

COLORADO Colorado Water **Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

Last Update: September 18, 2020

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Supply Reserve Fund **Grant Application**

Instructions

All WSRF grant applications shall conform to the current 2020 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines.

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.

If you have questions, please contact the WSRF Grant Program Manager (for all Roundtables) or your Roundtable Liaison:

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

Sam Stein Sam.stein@state.co.us 303-866-3441(office)

| WSRF Submittal Checklist (Required) | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| YES⊐ NO□ | This request was recommended for CWCB approval by the sponsoring roundtable. | | |
| Yes⊐ no⊐ | I have read and understand the 2020 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines. | | |
| YES NOD | Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the <u>Standard Contract</u> . ¹ | | |
| | Application Documents included: | | |
| YES⊐ NO⊐ | Exhibit A: Statement of Work ² (Word – see Template) | | |
| Yes⊐ no⊐ | Exhibit B: Budget & Schedule ² (Excel Spreadsheet – see Template) | | |
| Yes⊐ no⊐ | Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ² | | |
| YES⊐ NO□ | Map ² | | |
| YES⊐ NO□ | Photos/Drawings/Reports – see map | | |
| YES⊐ NO⊐ | Letters of Support | | |
| | Contracting Documents ³ | | |
| YES NO | Detailed/Itemized Budget ³ (Excel Spreadsheet – see Template) | | |
| YES NO | Certificate of Insurance ⁴ (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.) | | |
| YES NO | Certificate of Good Standing ⁽⁴⁾ | | |
| YES NO | W-9 Form ⁴ | | |
| YES NO | Independent Contractor Form ⁴ (If applicant is individual, not company/organization) | | |
| YES NO | Electronic Funds Transfer (ETF) Form ⁴ | | |
| 0 | ¹ Click "Grant Agreements". For reference only/do not fill out or submit/required for contracting ² Required with application if applicable | | |

³ Additional documentation providing a Detailed/Itemized Budget maybe required for contracting. Applicants are encouraged to coordinate with the

CWCB Project Manager to determine specifics.

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



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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 | |
| Мау | 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 | Open Water Foundation | | |
| Name of Water Activity | River Basin Information Websites | | |
| Approving Roundtable | (s) | Basin Account Request(s) ¹ | |
| South Platte | | \$20,000 | |
| Metro | | \$10,000 | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Basin Account Request Subtotal | | \$30,000 | |
| Basin Account Request Subtotal Approved by Roundtable | | \$30,000 | |
| Statewide Account Request ⁽¹⁾ | | \$15,000 | |
| Total WSRF Funds Requested (Basin & Statewide) | | \$45,000 | |
| Total Project Costs | | \$170,000 | |

 $^1\,\mbox{Please}$ indicate the amount recommended for approval by the Roundtable(s)

| Grantee and Applicant Information | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Name of Grantee(s) | Open Water Foundation | |
| Mailing Address | 320 East Vine Drive, Suite 203 | |
| FEIN | 46-2676240 | |



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| | Grantee and Applicant Information |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Grantee's Organization Contact ¹ | Steve Malers |
| Position/Title | CEO |
| Email | steve.malers@openwaterfoundation.org |
| Phone | 970-988-1447 |
| Grant Management Contact ² | Steve Malers |
| Position/Title | CEO |
| Email | steve.malers@openwaterfoundation.org |
| Phone | 970-988-1447 |
| Name of Applicant (if different than grantee) | |
| Mailing Address | |
| Position/Title | |
| Email | |
| Phone | |

¹ Person with signatory authority

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

Description of Grantee

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

The Open Water Foundation (OWF) is a nonprofit social enterprise located in Fort Collins that focuses on open source software and open data solutions to make better water resources decisions. We help improve access to data and technologies and increase transparency on complex water issues.

| | 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: are eligible for funding from the Basin Accounts but not for funding from the Statewide Account. | | | |
| Х | Non-governmental organizations: broadly, any organization that is not part of the government | | | |
| | Covered Entity: as defined in Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes | | | |



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| Type of Water Activity (check one) | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| | Study | | |
| Х | Implementation | | |

| Category of Water Activity (check all that apply) | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| X | Nonconsum | ptive (Environmental) | |
| Х | Nonconsumptive (Recreational) | | |
| X | Agricultural | | |
| Х | Municipal/Industrial | | |
| Х | Needs Assessment | | |
| Х | Education & Outreach | | |
| | Other | Explain: | |

| Location of Water Activity | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Please provide the general county and coordinates of the proposed activity below in decimal degrees . The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable. | | | |
| County/Counties | Larimer, Weld, Boulder, also South Platte Basin including Metro | | |
| Latitude | 40.76 | | |
| Longitude | 105.45 | | |

Water Activity Overview

Please provide a summary of the proposed water activity (200 words or less). Include a description of the activity and what the WSRF funding will be used for specifically (e.g. studies, permitting, construction). Provide a description of the water supply source to be utilized or the water body affected by the activity. Include details such as acres under irrigation, types of crops irrigated, number of residential and commercial taps, length of ditch improvements, length of pipe installed, area of habitat improvements. If this project addresses multiple purposes or spans multiple basins, please explain.

The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit A, a detailed Statement of Work, Budget, and Schedule.



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Water Activity Overview

The Open Water Foundation (OWF) proposes to fully implement the Poudre Basin Information website in order to provide cross-jurisdictional information related to water issues in the basin. See the initial website (<u>http://poudre.openwaterfoundation.org/latest</u>), which has so far been developed primarily using OWF research and development funding. The website integrates information from many data sources including local up to federal datasets. The information can be used for education and to inform planning and operational decisions. The website is a community resource with a scope beyond any single project or organization and can serve many entities. All software, data, analysis workflows, and documentation are open source and support collaboration.

The amount of funding that is ultimately obtained, including matching funds, will allow full implementation of the Poudre Basin Information website as well as implementing additional websites for basins within the larger South Platte Basin, such as Big Thompson and Saint Vrain. These basins have been impacted by wildfires, floods, and droughts and also involve issues for multiple sectors (municipal, agricultural, environment, recreation, industry). Basin websites will be linked to the South Platte Roundtable website to facilitate use by Roundtable members and the public.

| Measurable Results | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| To catalog 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) | | | |
| | Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet) | | | |
| X | Efficiency Savings (indicate acre-feet/year OR dollars/year) – see below | | | |
| | Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres) | | | |
| | Length of Pipe/Canal Built or Improved (linear feet) | | | |
| x | Other | Explain: This project will provide cross-jurisdictional integrated information that helps to achieve all of the above measurable outcomes as well as supporting additional outcomes such as improved water quality, forest health, and open space. The website is a community resource that results in efficiency savings by sharing costs for the website and providing integrated information that helps with other measurable results. | | |

Water Activity Justification

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



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Water Activity Justification

Water touches everything and water planners and decision-makers need to understand many issues while focusing on the mission and operation of each organization, as well as collaborating on regional projects. Specific water projects and uses have broadly been categorized into use types of "agricultural", "municipal", "industrial", "environmental", and "recreational". The South Platte and Metro roundtables have prioritized multi-purpose projects that benefit more than one use category. Projects that provide water supply while minimizing negative impacts to the environment are also desirable. Because of the cross-jurisdictional, interrelated nature of water, there is a need for cross-jurisdictional, integrated information. This information should be context-specific and also emphasize connections. There are many sources of data and information; however, data and information are often difficult to find and integrate to support planning, decisions and actions. This leads to repeated efforts, inefficiencies, incomplete understanding of issues, and wasted funding.

This project will address the need for information, leverage previous work and ongoing projects, and benefit future projects that need information. The results of the project will result in a community information resource that benefits many entities and the public, focusing on basin scale (~DWR water district) websites to allow the issues of the basin to be emphasized. The following are examples of how this project aligns with the goals of CWP, BIP, and WSRF Criteria Guidelines:

- This project addresses the WSRF Criteria Guidelines:
 - o Demonstrates a commitment to collaboration by supporting involvement of a large group of stakeholders and the public.
 - Addresses an identified water gap by simplifying access to water demand and use data, population, etc. needed to understand water gap trends, causes, and opportunities.
 - Demonstrates sustainability by providing basin-wide information about trends, critical values, and impacts. An open source approach is also sustainable because it encourages sharing website development and maintenance costs.
- The Colorado Water Plan defines measurable objectives such as water conservation goals, agricultural water sharing, and protecting streams. However, the numerical goals set at a state level lack context at a local level. This project helps connect local data such as water use and conservation to the larger goals by showing trends and integrating data such as population growth and water use. A successful CWP will require actions at the local level that cumulatively achieve statewide goals.
- The "Outreach, Education, and Public Engagement" chapter of the CWP states that "To achieve a sustainable water future, Coloradans must be sophisticated water users". This project helps to achieve that outcome by providing context and information at a basin level so that citizens can be informed and take action. Lacking an integrated information source, people will continue to spend much more time finding and integrating information...time that they often don't have.
- South Platte and Metro Basin Implementation Plan emphasizes the need for multi-purpose projects. However, gaining an understanding of the interconnections between water issues across spatial and temporal scales is difficult. This project will help explain those complexities and identify opportunities for multi-purpose projects.
- Anyone who has worked with water data in Colorado knows that it is complicated. This project provides a simple interface for complex topics, and allows a deep dive in the original source data. The results of the project can be used to onboard and educate Roundtable members and other water leaders in the basin. This will allow those individuals and their organizations to more efficiently and effectively perform their work in support of CWP, BIP, and implementation projects.

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



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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 <u>2020 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines</u> (submitted on the contributing entity's letterhead). Attach additional sheet if necessary.

| Contributing Entity | Amount and Form of Match (note cash or in-kind) |
|--|---|
| Open Water Foundation – in kind | \$50,000 (or more) |
| Project Collaborators (pending) | \$50,000 (or more) |
| Colorado Water Plan (Engagement and Innovation) (pending) | \$25,000 |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| Total Match | \$125,000 |
| 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.

Statewide account request is \$15,000

| Contributing Entity | Amount and Form of Match (note cash or in-kind): |
|--|---|
| South Platte Roundtable | \$20,000 cash |
| Metro Roundtable | \$10,000 cash |
| See also other matching funds above, as needed | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| Total Match | \$30,000 |



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Matching Requirements: Statewide Account Requests

If you requested a Waiver to the Statewide Account matching, indicate % you wish waived. (Max 50% reduction of requirement).

Related Studies

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

This project leverages many studies and other resources and is complementary to all CWCB programs. In particular, datasets from Colorado's Decision Support Systems (CDSS) are used to create maps and information products. Population data from the State Demographer Office and datasets from Colorado Information Marketplace are also used. Many of the State's datasets, technologies, and reports are complex and difficult for the public and even water professionals to understand. This project provides information so that people of different ages, knowledge, and skills can understand. Information is provided with basin context so that website users can relate the information to their local perspective. Additionally, where appropriate, statewide studies and information are provided to connect basin issues to broader issues, such as for climate change and changing demographics of rural and urban populations.

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

The Open Water Foundation has received multiple grants from the CWCB related to decision support systems, basin implementation plan, and other projects. Some of the most recent and relevant grants are listed below. Most projects for the CWCB did not involve Roundtable approval.

- Open Water Foundation, "StateMod Dataset Cloud Publishing", CWCB, Date?, POGG1, PDAA, 20200002053
- Open Water Foundation, "OpenCDSS (Transfer CDSS to Open Source)", CWCB, Date?, CT PDAA 2017-1401
- Open Water Foundation, "South Platte Roundtable Data Platform" (stories that are now on the Roundtable website), South Platte & Metro RT, Date?, POGG1 2018-451
- Open Water Foundation, "Agricultural Land and Water Buffer Feasibility Analysis", South Platte & Metro RT, March 18, 2015, CTGG1 2015-3419
- Open Water Foundation, subcontractor to West Sage for South Platte and Metro BIP

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.

This project does not have any TABOR issues.

| | Water Supply Reserve Fund Water Activity Summary Sheet March 10-11, 2021 Consent Agenda Item 2(j) |
|-------------------------|---|
| Applicant & Grantee: | Open Water Foundation |
| Water Activity Name: | River Basin Information Websites |
| Water Activity Purpose: | Agricultural, Education/Outreach, Municipal/Industrial, Needs Assessment, Nonconsumptive (Environmental & Recreational) - Implementation |
| County: | Boulder, Larimer, Weld |
| Drainage Basin: | South Platte |
| Water Source: | Poudre River |
| Amount Requested: | \$10,000 Metro Basin Account \$20,000 South Platte Basin Account <u>\$15,000 Statewide Account</u> \$45,000 Total Request |
| Matching Funds: | Basin Account Match = \$30,000 200% of statewide request (meets 10% min) Applicant & 3rd Party Match (in-kind) = \$125,000 833% of the statewide request (meets 10% min) Total Match (Basin request & Applicant Match) = \$155,000 1,033% of the statewide request (meets 50% min) |

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of up to \$10,000 from each of the Metro Basin Account, up to \$20,000 from the South Platte Basin Account and up to \$15,000 from the Statewide Account to help fund the project: River Basin Information Websites

Water Activity Summary: The applicants proposes to utilize WSRF funds to assist in fully implement the "*Poudre Basin Information*" website in order to provide cross-jurisdictional information related to water issues in the basin. The applicant has developed an initial website, (<u>http://poudre.openwaterfoundation.org/latest</u>) which integrates information from many data sources including local up to federal datasets. The information can be used for education and to inform planning and operational decisions.

The applicant states the website will be designed to be a community resource with a scope beyond any single project or organization and can serve many entities. All software, data, analysis workflows, and documentation are open source and support collaboration. The grant funding obtained, including matching funds, will allow full implementation of the Poudre Basin Information website as well as implementing additional websites for basins within the larger South Platte Basin, such as Big Thompson and Saint Vrain. These basins have been impacted by wildfires, floods, and droughts and also involve issues for multiple sectors (municipal, agricultural, environment, recreation, industry). Basin websites will be linked to the South Platte Roundtable website to facilitate use by Roundtable members and the public.

Discussion: According to the Roundtables letter of support for the this project, it has been stated that providing the data and information will inform organizations and individuals about many complex water issues in order to achieve the goals of the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan and Colorado Water Plan. The initial focus on the Poudre Basin will increase the effectiveness and efficiency of implementing multi-purpose water projects that address the water supply gap in the basin. The project will also help with collaboration on important issues such as wildfire mitigation, drought and flood response, sustainable agriculture, and environmental flows. The project will support water education and public engagement on water issues. The results of the project can be scaled to other basins within the South Platte and Metro Roundtable areas and statewide.

Issues/Additional Needs: The applicant will need to secure matching funds for the project 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 |
|--|-----------|----------|-----------|---------|
| Open Water Foundation | \$0 | \$50,000 | \$50,000 | Secured |
| GoCode Colorado Business Challenge Award | \$2,000 | \$0 | \$2,000 | Secured |
| Project Collaborators/Grant Awards | \$48,000 | \$0 | \$48,000 | Pending |
| CWCB Water Plan Grant | \$25,000 | \$0 | \$25,000 | Pending |
| Sub-Total Matching Funds | \$75,000 | \$50,000 | \$125,000 | |
| WSRF Metro Basin Account | \$10,000 | \$0 | \$10,000 | Secured |
| WSRF South Platte Basin Account | \$20,000 | \$0 | \$20,000 | Secured |
| WSRF Statewide Account | \$15,000 | \$0 | \$15,000 | |
| Sub Total | \$45,000 | \$0 | \$45,000 | |
| Total Project Costs | \$120,000 | \$50,000 | \$170,000 | |

CWCB Project Manager: Carolyn Kemp

November 25, 2020

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

Re: Metro Basin Roundtable support for WSRF Basin and State grants for Open Water Foundation's "River Basin Information Websites" project.

Dear Ben:

At the November 12, 2020 meeting of the Metro Basin Roundtable (MBRT), the MBRT voted unanimously to approve the Open Water Foundation's Metro WSRF Basin Grant of \$10,000 and to support Statewide Basin Grant of \$15,000 and Colorado Water Plan Grant for \$25,000 for "River Basin Information Websites". A summary of the funding request for State grant programs for this project is shown below.

| Funding Source | Amount | Status |
|------------------|----------|--|
| Metro BRT WSRF | \$10,000 | Approved unanimously by MBRT at November 12 th meeting (this letter |
| | | of support is being provided to the CWCB). |
| South Platte BRT | \$20,000 | Approved unanimously by SPBRT at November 10 th meeting (separate |
| WSRF | | letter of support is being provided by SPBRT to the CWCB). |
| Statewide WSRF | \$15,000 | Approved unanimously to support by MBRT at November 12 th |
| | | meeting. OWF is submitting the Statewide WSRF grant application to |
| | | SPBRT for formal approval. |
| CWP Engage. and | \$25,000 | Approved unanimously to support by MBRT at November 12 th |
| Innov. Grant | | meeting. OWF is submitting the CWP grant application to SPBRT for |
| | | formal approval. |

This project will provide a number of benefits, including providing cross-jurisdictional information as an easily-accessible community resource. Data and information will inform organizations and individuals about many complex water issues in order to achieve the goals of the South Platte and Metro Basin Implementation Plan and Colorado Water Plan. The initial focus on the Poudre Basin will increase the effectiveness and efficiency of implementing multi-purpose water projects that address the water supply gap in the basin. The project will also help with collaboration on important issues such as wildfire mitigation, drought and flood response, sustainable agriculture, and environmental flows. The project will support water education and public engagement on water issues. The results of the project can be scaled to other basins within the South Platte and Metro Roundtable areas and statewide.

The MBRT supports this project.

Sincerely,

Barbara Biggs Chair, Metro Basin Roundtable

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

November 27, 2020

Re: South Platte Basin Roundtable support for WSRF Basin and WSRF State grants for Open Water Foundation's "River Basin Information Websites" project.

Dear Ben:

At the November 10, 2020 meeting of the South Platte Roundtable (SPBRT), the SPBRT unanimously voted to recommend approval of the Open Water Foundation's South Platte WSRF Basin Grant of \$20,000 and to support Statewide WSRF Grant of \$15,000 for "River Basin Information Websites". A summary of the funding request for State grant programs for this project is shown below.

| Funding Source | Amount | Status | |
|---------------------------------|----------|--|--|
| South Platte BRT WSRF | \$20,000 | Approved unanimously by SPBRT at November 10 th meeting (this letter of support is being provided to the CWCB). | |
| Metro Basin BRT WSRF | \$10,000 | Approved unanimously by MBRT at November 12 th meeting (separate letter of support is being provided by MBRT to the CWCB). | |
| Statewide WSRF | \$15,000 | | |
| CWP Engage. and Innov. Grant | \$25,000 | Approved unanimously to support by MBRT at November 12 th meeting. OWF is submitting the CWP application to SPBRT for formal approval. | |

Due to the timeline necessary to meet the WSRF application deadline, the Open Water Foundation was unaware that the SPBRT required the full Statewide CWP grant application to be able to provide a formal approval of that element of the proposal. The Open Water Foundation is submitting the CWP grant applications to the SPBRT in order to comply with the SPBRT process.

This innovative project will provide a number of benefits, including providing cross-jurisdictional information as an easily-accessible community resource. Data and information will inform organizations and individuals about many complex water issues in order to achieve the goals of the South Platte and Metro Basin Implementation Plan and Colorado Water Plan. The initial focus on the Poudre Basin will increase the effectiveness and efficiency of implementing multi-purpose water projects that address the water supply gap in the basin. The project will also help with collaboration on important issues such as wildfire mitigation, drought and flood response, sustainable agriculture, and environmental flows. The project will support water education and public engagement on water issues. The results of the project can be scaled to other basins within the South Platte and statewide.

Sincerely,

Garrett Varra Chair, South Platte Basin Roundtable