A Template)		
Х	Budget & Schedule <sup>(2)</sup> (Excel Spreadsheet – see Exhibit A Template)		
	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Commitments <sup>(2)</sup>		
Exhib	it C		
	Map <sup>(2)</sup>		
	Photos/Drawings/Reports		
	Letters of Support		
	Certificate of Insurance <sup>(3)</sup> (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.)		
Contr	racting Documents		
	Certificate of Good Standing <sup>(3)</sup>		
	W-9 <sup>(3)</sup>		
	Independent Contractor Form <sup>(3)</sup> (If applicant is individual, not company/organization)		
	Electronic Funds Transfer (ETF) Form <sup>(3)</sup>		

(2) Required with application if applicable.

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



Schedule			
CWCB Meeting	Application Submittal Dates	Type of Request	
January	December 1	Basin Account; BIP	
March	February 1	Basin/Statewide Account; BIP	
Мау	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:	November 2018	
Desired Notice to Proceed Date:	Feb. 1, 2019	

Water Activity Summary			
Name of Applicant	White River Conservation District		
Name of Water Activity	White River Algae Research Project		
Approving Roundtable	e(s)	Basin Account Request(s) <sup>(1)</sup>	
Yampa, White, Green		WRSF	
Basin Account Request Subtotal		\$ 99,000	
Statewide Account Request <sup>(1)</sup>		\$ 0	
Total WSRF Funds Requested (Basin & Statewide)		\$ 99,000	
Total Project Costs		\$164,000	
(1) Place indicate the amount reco		nervel by the Derve dteble (e)	

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



Grantee and Applicant Information			
Name of Grantee(s)	White River Conservation District		
Mailing Address	P.O. 837 Meeker, CO 81641		
FEIN			
Grantee's Organization Contact <sup>(1)</sup>	Neil Brennan		
Position/Title	President		
Email	neilbrennan@hotmail.com		
Phone	<u>(970) 878-4091</u>		
Grant Management Contact <sup>(2)</sup>	Callie Hendrickson		
Position/Title	Executive Director		
Email	callie.districts@gmail.com		
Phone	970-878-9838 or 970-250-6825 (c)		
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).

The Soil Conservation District Act (now Conservation District) was passed by Colorado Legislature on May 6, 1937. This act is found in Colorado Revised Statues Title 35 article 70. The Districts are managed by a board elected at a general election by the landowners within the District. The White River Conservation District has cooperated with individuals and government agencies including county, state and federal departments and agencies for over 50 years treating resource problems.

The Districts were formed to provide a legal entity to organize local landowners to voluntarily control soil erosion and manage natural resources such as soil, water, animals, plants and air quality. This act then enabled the Federal Government to provide technical and monetary assistance to the local agriculture community to protect private property from degradation of the natural resources. Through partnerships with NRCS, BLM, and other agencies, Best Management Practices (BMP) are planned and implemented to treat and protect the soil, water and related resources on lands within the District's boundaries. The Conservation District partnerships serve all landowners within the district by promoting voluntary conservation practices and providing technical assistance, planning, and practice installation assistance.

	Type of Eligible Entity (check one)				
	<b>Public (Government):</b> 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.				
Х	<b>Public (Districts):</b> authorities, Title 32/special districts (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises				
	Private Incorporated: mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations				
	<b>Private Individuals, Partnerships, and Sole Proprietors:</b> are eligible for funding from the Basin Accounts but not for funding from the Statewide Account.				
	Non-governmental organizations: broadly, any organization that is not part of the government				
	Covered Entity: as defined in Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes				

Type of Water Activity (check one)			
Х	Study		
	Implementation		

	Category of Water Activity (check all that apply)			
Х	Nonconsumptive (Environmental)			
Х	Nonconsumptive (Recreational)			
Х	Agricultural			
Х	Municipal/Industrial			
	Needs Assessment			



Х	Education & Outreach			
	Other	Explain:		

# Location of Water Activity

Please provide the general county and coordinates of the proposed activity below in <b>decimal degrees</b> .			
The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable.			
County/Counties	Rio Blanco County, White River above Meeker		
Latitude			
Longitude			

#### 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. The White River Algae Study Project's Scope of Work (SOW) will be implemented by USGS to improve the understanding of why the excessive amount of benthic algae is occurring in the White River over the past 4 - 5 years. A better understanding based on science is expected to lead to the conception of mitigation strategies and management plans for decreasing benthic algae in the White River.

There is a definite sense of urgency to determine the driving forces of the excessive algae. Therefore, the study began in 2018. This grant request is for data collection and analysis to be done in 2019 - 2021. USGS will have identified and began data collection in 20 semi-random sites in the White River above Meeker. Data collection in FY 2019 will include the following Tasks: (#4) Scouring Flows (channel condition, form, and scouring forces), (#5) Scouring flow analysis, (#7) Pre-, Peak, and Post-Algae and water quality sampling events and (#8) Analysis and publication of results in the final year.

Evaluation of data collected in 2018 and 2019 will determine if it will be necessary to conduct a third year (FY 2020) of study. The full SOW includes analysis and publication of the findings in the year following the final year of study.



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)		
Full length of White River. Approx. 190 miles	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)		
	Efficiency Savings (indicate acre-feet/year OR dollars/year)		
	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)		
	Length of Pipe/Canal Built or Improved		
The full length of the White River	Other	Explain: This is a study. Therefore, rather than measurable results directly related to the study, we anticipate that it will identify actions that can be taken in the future to restore and protect the White River	

#### Water Activity Justification

Provide a description of how this water activity supports the goals of <u>Colorado's Water Plan</u>, the most recent <u>Statewide Water Supply Initiative</u>, and the respective <u>Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan and</u> <u>Education Action Plan</u><sup>(1)</sup>. 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).

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).



# Water Activity Justification

#### Colorado Water Plan:

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This study will meet all five goals stated in the Environmental and Recreational Projects and Methods section (page 6-157) of the Colorado Water Plan. It will provide exceptional information and background for a future Integrated Water Management Plan that we anticipate developing within the next few years. It is important that this work be completed first so that we have the knowledge and background before embarking on the IWMP. Algae blooms decrease the recreational value of the river and indicate an ecosystem that is out of balance.

This study will be integral in understanding that ecosystem better and provide tools for establishing mitigation plans. Doing so will improve the ability of the River to meet recreational, environmental, and economic needs, and allow the elaborate system of diversion, storage, treatment, use, wastewater treatment and reintroduction back into the river ecosystem to continue.

Also, by keeping intake screens and pump inlets free of algae, artificial shortages created by fouling will not occur, and the existing infrastructure will function through the full range of depth of water in the river for which it was designed.

(1) Access Basin Implementation Plans or Education Action Plans from Basin drop down menu.

Matching Requirements: Basin Account Requests			
<b>Basin (only) Account</b> grant requests require a 25% match (cash and/or in-kind) from the Applicant or 3 <sup>rd</sup> party and shall be accompanied by a <b>letter of commitment</b> as described in the 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines (submitted on the contributing entity's letterhead). Attach additional sheet if necessary.			
Contributing Entity	Amount and Form of Match (note cash or in-kind)		
Private Landowners & NGO's 2018 work (see attachment)	\$50,000 in cash		
Local Governments for 2018 work (see attachment)	\$40,500 in cash		



Matching Requirements: Basin Account Requests		
USGS (2018 work)	\$39,000	
It is anticipated that local governments' will provide match for 2019 – 2021. However, local governments cannot commit prior to their budgeting process each fall. Therefore, we are using committed 2018 funds for match for this grant.		
Noted above: We received \$95,500 from local governments and private funding for 2018 work on this project.		
Total:	\$134,500	
If you requested a Waiver to the Basin Account matching requirements, indicate the percentage you wish waived.		

# 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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):		
N/A			



Matching Requirements: Statewide Account Requests		
Total Match	\$	
If you requested a Waiver to the Statewide Account matching, indicate % you wish waived. (Max 50% reduction of requirement).		

#### **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.

This study is a precursor to a potential Integrated Water Management Plan (IWMP) on the White River in the coming years. We feel this study needs to be near completion before the IWMP process is initiated because it is expected to have very valuable information for the IWMP to be built upon.

This study will utilize data that has been and will continue to be collected from the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) on the algae issue.

This study will also utilize data that has been and will continue to be collected by USGS in the White River Water Quality Monitoring project.

## **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

N/A



# **Previous CWCB Grants**

# 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. The White River Conservation District de-TABORed in 1996.

# Water Supply Reserve Fund – Grant and Loan Program Water Activity Summary Sheet November 14-15, 2018 Agenda Item 18(c)

Applicant & Grantee:	White River Conservation District
Water Activity Name:	White River Algae Research Project
Water Activity Purpose:	Multipurpose (Environmental/Recreational/Agricultural/M&I)
County:	Rio Blanco
Drainage Basin:	Yampa-White-Green
Water Source:	White River
Amount Requested:	\$99,000 Yampa-White-Green Basin Account
Matching Funds:	Applicant & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Match (Secured only cash & in-kind) = \$303,047 • 306% of the Basin Account request (meets 25% min)

# **Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommends **conditional approval** of up to \$99,000 from the Yampa-White-Green Basin Account to help fund the project titled: White River Algae Research Project, contingent upon the conditions stated in the **Issues/Additional Needs** section below.

Water Activity Summary: WSRF grant funds, if approved, will assist the White River Conservation District and the United States Geological Survey to improve their understanding of the cause of the excessive amount of benthic algae in the White River over the past 4-5 years. A better understanding based on science is expected to lead to the conception of mitigation strategies and management plans for decreasing benthic algae in the White River. This grant request is for data collection and analysis to be performed in 2019 -2021. USGS will have identified and began data collection in 20 semirandom sites in the White River above Meeker. Data collection in FY 2019 will include the following tasks: Scouring Flows, Scouring Flow Analysis, Pre/Peak and Post-Algae and water quality sampling events and Analysis and publication of results in the final year. Evaluation of data collected in 2018 and 2019 will determine if it will be necessary to conduct a third year (FY 2020) of study. This study will provide exceptional information and background for a future Integrated Water Management Plan (IWMP) that could be developed within the next few years. It is important that this work be completed first so that there is the knowledge and background before embarking on the IWMP. Algae blooms decrease the recreational value of the river and indicate an ecosystem that is out of balance. This study will be integral in understanding that ecosystem better and provide tools for establishing mitigation plans. Doing so will improve the ability of the River to meet recreational, environmental, and economic needs, and allow the elaborate system of diversion, storage, treatment, use, and wastewater treatment to continue. In addition, keeping intake screens and pump inlets free of algae, artificial shortages created by fouling will not occur, and the existing infrastructure will function through the full range of depth of water in the river for which it was designed.

**Discussion:** This project assists the Yampa-White-Green Basin Roundtable in meeting their stated Basin Goals such as: Protect and encourage agriculture uses of water in the YWG Basin within the context of private property rights; Improve agricultural water supplies to increase irrigated land and reduce shortages; Identify and address municipal and industrial (M&I) water shortages; Quantify and protect environmental and recreational water uses at locations identified in the nonconsumptive needs study of the YWG BRT; Maintain and consider the existing natural range of water quality that is necessary for current and anticipated water uses; Restore, maintain, and modernize water storage and distribution infrastructure; Develop an integrated system of water use, storage, administration and delivery to reduce water shortages and meet environmental and recreational needs as identified in Section 1.2.2 of the Yampa-White-Green Basin Implementation Plan.

**Issues/Additional Needs:** As noted above (and below), the applicant has secured \$303,047 in cash and in-kind matching contributions (\$129,492 in 2018, \$81,029 in 2019, \$62,739 in 2020, and \$29,787 in 2021) which satisfies the 25% minimum match on behalf of the applicant and constitutes a 306% match to the Yampa-White-Green WSRF Basin Account contribution. However, there is currently \$171,000 in future pending matches that have yet to be confirmed, therefore staff recommends a **conditional approval** of this grant for the requested \$99,000 contingent upon the applicant providing documentation on a yearly basis to staff's satisfaction that the pending matches have mature into secured matches whereupon staff will authorize the release of the yearly WSRF Grant distribution as indicated in the table below (Yearly WSRF Funding Distribution).

**Eligibility Requirements:** The application meets requirements of all eligibility components: General Eligibility, Entity Eligibility, Water Activity Eligibility, and Eligibility Based on Match Requirements.

**Evaluation Criteria:** This activity has undergone review and evaluation and staff has determined that it satisfies the Evaluation Criteria. Please refer to Basin Roundtable Chair's Recommendation Letter and the WSRF Grant Application for applicant's detailed response.

2018 Funding Sources	Cash	In-kind	<u>Total</u>	<u>Status</u>
USGS	\$0	\$38,992	\$38,992	Secured
Colorado River Water Conservation District	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	Secured
Meeker Sanitation	\$3,500	\$0	\$3,500	Secured
Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	Secured
Town of Meeker	\$8,000	\$0	\$8,000	Secured
White River Conservation District	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	Secured
Trout Unlimited	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	Secured
Walton Foundation	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	Secured
Elk Creek Ranch	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	Secured
<u>Trout Unlimited – Steamboat Springs Chapter</u>	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	Secured
Sub-total	\$90,500	\$38,992	\$129,492	

## **Funding Summary/Matching Funds:**

2019 Funding Sources	<u>Cash</u>	In-kind	<u>Total</u>	<u>Status</u>
USGS	\$0	\$51,029	\$51,029	Secured
Local Governments	\$21,000	\$0	\$21,000	Pending
Private Parties	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	Pending
Colorado State Conservation Board	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000	Secured
Sub-total	\$71,000	\$51,029	\$122,029	
Yampa-White-Green Basin Account	\$41,000	\$0	\$41,000	Secured
Sub-total	\$112,000	\$51,029	\$163,029	
2020 Funding Sources	Cash	In-kind	<u>Total</u>	<u>Status</u>
USGS	\$0	\$62,739	\$62,739	Secured
Local Governments	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	Pending
Private Parties	\$19,000	\$0	\$19,000	Pending
Colorado State Conservation Board	\$15,000	\$0	\$15,000	Secured
CWCB Water Plan Grant	\$66,000	\$0	\$66,000	Pending
Sub-total	\$120,000	\$62,739	\$182,739	
Yampa-White-Green Basin Account	\$33,000	\$0	\$33,000	Secured
Sub-total	\$153,000	\$62,739	\$215,739	
2021 Funding Sources	<u>Cash</u>	In-kind	<u>Total</u>	<u>Status</u>
USGS	\$0	\$29,787	\$29,787	Secured
Local Governments	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	Pending
Private Parties	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	Pending
Sub-total	\$10,000	\$29,787	\$39,787	
Yampa-White-Green Basin Account	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	Secured
Sub-total	\$35,000	\$29,787	\$64,787	
Total 2018-2021 Match Funding Sources	<u>Cash</u>	In-kind	<u>Total</u>	
	<b>Match</b>	<u>Match</u>		
2018	\$90,500	\$38,992	\$129,492	
2019	\$71,000	\$51,029	\$122,029	
2020	\$120,000	\$62,739	\$182,739	
2021	\$10,000	\$29,787	\$39,787	
Sub-total	\$291,500	\$182,547	\$474,047	
WSRF Yampa-White-Green Basin Account	\$99,000	\$0	\$99,000	
Total	\$390,500	\$182,547	\$573,047	
Total 2018-2021 Match Summary				
<u>Status</u>	Cash & In-kind			
Secured Match	\$303,347			
Pending Match	\$171,000			
Secured (WSRF)	\$99,000			
Total	\$573,047			
Yearly WSRF Funding Distribution				
2019	\$41,000			
2020	\$33,000			
2021	\$25,000			
Total	\$99,000			

**CWCB Project Manager:** Craig Godbout





October 2, 2018

Craig Godbout Colorado Water Conservation Board 1313 Sherman St., Room 718 Denver, CO 80203

Dear Craig Godbout,

At our September 12th meeting, the Yampa White Green Basin Roundtable (YWG BRT) voted to approve the funding of the White River Algae grant request. The motion, to fund \$99,000 from the basin account, passed the membership with unanimous support.

At the meeting, Callie Hendrickson presented to the Roundtable on behalf of the White River and Douglas Creek Conservation Districts and reviewed the algae problem and the history of the project. Ms. Hendrickson explained that a technical advisory group was formed in the fall of 2017 to monitor the White River's algae problem and to develop a scope of work. This effort will assist with providing a complete understanding of why the excessive amount of benthic algae is occurring in the White River, and is being implemented by the USGS. The project, as you will note in the application, has extensive financial and organizational support. It is a model of collaboration and much time and consideration has been put into creating a thorough scope of work.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, and thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely **Jackie Brown** 

Yampa White Green Basin Roundtable, Chair