



COLORADO
Colorado Water Conservation Board
 Department of Natural Resources

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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Lauren Ris, CWCB Deputy Director

DATE: November 20-21, 2019

AGENDA ITEM: 8. Water Plan Grants Overview

Introduction:

This agenda item will provide the Board with an overview of the Water Plan Grant approval process and timeline. The Water Plan Grant (WPGrant) applications reviewed at this Board meeting were received by the August 1, 2019 deadline and will be considered at this meeting for final approval. Project managers for each grant category will provide an overview of their recommendations and ask the Board to take action on the recommendations for the category as a whole, unless otherwise requested by the Board.

Background:

The 2019 Projects Bill (SB19-221) included \$7 million for projects or activities that aim to make progress on the measureable objectives identified in Colorado’s Water Plan. A General Fund appropriation (SB19-212) made an additional \$8.3 million⁽¹⁾ available for WPGrants through fiscal year 2021-22. Table 1 provides a summary of the WPGrant categories, including the appropriated funding, the total requested, and the unreserved balance including any carryover funds.

This is the program’s third year of funding, which will include two grant rounds this fiscal year. Applications for this round were due August 1, 2019. The deadline for the second round will be February 1, 2020 with final Board review at the May 2020 Board meeting.

Table 1. Water Plan Grants Summary FY19/20

Grant Category	Projects Bill	General Fund ⁽¹⁾	Carry Over	Beginning Balance	Requested August 2019	Recommended August 2019	Remaining Balance
Agriculture	\$1,000,000	\$750,000	\$2,598	\$1,752,598	\$1,162,084	\$1,162,084	\$590,514
Engagement & Innovation	\$500,000		\$61,940	\$561,940	\$1,019,389	\$425,506	\$136,434
Environment & Recreation	\$1,500,000	\$750,000	\$925	\$2,250,925	\$315,000	\$190,000	\$2,060,925
Conservation & Land Use	\$1,000,000	\$750,000	\$229,891	\$1,979,891	\$968,620	\$708,939	\$1,270,952
Water Storage & Supply	3,000,000	\$750,000	\$53,114	\$3,803,114	\$901,595	\$200,000	\$3,603,114
Totals					\$4,366,688	\$2,686,529	\$7,661,939

(1) At the May 2019 Board meeting, the Board approved allocating \$3 million of the \$8.3 million for this fiscal year and to equally distribute that funding across four grant categories: Agriculture, Conservation and Land Use, Environment and Recreation, and Storage and Supply. In FY19/20, \$750,000 was added to each of those categories.

