

Yampa/White/Green Rivers Basin Roundtable

Water Supply Reserve Fund (WSRF)

Grant Application Guidelines

YAMPA/WHITE/GREEN RIVERS BASIN ROUNDTABLE GOALS

The Yampa/White/Green Roundtable (YWGRT) Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) has identified eight primary basin goals to maintain and protect the historical water use in the YWG Basin, to protect water supplies for future in-basin demands and to promote a healthy and diversified economy long into the future:

1. Protect the YWG Basin from compact curtailment of existing decreed water uses and some increment of future uses.
2. Protect and encourage agriculture uses of water in the YWG Basin within the context of private property rights.
3. Improve agricultural water supplies to increase irrigated land and reduce shortages. The agricultural needs study of the YWG BRT identified an additional 14,805 acres of potential new agriculture production in the future.
4. Identify and address municipal and industrial (M&I) water shortages
5. Quantify and protect environmental and recreational water uses at locations identified in the non-consumptive needs study for the YWGRT.
6. Maintain and consider the existing natural range of water quality that is necessary for current and anticipated water uses.
7. Restore, maintain, and modernize water storage and distribution infrastructure.
8. Develop an integrated system of water use, storage, administration and delivery to reduce water shortages and meet environmental and recreational needs.

PUBLIC BENEFIT CRITERIA

The YWGRT reserves the right to approve projects and funding levels depending upon how much Public Benefit the project supports and attains when completed.

Public Water – Is the water involved in this project a private water right or is it associated with a governmental organization. Is it a local water district, local city or county, State of Colorado water right or a Federal Agency water right?

Public Land – Is there public lands involved in the project, either where the project is being performed, or is there access to this water via public lands, either local municipality, county, state or federal agency land?

Public Access – When this project is complete, will there be public access to the water involved in this water right project? Is this access through public lands, or is access being granted by private property right holders?

Other Public Benefit – Are there any other public benefits associated with this project that would have not been discussed as part of public water, land or access? For instance, will this project improve water quality in a section of water this is not attainable without this project?

FUNDING SOURCE

Colorado SB06-179 created a WSRF Grant Program to help citizens identify and meet their critical water supply needs and provide funds for a broad range of eligible activities. SB09-106 reauthorized the program in perpetuity and appropriates \$10 million annually for the fund, subject to available funding. Water Supply Reserve Fund is divided between a single Statewide Account and nine Basin Accounts. The Statewide Account provides funding for projects that are of statewide significance.



CALL FOR PROJECTS

The YWGRT is actively seeking applications and projects for grant funding. Grant requests will be considered if the project addresses at least one of the eight primary goals.

YWGRT GRANT COMMITTEE

The Grant Committee is a subcommittee of the YWGRT whose purpose is to assist both the applicant and the Roundtable with the grant process. Applicants are encouraged to contact any one of the Grant Committee members prior to starting their application to discuss the WSRF procedure, timelines and meeting dates.

Current Grant Committee members are:

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|---------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Kelly Romero-Heaney | kromeroheaney@steamboatsprings.net | Doug Monger | dmonger@co.routt.co.us |
| Kevin McBride | kmcbride@uppervampawater.com | Jackie Brown | jbrown@tristategt.org |
| Marsha Daughenbaugh | marshad@communitygalliance.org | Stephen Hinkemeyer | steve@trappermine.com |

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible to receive WSRF grant funding

- The project must address at least one of the eight primary goals.
- Applicants must be a registered business entity legally conducting business in Colorado, Title 32 water and sanitation district or other governmental or quasi-governmental entity.
- Private individuals, partnerships or sole proprietors are eligible to apply for Basin Account Funding but must form a legal entity or be sponsored by an eligible agency which serves as the fiscal agent to manage the project and apply for funds.
- Private individuals, partnerships or sole proprietors are not eligible to apply for Statewide Account Funding unless a legal entity is formed or an eligible agency becomes the fiscal agent to manage the project and apply for funds.

MATCH REQUIREMENTS

Applications for Basin Account funds: CWCB dictates at least a 25% match for basin only funded projects, from either cash or in-kind services or in-kind material contributions. Applicants should be able to accurately describe how they will account for in-kind match. The CWCB may allow a waiver of this requirement, see CWCB “WSRF Criteria and Guidelines”.

Applications for Statewide Account funds: Statewide Account applications must provide at least 50% match, including 10% cash match from YWG Basin Account Fund, 10% applicant or third party match (cash or in-kind service or material source) and the remaining 30% match from any source (cash or in-kind service or material source), including YWG Basin Account. The CWCB may allow a waiver of this requirement, see CWCB “WSRF Criteria and Guidelines”.

HOW TO APPLY for WSRF GRANT FUNDS

Step One

- Review the YWG Description of Goals and Measurable Outcomes to determine if your project is eligible.
- Review the Executive Summary and Chapter 10 of Colorado’s Water Plan to assure your project is compatible.
- Utilize the YWGRT Grant Committee as a resource to assure eligibility and timelines.
- Complete the YWGRT Grant Application Form. Limit your application to two pages + project area map.
- Submit application to the YWGRT Grant Committee at least two weeks prior to a regularly scheduled meeting.
- The Grant Committee will review the application to ensure the project is eligible and that the applicant has provided adequate information. If further information is needed the committee will contact the applicant. If the application is eligible and complete, the committee will forward the application to the YWGRT prior to the meeting.
- Attend the YWGRT meeting to provide a short presentation, approximately 10 minutes (First Reading). The presentation, application, project map and a Q&A opportunity will ensure that roundtable members understand the full scope of the proposed project before voting on the grant application.



Step Two – If the YWGRT agrees that the grant request should move forward, the applicant must:

- Complete the CWCB WSRF Grant Application, including Exhibit A, which includes a Statement of Work, and Budget and submit it to the YWGRT Grant Committee at least two weeks prior to a regularly scheduled meeting. The Grant Committee will review the application to ensure the project is the one approved in Step One and still meets eligibility requirements. The committee will forward the application to the YWGRT prior to the meeting.
- Attend the YWGRT meeting (Second Reading). The Grant Committee will re-introduce the grant applicant and nature of the project. Membership may ask questions or voice concerns. Voting will occur and recommendation for advancement to CWCB is based on a 2/3 majority vote of the voting membership of the YWGRT.
- At this stage there is no guarantee that the grant will be funded by CWCB but it is a significant hurdle to final approval.

If an applicant wishes to seek YWGRT approval in one reading due to application deadlines (highly discouraged):

- Review the YWG Description of Goals and Measurable Outcomes to determine if your project is eligible.
- Review the Executive Summary of and Chapter 10 of Colorado’s Water Plan to assure your project is compatible.
- Utilize the YWGRT Grant Committee as a resource to assure eligibility and timelines.
- Inform the Grant Committee that the application is being requested to be presented without a first reading.
- Complete the CWCB WSRF Grant Application, including Exhibit A, which includes a Statement of Work and Budget and submit it to the YWGRT Grant Committee at least two weeks prior to a regularly scheduled meeting. The Grant Committee will review the application to ensure the project is eligible. If further information is needed the committee will contact the applicant. If the application is eligible the committee will forward the application to the YWGRT prior to the meeting.
- Attend the YWGRT meeting to provide a presentation which will be considered the Second Reading. The Grant Committee will introduce the grant applicant and nature of the project. A vote on whether this grant request may be heard by the BRT in one reading at this meeting will occur before the grant application may be heard. If the motion is voted down, the grant application will be heard, but will require a Second Reading if approved by the Membership. If approved for one reading, Membership may ask questions or voice concerns. Voting will occur and recommendation for advancement to CWCB is based on a 2/3 majority vote of the voting membership of the YWGRT.
- At this stage there is no guarantee that the grant will be funded by CWCB but it is a significant hurdle to final approval.

Step Three – If the YWGRT gives their approval to the application, the applicant must:

- Submit the Grant Application, statement of work, budget, schedule and maps to CWCB.
- Ensure that the Roundtable Chair submits a letter of recommendation to the CWCB.
- Work with CWCB staff to address any issues or additional information needed prior to CWCB Board review.

IMPORTANT TO KNOW

The Yampa/White Basin Implementation plan can be accessed at Basin Roundtables

The Colorado’s Water Plan can be accessed at <http://cwcb.state.co.us>

The CWCB grant application can be found at <http://cwcb.state.co.us>-Loans and Grants

Money spent on the project prior to CWCB approval, finalization of the grant agreement and notice to proceed is not an eligible expense for grant reimbursement.

No portion of this Grant Application Guideline is intended to be stricter than Colorado State Law.

