



COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board *Department of Natural Resources*

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

March 2024

Interstate Compact Compliance • Watershed Protection • Flood Planning & Mitigation • Stream & Lake Protection
Water Project Loans & Grants • Water Modeling • Conservation & Drought Planning • Water Supply Planning



COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Lauren Ris
Rosie Major

DATE: March 13-14, 2024

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 4b, March 2024 CWCB Board Meeting Director's Report**

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STATEWIDE

CWCB SMALL FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT FUND UPDATE:

New grant applications approved:

1. None

Previously approved grants in FY23/24:

1. None

Total funds approved for feasibility study grants in FY23/24: \$0

Bear Creek Lake Reallocation Feasibility Study

Background/Project History: The Bear Creek Dam and Reservoir Project (aka “Bear Creek Lake”) was completed in 1977 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and is located on Bear Creek at its confluence with Turkey Creek, approximately 10 miles southwest of Denver, Colorado in Jefferson County. The reservoir was authorized for the purposes of flood control, recreation, and fish and wildlife enhancement with a majority of the reservoir being used for flood control. The project’s active capacity is 57,678 AF (at the spillway crest) and is currently operated at a maximum priority storage volume of 2,000 AF. The CWCB currently holds existing water rights for Bear Creek Lake decreed for piscatorial, recreational, municipal, domestic, industrial, and irrigation under case Nos. 79CW306 (1989 acre-ft) and 84CW167 (2,000 acre-ft).

In May of 2015, the Corps provided the CWCB with a draft Reconnaissance Study evaluating the potential of reallocating up to 20,000 AF of space from flood control to multi-purpose storage. Based on the initial conclusions of the Reconnaissance Study, the Corps proposed initiating a feasibility study with the CWCB as the local sponsor. Feasibility study costs are split 50/50 between the Corps and the project sponsor.

On August 30th, 2019 CWCB and the Corps entered into a cost share agreement on a \$3 million Reallocation Feasibility Study.

CWCB suspended the work on the study after two issues came to light during that initial scoping meeting. First, the Corps needed to conduct a Risk Assessment before moving forward on a feasibility study. Army Corps staff completed this preliminary Risk Assessment in late September 2020 and concluded that the Reallocation Feasibility Study could proceed. Second, the State Engineer’s Office (SEO) advised CWCB staff to work with the Corps on updating hydrology methods for the study. SEO, CWCB, and the Corps came to agreement on the hydrology in June of 2021, and the study resumed.

The Scoping Team Reconvened in August of 2021 and the first Public Scoping Meeting was held virtually on October 14th, 2021. There were over 200 participants, most of whom were local residents in Lakewood. The purpose of the meeting was to gather feedback on the proposed study alternatives.

The Corps proposed five study alternatives:

1. No Change
2. Increase Reservoir Capacity & Normal Operating Pool (up to 20,000 AF)
 - a. Structural modifications to dam (e.g. dam raise and spillway raise) to increase reservoir storage for water supply.
 - b. Excavate reservoir (remove accumulated sediment or deepen reservoir) to increase in-pool storage for water supply.
 - c. Excavate forebays upstream of reservoir to increase storage capacity for water supply.
3. Reallocation of Existing Capacity (up to 20,000 AF)
 - a. Reallocation of reservoir storage from flood control and/or flood surcharge zones to conservation zone for water supply.
 - b. Reallocation of reservoir storage from multipurpose zone to conservation zone for water supply.
4. Operational Changes (Release More Water/Release Water Sooner)/Increase Normal Operating Pool
 - a. Structural modifications to dam (e.g. lower spillway, widen spillway, raise spillway with fuse plug, modify outlet works) to increase dam freeboard.
 - b. Modify reservoir Water Control Plan and Tri-Lakes System Regulation Plan to release more water sooner to increase dam freeboard.
5. Nonstructural
 - a. Nonstructural measures downstream of dam (e.g. floodproofing or relocation of structures) to decrease consequences.

Public comment during the meeting was largely in opposition to the study, citing recreation and environmental mitigation concerns related to any increase in water elevation.

The Corps is currently working on preliminary investigations of these alternatives.

It should be noted that the following points are key to determining whether or not an alternative is feasible:

- The Corps has a policy to evaluate social well being and quality of life in their Reallocation studies.
- Environmental Cost is analyzed for each alternative.
- A full hydrologic analysis is being conducted as part of this study, so while a preliminary look showed that on average 20,000AF of water is available, more detailed analysis is underway.
- The primary purpose of the dam is flood control. A feasible alternative can not impede the Corps' ability to mitigate flood risk downstream of the dam.

Recent Progress: The Corps has been conducting a hydrology analysis and storage yield analysis for various Reallocation amounts. The levels currently under investigation are:

1. 20,000 AF
2. 10,000 AF
3. 4,550 AF

4. 1,000 AF
5. 550 AF
6. 100 AF

This analysis is still underway, and Staff does not have an estimated completion date.

Local Capacity and Technical Assistance Grants Director's Report - March 2024

Local Capacity Grants

H.B. 22-1379 established \$2.5 million for Local Capacity Grants. The following table summarizes Local Capacity Grant activity through March 2024.

<u>Approved Applications</u>			
Applicant	Project	Total Project Budget	Grant Award
Owl Creek Lateral	Improved Storage and Operations	\$42,400	\$31,625
Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust	Capacity for Federally Funded Conservation Projects in the Rio Grande Basin	\$194,750	\$145,000
Grand County Learning by Doing	Federal Funding for LBD Stream Restoration and Improvement Projects	\$237,531	\$169,775
Ute Mountain Utes Tribal Government	Pre-Development Work (PL-566)	\$70,000	\$52,500
American Rivers	Wetland/Riparian Projects in the San Luis Valley	\$241,000	\$152,210
Colorado River Water Conservation District	Colorado River Drought Response Project	\$578,840	\$434,130
Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation	Rio Grande Basin Capacity to Secure Federal Project Funding	\$268,800	\$195,000
Collbran Water Conservation District	Plateau Valley Pre-Development Work (PL-566)	\$70,000	\$52,500
Sangre de Christo Acequia Association	Federal Funding to Improve Water Management	\$83,975	\$44,975
West Divide Water Conservancy District	Martin Reservoir Enlargement and Reconfiguration	\$315,906	\$118,464
Farmers Conservation Alliance	White River Ditches Modernization Strategy	\$564,690	\$188,230
Estes Valley Watershed Coalition	Fish Creek/Beaver Meadow Restoration Project	\$203,953	\$150,005
Southwestern Water Conservation District	Capacity Gaps in the Southwestern Water Conservation District	\$278,706	\$156,706
Total:		\$3,150,551	\$1,891,076

<u>Pending Applications</u>			
Applicant	Project	Total Project Budget	Requested Grant Amount
Farmers Conservation Alliance	Collbran Conservancy District Modernization Strategy	\$375,375	\$187,688
Trout Unlimited (Montrose)	Securing Federal Funding for Southwest Colorado Projects	\$168,496	\$168,496
Farmers Conservation Alliance	Pre-Development Work, Orchard Mesa Irrigation District	\$98,250	\$73,250
Total:		\$642,121	\$429,434

Technical Assistance Grants

H.B. 22-1379 established \$2.5 million for Technical Assistance Grants. CWCB has contracted with Abt Associates to provide wide-ranging assistance to communities and water managers across Colorado as they develop federal grant applications for projects with a nexus to the Colorado Water Plan.

As of March 2024, two Technical Assistance project proposals have received preliminary approval and have advanced to the next step of the grant award process:

- City of Grand Junction, Juniata Enlarged Ditch Piping Project
- Lower Wilson Ditch Association, Lower Wilson Ditch Pipeline Project

Abt Associates is nearing completion of a draft federal aid application for the City of Grand Junction project. The Lower Wilson Ditch Pipeline Project has undergone some significant scoping changes and is still in process.

Program staff are also reviewing three additional projects that could advance in the Technical Assistance process:

- Colorado City Metropolitan District, Lake Beckwith Dam Repair and Enhancement
- San Miguel Watershed Coalition, Reed-Chatfield Ditch and Diversion Rehabilitation Project
- Fountain Creek Watershed District, Technical Support Project

CWCB staff continue to receive expressions of interest in the Technical Assistance Grant Program and have held preliminary meetings with other excellent candidates for the program.

COLORADO RIVER BASIN

COLORADO RIVER WATER USE—

2024 Colorado River Storage as of March 4, 2024			
	Elevation (feet above mean sea level)	Storage (MAF)	Percent of Capacity
Lake Mead	1,076.60	9.731	37%
Lake Powell	3,561.74	7.911	34%
Total System Active Storage		24.859	43%
2023 Total Active Storage		18.911	32%
		Flow (MAF)	Percent of Average
Forecasted Unregulated Inflow into Powell (Forecasted Water Year 2024)		7.576	79%

*Note MAF = million acre-feet

Wild and Scenic Fund

Upper Colorado River Wild and Scenic Stakeholder Group

The Upper Colorado River Wild and Scenic Stakeholder Group (SG) continues to hold regular meetings and all committees continue to operate the alternative management plan. The Fishing and Floatboating Recommendation Committee (FFRC) is tasked with reviewing monitoring data, determining if there are issues with Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV) Indicators, and proposing ways to address any potential issues. This committee met in January 2024 to review the previous year of monitoring efforts and determined that there were no ORV Indicator issues based on the SG Plan for recreational fishing or recreational floatboating. The Monitoring Committee is preparing the Annual Monitoring Report and contractors for the drone lidar and cross-section survey work presented to the committee in late January. The Cooperative Measures Committee sent a letter to the Bureau of Reclamation to explore opportunities to contract up to 2,500 acre-feet of unallocated water in Green Mountain Reservoir. They are also exploring a potential one-year pilot project to use 300 acre-feet of water to understand the ways and extent to which potential Green Mountain Reservoir releases can benefit ORVs within the Upper Colorado W&S segments under various hydrologic and administrative conditions.

Lower Dolores Plan Working Group

The Lower Dolores Plan Working Group continues to work on the designation of a National Conservation Area (NCA) in a portion of the Dolores River and implementing a monitoring plan to improve native fish habitat and understanding of native fish needs on the Dolores River. These efforts are aimed at protecting the ORVs without the need for the BLM to find portions of the Lower Dolores River eligible for Wild and Scenic designation. The legislation was reintroduced in both the House and Senate last year. The NCA legislation had a markup in December in the Senate Energy and Natural Resources (ENR) Committee and

passed unanimously. A hearing in the House ENR Committee is the next procedural step, and the NCA committee intends to contact Representative Boebert about bringing the bill to the ENR committee.

The Monitoring and Recommendations (M&R) team plans to meet on April 8, 2024, to review the Dolores River Adaptive Management team (DRAMS) data. DRAMS was formed to support the M&R Team and has a separate CWCB grant. The M&R Team will also review the CPW studies of fish migration (W&S Fund supported) and discuss research and plans for the 2024 field season. The team continues to make progress on developing and verifying models associated with the 2023 spill from McFee as part of W&S fund-supported activities.

Other Wild and Scenic Updates

Deep Creek

American Rivers continues to convene a diverse stakeholder group to discuss a federal designation of Deep Creek as a Wild and Scenic River. The Stakeholder Group (SG) includes the USFS, BLM, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW), local landowners, American Rivers, and various recreation and environment-based groups. The SG's Instream Flow (ISF) Committee proposed a CWCB-held ISF water right to protect all unappropriated flow with a water development allowance (WDA) to meet reasonable potential future uses.

The SG has met several times with one of the two private landowners with property adjacent to the proposed W&S reach on Deep Creek. Most of the landowner issues have been resolved, an additional meeting is scheduled in March to address the remaining issues. CWCB staff, American Rivers, and the River District are also discussing the sequencing of the next steps which include River District support or neutrality on the proposed W&S reach, formally starting the ISF new appropriation process with the CWCB board, and moving legislation forward.

Crystal River

Portions of the Crystal River from the headwaters to the Sweet Jessup canal headgate were determined to be eligible for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic program in the 1980s and again in 2002. The stakeholder group continues to meet to discuss flow and land use protection options. The next stakeholder meeting was scheduled for February 29, 2024. More information about upcoming meetings can be found on the group's website: <https://thecrystalvalleyecho.com/wild-scenic-stakeholder>.

WATERSHED AND FLOOD UPDATES

Snow School for Water Professionals - 2024

Staff member Steven Reeves recently attended the Snow School for Water Professionals, hosted by Jeff Derry, the director of The Center for Snow and Avalanche Studies. This immersive experience provided valuable insights into the dynamics of Colorado's snowpack and its critical importance to our state's economic and environmental stability.

Colorado's snowpack serves as our largest and most dynamic reservoir of water, influenced by numerous factors and pivotal to our yearly water resources. Understanding the intricacies of snow accumulation, timing, and melt patterns is essential. It's noteworthy that merely 15% of the land area in the Upper Colorado Basin receiving snow dictates a staggering 85% of average annual runoff.

The prediction and modeling of snowpack present significant challenges due to temporal and spatial variations, akin to the diverse needs of water managers. From analyzing decade-long trends across the Western US to understanding local variations by elevation and sub-watershed, precise insights are crucial for effective water resource management.

Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) emerges as a critical metric for snowpack end-users, representing the liquid water content within the snowpack. However, accurate SWE measurement relies on a combination of remote sensing and ground-based techniques. Efforts such as NASA's enhancements in satellite-based SWE measurements and programs like Colorado Airborne Snow Measurement (CASM) utilizing lidar data are instrumental in advancing our understanding.

Ground measurement programs, such as the Natural Resource Conservation Service's (NRCS) SNOTEL and Snow Course initiatives, play a vital role. Colorado's 115 SNOTEL sites and 95 Snow Courses provide essential temporal and historical data for SWE measurements. The CWCB currently maintains 3 Snow Courses and is helping support additional SNOTEL sites. Additionally, the US Geological Survey (USGS) is enhancing sensor capabilities and regional forecasting through the Next Generation Water Observing System (NGWOS).

The presence of esteemed colleagues Director Nathan Combs and Former Director Heather Dutton further enriched the discourse, offering invaluable perspectives from end-user and district-level management. There is no single tool or program that answers all the needs of end-users. Their insights underscored the nuanced decision-making processes within snow-dependent communities, highlighting the importance of leveraging available data for maximum efficiency and yield.

In conclusion, it is imperative to maintain and enhance existing ground measurement programs while actively supporting advancements in technology. By collaborating with stakeholders and leveraging cutting-edge techniques, we can better navigate the complexities of our snowpack and ensure sustainable water resource management for generations to come.

(Steve Reeves)

The Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) Review Partners Program

The CWCB LOMR Review Partners Program continues to work with applicants, communities and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to answer questions, provide guidance, and work through complex issues for both ongoing and upcoming map revision requests. CWCB processes and makes recommendations for revision requests on behalf of FEMA to modify flood hazard information on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). FEMA determines if the revision request will be approved or become effective. To date, we have received over 130 map revision requests, and we currently have ongoing cases in Boulder, Douglas, El Paso, Gilpin, Jefferson, Larimer, Montrose, Pueblo, Routt, Elbert, San Miguel, Weld, Gunnison, and Yuma Counties.

March 2024 Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning (MAP) Project Updates by Major Water Basin

CWCB is FEMA's Cooperating Technical Partner (CTP) for the state while Mile High Flood District (MHFD) is the CTP within their service area (Denver Metropolitan Area). CWCB provides support for and coordination with MHFD on projects and data sharing for communities that extend across common boundaries.

North Platte Basin – No flood hazard studies are being conducted in this area.

South Platte Basin – Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Sedgwick, Larimer, Lincoln, Logan, Morgan, Park, Phillips, and Weld Counties have ongoing Risk MAP studies. Ongoing CWCB studies within the South Platte basin are as follows:

- Park County Phase 2: Phase 2 (Data Development) is underway. Hydrology was approved November 28, 2023. FEMA is making a shift to 2-Dimensional (2D) hydraulic modeling. Managing the 2D models has typically been more resource-intensive. During the transition period (that will take 5 to 10 years) CWCB is verifying with the communities that they agree with receiving the 2D hydraulic modeling instead of the traditional 1D hydraulic modeling. Town of Alma has requested 1D models in their area, and both the Town of Fairplay and County will continue with the use of the 2D modeling. We are currently wrapping up hydraulic modeling.
- Logan County: The County has been suspended from the NFIP. The County's NFIP participation status does not impact progress for the ongoing Risk MAP project. Phase 2 Memoranda of Agreement (MOAs) with the Town of Fleming and City of Sterling. The County did not wish to sign an MOA. Hydrology is being reviewed by FEMA and hydraulic modeling is underway. CWCB is working with the City of Sterling to address existing issues with accurate corporate boundaries as soon as possible.
- Adams and Arapahoe Counties: Pertinent BLE data has been provided to MHFD for their future use (CWCB will not study these areas further). Portions of the counties outside the MHFD, will continue through the Risk MAP process that is being implemented in other counties across the state. This will result in revised flood hazard information for areas outside MHFD. CWCB is obtaining input from both counties on the Discovery materials for the CWCB areas as we held the Arapahoe County Discovery meeting on 2/7/2024. Phase 2 kickoff meetings will be held in the coming months. We are also working through FEMA review for all Phase 1 deliverables.

- Morgan County BLE: CWCB staff met with City of Brush staff to discuss the Risk MAP project in more detail – specifically relative to Beaver Creek. Review of the City’s archived historic flooding information (from 1965 and earlier) took place along with a field visit to gain additional information on flow splits downstream of Brush that may have the potential to impact the Town of Hillrose. The Phase 2 kickoff meeting for the Morgan Countywide flood study is scheduled for 2/26/2024.
- Weld Countywide: A countywide BLE/Discovery effort is ongoing for all flooding sources with drainage areas > 1-square mile. This countywide study will not include flooding sources recently updated with the CHAMP project (which went effective back in November of 2023). A kickoff meeting with communities will be held soon and meeting materials are currently being reviewed by CWCB.

The Colorado Hazard Mapping Program (CHAMP) Physical Map Revisions (PMRs): The CWCB was able to leverage funds from FEMA to continue getting several CHAMP studies incorporated into updated Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and Flood Insurance Studies (FISs) through the FEMA Physical Map Revision process. CHAMP involved analyzing major streams across various Colorado counties (following the devastating 2013 flooding along the Front Range) and includes over 200 FIRM panel updates. Two remaining counties are being completed within the South Platte Basin. These include Boulder and Larimer Counties.

- Boulder County PMR: CWCB was recently informed that FEMA’s contractor is still attempting to meet the projected March 26, 2024, LFD date. Approximately 3.7 miles along Left Hand Creek downstream of the Geer Canyon/Left Hand Creek confluence will be restudied as recommended by the Scientific Review Panel (SRP). The restudy impacts portions of three FIRM panels. These panels will reflect the current effective flood hazard data until the restudy is completed. The resulting updates to these three panels will become effective through a future LOMR that will follow the MT-2 revision process.

A LOMR is being completed to reflect CHAMP data for over 6,000 feet along Geer Canyon Creek and approximately 12,000 feet along Left Hand Creek (upstream of the SRP area). Stream reaches included in the LOMR are well outside the SRP area.

- Weld County PMR: Weld County PMR revised Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) became effective on 11/30/2023.

The City of Longmont extends into both Weld and Boulder Counties. Longmont has opted to split their flood hazard information at the Boulder/Weld County line. This impacts three FIRM panels that were previously included in the Boulder County PMR that will now be part of the Weld County flood hazard information. These three panels reflect updated flood hazard data for portions of the City of Longmont and make up the Longmont PMR. The three panels had a 90-day appeal period that ended November 7, 2023. No comments/appeals were received. FEMA’s contractor is working through remaining processes to meet an anticipated March 26, 2024, LFD date.

- Larimer County PMR: Due process for this project has ended and there were several comments/appeals received. Valid Appeal items have been resolved and revised preliminary FIRM panels were issued on 10/16/2023. Due to additional information received, CWCB may need to pull a few panels in the county and either handle updates with a separate map revision or produce another revised preliminary in the coming months. CWCB, its contractor, FEMA and FEMA’s contractor are coordinating on this effort. No date has been

provided for the anticipated LFD. There are two ongoing LOMRs that will update flood hazard information. One is along Boxelder Creek near the Town of Wellington, and one is along the Cache la Poudre River and includes revisions near N. College Avenue and also near E. Harmony Road and I-25 in the City of Fort Collins.

- Phillips County Phase 4: The 90-day appeals/comment period closed on June 27, 2023. FEMA received one package regarding revised hydrology and hydraulics from CDOT during due process. FEMA's contractor determined that the package submitted was a valid appeal but additional information was required to complete the appeal package. Rather than submit the additional data required to complete the appeal, CDOT has opted to provide their hydraulic modeling from the initial appeal submittal to CWCB. The intent is for CWCB's contractor to leverage as much information from CDOT's model to complete the remaining analyses and mapping that will use the revised hydrology submitted with CDOT's initial appeal package. Because the initial appeal package did not come from the community or include documentation of the community support for the appeal effort, revised preliminary information will be required and another 90-day mandatory appeal period will need to occur.

Phillips Countywide: CWCB held the countywide Discovery meeting in January 2023, and we are preparing for a Phase 2 kickoff meeting in the near future. This study covers the portion of Phillips County not included in the Phase 4 project. The BLE hydraulics were approved by FEMA's contractor. CWCB will apply for an exception to a recent FEMA requirement that all draft BLE DFIRM databases must pass a topology check before closing out the Discovery project phase. This new requirement will take effect for BLE projects funded next year (with 2024 FEMA federal funding). An approved exception will allow this project to move forward with Data Development (Phase 2).

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- Sedgwick County: A countywide BLE/Discovery effort has begun for flooding sources with drainage areas greater than a square mile that weren't updated with the CHAMP project that became effective in May 2021. A project kickoff meeting was held November 3, 2023. Materials for a Discovery meeting will be sent to CWCB soon and a corresponding meeting will be held in the coming weeks.

Colorado Basin – Eagle, Summit, and Garfield Counties have ongoing Risk MAP studies:

- Eagle County Physical Map Revision Phases 2-3: The revised preliminary products were distributed November 30, 2023. CWCB is working with Basalt to address questions and revise a mapping area along the Roaring Fork River near the Eagle/Pitkin County line. CWCB is also working with our contractor to pursue a LOMR for the area within Basalt that impacts areas within both Eagle and Pitkin Counties. In the meantime, we are reviewing an update to the parcel analysis that shows which properties have changed risk since the last effective study, so we can better communicate with the locals on these updates.
- Garfield County Phase 2-3: CWCB met with the City of Glenwood Springs regarding flood hazard mapping through portions of the community. The City has confirmed that they want regulatory mapping based on clear water conditions only (no debris flow results). In the meantime, we have wrapped up hydraulic modeling and are waiting to submit the package to FEMA for review on March 20, 2024.

- Summit County BLE/Phase 2: Hydrology was approved December 13, 2023, and survey data was approved December 11, 2023. CWCB completed checks with communities on using 2D or 1D hydraulic modeling as the project moves into hydraulic modeling. We got confirmation on modeling approaches from everyone and are currently finalizing the hydraulic modeling.

Gunnison Basin – Delta, Gunnison, and Ouray Counties have ongoing studies:

- Delta County Phase 2-3. Preliminary FIRMs and FIS products were distributed November 21, 2023. Based on questions raised during the 30-day review period, additional information was provided to communities as well. CWCB is coordinating with communities to schedule both the Consultation Coordination Officer (CCO) meeting and public meetings for springtime. The state-funded Minnesota Creek LOMR hydraulic modeling has been through an internal review with our contractor, and we met with the Town of Paonia and Delta County to discuss the results. We shared all draft data produced to date and are now getting ready to submit the LOMR for FEMA review.
- Ouray County PMR: The Ouray County PMR went effective January 11, 2024. The county now has updated, flood hazard mapping for some major flooding sources. We will remove this entry for the next board update.
- Ouray Countywide BLE: Hydraulic modeling for the countywide BLE/Discovery effort (for drainage areas greater than 1 square mile) has been completed. The countywide project does not include flooding sources included in the Ouray County PMR. Kickoff meeting materials are being finalized for a meeting with communities that will be scheduled as soon as possible.
- Gunnison County PMR: Hydraulic modeling had been approved by FEMA. Meanwhile, CWCB is waiting for an agreement on the Gunnison River hydraulic modeling for the reaches where flood hazard data impacts both the City of Gunnison and Gunnison County. Gunnison County has expressed concerns regarding regulating to 2D hydraulic modeling products along the Gunnison River and are requesting consideration of 2D-informed 1-dimensional (1D) models for portions of the major flooding sources for regulatory purposes. The City of Gunnison and Gunnison County are hoping to work on an agreement where Gunnison County areas will mostly be 1D hydraulic models, while Gunnison River hydraulic modeling through the City will remain a 2D model. To date there has been little support from the County's leadership to move forward with this agreement and we still have not reached consensus on how to proceed for either the Gunnison River portion of the study, and the Countywide study scope of work.

In order to keep the PMR moving forward to complete portions of Gunnison, CWCB and FEMA are considering reducing the PMR scope to only include Coal Creek flood hazard revisions near Crested Butte. CWCB has also worked with FEMA for acceptance of a more representative flood hazard mapping approach within Crested Butte that uses shallow flooding mapping areas to map flood hazard in wide overbanks versus traditional floodway mapping. This would require the remaining PMR flooding sources in Gunnison to be revised in conjunction with the Countywide BLE project.

- Gunnison Countywide BLE: We are currently working with the County to get concurrence on the proposed path forward and scope of work for the County (more details above). Concerns revolve around the hydraulic modeling methodologies to be used for certain flooding sources, as the County would prefer to have as many 1D models as possible. CWCB has agreed to provide

the 1D products in areas with significant development pressure. County staff are working to approve a revised MOA that would allow the BLE project to move forward.

Rio Grande Basin – Alamosa, Costilla, and Mineral Counties have ongoing studies:

- Alamosa County BLE: BLE modeling and draft mapping data for Phase 1 of the countywide study is wrapping up. Modeling near the City of Alamosa has been complex. Discovery meeting materials are being prepared for review. CWCB has coordinated with the City of Alamosa, USACE and FEMA, as the city works toward certification for portions of the existing levee system along the Rio Grande River. After verifying the USACE funding was not able to be used to assist the community with levee issues, it was determined that CWCB will continue the flood hazard delineation study in Alamosa County through the Risk MAP process. Rather than duplicate efforts within Alamosa County, USACE Albuquerque Division will repurpose their funding to address project needs in other watersheds where they have jurisdiction. The City is looking to apply for other funding to assist in getting portions of the levee system certified, accredited by FEMA, and allowed to be shown on the revised flood hazard mapping to provide flood protection.
- Costilla County Phase 2-3: CWCB continues working with our contractor to complete data development for the remaining effective Zone A stream reaches. Data development has only been possible once high-resolution LiDAR data for these areas was obtained. Hydraulic modeling is on hold for submittal to FEMA review due to some questions that CWCB is working to address concerning four effective Zone A Rito Creek tributaries and a small mining area. Once resolved, the study will move forward with appropriate modeling and mapping to reflect existing flood hazard that appears to be more representative than effective mapping.
- Mineral County: Mineral County completed due process without comments. Flood Hazard Determination Notices review comments were addressed and we are working to begin the appeal period any day now.

Arkansas Basin – Lake, Chaffee, Custer, Fremont, Pueblo, El Paso, Huerfano, Las Animas, Otero, Bent, Prowers, Baca, Crowley, and Kiowa Counties have ongoing studies:

- Lake County Phase 2: Hydraulic modeling along Georgia Gulch has been completed. CWCB has worked with FEMA and the community to provide representative shallow floodplain mapping options for appropriate overbank areas along Georgia Gulch. Once data hydraulic modeling and mapping are completed for Georgia Gulch, CWCB will coordinate with the communities and hold a Resilience meeting that will include revised flood hazard data for all flooding sources included in the study.
- Chaffee County Phase 2: Hydrology was approved November 27, 2023 and our contractor is working on hydraulic modeling. Consultation with the communities resulted in leaving the effective approximate floodplain delineation (Zone A) as is for the Chalk Cliffs area. Proposed development in this area will trigger community requirements for additional geological hazards information from developers to support the development effort. More information on non-regulatory product development may be revisited in the future if desired by the County. Currently, we have our hydraulic deliverable being reviewed by FEMA and a potential memorandum to be approved for special handling of hydrologic analysis.

- Custer County BLE: CWCB has been working with FEMA to accommodate community requests for revised or newly identified flood hazard mapping for streams near existing communities. Additional approximate and detailed flood hazard mapping requested will result in better mapping for impacted communities on four flooding sources near the Town of Westcliffe and Town of Silver Cliff. This approximate flood hazard mapping will inadvertently extend into portions of unincorporated Custer County to confluence with Grape Creek.
- Pueblo County BLE: CWCB is working with our contractor to scale back the original Phase 2, Year 1 scope (as requested by FEMA) that included the pre-levee assessment efforts. The study can move forward once contract modifications have been completed.
- Huerfano County Phase 2: CWCB has coordinated with incorporated communities and Huerfano County on mapping of floodways and shallow flooding areas along the major flooding sources. CWCB will coordinate with FEMA to approved mapping approaches proposed for shallow flooding areas.
- Bent County: This floodplain mapping project is on hold as CWCB and FEMA allow the Arkansas River Conservancy District (levee sponsors) to work towards completing the Arkansas River South Levee analysis and certification. There was a meeting December 5, 2023, to discuss proposed approaches for levee certification. The existing levee has previously provided flood protection to the City of Las Animas and portions of unincorporated Bent County. The levee sponsors are working with their contractor to obtain certification and accreditation for the levee so the revised flood hazard mapping would reflect this levee segment as providing flood protection in the Bent Countywide Risk MAP study. CWCB, FEMA, and USACE will continue to coordinate and support the communities and levee sponsors as progress toward levee certification continues. In addition, CWCB provided state funding to develop an Emergency Preparedness Plan and Interior Drainage Analysis for this levee. The EPP has been provided to CWCB for review. Both the EPP and Interior Drainage Analysis products are required as part of the certification and will be included by the levee sponsors as part of their levee certification package. CWCB has made a one-time funding contribution for the sponsors to complete the geotechnical evaluation. Results of the geotechnical information is being used to provide an accurate assessment and identification of the level of effort needed for work associated with obtaining levee certification.
- Otero County: Hydraulic modeling comments were addressed, and package resubmitted in January 2024. This will update floodplain mapping in the Apishapa River area. The revised hydraulics will result in a will require the next community meeting to occur in the next few months.
- El Paso Phase 2 and Templeton Gap (T-Gap) Levee: Data Development continues for updated hydraulic modeling for the El Paso countywide Risk MAP study. Hydrology has already been submitted to FEMA for review. CWCB has provided funding to support coordination between our Risk MAP team and the LOMR Review Partners Team to coordinate consistency in hydrologic and hydraulic modeling approaches consistent with the ongoing study for development projects underway and proposed within these communities. The study also includes addressing data gaps noted in the Templeton Gap pre-levee analyses. While the levee has been shown to provide flood protection in the past, it is not certified/accredited. CWCB's team is working with the City of Colorado Springs, the USACE and FEMA on updated flood hazard mapping in this

area. Certification is required to allow the revised flood hazard mapping to reflect the levee providing flood protection. The City of Colorado Springs has funded revised hydrology for the Templeton Gap area that will be used in the hydraulic updates. CWCB is working with El Paso County to determine if recent flooding events will warrant some study adjustments along isolated flooding reaches. In the meantime, we got the El Paso County hydrology approved by FEMA on 2/13/2024.

- Las Animas County Phase 2: We are repurposing FEMA FY22 grant funds originally identified for Phase 3 and 4 tasks to help cover the data development for community-requested additional flooding sources. Hydrology and hydraulics revisions are underway. Our contractor is in the process of obtaining extra field survey. This field work is anticipated to be completed in the next few weeks.
- Fremont County Phase 2: We are wrapping up detailed hydraulic model development for Phase 2. Floodway development is also taking place. Data will be provided to FEMA for review and approval soon. CWCB is preparing to hold a flood risk review meeting with communities in the coming months. The base model engineering has already been submitted for FEMA review and resulting comments are being addressed.
- Prowers County Phase 2: Base floodplain models are complete and approved. Floodway analysis will be performed in coordination with communities and submitted for FEMA review and approval now that base models are finalized. The Flood Risk Review meeting is anticipated to take place in the coming months.
- Towns of Granada/Holly/Lamar (Prowers County) Pre-Levee assessments: The Lamar Levee Analysis and Mapping Procedure (LAMP) is being reviewed. State-funded Interior Drainage Reports and Emergency Preparedness Plans (EPPs) have been reviewed by CWCB and we are wrapping up comments/input by the communities for inclusion into the EPPs.
- Kiowa County: A countywide BLE/Discovery effort was initiated for all flooding sources with drainage areas greater than a square mile within the county. A kickoff meeting with communities took place in December and we will hold a Discovery meeting in the next couple of months.
- Baca County: The project kickoff meeting was held and we're wrapping up the BLE modeling. The Discovery products are being prepared for a meeting with communities in the next few weeks.
- Crowley County: A countywide BLE/Discovery effort was initiated for all flooding sources with drainage areas greater than a square mile within the county. A kickoff meeting with communities is scheduled for 2/27/2024.

Yampa/White Basins –Moffat County has an ongoing Risk Map study:

- Moffat County: Hydraulic models for specific flooding sources have been approved by FEMA. CWCB finally received FEMA approval on recommended mapping options along Fortification Creek within the City of Craig. We are proceeding with the updated floodplain mapping and hope to share results with the communities very soon.

Dolores/San Juan Basins – La Plata, Dolores, Montezuma, Archuleta, and San Juan Counties, along with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe (SUIT) and Ute Mountain Ute (UMU) Tribe nations, have ongoing studies.

- Southwest Colorado (Montezuma, Dolores, San Juan, La Plata, Archuleta, Hinsdale, Mineral Counties and the SUIT and UMU Tribes) BLE: Our BLE and the Discovery deliverables are being approved. The Phase 2 scope of work will be finalized for detailed study stream reaches once Phase 2 kickoff meetings take place. These meetings will be held with communities and tribal nations impacted by flood hazard modifications. Efforts to get these scheduled are expected to take place over the next few weeks. With FEMA approval, CWCB will reallocate secured funding from the Phase 3-4 scopes of work tasks to accommodate the study of additional streams that were requested by communities during the Discovery meetings in May 2022. Additional funding for re-scoping the Phase 3-4 tasks will be requested in a future FEMA CTP grant cycle.

Multi-Basin Risk Map Projects: Elbert, Mesa, Hinsdale, Lincoln, Saguache, San Miguel, and Teller Counties have ongoing studies that span multiple water basins.

- Elbert County: Phase 2 (Data Development) is underway. Hydrology got approved and hydraulic modeling is underway.
- Mesa County Phase 2: Hydraulics for the Colorado River are approved. The remaining countywide flood hazard mapping is under FEMA review and we expect approval in the coming weeks.
- Flood Risk Information System (Mesa County): Based on additional staff input, minor modifications are being performed on the draft website for this Flood Risk Information System (FRIS) pilot project. CWCB and our Contractor will meet with communities in Mesa County to showcase the site and obtain additional input. Once community feedback has been adequately addressed, the site will go live. This project was presented during the annual Association of Stormwater and Floodplain Managers conference in mid-May 2023 and preliminarily shown to the Mesa County floodplain administrator in September 2023.
- Hinsdale County/Lake City Partial Countywide: The revised 90-day appeal and comment period wrapped up on November 2, 2023. No comments or appeals have been received to date and we're moving forward toward LFD.
- Hinsdale Countywide BLE: Phase 2 scope of work was finalized with the County and we are kicking off field survey efforts very soon.
- Teller County Phase 2: CWCB's Contractor has completed the revised hydrologic analyses for Trout Creek and Fountain Creek. Additional analyses were required to verify flows were reasonable and in line with existing flood flows for the same flooding sources in adjacent counties. Updated reports on the results will soon be shared with the appropriate communities and provided to FEMA for review/approval. Newsletters regarding the revisions will be shared as well. Cripple Creek scope of work might be revised based on the potential to downgrade the effective flood hazard information on some study areas due to lower flood risk in recent times.
- San Miguel Countywide BLE: A countywide BLE/Discovery effort has started initial modeling. An in-person kickoff meeting with communities will be scheduled in the coming months. CWCB and its contractor will be coordinating with communities on identifying new and/or updating effective flood hazard for flooding sources with drainage areas greater than 1 square mile that

were not included in the San Miguel PMR (more updates under the CHAMP Ph3 category below).

- Lincoln Countywide: A countywide BLE/Discovery effort has begun for flooding sources with drainage areas greater than a square mile that were not included with the ongoing Lincoln County PMR revisions (summarized below). CWCB's Contractor has completed the BLE modeling, and a Discovery meeting will be scheduled in March with communities to review results very soon.
- Colorado Hazard Mapping Program (CHAMP) Phase 3: This set of studies originated from the Colorado Senate Bill (15-245) which was put forth as a response to the destructive 2013 flooding along the Front Range. This bill released funding to better assess and map various flood related hazards, including debris flows and erosion, throughout Colorado. In this phase CWCB funded a paper inventory reduction effort through various counties across the state. This would replace and update effective FIRM panels with updated digital flood hazard information. Counties that were affected by 2013 floods where local conditions were clearly changed. Several county projects that were scoped as part of this CHAMP effort are still ongoing, including the ones listed below.
- San Miguel County: This PMR has been on hold for over two years pending as-constructed data from the Town of Telluride for the Valley Floor Restoration project. The Valley Floor Restoration project completely re-aligned the San Miguel River to its historic location through open space areas west of the Town. The dramatic changes along the San Miguel River resulting from the project are being revised with an ongoing LOMR on the effective FIRM and FIS information. Once the LOMR has been issued, the project data will be incorporated into the updated San Miguel River hydraulic analysis and flood hazard mapping for the PMR. CWCB will coordinate with San Miguel County communities through in-person meetings to wrap up the Data Development (Phase 2) before moving forward with development of preliminary products (Phase 3).
- Lincoln County Phases 2-3: We are working to prepare the final mapping and reporting. The Letter of Final Determination is scheduled to be issued March 12, 2024.
- Saguache County: Floodplain mapping has been approved by FEMA for all areas submitted outside of the Town of Crestone. The preliminary products were distributed on January 12, 2024 and the community had 30 days to review and provide feedback on the preliminary products. No comments or issues were raised, and now we are working to prepare the CCO and Public Meeting materials so we can meet again with the communities in the coming weeks.

(Terri Fead, Marta Blanco Castaño)

Environmental Flows Cohort Pilot Program

In 2022, River Network and the Colorado Water Conservation Board co-hosted workshops to gain insight on the barriers and opportunities for utilization and/or development of environmental and recreational flow recommendations within Stream Management Plans. Among the ideas documented in the resulting white paper were to:

- Convene a cohort of river management planning practitioners that are navigating the flow recommendations process, providing skills growth and a place for peer and technical support as they advance their flow recommendations processes.
- Bolster education and training resources for coalitions on the technical aspects of the flow needs assessment and recommendations process.
- Enhance education and resources for coalitions on the stakeholder-driven aspects of the flow recommendations process to bolster collaboration skills and ensure diverse perspectives are included.

River Network and the Colorado Water Conservation Board, among other partners, have begun meeting as a Steering Committee to develop a curriculum and a framework for a pilot program of the Environmental Flows Cohort. The project partners are committed to collaboration and inclusion throughout this process and will outline specific methods to include a variety of perspectives in curriculum design, trainings, and the makeup of the cohort. Inclusion of perspectives beyond an “environmental” lens is a critical part of a successful flow recommendation, and the trainings will include the perspectives of those who may initially feel threatened by a flow recommendation, such as agricultural and municipal water managers and users.

Through trainings and developing a deeper learning cohort to assess flow needs and to develop and meet environmental flow recommendations, River Network and the Colorado Water Conservation Board hope to grow local knowledge and capacity, connect coalitions working on similar challenges, and ultimately increase the number of rivers that have locally driven environmental flow recommendations.

The Steering Committee will begin soliciting applications to participate in the cohort in May. The cohort will begin in July and will go through Spring of 2025, meeting approximately five times during that period.

The result of this pilot cohort will be a replicable and scalable training program that can meet the needs of local coalitions for years to come.

Andrea Harbin Monahan

Staff Training

Congratulations to Willem Lensink, CWCB NFIP CAP Specialist, for earning the title of Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) after successfully passing the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) floodplain managers exam on Feb. 8. The CFM certification program recognizes professionals in the field that have demonstrated exceptional knowledge and competence in floodplain development management, floodplain regulation, floodplain mapping, and flood hazard mitigation.

The role of the nation’s floodplain managers is expanding due to increases in disaster losses, the emphasis on mitigation to alleviate the cycle of damage-rebuild-damage, and a recognized need for professionals to adequately address these issues. This certification program lays the foundation for ensuring that highly qualified individuals are available to meet the challenge of breaking the damage/rebuild cycle on the nation’s human, financial and natural resources.

The CFM exam pass rate for first-time takers, which Willem was, is less than 70% - this is a lower pass rate than the Colorado Bar Exam (80% in 2023). Well done, Willem!

(Doug Mahan)

FEMA NFIP Assessment, State of Colorado compliance

This office continues to coordinate and cooperate with other state departments and divisions, in particular the CO Office of the State Architect (OSA), and the CO Legislature to address deficiencies in the State's administration of the National Flood Insurance Program pertaining to the permitting of State-owned structures and development in the regulatory floodplain as identified in a 2021 FEMA letter summarizing their assessment findings.

On Feb. 20, 2024, the CO Department of Personnel & Administration (DPA) legislative liaison office provided the draft State properties floodplain permit committee bill to our office for review and comment. This bill will present the Office of the State Architect clear land use authority to implement the floodplain permitting procedures. Our comments were returned to the liaison on Feb. 21, 2024. The revised draft bill was provided to and approved by our office the following day.

At the time of this memo, the Colorado Capitol Development Committee (CDC) is scheduled to take up the bill at their Feb. 29, 2024, public hearing to discuss its introduction to the Colorado State Legislature. This office is scheduled to attend the hearing to answer any of the Committee's questions.

(Doug Mahan)

NFIP Community Outreach and Support

This office has conducted four community assistance contacts (CAC) since the beginning of January with the following communities: Town of Rye, Town of Pierce, Town of Wiggins, and Montezuma County. The CAC provides a means to establish or re-establish contact with an NFIP community for the purpose of determining any existing problems or issues and to offer assistance if necessary. The CAC also provides the opportunity to enhance the working relationship between the State or FEMA and NFIP communities and creates a greater awareness of the NFIP and its requirements. Most communities contacted were found to be in good standing. For communities where any issues were found, guidance was provided to help the communities get the issues addressed.

During this same period, our office and FEMA Region 8 staff reached out to the towns of Siebert and Hugo as follow up to their previous inquiry regarding participating in the NFIP.

(Doug Mahan and Willem Lensink)

FEMA Region 8 NFIP Community Assistance Program (CAP) Annual Conference

The 2024 CAP conference was held January 30 through February 1 and was attended by both the CO CAP coordinator and specialist. The purpose of the conference is to inform and educate the R8 state CAP programs of any updates/changes to the program, discuss program challenges/best practices, and maintain a good working relationship between R8 and the associated state CAP programs. Topics presented included FEMA's Future of Flood Risk Data (FFRD) initiative, modernization of FEMA's CAP reporting portal, state floodplain permitting, Flood After Fire, disaster recovery, and state reporting best practices (which was presented by this CO CAP team).

(Doug Mahan and Willem Lensink)

Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC) Federal Grant Application Review

This office assisted the CO Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management's hazard mitigation office with the review and evaluation of BRIC grant applications related to flood

hazard. Following the review, 3 applications were ranked and will be forwarded to FEMA for consideration in this nationally competitive hazard mitigation funding opportunity.

(Doug Mahan)

WATER SUPPLY PLANNING SECTION UPDATES

March 2024 Director's Report - Water Supply Planning

Director's Report Paragraph: The February 27, 2024 IBCC meeting in Golden featured updates from each basin and governor-appointed representatives on key issues for the CWCB Board to hear. The meeting also included a Colorado River Update, legislative session updates, and discussions on future work for IBCC and the C9 Summit. You will hear more about this from IBCC Chair Mitchell. The CWCB Guide, aimed at providing information for CWCB Board, Roundtables, and IBCC, is being refined. Russ Sands and Jeff Rodriguez are conducting a roadshow to share the guide's content with roundtables.

The Water Conditions Monitoring Committee met on February 20, reporting statewide reservoir storage at 100% of median and snowpack at 97% of median. You will also hear a report out from Kat, Emily and Kevin about the current forecast.

The Water and Land Use Planning Alliance, which met on February 15, received updates on the turf replacement program and the Urban Landscape Task Force from Jenna Battson, who also testified before the House Agriculture, Water, and Natural Resources Committee on February 26 regarding a bill on nonfunctional turf installation. The next Alliance meeting will be held in person at the Headwaters Center in Winter Park, CO on May 9.

Following Board approval in November, amendments to 1051 reporting guidelines have been implemented, including mandatory reporting of AWWA M36 Water Loss. Stakeholder engagement efforts to share this change have begun, including email updates to providers, a survey on the new impacts of the new changes, and offering providers free training through the Colorado Water Loss Initiative. The new Colorado Water Loss Control and Management Committee will also convene in March to advance its work plan related to water loss reporting and validator training.

CWCB staff have been assisting in implementing two Executive Orders for Greening Government: Developing Water Efficient Landscaping Policy for State Facilities and reducing potable water consumption by 2% by FY 2024-25 over the FY 2014-15 baseline. Staff is also collaborating with the Capitol Complex facilities team to improve water usage through landscape design for the State Capitol grounds.

Water Supply Reserve Fund Grants Director's Report – March 2024

WATER SUPPLY RESERVE FUND GRANTS:

The following table summarizes the Water Supply Reserve Fund Grants \$50,000 and under were approved by the CWCB Director, Lauren Ris, on February 20, 2024.

Basin	Applicant/Grantee	Name of Water Activity	Basin(s) Account Request	Statewide Account Request	Total Request	Staff Funding Recommendation
Metro	Coalitions & Collaboratives	Clear Creek Watershed Post-Fire Hazards Data Gap Analysis & Update	\$18,750	\$0	\$18,750	\$18,750

Metro	Ken-Caryl West Ranch Water District	KCWRWD Automated Meter Reading for Well Production and Residential Meters Project	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000
Southwest	San Juan Water Conservancy District	Educational Video Series – This is Your Watershed: Upper San Juan River	\$20,250	\$0	\$20,250	\$20,250

Water Plan Grants Director's Report - March 2024

WATER PLAN GRANTS:

The following table summarizes the approved Water Plan Grants \$50,000 and under.

Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request Amount	Staff Recommendation
Conservation & Land Use			
Dominion Water & Sanitation District	Water Efficiency – Regulations and Planning	\$41,600.00	\$41,600.00
Headwaters Alliance	Water Efficiency Planning for Creede, CO	\$49,105.00	\$49,105.00
North Weld County Water District	North Weld County Water District WEP Update	\$38,591.00	\$38,591.00
Thompson School District	Winona Elementary School Low-water Landscaping Upgrade	\$37,886.50	\$37,886.50
Wright-Ingraham Institute	Nexus of Land and Water: Dust on Snow	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Engagement & Innovation			
Ducks Unlimited	Building Community Awareness of Wetlands and Water	\$28,951.00	\$28,951.00
Mountain Studies Institute	Forests to Faucets Teacher Training Workshop Series	\$23,600.00	\$23,600.00
University of Colorado Boulder	Natural Resources Field Seminar - Law of the Colorado River	\$21,314.00	\$21,314.00

Watershed Health & Recreation			
City of Salida	Salida Boat Ramp Relocation	\$35,395.00	\$35,395.00
Total Recommended for Approval			\$296,442.50

INSTREAM FLOW

RECENTLY DECREED ISF WATER RIGHTS: On February 26, 2026, the Division 4 Water Court decreed instream flow (ISF) water rights to the CWCB on a reach of Red Canyon Creek in Case No. 23CW3071 for 5 cfs (04/01 - 04/30), 6.2 cfs (05/01 - 07/31), 3 cfs (08/01 - 09/30), 2.3 cfs (10/01 - 10/31), and 1 cfs (11/01 - 03/31), absolute, with an appropriation date of January 24, 2023. The upstream terminus in this case is the headwaters of Red Canyon Creek, and the lower terminus is at the confluence with Big A Creek. This reach is approximately 3.2 miles long and flows in a southwesterly direction through parts of Montrose County. No statement of oppositions were filed in this case. Colorado Parks and Wildlife recommended this ISF water right to protect the core conservation population of Colorado River cutthroat trout (Gunnison Lineage) residing in Red Canyon Creek.

March 13-14, 2024 Board Meeting Instream Flow and Natural Lake Level Program Summary of Resolved Legal Protection Cases

The Board's Instream Flow ("ISF") Rule 8i(1) states:

In the event the pretrial resolution includes terms and conditions preventing injury or interference and does not involve a modification, or acceptance of injury or interference with mitigation, the Board is not required to review and ratify the pretrial resolution. Staff may authorize its counsel to sign any court documents necessary to finalize this type of pretrial resolution without Board ratification.

Staff has resolved issues of potential injury in the following water court cases. Staff had filed Statements of Opposition in six cases, and obtained an agreement via a letter-in-lieu of filing a Statement of Opposition in three other cases, as described below.

A. STATEMENTS OF OPPOSITION

1. Case No. 21CW3086 (Water Division 2) - Application of Town of Poncha Springs

The Board ratified this Statement of Opposition at its March 2022 meeting. Applicant requested "Change of Water Right, Plan for Augmentation and Appropriative Rights of Exchange." CWCB's stipulation was approved by the Court on February 9, 2024. This case remains pending before the water court Judge and is set for a 3-day trial to begin on January 7, 2025.

The CWCB holds instream flow ("ISF") water rights, including the following, in Water Division 2 in the Arkansas River Headwaters watershed that could have been injured by this application:

Case Number	Stream	Upper Terminus	Lower Terminus	CFS Rate (Dates)	Approp. Date
04CW0084	Green Creek	confl unnamed tributary	confl S Fork Arkansas River	3.9 (4/1 - 8/31) 1.9 (9/1 - 3/31)	01/28/2004

W-4438 (1976)	Pass Creek	headwaters	confl Little Cochetopa Creek	2 (1/1 - 12/31)	01/14/1976
W-4441 (1976)	Grays Creek	headwaters	confl Poncha Creek	4 (1/1 - 12/31)	01/14/1976
W-4659 (1977)	North Fork South Arkansas River	confl McCoy Creek	hdgt North Fork Ditch	10 (1/1 - 12/31)	11/15/1977
W-4660 (1977)	North Fork South Arkansas River	confl North Fork Res	confl McCoy Creek	8 (1/1 - 12/31)	11/15/1977
W-4675 (1977)	Poncha Creek	confl Silver Creek	confl S Arkansas River	8 (1/1 - 12/31)	11/15/1977
79CW0121	Middle Fork South Arkansas River	headwaters in vicinity	confl S Arkansas River	5 (1/1 - 12/31)	03/14/1979

In addition to standard terms regarding measuring devices, accounting and retained jurisdiction, the Applicant has agreed to the following additional protective terms and conditions:

- “The CWCB holds numerous instream flow water rights within Arkansas River Headwaters Watershed that could be injured by the extraterritorial uses of the Poncha Springs Acequia Changed Water Right, as contemplated herein. As a result, and to prevent injury to the CWCB’s instream flow water rights, the Poncha Springs Acequia Changed Water Right shall not be used as an augmentation source for any new structures without filing a Water Court application or obtaining administrative approval with prior notice to the CWCB.
- Poncha Springs’ use of Project Water, the McPherson Ditch water right, and the Friend Ranch Water Rights as replacement sources under this Decree shall be in accordance with any protective terms and conditions regarding the CWCB’s instream flow water rights contained in the Existing Augmentation Plans.
- Before using the Poncha Springs Acequia Changed Water Right as a source of substitute supply in any administrative exchange or trade into storage or otherwise, through or above any instream flow water right, Poncha Springs must first notify the CWCB of the proposed operation. Such notice may be provided electronically through ArkDSS or any similar electronic means utilized by the Division Engineer’s Office or by such other method as the CWCB and Poncha Springs may agree.”

2. Case No. 22CW3026 (Water Division 2) - Application of Sylvan Lakes Metropolitan District

The Board ratified this Statement of Opposition at its July 2022 meeting. Applicant requested “Approval of Plan for Augmentation.” Staff, in cooperation with the Attorney General’s Office, has negotiated a settlement to ensure that the CWCB’s instream flow water rights will not be injured. CWCB’s stipulation was approved by the Court on February 20, 2024. This case remains pending before the water court Judge and is set for a 3-day trial to begin on August 5, 2025.

The CWCB holds instream flow ("ISF") water rights, including the following, in Water Division 2 in the Arkansas River Headwaters watershed that could have been injured by this application:

Case Number	Stream	Upper Terminus	Lower Terminus	CFS Rate (Dates)	Approp. Date
W-4643 (1977)	West Tennessee Creek	confl NF Tennessee Creek	confl Tennessee Creek	5 (1/1 - 12/31)	11/15/1977
82CW0143	Tennessee Creek	conf W Tennessee Creek	confl Longs Gulch	5 (1/1 - 12/31)	06/03/1982
98CW0145	Tennessee Creek	north Section Line	confl St Kevin Gulch	4.5 (10/15 - 5/14) 19 (5/15 - 7/31) 7 (8/1 - 10/14)	12/09/1998
98CW0146	Tennessee Creek	confl St Kevin Gulch	confl E Fk Arkansas River	19 (5/15 - 7/31) 9 (8/1 - 10/14) 6 (10/15 - 5/14)	12/09/1998
98CW0151	Tennessee Creek	confl Longs Gulch	north Section Line	17 (5/15 - 7/31) 5.5 (8/1 - 10/14) 3 (10/15 - 5/14)	12/09/1998

In addition to standard terms regarding measuring devices, accounting and retained jurisdiction, the Applicant has agreed to the following additional protective terms and conditions:

- “The CWCB’s instream flow water rights on Tennessee Creek decreed in Case Nos. 82CW143, 98CW145, 98CW146 and 98CW151 and on West Tennessee Creek decreed in Case No. W-4643 are subject to the uses and exchanges of water being made by the Applicant for diversions of the Hartner Ditch No. 2 water right pursuant to practices in existence on the date of appropriation of the instream flow rights, whether or not previously confirmed by court order or decree. § 37-92-102(3)(b), C.R.S. This provision applies to diversions for the size of the ponds as they existed at the time of the ISF appropriation, which is the same as the pond surface area as of the date of this decree and shall not apply to any expansion of ponds or expansion of diversions of the Hartner Ditch No. 2 that may occur in the future. This provision applies only to diversions of the Hartner Ditch No. 2 in the location on West Tennessee Creek existing as of the date of this decree and returned to Tennessee Creek in the location existing as of the date of this decree, as depicted on Exhibit A.”

3. Case No. 23CW0005 (Water Division 4) - Application of Halo Ranch LLC

The Board ratified this Statement of Opposition at its July 2023 meeting. Applicant requested “Change of Water Right.” Staff, in cooperation with the Attorney General’s Office, has negotiated a settlement to ensure that the CWCB’s instream flow water rights will not be injured. CWCB’s stipulation was approved by the Court on January 18, 2024. The final Decree was entered on February 20, 2024.

The CWCB holds instream flow ("ISF") water rights, including the following, in Water Division 4 in the Tomichi watershed that could have been injured by this application:

Case Number	Stream	Upper Terminus	Lower Terminus	CFS Rate (Dates)	Approp. Date
80CW0132 (Segment 2)	Tomichi Creek	confl Marshall Creek	confl Quartz Creek	18 (1/1 - 12/31)	03/17/1980

In addition to standard terms regarding measuring devices, accounting and retained jurisdiction, the Applicant has agreed to the following additional protective terms and conditions:

- “The water diverted at the APOD will be limited to the historical irrigation on the lands depicted on Exhibit A. The remaining 1.6 cfs decreed to the Bridge No. 40 Ditch will not be used to irrigate the acreage depicted on the Exhibit A map.”
- “The APOD can only be operated when and in the amount that water is physically and legally available at the original headgate of the Bridge No. 40 Ditch. Diversions at the original point of diversion, APOD, and any combination thereof are further limited to the amount legally and physically available at the original point of diversion.”

4. Case No. 21CW3166 (Water Division 5) - Application of Peter M. McGrath and Janet E. Fox

The Board ratified this Statement of Opposition at its March 2022 meeting. Applicant requested “Conditional Storage Water Rights, Approval of Plan for Augmentation and Appropriative Right of Exchange.” Staff, in cooperation with the Attorney General’s Office, has negotiated a settlement to ensure that the CWCB’s instream flow water rights will not be injured. CWCB’s stipulation was approved by the Court on February 16, 2024. A Motion for Entry of Ruling was filed on February 16, 2024. This case remains pending before the water court Referee.

The CWCB holds instream flow ("ISF") water rights, including the following, in Water Division 5 in the Roaring Fork watershed that could have been injured by this application:

Case Number	Stream	Upper Terminus	Lower Terminus	CFS Rate (Dates)	Approp. Date
W-2941 (1976)	Capitol Creek	outlet Capitol Lake	confl Snowmass Creek	10 (1/1 - 12/31)	01/14/1976
85CW0639	Roaring Fork River	confl Fryingpan River	confl Crystal River	75 (10/1 - 3/31) 145 (4/1 - 9/30)	11/08/1985
85CW0646	Roaring Fork River	confl Maroon Creek	confl Fryingpan River	30 (10/1 - 3/31) 55 (4/1 - 9/30)	11/08/1985
W-2943B (1976)	Snowmass Creek	confl Capitol Creek	confl Roaring Fork River	12 (4/1 - 10/15) 11 (10/16 - 3/31)	01/14/1976
92CW0281*	Snowmass Creek	confl Capitol Creek	confl Roaring Fork River	10.5 (4/1 - 10/15)	09/15/1992

* Increased

In addition to standard terms regarding measuring devices, accounting and retained jurisdiction, the Applicant has agreed to the following additional protective terms and conditions:

- “All evaporation from the McGrath Pond System and additional irrigation around the new residence will be augmented or administered pursuant to the plan for augmentation described below. Applicants shall install operable outlets for the McGrath Pond System. The McGrath Pond System water right may also be diverted when in priority to flow through the McGrath Pond System to provide freshening flows in the pond system. Such diversion is fully depletive to Capitol Creek between the Boram & White Ditch headgate and the location where the water returns to Capitol Creek.”
- “The CWCB has instream flow water rights in the Roaring Fork River watershed decreed in Colorado Water Division 5, Case Nos. W-2941 (1976), W-2943 (1976), 85CW639, 85CW646 and 92CW281. If a valid local call were to occur, the Ponds will be lowered commensurate with the evaporation rate, and irrigation diversions to or through the McGrath House Pond intended for irrigation of the newly irrigated areas will cease. A local call scenario where the Ponds will be lowered commensurate with the evaporation rate is provided in Table 7. In such an event, Applicants may continue irrigating pursuant to any exempt well that may be located on the property. In addition, so long as Applicants’ interest in the senior Boram and White Ditch right is not curtailed, that interest may continue to flow through the McGrath Pond System so that Applicants may continue to use that senior right for irrigation of historically irrigated lands, but not the “New Irrigated Areas” shown on Figure 2. Anytime the Applicants are diverting under their interest in the senior direct flow water right in the Boram and White Ditch, Applicants must be using the water so diverted for irrigation purposes on the lands historically irrigated under Applicants’ interest in the Boram and White Ditch, and not simply allowing the water to flow through the McGrath Pond System. The Applicants have the ability to by-pass any out-of- priority diversions to storage in the Ponds. See Figure 2. All diversions to the McGrath House Pond shall be curtailed at the point of turnout for the McGrath House Pond whenever such diversions are not replaced in their entirety by operation of this plan for augmentation.”
- “The water to be provided for augmentation shall be of a quality and quantity so as to meet the requirements for which the water has been used by senior downstream appropriators, and therefore meets the requirements of C.R.S. § 37-92-305(5).”

5. Case No. 22CW3042 (Water Division 5) - Application of Red Mountain Ranch Partnership, LLLP

The Board ratified this Statement of Opposition at its September 2022 meeting. Applicant requested “Conditional Ground Water Right, Change to Alternate Point of Diversion, and Plan for Augmentation.” Staff, in cooperation with the Attorney General’s Office, has negotiated a settlement to ensure that the CWCB’s instream flow water rights will not be injured. CWCB’s stipulation was approved by the Court on February 8, 2024. This case remains pending before the water court Referee.

The CWCB holds instream flow (“ISF”) water rights, including the following, in Water Division 5 in the Eagle watershed that could have been injured by this application:

Case Number	Stream	Upper Terminus	Lower Terminus	CFS Rate (Dates)	Approp. Date
80CW0124	Eagle River	confl Brush Creek	confl Colorado River	50 (10/1 - 4/30) 130 (5/1 - 9/30)	03/17/1980
80CW0126	Eagle River	confl Lake Creek	confl Brush Creek	45 (10/1 - 4/30) 110 (5/1 - 9/30)	03/17/1980

In addition to standard terms regarding measuring devices, accounting and retained jurisdiction, the Applicant has agreed to the following additional protective terms and conditions:

- “Applicant will divert water from the Red Mountain Ranch Tree Farm Well and its two APODs under this new conditional right to provide for year-round indoor commercial demands, and to provide for outdoor winter irrigation of a nursery and tree farm. In Case No. 84CW310, the Court defined the outdoor irrigation season as the period between May 15 through October 31. This decree does not authorize indoor irrigation use with the Red Mountain Ranch Tree Farm Well or its two APODs.”
- “Applicant will replace out-of-priority depletions through its existing CRWCD contracts with water stored in the augmentation sources identified above, or as otherwise allowed based on additional or alternative augmentation supplies Applicant may require. When the CWCB’s Eagle River instream flow water rights decreed in Case Nos. 80CW124 and 80CW126 are unmet and being administered, the Applicant must use upstream replacement sources to replace out-of-priority depletions.”
- “Calls originating on the Eagle River, including the CWCB’s Eagle River instream flow water rights decreed in Case Nos. 80CW124 and 80CW126, will be augmented via CRWCD contract water coming from the Eagle Park Reservoir.”

6. Case No. 18CW3052 (Water Division 7) - Application of Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company

The Board ratified this Statement of Opposition at its March 2019 meeting. Applicant requested “Change of Water Rights and for Confirmation of Relocated Points of Diversion.” Staff, in cooperation with the Attorney General’s Office, has negotiated a settlement to ensure that the CWCB’s instream flow water rights will not be injured. CWCB’s stipulation was approved by the Court on February 6, 2024. This case remains pending before the water court Referee.

The CWCB holds instream flow ("ISF") water rights, including the following, in Water Division 7 in the Lower Dolores and Upper Dolores watersheds that could have been injured by this application:

Case Number	Stream	Upper Terminus	Lower Terminus	CFS Rate (Dates)	Approp. Date
W-1346 (1975)	Dolores River	McPhee Res Dam	confl San Miguel River	78 (1/1 - 12/31)	05/01/1975

In addition to standard terms regarding measuring devices, accounting and retained jurisdiction, the Applicant has agreed to the following additional protective terms and conditions:

- “The 1885 Conditional Water Right shall only be diverted to storage for subsequent release to irrigation use and shall not be used on an instantaneous direct flow basis.”
- “MVIC shall not make diversions of water to storage in Narraguinnep Reservoir under the 1885 Conditional Water Right so long as the water rights decreed to McPhee Reservoir, described in

Exhibit A, are legally authorized to divert under application of the State of Colorado's prior appropriation system."

- "MVIC shall not make diversions pursuant to the 1885 Conditional Water Right after June 30th of each year during such times as the water rights decreed to McPhee Reservoir, described in Exhibit A, are legally entitled to divert under application of the State of Colorado's prior appropriation system. So long as the foregoing conditions of this paragraph 11.b. are satisfied, the limitation on MVIC's diversions after June 30th pursuant the preceding sentence shall be administered as a general subordination to the water rights presently decreed to McPhee Reservoir as described in Exhibit A. Before diversions are made pursuant to the 1885 Conditional Water Right after June 30 of any year, MVIC shall confirm with the Division Engineer and his Water Commissioners the foregoing limitations are not in effect and that it may legally make such diversions, provided that, pursuant to Section 11(b)(i) above, MVIC shall not place a call in order to receive water under the 1885 Conditional Water Right."
- "MVIC's monthly diversion pursuant to the 1885 Conditional Water Right shall be subject to a 10 year rolling average limitation on deliveries in each month, such that the 10 year average of diversions in the applicable month under the water right shall not exceed the amounts in the [decree] table, for an average annual volume of 18,117 acre-feet per year."
- "If water diverted pursuant to MVIC's 1885 Conditional Water Right remains in storage in Naraguinnep Reservoir on or after November 1st of any year, the Division Engineer shall apply that volume as carryover against the subsequent water year's fill of the senior March 15, 1888 storage priority decreed to Naraguinnep Reservoir."

B. LETTERS-IN-LIEU

The following case(s) were resolved by Staff through negotiated letters in lieu of filing water court Statements of Opposition. This method of settlement is preferred when facts and time allow such negotiation before the Statement of Opposition period ends. In each case, CWCB staff will continue to monitor the proposed rulings and decrees. In each case, Applicant has agreed to not oppose a motion to intervene if the agreed upon terms are not included. The following were negotiated to resolution:

1. Case No. 23CW3015 (Water Division 3) - Application of Sustainable Water Augmentation Group, Inc.

During the September 2023 Water Court Resume Review, CWCB staff identified concerns regarding potential injury to CWCB's many decreed instream flow water rights in Water Division 3. This case was resolved with CWCB by a letter agreement, dated February 27, 2024, by which CWCB agreed not to file a Statement of Opposition, provided Applicant incorporates the following terms and conditions into any draft and final decrees and Applicant agrees to not oppose a motion to intervene by CWCB if such terms and conditions are not included.

- "Additional wells may only be added as Member Wells to this Decree through the filing of an application seeking water court approval to add the wells and subsequent adjudication of a decree by the water court approving the addition of the wells, or through an approved substitute water supply plan."

- “Prior to Applicant obtaining a decree approving an appropriative right of exchange in addition to the exchange claimed herein, Applicant may operate exchanges that are administratively approved, provided they will not be operated in a manner that injures a decreed instream flow water right held by the Colorado Water Conservation Board.”

2. Case No. 23CW3216 (Water Division 5) - Application of The Wonderful Company LLC

During the December 2023 Water Court Resume Review, CWCB staff identified concerns regarding potential injury to CWCB’s instream flow water rights decreed in Case Nos. W-2948 (1976), 85CW639 and 85CW646 on the Roaring Fork River. This case was resolved with CWCB by a letter agreement, dated February 28, 2024, by which CWCB agreed not to file a Statement of Opposition, provided Applicant incorporates the following terms and conditions into any draft and final decrees and Applicant agrees to not oppose a motion to intervene by CWCB if such terms and conditions are not included.

- “Local Call: In the event of a local call above the confluence of the Roaring Fork and Fryingpan Rivers, including CWCB’s instream flow water rights decreed in Case Nos. W-2948(76) or 85CW646, Applicant will cease all irrigation diversions from the RIC Pump and Pipeline No. 2, First Enlargement.”

3. Case No. 23CW3223 (Water Division 5) - Application of Independence 44681, LLC

During the December 2023 Water Court Resume Review, CWCB staff identified concerns regarding potential injury to CWCB’s instream flow water rights decreed in Case Nos. W-2948 (1976), 85CW639, and 85CW646 on the Roaring Fork River. This case was resolved with CWCB by a letter agreement, dated February 27, 2024, by which CWCB agreed not to file a Statement of Opposition, provided Applicant incorporates the following terms and conditions into any draft and final decrees and Applicant agrees to not oppose a motion to intervene by CWCB if such terms and conditions are not included.

Applicant agrees to add terms to reflect the following statements:

- The Independence 44681 Augmentation Tank will be buried with no evaporative losses. The total claimed storage volume is 0.40 acre-feet, including the 0.20 acre-feet capacity of the tank and a refill right of up to 0.20 acre-feet. The refill right will allow the Applicant to keep the tank full when in priority and to refill the tank in the event it has to be drained for cleaning, maintenance, or repair of the tank or appurtenant valves or pipes. Applicant agrees to specify the 0.20 acre-feet storage right and 0.20 acre-feet refill right in any proposed ruling in this case.
- The total volume of diversions from the well is estimated at 0.846 acre-feet, as shown on Tables 1 and 2. However, Applicant may need to refill the tank as described above, up to 0.20 acre-feet in a given year. Thus, the total annual pumping volumetric limitation should be 1.046 acre-feet. Applicant agrees to specify that limit in any proposed ruling in this case, and in the resulting well permit.
- If the tank contains insufficient water to augment depletions that irrigation from the well will be curtailed so that domestic uses may continue.

- The three exchanges claimed herein are junior to CWCB's previously decreed instream flow water rights on the Roaring Fork River. The exchanges cannot operate when such decreed instream flows within the particular exchange reach are not met and the stream is being administered. At such time, either the Independence 44681 Well shall be curtailed, or out-of-priority diversions from the well will be augmented using local replacement water as described in the "local call" section of the plan for augmentation described herein.



COLORADO

**Colorado Water
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

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Jared Polis, Governor

Dan Gibbs, DNR Executive Director

Lauren Ris, CWCB Director

TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Kirk Russell, P.E., Finance Section Chief

Board Meeting: March 13-14, 2024 Board Meeting

Directors Report: Water Project Loans
Interest Rates

Introduction

The CWCB establishes interest rates bi-monthly for the Water Project Loan Program (per Financial Policy #7).

The current rates for a 30-year term are as follows:

- 2.10% - Agricultural
- 2.95% - Low-income Municipal
- 3.35% - Middle-income Municipal
- 3.75% - High-income Municipal
- 6.00% - Commercial
- 2.00% - Hydroelectric

The standard loan term is 30 years. Rates are reduced by 0.25% for 20-year loans, and by 0.90% for 10-year loans. Rates are increased by 0.25% for 40-year loans.

The rates can also be found on the CWCB web site under the “Loans and Grants” tab. These rates will be applicable for loans presented at this Board meeting.





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Jared Polis, Governor

Dan Gibbs, DNR Executive Director

Lauren Ris, CWCB Director

TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Matthew Stearns, P.E., Project Development

DATE: March 13-14, 2024 Board Meeting

DIRECTORS REPORT: Water Project Loan Program
Prequalified Project List and Loan Prospect Summary

The Finance Section compiles a list of prequalified projects for the Water Project Loan Program. In order to be included on this list, potential borrowers must submit a Loan Application and three years of financial statements to the CWCB staff. In addition, Borrowers requesting to be placed on the Prequalification Project List have a defined project, have performed preliminary engineering, and have a reasonable estimate of the project costs.

Projects on this list fit the initial criteria of the Water Project Loan Program; however, the list does not constitute loan approval. In order to receive a loan, borrowers must additionally submit a completed Loan Feasibility Study for review by CWCB staff. Staff will then prepare a recommendation to the Board for approval at a future CWCB meeting. Projects will remain on this list for one year from the date of the application or until Board approval of a loan.



Prequalified Project List

BORROWER	PROJECT NAME	APPLICATION DATE	BASIN	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	PROJECT COST/LOAN AMOUNT
Previously Approved Applications					
Sustainable Water Augmentation Group, Inc.	Water Rights Purchase	July 1, 2022	Rio Grande	The Corporation is purchasing two irrigated farm/ranch properties where 39 center pivot irrigation circles will be retired, and surface water rights will be used to replace stream depletions to the Rio Grande caused by groundwater withdrawals of member wells.	\$39,200,000
Total					\$39,200,000



The Finance Section also compiles a list of potential borrowers/projects for the Water Project Loan Program. This list represents borrowers that have contacted the CWCB about a potential need for funding but have not submitted a loan application and loan feasibility study. Projects are also identified if they have a Health/Safety (*), Economic Impact (†), or Federal Match (‡) component.

BORROWER	PROJECT NAME	POTENTIAL LOAN AMOUNT
South Platte		
NISP Participants	NISP	\$750,000,000
Woods Lake Mutual Ditch Company	Culvert Replacement	\$150,000
Town of Kersey	Water Line Project	TBD
Riverside Reservoir and Land Company	Ditch Rehabilitation	\$250,000
Town of Bennett	Raw Water Tank	\$500,000
Evergreen Metro District	Evergreen Dam Enlargement	TBD
Left Hand Water District	Dry Creek Reservoir	TBD
Shawnee Water Consumers Association	Reservoir Rehabilitation	\$200,000
Boulder and White Rock Ditch & Res. Co.	Reservoir Dredging	TBD
Western Mutual Ditch Company	Reservoir Dredging	TBD
Bergen Ditch and Reservoir Company (*)	Reservoir Rehabilitation	\$140,000
Louviers Water and Sanitation District	Regional Connection	TBD
City of Fort Collins	Irrigation Ditch Piping	\$20,000,000
City of Fort Collins	Halligan Reservoir Enlargement	\$120,000,000
SPROWG Participants	SPROWG	\$1,800,000,000
City of Milliken (*)	Hillsboro Dam Rehabilitation	\$15,000,000
Colorado Parks and Wildlife (*)	Tarryall Dam Rehabilitation	\$5,000,000
Standley Lake Operating Committee	Reservoir Expansion	TBD
Switzerland Park HOA	Reservoir Rehabilitation	\$300,000
Danna Ortiz	Knouth Reservoir Rehabilitation	\$3,000,000
Loup Reservoir Company	Loup Reservoir Rehabilitation	TBD
Arthur Irrigation Company	Ditch Rehabilitation	TBD
Handy Ditch Company	Welch Reservoir Rehabilitation	\$1,000,000
Glacier Lake Property Owners	Glacier Lake Outlet Rehabilitation	TBD
Central, City of	Raw Water Pipeline	TBD
Denver, City of	Floodplain Improvement	TBD
Consolidated Mutual Water Company (*)	Reservoir Rehabilitation	TBD
Wadley Farms 3 HOA	Reservoir Rehabilitation	TBD
Loveland Lake and Ditch Company	Reservoir Rehabilitation	TBD
Inverness Water and Sanitation District	Reservoir Improvements	\$2,000,000
Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District	Reservoir Improvements	\$1,600,000
Arapahoe County W/WW Authority	Reservoir Improvements	TBD
Silver Lake Ditch Company	Tunnel Rehabilitation	\$150,000
Highland Ditch Company	Raw Water Pipeline	TBD
Subtotal		\$2,719,290,000



BORROWER	PROJECT NAME	POTENTIAL LOAN AMOUNT
Arkansas		
Town of Manitou Springs	Raw Water Pipeline	\$3,000,000
City of Woodland Park	Storage Project	\$1,000,000
Fort Lyon Canal Company	Adobe Creek Enlargement	\$8,000,000
Deweese Ditch and Reservoir Co. (+)	Reservoir Enlargement	TBD
Holbrook Ditch Company	Reservoir Enlargement	TBD
Lake County	New Reservoir	TBD
Catlin Canal Company	Canal System Improvement	\$1,500,000
Donala Water and Sanitation District	Ditch Construction	TBD
Mesa McKenna Mutual Ditch Company	Ditch Piping Project	TBD
Town of Avondale (*)	New Well	TBD
Fort Lyons Canal Company (+)	Diversion Structure Repair	\$500,000
Aguilar, Town of (‡)	New Augmentation Reservoir	TBD
Huerfano County	Water Rights Purchase	\$1,200,000
Rocky Ford High Line Canal Company	Diversion Structure Repair	TBD
Lincoln Park Crooked Ditch Company	Ditch Rehabilitation	TBD
Huerfano Cucharas Irrigation Company	Reservoir Rehabilitation	\$200,000
Fruitland Water Company	Ditch Piping Project	\$400,000
Walsh, Town of	Water Rights Purchase	\$560,000
Deweese Dye Ditch Company	Outlet Pipe Rehabilitation	\$100,000
Triview Metropolitan District	New Reservoir	\$8,000,000
Subtotal		\$24,460,000
San Miguel/Juan		
Town of Bayfield	Ditch Piping Project	\$500,000
Redmesa Reservoir and Ditch Company(*)	Redmesa Reservoir Enlargement	\$11,500,000
City of Cortez	Distribution System (Loss Prevention)	\$10,000,000
Webber Ditch Company (‡)	Ditch Piping Project	TBD
Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation Dist. (*)	Raw Water Pipeline Rehabilitation	TBD
Farmers Water Development Company	Reservoir Rehabilitation	TBD
Lone Cone Ditch and Reservoir Company	Reservoir Rehabilitation	TBD
Sellers McClane Reservoir and Ditch Co.	Reservoir Rehabilitation	TBD
Subtotal		\$22,000,000
Colorado		
Orchard Mesa Irrigation District	Lateral Piping	\$300,000
Silt Water Conservancy District	Harvey Gap Reservoir	\$300,000
Middle Ditch	Ditch Piping Project	TBD
New Multa Trina Ditch Company (‡)	Ditch Piping Project	TBD
Gunther Covers	Christenson Dam	TBD
Town of Minturn	New Well Field	\$5,220,000
Flannery Water Company, LLC	Reservoir Rehabilitation	TBD
Fruita, City of	Reservoir Rehabilitation	TBD
Circle C Ranch	King Dam Rehabilitation	TBD
Royal Elk Ranch	Ditch Rehabilitation	\$2,000,000
Clifton Water District	New Reservoir	\$8,000,000
Morman Mesa Ditch Company	Ditch Piping	\$100,000
Subtotal		\$15,920,000



BORROWER	PROJECT NAME	POTENTIAL LOAN AMOUNT
Gunnison		
Bostwick Park Water Conservancy District	Dam Construction	TBD
Ouray, City of	Water Supply Pipeline	\$750,000
Grand Mesa Water Users Association	Reservoir Rehabilitation	\$600,000
Crested Butte, Town of	Dam Outlet Rehabilitation	TBD
Olathe, Town of	Water Meter Replacement	TBD
Lone Cabin Ditch Company	Ditch Rehabilitation	TBD
Otter Pond HOA	Dam Rehabilitation	\$650,000
Project 7 Water Authority	Raw Water Pipeline	TBD
Subtotal		\$2,000,000
North Platte		
Colorado Parks and Wildlife (*)	North Michigan Creek Reservoir	\$6,000,000
Spicer Ranches, LTD	Reservoir Rehabilitation	TBD
Walden, Town of	New Well	TBD
Subtotal		\$6,000,000
Rio Grande		
Manassa Land & Irrigation Co.	Ditch Rehabilitation	\$6,000,000
Baca Grande WSD	Water Rights Purchase	\$1,000,000
Sanchez Ditch and Reservoir Co.	Dam Rehabilitation	\$4,000,000
Rio Grande WCD - Subdistrict #1	Water Rights Purchase	\$5,000,000
Colorado Parks and Wildlife	Alberta Park Dam Rehabilitation	\$4,000,000
La Jara, Town of	System Rehabilitation	TBD
Crestone, Town of	Water Rights Purchase	\$200,000
San Luis Valley WCD	Water Rights Purchase	\$500,000
Rio Grande WCD	Water Rights Purchase	\$3,000,000
Costilla County Conservancy District	Water Rights Purchase	\$300,000
Subtotal		\$24,000,000
Yampa		
Town of Oak Creek (*)	Reservoir Rehabilitation	\$5,600,000
Rio Blanco WCD	Wolf Creek Reservoir	\$100,000,000
Bear River Reservoir Company	Stillwater #1 Dam Rehabilitation	TBD
Marc Etchart	Procter Reservoir Rehabilitation	TBD
Subtotal		\$105,600,000





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Jared Polis, Governor

Dan Gibbs, DNR Executive Director

Lauren Ris, CWCB Director

To: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

From: Kirk Russell, P.E., Finance Section Chief
Jessica Halvorsen, Program Assistant

Board Meeting: March 13-14, 2024 Board Meeting

Directors Report: Water Project Loan Program, Design & Construction Status Report

The CWCB Loan Program has Substantially Completed (3) projects in Fiscal Year 23/24 as shown in the Table. There are currently (53) projects authorized to receive loan funding totaling \$453M. There are (47) projects currently under contract and in the Design/Construction phase totaling \$256M. The attached spreadsheet summarizes the status of all loans. A detailed description about each project is provided on the CWCB website under Water Project Loan Program. cwcb.colorado.gov/loans-grants/water-project-loan-program

	Borrower	Project	County	Loan Amount	Complete
1	Sunnyside Park Ditch Company	Sunnyside Park Ditch Piping	Chaffee	\$510,915	8/1/23
2*	City of Grand Junction	Carson Reservoir Dam Rehabilitation Project	Mesa	4,343,000	1/24/24 (a)
3*	Orphan Wells of Wiggins	Kiowa Creek Dam Rehabilitation	South Platte	\$357,873	3/1/24
	* included in Director's Report		Total	\$5,211,788	

Fiscal Year 23/24 has added and preserved 637 acre-feet of reservoir storage; (a) 637af





Sunnyside Park Ditch Piping

Sunnyside Park Ditch Company
Substantially Complete August 1, 2023

The newly installed 3,000 feet of pipe will carry irrigation water below grade, reducing the risk that sluffing from the river bank will impede flows.



Project Description

The Sunnyside Park Ditch Company was incorporated in 1884 and provides direct flow irrigation water to 17 shareholders 5 miles northwest of Salida. The water is used year round for stock water, and from April through October for irrigation of about 1,000 acres. The upper portion of the ditch runs along the Arkansas River for approximately 2 miles, and passes by two growing subdivisions south of SH 291.

The project piped approximately 3,000 feet of the ditch where it passes near the two subdivisions. The ditch had failed multiple times in this area prior to the project, and Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) identified it as needing treatment. Piping the ditch in this area eliminated ditch failures and seepage losses, and reduce overall maintenance requirements. The project was primarily funded with NRCS grant funds, a Chaffee County Common Ground grant, Colorado State Conservation Board grant funds, and a WSRF grant approved at the March 2022 CWCB Board Meeting in the amount of \$127,300. The loan covered interim project costs. Construction began in September of 2022 and was completed in the spring of 2023.

P R O J E C T D A T A		
<i>Sponsor:</i> Sunnyside Park Ditch Company	<i>County:</i> Chaffee	<i>Water Source:</i> Arkansas River
<i>Type of Project:</i> Ditch Piping		<i>Board Approval Date:</i> July 2022
<i>Loan Terms: (Original)</i> \$654,480.00 <i>(Final)</i> \$510,915.02 @ 1.00% for 30 years		
<i>Design Engineer:</i> Natural Resources Conservation Service		
<i>Contractor:</i> H&T Construction, LLC.		



Carson Reservoir Dam Rehabilitation

City of Grand Junction
Substantially Complete January 1, 2024

Carson Reservoir is a 56-foot-high, 620-foot-long earth dam that underwent repairs between 2021 and 2023. Below are images showing the intake structure/gate and downstream view of the overflow weir.



Project Description

The City of Grand Junction's Utilities Department oversees the Water Services Division which is responsible for operation and maintenance of the water supply, treatment, and distribution system. This system serves a population of about 30,000 and is expected to increase to about 49,000 by 2069.

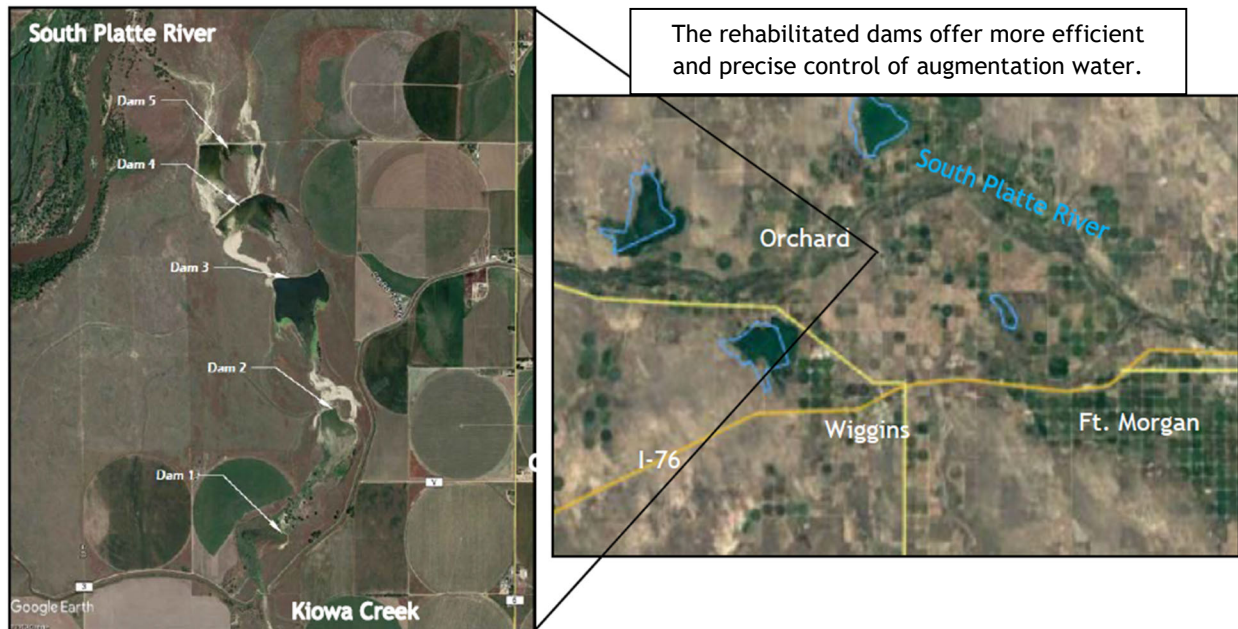
The Carson Reservoir Dam is a 56-foot-high, 620-foot-long earthen dam constructed in 1947 which impounds a 520 acre-foot reservoir on Kannah Creek. The State Engineers Office (SEO), Comprehensive Dam Safety Evaluation raised several safety concerns about the Carson Reservoir Dam, and in response the City contracted with Ayers Associates to evaluate the concerns and to design improvements. ESCO Construction was contracted by the City to make the repairs, which included developing an overflow weir, rehabilitating the spillway chute, constructing a new intake structure, rehabilitating the outlet works pipe, constructing a seepage collection channel, and installing a flood early warning system. SEO - Dam Safety Branch provided a notice of completion December 2023 and the Project was substantially completed on January 1st, 2024.

P R O J E C T D A T A		
<i>Sponsor:</i> City of Grand Junction	<i>County:</i> Mesa	<i>Water Source:</i> Kannah Creek
<i>Type of Project:</i> Dam Rehabilitation		<i>Board Approval Date:</i> November 2020
<i>Loan Terms: (Original)</i> \$3,030,000 <i>(Amended)</i> \$4,343,000 <i>(Final)</i> \$4,343,000 @ 1.00% for 10 years		
<i>Design Engineer:</i> Ayers Associates Inc		
<i>Contractor:</i> ESCO Construction Inc		



Kiowa Creek Dam Rehabilitation

Orphan Wells of Wiggins LLC
Substantially Complete March 1, 2024



Project Description

The Orphan Wells of Wiggins, LLC (Company) was incorporated in 2003 to build a recharge system that generates augmentation credits for shareholders who own junior wells in areas not served by an agricultural ditch system. This recharge system pumps water from a recharge well to recharge ponds during the winter months where it infiltrates to groundwater. This water reaches the South Platte during the irrigation season in order to offset shareholder well withdrawals. In case of an immediate need to offset depletions the Company can pump water from an augmentation well directly to the river. The Company has 15 members and 225 shares.

The loan paid for repairs to the Kiowa Creek Recharge Project site for dam safety concerns. Kiowa Creek Recharge Facility includes five ponds and dams. Repair on the non-jurisdictional dams was encouraged by the State Engineer's Office Dam Safety Branch after the dams failed multiple times and most recently in the spring of 2020. Construction began on the Kiowa Creek dam repairs in July 2020. The loan was increased in the fall of 2021 to cover additional construction efforts related to Orphan Wells of Wiggins' augmentation infrastructure and work was completed in the spring of 2024.

P R O J E C T D A T A			
Sponsor: Orphan Wells of Wiggins LLC		County: Morgan	Water Source: South Platte River
Type of Project: Dam Rehabilitation		Board Approval Date: May 2021	
Loan Terms: (Original) \$148,470 (Final) \$357,873.42 @ 1.15% for 30 yrs			
Design Engineer: Adaptive Resources, Inc.			
Contractor: Jones Irrigation Service			

PROJECTS UNDER CONTRACT

PROJECT						STATUS		
Borrower	Project Name	Basin	Contract #	Amount	Manager	Design	Construction	Update
PROJECT						STATUS		
Borrower	Project Name	Basin	Contract #	Amount	Manager	Design	Construction	Update
Amity Mutual Irrigation Company	Queen Reservoir Dam Rehabilitation	Arkansas	CT2021-2224	\$2,600,000	Joshua Godwin	100%	5%	Construction to begin in April 2024.
Billings Ditch Company	Billings Ditch Implementation Project	Rio Grande	CT2022-2886	\$171,000	Cole Bedford	100%	99%	This project is being managed by the Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Foundation to replace the Billings Ditch diversion structure. A water plan grant for the same project was contracted in October 2021. Construction is complete except for final punch list items. Substantial Completion on March 1.
Board of Water Works of Pueblo	Southside Diversion Dam Improvement Project	Arkansas	CT2024-1240	\$9,750,000	Joshua Godwin	100%	50%	The project will update a large diversion structure on the Arkansas River. Design work is complete. Project Bidding took place in September 2023. Construction work is currently underway and expected to be complete in Spring 2024.
Breckenridge, Town of	Goose Pasture Tarn Dam Rehabilitation	Colorado	CT2023-0673	\$13,000,000	Cole Bedford	100%	98%	The project has been under construction since 2020. This loan is intended to cover the costs of the second half of the project which is starting in the fall of 2022. The first draw took place in December 2022. Construction will continue into 2024.
Crawford Clipper Ditch Company	Crawford Clipper Ditch Improvements	Gunnison	CT2024-2009	\$750,000	Joshua Godwin	90%	25%	Earthwork on stabilizing pond began at the beginning of Feb. Easements for sedimentation pond were acquired. Construction is on schedule.
Dove Creek, Town of	Reservoir No. 2	Southwest	CT2022-3321	\$800,000	Joshua Godwin	80%	0%	This project will support the Town of Dove creek in constructing a new storage reservoir for municipal supply. The Town also received an \$800,000 WPG for the project. Subsequent engineering work suggests that project costs will exceed current funding. The Town is currently focused on securing additional funds.
Duke Ditch Company	Piping the Duke Ditch	Gunnison	CT2017-0915	\$90,000	Matt Stearns	100%	0%	NRCS finalized the design in August 2018. Federal grant expired. Company is evaluating options of applying for a loan increase and completing project without federal grant dollars.
East Mesa Water Company	East Mesa Emergency Ditch Repair	Colorado	CT2024-2668	\$414,000	Joshua Godwin	98%	0%	Construction nearly complete. Expecting a site closeout visit at the beginning of March.
Florida Consolidated Ditch Company	Hess Lateral Improvement	Southwest	CT2019-2034	\$1,075,000	Kirk Russell	100%	0%	Company received a Water Smart Grant in Aril 2023. This \$2M will help cover the increase of construction costs since the original bid in 2020. Project remains onhold. Staff changes and funding complications. grant contracts have been extended.
Florida Consolidated Ditch Company	Florida Canal Diversion Replacement	Southwest	CT2021-2890	\$750,000	Matt Stearns	100%	95%	This project is the replacement of a low head dam diversion structure with multibeneficial outcomes. Construction began October 2023 and the contractor demobilized in December 2023. Contractor will return in the spring to revegetate and perform some landscaping.
Fort Morgan Farms, LLC	Delta Water Storage Phase 1	South Platte	CT2021-2222	\$8,982,000	Zach Salin	100%	75%	The Delta Storage Project will construct a below grade storage reservoir. The loan covers the cost of constructing a slurry wall around the reservoir to isolate future stored water from existing groundwater. The slurry wall is complete. Pump Station const next
Fort Morgan Reservoir and Irrigation Company	Augmentation Pump Replacement Project	South Platte	CT2023-3300	\$1,753,000	Cole Bedford	100%	98%	Construction is complete on new pumps and new pump house. One final pay request is expected for final punch list items and a pressure relief valve then the loan will be closed out.
Fruitland Irrigation Company	Tunnel and Canal Renovation	Gunnison	CT2019-2848	\$1,729,000	Kirk Russell	100%	80%	Company may need to request additional loan funds. Contracts have been extended.
Genesee Water and Sanitation District	Geneee Reservoir No. 1 Enlargement	South Platte	CT2021-2851	\$5,500,000	Cole Bedford	100%	98%	The District was approved for this loan in Sep 2020 and a Water Plan Grant followed in March 2021. Bids were received in June 2021 and were well above expectations. A loan increase request was approved at the September 2022 Board meeting. Construction is now under way.
Glenwood Springs, City of	System Redundancy and Pre-Treatment Improvements	Colorado	CT2021-3104	\$8,000,000	Kirk Russell	100%	99%	This Wildfire Emergency Loan will improve the infrastructure for Glenwood Springs' water collection system to cope with increased sediment in their source waters as a result of the Grizley Creek Fire in 2020. Construction on all portions of the project are complete. The loan will be closed out in June 2024.
Grand Junction, City of	Kannah Creek Flowline Replacement	Gunnison	CT2023-0568	\$3,200,000	Joshua Godwin	100%	98%	Construction complete. Advertisement to realize final retainage being sent out. Awaiting final invoices.
Grand Junction, City of	Purdy Mesa Flowline Replacement	Gunnison	CT2021-2857	\$7,000,000	Joshua Godwin	100%	50%	Grand Junction's half of construction complete. Working through easement acquisition for second half. Expecting to start second half in early 2024.
Grand View Irrigation Company	Siphon Repair Project	Arkansas	CT2023-2058	\$350,000	Joshua Godwin	100%	95%	Construction complete. Awaiting borrower to initial substantial completion process.
Groundwater Management Subdistrict of CCWCD	Hokestra Reservoir Purchase	South Platte	CT2020-2248	\$5,390,500	Zach Salin	100%	75%	This Project will purchase an existing reservoir for use as augmentation storage. Funds have been disbursed for the reservoir purchase, but construction is ongoing.

PROJECTS UNDER CONTRACT

	PROJECT						STATUS		
	Borrower	Project Name	Basin	Contract #	Amount	Manager	Design	Construction	Update
20	Groundwater Management Subdistrict of CCWCD	Pioneer Reservoir	South Platte	CT2019-3687	\$8,611,000	Zach Salin	100%	75%	This is a gravel pit retrofit for augmentation water supply. Funds for the initial reservoir purchase and some engineering were disbursed in May 2019. Construction efforts began in Fall 2022.
21	Hidden Valley Water District	Master Water Meter Connection	South Platte	CT2020-2244	\$1,720,000	Kirk Russell	100%	95%	Assets and operations are all to the District. District signed and approved EMD IGA. Precon Dec2019. Construction begin Feb 2020. EMD connect 7/2020. Construction complete, final walkthru Aug2020. Working on IGA with EMD. Continued water court proceedings by EMD.
22	Keensburg, Town of	Alluvial Water Rights Extension Project	South Platte	CT2024-2007	\$2,100,000	Joshua Godwin	0%	0%	Contact made with new town manager and working through process to purchase water rights.
23	Last Chance Ditch Company	Measurement Structure Reconstruction Project	South Platte	CT2024-3122	\$196,000	Zach Salin	100%	0%	Bidding for the construction took place in February 2024. The selected contractor will mobilize in March. Work is expected to be complete before the beginning of the 2024 irrigation season.
24	Lookout Mountain Water District	Upper and Lower Beaver Brook Dam Rehabilitation	South Platte	CT2021-3115	\$3,500,000	Joshua Godwin	100%	90%	New gate was on back order. Recently received but has caused delays. Substantial completion expect first half of 2024. Received contract extension.
25	Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company	Beaver Creek Ditch Repairs	Southwest	CT2024-3135	\$1,400,000	Joshua Godwin	100%	98%	Construction complete. Watching to make sure reseeding takes. Waiting for final invoicing from contractor.
26	North Poudre Irrigation Company	Park Creek Expansion Project	South Platte	CT2023-2593	\$6,480,000	Zach Salin	60%	5%	Project is currently in the design phase for a dam height increase which will increase reservoir storage space. Some clearing took place over the winter as well as stockpiling material.
27	Ogilvy Augmentation Company	Loloff Reservoir Acquisition	South Platte	CT2024-2004	\$1,129,000	Joshua Godwin	100%	98%	Awaiting request for substantial completion from borrower.
28	Ogilvy Irrigating and Land Company	Seely Reservoir Dredging	South Platte	CT2019-2099	\$2,252,000	Joshua Godwin	100%	50%	Dredging started. Working with DRMS on any permitting.
29	Oxford Farmers Ditch Company	Chicosa Siphon Repair	Arkansas	CT2024-2720	\$1,500,000	Joshua Godwin	100%	98%	Lining complete. Final site visit will occur 3/7
30	Platte Valley Irrigation Company	Platte Valley Reservoir No. 1	South Platte	CT2024-2005	\$4,500,000	Joshua Godwin	80%	0%	Final design submitted for Dam Safety review.
31	Redmesa Reservoir and Ditch Company	Redmesa Reservoir Rehabilitation Engineering	Southwest	CT2022-0498	\$183,000	Matt Stearns	60%	0%	This project is to engineer a financially feasible dam rehabilitation, including a potential enlargement. Work began on March 8, 2021. The Company has secured a local governmental sponsor and has been approved to proceed in the NRCS PL-566 program which will cover 100% of design and 75% of construction.
32	Rio Grande Water Conservation District Subdistrict No. 5	Saguache Pipeline	Rio Grande	CT2021-3846	\$6,020,000	Zach Salin	100%	50%	Working on well owner agreement and Project easement agreements. Loan increase request in January 2023. Bidding is complete and work is underway.
33	Root and Ratliff Ditch Company	Ditch Piping and Rehabilitation	Southwest	CT2022-2976	\$300,000	Kirk Russell	100%	99%	All pipe is in place. Final grading and seeding is done. SC expected in spring 2024. SC June 1
34	Smith and Emmons Ditch Company	Diversion Structures Replacement Project	South Platte	CT2023-2473	\$410,000	Zach Salin	100%	10%	Contractor has been selected and preliminary materials purchased. A subsequent WPG will cover a portion of the project costs. Once that is contracted, work is expected to get underway.
35	Special Improvement District No. 3 of the RGWCD	Alpha Hay Farms Augmentation	Rio Grande	CT2023-2843	\$2,555,000	Zach Salin	100%	0%	Pay Requests for the initial land purchase was approved at the end of April. Construction work that will be ongoing into 2024.
36	Special Improvement District No. 4 of the Rio Grande WCD	Peachwood Farms Augmentation & Sustainability	Rio Grande	CT2023-3361	\$3,456,000	Zach Salin	100%	50%	Contract is complete and ready to disburse funds. The first pay request for land purchase is expected in spring 2023 after which some construction work will take place.
37	Trinchera Conservancy District Groundwater Management Subdistrict	Augmentation Pipeline	Rio Grande	CT2022-3040	\$977,000	Kirk Russell	100%	99%	Project is complete. Substantial completion expected in early 2024. SC June 1
38	Triview Metropolitan District	Stonewall Springs Reservoir Complex	Arkansas	CT2022-3328	\$5,151,000	Kirk Russell	100%	75%	Work is complete. Dist was approved for additional loan funding in Nov '23 from CWCB.
39	Tunnel Water Company	West Half Laramie-Poudre Tunnel Rehabilitation	North Platte/South Platte	CT2019-3706	\$17,830,000	Kirk Russell	100%	98%	Construction was completed in spring of 2022 after delays due to Cameron Peak wildfire. After the '22 irrigation season a warranty inspection found and a large portion of the tunnel lining caved in. This repair was made in the winter of 22/23. Continued discussion re cost increase responsibility.

PROJECTS UNDER CONTRACT

PROJECT						STATUS		
Borrower	Project Name	Basin	Contract #	Amount	Manager	Design	Construction	Update
40 Tunnel Water Company	Headgate Improvements (Wildfire Impact)	North Platte/South Platte	CT2021-3928	\$1,206,000	Kirk Russell	100%	99%	Power supply installation complete. Duperon gate delivery at site. Headgate installation underway. Construction complete.
41 Twin Lakes Reservoir and Canal Company	Grizzly Reservoir Rehabilitation	Colorado	CT2024-2006	\$9,833,000	Joshua Godwin	95%	0%	Construction delayed until summer of 2024
42 Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association	Taylor Park Hydro Powerplant Project	Gunnison	CT2023-2565	\$1,685,000	Kirk Russell	100%	50%	This project will construction a hydropower plant at the toe of Taylor Reservoir Dam. Preliminary materials purchase and design work is complete. Construction is currently underway.
43 Victor, City of	Victor Reservoir No. 2 Dam Rehabilitation	Arkansas	CT2021-3873	\$510,000	Kirk Russell	100%	99%	Construcion delay until May 2024 due to supply delivery schedules. Town removed portion of outlet tower and DWR/Dam Safety issued a fill restriction. Project is complete. City determining amount of cash funds they will use.
44 Wiggins, Town of	Wiggins Recharge Facility at Glassey Farms	South Platte	CT2018-0892	\$2,385,000	Kirk Russell	100%	0%	The purpose of this project is to develop an augmentation water source for the Town. In August 2017 the Town purchased Glassey Farms and its associated water rights and 52% of funds were disbursed at that time. The project is back underway and an extension was granted.
45 Windy Gap Firing Project Water Activity Enterprise	Windy Gap Project (Chimney Hollow Reservoir)	South Platte	CT2021-2039	\$89,108,911	Zach Salin	100%	60%	Construction contract was awarded in December and allotment contracts among project participants are being drafted. Contractor was selected in October. Project loan conditions were amended at the March Board Meeting. The project is well underway, but has not drawn on the loan yet.
46	Grand Valley Water Users Association	Colorado	CT2022-2084	\$1,066,000	Matt Stearns	100%	99%	This project will replace the existing 2.75 MW hydroelectric powerplant with a new 4.5 MW facility. Contractor mobilized November of 2021, and construction of the power generation facility completed in November 2022. The powerplant is producing power (up to 3.2 MW as of July 2023) via a temporary interconnect with Xcel Energy, and will be fully operational in April 2024 via a permanent interconnect.
	Orchard Mesa Irrigation District		CT2022-0892	\$1,066,000				
47	Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District	South Platte	CT2015-0105	\$1,674,000	Kirk Russell	100%	90%	Binney Connection Pipeline of Water Infrastructure and Supply Efficiency project will increase WISE flow capacity to 30MGD and provide infrastructure from Aurora Binney Facility to SMWSA. Pumps/Treatment-Glacier, Pipeline/Infrastructure-T.Lowell, Jacobs is Engineer. Vault excavation began 9/2020. Construction trailer onsite through project duration. Glacier complete foundation work, pump cans have been delivered and installed, pump motors have arrived at the pump manufacture, preliminary SCADA meetings begun, Glacier starting to form rebar for the flow control building, start laying pipe. Precast concrete walls for pump station complete.
	Inverness Water and Sanitation District		CT2015-0119	\$2,105,000				
	Pinery (Denver SE Water and Sanitation District)		CT2015-0086	\$1,413,130				
47	Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District	South Platte	CT2015-0104	\$363,600	Kirk Russell	98%	60%	Annual disbursement to be made on this loan through 2021.Design Status indicates percent of funds disbursed to date. WISE WDA negotiations between parties continue with the goal of having an amended Water Delivery Agreement ready to be brought to the respective Boards and Council for review and approval by April 1, 2021. Group discussion continues focused on the DIA Connection.
	Inverness Water and Sanitation District		CT2015-0120	\$450,000				
	Parker Water and Sanitation District		CT2015-0110	\$1,089,000				

TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT \$255,529,141

APPROVED PROJECTS - NOT CONTRACTED

PROJECT						STATUS		
Borrower	Project Name	Basin	Contract #	Amount	Manager	Design	Construction	Update
1 Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District	Arkansas Valley Conduit	Arkansas	CT2024-XXXX	\$90,000,000	Kirk Russell	0%	0%	Federal Funding will control the scheduled use of these funds
2 Logan Irrigation District	Prewitt Reservoir Rehabilitation	South Platte	CT2023-XXXX	\$1,831,000	Kirk Russell	0%	0%	This Project is currently on hold. Related work on the Prewitt Dam was completed in the fall of 2022 and dredging work may go forward in the fall of 2023.
3 Colorado City Metropolitan District	Lake Beckwith Dam Modifications	Arkansas	CT2024-XXXX	\$3,333,000	Joshua Godwin	0%	0%	

PROJECTS UNDER CONTRACT

PROJECT						STATUS		
Borrower	Project Name	Basin	Contract #	Amount	Manager	Design	Construction	Update
4 Orchard City Irrigation District	Fruitgrowers Reservoir Gates Replacement	Gunnison	CT2024-XXXX	\$500,000	Joshua Godwin	0%	0%	
5 Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District - Northern Integrated Supply Project Water Activity Enterprise	Northern Integrated Supply Project	South Platte	CT2024-XXXX	\$101,000,000	Zach Salin	15%	0%	2024 Projects Bill
6 Grand View Ditch Improvements	Grand View Canal Irrigation Company	Gunnison	CT2024-XXXX	\$500,000	Joshua Godwin		0%	

NOT UNDER CONTRACT SUB \$197,164,000

GRAND TOTAL \$452,693,141

WATER PROJECT CONSTRUCTION LOAN PROGRAM
LOAN REPAYMENT DELINQUENCY REPORT
LOAN FINANCIAL ACTIVITY REPORT
February 2024

LOAN REPAYMENT DELINQUENCY

Loan repayments received relative to the Water Project Construction Loan Program have been reviewed for the period covering July 2023 through February 2024 to date of report. The effective due date of the payment is inclusive of the Board's current 60 day late policy. Hence, the date the payment was received was compared to the last day allowable prior to the payment being considered late.

Repayments due for Fiscal Year 2024 total 302. Two Rivers is currently delinquent. All other payments are current.

LOAN FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

Loan financial activity relative to the Water Project Construction Loan Program for Fiscal Year 2024 is summarized as follows:

Funds received relative to loans in repayment totaled \$25.9M for this year.

Funds disbursed relative to new project loans totaled \$13.4M for this year.

Net activity resulted in \$12.5M received by the CWCB Construction Fund and the Severance Tax Perpetual Base Fund (STPBF) over the total disbursed.

Further breakdown is summarized as follows:

The Construction Fund portion consists of \$10.7M in receipts and \$2.6M in disbursements for a total net activity of \$8.1M received over disbursed.

The STPBF consists of \$15.2M in receipts and \$10.8M in disbursements for a total net activity of \$4.4M received over disbursed.

CONSTRUCTION FUND

Period	Principal	Interest	Total Received	Disbursements	Net Activity
July 2023	\$ 465,287	\$ 266,231	\$ 731,518	\$ -	\$ 731,518
August 2023	\$ 334,830	\$ 245,660	\$ 580,490	\$ 424,515	\$ 155,975
September 2023	\$ 1,504,037	\$ 1,064,945	\$ 2,568,981	\$ 74,424	\$ 2,494,557
October 2023	\$ 430,797	\$ 254,046	\$ 684,843	\$ 1,259,623	\$ (574,780)
November 2023	\$ 281,375	\$ 100,316	\$ 381,691	\$ 230,595	\$ 151,097
December 2023	\$ 1,640,029	\$ 1,242,210	\$ 2,882,239	\$ 520,382	\$ 2,361,857
January 2024	\$ 340,702	\$ 694,972	\$ 1,035,675	\$ 66,233	\$ 969,441
February 2024	\$ 1,148,057	\$ 684,747	\$ 1,832,804	\$ 22,175	\$ 1,810,629
March 2024			\$ -		\$ -
April 2024			\$ -		\$ -
May 2024			\$ -		\$ -
June 2024			\$ -		\$ -
FY 2023 Totals	\$ 6,145,114	\$ 4,553,127	\$ 10,698,241	\$ 2,597,947	\$ 8,100,294

SEVERANCE TAX TRUST FUND PERPETUAL BASE ACCOUNT

Period	Principal	Interest	Total Received	Disbursements	Net Activity
July 2023	\$ 129,659	\$ 85,540	\$ 215,199	\$ 97,653	\$ 117,547
August 2023	\$ 1,272,582	\$ 1,008,689	\$ 2,281,271	\$ 284,533	\$ 1,996,739
September 2023	\$ 4,178,352	\$ 939,983	\$ 5,118,335	\$ 225,715	\$ 4,892,620
October 2023	\$ 1,558,589	\$ 1,554,513	\$ 3,113,102	\$ 1,699,570	\$ 1,413,532
November 2023	\$ 307,016	\$ 183,794	\$ 490,810	\$ 1,907,139	\$ (1,416,329)
December 2023	\$ 569,308	\$ 397,621	\$ 966,929	\$ 696,689	\$ 270,240
January 2024	\$ 1,915,270	\$ 488,459	\$ 2,403,730	\$ 4,422,370	\$ (2,018,640)
February 2024	\$ 432,389	\$ 195,670	\$ 628,059	\$ 1,442,341	\$ (814,282)
March 2024			\$ -		\$ -
April 2024			\$ -		\$ -
May 2024			\$ -		\$ -
June 2024			\$ -		\$ -
FY 2023 Totals	\$ 10,363,166	\$ 4,854,270	\$ 15,217,436	\$ 10,776,009	\$ 4,441,426

GRAND TOTAL	\$ 16,508,280	\$ 9,407,397	\$ 25,915,677	\$ 13,373,956	\$ 12,541,721
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