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Colorado Water Conservation Board
Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant Application

Instructions
<p>All WSRF grant applications shall conform to the current 2020 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines.</p> <p>To receive funding from the WSRF, a proposed water activity must be recommended for approval by a Roundtable(s) AND the approved by the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). The process for roundtable consideration and recommendation is outlined in the 2020 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines. The CWCB meets bimonthly.</p> <p>If you have questions, please contact the WSRF Grant Program Manager (for all Roundtables) or your Roundtable Liaison:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Ben Wade ben.wade@state.co.us 303-866-3441 x3238 (office)</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Sam Stein Sam.stein@state.co.us 303-866-3441(office)</p> </div> </div>

WSRF Submittal Checklist (Required)
<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> This request was recommended for CWCB approval by the sponsoring roundtable.</p> <p>YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> I have read and understand the 2020 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines.</p> <p>YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the Standard Contract.¹</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">Application Documents included:</p> <p>YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit A: Statement of Work² (<i>Word – see Template</i>)</p> <p>YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit B: Budget & Schedule² (<i>Excel Spreadsheet – see Template</i>)</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3rd Party Commitments² (Currently being gathered for future submission)</p> <p>YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Map²</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photos/Drawings/Reports</p> <p>YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Letters of Support</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">Contracting Documents³</p> <p>YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Detailed/Itemized Budget³ (<i>Excel Spreadsheet – see Template</i>)</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Insurance⁴ (<i>General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.</i>)</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Good Standing⁽⁴⁾</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> W-9 Form⁴</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Independent Contractor Form⁴ (<i>If applicant is individual, not company/organization</i>)</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Funds Transfer (ETF) Form⁴</p>

¹Click "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.



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

¹ If either the basin or statewide match includes matching funds from a pending Water Plant Grant, both must be submitted by December 1st deadline for March Board meeting review.

Water Activity Summary		
Name of Applicant	Mountain Studies Institute on behalf of the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership	
Name of Water Activity	San Juan Integrated Water Management Planning, Phase III	
Approving Roundtable(s)		Basin Account Request(s) ¹
Southwest Basin Roundtable		\$ 2,462
Basin Account Request Subtotal		\$ 2,462
Basin Account Request Subtotal Approved by Roundtable		
Statewide Account Request ⁽¹⁾		\$ 22,151
Total WSRF Funds Requested (Basin & Statewide)		\$ 24,613
Total Project Costs		\$ 122,451

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



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Grantee and Applicant Information	
Name of Grantee(s)	Mountain Studies Institute
Mailing Address	679 East 2nd Ave, Suite 8, Durango, CO 81301
FEIN	73-1644103
Grantee's Organization Contact¹	Marcie Bidwell
Position/Title	Executive Director
Email	marcie@mountainstudies.org
Phone	970-387-5161
Grant Management Contact²	Jeff Connors
Position/Title	Finance Director
Email	finance@mountainstudies.org
Phone	970-387-5161
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	Mandy Eskelson
Mailing Address	679 East 2nd Ave, Suite 8, Durango, CO 81301
Position/Title	Project Lead, Water Programs Research Associate
Email	mandy@mountainstudies.org
Phone	970-387-5161

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>Mountain Studies Institute (MSI) is a 501(c)(3) non-advocacy research and education institute, based in southwest Colorado since 2002. MSI's mission is to empower communities, managers, and scientists to innovate solutions through research, education and practice. MSI is the coordinator and fiscal sponsor for the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership (WEP), a group created for the purpose of exploring opportunities to work collaboratively for the benefit of all water uses in the San Juan Basin.</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



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Type of Eligible Entity (check one)	
<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

Type of Water Activity (check one)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Study
<input type="checkbox"/>	Implementation

Category of Water Activity (check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nonconsumptive (Environmental)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nonconsumptive (Recreational)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Agricultural	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Municipal/Industrial	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Needs Assessment	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education & Outreach	
<input type="checkbox"/>	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	Archuleta, Mineral
Latitude	37°16'10.05"N
Longitude	107° 0'35.14"W

Water Activity Overview
<p>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.</p> <p>The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit A, a detailed Statement of Work, Budget, and Schedule.</p>

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Water Activity Overview

The project area includes a subset of rivers and streams in Archuleta and Mineral counties, focusing primarily on the upper San Juan River from the Continental Divide to the confluence with Mill Creek. Additionally, the agricultural infrastructure analysis will expand to the Rio Blanco and Navajo River.

This project proposal will complete a three-phased process to develop a community-driven Integrated Water Management Plan (IWMP) for the upper San Juan River Basin. The Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) for the Southwest Basin Roundtable (SWBRT) specifically acknowledges an absence of information about environmental and recreational water supply needs and provides for the development of the missing information through basin-specific assessments. This project addresses this information gap, as well as assessments of agricultural infrastructure needs in the basin. Funding is requested to complete the last step in developing the needs assessment and identifying cooperative projects and processes that will meet multiple water needs, as contemplated in the BIP.

Specifically, this proposal will: 1) ensure stakeholder input and scientific analysis guide the planning and decision-making process, 2) expand an agricultural infrastructure needs inventory to the Rio Blanco and Navajo Rivers, and 3) identify and prioritize multi-benefit water projects in an Integrated Water Management Plan.

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)
		=SUM(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 (linear feet)
X	Other	Explain: Technical analysis and Integrated Water Management Plan for multiple water uses in the San Juan Basin, informed by local stakeholder groups, to identify needs, priorities, and collaboration opportunities.

Water Activity Justification

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).

For applications that include a request for funds from the Statewide Account, the proposed water activity shall be



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Water Activity Justification

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 [2020 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines](#)).

Completion of the IWMP will further the BIP's directive to develop information currently lacking in the BIP (Section 2.1) and promote collaborative approaches to address current and future water needs..

The Upper San Juan Integrated Water Management Plan, Phase III's alignment with goals of the Roundtable BIP and Colorado Water Plan are identified in Tables 1.1 and 1.2 below.

Table 1.1: Project Alignment with SW Basin Implementation Plan

GOAL	MEASURABLE OUTCOME	PROJECT-RELATED MEASURABLE OUTCOME
A. Balance all Needs and Reduce Conflict		
A1: Pursue a high success rate for identified specific and unique IPPs to meet identified gaps and to address all water needs and values.	Supports outcomes 1-5	Completion of this project will help the SWBRT address its own IPPs with respect to the upper San Juan River Basin. The anticipated IWMP is expected to identify opportunities for cooperative projects and processes that will benefit multiple water needs.
A2: Support specific and unique new IPPs important to maintaining the quality of life in this region, and to address multiple purposes, including municipal, industrial, environmental, recreational, agricultural, risk management, and compact compliance needs.	Supports outcomes 1-5	All phases of the Upper San Juan IWMP project have or will support these outcomes by identifying opportunities to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - protect valued areas and resources - maintain or improve water diversion/delivery infrastructure - gather current and relevant data - conduct a watershed assessment to better prioritize work to achieve those goals - provide information to support the San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership (IPP SWSJ-2015-0015) goal to protect critical water supplies in forested areas.
A4: Promote dialogue, foster cooperation, and resolve conflict among water interests in every basin and between basins for the purpose of implementing solutions to Southwest Colorado's and Colorado's water supply challenge (<i>SWSI 2010</i>).	Supports outcome 3	The steering committee and stakeholder groups of diverse water users established in Phase I continue to promote dialogue and foster cooperation among water interests, carried out by direct communication and public meetings. This dialogue covers stakeholders in the three watersheds: upper San Juan, Navajo and Blanco. The identified values, concerns, and areas of interest from these groups shaped priorities for the analysis and modeling in Phase II's watershed assessment. Inclusion and engagement with these groups will continue in Phase III to ensure the goal, objectives, and project priorities of the IWMP are driven by community input along with scientific analysis.



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Water Activity Justification		
A5: Maintain watershed health by protecting and/or restoring watersheds that could affect critical infrastructure and/or environmental and recreational values.	Supports outcomes 4-5	The IWMP and potential projects developed in Phase III will explore options to maintain or enhance watershed health, recreational opportunities, water efficiency, and safety improvement for agricultural infrastructure, and protection of valuable habitat.
B. Meet Agricultural Needs		
B2: Implement efficiency measures to maximize beneficial use and production.	Supports outcome 1	San Juan Conservation District's inventory will assist ditch companies, private landowners, and the WEP explore project options to improve infrastructure efficiency and help preserve agricultural and open space values, while respecting private property rights.
D. Meet Recreational Water Needs		
D1: Maintain, protect, and enhance recreational values and economic values to local and statewide economies derived from recreational water uses.	Supports outcome 3	Recreational water use and analysis from Phase II will offer insight into the recreational and economic values tied to water resources within the basin and where improvements may be implemented in the future. The WEP's partnership with the Town of Pagosa Springs (ToPS) and Colorado Parks & Wildlife has already identified several locations that may be incorporated into a ToPS River Corridor Master Plan to support the tourism economy and increase recreational options.
E. Meet Environmental Water Needs		
E1: Encourage and support restoration, recovery, and sustainability of endangered, threatened, and imperiled aquatic and riparian dependent species and plant communities.	Supports outcomes 1-5	The IWMP to be completed in Phase III will help characterize hydrological regimes and ecological integrity of river segments in the San Juan Basin to identify locations in need of protection or restoration of riparian and aquatic habitats.
E2: Protect, maintain, monitor, and improve the condition and natural function of streams, lakes, wetlands, and riparian areas to promote self-sustaining fisheries, and to support native species and functional habitat in the long term, and adapt to changing conditions.	Supports outcomes 1-5.	Completion of the IWMP will empower Basin communities to better understand current hydrological and ecological conditions and offer options on how best to adapt to changing conditions under different scenarios (i.e. drought, wildfire).
F. Preserve Water Quality		



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Water Activity Justification		
F1: Monitor, protect, and improve water quality for all classified users	Supports outcomes 1-2	The IWMP will use watershed assessment results and models to characterize river channel and streambank morphology that could be stabilized, restored for low flows, and reconnected to floodplains, which may assist with water quality concerns like flow levels, temperature, and turbidity.
G. Comply with Compact and Manage Risk		
G3: Preserve Southwest Basin's ability to develop CO River compact entitlement to meet our water supply gaps.	Supports outcome 3	The IWMP will identify potential improvements to agricultural irrigation infrastructure that will assist in fully utilizing Colorado water rights.

Table 1.2: Project Alignment with Colorado Water Plan

GOAL	PROJECT-RELATED MEASURABLE OUTCOME
D2: Encourage ditch-wide and regional planning to explore system-wide conservation and efficiency opportunities and tradeoffs, the potential for water sharing, and long-term infrastructure maintenance needs.	The IWMP will explore agricultural irrigation infrastructure needs in the area. Phase III will focus on the Blanco and Navajo basins.
F1: Watershed Health, Environment & Recreation Colorado's Water Plan sets a measurable objective to cover 80 percent of local priority rivers with stream management plans, and 80 percent of critical watersheds with watershed protection plans, all by 2030.	The IWMP includes a stream management plan assessing environmental and recreational water supply needs in the Upper San Juan River Basin. Further, this community-driven effort offers the opportunity for local prioritization of projects and values.
H1: Education, Outreach, and Innovation: Colorado's Water Plan sets a measurable objective to significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues statewide by 2020...[and] to engage Coloradans statewide on at least five key water challenges (identified by CWCB) that should be addressed by 2030.	By engaging a diverse group of local stakeholders, hosting several community meetings, and creating educational resources, the proposed project improves the level of both public awareness and engagement regarding water issues. Including local groups in the process of identifying values and establishing priorities provides support/buy-in and a route forward for an IWMP to address those values and fill critical data gaps in the basin.

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

Matching Requirements: Basin Account Requests

Basin (only) Account grant requests require a 25% match (cash and/or in-kind) from the Applicant or 3rd party and shall be accompanied by a **letter of commitment** as described in the [2020 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines](#) (submitted on the contributing entity's letterhead). Attach additional sheet if necessary.



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Matching Requirements: Basin Account Requests	
Contributing Entity	Amount and Form of Match (note cash or in-kind)
Total Match	
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 2020 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines . At least of 10% of the required Statewide Account Grant request match shall be cash from Basin Account funds whether that is from one or multiple basins; and the remaining 40% of the required match may be provided from any source, including other grants, cash from the Basin Account, or any combination of cash, in-kind services, or in-kind materials.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):
Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners	\$ 3,600 (cash, requested)
CWCB Colorado Watershed Restoration Program (Stream Management Planning)	\$ 49,225 (cash, committed)
Mountain Studies Institute	\$ 500 (cash, committed)
Pagosa Tourism Board	\$ 3,600 (cash, requested)
San Juan Water Conservancy District	\$ 2,000 (cash, committed)
Southwestern Water Conservation District	\$ 8,100 (cash, requested)



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Matching Requirements: Statewide Account Requests	
The Nature Conservancy	\$ 1,000 (cash, committed)
Town of Pagosa Springs	\$ 3,857 (cash, committed)
Trout Unlimited	\$ 2,000 (cash, committed)
Southwest Basin Roundtable WSRF Basin Account	\$ 2,462 (cash, committed)
In Kind – NRCS, Trout Unlimited, San Juan Conservation District, Steering Committee	\$ 23,956 (committed & anticipated)
Total Match	\$ 100,300

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.
Technical information and project opportunities developed through this project can inform the 2019 Analysis and Technical Update to the Colorado Water Plan and provide updates for the Southwest Basin Implementation Plan Goals and Measurable Outcomes, as well as identifying locally supported projects for the Southwest Basin BIP IPP list. Public outreach and education resources will support the Southwest Basin Roundtable's Education Action Plan and PEPO activities.

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
CWCP IPCP 2016: 1) Applicant: Mountain Studies Institute (MSI); 2) Water Activity Name: Invasive Phreatophyte Control Program: Animas River Invasive Species Removal Program Phase I; 3) Approving RT: Southwest Basin Roundtable; 4) SWBRT date: November 13, 2015; CWCB date: April 2016; 5) Contract number: CTGG1 PDAA 2016-1860; 6) Other CWCB funds: 0%; 7) Completion date: April 2018
WSRF 2016: 1) Applicant: Mountain Studies Institute (MSI); 2) Project Name: Animas River Community Forum, Phase I; 3) Approving RT: Southwest Basin Round Table; 4) CWCB Date: April 2016; 5) Contract number: POGG1 2016-794, POGG1 PDAA 20160000000000000794, 6) Other CWCB Funds: 0%; 7) Completion Date: September 2017
WSRF 2017: 1) Applicant: Mountain Studies Institute (MSI); 2) Project Name: Animas River Community Forum in the Southwest Basin, Phase II; 3) Approving RT: Southwest Basin Round Table; 4) CWCB Date: July 2017; 5) Contract number: CTGG1 2018-201, POGG1 PDAA 201800000201, 6) Other CWCB Funds: 0%; 7) Completion Date: April 2018
Colorado Water Plan 2018: 1) Applicant: Mountain Studies Institute (MSI); 2) Project Name: , Animas River Removal and Replacement of Invasive Phreatophytes, Phase II; 3) Approving RT: Southwest Basin Round Table; 4) CWCB Date: May 2018; 5) Contract number: POGG1, PDAA, 201900002100, 6) Other CWCB funds: 0% 7) Completion Date: August 2023



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Previous CWCB Grants

Colorado Water Plan- Innovation Fund 2018: **1) Applicant:** Mountain Studies Institute (MSI); **2) Project Name:** Silverton Science & Innovation Center (SSINC); **3) Approving RT:** Southwest Basin Round Table; **4) CWCB Date:** Nov 2018; **5) Contract number:** POGG1, PDAA, 201900002743, **6) Other CWCB funds:** 0% **7) Completion Date:** 2020

CWRP and WSRF 2018: **1) Applicant:** Mountain Studies Institute (MSI); **2) Project Name:** Watershed Grant Upper San Juan Stream Management Planning, Phase I; **3) Approving RT:** Southwest Basin Round Table; **4) CWCB Date:** 4/27/18; **5) Contract number:** POGG1, PDAA, 201800000886; **6) Other CWCB funds:** 20.7% **7) Completion Date:** 1/31/20

Colorado Watershed Restoration Program Grant 2019: **1) Applicant:** Mountain Studies Institute (MSI); **2) Project Name:** Animas River Removal and Replacement of Invasive Phreatophytes, Phase II; **3) Approving RT:** Southwest Basin Round Table; **4) CWCB Date:** 6/1/2020; **5) Contract number:** POGG1, PDAA, 202000003096, **6) Other CWCB funds:** 0% **7) Completion Date:** 12/1/2022

WSRF 2019: **1) Applicant:** Mountain Studies Institute (MSI); **2) Project Name:** Forests to Faucets (F2F): My Water Comes from the San Juan Mountains Teacher Training Workshop Series; **3) Approving RT:** Southwest Basin Round Table; **4) CWCB Date:** 4/4/19; **5) Contract number:** POGG1, PDAA, 201900002804, **6) Other CWCB funds:** 0% **7) Completion Date:** 01/31/22

WSRF 2019: **1) Applicant:** Mountain Studies Institute (MSI) on behalf of 416-Fire Aquatic Monitoring Research Group; **2) Project Name:** 416-Fire Aquatic Monitoring; **3) Approving RT:** Southwest Basin Round Table; **4) CWCB Date:** 4/4/19; **5) Contract number:** POGG1, PDAA, 201900002894; **6) Other CWCB funds:** 0% **7) Completion Date:** 5/1/22

WSRF 2019: **1) Applicant:** Mountain Studies Institute (MSI); **2) Project Name:** Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership (WEP) Multiple Use Project; **3) Approving RT:** Southwest Basin Round Table; **4) CWCB Date:** 10/10/19; **5) Contract number:** POGG1, PDAA 202000002332; **6) Other CWCB funds:** 25% **7) Completion Date:** 6/30/22

CWRP and WSRF 2020: **1) Applicant:** Mountain Studies Institute (MSI); **2) Project Name:** Upper San Juan Basin Integrated Water Management Plan, Phase II; **3) Approving RT:** Southwest Basin Round Table; **4) CWCB Date:** March 2020; **5) Contract number:** POGG1, PDAA, 202000003065; **6) Other CWCB funds:** 20.7% **7) Completion Date:** 5/31/22

WSRF 2020: **1) Applicant:** Mountain Studies Institute (MSI) on behalf of 416-Fire Aquatic Monitoring Research Group; **2) Project Name:** 416-Fire Aquatic Monitoring, Year 2; **3) Approving RT:** Southwest Basin Round Table; **4) CWCB Date:** March 2020; **5) Contract number:** POGG1, PDAA, 202000003020; **6) Other CWCB funds:** 0% **7) Completion Date:** 11/30/2021

Colorado Water Plan 2018: **1) Applicant:** Mountain Studies Institute (MSI); **2) Project Name:** WPG GF, Animas River Community Forum; **3) Approving RT:** Southwest Basin Round Table; **4) CWCB Date:** July 2020; **5) Contract number:** POGG1, PDAA, 202100002293, **6) Completion Date:** 6/30/2022

Colorado Water Plan 2020: **1) Applicant:** Mountain Studies Institute; **2) Project Name:** Animas River Removal and Replacement of Invasive Phreatophytes, Phase II Continuation and Strategic Mapping; **3) Approving RT:** Southwest Basin Round Table; **4) CWCB Date:** 7/30/2020; **5) Contract number:**

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POGG1,PDAA,202100002090; 6) Other CWCB funds: 30.6% 7) Completion Date: 9/30/2022

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

SOUTHWEST BASIN ROUNDTABLE'S EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE

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To assist the Roundtable in determining whether and to what extent a proposed project and/or process meets the values set forth in the By-Laws and goals of the Basin Implementation Plan, the following questions should be addressed separately as can reasonably be answered by the applicant. *Note: this is not an exhaustive list and additional questions may be asked of the applicant.*

- 1. What benefit(s) does the project provide? Are there multiple purposes? *Note: this does not mean that a single purpose project would be rejected, but for major funding requests, addressing multiple use needs would be an advantage.***

The three-part process of developing an Integrated Water Management Plan (IWMP) in the San Juan Basin serves multiple purposes by investigating water-related issues and exploring opportunities to benefit environmental, agricultural, recreational, and municipal water uses. Phase I established an engaged stakeholder group of representatives from diverse water user groups, which is now called the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership or WEP. This group provides critical feedback and local input into the entire project process, ensuring consensus-building, conflict resolution, and community buy-in.

Phase II provided a needs assessment to understand the hydrology of the project area; identify environmental and recreation water supply needs; inventory agricultural irrigation structural needs; model/map current and future areas of concern to prioritize; and develop a workplan for Phase III. Phase II assessment results will help stakeholders understand basin conditions and explore options and locations to make improvements (e.g. efficient and easier to use water delivery systems, restore riparian and aquatic habitat, enhance recreation opportunities). This analysis also incorporates forest health and climate change considerations to complement existing local workgroups and agencies (e.g. U.S. Forest Service, San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership) and prepare for potential future conditions involving wildfire and drought.

Phase III (subject of this funding request) will extend the agricultural infrastructure needs assessment to the Blanco and Navajo river basin areas and will finalize the IWMP with input from stakeholders and the community. Phase III deliverables will create education tools that highlight these efforts, identify prioritized actions/projects to address and benefit multiple water uses outlined in an IWMP, and compile project information into cutsheets (templates) ready for incorporation into the Identified Projects and Processes (IPPs) list for the Southwest Basin Implementation Plan (BIP).

By providing current data and identifying environmental and recreational water supply needs in conjunction with agricultural water values and infrastructure needs in the upper San Juan Basin, this project will assist the SWBRT in meeting its commitment to address a gap in information specifically identified in the 2015 BIP.

- 2. Outline the steps needed for completion of the project. What permit issues must be overcome? How will funds acquired in this process be used to accomplish the final goal?**

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Since its inception, this project has been organized into a three-phased process. Phase I established a steering committee and engaged the community to provide a locally-driven process in the development of the IWMP. Phase II assessed the project area's historical and current hydrology, ecological attributes, recreational water needs, and agricultural infrastructure systems to provide the technical information necessary to understand multiple water needs and uses in the Basin. Phase III (subject of this proposal) will extend the agricultural infrastructure needs assessment to the Blanco and Navajo river basin areas, will identify opportunities for cooperative multiple purpose projects, and will enable completion of the IWMP for the San Juan Basin.

Financial support to complete this planning process in Phase III will ensure that no gaps in funding delay the progress and momentum accomplished in Phases I and II. The final steps to complete Phase III of this project consist of (1) partnering with the San Juan Conservation District to extend their agricultural infrastructure needs assessment to the Blanco and Navajo River basins; (2) convening public meetings to gather input and offering education resources on the process to ensure stakeholder input and scientific analysis guide the planning and decision-making process; and (3) finalizing the IWMP, including identification of opportunities for cooperative projects and processes to meet multiple needs.

No permits are needed to complete the project.

3. **For prioritization of different proposals and assessment of the merits of the plan, can this project be physically built with this funding? Are further studies needed before actual construction is commenced (if the project anticipates construction)? Will these studies or additional steps delay the completion of the project substantially?**

N/A. This is a three-phase project to develop an IWMP that identifies opportunities for projects that further the BIP but does not in itself involve construction of a project.

4. **Does the proposal envision and anticipate financial or in-kind support from its beneficiaries or from other sources in addition to the funding requested here? Would a loan reasonably address the needs of the applicant or, with a grant, should a recommendation be added to assess the future project status for ability to repay a portion of the grant?**

Yes, cash and in-kind matching funds from state and local partners are being provided for the current funding request. A loan is not a possibility for this community-driven effort.

5. **What is the ability of the sponsor to pay for the project? What actions have been taken to secure local funding? Are there supporting factors which overcome the sponsor's inability to pay? Please provide a summary of the sponsor's financial health such as customer fee structure, mill levy rate, or other applicable information that demonstrates the sponsor's ability to pay for the project. (These could be related to basin water needs and compact considerations).**

The sponsor of this project is the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership (WEP), which is a volunteer group organized around the SWBRT's goal to better understand

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environmental and recreational water supply needs within the SWBRT's area and to identify opportunities to collaboratively meet those needs in conjunction with agricultural, municipal, and industrial needs. Because it is a volunteer group, the WEP partners with the Mountain Studies Institute to secure necessary commitment for matching contributions by participants.

Although it can be particularly challenging for smaller communities to gather enough matching funds for large IWMP processes, this project has been very fortunate to have received generous support in both Phases I and II from local governments (Archuleta County, Town of Pagosa Springs Town Council and Tourism Board), soil and water conservation districts (Southwestern Water Conservation District, San Juan Water Conservancy District, San Juan Conservation District), agencies (Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Division of Water Resources, U.S. Forest Service, Natural Resource Conservation Service), as well as local ranches, businesses, and community-based groups. Funding from these entities is currently being sought for the match to implement Phase III and complete the project.

6. What alternative sources of water or alternative management ideas have you considered? Are there water rights conflicts involving the source of water for the project? If yes, please explain.

The WEP will be looking at various opportunities for collaboration in improving water uses within the San Juan River basin, with consideration for alternative options for each area. No water rights conflict is anticipated.

7. Has there been public input solicited and is there local support for the project? Have the beneficiaries solicited funding, letters or other documentation to demonstrate support?

In Phase I, two public meetings were held in 2019 to introduce the WEP steering committee representatives; invite feedback on the community's water-related values, issues, information gaps, and geographic scope; provide updates on the stream management plan/IWMP process; offer educational sessions from guest speakers from CWCB; collaborate with other local groups Resilient Archuleta, Growing Water Smart Workgroup, San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership; and invite questions and input into the entire process.

In May 2020, Phase II's kick off meeting outlined partner and steering committee roles as well as the goals, tasks, and deliverables from the technical analysis and modeling performed by Lotic Hydrological and San Juan Conservation District. Participants were invited to provides feedback, identify known locations of interest or concern in a mapping activity, and asked to complete an online survey on community water-related values and priorities. Two subsequent public meetings in early 2021 will be held in Phase II to continue to receive community input, present final assessment results/findings, maps, and discuss potential next steps in Phase III.

In Phase III, regular steering committee meetings will discuss and bring forward constituent feedback to incorporate into the planning process. Additonally, stakeholder meetings will be broken down into two focused workshops within the first six months of Phase III, to gather

Last Update: September 18, 2020

key community decision makers and managers for initial discussions on IWMP goals, objectives and potential actions. This will provide initial example plans and lists to share with the general public for feedback on prioritization and alterations during the two remaining scheduled public meetings within the last six months of Phase III.

8. Is there opposition to the project? If there is opposition, how have those concerns been addressed? Identify any conflicts that may exist and how they will be addressed.

There is no known opposition to the project.

9. Does this project affect the protection and conservation of the natural environment, including the protection of open space? If yes, please explain.

The IWMP will help identify opportunities for collaboration to benefit multiple water uses, including environmental and recreational uses.

10. Are there impacts of the proposed action on other non-decreed values of the stream or river? Non-decreed values may include things such as non-decreed water rights or uses, recreational uses and soil/land conservation practices.

None that have been identified.

11. Does this project relate to local land use plans? If yes, please explain.

The project does not relate to local land use plans but may provide information that is helpful to land use planning.

12. Does the project depend on a conversion of an agricultural water right? If yes, please explain.

No.

13. Does the project support agricultural development or protect the existing agricultural economy? If yes, please explain.

Yes. The IWMP will provide an inventory and analysis of participating agricultural infrastructure systems in the upper San Juan, Blanco, and Navajo river basins, allowing water users and project partners to evaluate where deficiencies exist and propose possible improvements for both large agricultural ditches and private diversions. Project improvements could include updating aging or failing infrastructure, stabilizing streambanks near diversions, developing channels for different flow levels, etc. Improving water conveyance and irrigation capacities will improve the local agricultural economy and the ability to fully utilize Colorado's compact entitlements in the area.

14. Does the project optimize existing water rights and/or existing infrastructure? If yes, please explain.

Last Update: September 18, 2020

Yes. See answer to #13.

15. Does the applicant anticipate future funding requests to complete the additional components of this project? Does the applicant have a long term operation, maintenance and replacement plan? When was the last update of the plan?

Phase III is the final step and no additional funding requests are anticipated to complete the IWMP. However, additional funding may be requested to pursue opportunities, including multiple use projects, identified by the IWMP. The WEP is currently exploring options to partner with other organizations or agencies to leverage funding for project implementation in the future, once the IWMP is complete and projects prioritized.

16. Does this project have an education component? If yes, please explain how it is consistent with the Roundtable's Education Action Plan.

Yes. A challenge of the IWMP process is public engagement in abstract planning and complex topics and policies, such as the Colorado Water Plan. By offering multiple public meetings and steering committee meetings, Phase III will continue to bring in local and state experts to discuss project updates, share congruent efforts (e.g. Resilient Archuleta, San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership), and discuss what multiple use project opportunities have been identified for feedback. The technical analysis and assessment of Phase III will provide concrete examples and potential locations to more fully engage the community in the conversation.

Additionally, the WEP hopes to create education and outreach resources in Phase III to highlight the IWMP process and collaborative content from the San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership and other local partners. Mountain Studies Insititute will utilize their partnership with Fort Lewis College to supervise a college level, GIS-focused internship to create an ArcGIS StoryMap for the WEP. This will offer interactive learning tools for college students and the public to learn more about state and regional water issues, the San Juan Basin, and this projects efforts. Materials from the StoryMap can also be reformatted into printable or other digital formats to reach stakeholders with different outreach preferences and/or access.

SOURCES

[Colorado Water Plan: Critical Action Plan](#)

[SW Basin Implementation Plan, IPP Overview](#)

[SWCD: Goals and Measurable Outcomes for the SW Basin Implementation Plan](#)

**Water Supply Reserve Fund
Water Activity Summary Sheet
March 10-11, 2021
Consent Agenda Item 2(p)**

Applicant & Grantee: Mountain Studies Institute (on behalf of the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership)

Water Activity Name: San Juan Integrated Water Management Planning, Phase 3

Water Activity Purpose: Agricultural, Education & Outreach, Needs Assessment, Nonconsumptive (Environmental & Recreational) - Study

County: Archuleta, and Mineral

Drainage Basin: San Juan Basin

Water Source: Navajo, Rio Blanco, and San Juan Rivers

Amount Requested: \$2,462 Southwest Basin Account
\$22,151 Statewide Account
 \$24,613 Total Request

Matching Funds: Basin Account Match = \$2,462

- 11% of statewide request (meets 10% min)

Applicant & 3rd Party Match = \$97,838 (\$73,882 cash & \$23,956 in-kind)

- 441% of the statewide request (meets 10% min)

Total Match (Basin request & Applicant Match) = \$100,300

- 452% of the statewide request (meets 50% min)

Staff Recommendation:
Staff recommends approval of up to \$2,462 from the Southwest Basin Account and \$22,151 from the Statewide Account to help fund the project: San Juan Integrated Water Management Planning, Phase 3

Water Activity Summary: If approved, this project proposal will complete a three-phased process to develop a community-driven Integrated Water Management Plan (IWMP) for the upper San Juan River Basin. The applicant states the Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) for the Southwest Basin specifically acknowledges an absence of information about environmental and recreational water supply needs and provides for the development of the missing information through basin-specific assessments. The applicant believes this project addresses this information gap, as well as assessments of agricultural infrastructure needs in the basin. WSRF funding is requested to complete the last step in developing the needs assessment

and identifying cooperative projects and processes that will meet multiple water needs, as contemplated in the BIP.

This proposal will: 1) ensure stakeholder input and scientific analysis guide the planning and decision-making process, 2) expand an agricultural infrastructure needs inventory to the Rio Blanco and Navajo Rivers, and 3) identify and prioritize multi-benefit water projects in an Integrated Water Management Plan.

The project area includes a subset of rivers and streams in Archuleta and Mineral counties, focusing primarily on the upper San Juan River from the Continental Divide to the confluence with Mill Creek. Additionally, the agricultural infrastructure analysis will expand to the Rio Blanco and Navajo River.

Discussion: This project meets with several measureable outcomes in the Southwest Basin Roundtable's Basin Implementation Plan including maintaining watershed health, protecting and enhancing recreational and economic values, encouraging sustainability of imperiled aquatic and riparian dependent species and monitoring and improving water quality for all classified users.

Issues/Additional Needs: The applicant must secure matching funding prior to contracting. No other issues or additional needs have been identified.

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
Mountain Studies Institute	\$500	\$0	\$500	Secured
Archuleta Co. Board of County Commissioners	\$3,600	\$0	\$3,600	Pending
CWCB Watershed Restoration Grant	\$49,225	\$0	\$49,225	Secured
Pagosa Tourism Board	\$3,600	\$0	\$3,600	Secured
San Juan Water Conservancy District	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	Secured
Southwestern Water Conservation District	\$8,100	\$0	\$8,100	Secured
The Nature Conservancy	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	Secured
Town of Pagosa Springs	\$3,857	\$0	\$3,857	Secured
Trout Unlimited	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	Secured
NRCS, TU, SJWCD, Steering Committee	\$0	\$23,956	\$23,956	Secured
Sub Total Matching Funds	\$73,882	\$23,956	\$97,838	
WSRF Southwest Basin Account	\$2,462	\$0	\$2,462	Secured
WSRF Statewide Account	\$22,151	\$0	\$22,151	
Sub Total WSRF Funds	\$24,613	\$0	\$24,613	
Total Project Costs	\$98,495	\$23,956	\$122,451	

CWCB Project Manager: Andrea Harbin Monahan

SOUTHWEST BASINS ROUNDTABLE

C/O La Plata Archuleta Water District

PO Box 1377

Ignacio, Colorado 81137

November 20, 2020

Colorado Water Conservation Board
Water Supply Planning Section
WSRF Application
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, Colorado 80203

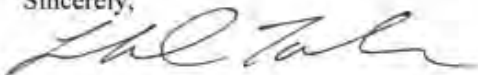
RE: Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership
WSRF Grant Request

The Southwest Basins Roundtable approved funding of \$2,462 from the Southwest Basins Roundtable account for the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership. In addition, we are recommending that the Colorado Water Conservation Board approve their request for \$22,151 from the Statewide account. This application was considered fully and approved by the Southwest Basins Roundtable at the November 19, 2020 meeting. There was a quorum of members present at the meeting.

The proposed project falls under IPP 1-MB of the Southwest Basins Implementation Plan. It also meets Measurable Goals or Outcomes of the Southwest Basins BIPs A1) pursue a high success rate for identified specific and unique IPPS; A2) support specific and unique new IPPs important to maintaining the quality of life in the region; A4) promote dialogue, foster cooperation and resolve water interests among water interests; A5) maintain watershed health by protecting and/restoring watersheds; B2) implement efficiency measures to maximize beneficial use and production; D1) maintain, protect and enhance recreational values and economic values; E1) encourage and support restoration, recovery and sustainability of endangered, threatened, and imperiled aquatic and riparian dependent species; E2) Protect, maintain, monitor and improve the condition and natural function of streams, lakes, wetlands, and riparian areas; F1) monitor, protect, and improve water quality for all classified users; and G3) preserve Southwest Basin's ability to develop Colorado River compact entitlement.

The completed Grant Application will be forwarded directly to you by the applicant. Please contact the applicant directly or me at 970-563-0320, etolen@laplawd.org, if you have questions or wish to discuss this application in more detail.

Sincerely,



Edward Tolen
Southwest Basins Roundtable Chair

ATTACHMENT E: LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Letters of commitment from contributing entities, regarding matching funds, are currently being gathered and will be submitted as soon as possible. Mountain Studies Institute and the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership understand letters of commitment are required and must be submitted before contracting with the Colorado Water Conservation Board.

Please find attached letters of support from the following organizations/partners:

- 1) Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners
- 2) Banded Peak Ranch
- 3) Colorado Parks & Wildlife
- 4) Colorado State University Archuleta County Extension Office/Resilient Archuleta
- 5) Pagosa Outside
- 6) San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership
- 7) Southwest Basin Roundtable
- 8) Southwest River Engineering
- 9) Town of Pagosa Springs
- 10) Trout Unlimited Five Rivers Chapter
- 11) The Nature Conservancy**
- 12) San Juan Water Conservancy District**

** Pending but expected Letters of Support/Matching Funds Commitment



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO**

P.O. Box 1507 / 398 Lewis Street / Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147
Tel (970) 264-8300

November 17, 2020

Mr. Edward Tolen
Chairman
Southwest Basin Roundtable
c/o La Plata Archuleta Water District
P.O. Box 1377
Ignacio, Colorado 81137

Dear Mr. Tolen:

Please accept this letter of support for the Mountain Studies Institute and the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership's (WEP) grant application for **Phase 3** of the Upper San Juan Basin Integrated Water Management Plan. Phase 3 will entail planning, design and implementation of the projects identified in Phase 2 of the Plan.

The BoCC is very supportive of the efforts of the WEP and finds significant value in better understanding our community's water usage and needs for all water users, including recreational, municipal, environmental and agricultural.

The BoCC is pleased to continue our support of this project into the next phase. Thank you for your consideration of their application.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Maez
Chairman



BANDED PEAK RANCH
-----EST. 1894-----

PO Box 159
Chromo, CO 81128
970.264.9268

November 4, 2020

Mountain Studies Institute
ATTN: Mandy Eskelson, Aaron Kimple
679 East 4th Avenue, Suite 8
Durango, CO 81301

Dear Ms. Eskelson and Mr. Kimple,

The Banded Peak Ranch supports Mountain Studies Institute's (MSI) application on behalf of the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership's proposed project entitled "San Juan Basin Integrated Water Management Plan, Phase III."

This project assists in meeting state, regional, and local goals to increase understanding of Colorado's water needs, identify gaps, and promote projects and processes to address those needs. The San Juan Basin contains the headwaters of the San Juan River and other major tributaries that contribute to the larger Colorado River System. Understanding water resources in this project area provides critical information to improve current and prepare for future conditions.

Phases I and II began identifying opportunities to sustain and improve water sources in the San Juan Basin based upon inventories and modeling of environmental, agricultural, and recreational water uses. Phase III will complete this planning process by utilizing the results from Phase II's watershed assessment in conjunction with community values to outline goals, objectives, and project priorities in an Integrated Water Management Plan.

The WEP will also develop education resources and outreach events to ensure stakeholders can easily understand and apply the findings from this plan to fund and implement projects to meet multiple water uses in the San Juan Basin.

The Banded Peak Ranch sits in the Navajo River Basin. This project will lead to a better understanding of the San Juan Basin and allow us to make appropriate conservation-oriented management decisions.

Sincerely,

Tim Haarmann
Banded Peak Ranch Manager
970.264.9269



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Southwest Region
415 Turner Drive
Durango, CO 81303
P 970.375.6732 | F 970.375.6705

November 4, 2020

Mountain Studies Institute
ATTN: Mandy Eskelson, Aaron Kimple
679 East 4th Avenue, Suite 8
Durango, CO 81301

Dear Ms. Eskelson and Mr. Kimple,

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) supports Mountain Studies Institute's (MSI) application on behalf of the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership's proposed project entitled "San Juan Basin Integrated Water Management Plan, Phase III."

This project helps meet state, regional, and local goals to identify the Upper San Juan River's water needs and gaps, and with stakeholder direction, will promote projects and/or processes to address important issues. The San Juan Basin contains the headwaters of the San Juan River and other major tributaries that contribute to the larger Colorado River System. Understanding agricultural, environmental and recreational needs in this project area, all three significant economic drivers for the Town of Pagosa Springs and southwest Colorado, is to understand how to prioritize projects that benefit the community and environment.

Phases I and II began identifying opportunities to sustain and improve water resources in the San Juan Basin based upon inventories and modeling of environmental, agricultural, and recreational water uses. Phase III will complete this planning process by utilizing the results from Phase II's watershed assessment in conjunction with community values to outline goals, objectives, and project priorities in an Integrated Water Management Plan.

The WEP will also develop educational resources and outreach events to ensure stakeholders can easily understand and apply the findings from this plan to fund and implement projects to meet multiple water uses in the San Juan Basin.

CPW is an active member of the steering committee. The steering committee is effective and representative of the myriad interests in water resources in the upper San Juan River. The early progress and diverse partnerships led CPW leadership to select a pilot project to partner with a national non-profit organization called The Great Outdoors Fund to crowdfund improvements to preserve and enhance primitive recreational access to a signature reach of the river. CPW is hopeful this campaign will highlight the benefits that public/private partnerships could have to improve, support and promote outdoor recreation.



CPW has enjoyed the dedication and consistency of the WEP from its inception. Your organization continues to do an excellent job facilitating the various interests of the Partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ryan Unterreiner', with a stylized, cursive script.

Ryan Unterreiner
SW Region Water Resources Specialist



Archuleta County

Extension

P.O. Box 370

Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147

(970) 264-5931

Robin.Young@colostate.edu

October 30, 2020

SOUTHWEST BASIN ROUNDTABLE

Edward Tolen, First Vice Chair

c/o La Plata Archuleta Water District

P.O. Box 1377

Ignacio, Colorado 81137

970-563-0320

Colorado Water Conservation Board

ATTN: Ben Wade

1313 Sherman St. Room 721

Denver, CO 80203

Dear Southwest Basin Roundtable and Dear CWCB Board Members ,

I am writing today in support of Mountain Studies Institute's (MSI) application on behalf of the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership's proposed project entitled "San Juan Basin Integrated Water Management Plan, Phase III."

This project assists in meeting state, regional, and local goals to increase understanding of Colorado's water needs, identify gaps, and promote projects and processes to address those needs. The San Juan Basin contains the headwaters of the San Juan River and other major tributaries that contribute to the larger Colorado River System.

Understanding water resources in this project area provides critical information to improve current and prepare for future conditions.

Phases I and II began identifying opportunities to sustain and improve water sources in the San Juan Basin based upon inventories and modeling of environmental, agricultural, and recreational water uses. Phase III will complete this planning process by utilizing the

results from Phase II's watershed assessment in conjunction with community values to outline goals, objectives, and project priorities in an Integrated Water Management Plan.

The WEP will also develop education resources and outreach events to ensure stakeholders can easily understand and apply the findings from this plan to fund and implement projects to meet multiple water uses in the San Juan Basin.

This project will impact Resilient Archuleta because we have direct communication with the public and can disperse information first hand to the community.

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely,



Robin Young
Resilient Archuleta
CSU Extension Director Archuleta County

October 30, 2020

SOUTHWEST BASIN ROUNDTABLE

Edward Tolen, First Vice Chair
c/o La Plata Archuleta Water District
P.O. Box 1377
Ignacio, Colorado 81137
970-563-0320

Colorado Water Conservation Board
ATTN: Ben Wade
1313 Sherman St. Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Southwest Basin Roundtable and Dear CWCB Board Members,

Pagosa Outside supports Mountain Studies Institute's (MSI) application on behalf of the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership's proposed project entitled "San Juan Basin Integrated Water Management Plan, Phase III."

This project assists in meeting state, regional, and local goals to increase understanding of Colorado's water needs, identify gaps, and promote projects and processes to address those needs. The San Juan Basin contains the headwaters of the San Juan River and other major tributaries that contribute to the larger Colorado River System. Understanding water resources in this project area provides critical information to improve current and prepare for future conditions.

Phases I and II began identifying opportunities to sustain and improve water sources in the San Juan Basin based upon inventories and modeling of environmental, agricultural, and recreational water uses. Phase III will complete this planning process by utilizing the results from Phase II's watershed assessment in conjunction with community values to outline goals, objectives, and project priorities in an Integrated Water Management Plan.

The WEP will also develop education resources and outreach events to ensure stakeholders can easily understand and apply the findings from this plan to fund and implement projects to meet multiple water uses in the San Juan Basin.

My business, our local economy, and the entire community directly benefit from this project. I will continue to enthusiastically support the WEP's efforts to promote processes and projects that identify, protect and enhance agricultural, municipal, environmental, and recreational water needs in the Pagosa area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tobi Rohwer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tobi" and last name "Rohwer" clearly distinguishable.

Tobi Rohwer
Managing Partner
Pagosa Outside

November 2, 2020

Mountain Studies Institute
ATTN: Mandy Eskelson
679 E. 2nd Ave, Suite 8
Durango, CO 81301

Mountain Studies Institute and Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership,

The San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership (SJHFHP) supports Mountain Studies Institute's (MSI) application on behalf of the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership's (WEP) proposed project entitled "San Juan Basin Integrated Water Management Plan, Phase III."

This project assists in meeting state, regional, and local goals to increase understanding of Colorado's water needs, identify gaps, and promote projects and processes to address those needs. The San Juan Basin contains the headwaters of the San Juan River and other major tributaries that contribute to the larger Colorado River System. Understanding water resources in this project area provides critical information to improve current and prepare for future conditions.

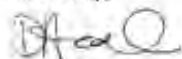
Phases I and II began identifying opportunities to sustain and improve water sources in the San Juan Basin based upon inventories and modeling of environmental, agricultural, and recreational water uses. Phase III will complete this planning process by utilizing the results from Phase II's watershed assessment in conjunction with community values to outline goals, objectives, and project priorities in an Integrated Water Management Plan.

The WEP will also develop education resources and outreach events to ensure stakeholders can easily understand and apply the findings from this plan to fund and implement projects to meet multiple water uses in the San Juan Basin.

The San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership directly benefits from this project because the research, project prioritization, science-based decision making, and on-the-ground work in the San Juan River Basin and the forest existing on the same landscape are inherently connected. From its inception, the SJHFHP has prioritized projects and elected to work across jurisdictional boundaries by considering the impacts of our work on watersheds and the water resources that serve our community and countless others downstream. For this reason, the SJHFHP consistently prioritizes and supports forest restoration projects that directly influence watershed and forest resilience. The creation of an Integrated Water Management Plan by the WEP would help to further inform prioritization and project efforts. Furthering education and outreach efforts of both groups by working together is also an attractive and important opportunity for the SJHFHP.

The SJHFHP and its members gladly offer support for the WEP's proposed Phase III San Juan Basin Integrated Water Management Plan project.

Sincerely,



Dana Hayward, SJHFHP Partnership Coordinator

SOUTHWEST RIVER ENGINEERING

November 3, 2020

SOUTHWEST BASIN ROUNDTABLE
Edward Tolen, First Vice Chair
c/o La Plata Archuleta Water District
P.O. Box 1377
Ignacio, Colorado 81137
970-563-0320

Colorado Water Conservation Board
ATTN: Ben Wade
1313 Sherman St. Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Southwest Basin Roundtable and Dear CWCB Board Members,

Southwest River Engineering supports Mountain Studies Institute's (MSI) application on behalf of the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership's proposed project entitled "San Juan Basin Integrated Water Management Plan, Phase III."

This project assists in meeting state, regional, and local goals to increase understanding of Colorado's water needs, identify gaps, and promote projects and processes to address those needs. The San Juan Basin contains the headwaters of the San Juan River and other major tributaries that contribute to the larger Colorado River System. Understanding water resources in this project area provides critical information to improve current and prepare for future conditions.

Phases I and II began identifying opportunities to sustain and improve water sources in the San Juan Basin based upon inventories and modeling of environmental, agricultural, and recreational water uses. Phase III will complete this planning process by utilizing the results from Phase II's watershed assessment in conjunction with community values to outline goals, objectives, and project priorities in an Integrated Water Management Plan.

The WEP will also develop education resources and outreach events to ensure stakeholders can easily understand and apply the findings from this plan to fund and implement projects to meet multiple water uses in the San Juan Basin.

Southwest River Engineering looks forward to assisting in the implementation of the goals identified in Phase I and II for the improved efficiency of water use in the southwest portion of the state.

Sincerely,



Chris Pitcher P.E.



102 THIRD ST. • PO BOX 5727 • PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO 81147 • PHONE: 970,264,1195 • CPITCHER@SWRIVER.COM



551 Hot Springs Boulevard
Post Office Box 1859
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Phone: 970.264.4151
Fax: 970.264.4634

October 30, 2020

Southwest Basin Roundtable
ATTN: Edward Tolen, First Vice Chair
c/o La Plata Archuleta Water District
P.O. Box 1377
Ignacio, Colorado 81137
970-563-0320

Colorado Water Conservation Board
ATTN: Ben Wade
1313 Sherman St. Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Grant Application Letter of Support

Dear Southwest Basin Roundtable Members:

On behalf of the Pagosa Springs Town Council, please accept this letter of support for the Mountain Studies Institute and the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership's (WEP) grant application for **Phase Three** of the Upper San Juan Basin Integrated Water Management Plan. Phase Three will entail planning, design and implementation of the projects identified in Phase Two of the Plan.

The Town Council is very supportive of the efforts of the WEP and finds much value in better understanding our community's water usage and needs for all water users, including recreational, municipal, and agricultural.

The Pagosa Springs Town Council is pleased to continue its support of this project into the next phase. Thank you for your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Volger", followed by a horizontal line.

Don Volger, Mayor



Five Rivers Chapter

October 30, 2020

Southwest Basin Roundtable
ATTN: Edward Tolen, First Vice Chair
c/o La Plata Archuleta Water District
P.O. Box 1377
Ignacio, Colorado 81137
970-563-0320

Colorado Water Conservation Board
ATTN: Ben Wade
1313 Sherman St. Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Southwest Basin Roundtable and CWCB Board:

On behalf of the Five Rivers Chapter of Trout Unlimited, I am writing to convey our support for Mountain Studies Institute's (MSI) proposed project "San Juan Basin Integrated Water Management Plan, Phase III."

As this project assists in meeting the Colorado Water Plan's goal of seeking to understand State water needs, identify gaps, and promote projects and processes to meet those needs, we feel this is an important next step to benefit all stakeholders.

We recognize that water use and availability in the San Juan River Basin are critical issues in maintaining the environmental and economic vitality of the area, and tourism and associated recreation are key elements of that vitality.

We understand this watershed assessment will identify opportunities to sustain and improve water resources in the San Juan Basin based upon inventories and modeling of environmental, agricultural, recreational, and municipal water uses. Current and future conditions and needs will be considered in conjunction with community values to develop a comprehensive and inclusive Integrated Water Management Plan.

We believe this concept proposal will facilitate continued public involvement in the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership's (WEP) effort in meeting the State of Colorado's Water Plan goal of promoting projects and processes to meet identified needs.

Respectfully submitted:

Frank (Buck) Skillen
President, Five Rivers Trout Unlimited