



**COLORADO**  
**Colorado Water Conservation Board**  
 Department of Natural Resources

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**TO:** Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

**FROM:** Alexander Funk  
 Interstate, Federal, and Water Information Section

**DATE:** November 20-21, 2019

**AGENDA ITEM:** 8 a-g Colorado Water Plan Grants - Agriculture

For fiscal year 2020, the Agricultural Project category received \$1.75 million in funding. The unreserved balance in the agriculture category is \$1,752,598, including carryover funds from fiscal year 2019. In the first round of fiscal year 2020 applications, the CWCB received 7 applications totaling \$1,162,084. Staff is recommending seven projects totaling \$1,162,084 leaving \$590,514 available for the second round.

**Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends the following Board action for activities listed in the following table regarding Colorado’s Water Plan Grant Program funding.

Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request Amount	Staff Recommendation
a. Bookcliff, South Side & Mount Sopris Conservation Districts	Integrated Watershed Management Planning in the Middle Colorado River	\$95,000	Approve \$95,000
b. Colorado Cattlemen’s Association	Agricultural Watershed and Stream Management Planning Outreach and Technical Assistance	\$79,400	Approve \$79,400
c. Colorado Master Irrigator	Colorado Master Irrigator Program - Republican River Basin	\$149,800	Approve \$149,800
d. Colorado State University	Food Asset Mapping to Understand Opportunities for Agricultural Economic Development that Reduce Water Consumption	\$163,885	Approve \$163,885
e. Crawford Water Conservancy District	Lower Aspen Canal Piping Efficiency Project	\$274,000	Approve \$274,000
f. Trout Unlimited	Irrigation Efficiency & Its Effects in NW Colorado	\$149,999	Approve \$149,999
g. Webber Ditch Company	Webber Ditch Diversion & Piping Project	\$250,000	Approve \$250,000

Total Recommended for Approval		\$1,162,084
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**Staff Review and Comments**

The Colorado Water Plan grant review committee evaluates agricultural grants on several criteria including whether the project furthers critical action items identified in the Colorado Water Plan, whether the project promotes collaboration, and whether the project provides an innovative, multi-benefit approach to solving water resource challenges affecting Colorado’s agricultural industry.

**Project Issues/Additional Needs**

- All funding awards are contingent upon the applicants’ ability to secure match funding
- Grantees should adequately address CWCB staff comments to scopes of work and engineering designs (when applicable). This may result in changes, especially in the case of partial funding awards. Staff will schedule meetings with each successful applicant to discuss comments and contracting procedures