



Last Update: May 2022

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Public Education Participation & Outreach (PEPO) Grant Application

Instructions

All Public Education Participation & Outreach (PEPO) grant applications shall conform to the current [PEPO Grant Criteria & Guidelines](#).

To receive funding from the PEPO grant funds, a proposed water activity must be recommended for approval by a Roundtable(s) **AND** the approved by the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). The process for roundtable consideration and recommendation is outlined in the [PEPO Grant Criteria & Guidelines](#). The CWCB meets bimonthly.

If you have questions, please contact the Water Supply Reserve Fund (WSRF) Grant Program Manager or the PEPO point of contact:

Ben Wade, WSRF PM
ben.wade@state.co.us
303-866-3441 x3238 (office)

Elizabeth Schoder, PEPO
Elizabeth.schoder@state.co.us
303-866-3441 x3210 (office)

Fund Selection

Please select which fund you are applying for. **If you are applying for both funds, you must use apply for each separately.**

☒ **Rio Grande Basin Coordinator Fund (requests up to \$25,000):** Each basin may support an organization or individual to apply for grant funding of up to \$25,000 to fund a single PEPO Coordinator, unless otherwise stated by the CWCB. The PEPO coordinator's primary task will be to coordinate with CWCB and the Basin Roundtable(s) in PEPO activities. This includes coordinating with CWCB prior to roundtable meetings and at up to three regular meetings per year in order to have the most up to date information on coordinated outreach efforts and grant fund balances. The predominance of the Basin Coordinators' time will go to the development of the design and implementation of water education activities in the basin that promote education, outreach, and innovation consistent with the mission and goals of the Colorado Water Plan, Basin Implementation Plans and the respective Basin Education Action Plans. Additionally, PEPO coordinators should identify how they can support related roundtable outreach and awareness efforts with regards to grants and open meetings.

☐ **Statewide Initiatives Fund (requests up to \$75,000):** Up to \$75,000 annually will be made available, unless otherwise determined by the CWCB, for PEPO Statewide Initiatives to pay for statewide or multi-basin outreach activities or studies consistent with the mission and goals of PEPO, the Colorado Water Plan, or CWCB Staff. These efforts include but are not limited to advancing a single statewide effort, developing new initiatives of statewide importance, funding statewide awareness surveys, and developing education campaigns that can support awareness efforts across the state. These efforts must demonstrate multi-basin support and must be aligned with CWCB priorities reflected in the Colorado Water Plan.



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PEPO Submittal Checklist (Required)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	This request has a letter of support from one or more sponsoring Basin Roundtables.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	I have read and understand the PEPO Grant Criteria & Guidelines .
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the Standard Contract . ¹
Application Documents included:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Exhibit A: Statement of Work ² (<i>Word – see Template</i>)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Exhibit B: Budget (including Detailed Budget) & Schedule ² (<i>Excel Spreadsheet – see Template</i>)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ²
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Map ²
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Photos/Drawings/Reports
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Letters of Support
Contracting Documents³	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Detailed/Itemized Budget ³ (<i>Excel Spreadsheet – see Template</i>)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Certificate of Insurance ⁴ (<i>General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.</i>)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Certificate of Good Standing ⁽⁴⁾
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	W-9 Form ⁴
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	Independent Contractor Form ⁴ (<i>If applicant is individual, not company/organization</i>)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Electronic Funds Transfer (ETF) Form ⁴

¹Click "Grant Agreements". For reference only/do not fill out or submit/required for contracting

² Required with application if applicable.

³ Additional documentation providing a Detailed/Itemized Budget maybe required for contracting. Applicants are encouraged to coordinate with the CWCB Project Manager to determine specifics.

⁴ Required for contracting. While optional at the time of this application, submission can expedite contracting upon CWCB Director or Board approval.

Application Submittal Deadlines ¹	CWCB Board Approval (if over \$50,000 ²)
June 1	September
December 1	March

¹ Please note only one application for Basin Coordinator funds may be submitted per year, regardless of whether the full \$25,000 is utilized.

² Only projects that exceed \$50,000 must go before the CWCB Board for approval and therefore only applies to Statewide Initiatives projects.



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Water Activity Summary		
Name of Applicant	Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation	
Name of Water Activity	Rio Grande Basin PEPO Coordination, FY 2022-2023	
Primary Approving Roundtable	Rio Grande	
Additional Approving Roundtable(s)		
Basin Coordinator Total Request		\$25,000
Statewide Initiative Total Request		\$0
Total Project Costs		\$65,085

Grantee and Applicant Information	
Name of Grantee(s)	Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation
Mailing Address	623 Fourth St, Alamosa, CO 81101
FEIN	75-3169057
Grantee's Organization Contact¹	Emma Reesor
Position/Title	Executive Director
Email	emma@riograndeheadwaters.org
Phone	(719) 589-2230
Grant Management Contact²	Emma Reesor
Position/Title	Executive Director
Email	emma@riograndeheadwaters.org
Phone	(719) 589-2230
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	<i>Same as grantee</i>
Mailing Address	
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	

¹ Person with signatory authority

² Person responsible for creating reimbursement invoices (Invoice for Services) and corresponding with CWCB staff.



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Description of Grantee
Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).
The Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation, a non-profit organization, is the fiscal agent for the Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project (RGHRP). The mission of the RGHRP is "to restore and conserve the historical functions and vitality of the Rio Grande Basin in Colorado for improved water quality, agricultural water use, riparian health, wildlife and aquatic species habitat, recreation and community safety while meeting the Rio Grande Compact." The RGHRP was formed to implement the recommendations of the 2001 Study. Since formed, the RGHRP has improved the condition of the Rio Grande by partnering with landowners, diverse stakeholders, and multiple ditch companies. In addition, the RGHRP has worked closely with the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable over the years and currently serves as the Coordinator of the RGBRT Education Subcommittee.

Type of Eligible Entity (check one)	
	Public (Government): municipalities, enterprises, counties, and State of Colorado agencies. Federal agencies are encouraged to work with local entities. Federal agencies are eligible, but only if they can make a compelling case for why a local partner cannot be the grant recipient.
	Public (Districts): authorities, Title 32/special districts (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises
	Private Incorporated: mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations
	Private Individuals, Partnerships, and Sole Proprietors: are eligible for funding from the Basin Accounts but not for funding from the Statewide Account.
X	Non-governmental organizations: broadly, any organization that is not part of the government
	Covered Entity: as defined in Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes

Location of Water Activity	
Please provide the general county and coordinates of the proposed activity below in decimal degrees . The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable.	
County/Countries	Entire Rio Grande Basin including Costilla, Conejos, Alamosa, Rio Grande, Saguache, Mineral, and Hinsdale Counties
Latitude	37.46945
Longitude	-105.86657



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Water Activity Overview

Please provide a summary of the proposed water activity (200 words or less). Include a description of the activity and what the PEPO funding will be used for specifically. If this project addresses multiple purposes or spans multiple basins, please explain. Please also describe who the target audience of the proposed activity will be.

The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit A, a detailed Statement of Work, Budget, and Schedule (Exhibit B).

This project will support the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable (RGBRT) and their Public Education Participation and Outreach (PEPO) efforts in fiscal year 2022-2023 by funding the following:

- PEPO Coordination between RGBRT and CWCB
- RGBRT Programs and Events
- RGBRT Sponsored Youth Programs
- RGBRT Education Materials

Project target audience includes local community members in all six counties of the Rio Grande Basin as well as visitors including, but not limited to RGBRT members and partners, K-12 students and teachers, water users, public event attendees, local policymakers, and university students and faculty. Requested PEPO funds will expand and improve efforts by the RGBRT's Education Subcommittee to create education and outreach opportunities in the Rio Grande Basin to further Basin Goals and objectives of the updated Basin Implementation Plan (BIP), as well as the Colorado Water Plan.

Water Activity Justification

Provide a description of how this water activity supports the goals of the [Colorado Water Plan](#), the most recent [Analysis & Technical Update](#), and the respective [roundtable Basin Implementation Plan](#) ⁽¹⁾. The Applicant is required to reference specific education & outreach needs, goals, themes, or Identified Projects and Processes (IPPs), including citations (e.g. document, chapters, sections, or page numbers). Please also provide a description of how the grantee will be tracking goals, objectives and other metrics.



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Water Activity Justification

The proposed project is in direct alignment with Section 9.5 of the Colorado Water Plan whose goal states that it “provide technical & financial assistance for high quality, balanced, & grassroots water education and outreach efforts that inform Coloradans about the issues so that they may engage in determining Colorado’s water future.” The CWP also advises in their action plan for section 9.5 that funds “prioritize projects that align with CWP goals & assist Roundtables with public education efforts.” The proposed project will support the RGBRT’s Education Subcommittee in implementing public education efforts in line with CWP and Basin goals. As a committee made up of both Rio Grande Basin Roundtable members and non-members from various organizations, educational efforts are shared and enriched by different perspectives and expertise. This collaborative approach maximizes the committee's ability to effectively and efficiently involve community members across the Basin with water issues identified as major priorities within the Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan (BIP).

In addition, the project activities will further the updated BIP’s goal of “engaged and informed citizens who understand the scope and urgency of local, state, and regional water issues and participate in robust and diverse educational opportunities” (2022 Rio Grande BIP Volume 1, page 24). Project activities will engage a diverse array of agricultural, municipal, environmental, and recreational water users, community members, and youth in the Rio Grande Basin on key topics using a multi-pronged approach outlined in the project Scope of Work (Exhibit A).

The RGHRP will work with the RGBRT Education Committee members to track and monitor outcomes of the grant activities. Specific metrics will include number of individuals engaged in PEPO efforts, number of events and tours organized, newsletter clicks and opens, social media engagement analytics, number of print pieces circulated, and number of youth engaged in RGBRT sponsored youth programs. The RGBRT Education Committee will use this data to document project success and outcomes and inform and improve future education efforts.

¹ Access Basin Implementation Plans or Education Action Plans from Basin drop down menu

Matching Requirements: Basin PEPO Account Requests

PEPO grant requests require a 25% match (cash and/or in-kind) from the Applicant or 3rd party and shall be accompanied by a **letter of commitment** as described in the [PEPO Grant Criteria & Guidelines](#) (submitted on the contributing entity’s letterhead). Attach additional sheet if necessary.

Contributing Entity	Amount and Form of Match (note cash or in-kind)
Rio Grande Watershed Conservation Education Initiative (Cash)	\$9,080
RGBRT Education Committee Members and Partners (In-Kind)	\$3,688



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Matching Requirements: Basin PEPO Account Requests	
Total Match	\$12,768
If you requested a waiver ⁽¹⁾ to the matching requirements, indicate the percentage you wish waived.	

¹ Please note: The CWCB may allow a waiver for the 25% match requirement. To obtain a waiver, the Applicant must: 1) demonstrate that the matching requirement imposes a significant financial hardship on the applicant; and 2) obtain written approval from the CWCB.

Previous CWCB Grants				
List all previous or current CWCB grants (including WSRF) awarded to both the Applicant and Grantee. Include: 1) Applicant name; 2) Water activity name; 3) Approving RT(s); 4) CWCB board meeting date; 5) Contract number or purchase order				
Applicant Name	Water Activity Name	Approving RT	CWCB Board meeting date	Contract number
CRGRF	Rio Grande Canal Boater Safety	n/a, Colorado Water Plan Grant	March-22	CMS#175154, POGG1 2022-3178
CRGRF	2021 Rio Grande Diversion Infrastructure, Recreation, and Habitat Improvement Project	n/a, Colorado Water Plan Grant	September-21	CTGG1 PDAA 2022*2413
CRGRF	Conejos River Partnership Project – Phase 2	n/a, Colorado Water Plan Grant	March-21	Not Contracted
CRGRF	Conejos River Partnership Project – Phase 1	Rio Grande	Sept-20	CTGG1 PDAA 2021*3056
CRGRF	Rio Grande Riparian Stabilization Project – Phase 5	n/a, Watershed Restoration Program	Jan-20	CTGG1 PDAA 2021-0020
CRGRF	Rio Grande, Conejos, and Saguache Stream Management Plans (WSRF Grant)	Rio Grande	Jun-19	POGG1 PDAA 202000002065
CRGRF	Park Creek Watershed Improvement Project	n/a, Colorado Water Plan Grant	May-19	POGG1 PDAA 202000002111
CRGRF	Del Norte Riverfront Project	n/a	Nov-18	POGG1 PDAA 201900002852



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Previous CWCB Grants				
CRGRF	Del Norte Riverfront Project – Phase 1	n/a	CWCB Severance Fund Grant	POGG1 PDAA 201800000980
CRGRF	Rio Grande, Conejos River and Saguache Creek SMP (CWRP Grant)	n/a	Jan-18	POGG1 PDAA 201800000791
CRGRF	Five Ditches Project	Rio Grande	Sep-17	CTGG1 2018-971
CRGRF	Rio Grande State Wildlife Area Design Project	Rio Grande	May-17	POGG1 2017-0001
CRGRF	Upper Rio Grande Assessment	Rio Grande	May-16	POGG1 2017-268
CRGRF	Plaza Project: Phase 3 – Prairie Ditch	Rio Grande	Feb-14	CTGG12015-295
CRGRF	Plaza Project: Phase 2 – McDonald Ditch	Rio Grande	Sep-13	C150492
CRGRF	Plaza Project: Phase 1 – Plaza Plan	Rio Grande		
CRGRF	2009 Rio Grande Riparian Stabilization Project – Phase 4	Rio Grande		C150486
CRGRF	2008 Rio Grande Riparian Stabilization Project – Phase 3	Rio Grande		
CRGRF	Lower Rio Grande Assessment	CO Healthy Rivers Fund		POGG1 PDAA 20150000000000000260
CRGRF	Rio Grande Project – Cooperative with Southwest Conservation Corps	CO Healthy Rivers Fund		

Tax Payer Bill of Rights
<p>The Tax Payer Bill of Rights (TABOR) may limit the amount of grant money an entity can receive. Please describe any relevant TABOR issues that may affect the applicant.</p>
<p>The Applicant, The Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation, is not subject to TABOR limitations, as it is a Colorado nonprofit organization operating under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.</p>