



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

CC: Jeannine Shaw, Grants Section Chief

DATE: July 16, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: Agenda Item #5a-b, Water Supply Reserve Fund, Grant Funding Recommendations

Staff Recommendation - Action Items: WSRF Grant Requests:

A summary of staff's recommendations 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.

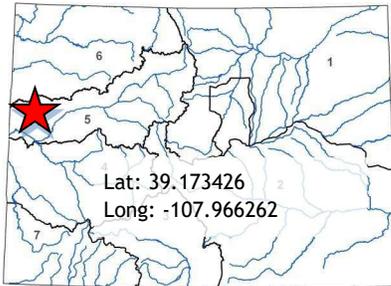


Water Supply Reserve Fund Applications for Consideration at the July 2025 CWCB Board Meeting

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%)	Special Flood Hazard Area/Regulatory Floodplain?	PM	Grants Portal ID
Director's Report	Arkansas	Colorado Canal Company	Lake Meredith Rehab	\$37,275	\$37,275.00	\$0	\$37,275.00	\$74,550.00	50.00%	No	Joshua	App-02766
Consent Agenda - 2a	Colorado	American Whitewater	Survey River Recreation Opportunities in the Colorado River Basin	\$89,900	\$18,000.00	\$12,000	\$30,000.00	\$119,900.00	25.02%		Chris	App-02769
Director's Report	Colorado	Blue River Watershed Group	Summit County WRW Wildfire Ready Action Plan	\$30,000	\$558,250.00	\$3,750	\$562,000.00	\$592,000.00	94.93%		Andrea	App-02724
Agenda Item - 5a	Colorado	Collbran Conservancy District	Parker Basin Project	\$150,000	\$773,596.00	\$0	\$773,596.00	\$923,596.00	83.76%	No	Joshua	App-02770
Agenda Item - 5b	Colorado	Pitkin County Board of Commissioners	Pitkin County Lincoln Creek Watershed Phase 2 Project	\$100,000	\$57,000.00	\$0	\$157,000.00	\$257,000.00	61.09%	Yes, Permits being secured for project	Steve	App-02760
Director's Report	Colorado	Roaring Fork Valley Wildfire Collaborative	RFVWC's Wildfire Ready Watersheds Action Plan	\$30,000	\$290,745.50	\$0	\$320,745.50	\$350,745.50	91.45%		Andrea	App-02775
Director's Report	Colorado	Roaring Fork Water Conservancy	Roaring Fork Valley Drought Resiliency	\$30,867	\$16,310.00	\$0	\$16,310.00	\$47,177.00	34.57%		Ben	App-02773
Consent Agenda 2b	Colorado	Snake River Water District	Well Redevelopment - PFAS Compliance	\$75,000	\$25,000.00	\$0	\$25,000.00	\$100,000.00	25.00%	No	Ben	App-02771
Consent Agenda 2c	Rio Grande	Alamosa La Jara Water Conservancy District	Alamosa River Water Delivery Improvement Project Phase 2	\$61,000	\$54,500.00	\$0	\$54,500.00	\$115,500.00	47.19%		Zach	App-02736
Director's Report	YWG	Yampa Valley Sustainability Council	Yampa River Forest Restoration Project	\$48,933	\$21,000.00	\$20,094	\$41,094.00	\$90,027.00	45.65%	Regulatory Floodplain	Chris	App-02725
				\$652,975.00	\$1,851,676.50	\$35,844	\$2,017,520.50	\$2,670,495.50				

Basin	Total Requests
Arkansas Basin	\$37,275.00
Colorado Basin	\$505,767.00
Gunnsion Basin	\$0.00
Metro	\$0.00
North Platte	\$37,275
Rio Grande	\$61,000.00
Southwest	\$0.00
South Platte	\$0.00
Yampa/White/Green	\$48,933
Water Supply Reserve Fund Total Requests	\$690,250.00

Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant Application



LOCATION
County: Mesa
Basin: Colorado

DETAILS	
Total Project Cost:	\$923,596
Total WSRF Grant Request:	\$150,000
Colorado Basin Account Request:	\$150,000
Recommended Amount:	\$150,000
Other CWCB Funding:	\$0
Other Funding Amount:	\$250,000
Applicant Match:	\$523,596
Project Type: Design/Engineering	
Major Water Use Type: Agricultural	
Measurable Result: 1,273 linear feet of pipe built/canal improved.	

Collbran Conservancy District delivers water from Vega Reservoir through the South Side Canal to their 300 agricultural shareholders. Nearly 20,000 acres are irrigated within the district's boundaries. Exchange water that flows through the canal is used by the Bureau of Reclamation for power production and supplies water to Ute Water Conservancy District's 90,000 residents.

The section of the South Side Canal that is in the Parker Basin is threatened by landslides. Landslides in 2014 and 2015 were only miles from the canal and the district is concerned that future landslides will result in a canal failure, which would impact their ability to provide water to residents as well as agricultural users. The interruption of water deliveries would also have negative impacts on the local economy.

WSRF funds will be used to hire an engineering firm to perform a landslide hazard geotechnical investigation and secure necessary permitting. Following the completion of design and engineering, the district intends to seek additional grant funding through a Water Plan Grant for the construction phase.

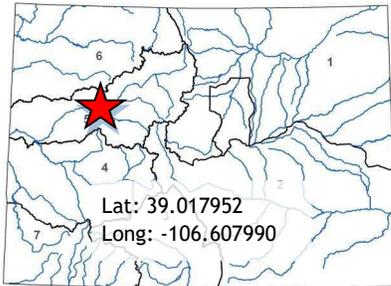
The project aligns with the Colorado Basin Implementation Plan by addressing aging infrastructure to protect drinking water from natural impacts and sustaining agriculture in the Basin.

Issues/Additional Needs: No issues or additional needs have been identified.

Funding Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of up to \$150,000 from the Colorado Basin Account.



Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant Application



LOCATION	
County:	Pitkin
Basin:	Colorado

DETAILS	
Total Project Cost:	\$207,000
Total WSRF Grant Request:	\$150,000
<i>Colorado Basin Account Request:</i>	\$150,000
Recommended Amount:	\$150,000
<i>Other CWCB Funding:</i>	\$0
<i>Other Funding Amount:</i>	\$30,000
<i>Applicant Match:</i>	\$27,000
<i>Project Type:</i>	Study
<i>Major Water Use Type:</i>	Environmental
<i>Measurable Result:</i>	A monitoring plan to help mitigate metal & acidity loading risks for downstream humans and the ecosystem of the Roaring Fork watershed.

Lincoln Creek is a high alpine tributary that runs north of the Ruby Mine site to Grizzly Reservoir before it connects with the Roaring Fork River. The water quality in Lincoln Creek has caused concern due to fish kills and discoloration. A preliminary EPA report states climate change may be causing contaminant levels to rise.



Pitkin County will use WSRF funds to develop a water sampling and monitoring plan which includes data review, development of a web-based database and map dashboard, creation of a conceptual model of the Lincoln Creek Watershed and a quantitative and chemical mass balance model. These assessments will help the County understand where the source of metal and acidity is coming from and identify mitigation options.

The project meets the following Colorado Basin Implementation Plan goals: improving ecosystem health by addressing water quality concerns; keeping drinking water safe by mitigating negative impacts to drinking water that is used by cities on the Front Range.

Project partners include the County’s Environmental Health Department, the Pitkin County Healthy Rivers organization, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, the US Forest Service, the Roaring Fork Conservancy, the Independence Pass Foundation, Twin Lakes Reservoir and Canal Company, and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

Issues/Additional Needs: The applicant must secure match funding prior to contracting. No issues or additional needs have been identified.

Funding Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of up to \$150,000 from the Colorado Basin Account. Project approval is contingent upon the applicants’ abilities to resolve issues and additional needs identified by staff.