



COLORADO

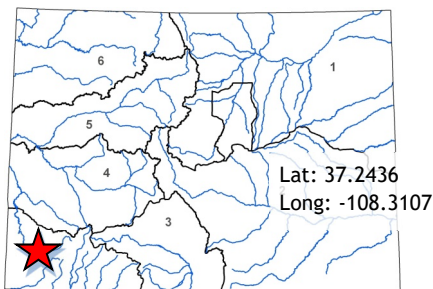
Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project MORP Orchard Hub & Water Conservation

March 2021 Board Meeting

Water Plan Grant Application



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

D E T A I L S	
Total Project Cost:	\$375,000
Water Plan Grant Request:	\$150,000
Recommended Amount:	\$150,000
Other CWCB Funding:	\$0
Other Funding Amount:	\$60,000
Applicant Match:	\$15,000
Project Type(s):	Construction, Study
Project Category(Categories):	Agricultural
Measurable Result:	Agricultural efficiency, conservation

Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project (MORP) owns 36.35 acres of residential/agricultural land near Cortez, Colorado, irrigated with 35 shares of Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company water. Historically the property was used for orchards, but most trees were cut down by 1960 in favor of water-intensive crops such as alfalfa. In collaboration with its partner, The Nature Conservancy, MORP seeks to restore the site to heritage orchards while demonstrating crop conversion opportunities and water conservation methods to area farmers. The property, known as the “Orchard Hub,” is located in the San Juan basin on lands that use water from the Dolores River basin.

In the face of climate change, population growth, drought, and agricultural water deficits, there is an urgent need to help area farmers plan for future water shortages. The MORP project provides a timely opportunity to explore the restoration of orchards to address both water resource challenges and support the local economy. In particular, MORP’s project offers an exciting model for utilizing crop shifting - the practice of transition from water-intensive crops to crops requiring less water -to conserve water while also maintaining agriculture production. The MORP orchard hub will help address a critical barrier in crop transitioning initiative, mainly that the necessary food infrastructure must meet market potential/demand for the crop transition to be viable for the community. MORP’s orchard hub addresses these barriers to crop shifting by using Colorado Water Plan funds to construct an orchard hub facility that provides the necessary infrastructure to process apples to meet local market demand while also serving as an educational and community-building facility to encourage water conservation. Collectively, the project addresses some of the most significant barriers to crop shifting proposals, which is the lack of access to sustainable infrastructure and markets to grow high-value, low-water-use crops.

This project furthers several critical goals in the Colorado Water Plan, including promoting water conservation and sustaining productive agriculture. Primarily, the project will serve as a model for Colorado, and other western states, to assess the feasibility of crop-shifting as a viable water conservation strategy by providing funding targeted at addressing critical barriers to these types of initiatives; namely investment in local infrastructure and market development for lower-water use crops.

Last Updated: June 2020

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	Matthew.Stearns@state.co.us
Conservation, Land Use Planning	Kevin.Reidy@state.co.us
Engagement & Innovation Activities	Ben.Wade@state.co.us
Agricultural Projects	Alexander.Funk@state.co.us
Environmental & Recreation Projects	Chris.Sturm@state.co.us

FINAL SUBMISSION: Submit all application materials in one email to **water-plan.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

Onward! A Legacy Foundation DBA Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project



Last Updated: June 2020

Name of Water Project	Sustainable Infrastructure to Support Restoration of Southwest Colorado's Orchard Culture and Economy	
CWP Grant Request Amount		\$150,000
Other Funding Sources (REDI grant)		\$150,000, pending
Other Funding Sources (Gates Family Foundation)		\$60,000, pending
Other Funding Sources		\$
Applicant Funding Contribution		\$15,000
Total Project Cost		\$375,000

Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee(s): Onward! A Legacy Foundation DBA Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project (MORP)
Mailing Address: POB 1556, Cortez, CO 81321
FEIN: 26-0045741
Organization Contact: Jude Schuenemeyer
Position/Title: CoDirector
Email: judemorp@gmail.com
Phone: (970) 565-3099
Grant Management Contact: Adalyn Schuenemeyer
Position/Title: CoDirector
Email: addiemorp@gmail.com
Phone: (970) 565-3099
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)

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Mailing Address
Position/Title
Email
Phone
Description of Grantee/Applicant
Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).
<p>Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project (MORP) works to preserve Colorado's fruit growing heritage and restore an orchard culture and economy to the southwestern region. MORP documents historic orchards, identifies and propagates endangered heritage apple varieties, and helps farmers care for and benefit from their historic fruit trees in a region that suffers from drought, agriculture water shortages, and one of the highest poverty rates in Colorado. MORP believes that the remarkable orchard culture and economy that once thrived here can again be possible by demonstrating water conservation in heritage orchards while building value-added market opportunities for area farmers.</p>

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 .

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Type of Water Project (check all that apply)	
	Study
X	Construction
	Identified Projects and Processes (IPP)
	Other

Category of Water Project (check the primary category that applies and include relevant tasks)	
	<p>Water Storage - Projects that facilitate the development of additional storage, artificial aquifer re-charge, 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></p>
	<p>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></p>
	<p>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></p>
X	<p>Agricultural - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s): Construction</i></p>

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	Environmental & Recreation - Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>	
	Other	Explain:

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	Montezuma
Latitude	37°24'36"N
Longitude	108°31'07"W

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.



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Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project owns 36.35 acres of residential/agricultural land near Cortez, Colorado, irrigated with 35 shares of Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company water. Historically the property was used for orchards, but the majority of the trees were cut out by 1960 in favor of water intensive crops such as alfalfa. MORP was recently awarded a WSRF grant to work with its partner, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), to restore the site to heritage orchards while demonstrating crop conversion opportunities and water conservation methods to area farmers. The property known as the Orchard Hub is located in the San Juan basin on lands that use water from the Dolores River basin.

This project will help facilitate the objectives of MORP's WSRF grant by constructing the sustainable indoor infrastructure needed to conduct educational and economic activities around teaching the benefits of water conservation and preservation in orchards while providing value-added opportunities to grow the SW region's fruit economy. Specifically, funds will be used to construct a 6,000 square feet, insulated steel building to house classroom/training facilities, apple storage, mobile juice press operations, commercial kitchen, and service crews.

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)
TBD	Efficiency Savings (indicate acre-feet/year OR dollars/year)



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	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	
	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;)



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As described in detail in the Montezuma Valley Apple Market Study ([see http://montezumaorchard.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Finalrev-Updated-MORP-Market-Study-January-2018.pdf](http://montezumaorchard.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Finalrev-Updated-MORP-Market-Study-January-2018.pdf)), Montezuma County's farmers started growing apples over a century ago. Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project (MORP) has documented thousands of historic apple trees, representing hundreds of rare and endangered varieties, that still dot Montezuma County's landscape. Indeed, apples were once one of Montezuma County's main crops. However, orchards eventually gave way to hay, alfalfa and other crops that were more lucrative at the time—and also more water intensive.

In the face of climate change, population growth, drought, and agricultural water deficits MORP believes there is an urgent need to help area farmers plan for future water shortages, and a timely opportunity to demonstrate water conservation in orchards as we rebuild our fruit economy. Years of planning and on-the-ground work has resulted in MORP reaching multiple milestones towards these innovative efforts:

- Purchased orchard property (\$310K) to serve as a home base to advance MORP's mission to preserve Colorado's fruit growing heritage and, in partnership with The Nature Conservancy, demonstrate water conservation in orchards as we revitalize our local fruit economy.
- Received a USDA Local Food Promotion Program grant award (\$323K) for purchase of mobile juice press to begin to process the estimated 50,000 bushels of apples from our historic orchards that are currently being irrigated, but going to waste, into a value-added product to benefit area farmers and businesses.
- Awarded a CDA Specialty Crop Block Program grant (\$86K) and a Water Supply Reserve Fund grant (\$65K) that will allow MORP to establish a genetic preservation orchard and demonstrate water conservation at the Orchard Hub property.

The final barrier that MORP faces in scaling up this work is lack of sustainable indoor facilities to serve as apple and juice storage, and as a place to house mobile juice press, community classroom, commercial kitchen, and service crews. Analogously, a facility would serve as a *reservoir* for **year round** educational and commercial activities needed to rebuild Southwest Colorado's historic fruit economy while promoting innovative irrigation efficiencies that can help to reduce the water gap in the San Juan Basin. While the Orchard Hub property provides an outdoor, living classroom - *in-door* facilities would serve as a location for MORP to conduct educational activities independent of the weather. Similarly, on-site crew housing with commercial kitchen would help address challenges of labor while increasing community-building opportunities tied around water conservation, orchard preservation, food security, and economic development.

Furthermore, current Colorado health code requires the mobile press to be operated indoors to produce pasteurized juice when final product will be sold as unfermented juice to consumers. In addition, [MORP's business plan](#) shows that an indoor facility is needed to extend the harvest and juicing window to meet demand. Without a storage and processing facility, MORP has learned through pilot projects that it can make a modest impact on our region's fruit economy by juicing about 3,000 bushels (9,900 gallons) per season. On the other hand, a facility would provide the storage and protected space for MORP to reach market potential by juicing up to 15,000 bushels (49,500 gallons) or more per season within five years, generating \$272,500 in gross revenue from MORP direct activities alone. As a result, family farms that have not seen reliable markets for their apples in decades will receive a combined \$72,000 to \$120,000 gross revenue from their fruit. Farmers and businesses will also generate additional revenue by selling fermented and unfermented value-added juice products.

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Market studies, direct consumer requests, and numerous articles in local and [national media](#) reflect the demand for Colorado heritage apples and juice. Despite MORP's successes, supplying this demand is not currently reaching its market potential due to lack of critical indoor infrastructure. Likewise, crop shifting to orchards with in-demand heritage fruits is hampered by the difficulties in moving current crops to market without a storage and processing facility. Construction of a facility at the Orchard Hub is the final key piece of infrastructure needed to meet the educational and economic development potential to rebuild the local fruit economy while promoting water conservation efforts in orchards.

This project is not currently an Identified Project Proposal (IPP), however, MORP has a pending application for this project to be added as an IPP. Water activities described in this project meet multiple regional and statewide goals that were informed by the work of the **Statewide Water Supply Initiative (SWSI)** that identified Colorado's current and future water needs and ways to meet those needs. By completing this project, MORP will have grown the capacity to incorporate "water awareness", as emphasized in these regional and statewide plans, into its future education and outreach activities.

As described on page 10 of **Southwest Basin Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan**, "*Agriculture and the open space it maintains contribute to the culture, economy, and quality of life of the Southwest Basin.*" In essence, this is at the heart of what MORP does. From the preservation of open space and a healthy local food economy to remembering and re-establishing a historically significant agricultural heritage, this project contributes to the culture, economy, and quality of life of the region.

MORP's mission and potential water conservation benefits that this project will facilitate, advance multiple Roundtable underlying principles:

Identifies specific and unique projects that are important to maintaining the quality of life in this region and should accommodate the development and maintenance of flows, including domestic supplies, environmental needs, agriculture, recreation, and commercial/industrial needs to provide for further economic development.

Recognizes and addresses the challenges to all water uses that future drought and/or climate variability may bring. (SW BIP, pg 10)

Section 1, Table 1 of the SW BIP lists several themes this project meets including Goal A: Balance All Needs and Reduce Conflict, Goal B: Meet Agricultural Needs, and Goal G: Comply with CO River Compact and Manage Risk (SWBRT BIP, pg. 11).

Goal A: Balance All Needs and Reduce Conflict – This project addresses goal A2: *Support specific and unique IPP's important to maintaining the quality of life in this region, and to address multiple purposes including municipal, industrial, environmental, recreational, agricultural, risk management, and compact compliance needs (SWBRT, pg.12).* This project will facilitate MORP's WSRF water activities with The Nature Conservancy, Southwestern Colorado Research Center, and a qualified engineering consultant thus meeting measurable outcome number 3 *to promote dialogue, foster co-operation and resolve conflict*.



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Goal B: Meet Agricultural Needs – This project impacts goal B2: *Implement efficiency measures to maximize beneficial use and production (SWBRT BIP, pg. 13)* by working towards measurable outcomes 1 and 2. This project will facilitate irrigation efficiencies in orchards that could assist in bridging the identified irrigation gap for the Dolores Project of nearly 4,000 AF (SWBRT BIP, pg. 32). MORP is currently working to demonstrate water conservation in orchards and will provide a transferable template to encourage farmers to preserve their old orchards and plant new ones, conserve intact agricultural land and open space, avoid buy and dry scenarios, and convert water intensive crops to orchard. **This project addresses one of the most significant barriers to crop shifting proposals which is the lack of access to the sustainable infrastructure and markets to successfully grow high-value lower use crops.**

Goal G: Comply with CO River Compact and Manage Risk – This project addresses goal G6: *Support strategies to mitigate the impact of a CO River Compact curtailment should it occur* (SWBRT BIP, pg 18). MORP has participated in community outreach meetings offered by the Colorado River Water Bank Work Group that is taking a proactive approach to planning for the likelihood that ongoing drought, population growth, and resulting water gap may cause a call on water in order to comply with the Colorado River Compact (also described on page 119 of the Colorado Water Plan). The main strategy discussed by the group has been to create a water bank by paying agricultural water users to temporarily reduce irrigation. Instead, as described in this project, MORP supports water efficiency and crop conversion opportunities to help “close the gap”. Should a curtailment occur, farms that have developed more efficient, resilient systems will be better situated to grow into the future. Access to sustainable infrastructure and markets will facilitate these efforts.

In describing the common theme to meet Colorado’s agricultural needs, the **Colorado Water Plan (CWP)** states that multiple basins are “*approaching agricultural needs from an economic and productivity standpoint*”, and recognizes that “*Some western slope roundtables, such as the Southwest Roundtable, indicate that agriculture across the state is important, and have expressed support for strategies such as high-conservation to minimize the potential loss of irrigated acres*” (CWP chapter 6, pg 16). Furthermore, *meeting Colorado’s supply-demand water gaps by using a grass-roots approach* is identified as a critical action in the CWP, as well is *maintaining agricultural viability, facilitating alternative transfer methods, and supporting agricultural conservation and efficiency* (CWP chapter 10.3). This project creates the sustainable infrastructure and markets to facilitate water conservation and management activities that work towards these ends. As a result, our local economy will benefit by conserving water to preserve the agricultural heritage of our region.

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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.

1. [Agricultural Water Conservation in the Colorado River Basin: Alternatives to Permanent Fallowing Research Synthesis and Outreach Workshops – Crop Switching Report](#). This report from Colorado State University/Colorado Water Institute explores the opportunities, challenges, and next steps in understanding how crop switching can help address water scarcity while minimizing harm to agriculture.
2. [Barley Dreams: An Arizona town gambles on beer to save water](#). This article from The Nature Conservancy magazine describes a successful crop switch project in Arizona that has helped support the local agriculture economy and improve flows in the Verde River.
3. [Montezuma Valley Apple Market Study](#). This study by Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project, funded in part by Colorado Department of Agriculture and United States Department of Agriculture, describes the history of apple orchards and production in Montezuma County, current and potential markets, and challenges and opportunities to meet those markets.
4. [Business Plan for Producing Apple Juice with a Mobile Juice Unit](#). This plan written by Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project following completion of a successful [feasibility study](#) - both funded in part by Colorado Department of Agriculture and United States Department of Agriculture - lays out the steps needed for MORP to turn on-farm food waste into a value-added juice product following a mission-driven business model.

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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Water Supply Reserve Fund grant to Onward A Legacy Foundation DBA Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project. *Innovations in Irrigation to Support Heritage Apple Orchards in SW Colorado*. Southwest Basin Roundtable. CWCB meeting date: 9/17/2020. Purchase order: POGG1 2021-2538. Percentage of CWBC funding: 0% "other" to this specific grant project

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.

none

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⁾
	Engineer's statement of probable cost (projects over \$100,000)
	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ⁽¹⁾
Exhibit C	
	Map (if applicable) ⁽¹⁾
	Photos/Drawings/Reports

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	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	
	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.

Statement Of Work	
Date:	November 27, 2020
Name of Grantee:	Onward! A Legacy Foundation DBA Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project
Name of Water Project:	Sustainable Infrastructure to Support Restoration of Southwest Colorado's Orchard Culture and Economy
Funding Source:	Colorado Water Plan Agriculture Project Grant
Water Project Overview:	

Last Updated: June 2020

Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project owns 36.35 acres of residential/agricultural land near Cortez, Colorado, irrigated with 35 shares of Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company water. Historically the property was used for orchards, but the majority of the trees were cut out by 1960 in favor of water intensive crops such as alfalfa. MORP was recently awarded a WSRF grant to work with its partner, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), to restore the site to heritage orchards while demonstrating crop conversion opportunities and water conservation methods to area farmers. The property known as the Orchard Hub is located in the San Juan basin on lands that use water from the Dolores River basin.

This project will help facilitate the objectives of MORP's WSRF grant by constructing the sustainable indoor infrastructure needed to conduct educational and economic activities around teaching the benefits of water conservation and preservation in orchards while providing value-added opportunities to grow the SW region's fruit economy. Specifically, funds will be used to construct a 6,000 square feet, insulated steel building to house classroom/training facilities, apple storage, mobile juice press operations, commercial kitchen, and service crews.

Project Objectives:

Reach Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project's goal to put in place the sustainable infrastructure to effectively conduct educational and economic activities tied to the benefits of water conservation and preservation in orchards by providing value-added market opportunities that advance MORP's mission to restore an orchard culture and economy to SW Colorado.

Tasks

Task 1 - Project Design

Description of Task:



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Tasks
<p>Obtain final engineered design and cost estimate for construction of a high performance, sustainable (well insulated), pre-fabricated steel building with ADA access that incorporates MORP's conceptual design for use of the space:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• apple and juice storage & loading dock• mobile press operations• service crew housing• commercial kitchen• community classroom <p>note: the storage and juicing operations will be divided from the housing, kitchen, and classroom sections of the building.</p>
Method/Procedure:
<p>Consult with builders that have experience erecting and customizing pre fabricated, pre engineered steel buildings.</p>
Deliverable:
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Engineered design and construction specifications2) Cost Estimate



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Tasks
Task 2 – Construction
Description of Task: Construct a 6,000 square feet, pre fabricated, pre engineered steel building incorporating sustainable (green) design complete with foundation, exterior, interior, insulation, septic, utilities, plumbing, fixtures, loading dock, and driveway access improvements.
Method/Procedure: Solicit bids for general contractor to complete construction of facilities to include construction management. Obtain scope of work and schedule for construction that is within project budget.
Deliverable: 1) Contract with general contractor 2) Scope of work 3) Construction schedule 4) Photos of construction milestones and completed facilities

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Tasks
Task 3 – Project Management and Publicity
<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>Ensure construction project follows permit requirements, scope of work, timeline, and budget. Announce milestones to the public.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <p>Communicate with Montezuma County Planning and Zoning Department to understand construction requirements and obtain necessary permits. Consult with general contractor to verify project follows permit requirements, scope of work, timeline, and budget. Maintain good communications to ensure obstacles are overcome in a timely manner. Publicize project milestones and completion through MORP's members, networks, and the media.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p>



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Tasks
1) Copies of invoices and permits 2) Construction progress reports 3) Documentation of ground breaking celebration and facility dedication

Tasks
Task 4 – Facility Use and Maintenance
Description of Task: Ensure long term, sustainable use and maintenance of the facility that adheres to MORP’s mission and business plan.
Method/Procedure:



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Tasks
Use in-house labor to develop a facility and maintenance plan. Several of MORP's board members have professional experience in facilities management including most recently at Osprey Packs in Cortez, Colorado.
Deliverable:
Facilities & Maintenance Plan

Tasks
Task 5 – Grant Management
Description of Task:

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Tasks
<p>This task will involve timely updates on project implementation and budget.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <p>MORP CoDirectors have worked on six state and federal grant projects and will participate in all levels of project coordination, implementation, reporting, and evaluation with oversight from MORP's Board of Directors and fiscal sponsor Onward! A Legacy Foundation. Grantee will follow project timeline and keep record of accomplishments and receipts for accurate and timely reports and reimbursements.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p> <p>Timely progress reports, reimbursement requests based on actual expenditures, and final report.</p>

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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.

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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 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.



Water Plan Grant - Exhibit B

Budget and Schedule

Name of Applicant: Onward! A Legacy Foundation DBA Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project

Name of Water Project: Sustainable Infrastructure to Support Restoration of Southwest Colorado's Orchard Culture and

Project Start Date: 5/1/2021**Project End Date: 5/1/2022**

Task No.	Task Description	Task Start Date	Task End Date	Grant Funding Request	Match Funding	Total
1	Project Design	5/1/2021	7/1/2021		\$5,000.00	\$5,000
2	Construction *	9/1/21	10/31/21	\$145,000	\$205,000	\$350,000
3	Project Management and Publicity	ongoing	ongoing		\$5,000	\$5,000
4	Facility Use and Maintenance	9/1/21	5/1/22		\$5,000	\$5,000
5	Grant Administration	ongoing	ongoing	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$10,000
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
Total				\$150,000	\$225,000	\$375,000

Page 1 of 1

*** See Construction Budget Sheet for detail**

SOUTHWEST BASINS ROUNDTABLE

C/O La Plata Archuleta Water District

PO Box 1377

Ignacio, Colorado 81137

February 8, 2021

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Denver, CO 80203

Re: Colorado Water Plan Grant

Colorado Water Conservation Board,

The Southwest Basin Roundtable writes this letter to express support for Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project (MORP) as it requests funding through a Colorado Water Plan grant for constructing the sustainable indoor infrastructure needed to conduct educational and economic activities around teaching the benefits of water conservation and preservation in orchards while providing value-added opportunities to grow the SW region's fruit economy. Specifically, funds will be used to construct a 6,000 square foot, insulated steel building to house classroom/training facilities, apple storage, mobile juice press operations, commercial kitchen, and service crews.

One of the aspects of this project is agricultural water efficiency. While there is majority support by the Roundtable to support this project, there are two member entities in opposition. Montezuma County is opposed to any aspect of the project that would move the saved water, realized from the water efficiency, out of the MVIC service area through any alternative transfer, water bank or demand management mechanism. Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company (MVIC) is opposed on the grounds that they don't believe a Water Plan Grant should be used for the construction of a building. They believe that Water Plan Grants should be used specifically to fund projects that are directly related to water.

This project will meet many of the Southwest Basins Roundtable goals identified in its Basin Implementation Plan, including *A2-support specific and unique projects that are important to maintaining the quality of life in this region and should accommodate the development and maintenance of flows, including domestic supplies, environmental needs, agriculture, recreation, and commercial/industrial needs to provide for further economic development and B2-implement efficiency measures to maximize beneficial use and production.*

Additionally, the construction of this project would have an educational aspect to it that would highlight water efficiency and alternative cropping. This is one reason the Southwest Basin Roundtable supports this project. We are confident that MORP will be an innovative, intentional, and impactful partner in our efforts to conserve water in the Southwest Basin.

Sincerely,



Edward Tolen
Southwest Basins Roundtable Chair



The Nature Conservancy in Colorado
2424 Spruce Street
Boulder, CO 80302

tel (303) 444-2950
fax (303) 444-2985
nature.org/colorado

January 19, 2021

Colorado Water Conservation Board
Attn: Alex Funk

RE: Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project CWP Grant Application

Dear Mr. Funk and Colorado Water Conservation Board Members,

On behalf of The Nature Conservancy, I am pleased to offer our support for the Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project's Colorado Water Plan grant application. This project is in line with our organization's goal to provide sustainable food and water, and we believe it will help further develop the solutions necessary to maintain robust agriculture and healthy streams as we face increasing demands and decreasing water supplies here in Colorado and throughout the broader river basin.

The Nature Conservancy and the Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project (MORP) are pursuing a joint initiative to support heritage apple orchards entitled: *Growing Southwestern Colorado's Orchard Culture and Economy*. Through this initiative, the Conservancy will be working with MORP to establish heritage apple trees on a recently purchased property near Cortez that will be the hub for the broader initiative. Support from the Colorado Water Conservation Board will help the Conservancy and MORP advance this important work through investments in critical supply chain infrastructure for revitalizing an orchard economy in Southwest Colorado. This necessary step builds on existing work we are undertaking with MORP to implement best practices in irrigation management on the property; explore the economic viability of orchard cultivation in the region; test irrigation strategies in order to refine our understanding of how to best sustainably provide food and manage water; support related marketing, education, and outreach activities; and pilot a sustainable agriculture operation that provides wildlife habitat and carbon sequestration benefits.

I strongly encourage the Colorado Water Conservation Board to fully support this important project.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Diana Lane

Diana Lane, PhD
Director of Sustainable Food and Water Programs, The Nature Conservancy – Colorado