



Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	River Science	
Name of Water Project	River Watch: Collaboration and Outreach for Strategic Macroinvertebrate Data	
Grant Request Amount		\$74,929.00
Primary Category		\$74,929.00
	<i>Watershed Health & Recreation</i>	
Total Applicant Match		\$74,998.00
	<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>	\$74,998.00
	<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>	
Total Other Sources of Funding		\$74,998.00
	<i>Colorado Parks & Wildlife</i>	\$74,998.00
Total Project Cost		\$224,925.00

Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee: River Science	
Mailing Address: 430 Main Street Canon City CO 81212	
FEIN: 811,950,889	
Organization Contact: Bradley Boileau	
Position/Title: Project Manager	Email: bradley@coloradowatershed.org
Phone: 3035470856	
Organization Contact - Alternate: Luke Javernick	
Position/Title:	Email: luke@river.science
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Grant Management Contact: Bradley Boileau	
Position/Title: Project Manager	Email: bradley@coloradowatershed.org
Phone: 3035470856	
Grant Management Contact - Alternate: Luke Javernick	
Position/Title:	Email: luke@river.science
Phone: (719) 428-9609	

Description of Grantee/Applicant

River Science is a 501c3 Non-Profit Organization. Our mission is to use education, technology, and information to improve river management and project impacts.

Type of Eligible Entity

☐ Public (Government)

- ☐ Public (District)
- ☐ Public (Municipality)
- ☐ Ditch Company
- ☐ Private Incorporated
- ☐ Private Individual, Partnership, or Sole Proprietor
- ☒ Non-governmental Organization
- ☐ Covered Entity
- ☐ Other

Category of Water Project

- ☐ Agricultural Projects
Developing communications materials that specifically work with and educate the agricultural community on headwater restoration, identifying the state of the science of this type of work to assist agricultural users among others.
- ☐ Conservation & Land Use Planning
Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning.
- ☐ Engagement & Innovation Activities
Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website.
- ☒ Watershed Restoration & Recreation
Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation.
- ☐ Water Storage & Supply
Projects that facilitate the development of additional storage, artificial aquifer recharge, and dredging existing reservoirs to restore the reservoirs' full decreed capacity and Multi-beneficial projects and those projects identified in basin implementation plans to address the water supply and demand gap.

Location of Water Project

Latitude 0.000000
 Longitude 0.000000
 Lat Long Flag Other: Coordinates based on other boundaries or locations
 Water Source Dependent on SMP, statewide.
 Basins Arkansas; Colorado; Gunnison; Metro; Yampa/White/Green; Rio Grande; Southwest; South Platte; Nort...
 Counties
 Districts

Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type Environmental
 Type of Water Project Planning (e.g. watershed)
 Scheduled Start Date - Design 1/1/2023
 Scheduled Start Date - Construction
 Description
 Macroinvertebrate data is a highly informative parameter of water quality used to understand a stream's overall health and function. The proposed project requests CWCB funding to allow River Watch to build partnerships across the State to ensure that the upcoming macroinvertebrate (macro) data collections' information achieves the greatest benefit. Specifically, we aim to partner and support existing and anticipated Stream Management Plans (SMP) area where data gaps exist.

The scope of work involves mapping existing macro data, identifying and prioritizing locations, and helping bridge the data gap through strategic and collaborative partnerships. We propose a mutually beneficial partnership that will help expand our macro data program while providing valuable data for SMP.

River Watch has been collecting macro data and chemical indicators of watershed health for over 30 years. Our protocols follow State-approved collection and analysis methods which ensures that our data is highly regarded by multiple State agencies and used by State biologists, toxicologists, and decision-makers to evaluate water quality. The macroinvertebrate portion of the River Watch program has never been sustainably funded, despite the need for the data. As macro data becomes a higher priority for stakeholders across the State, this project provides a timely opportunity to establish sustainability through effective collaborations to demonstrate the benefits.

Measurable Results	
	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive
	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)
	Efficiency Savings (dollars/year)
	Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year)
	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)
	Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms or water sharing agreement (acre-feet)
	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning
100	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity
Other	
The quantitative outcomes of this project are based on the objective of assisting at least five SMP groups statewide along with the resources to collect over 100 macro samples that will impact at least 100 Coloradans.	

Water Project Justification	
This project's objectives overlap multiple themes outlined in the 2015 Colorado Water Plan (CWP). The project will contribute to the 2023 Colorado Water Plan focusing on efficient and sustainable solutions benefitting equitable communities statewide. This grant will facilitate more SMPs (and other similar efforts) and the ability to provide more robust macroinvertebrate data and therefore implement plans to protect and enhance watersheds throughout Colorado. This project will directly engage communities through planning efforts, support, and resources necessary to improve and sustain the health of their watersheds.	
Our proposed project aligns with section 6.2 Meeting Colorado's Water Gaps (page 172 in 2015 CWP). Specifically, the project will help "Meet Colorado's Environmental and Recreational Needs," "Meet Colorado's Water Quality Management Needs," "Protect and Restore Watershed Health," and "Continue Participation, Education, Outreach, and Communication." Section 6.6 Environmental and Recreational Projects and Methods (page 311 in 2015 CWP) - the plan emphasizes the importance of sustainable watershed health and environmental resiliency, including the need to identify baseline status on an ongoing basis. Our project will contribute to these objectives. This project will also contribute to section 7.1 Watershed Health and Management (page 353 in 2015 CWP) and section 7.3 Water Quality (page 367). Both areas acknowledge projects that include coalition-building, data collection, planning, prioritization, implementation, and monitoring when assessing watershed health and water quality.	

Lastly, this project aims to provide education and outreach directly and indirectly by engaging stakeholders and facilitating monitoring efforts aligned with section 9.5 Outreach, Education and Public Engagement (page 463 in CWP). While there is overlap between multiple sections and themes in the CWP and roundtable BIPs, these sections have definite parallels with the goals and objectives of the River Watch: Collaboration and Outreach for Strategic Macroinvertebrate Data Project.

Related Studies

- Colorado Water Plan
- Stream Management Plans
- River Network SMP planning

Taxpayer Bill of Rights

N/A