



COLORADO

**Colorado Water
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Ben Wade & Dori Vigil
Grants Section

DATE: May 21-22, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: Agenda Item #16a, Water Supply Reserve Fund, Grant Funding
Recommendations

Staff Recommendation - Action Items: WSRF Grant Requests:

A summary of staff's recommendation for each WSRF application are provided in the first component of the attached table.

Favorable recommendations may be contingent on providing the CWCB with additional information, clarifications, or modifications in the scope of work. Please refer to the Water Activity Summary Sheets contained within this agenda item to find a summary of staff's review and any conditions associated with each recommendation.

Background:

For this agenda item, the Board is provided with a brief overview of applications to the Water Supply Reserve Fund (WSRF). Attachments to this memo include:

- Summary spreadsheet detailing funding requests for the basin and statewide accounts.
- Summary spreadsheet displaying current WSRF Balance Summary of Fund Appropriations and Receipts by Fiscal Year, and Fund Distribution by Basin and Statewide Account.
- Water Activity Summary Sheets, which provide an overview, discussion, issues/additional needs, and staff recommendation regarding funding, partial funding, or not funding the applications.

Staff's review of the applications involves the following steps:

- 1) Applications are reviewed for completeness based on the information requirements, verify that the water activity meets the eligibility requirements and also verifies that the applicant was an eligible entity to receive funding which are primarily outlined in the Grant Guidelines.
- 2) Staff then prepares the Water Activity Summary Sheet which documents the outcome of the review process and contains staff's recommendations.



Water Supply Reserve Fund Balance Summary and Project Status Report:

To provide the Board updates on the status of specific Water Supply Reserve Fund grant applications and projects, staff can provide a status report of the following information upon request:

- List of completed WSRF projects;
- List of WSRF projects in progress; and
- List of WSRF projects in the contracting and procurement process.

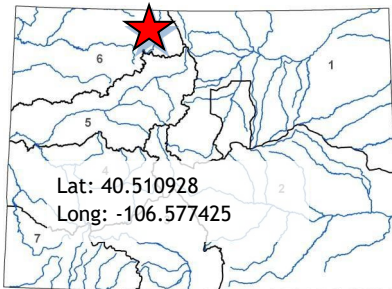


Water Supply Reserve Fund Applications for Consideration at the May 2025 CWCB Board Meeting											
Agenda Item	Basin	Applicant/Grantee	Name of Water Activity	Basin RT Recommended Amount	Non-WSRF Cash Match	Non-WSRF In-Kind Match	Non-WSRF Total Match	Total Project Costs	Basin Only Request Match % (min 25%)	PM	Grants Portal ID
Consent Agenda 3a	North Platte	Owl Mountain Partnership	Chapman Ditch North/South Division Structure & Flume	\$69,651	\$57,166.00	\$0	\$57,166.00	\$126,817.00	45.08%	Ben	App-02689
Agenda Item 16	North Platte	Tom Barenberg Properties	Doran Creek Reservoir	\$300,000	\$100,000.00	\$0	\$100,000.00	\$400,000.00	25.00%	Zach	App-02735
Director's Report	Rio Grande	Sangre de Cristo Acequia Association	San Luis Peoples Ditch Rehabilitation Project Phase I Planning	\$28,000	\$17,000.00	\$0	\$17,000.00	\$45,000.00	37.78%	Ben	App-02736
Director's Report	Southwest	La Plata Water Conservancy District	BKT Outlet Works Measurement Replacement	\$22,500	\$7,500.00	\$0	\$7,500.00	\$30,000.00	25.00%	Ben	App-02725
				\$420,151.00	\$181,666.00		\$181,666.00	\$601,817.00			

Basin	Total Requests
Arkansas	\$0.00
Colorado	\$0.00
Gunnsion	\$0.00
Metro	\$0.00
North Platte	\$369,651
Rio Grande	\$28,000.00
Southwest	\$22,500.00
South Platte	\$0
Yampa/White/Green	\$0
Water Supply Reserve Fund Total Requests	\$420,151.00



Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant Application



LOCATION
County: Jackson
Basin: North Platte

DETAILS	
Total Project Cost:	\$400,000
Total WSRF Grant Request:	\$300,000
North Platte Basin Account Request:	\$300,000
Recommended Amount:	\$300,000
Other CWCB Funding:	\$0
Other Funding Amount:	\$0
Applicant Match:	\$100,000
Project Type: Construction/Implementation	
Major Water Use Type: Agricultural	
Measurable Result: 50-acre feet of new storage created	

Tom Barenberg is the manager of Tom Barenberg Properties, LLC, and he recently purchased the 510-acre Doran Creek Ranch located southwest of the Town of Walden in Jackson County.

The applicant would use WSRF funds for the design and engineering and for the construction of a non-jurisdictional, water storage structure for a 50-acre foot reservoir on Doran Creek, a tributary to Little Grizzly Creek. The structure would supplement irrigation of approximately 300 acres on the Ranch and add a new source of water for livestock. Mr. Barenberg has received two support letters from ranchers who lease pasture near the proposed reservoir site.

The proposed reservoir will be a non-jurisdictional dam, and the applicant has filled out a Notice of Intent to Construct a Non-Jurisdictional Water Impoundment Structure Form with the Division of Water Resources in January 2025.

Issues/Additional Needs: The applicant currently does not have a storage water right for use to fill the proposed non-jurisdictional structure, but they do have a pending water court application to obtain a conditional water right. If this project is approved, staff will work with the applicant to contract the tasks related to design and engineering. However, prior to contracting any tasks related to construction, the applicant must have the conditional water right secured. No other issues or additional needs have been identified.

Funding Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of up to \$300,000. Project approval is contingent upon the applicants' abilities to resolve issues and additional needs identified by staff.