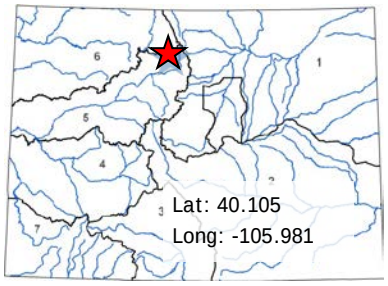
COLORADO
Colorado Water Conservation Board
Department of Natural Resources

Colorado River Connectivity Channel
Windy Gap Water Activity Enterprise
July 2020 Board Meeting

Water Plan Grant Application

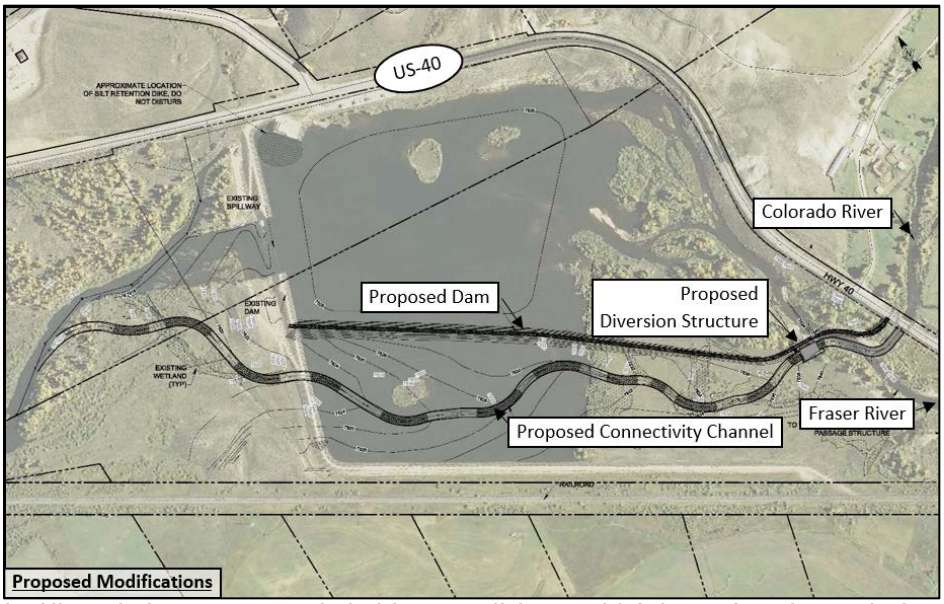


LOCATION	
County/Counties:	Grand
Drainage Basin:	Colorado

DETAILS	
Total Project Cost:	$18,034,000
Water Plan Grant Request:	$2,400,000
Recommended amount:	$735,213
Other CWCB Funding (Sev Tax Grant and previous CWP Env & Rec Grant):	$2,200,000 $325,237
Other Funding Amount:	$2,285,000
Applicant Match:	$5,154,163
Project Type(s): Construction, IPP	
Project Category(Categories): Environment and Recreation	
Measurable Result: 48,000 acre-feet new annual water supplies conserved, 5,280 linear feet restored stream	

The Windy Gap Enterprise was created in 1993 to operate the Windy Gap Project and owns all assets of the Windy Gap Project.

The Colorado River Connectivity Channel Project will construct a new connectivity channel from the confluence of the Colorado and Fraser Rivers above the reservoir to the Colorado River downstream of the dam, reconnecting the Colorado River and its habitat upstream and downstream of the Windy Gap Reservoir, while maintaining Windy Gap Dam and pump plant operations.



The project is expected to significantly improve aquatic habitat conditions, which have deteriorated after the construction of the Windy Gap Dam for trans-mountain diversions that supply water to Northern Colorado and the Front Range. Evaluation of the feasibility of the project was required as part of the CWCB-approved Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Plan for the Windy Gap Firming Project. The project will further the Colorado River Habitat Restoration Project's goal to restore aquatic life downstream of the reservoir. Sponsored by partners with very diverse interests and a long history of conflict, the project is the linchpin that connects regional restoration efforts in the headwaters of the Colorado River and provides a model for watershed cooperation to preserve river health, while at the same time serving future water supply needs.

Requested CWP Grant funds will be used for the final design and construction phases of the project.

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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	Anna.Mauss@state.co.us
Conservation, Land Use Planning	Kevin.Reidy@state.co.us
Engagement & Innovation Activities	Ben.Wade@state.co.us
Agricultural Projects	Alexander.Funk@state.co.us
Environmental & Recreation Projects	Chris.Sturm@state.co.us

FINAL SUBMISSION: Submit all application materials in one email to *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	Windy Gap Water Activity Enterprise (Municipal Subdistrict, Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District)
Name of Water Project	Colorado River Connectivity Channel (aka Windy Gap Bypass)

CWP Grant Request Amount	$ 2,400,000
Other Funding Sources NRCS (via Trout Unlimited)	$ 5,669,600
Other Funding Sources CWCB Sev Tax Grant	$ 2,200,000
Other Funding Sources Various (*See attached Funding Breakdown Exhibit*)	$ 2,610,237
Applicant Funding Contribution	$ 5,154,163
Total Project Cost	$ 18,034,000

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Applicant & Grantee Information	
Name of Grantee(s): Windy Gap Water Activity Enterprise (a government-owned business within the meaning of Article X Section 20(2)(d) of the Colorado Constitution, organized pursuant to C.R.S. § 37-45.1-101 et seq. and owned by the Municipal Subdistrict, Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District)	
Mailing Address:	220 Water Ave. Berthoud, CO 80513
FEIN:	23-7072612
Organization Contact:	Jeff Drager
Position/Title:	Director of Engineering
Email:	jdrager@northernwater.org
Phone	(970) 622-2333
Grant Management Contact:	Jonathan Hernandez
Position/Title:	Project Analyst
Email:	jhernandez@northernwater.org
Phone:	(970) 622-2283, cell: (970) 617-9337
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	Same as above
Mailing Address	
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	

Description of Grantee/Applicant

Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).

Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District (Northern Water) is a public agency created in 1937 to contract with the federal government to build the Colorado-Big Thompson Project. The Municipal Subdistrict was organized as a subdistrict of Northern Water pursuant to the Water Conservancy Act in order to develop a water supply known as the Windy Gap Project. Today twelve municipalities, two water districts, and one power provider make up the Municipal Subdistrict.

The Municipal Subdistrict owns the following water activity enterprises: the Windy Gap Water Activity Enterprise (WG Enterprise) and the Windy Gap Firming Project Water Activity Enterprise (WGFP Enterprise). The WG Enterprise was created in 1993 to operate the Windy Gap Project and owns all assets of the Windy Gap Project. All 15 participants of the Subdistrict are in the WG Enterprise. The WGFP Enterprise was formed in 1999 for the purpose of constructing the Chimney Hollow Reservoir project which will provide dedicated east slope storage for Windy Gap Project water. Only the 12 entities that will benefit from the WGFP are part of the WGFP Enterprise.

This Project will make modification to existing WG Enterprise assets and is the financial obligation of all Windy Gap Participants, regardless if they are part of the WGFP. Accordingly, the WG Enterprise is the grantee and applicant for this water plan grant request.

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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.
	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)	
	Study
✓	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.. *Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):*	
	Conservation and Land Use Planning - Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning. *Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):*	
	Engagement & Innovation - Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website. *Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):*	
	Agricultural - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency. *Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):*	
✓	Environmental & Recreation - Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation. *Applicable Exhibit A Task(s): All*	
	Other	Explain:

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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.	
County/Counties	Grand
Latitude	N40° 6’ 17.99”
Longitude	E105° 58’ 52.95”

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 Colorado River Connectivity Channel Project (Project) will construct a new connectivity channel from the confluence of the Colorado and Fraser Rivers above the reservoir to the Colorado River downstream of the dam, reconnecting the Colorado River and its habitat upstream and downstream of the Windy Gap Reservoir while maintaining Windy Gap Dam and pump plant operations. The project is expected to significantly improve aquatic habitat conditions which have deteriorated after the construction of the Windy Gap Dam for transmountain diversions that supply water to Northern Colorado and the Front Range. Evaluation of the feasibility of the Project was required as part of the CWCB approved Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Plan for the Windy Gap Firming Project. The Project will further the Colorado River Habitat Restoration Project’s goal to restore aquatic life downstream of the reservoir. Sponsored by partners with very diverse interests and a long history of conflict, the project is the linchpin that connects regional restoration efforts in the headwaters of the Colorado River and provides a model for watershed cooperation to preserve river health while at the same time serving future water supply needs. Requested CWP Grant funds will be used for the final design (Task 2) and construction (Task 3) phase of the Project.

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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)	
48,000 AF firm yield	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive	
	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)	
5,280	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)	
	Efficiency Savings (indicate acre-feet/year OR dollars/year)	
	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)	
	Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms	
	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;)
This project is an enhancement project for the Windy Gap Firming Project (WGFP). The WGFP has been approved by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Grand County, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and endorsed by former Gov. John Hickenlooper and has support from several conservation groups such as Trout Unlimited. WGFP aligns with the objectives of the Colorado Water Plan which identifies additional water storage among the measures needed to meet the state's future demands. As an enhancement project for WGFP the Colorado River Connectivity Channel Project promotes watershed and environmental health in addition to providing enhanced recreational fishing opportunities. The broad support, notably including the state of Colorado's endorsement of the project, shows that this project aligns with Colorado's water values. The project demonstrates a commitment to collaboration as evidenced by broad funding support, addresses more than one type of need, involves multiple participants, included consultation with (and approval from) a broad set of local stakeholders and local governments both before and early in the regulatory process, and provided meaningful opportunities for input. The Project is specifically listed as a Colorado River Basin Roundtable IPP – Windy Gap Reservoir Bypass Project. The Project is needed to attain the goals of the Colorado River Habitat Restoration Project. The CWCB holds instream flow rights in the Colorado River downstream of Windy Gap Reservoir. The project will benefit the aquatic environment within the CWCB instream flow reaches.

The project will demonstrate sustainability through biological monitoring to be performed by, or under the direction of, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (Task 4).

Preliminary engineering performed by Tetra Tech demonstrated technical feasibility which is further being shown and proved through ongoing design and analysis (Task 1 and 2).

Based on current cost estimates, the project currently faces a financial short fall of $2,400,000. With a successful Water Plan Grant award of this amount, the project will then be fiscally feasible. The WG Enterprise understands the CWCB may in their discretion award a lesser amount of Water Plan Grant funds. If the CWCB approves an amount of grant funds less than the applied for amount, then the WG Enterprise commits to providing CWCB a revised budget showing how the shortfall will be overcome prior to the spending of any CWCB grant dollars.

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.

Colorado River Aquatic Resources Investigations Federal Aid Project F-237R-18, Division of Wildlife, R. Barry Nehring (2011) (evaluates impacts of Windy Gap Reservoir on downstream aquatic life and concludes reconnecting the river is necessary to restore lost aquatic habitat).

Windy Gap Firming Project Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Plan, adopted by the Colorado Wildlife Commission and the CWCB pursuant to C.R.S. 37-60-122.2 (2011) (provides for evaluation of Bypass and implementation of the Colorado River Habitat Restoration Project)

Moffat Collection System Project Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Plan, adopted by the Colorado Wildlife Commission and the CWCB pursuant to C.R.S. 37-60-122.2 (2011) (see above)

TetraTech's *Final Report, Windy Gap Reservoir Modification Study* (February 2015) and *Supplemental Report for the Windy Gap Reservoir Modification Study* (June 2017).

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.

The state legislature appropriated $2.2 million from the severance tax perpetual base fund for the CWCB to make a grant to the Municipal Subdistrict for this Project (see §39-29-109(2)(a)(I.5)(XII) C.R.S.). That grant contract has not yet been contracted but is reflected in the attached budgets.

Trout Unlimited (TU) received a water plan grant (CTGG1 2019-2233) in the amount of $325,327 to go towards design and administration of this Project. These funds have yet to be disbursed.

Between the two grants above, the percentage of CWCB funding for the Project is currently 14% ($2,525,327/$18,034,000). With a full award of $2.4 M under this application, total CWCB funds for the Project will be 27.3%.

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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.
Receiving CWCB grants may carry the potential for the Windy Gap Water Activity Enterprise to fall out of TABOR Enterprise status for the fiscal year in which funds are received. The Municipal Subdistrict is aware of this potential and does not anticipate adverse impacts should that occur.

Submittal Checklist	
✓	I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the Standard Contract.
Exhibit A	
✓	Statement of Work(1)
✓	Budget & Schedule(1)
✓	Engineer's statement of probable cost (projects over $100,000)
✓	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3rd Party Commitments(1)
Exhibit C	
✓	Map (if applicable)(1)
✓	Photos/Drawings/Reports
✓	Letters of Support (Optional)
	Certificate of Insurance (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.) (2)
	Certificate of Good Standing with Colorado Secretary of State(2)
	W-9(2)
	Independent Contractor Form(2) (If applicant is individual, not company/organization)
Engagement & Innovation Grant Applicants ONLY	
NA	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:	**January 24, 2020**
Name of Grantee:	Windy Gap Water Activity Enterprise (Municipal Subdistrict, Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District)
Name of Water Project:	**Colorado River Connectivity Channel (aka Windy Gap Bypass)**
Funding Source:	**Trout Unlimited (NRCS, CWCB Water Plan Grant, Colorado River Water Conservancy District, Upper Colorado River Alliance), WG Enterprise, Northern Water, CWCB Non-Reimbursable Investment Grant, Grand County Open Lands River and Trails**

Water Project Overview:

The Project involves the construction of a new connectivity channel (approximately a mile in length) that will reconnect the Colorado River upstream and downstream of Windy Gap Reservoir to allow for movement of fish, macroinvertebrates, and coarse sediments needed for aquatic habitat, and to improve stream temperature. The reservoir will be reduced in size, with a new dam to be constructed to separate it from the new channel. A structure to regulate flows into the reservoir will be installed. The channel will be constructed to mimic a natural channel and will include aquatic habitat features. In addition, the Fraser river gauge, upstream of the reservoir on the Fraser River will be improved to allow for upstream fish passage. The project is expected to significantly improve aquatic habitat conditions in the face of additional diversions through the Windy Gap Firming Project and Moffat Collection System Project. The new channel will be open to the public, providing a new amenity that will benefit recreation and the economy or a rural community.

Preliminary engineering has been completed for the project and the results are reported in TetraTech's *Final Report, Windy Gap Reservoir Modification Study* (February 2015) and *Supplemental Report for the Windy Gap Reservoir Modification Study* (June 2017).

Requested CWP Grant funds will be used for the final design (Task 2) and construction (Task 3) phase of the Project. The focus in 2020 will be completing the final design with construction beginning spring or summer 2021.

Project Objectives:

(1) Re-establish connectivity with upstream tributaries, expanding available habitat and range for fish, macroinvertebrates and other aquatic life,
(2) Re-establish transport of coarse sediment from the upstream river reaches past reservoir to alleviate downstream gravel depletion and armoring,
(3) Improve water quality by moderating water temperatures,
(4) Reduce nutrient loading by routing primary flows through the connectivity channel, and
(5) Reduce the transport of aquatic vegetation from the reservoir that has degraded downstream riverine habitats.

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Tasks
Task 1 –Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment
Description of Task:
The NRCS, as the lead federal agency, is initiating National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis in the form of a Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) to analyze impacts to the environment from this Project. A Plan-EA provides an analytic framework for managing efforts to both restore water quality in degraded areas and to protect overall watershed health. Work under this task includes developing the Plan-EA document. **No funds are being requested under this grant application to complete Task 1.**
Method/Procedure:
The WG Enterprise contracted with McMillen Jacobs and Associates to provide consulting services related to the preparation and completion of the Plan-EA document. The WG Enterprise contracted with AECOM to prepare a Comprehensive Engineering Evaluation which was done in inform sections of the Plan-EA document. The Plan-EA will comply with the Council on Environmental Qualitiy's regulations at 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508 which require an evaluation of potential environmental impacts associated with federal projects and actions and will be completed in accordance with NEPA and NRCS guidelines and standards.
Deliverable:
• Watershed Plan Environmental Assessment document (Pending), • Comprehensive Engineering Report (Submitted September 16, 2019), • Dam Breach Analysis and Hazard Classification Report (Submitted October 7, 2019), • Flood Hydrology Report (Submitted October 7, 2019), • Incremental Damage Assessment Report (Submitted October 7, 2019), • Emergency Action Plan (Pending), • Sedimentation Analysis Memorandum (Submitted August 27, 2019).

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Tasks
Task 2 – Final Design & Permitting
Description of Task:
Conduct final investigations, design and engineering to enable construction of the various components of the Bypass Project, including embankment dam, diversion structure, connectivity channel, and the Fraser River fish passage structure.
Method/Procedure:
The WG Enterprise contracted with AECOM to complete this task. AECOM's consulting contract covers the following subtasks: • Geotechnical Investigations • Surveying • Permitting Support and Regulatory Review (Clean Water Section 404, Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation, Cultural Resources, Floodplains, Grand County 1041 Permit) • Supporting Studies (Hazard Classification, Flood Hydrology, Design Seismicity) • Concept Design Refinement • Reservoir CFD Modeling • Dam Design • Diversion Structure Design • Connectivity Channel Design • Fraser River Fish Passage Structure • Contractor Coordination (Contractor Selection Support, Orientation Workshop, Risk Workshop, Innovation Evaluation) • Project Management, Meetings, and Contractor Coordination
Deliverable:
Geotechnical Report, Nationwide Permit #27 Application, SEO Hazard Classification Report, Flood Hydrology Report, Site-Specific Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Analysis Report, CFD Reservoir Modeling Report, 30%/60%/90% Design Drawings, Basis of Design Memo and Technical Specifications

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Tasks
Task 3 – Construction
Description of Task:
Construct the components of the Project including a new dam, diversion structure, connectivity channel, and Fraser River fish passage
Method/Procedure:
The WG Enterprise will select a qualified construction contractor through a Construction Manager/General Contractor (CM/GC) process. The CM/GC process will be used in order to foster innovation, mitigate risk, improve design quality, improve cost control, and optimize construction schedules. The CM/GC process will occur in two phases. The fist contract phase occurs during design where a contractor is selected through a competitive process to serve as the Construction Manager (CM) during design. This allows the selected contractor to work with the designer and the WG Enterprise to identify risks, provide costs projections, and refine the project schedule. Once the design phase is complete, the contractor and WG Enterprise will negotiate on the price for the construction contract. If all parties agree with costs then the CM will become the General Contractor (GC) for the second contract phase which is the construction phase. If all parties can not come into agreement with cost, the project will proceed with a competitive bid process to select the construction contractor. The selected Contractor will be responsible for means and method of construction and for obtaining all applicable construction related permits.
Deliverable:
Final Construction Report and As-Built Drawings

Last Updated: July 2019

Tasks
Task 4 – Biological Monitoring
Description of Task:
Project outcomes will be evaluated by comparing baseline conditions with post-project conditions. **No funds are being requested under this grant application to complete Task 4.**
Method/Procedure:
The WG Enterprise will work directly with Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) staff to develop a monitoring plan. CPW staff or a consultant working under the direction of CPW staff will perform the work under this task. As part of this task, the Subdistrict has entered into an IGA with CPW for a Fish Movement Study to monitor the movement of fish above and below Windy Gap Reservoir before and after the connectivity channel is constructed. The study will install antennas above and below the reservoir to monitor fish with PIT tags inserted in target fish species. The study will monitor at least 2 years before and after construction of the connectivity channel. The Subdistrict has contributed $190,000 to CPW for this study with an additional contribution of $116,000 in 2020. It is also anticipated that additional CPW monitoring will include electrofishing operations to evaluate changes in fish growth, abundance, and species composition in the post-bypass environment, and macroinvertebrate evaluations to see how the bypass affects aquatic insect life, and how species abundance and composition progresses through time. The newly constructed connectivity channel will be monitored annually for the first five years and after significant flood events. Ocular surveys will be conducted of the channel banks, treatment (wood, rock and vegetated), instream structures, overbanks and the diversion structure. Monitoring cross sections will be established with end points to survey during the monitoring period to assess lateral stability, degradation and aggradation. Vegetation will be inspected following the first full growing season and then yearly thereafter. Photo points will be established and used for photo documentation of site conditions in the channel and on the floodplain overbanks.
Deliverable:
Monitoring plan as part of the Final Report

Last Updated: July 2019

Tasks
Task 5 – TU Administration
Description of Task:
Trout Unlimited (TU) is managing multiple grants and funding sources for this project. Administration by TU is needed to process payment requests and coordinate grant reporting requirements for grants secured by TU. **<u>No funds are being requested under this grant application to complete Task 5</u>.** (The WG Enterprise will provide administration of this Water Plan Grant and will be the responsible for providing required 6-month and final reports for this Water Plan Grant.)
Method/Procedure:
TU staff will: • Oversee grant implementation and payments to consultants to complete the work • Coordinate in-kind work to be conducted by the partners • Coordinate NEPA and permitting • Coordinate Grant Reporting
Deliverable:
Delivery of reports outlined above

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.

Reporting Requirements

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.

Final Report: At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a Final Report on the applicant's letterhead that:

- 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.

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.

Payment

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.

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.

Performance Measures

Performance measures for this contract shall include the following:
(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.
(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.

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Performance Measures
(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. (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.

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Water Plan Grant - Exhibit B
Budget and Schedule

Prepared Date: January 24, 2020

Name of Applicant: Windy Gap Water Activity Enterprise (Municipal Subdistrict, Norther Colorado Water Conservancy District)

Name of Water Project: Colorado River Connectivity Channel (aka Windy Gap Bypass)

Project Start Date: March 2018

Project End Date: October 2027

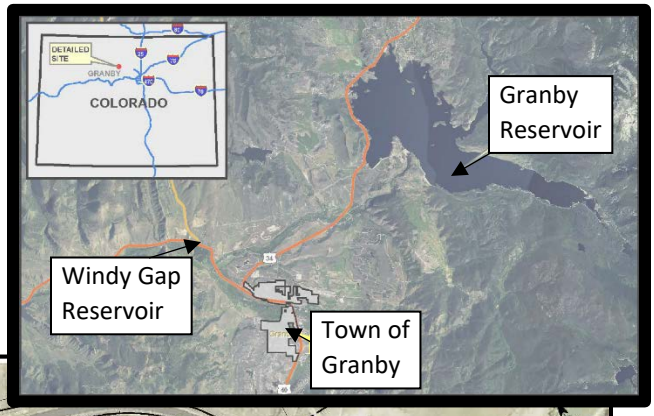
Task No.	Task Description	Task Start Date	Task End Date	Grant Funding Request	Match Funding	Total
1	Watershed Plan and Env. Assessment	March 2018	Sept 2020	$0	$520,000	$520,000
2	Final Design & Permitting	December 2019	June 2021	$735,213	$1,307,787	$2,043,000
3	Construction	May 2021	October 2022	$1,664,787	$13,360,213	$15,025,000
4	Biological Monitoring	October 2019	October 2027	$0	$306,000	$306,000
5	TU Administration	March 2018	October 2027	$0	$140,000	$140,000
			Total	$2,400,000	$15,634,000	$18,034,000

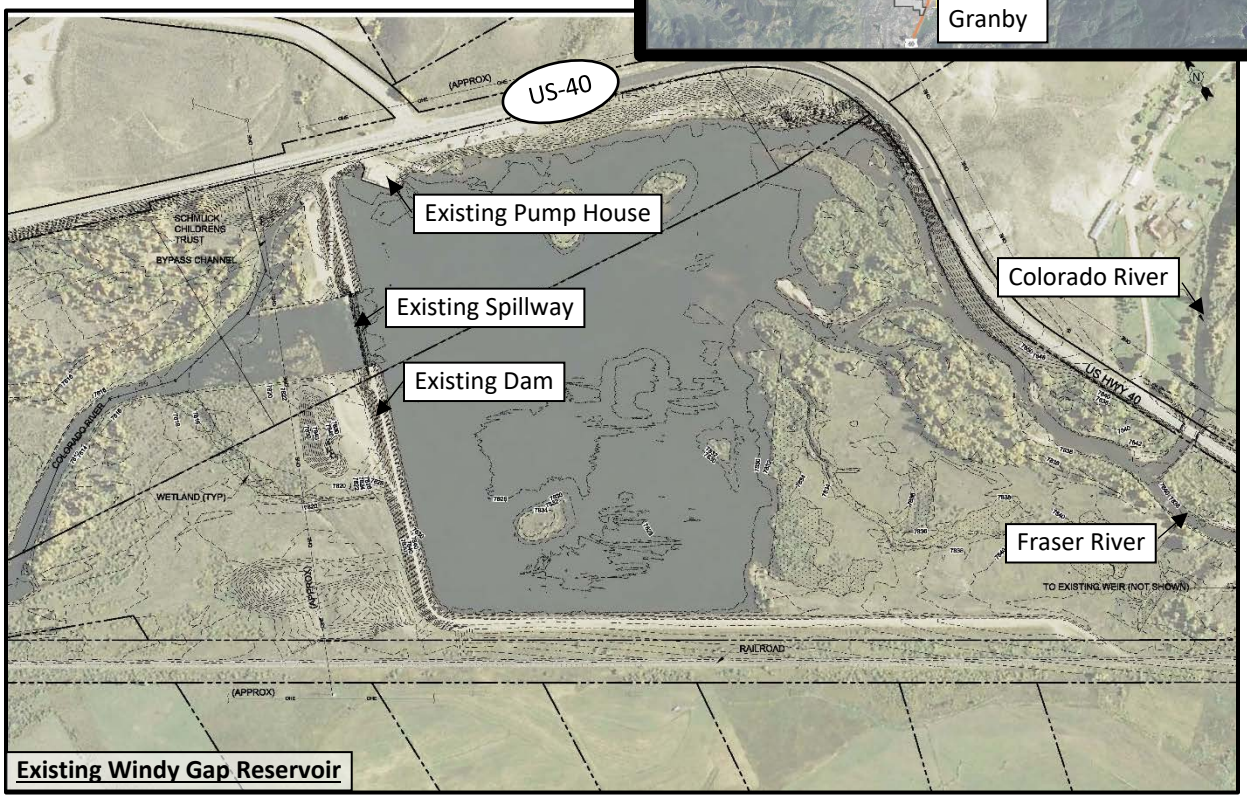
Notes: Task 2 Match Funding includes $286,287 in Water Plan Grant CTGG1 2019-2233 awarded to TU for this project. Together with this grant request, CWCB would pay 50% of Task 2 costs ($286,287 + $735,213 = 1,021,500).

Task 3 Match Funding includes $2,200,000 in CWCB Severance Tax Grant funding (see §39-29-109(2)(a)(I.5)(XII) C.R.S.)

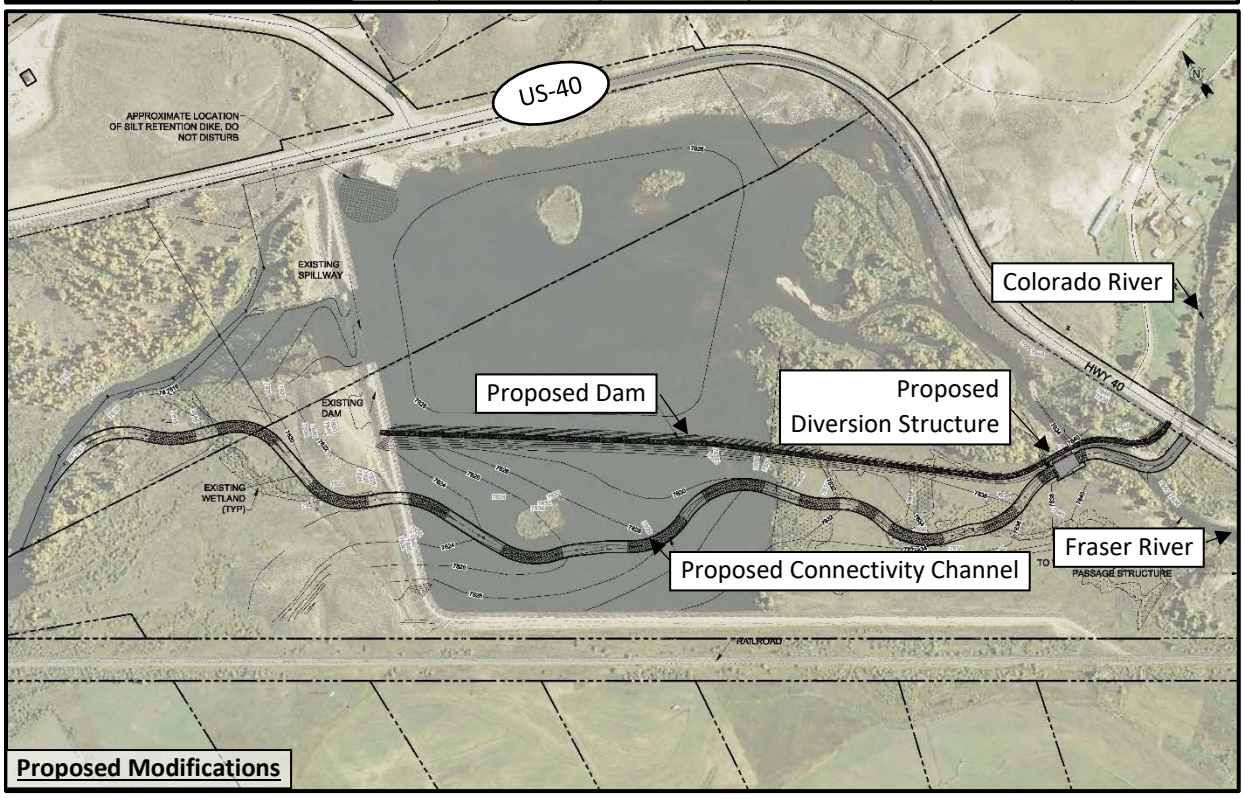
Exhibit C

Project Map

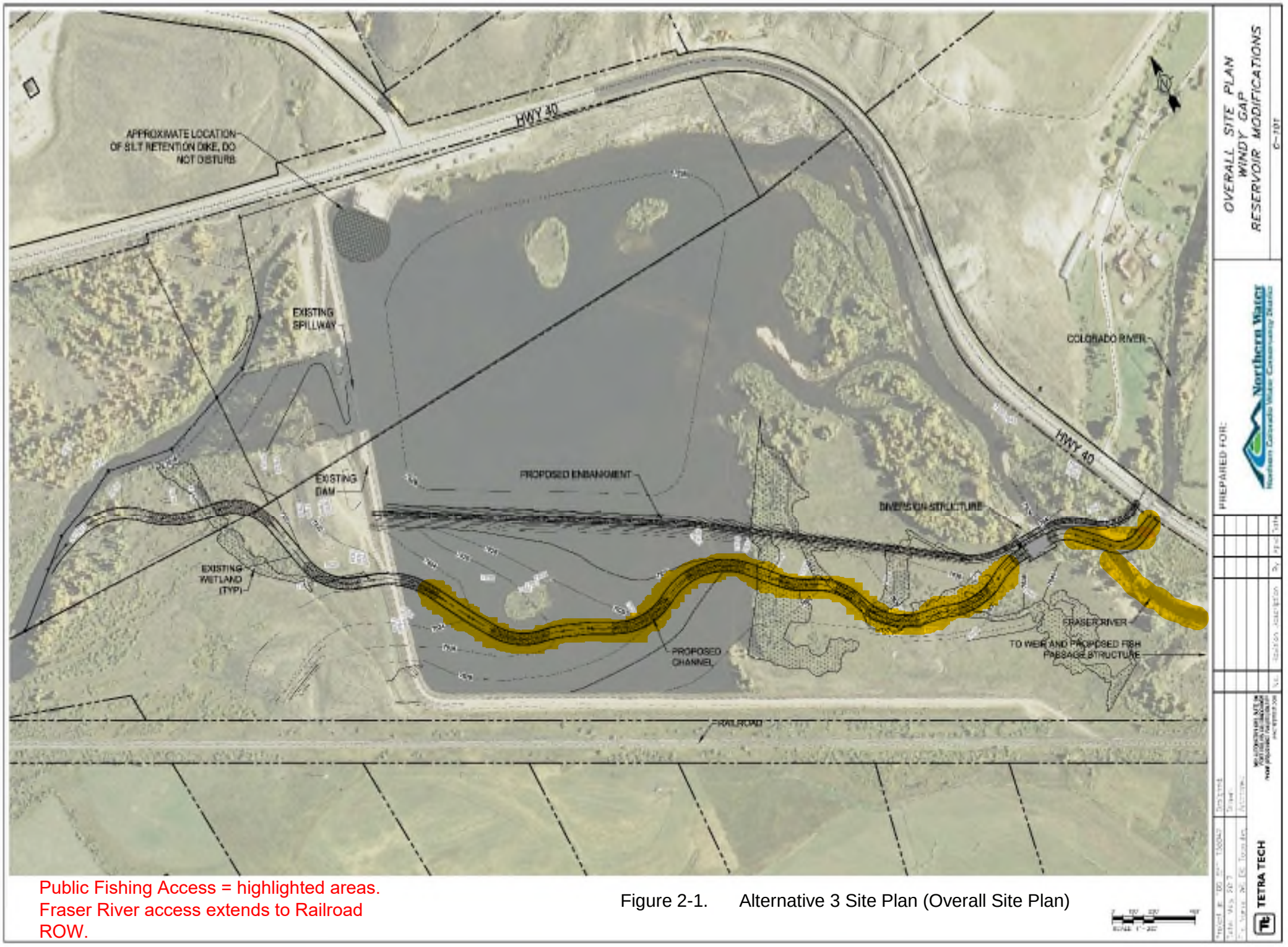




Existing Windy Gap Reservoir



Proposed Modifications



Public Fishing Access = highlighted areas. Fraser River access extends to Railroad ROW.

Figure 2-1. Alternative 3 Site Plan (Overall Site Plan)

January 31, 2020

Colorado Water Conservation Board
C/O Chris Sturm
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203
Via email chris.sturm@state.co.us

Re: Colorado River Connectivity Channel Grant Application

Dear Mr. Sturm,

Trout Unlimited is proud to be a partner in the Colorado River Connectivity Channel Project, a project that brings together western and eastern slope former adversaries to improve the health of our name-sake river. Our partner Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District has submitted a Water Plan Grant application to help bridge the estimated $2.7 million gap in funding to build the project.

I am writing to express Trout Unlimited's support for the project and to outline the matching funds that have been committed so far to make the project a reality.

In this regard, the following cash contributions have been committed to the project:

- National Resources Conservation Services (NRCS): $5,669,600
- Anonymous Landowner Donor(s): $1,000,000
- Colorado River Water Conservation District: $25,000
- Upper Colorado River Alliance: $260,000
- CWCB Water Plan Grant CTGG1 2019-2233: $325,237

Thank you for considering Northern Water's funding request.

Best regards,

Amelia S Whiting

Amelia (Mely) Whiting
Legal Counsel, Trout Unlimited

From:	Edward Moyer
To:	"Mely Whiting"; "Lurline Curran"; "Bud Isaacs"; "Jason Turner"; Jeff Drager; "Lori Martin"; jon.ewert; travis.bray@denverwater.org; Keith Stagg; "Steven Bushong"; "Paul Bruchez"
Subject:	Windy Gap Reservoir Modification and Connectivity Channel - Funding
Date:	Tuesday, April 24, 2018 2:58:05 PM
Importance:	High

All,

The Grand County Open Lands, Rivers and Trails – Advisory Committee made a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners to fund the project (connectivity channel, dam embankment work, upriver fish passage, and public access) in the amount of **$1,000,000.00** at this time. The BOCC officially approved the funding this afternoon! This funding was based on monies currently in the fund at this time, as they couldn't earmark finds they had not received. The OLRT Committee is hopeful the $1M will leverage additional project funding. This doesn't preclude us going back and asking for additional funding in the future.

Thank you to the BOCC, as well as Paul Bruchez and OLRT Committee.

Lastly, thanks to all project partners for providing and coordinating letters of support and reviewing the application.

One step closer.

Ed

Edward T. Moyer

Assistant County Manager

Grand County Colorado

PO Box 264 / 308 Byers Avenue

Hot Sulphur Springs, CO 80451

Office: (970) 725-3102

Cell: (970) 531-7799

www.co.grand.co.us

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 4, 2015

The Honorable Sally Jewell
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Jewell:

We write to express our support for the Windy Gap Reservoir Modification project in Grand County, Colorado. As described in the attached letter, a broad coalition of citizens, governments, and water providers in the Upper Colorado River Basin support this "Bypass Project." This community-based project is a prime example of Colorado's leadership in creative and collaborative watershed management. Its completion would result in more consistent flows, improved river health, and expanded recreational opportunities.

It is our understanding that the proponents have made great progress in identifying funding sources for the project, but are still seeking additional support to begin construction. While we recognize that this is not a federal effort, we encourage the Department of Interior to support this collaborative, community-based project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator

Cory Gardner
United States Senator

Jared Polis
United States Representative

CORY GARDNER
COLORADO

SUITE SR-354
SENATE RUSSELL OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-5941

United States Senate

COMMITTEES:
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
FOREIGN RELATIONS
SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

September 15, 2016

Ms. Jason Weller, Chief
Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave SW #5105-A
Washington, DC 20250

RE: Colorado River Headwaters Project Grant Application for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

Dear Chief Weller:

On behalf of Colorado River Headwaters Project supporters, I am writing to ask for your full and fair consideration of its application to the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Regional Conservation Partnership Program.

The headwaters of the Colorado River are a vital water resource for the entire State of Colorado and all of the Western United States. As water resource projects have been put into place over the past century, there have been concerns raised about the quality of the water flowing naturally down the river.

In collaboration with municipal, conservation, and agricultural organizations, the Colorado River Headwaters Project will address the four priorities for the region: streamflow, water quality degradation, soil degradation, and fish and wildlife habitat.

Three main projects will support the Colorado River Headwaters Project: a bypass channel to reconnect the Colorado River, channel and habitat improvement downstream of the bypass, and targeted projects to improve irrigation and soil quality. Once implemented, this project will affect 30 miles of the Colorado River, and 4,500 acres of irrigated lands.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Cory Gardner
United States Senator

COLORADO CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
ADVANCING THE LEGACY

8833 Ralston Road
Arvada, CO 80002
303.431.6422
info@coloradocattle.org

To Whom It May Concern:

The CCA is the nation's oldest cattlemen's association, representing Colorado's more than 14,000 beef producers, and has over 40 affiliates. CCA's membership consists of cow/calf producers, stockers/feeders, landowners, collegiate members, and business supporters; and CCA has been a leader and strong industry advocate for 149 years.

The Colorado River Headwaters Project addresses four priorities for the Colorado River Basin that will help not only the local communities, but also assist in restoring the headwaters of the Colorado River. The four key areas of the project are: insufficient water, decline in water quality, soil degradation, and the lack of substantial habitat for fish and wildlife. This collaborative effort is precisely the effort that we need to see in order to accomplish improvements dealing with water, our most valuable resource.

The broad support from the community, organizations, and water stakeholders is reassuring to us that this project will provide innovative solutions to benefit working lands and rivers, and will represent what can be accomplished through cooperation and creativity among those who use the water. According to the project summary "[w]hen fully implemented, the Project will directly benefit 30 miles of the Colorado River and 4,500 acres of irrigated lands that provide sage grouse habitat." A project that improves our resources, while benefiting fish and wildlife; coupled with the diverse stakeholders involved, seems to be a step in the right direction for the Colorado River.

Sincerely,

Tim Lehmann
CCA President

September 9, 2016

Mr. Jason Weller, Chief

Natural Resources Conservation Service

United States Department of Agriculture

1400 Independence Avenue, SW

Room 5105-A

Re: Colorado River Headwaters Project

ID #17-C-CO-1550

Dear Chief Weller,

The Farm Bureau of Middle Park supports the Colorado River Headwaters Project. The Producers involved in the ILVK project are active Farm Bureau members. We are excited to see our producers join with recreationists, conservationists, and our government on this Colorado River project. Completion of this entire project will help with fish and wildlife habitat as well as help the agriculture producers as well as local shop owners and recreation companies stay in business along the Colorado River in Grand County.

Sincerely,

Wendy Thompson

Wendy Thompson, President

Farm Bureau of Middle Park

Middle Park Stockgrowers Association

PO Box 161, Granby, CO 80446
970.531.0127 mpstockgrowers@gmail.com

September 15, 2015

RE: RCPP ID #17-C- CO-1550 Colorado River Headwaters Project (CRHP)

To Whom It May Concern:

The Middle Park Stockgrowers Association was the very first stockgrowers association to establish in the State of Colorado in the year1874. Ever since, we have been working with the local community, as well as state and federal agencies, to maintain sustainable agricultural production in Grand and Summit Counties. Many of our stockgrowers members rely on the Colorado River to irrigate their hayfields and water their stock. In fact, most of the 12 ranchers involved in the ILVK Project (one of the three focus areas of the CRHP) are members of the Middle Park Stockgrowers Association.

We believe ranchers are some of the best stewards of the land and that maintaining a strong agricultural presence across the landscape will contribute to the long-term conservation of natural resources in Middle Park and beyond. Not only will the CRHP help to maintain agriculture in Middle Park, it will also improve the river health and flow so that downstream ag producers can also benefit from that water that originates right here in Grand County.

For this reason, we support the Colorado River Headwaters Project and hope you will consider it for RCPP funding.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors
Middle Park Stockgrowers Association

Kaitlin Miller,
Secretary MPSG