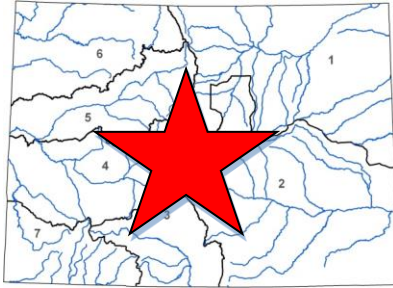




Water Plan Grant Application



L O C A T I O N
County/Countries: Statewide
Drainage Basin: Statewide

D E T A I L S	
Total Project Cost:	\$58,188.50
Water Plan Grant Request:	\$29,093.75
Recommended Amount:	\$12,734
Other Funding Amount:	\$20,000
Applicant Match:	\$9,093.75
Project Type(s): Study, Construction, IPP, Other	
Project Category(Categories): Supply & Demand Gap, Storage, Conservation & Land Use, Engagement & Innovation, Agricultural, Environmental & Rec	
Measurable Result: 305 Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity	

The Colorado Ag Water Alliance (CAWA) is an association of agricultural organizations that have aligned to disseminate information to producers so they can make informed choices about their water rights. CAWA also helps to educate non-producers about how water is used in agriculture through farm tours, which demonstrate irrigation methods and agricultural water use and administration.

Over the past few years, CAWA has conducted extensive outreach through regional workshops in all the major river basins. CAWA believes this has been a successful way to bring water-related topics to irrigators. CAWA has worked with local partners to build workshops around pertinent and relevant issues.

CAWA believes its most successful workshops have coincided with local efforts in the agricultural community to participate and implement water projects. Regionally, CAWA will focus future workshops with local efforts to establish long-term projects that benefit the agricultural community and meet the goals in the Water Plan.

If approved, grant monies would fund the following topics CAWA plans to focus on are:

- Irrigation Inventories and Funding Irrigation improvements on the Western Slope and North Park to discuss the specifics and possible benefits of irrigation and ditch inventories, how those can be implemented and what sort of improvements they can lead to.
- Water Quality on the Eastern Slope to discuss Regulation 85, water quality Best Management Practices, increasing salinity, and what irrigators can do related to water quality that also benefits their bottom line.
- Master Aquifer Program in the San Luis Valley - CAWA will be working with the Rio Grande Water Conservancy District to implement outreach and series of workshops that discusses possible strategies to better manage the aquifer in the San Luis Valley and secure agricultural production into the future.

This project is consistent with the Water Plan Educational strategy to provide education for farmers on available incentives for on-farm implementation of agricultural conservation measures, water sharing opportunities, and other tools available to growers” (Section 9.5).

Funding Recommendation: Staff is recommending a grant of \$12,734 from the Engagement and Innovation category of funding. This would help fund the workshops listed above. Because of more demand than funds available, the recommended funding is \$16,359.75 less than the requested amount. The remainder of the project will be funded through a Walton Family Foundation grant and the applicant’s contribution to the project.



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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:

Water Storage Projects
Conservation, Land Use Planning
Engagement & Innovation Activities
Agricultural Projects
Environmental & Recreation
Projects

Anna.Mauss@state.co.us
Kevin.Reidy@state.co.us
Ben.Wade@state.co.us
Alexander.Funk@state.co.us
Chris.Sturm@state.co.us

FINAL SUBMISSION: Submit all application materials in one email to

waterplan.grants@state.co.us

in the original file formats [Application (word); Statement of Work (word); Budget/Schedule (excel)]. Please do not combine documents. In the subject line, please include the funding category and name of the project.

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Colorado Ag Water Alliance	
Name of Water Project	Outreach and Capacity Building for Ag Water Projects	
CWP Grant Request Amount		\$29,093.75
Other Funding Sources <u>Walton Family Foundation</u>		\$20,000.00
Other Funding Sources _____		\$
Other Funding Sources _____		\$
Applicant Funding Contribution		\$9,093.75
Total Project Cost		\$58,188.50



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Applicant & Grantee Information	
Name of Grantee(s) Colorado Ag Water Alliance	
Mailing Address 10440 W. Fair Ave. Unit C, Littleton, CO 80127	
FEIN 83-2969510	
Organization Contact Greg Peterson	
Position/Title Executive Director	
Email petersongap@comcast.net	
Phone 720-244-4629	
Grant Management Contact Greg Peterson	
Position/Title Executive Director	
Email petersongap@comcast.net	
Phone 720-244-4629	
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	
Mailing Address	
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	
Description of Grantee/Applicant	
Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).	
<p>The Colorado Ag Water Alliance (CAWA) is an association of agricultural organizations that have aligned to disseminate information to producers so they can make informed choices about their water rights. We also help educate non-producers about how water is used in agriculture through farm tours, which demonstrate irrigation methods and agricultural water use and administration.</p>	



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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.
	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.
X	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)	
	Study
	Construction
X	Identified Projects and Processes (IPP)
	Other

Category of Water Project (check the primary category that applies and include relevant tasks)		
	Water Storage - Projects that facilitate the development of additional storage, artificial aquifer recharge, and dredging existing reservoirs to restore the reservoirs' full decreed capacity and Multi-beneficial projects and those projects identified in basin implementation plans to address the water supply and demand gap.. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>	
	Conservation and Land Use Planning - Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>	
X	Engagement & Innovation - Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>	
X	Agricultural - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>	
	Environmental & Recreation - Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>	
	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/Countries	All counties in Colorado
Latitude	37° N to 41° N Latitude
Longitude	102°03' W to 109°03' W Longitude

Water Project Overview

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.

The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit A, a detailed Statement of Work, Budget, Other Funding Sources/Amounts and Schedule.

The past three years, CAWA has conducted extensive outreach through regional workshops in all the major river few. It has been a successful way to bring water-related topics to irrigators. We work with local partners to build workshops around pertinent and relevant issues. Our events have been well attended and the survey responses have been overwhelmingly positive. One of the most common comments we had from producers was to return next year for another workshop.

From a strategic standpoint, our most successful workshops coincided with local efforts in the ag community to participate and implement water projects. Regionally, we want to focus our workshops with local efforts to establish long-term projects that benefit the ag community and meet the goals in the Water Plan. Ideally, this effort will lead to implementing large-scale projects in the near future that continue to educate producers throughout Colorado and other measurable goals such as efficiency savings and water conserved.

The topics we plan to focus on are below:

Irrigation Inventories and Funding Irrigation improvements (Western Slope and North Park)

Discuss the specifics and possible benefits of irrigation and ditch inventories, how those can be implemented and what sort of improvements they can lead to. Go through the information that is gathered through this process and how it can be a benefit to landowners. Highlight multibeneficial projects like diversion replacements that have had significant outside funding. Focus on how the ditch inventory can then be used as a stepping stone to funding projects through EQUIP, the CWCB, or private institutions. Irrigation inventories may seem like a small step forward, but I'm coming to the conclusion that it's an important step that is missing in a lot of conversations about water and ag in the Western Slope. The information gathered from this process is invaluable to irrigators and can better prepare them for conversations about demand management or working with other water stakeholders.

Stream Management Planning (Statewide)



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Discuss stream management planning efforts around the state, what they involve, and why agriculture may want to partake in a stream or integrated water management plan. Similar workshops focused on this subject have led to efforts by the ag community to further engage in stream management planning (the Middle Colorado) or begin their own stream management plan process (White River). We will be doing two more this year in the Gunnison and Yampa river basins to compliment those IWMP efforts and encourage producers to take an active role in the process for the benefit of the ag community.

Water Quality (Eastern Slope)

Discuss Reg 85, water quality BMPs, increasing salinity, and what irrigators can do related to water quality that also benefits their bottom line.

Master Aquifer Program (San Luis Valley)

CAWA will be working with the Rio Grande Water Conservancy District to implement outreach and series of workshops that discusses possible strategies to better manage the aquifer in the San Luis Valley and secure agricultural production into the future. This fall we plan to begin a conversation the subject and want to be able to support those efforts throughout the following year. A few of the topics we will be focusing on: (1) what are the lessons learned from those who have been participating in Subdistrict 1's following project the past two years and is this a viable path forward? (2) Can we impose volumetric limits on a well and in return be compensated by the district by waiving the variable fees? (3) Irrigated agriculture provides significant ecosystem services. Are there ways producers can be compensated by environmental organizations in return for limited pumping on a well?

Small Organization Outreach (Statewide)

There are many small agricultural organizations throughout the state that would benefit for presentations and discussion about water quality, stream management planning, and how to navigate and fund multi-beneficial projects. The past few years CAWA has focused this outreach toward commodity groups and their annual meetings. We'd like to shift that focus to stock growers' meetings (particularly on the Western Slope), and ditch company annual meetings (particularly on the Eastern Slope).

Measurable Results

To catalog measurable results achieved with the CWP Grant funds, please provide any of the following values as applicable:

	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive
	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)
	Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms
	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning



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X	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity	
	Other	Explain:

Water Project Justification

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).

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;)

Through continuing to engage producers and non-producers about agricultural water use, the proposed joint CCA Ag Water NetWORK / Colorado Ag Water Alliance project will advance the goals of the Colorado Water Plan and the Basin Roundtables. The Colorado Water Plan calls for maintaining Colorado's agricultural productivity (Section 6.5) and elevating the awareness of Colorado's citizens when it comes to water issues affecting the state (Section 9.5). CCA's Ag Water NetWORK and CAWA specifically focus on providing information to producers on water conservation, irrigation efficiency, water rights and ATMs in order to help the agricultural industry become more efficient, resilient, and able to sustainably share water with other water interests using a market-driven approach.

The Water Plan references this type of support, focusing on ditch-wide and regional conservation and efficiency opportunities and tradeoffs, long-term infrastructure maintenance needs, and the potential benefits of water sharing agreements (Sections 6.3.4, 6.4 6.5).

The Education and Outreach section of the Water Plan also calls for "education for farmers on available incentives for on-farm implementation of agricultural conservation measures, water sharing opportunities, and other tools available to growers" (Section 9.5). The Statewide Water Supply Initiative (SWSI) 2010 also call for efforts to educate and promote stewardship of water resources that recognizes water's critical role in supporting the quality of life and economic prosperity of all Coloradans (SWSI, 8-2). The Colorado Water Education Task Force (2008) also emphasizes the need for education programs "beyond information transfer through printed or other media informational campaigns" (Final Report, 3).

Education toward and support for the agricultural community is emphasized in the majority of Basin Implementation Plans (BIPs) and Education Action Plans. The South Platte Basin Roundtable and Metro Roundtable Education Action Plan 2016-2018 calls for the long-term goal of hosting events focused on agriculture (page 1) and the South Platte BIP calls for "Improving public understanding about the goals, needs, and plans of the state and the South Platte Basin will help to improve public acceptance of the need for innovative water rate structures, energetic conservation measures, and more integrated land use and water supply planning (S-15). The Arkansas Basin Roundtable PEPO Workgroup Education Action Plan Scope of Work Years 2016-2019 emphasizes partnership in Arkansas Basin specific education, including agriculture (1). The Yampa/White/Green BIP calls for protecting and encouraging "encourage agricultural uses of water in the YWG Basin within the context of private property rights" (1.2.4). Sustaining, protecting, and promoting agriculture is major theme of the Colorado BIP (16). The Gunnison BIP also emphasizes the goal to "discourage the conversion of productive agricultural land to all other uses within the context of private property rights" (2). The Southwest Basin Roundtable Public Education, Outreach, and Participation Education Action Plan calls to "coordinate and implement workshop(s) focused on on-farm efficiencies and improvement" (6). The



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Rio Grande BIP also cites the need for “outreach events designed for agricultural water users [emphasis added], public officials, and community members” (160).

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.

NA

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.



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- 1) Colorado Cattlemen's Association
- 2) Water Plan Grant CO Cattlemen's Assoc Engage & Innov Pt 2
- 3) Approving RT(s) - N/A
- 4) 1/10/19
- 5) POGG1,PDAA,201900002621
- 6) 50%

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.

No TABOR related-constraints are known or anticipated.

Submittal Checklist

	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⁾
NA	Engineer's statement of probable cost (projects over \$100,000)
X	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ⁽¹⁾
Exhibit C	
NA	Map (if applicable) ⁽¹⁾
NA	Photos/Drawings/Reports
	Letters of Support (Optional)
	Certificate of Insurance (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.) ⁽²⁾
	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	
X	Engagement & Innovation Supplemental Application ⁽¹⁾

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(1) Required with application.

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

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ENGAGEMENT & INNOVATION GRANT FUND SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION

Introduction & Purpose

Colorado's Water Plan calls for an outreach, education, public engagement, and innovation grant fund in Chapter 9.5.

The overall goal of the Engagement & Innovation Grant Fund is to enhance Colorado's water communication, outreach, education, and public engagement efforts; advance Colorado's water supply planning process; and support a statewide water innovation ecosystem.

The grant fund aims to engage the public to promote well-informed community discourse regarding balanced water solutions statewide. The grant fund aims to support water innovation in Colorado. The grant fund prioritizes measuring and evaluating the success of programs, projects, and initiatives. The grant fund prioritizes efforts designed using research, data, and best practices. The grant fund prioritizes a commitment to collaboration and community engagement. The grant fund will support local and statewide efforts.

The grant fund is divided into two tracks: engagement and innovation. The Engagement Track supports education, outreach, communication, and public participation efforts related to water. The Innovation Track supports efforts that advance the water innovation ecosystem in Colorado.

Application Questions

*The grant fund request is referred to as "project" in this application.

Overview (answer for both tracks)
In a few sentences, what is the overall goal of this project? How does it achieve the stated purpose of this grant fund (above)?
The purpose of the CAWA Outreach and Capacity Building for Ag Water Projects is to elevate understanding of agricultural water issues among Colorado's ag water right holders and non-ag water stakeholders alike. This means increasing and improving producer access to information that results in a greater depth of knowledge on issues like historical consumptive use, irrigation efficiency, conservation, storage and ATMs. For this project, we really want to focus on getting irrigations to implement projects pertaining to irrigation efficiency, conservation, and collaboratively working with other water stakeholder groups.
Who is/are the target audience(s)? How will you reach them? How will you involve the community?
The audience is irrigated ag producers: farmers and ranchers. In the past, we've reached this group through our respective memberships, member organizations, conservation districts, conservancy districts, ditch companies and general media channels. These entities represent a critical component of our outreach and engagement efforts. We spend significant time planning around the schedules of producers and coinciding events with annual meetings of conservation districts, ditch companies, and stock growers.
Describe how the project is collaborative or engages a diverse group of stakeholders. Who are the partners in the project? Do you have other funding partners or sources?
The regional workshops specifically target the irrigated agricultural community and will emphasize reaching producers who have not previously been involved in conversations about water. Previous CAWA workshops averaged 85 people in attendance with the majority being producers. This type of



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Overview (answer for both tracks)																							
<p>engagement will be broadened and deepened as we reach out more extensively to all ag water right holders. We will also work with irrigators to identify projects that could include and benefit other water stakeholder groups and how to engage them.</p> <p>We are partnering with CCA membership and CAWA member groups, Soil Conservation Districts, Rio Grande Basin Roundtable, South Platte Basin Roundtable, Community Ag Alliance, Colorado River Water Conservation District, Upper Gunnison Water Conservancy District, Republican River Conservation District, and Walton Family Foundation.</p>																							
Describe how you plan to measure and evaluate the success and impact of the project?																							
<p>Metrics related to attendance of workshops, webinars, tours, video, webinar and on-line resource viewing will all be tracked. Additionally, we will continue using surveys with workshops and webinars. The use of surveys has been of great assistance in identifying topics of greatest interest, as well as areas of misconception that need further clarification. Financial sponsorship also provides an idea of how useful other organizations view outreach events.</p> <p>Based on the specific region, there will also be a few other measurements of success. The number of agricultural producers and groups that will pursue and irrigation inventory will be reported. Long-term, we hope to implement a program with the Rio Grande Water Conservation District. Another goal is if ag-oriented groups apply for stream management plans.</p>																							
What research, evidence, and data support your project?																							
<p>According to “Public Opinions, Attitudes and Awareness Regarding Water in Colorado” (2013), the majority of Coloradoans did not know agriculture is the largest user of water in the state. Also, people in the survey rated water for agriculture highest among water quantity related concerns. A 2011 survey of the Rocky Mountain States by Colorado College found that “loss of family farms and ranches” as the <u>most</u> serious environmental problem across western region, ahead of “pollution of rivers, lakes and streams,” and “inadequate water supplies.” The “Public Attitudes of the Role of Food and Agriculture on Colorado’s Economy, Environment and Overall Health” (2017) by CSU shows just how important agriculture is to citizens of Colorado, with 56% saying “very important” and 32% saying “moderately important” that “agriculture is an important part of Colorado’s economy, and its quality of life.” However, despite this interest many people are unfamiliar with agricultural water use and are prone to serious misconceptions about irrigation efficiency, water quality, water conservation, and how water is administered in agriculture.</p> <p>CAWA has been using comprehensive surveys to gage the value of workshops and the desire for similar programming. 29% of regional workshop attendees completed surveys and the majority of responses were positive to CAWA efforts to engages producers:</p> <p>Key Questions:</p> <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>I found the following information helpful.....</th><th>Strongly Disagree</th><th>Disagree</th><th>Neither</th><th>Agree</th><th>Strongly Agree</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Today’s workshop as a whole</td><td></td><td><1%</td><td>8%</td><td>55%</td><td>36%</td></tr><tr><td>The role of CAWA and what they are doing</td><td></td><td><1%</td><td>16%</td><td>50%</td><td>33%</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>From CAWA’s recent Ag Water Tours geared toward non-producers, 85% of attendees completed the survey. In response to the question “Overall, today’s program was helpful for me to learn more about</p>						I found the following information helpful.....	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither	Agree	Strongly Agree	Today’s workshop as a whole		<1%	8%	55%	36%	The role of CAWA and what they are doing		<1%	16%	50%	33%
I found the following information helpful.....	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither	Agree	Strongly Agree																		
Today’s workshop as a whole		<1%	8%	55%	36%																		
The role of CAWA and what they are doing		<1%	16%	50%	33%																		



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Overview (answer for both tracks)
water in agriculture,” 70% responded “strongly agree”, 28% responded “agree” and 2% responded “neutral.”
Describe potential short- and long-term challenges with this project.
Short term challenges are quickly identifying local producers engaged in irrigation efficiency projects and conservation projects that are willing to speak. We are planning to compensate speakers and rely on our past outreach efforts, industry partners and CCA’s membership to identify potential speakers. The long-term challenge is in making these outreach efforts part of a longer-term, statewide commitment to achieving a well-informed community of both ag and non-ag water right stakeholders as it relates to both ag water issues and ag water usage, as well as M & I, conservation, and recreational water needs going forward. Part of the key to this process will be in compiling survey information, gathering input, and building a comprehensive resource of farmer-led projects throughout the state and disseminating the agricultural benefits of those projects.

Please fill out the applicable questions for either the Engagement Track or Innovation Track, unless your project contains elements in both tracks. If a question does not relate to your project, just leave it blank. Please answer each question that relates to your project. Please reference the relevant documents and use chapters and page numbers (Colorado’s Water Plan, Basin Implementation Plan, PEPO Education Action Plan, etc.).

Engagement Track
Describe how the project achieves the education, outreach, and public engagement measurable objective set forth in Colorado’s Water Plan to “significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues statewide by 2020, as determined by water awareness surveys.”
CAWA has taken the lead on educating Colorado’s ag water right holders and the public on agricultural water issues. Through workshops, tours, videos, presentations, the project informs participants on pertinent water issues. Workshops targeting ag producers will include an array of topics that affect irrigators, including efficiency, water conservation, leasing fundamentals and important concepts of water law like consumptive use and the value of a water right. The last series of workshops had robust turnout and received significant support and attention. This project will push forward on multiple outreach fronts, engaging producers that have thus far not been involved in dialogues about ag water.
Describe how the project achieves the other measurable objectives and critical goals and actions laid out in Colorado’s Water Plan around the supply and demand gap; conservation; land use; agriculture; storage; watershed health, environment, and recreation; funding; and additional.
CAWA’s goal is to preserve irrigated agriculture and empower producers to make the best decisions possible regarding how they manage and maximize the value and utility of their water rights. The overarching goal of this project is to help minimize buying and drying of irrigated ag land by creating a knowledgeable ag water right holder community that brings a balanced and innovative perspective to the challenge of closing the demand-supply gap. Topics including storage, conservation, conjunctive use, ATMs, and flow re-timing are of interest to both ag and non-ag interest groups, and ultimately will lead to innovative approaches to increasing conservation, improving watershed health, recreation and the environment, securing irrigated agricultural land near towns and cities, protecting food security, and building a framework which enables a more sustainable ag industry.
Describe how the project achieves the education, outreach, and public engagement goals set forth in the applicable Basin Implementation Plan(s).



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The South Platte Basin Implementation Plan calls for efforts to garner community and political support to develop tools to sustain irrigated agriculture (1.9.1). The Yampa/White/Green BIP calls for protecting and encouraging “agricultural uses of water in the YWG Basin within the context of private property rights” (1.2.4). Sustaining, protecting, and promoting agriculture is major theme of the Colorado BIP (16). The Gunnison BIP also emphasizes the goal to “discourage the conversion of productive agricultural land to all other uses within the context of private property rights” (2). The Rio Grande BIP also cites the need for “outreach events designed for *agricultural water users* [emphasis added], public officials, and community members” (160). The focus of the CAWA project is to provide information and support to producers to benefit irrigated agriculture by identifying and supplying information that can address and benefit both the irrigated ag industry and non-ag water uses.

Describe how the project achieves the basin roundtable’s PEPO Education Action Plans.

Education toward and support for the agricultural community is emphasized in many of the basin Education Action Plans. The South Platte Basin Roundtable and Metro Roundtable Education Action Plan 2016-2018 calls for the long-term goal of hosting events focused on agriculture (page 1). The Arkansas Basin Roundtable PEPO Workgroup Education Action Plan Scope of Work Years 2016-2019 emphasizes partnership in Arkansas Basin specific education, including agriculture (1). The Southwest Basin Roundtable Public Education, Outreach, and Participation Education Action Plan includes a call to “coordinate and implement workshop(s) focused on on-farm efficiencies and improvement” (6). Our workshops, webinars, videos and other outreach provide opportunities for producers to learn more about the various goals expressed among the basin roundtables.

Innovation Track

Describe how the project enhances water innovation efforts and supports a water innovation ecosystem in Colorado.

Describe how the project engages/leverages Colorado’s innovation community to help solve our state’s water challenges.

Describe how the project helps advance or develop a solution to a water need identified through TAP-IN and other water innovation challenges. What is the problem/need/challenge?



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Innovation Track
Describe how this project impacts current or emerging trends; technologies; clusters, sectors, or groups in water innovation.



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Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant - Exhibit A

Statement Of Work

Date:	July 31, 2019
Name of Grantee:	Colorado Ag Water Alliance
Name of Water Project:	Outreach and Capacity Building for Ag Water Projects
Funding Source:	Engagement & Innovation
Water Project Overview:	
<p>The past three years, CAWA has conducted extensive outreach through regional workshops in all the major river few. It has been a successful way to bring water-related topics to irrigators. We work with local partners to build workshops around pertinent and relevant issues. Our events have been well attended and the survey responses have been overwhelmingly positive. One of the most common comments we had from producers was to return next year for another workshop.</p> <p>From a strategic standpoint, our most successful workshops coincided with local efforts in the ag community to participate and implement water projects. Regionally, we want to focus our workshops with local efforts to establish long-term projects that benefit the ag community and meet the goals in the Water Plan. Ideally, this effort will lead to implementing large-scale projects in the near future that continue to educate producers throughout Colorado and other measurable goals such as efficiency savings and water conserved.</p> <p>The topics we plan to focus on are below:</p> <p>Irrigation Inventories and Funding Irrigation improvements (Western Slope and North Park)</p> <p>Discuss the specifics and possible benefits of irrigation and ditch inventories, how those can be implemented and what sort of improvements they can lead to. Go through the information that is gathered through this process and how it can be a benefit to landowners. Highlight multibeneficial projects like diversion replacements that have had significant outside funding. Focus on how the ditch inventory can then be used as a stepping stone to funding projects through EQUIP, the CWCB, or private institutions. Irrigation inventories may seem like a small step forward, but I'm coming to the conclusion that it's an important step that is missing in a lot of conversations about water and ag in the Western Slope. The information gathered from this process is invaluable to irrigators and can better prepare them for conversations about demand management or working with other water stakeholders.</p> <p>Stream Management Planning (Statewide)</p> <p>Discuss stream management planning efforts around the state, what they involve, and why agriculture may want to partake in a stream or integrated water management plan. Similar workshops focused on this subject have led to efforts by the ag community to further engage in stream management planning (the Middle Colorado) or begin their own stream management plan process (White River). We will be doing two more this year in the Gunnison and Yampa river basins to compliment those IWMP efforts and encourage producers to take and active role in the process for the benefit of the ag community.</p>	



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Water Quality (Eastern Slope)

Discuss Reg 85, water quality BMPs, increasing salinity, and what irrigators can do related to water quality that also benefits their bottom line.

Master Aquifer Program (San Luis Valley)

CAWA will be working with the Rio Grande Water Conservancy District to implement outreach and series of workshops that discusses possible strategies to better manage the aquifer in the San Luis Valley and secure agricultural production into the future. This fall we plan to begin a conversation the subject and want to be able to support those efforts throughout the following year. A few of the topics we will be focusing on: (1) what are the lessons learned from those who have been participating in Subdistrict 1's fallowing project the past two years and is this a viable path forward? (2) Can we impose volumetric limits on a well and in return be compensated by the district by waiving the variable fees? (3) Irrigated agriculture provides significant ecosystem services. Are there ways producers can be compensated by environmental organizations in return for limited pumping on a well?

Small Organization Outreach (Statewide)

There are many small agricultural organizations throughout the state that would benefit for presentations and discussion about water quality, stream management planning, and how to navigate and fund multi-beneficial projects. The past few years CAWA has focused this outreach toward commodity groups and their annual meetings. We'd like to shift that focus to stock growers' meetings (particularly on the Western Slope), and ditch company annual meetings (particularly on the Eastern Slope).

Project Objectives:

The project will accomplish the following objectives:

- Seven (7) workshops in the following basins: South Platte, Arkansas, Colorado and tributaries, and North Platte
- Three workshops (3) in the San Luis Valley that focus on preserving irrigated agriculture and the aquifer
- Outreach to ten (10) ditch company and stock growers' annual meetings concerning issues such as irrigation inventories, water quality, and demand management

Tasks

Task 1 – Ag Education Outreach

Description of Task: Overall outreach



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Tasks
<p>Regional workshops around the state for producers. The focus is one irrigation improvement projects and conservation. Workshops feature experts in the field and presentations by producers actively involved in irrigation and conservation projects that benefit agriculture. In the past, these workshops have been well attended (80-100 participants) and we want to continue connecting to irrigators about goals of the water plans and other initiatives that will benefit irrigated agriculture. CAWA will also be presenting at the meetings of ditch companies and stock growers on the topics of irrigation efficiency and agricultural water conservation.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <p>In collaboration with local agricultural interests and the Basin Roundtable, an agenda will be set and relevant speakers will be identified. Events will be promoted through the CAWA organizations, soil conservation districts, ditch companies, water conservancy districts, and local media outlets.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Expanding CAWA's network: new contacts, attendees, and registrants2. Gather relevant presentations on irrigation and agricultural conservation projects that will be hosted on the CAWA and partner websites and written on in the CAWA newsletter and other editorials3. There will be a final document of farmer-led projects in the state that address irrigation efficiency and conservation projects.4. Gathering feedback on producer knowledge and what issues CAWA needs to focus on.5. Report on attendance, cost per attendee, and survey feedback6. Final document of farmer-led projects in the state that address irrigation efficiency and conservation projects.



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Budget and Schedule

This Statement of Work shall be accompanied by a combined Budget and Schedule that reflects the Tasks identified in the Statement of Work and shall be submitted to CWCB in excel format.

Reporting Requirements

Progress Reports: The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of issuance of a purchase order, or the execution of a contract. The progress report shall describe the status of the tasks identified in the statement of work, including a description of any major issues that have occurred and any corrective action taken to address these issues.

Final Report: At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a Final Report on the applicant's letterhead that:

- Summarizes the project and how the project was completed.
- Describes any obstacles encountered, and how these obstacles were overcome.
- Confirms that all matching commitments have been fulfilled.
- Includes photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs.

The CWCB will pay out the last 10% of the budget when the Final Report is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the Final Report has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the purchase order or grant will be closed without any further payment.

Payment

Payment will be made based on actual expenditures and must include invoices for all work completed. The request for payment must include a description of the work accomplished by task, an estimate of the percent completion for individual tasks and the entire Project in relation to the percentage of budget spent, identification of any major issues, and proposed or implemented corrective actions.

Costs incurred prior to the effective date of this contract are not reimbursable. The last 10% of the entire grant will be paid out when the final deliverable has been received. All products, data and information developed as a result of this contract must be provided to CWCB in hard copy and electronic format as part of the project documentation.

Performance Measures

Performance measures for this contract shall include the following:

(a) Performance standards and evaluation: Grantee will produce detailed deliverables for each task as specified. Grantee shall maintain receipts for all project expenses and documentation of the minimum in-kind contributions (if applicable) per the budget in Exhibit B. Per Water Plan Grant Guidelines, the CWCB will pay out the last 10% of the budget when the Final Report is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the Final Report has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the purchase order or grant will be closed without any further payment.

(b) Accountability: Per Water Plan Grant Guidelines full documentation of project progress must be submitted with each invoice for reimbursement. Grantee must confirm that all grant conditions have been complied with on each invoice. In addition, per Water Plan Grant Guidelines, Progress Reports must be



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Performance Measures

submitted at least once every 6 months. A Final Report must be submitted and approved before final project payment.

(c) Monitoring Requirements: Grantee is responsible for ongoing monitoring of project progress per Exhibit A. Progress shall be detailed in each invoice and in each Progress Report, as detailed above. Additional inspections or field consultations will be arranged as may be necessary.

(d) Noncompliance Resolution: Payment will be withheld if grantee is not current on all grant conditions. Flagrant disregard for grant conditions will result in a stop work order and cancellation of the Grant Agreement.



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant - Exhibit B Budget and Schedule

Prepared Date: 7/31/2019

Name of Applicant: Colorado Ag Water Alliance

Name of Water Project: Outreach and Capacity Building for Ag Water Projects

Project Start Date: 1/1/2020

Project End Date: 5/1/2021

Task No.	Task Description	Task Start Date	Task End Date	Grant Funding Request	Match Funding	Total
1	Ag Education Outreach	1/1/2020	5/1/2021	29,094	29,094	58,188
Total				29,094	29,094	58,188



Colorado Ag Water Alliance

"Committed to the preservation of agriculture through the wise use of Colorado's water resources"

Colorado Water Conservation Board

1313 Sherman St., Room 718

Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Matching Funding

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Colorado Ag Water Alliance, we intend to match \$10,000 (Cash match- \$20,000 and at least \$10,000 in in-kind contributions) to Colorado Water Conservation Board grant application entitled Outreach and Capacity Building for Ag Water Projects. CAWA will guarantee these funds through our organization but reserves the right to add/replace match with approved matching funding sources from other entities such as (foundations, donations, etc).

Sincerely,

Greg Peterson

Executive Director