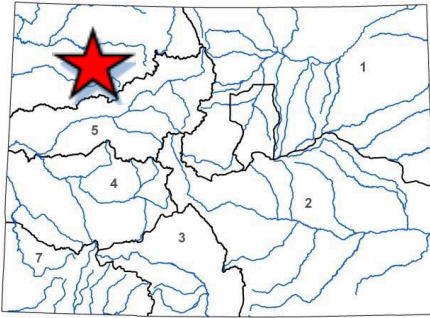




## Water Plan Grant Program



LOCATION	
Counties:	Routt; Rio Blanco; Garfield
Basin:	Yampa/White/Green

DETAILS	
Total Project Cost:	\$1,177,874.47
Water Plan Grant Request:	\$879,047.47
Recommended Amount:	\$879,047.47
Match Commitment:	\$298,827.00
Grant to Match Ratio	75/25
Project Type:	Study
Primary Project Category:	Agriculture
Measurable Result:	95,000 Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions

Colorado State University's (CSU) Agricultural Water Quality Program (AWQP) is seeking Colorado Water Plan grant funding to support "Community-driven water investigation in the Yampa Valley" project.

The Agricultural Water Quality Program (AWQP) at CSU protects Colorado state waters and the environment from impairment or degradation due to the improper use of agricultural chemicals while allowing for their proper and correct use. The AWQP is composed of teams within three different organizations: CSU, Colorado Department of Agriculture and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. The AWQP is an unbiased science-based program that pursues data to support producer decision making.

Over a five-year study period, this project would demonstrate and evaluate locally defined Best Management Practices (BMPs) for sustainable water management to improve water quality and quantity. Grant dollars would be used to establish a local stakeholder committee, install environmental monitoring equipment, collect and evaluate four years of water quality, environmental, and agronomic data, and disseminate key findings to stakeholders through workshops, publications, and field demonstrations.

This project is needed to address increasing attention on agricultural activities in mountain areas due to water quality challenges in Colorado's mountain rivers, streams, lakes, and reservoirs. It was identified as a priority in the Yampa-White-Green (YWG) Basin Improvement Plan, Volume 2, Goals 3 and 4. It advances the Colorado Water Plan by supporting agricultural water conservation, education, and peer-to-peer programs, integrating capacity building efforts for agriculture, and assessing agricultural impacts and best practices for water quality protection. The project aligns with the Water Plan Grant criteria by promoting watershed health and supporting water education and outreach efforts.

### Funding Recommendation:

Staff recommends a Water Plan Grant award not to exceed \$879,047.47 to Colorado State University for the Community-driven water investigation in the Yampa Valley project.