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**May 18, 2021**

**Final Report: CWCB POGG1, PDAA, 202000002612; CCA Ag Water Watershed and Stream Management Planning and Technical Assistance 2020 Project Activities**

**Project Status:** All work completed with some substitutions made due to COVID-19 (please see details below and in the attached copies of the six-month and twelve-month reports).

**Task 1:** 16 Outreach activities (or more) around the state.

Status: Completed (16 presentations given, 20 virtual meetings).

**Task 2:** Four (4) Training / educational sessions

Status: Completed one (1) training session; the remaining three were prevented due to COVID-19 restrictions. We substituted other activities for the remaining three sessions.

**Task 3:** Four (4) Publications and Two (2) Webinars

Status: Completed thirteen (13) publications and four (4) webinars.

**Task 4:** Technical and Coordinative Assistance to agricultural groups

Status: Completed. See details on the attached progress reports.

**Task 5:** Multiple Collaborative Communications

Status: Completed. See details on the attached progress reports.

**Task 6:** CCA Staff related work;

Status: Completed. See details on the attached progress reports.

**Task 1: 16 Outreach activities Completed:**

1	1/6/2020	Upper Arkansas River Conservation District board presentation
2	1/15/2020	Sterling; Centennial and Ft. Morgan Cons. Districts
3	1/17/2020	Meeker; White River annual meeting
4	1/21/2020	CCA Mid-winter conference
5	1/22/2020	CWC Workshop
6	4/16/2020	River Rally webinar presentation
7	5/26/2020	Stanley Thorne radio show; 560 KLZ; ag water in Colorado
8	5/27/2020	CSCB Partnerships webinar presentation
9	9/23/2020	Upper Arkansas River CD presentation to local ag producers
10	9/29/2020	Routt County water meeting for ag producers
11	10/1/2020	River Network webinar presentation, co-host on 'diversion infrastructure'
12	10/7/2020	Sustaining watersheds conference
13	10/13/2020	Water Quality Control Commission; Regulation 85
14	12/7/2020	CAWA / CCA Producer meeting; Craig - Water rights abandonment, etc
15	2/24/2021	Routt County CD annual meeting - DCP and Demand Management
16	3/02/2021	LSPWCD meeting; conservation practice modeling study results

**Task 2: Four (4) Training / educational sessions: Completed with substitutions**

- 1 10/16/2020 White River & Douglas Creek ag water update workshop

One (1) training / educational session was completed. The other three were not possible due to COVID-19 restrictions. Additional publications and webinars were used in substitution for the three remaining training and educational sessions. Workshop modules may be referenced at: <https://www.agwaternet.org>.

**Task 3: Four (4) Publications and Two (2) Webinars: Completed.**

**Publications Completed:**

1	Mar-20	What is the Value of Food and Water Security?
2	Apr-20	Water and Ag: Valuing our Essential Resources, Part 1
3	Apr-20	Water and Ag: Valuing our Essential Resources, Part 2
4	Apr-20	Webinar #9 <u>Highlights</u> - Upper Colorado river restoration
5	Jun-20	Conservation Corner article on ET, crop water use; RB Herald Times
6	Aug-20	Webinar #10 <u>Highlights</u> ; Wildfire and watershed management
7	Sep-20	Conservation Corner article on wildfire & watershed planning; Rio Blanco HT
8	Sep-20	Webinar #11 <u>Highlights</u> - Middle CO ditch inventory & watershed planning
9	Oct-20	Conservation Corner article; Rio Blanco Herald Times
10	Oct-20	Morgan County Conservation District Newsletter; Reg 85
11	Nov-20	Steamboat Pilot; an article on ag water right abandonment

- 12 Jan-21 Bostwick Park WCD Grants key to funding improvements article
- 13 Mar-21 Webinar #12 Highlights Ag Irrigation Infrastructure Projects and Funding

#### Webinars Completed:

- 1 4/7/2020 #9: ILVK - Upper Colorado River Restoration
- 2 8/13/2020 #10: Wildfire and Watershed Management Planning
- 3 9/18/2020 #11: Middle Colorado Ditch & Diversion Structure Inventory
- 4 3/10/2021 #12 Ag Irrigation Infrastructure Improvement Projects and Funding

Video (not funded by WP grant but did receive CDPHE mini-grant funding):

- 1 May-20 Fire and Watershed Management video – A New Perspective on Forest Management (Ag focus)

#### **Task 4 – Post-Training Technical and Coordinative Assistance to ag groups; Completed.**

On-going communications with ag producers, as well as conservation districts, state agencies, consultants, and others. Types of assistance provided have included meeting and event planning and coordination, presentations, articles for local publications, and individual consultation. Topics on which assistance has been provided include irrigation efficiency and conservation, demand management, drought contingency planning, water right abandonment, watershed and stream management planning, wildfire impacts and mitigation, water quality, return flows, and grant funding for water projects.

#### **Task 5 – Collaboration and Communications; Completed.**

Collaborative Communications and/or virtual meetings with agricultural organizations (state and local), ag-affiliated state and federal governmental agencies, non-profit funders, and agricultural organizations have played a key role in helping conservation districts, producers, irrigation companies, individual irrigators, and others make advancement toward solving agricultural water and multi-benefit challenges.

#### **Task 6 – CCA Staff, Completed**

CCA Staff devoted time and resources to help on all tasks, listed and detailed above.

#### **Project Summary:**

The Ag Water NetWORK engaged producers on watershed and stream management via outreach as well as other ag water-related topics using a tailored approach that strove to meet producers and conservation districts at their level of informational need. Outreach activities included collaboration with other ag organizations (CAWA, Colorado State Conservation Board, individual conservation districts, RMFU, Colorado Corn, CLA, others) and focused on elevating understanding about WMPs and SMPs among ag producers and organizations &

individuals that work with ag producers and raising awareness regarding other ag water topics of interest.

All of these activities were designed to advance producer understanding and engagement on local water management planning efforts and inform ag and non-ag entities and groups about the water-related priorities and perspectives of Colorado agriculturalists.

We relied on local ag groups to initiate and help coordinate the workshop and some meetings. This approach resulted in productive and well-attended meetings and ensured topics addressed local interests. The challenges associated with COVID-19 prevented us from accomplishing three of the four workshops, but we were able to produce additional publications and webinars to make up for the lost workshops.

Overall, the 2020 project activities represented a foundation-building and informational dispersion growth period and helped advance engagement with the agricultural water community on watershed, stream, and integrated water management planning, as well as other ag water topics. We worked closely with the Colorado Ag Water Alliance (CAWA) and several other organizations. The feedback from both ag groups has been quite positive. Meetings occurred both virtually and in person when and where allowed.

A total of \$80,500 match funding has been provided by CCA in the form of cash match and in-kind contributions to the project.

## Colorado Cattlemen's Association

<b>Date:</b>	December 31 , 2020
<b>Name of Grantee:</b>	CCA Ag Water NetWORK
<b>Name of Water Project:</b>	Name of Water Project: Agriculture Watershed and Stream Management Planning Outreach & Technical Assistance
<b>Type of Report:</b>	Progress Report

### Tasks

#### Task 1- Outreach

Deliverable	16 Outreach activities around the state (meetings, presentations, virtual meetings, conferences) focused on raising awareness and understanding of WMPs and SMPs among ag producers and others working with the agricultural industry on water-related issues.
Progress to date:	Fourteen (14) Outreach activities have been completed to date.

#	Date	Presentations / Meetings
1	1/6/2020	Upper Ark River Cons. District Board meeting presentation
2	1/15/2020	Centennial Conservation District meeting presentation
3	1/17/2020	White River Cons. District Annual meeting presentation
4	1/21/2020	CCA Mid-Winter Water Committee meeting presentation
5	1/29/2020	Colorado Water Congress workshop on WMPs / SMPs
6	2/5/2020	CAWA meeting presentation; Johnson's Corner
7	2/24/2020	CAWA symposium presentation; Brush
8	4/16/2020	River Network virtual River Rally presentation
9	5/27/2020	CSCB Partners virtual meeting presentation
10	6/11/2020	Holy Cross Cattlemen's webinar presentation
11	9/23/2020	AWN and Upper Ark CD producer workshop on water at Nathrop ranch
12	10/7/2020	Ag Water Update Meeting Hayden; w/ Comm. Ag Alliance & Routt CD
13	10/16/2020	Ag Water Update Meeting w/ White River / DC Cons District; Meeker
14	12/7/2020	CAWA / AWN meeting in Craig on water rights, YWG water issues

#### Task 2 – Training meetings

Deliverable	(4) Training Meetings focused on elements of WMPs and SMPs (how to initiate, develop, implement). Includes modification of existing materials and development of new materials as needed, printing, binding, venue, food catering, etc. as needed.
Progress to date	Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, no training meetings have been conducted to date. Training meetings and workshops are designed to be hands-on and interactive. As a partial substitute, we conducted ag water update meetings in the Upper Arkansas and YWG River Basins in cooperation with local conservation districts. These activities are

	listed under Task 1. Publications, webinars and /or on-line presentations will be substituted for training workshops.	
<b>Task 3 – Publications (4) and Webinars (2)</b>		
Deliverable	Four (4) Publications and Two (2) Webinars.	
Progress to date	The following publications and webinars have been accomplished to date.	
<b>#</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Publications</b>
1	3/2020	How Important is Food and Water Security? Preserving Irrigated Ag Land Helps Ensure Both
2	4/2020	Water and Agriculture: Valuing our Essential Resources; Part 1
3	4/2020	Water and Agriculture: Valuing our Essential Resources; Part 2
4	4/15/2020	Webinar Highlights: Restoration work on the Upper Colorado River near Kremmling
5	6/2/2020	BIPs are being Updated – What are Agriculture’s Priorities?
6	6/4/2020	Article on ET and CU for White River CD Conservation Corner inserts in Rio Blanco Herald Times
7	8/15/2020	Webinar Highlights: Wildfire and Watershed Management Planning – Weston Toll, CSFS
8	9/20/2020	Webinar Highlights: Middle Colorado Ditch Inventory and IWMP
9	10/16/2020	Article on water right abandonment and YWG BRT update for White River -DC CD Conservation Corner insert in Rio Blanco Herald Times
10	11/1/2020	Water right abandonment article (Brink/Peterson); Steamboat Pilot, Fencepost, GJ Sentinel, others.
11	11/19/2020	Watershed Restoration Grant funding Available for Post-Wildfire Recovery
<b>#</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Webinars</b>
1	4/7/2020	Restoration work on the Upper Colorado River near Kremmling, presenter - Paul Bruchez
2	8/13/2020	Wildfire and Watershed Management Planning – Weston Toll, CSFS
3	9/18/2020	Middle Colorado Ditch Inventory and IWMP – Sara Dunn and Wendy Ryan
<b>Task 4 – Post-Training Technical and Coordinative Assistance</b>		
Deliverable	Post-Training Technical and Coordinative Assistance to ag groups on WMP initiation, obtaining funding, planning and/or implementation. These activities will involve providing support and some technical assistance to coordinators on WMP / SMP	
Progress to date	On-going communications with ag producers that participated in the previous workshops, as well as conservation districts, state agencies, consultants, etc. on watershed and stream management planning elements.	

<b>Task 5 – Collaboration and Communications</b>	
Deliverable	Collaborative Communications and/or virtual meetings with agricultural organizations (state and local) with ag-affiliated state and federal governmental agencies, non-profit funders, ag organizations, including exploring innovative methods.
Progress to date	<p>Collaboration and communications with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colorado Ag Water Alliance (CAWA) on training, WMP / SMP videos, planning December summit, outreach, WMP / SMP projects.</li> <li>• Colorado State Conservation Board (CSCB) and individual conservation districts on presentations at watershed association meetings, communications and virtual meetings with staff.</li> <li>• Agricultural organizations, water conservancy districts, irrigation districts, CSFS, NRCS, consultants, NGOs and others.</li> <li>• Yampa IWMP Technical sub-committee (TU, TNC, RN, NRCS, CD, CAA, etc) – ongoing meetings and review of infrastructure assessment report</li> <li>• Communications with individual agricultural producers on water rights, infrastructure improvement and funding, ATMs and watershed planning</li> </ul>
<b>Task 6 – CCA Staff</b>	

## Colorado Cattlemen's Association

<b>Date:</b>	July 15 , 2020
<b>Name of Grantee:</b>	CCA Ag Water NetWORK
<b>Name of Water Project:</b>	Name of Water Project: Agriculture Watershed and Stream Management Planning Outreach & Technical Assistance
<b>Type of Report:</b>	Progress Report

### Tasks

Task 1- Outreach		
Deliverable	16 Outreach activities around the state (meetings, presentations, virtual meetings, conferences) focused on raising awareness and understanding of WMPs and SMPs among ag producers and others working with the agricultural industry on water-related issues.	
Progress to date:	Ten (10) Outreach activities have been completed to date.	
#	Date	Presentations / Meetings
1	1/6/2020	Upper Ark River Cons. District Board meeting presentation
2	1/15/2020	Centennial Conservation District meeting presentation
3	1/17/2020	White River Cons. District Annual meeting presentation
4	1/21/2020	CCA Mid-Winter Water Committee meeting presentation
5	1/29/2020	Colorado Water Congress workshop on WMPs / SMPs
6	2/5/2020	CAWA meeting presentation; Johnson's Corner
7	2/24/2020	CAWA symposium presentation; Brush
8	4/16/2020	River Network virtual River Rally presentation
9	5/27/2020	CSCB Partners virtual meeting presentation
10	6/11/2020	Holy Cross Cattlemen's webinar presentation
Task 2 – Training meetings		
Deliverable	(4) Training Meetings focused on elements of WMPs and SMPs (how to initiate, develop, implement). Includes modification of existing materials and development of new materials as needed, printing, binding, venue, food catering, etc. as needed.	
Progress to date	Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, no training meetings have been conducted to date. Training meetings and workshops are designed to	



	be hands-on and interactive. We have had discussions with various conservation districts and basins about setting up mini-workshops, and we are hopeful that full or at least partial accomplishment of this task will be possible in the latter half of the calendar year. Publications, webinars and /or on-line presentations will be substituted for training workshops if needed.
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### **Task 3 – Publications (4) and Webinars (2)**

Deliverable	Four (4) Publications and Two (2) Webinars.
Progress to date	The following publications and webinars have been accomplished to date.

#	Date	Publications
1	3/2020	How Important is Food and Water Security? Preserving Irrigated Ag Land Helps Ensure Both
2	4/2020	Water and Agriculture: Valuing our Essential Resources; Part 1
3	4/2020	Water and Agriculture: Valuing our Essential Resources; Part 2
4	6/2020	Basin Implementation Plans are being Updated – What are Agriculture’s Priorities?
5	6/2020	Article on ET and CU for White River Conservation District Conservation Corner inserts; adapted from Water and Ag articles

#	Date	Webinars
1	4/7/2020	Restoration work on the Upper Colorado River near Kremmling, CO presenter - Paul Bruchez

### **Task 4 – Post-Training Technical and Coordinative Assistance**

Deliverable	Post-Training Technical and Coordinative Assistance to ag groups on WMP initiation, obtaining funding, planning and/or implementation. These activities will involve providing support and some technical assistance to coordinators on WMP / SMP
Progress to date	On-going communications with ag producers that participated in the previous workshops, as well as conservation districts, state agencies, consultants, etc. on watershed and stream management planning elements.

### **Task 5 – Collaboration and Communications**

Deliverable	Collaborative Communications and/or virtual meetings with agricultural organizations (state and local) with ag-affiliated state and federal governmental agencies, non-profit funders, ag organizations, including exploring innovative methods.
Progress to date	<p>Collaboration and communications with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colorado Ag Water Alliance (CAWA) on training, WMP / SMP videos, planning December summit, outreach, WMP / SMP projects.</li> <li>• Colorado State Conservation Board (CSCB) and individual conservation districts on presentations at watershed association meetings, communications and virtual meetings with staff.</li> <li>• Agricultural organizations, water conservancy districts, irrigation districts, CSFS, NRCS, consultants, NGOs and others.</li> </ul>
<b>Task 6 – CCA Staff</b>	