



Last Updated: July 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant Application

Instructions

To receive funding for a Water Plan Grant, applicant must demonstrate how the project, activity, or process (collectively referred to as “project”) funded by the CWCB will help meet the measurable objectives and critical actions in the Water Plan. Grant guidelines are available on the CWCB website.

If you have questions, please contact CWCB at (303) 866-3441 or email the following staff to assist you with applications in the following areas:

Supply and Demand Gap Projects: Rebecca.Mitchell@state.co.us

Water Storage Projects: Anna.Mauss@state.co.us

Conservation, Land Use Planning: Kevin.Reidy@state.co.us

Education & Innovation Activities: Mara.MacKillop@state.co.us

Agricultural Projects: Gregory.Johnson@state.co.us

Environmental & Recreation Projects: Linda.Bassi@state.co.us

Applicants interested in submitting an ‘Intent to Apply’ in the future are encouraged to check here and fill in all sections with the best information available at the time. Exhibits excluded.

This “Intent to Apply” will help CWCB prioritize Projects that are not ready for fully completed Water Plan Grant Application due to the initial timeframe and deadlines required.

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Conejos Water Conservancy District	
Name of Water Project	Conejos Cooperative Project	
CWP Grant Request Amount		\$ 314,643
Other Funding Sources _____		\$
Other Funding Sources _____		\$
Applicant Funding Contribution		\$ 35,000
Total Project Cost		\$ 349,643



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Applicant & Grantee Information	
Name of Grantee(s)	Conejos Water Conservancy District
Mailing Address	318 Main St, Manassa, CO 81141
FEIN	XH-84-0776076
Organization Contact	Nathan Coombs
Position/Title	Manager
Email	Cwcd1971@hotmail.com
Phone	(719) 843-5261
Grant Management Contact	Nathan Coombs
Position/Title	Manager
Email	Cwcd1971@hotmail.com
Phone	(719) 843-5261
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	
Mailing Address	
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	



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Description of Grantee/Applicant

Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).

The Conejos Water Conservancy District (CWCD or the District) is a public, quasi-governmental entity. The District's boundaries include approximately 100,000 acres, of which 88,000 acres are capable of being irrigated. An additional 4,000 acres that are not within the boundaries of the District are also irrigated by the San Antonio River which is within the Conejos River system. CWCD was formed "in order to acquire and appropriate waters of the Conejos and its tributaries; to divert, store, and transport such water by means of works, as defined in the Water Conservancy Act; to control floods by means of the works; to conserve, develop and stabilize water supplies for domestic, irrigation, power, manufacturing and other beneficial uses" within the territory included in the boundaries of the CWCD.



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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.
X	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: Private parties may be eligible for funding.
	Non-governmental organizations (NGO): Organization that is not part of the government and is non-profit in nature.
	Covered Entity: As defined in Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes .

Type of Water Project (check all that apply)	
X	Study
	Construction
X	Identified Process or Program
	Other

Category of Water Project (check all that apply)	
X	Supply and Demand Gap Projects - Multi-beneficial projects and those projects identified in basin implementation plans to address the water supply and demand gap. (Applicable Exhibit A Task(s) 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7)
X	Water Storage Projects - Projects that facilitate the development of additional storage, artificial recharge into aquifers, and dredging existing reservoirs to restore the reservoirs' full decreed storage capacity. (Applicable Exhibit A Task(s) 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7)
	Conservation and Land Use Planning Projects - Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning. (Applicable Exhibit A Task(s) _____)
X	Engagement & Innovation Projects - Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application available on the website. (Applicable Exhibit A Task(s) 1, 4, 5, 7 and 9)
X	Agricultural Projects - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency. (Applicable Exhibit A Task(s) 2, 6 and 7)
X	Environmental & Recreation Projects – Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation. (Applicable Exhibit A Task(s) 7)
	Other
	Explain:



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Location of Water Project	
Please provide the general county and coordinates of the proposed project below in decimal degrees . The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable.	
County/Counties	Conejos
Latitude	
Longitude	

Water Project Overview
<p>Please provide a summary of the proposed water project (200 words or less). Include a description of the project and what the CWP Grant funding will be used for specifically (e.g., studies, permitting process, construction). Provide a description of the water supply source to be utilized or the water body affected by the project, where applicable. Include details such as acres under irrigation, types of crops irrigated, number of residential and commercial taps, length of ditch improvements, length of pipe installed, and area of habitat improvements, where applicable. If this project addresses multiple purposes or spans multiple basins, please explain.</p> <p>The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit A, a detailed Statement of Work, Budget, Other Funding Sources/Amounts and Schedule.</p>
<p>This project will implement and expand upon the recommendations of the Trujillo Meadows (ATM) project and investigate and select opportunities for development of additional storage and coordinated water operations to provide multiple benefits.</p> <p>An enlargement of Trujillo Meadows Reservoir, and/or construction of new storage on the San Antonio upstream of Antonito or a gravity conveyance from the Conejos River to the San Antonio River, coupled with coordinated operations with Platoro Reservoir, can provide multiple benefits to agricultural water rights holders on the Rio de Los Pinos and San Antonio rivers. Benefits from these changes in reservoir operations include enhanced riparian habitat and streamflows because of extended summer releases from Trujillo Meadow Reservoir. The project scope is expanded beyond the San Antonio watershed boundaries since there are benefits and cooperative measures that extend to the entire CWCD boundaries.</p> <p>Engineering and cost estimates for a Trujillo Meadows Reservoir enlargement will be developed. Feasibility studies of a new reservoir on the San Antonio between the state line and Antonito will be conducted. This includes engineering and costs, biological, wetlands, cultural and other resource investigations. The Rio Grande Basin Plan RiverWare model will be expanded to evaluate opportunities for maximization of the beneficial use of the Conejos' entitlement under the Rio Grande Compact and flood mitigation potential. Streamflow, riparian, other environmental, recreational and economic benefits will also be detailed.</p>



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Measurable Results	
To catalog measurable results achieved with the CWP Grant funds, please provide any of the following values as applicable:	
2,000-8,000	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
1,000	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive
800	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)
	Efficiency Savings (indicate acre-feet/year OR dollars/year)
	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)
400	Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms
	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning
	Other Explain:

Water Project Justification
<p>Provide a description of how this water project supports the goals of Colorado's Water Plan, the most recent Statewide Water Supply Initiative, and the applicable Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan and Education Action Plan. The Applicant is required to reference specific needs, goals, themes, or Identified Projects and Processes (IPPs), including citations (e.g. document, chapters, sections, or page numbers).</p> <p>The proposed water project shall be evaluated based upon how well the proposal conforms to Colorado's Water Plan Framework for State of Colorado Support for a Water Project (CWP, Section 9.4, pp. 9-43 to 9-44;)</p> <p>The Conejos Cooperative Project (CCP) addresses multiple needs and includes multiple participants and a highly diverse set of stakeholders. Significant outreach and stakeholder involvement planned for this project is a key component. The project has been identified in the Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan. Environmental and recreational interests are included in the project to build on the Conejos Winter Flow Program. The CCP will address the economic and social impacts on rural agriculture in the Conejos River watershed. The project will identify and prioritize alternatives for implementation through robust outreach within Conejos, San Antonio, and the Los Pinos River water users, including storage opportunities, administration practices, formation of ground water management subdistricts, augmentation supply for local municipalities, and identify streamflow and other environmental enhancements. Increased recreation is anticipated to lead to improved social and economic impacts. The CCP is a community project that will bridge the cultural and economic sectors in the southern watershed of the San Luis Valley by developing additional storage and coordinated water operation for multiple benefits.</p> <p>The Conejos Cooperative Project combines several Identified Project and Process contained in the Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan.</p>



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Water Project Justification

The CCP addresses:

- Supply and Demand Gaps
- Develops new storage and re-operates existing storage
- Outreach will lead to innovation through re-operation of existing and new facilities
- Agricultural supplies will be improved through additional storage and examination of potential agricultural efficiency improvements
- The multi-use objectives of the project include improving streamflows in multiple streams through coordinated reservoir re-operations. Other environmental and riparian benefits are also possible. The improved streamflows and recreation potential with new and improved storage facilities will also lead to increased recreational opportunities with attendant social and economic benefits.

Related Studies

Please provide a list of any related studies, including if the water project is complementary to or assists in the implementation of other CWCB programs.

Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan

Trujillo Meadows Alternative Transfer Method

Previous CWCB Grants, Loans or Other Funding

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; 6) Percentage of other CWCB funding for your overall project.

Conejos Water Conservancy District was the applicant and grantee for the following CWCB grants. The Rio Grande BRT was the approving roundtable for the WSRF grants. No roundtable approval was required for the ATM grant. There were no additional CWCB funding other than the grants listed below.



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WSRF GRANTS	Amount	Contract #	Board Approval
Platoro Reservoir Restoration	\$250,000.00	C150448	9/17/2008
Platoro Reservoir Crest Dam Repair	\$150,000.00	C150495	9/13/2011
Conejos River System Gauging Stations Project	\$407,280.00	C150501	3/20/2012
Radar Monitoring & Hydrologic Modeling in the Upper Rio Grande Basin	\$237,000.00	CTGG1 2015-5105	9/24/2013
Conejos River System Confluence Management Project	\$295,000.00	CTGG1 2015-5105/POGG1 2017-1005	5/22/2014
ATM GRANT			
Use of ATMs to Increase Supplies for Conejos Basin Ag, Municipal & Enviro Purposes	\$124,124.00	C154239/POGG1 2017-582	5/15/2013

Taxpayer Bill of Rights

The Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) may limit the amount of grant money an entity can receive. Please describe any relevant TABOR issues that may affect your application.

In 2007 CWCD voters approved Referendum B which exempted the CWCD from Tabor requirements on grant funds of up to \$5 million



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Submittal Checklist	
X	I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the Standard Contract .
Exhibit A	
X	Statement of Work ⁽¹⁾
X	Budget & Schedule ⁽¹⁾ (<i>Spreadsheet</i>)
X	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ⁽¹⁾
Exhibit C	
X	Map ⁽¹⁾
	Photos/Drawings/Reports
X	Letters of Support (Support letter from Basin Roundtable encouraged)
	Certificate of Insurance (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.)
	Certificate of Good Standing with Colorado Secretary of State ⁽²⁾
	W-9 ⁽²⁾
	Independent Contractor Form ⁽²⁾ (If applicant is individual, not company/organization)
Engagement & Innovation Grant Applicants ONLY	
	Engagement & Innovation Supplemental Application ⁽¹⁾

(1) Required with application.

(2) Required for contracting. While optional at the time of this application, submission can expedite contracting upon CWCB Board approval.