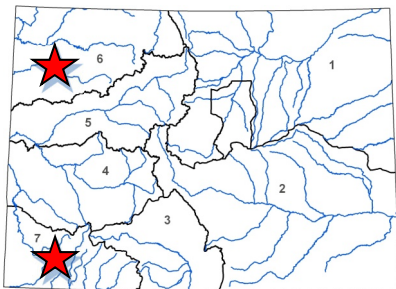




## Water Plan Grant Application



| L O C A T I O N   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| County/Countries: | Montezuma, Routt, Moffat, Dolores, La Plata |
| Drainage Basin:   | Southwestern/Yampa                          |

| D E T A I L S                 |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Total Project Cost:           | \$269,411                                       |
| Water Plan Grant Request:     | \$133,170                                       |
| Recommended Amount:           | \$133,170                                       |
| Other CWCB Funding:           | \$15,000  |
| Other Funding Amount:         | \$0   |
| Applicant Match:              | \$121,241                                       |
| Project Type(s):              | Construction, IPP                               |
| Project Category(Categories): | Agricultural                                    |
| Measurable Result:            | Agricultural efficiency, conservation, planning |

A consistent barrier to developing multi-benefit agricultural projects is minimal capacity within water management entities, such as private ditch companies, to identify, prioritize, and implement necessary projects. Furthermore, these entities often lack direct experience with navigating complex federal and state funding application cycles. These local organizations have stressed that they need additional support to overcome challenges such as lack of capacity to conduct meaningful outreach to landowners, lack of knowledge of available funding sources, and lack of appropriate technical skills to develop project plans.

In response to this need, this two-year pilot will provide agriculture organizations in the Yampa and Southwest basins with resources to increase the quantity and quality of multi-benefit projects on private lands. This project will help local agriculture organizations advocate for projects that integrate irrigation water management, infrastructure improvements, and river and riparian restoration. In Southwest Colorado, the Mancos Conservation District will replicate and expand the footprint of its already successful approach for upgrading diversion infrastructure, restoring riparian and floodplain areas, and improving agricultural drought resilience through a collaborative planning process. Southwest Colorado is vulnerable to future climate challenges, most especially drought. The project will identify priority projects while using an integrated, holistic approach to watershed resilience for all water users. In the Yampa Basin, the Community Agriculture Alliance will expand its capacity to provide meaningful outreach to agricultural water users to identify and coordinate multi-benefit projects. With the current Yampa Integrated Watershed Management and its Diversion Assessment, there is an opportunity to make projects happen with agricultural producers.

This project furthers several Colorado Water Plan critical action goals, including advancing the Colorado Water Plan objectives of implementing stream management planning efforts. The project also furthers several Colorado Water Plan goals and objectives relating to agriculture, including encouraging multi-benefit irrigation infrastructure projects with significant regional and state impact. The project also supports collaboration, bringing a diverse group of stakeholders together to complete 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

Matthew.Stearns@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](mailto: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                                 | River Network                               |           |
| Name of Water Project                             | Piloting Multi-Benefit Project Coordinators |           |
| CWP Grant Request Amount                          |   | \$133,170 |
| Other Funding Sources <u>TAFC grant (pending)</u> |   | \$15,000  |
| Other Funding Sources _____                       |   | \$        |
| Other Funding Sources _____                       |   | \$        |
| Applicant Funding Contribution                    |   | \$121,241 |
| Total Project Cost                                |   | \$269,411 |



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| Applicant & Grantee Information   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| Name of Grantee(s)  | River Network  | Mancos Conservation District   | Community Agriculture Alliance   |
| Mailing Address   | PO Box 21387<br>Boulder, CO 80308  | PO Box 694 Mancos, CO 81328  | PO Box 774134<br>Steamboat Springs, CO 80477   |
| FEIN #  | #93-0969979  | #84-0614777  | #84-1506246  |
| Organization Contact  | Nicole Seltzer   | Gretchen Rank  | Michele Meyer  |
| Position/Title  | Science & Policy Mgr   | Exec. Director   | Exec. Director   |
| Email   | <a href="mailto:nseltzer@rivernetnetwork.org">nseltzer@rivernetnetwork.org</a> | <a href="mailto:executivedirector.mcd@gmail.com">executivedirector.mcd@gmail.com</a> | <a href="mailto:michele@communityagalliance.org">michele@communityagalliance.org</a> |
| Phone   | 970-744-0324   | 970-533-737  | 970-879-4370   |
| Grant Management Contact: Nicole Seltzer, River Network   |  |  |  |
| Position/Title: Science & Policy Manager  |  |  |  |
| Email: <a href="mailto:nseltzer@rivernetnetwork.org">nseltzer@rivernetnetwork.org</a>   |  |  |  |
| Phone: 970-744-0324   |  |  |  |
| 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><b>River Network</b> unites communities to protect and restore rivers. Since 2017 we've been at the forefront of expanding interest and effectiveness of Stream Management Plans in Colorado, including supporting agricultural involvement.</p> <p><b>Mancos Conservation District</b> promotes sustainable use and protection of the Mancos Watershed to improve irrigation systems, control noxious weeds and restore riparian areas and river channels. For 75 years we have collaborated with diverse stakeholders to provide educational, financial and technical assistance to meet conservation goals.</p> <p><b>Community Agriculture Alliance</b> promotes, supports and provides leadership for local agriculture since 1999. CAA's mission is to preserve the agricultural heritage of the Yampa Valley by initiating, supporting and encouraging actions, programs and policies that mutually benefit and connect agricultural producers and consumers.</p> |  |  |  |



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| Type of Eligible Entity (check one) |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
|                                     | <b>Public (Government):</b> 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. |
|                                     | <b>Public (Districts):</b> Authorities, Title 32/special districts (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises.   |
|                                     | <b>Private Incorporated:</b> Mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations.   |
|                                     | <b>Private Individuals, Partnerships, and Sole Proprietors:</b> Private parties may be eligible for funding.  |
| X                                   | <b>Non-governmental organizations (NGO):</b> Organization that is not part of the government and is non-profit in nature.   |
|                                     | <b>Covered Entity:</b> As defined in <a href="#">Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes</a> .  |

| Type of Water Project (check all that apply) |   |
|--|---|
|  | Study                                   |
|  | Construction                            |
| X  | Identified Projects and Processes (IPP) |
| X  | 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.<br><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.<br><i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>   |          |
|  | Engagement & Innovation - Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website.<br><i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>   |          |
| X  | Agricultural - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency.<br><i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i> 1) Project Identification, 2) Project Scoping, 3) Project Funding   |          |
|  | Environmental & Recreation - Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation.<br><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/Counties | Routt, Moffat / Dolores, Montezuma, La Plata |
| Latitude        | 40.48669, / 37.346384,                       |
| Longitude       | -106.833842 / -108.296567                    |

### 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.

This two-year pilot will provide agriculture organizations in the Yampa and Southwest basins with resources to increase the quantity and quality of multi-benefit projects on private lands. It will assist local ag organizations to advocate for projects that integrate irrigation water management, infrastructure improvements, and river and riparian restoration.

In Southwest Colorado, the Mancos Conservation District will replicate and scale up its approach for upgrading diversion infrastructure, restoring riparian and floodplain areas, and improving agricultural drought resilience. Southwest Colorado is vulnerable to future climate challenges, most especially drought. We will identify priority projects while using an integrated, holistic approach to watershed resilience for all water users.

In the Yampa Basin, the Community Agriculture Alliance will expand its capacity to provide meaningful outreach to agricultural water users to help identify and coordinate multi-benefit projects. With the current IWMP, there is an opportunity now to make projects happen with agricultural producers. The Yampa Basin sees increasing recreational river use, population growth and climate impacts, resulting in the need to implement proactive water and land management projects.

River Network will provide project management and communications support, and will work to identify the best way to scale up this approach in other basins.



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| Measurable Results   |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| To catalog measurable results achieved with the CWP Grant funds, please provide any of the following values as applicable: |   |   |
|  | 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  |   |
|  | Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity  |   |
| 10   | Other   | Explain: Number of projects submitted to CWCB or other funders as grant applications with appropriate cash and in-kind matching funds committed |

| Water Project Justification   |
|---|
| <p>Provide a description of how this water project supports the goals of <a href="#">Colorado's Water Plan</a>, the most recent <a href="#">Statewide Water Supply Initiative</a>, and the applicable Roundtable <a href="#">Basin Implementation Plan</a> and <a href="#">Education Action Plan</a>. The Applicant is required to reference specific needs, goals, themes, or Identified Projects and Processes (IPPs), including citations (e.g. document, chapters, sections, or page numbers).</p> <p>The proposed water project shall be evaluated based upon how well the proposal conforms to Colorado's Water Plan Framework for State of Colorado Support for a Water Project (CWP, Section 9.4, pp. 9-43 to 9-44;)</p> <p>Colorado's Water Plan (Ch. 10, p. 10) identifies six critical agricultural actions. By identifying and shepherding priority agricultural projects, this proposal makes meaningful progress on two of them: 1) Encourage ditch-wide and regional planning to explore system-wide conservation and efficiency opportunities and tradeoffs, the potential for water sharing, and long-term infrastructure maintenance needs; and 2) Provide grants, loans, and technical support to update and improve Colorado's aging agricultural infrastructure, especially where improvements provide multiple benefits.</p> <p>In the basins where we will pilot this project (Southwest and Yampa), the Basin Implementation Plans include multiple goals to encourage and protect ag water uses:</p> <p><u>Yampa:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify projects that propose to use at-risk water rights, alternative transfer methods, water banking, and efficiency improvements that protect and encourage continued agricultural water use. (YWG BIP, p. 1-9)</li><li>• Recommend possible site-specific solutions in collaboration with local water users including new storage, enlargement or repair of existing reservoirs, infrastructure to improve irrigation system efficiency, etc. (YWG BIP, p. 1-9)</li></ul> |



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- Identity specific locations in the YWG Basin where infrastructure requires improvement or replacement to preserve existing uses. Recommend potential solutions in collaboration with local water users. (YWG BIP, p. 1-13)

Southwest:

- Support specific and unique new IPPs important to maintaining the quality of life in this region, and to address multiple purposes (SW BIP, p. 12)
- Implement efficiency measures to maximize beneficial use and production (SW BIP, p. 13)
- Implement IPPs that work towards meeting agricultural water supply shortages. (SW BIP, p. 13)

### 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.

**Statewide**

- Colorado State Conservation Board SMP Survey of Conservation Districts (2019)

**Yampa Basin**

- Yampa White Green Basin Implementation Plan IPP lists (2015)
- Yampa IWMP Diversion Infrastructure Assessment (2020)
- Yampa IWMP Agricultural Stakeholder Focus Groups and Interviews (2018-2020)
- Upper Yampa Watershed Plan (2017)

**Southwest Basin**

- Southwest Basin Implementation Plan IPP lists (2015)
- Mancos Watershed Drought Resilience Planning Draft (2019)
- Mancos River Habitat and Diversion Project Phase I (2009), II (2013) and III (On-going)
- Upper Dolores Watershed Rapid Assessment (2010)
- Climate Change and the Upper Dolores Watershed: A Coldwater-fisheries Adaptive Management Framework (2017)

### 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.

**River Network Grants**

| Year | Grant Name  | CWCB Funding Source (WSRF, CWP, Etc.) | Agreement Number        | Amount   | Start Date |
|------|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|------------|
| 2017 | INCREASING LOCAL ENGAGEMENT FOR COLORADO'S WATER FUTURE | Watershed Restoration                 | POGG1 PDAA 201700000912 | \$95,000 | 4/14/17    |





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|  |   |                                       |                           |           |           |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 2019   | Ensuring Effective Stream Mgt Plans   | Watershed Restoration                 | POGG1,PDAA,20200002139    | \$139,376 | 8/16/19   |
| <b>Community Agriculture Alliance Grants</b> |   |                                       |                           |           |           |
| FY 2016                                      | YWG EAP   | PEPO                                  |                           | \$5,825   | 7/1/2015  |
| FY2017                                       | Yampa-White-River Basins Roundtable Water Education and Outreach                  | WSRF                                  | CTGGI 2017-728            | \$150,000 | 1/1/2017  |
| FY 2017                                      | YWG EAP   | PEPO                                  |                           | \$6,500   | 7/1/2016  |
| FY2018                                       | YWG EAP   | PEPO                                  |                           | \$6,500   | 7/1/2017  |
| FY2019                                       | YWG EAP   | PEPO                                  | POGG1PDAA, 201900002501   | \$6,500   | 7/1/2018  |
| FY2020                                       | YWG EAP   | PEPO                                  | POGG1 PDAA, 202000002233  | \$6,500   | 7/1/2019  |
| FY 2021                                      | Yampa-White-River Basins Roundtable Water Education and Outreach                  | WSRF                                  | POGG1, PDAA, 202100002242 | \$99,000  | 9/4/2020  |
| <b>Mancos Conservation District</b>          |   |                                       |                           |           |           |
| 2013-2015                                    | Mancos River Habitat and Diversion Project Phase II                               | WSRF                                  | Contract C150511          | \$119,340 | 3/2/2013  |
| 2017-2018                                    | Mancos River Habitat and Diversion Project Phase III                              | WSRF                                  | POGG1 2016-795            | \$59,000  | 3/15/2016 |
| 2018-2019                                    | Mancos Watershed Outreach and Data and School-based Outdoor Learning Labs Project | CWP – Engagement and Innovation Grant | POGG1 PDAA 201800000733   | \$81,250  | 4/1/2018  |
| 2018-2019                                    | Mancos Watershed Drought Resilience Planning                                      | CWCB Watershed Restoration Grant      | POGG1 PDAA 201800000850   | \$84,000  | 4/11/2018 |





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|  |   |                                  |                         |          |           |
|--|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|-----------|
| 2020-2021  | Mancos Watershed Stream Mgmt Plan Phase I | CWCB Watershed Restoration Grant | POGG1,PDAA,202000003147 | \$98,650 | 5/20/2020 |
|  |   |                                  |                         |          |           |
| <b>Taxpayer Bill of Rights</b>   |   |                                  |                         |          |           |
| 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   |   |                                  |                         |          |           |

| <b>Submittal Checklist</b>                    |  |
|---|--|
| X   | I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the <a href="#">Standard Contract</a> . |
| Exhibit A                                     |  |
| X   | Statement of Work <sup>(1)</sup>   |
| X   | Budget & Schedule <sup>(1)</sup>   |
|   | Engineer's statement of probable cost (projects over \$100,000)  |
| X   | Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Commitments <sup>(1)</sup>                        |
| Exhibit C                                     |  |
|   | Map (if applicable) <sup>(1)</sup>   |
|   | Photos/Drawings/Reports  |
| X   | Letters of Support (Optional)  |
|   | Certificate of Insurance (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.) <sup>(2)</sup>                                  |
|   | Certificate of Good Standing with Colorado Secretary of State <sup>(2)</sup>                               |
|   | W-9 <sup>(2)</sup>   |
|   | Independent Contractor Form <sup>(2)</sup> (If applicant is individual, not company/organization)          |
| Engagement & Innovation Grant Applicants ONLY |  |
|   | Engagement & Innovation Supplemental Application <sup>(1)</sup>  |

(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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| Colorado Water Conservation Board  |   |
|--|---|
| Water Plan Grant - Exhibit A   |   |
| Statement Of Work  |   |
| Date:  | 11/30/2020  |
| Name of Grantee:   | River Network, Mancos Conservation District, Community Agriculture Alliance |
| Name of Water Project:   | Piloting Multi-Benefit Project Coordinators                                 |
| Funding Source:  | Colorado Water Plan Grant   |
| <b>Water Project Overview:</b>   |   |
| <p>While working on Stream Mgt. Plans across Colorado since 2017, River Network has heard from our partners that there is a significant demand by local ag organizations to become effective advocates for projects that integrate irrigation water management, irrigation infrastructure improvements, river flow restoration or leases, and management of private riparian lands. These local organizations have stressed that they need additional support to overcome challenges such as lack of capacity to conduct meaningful outreach to landowners, lack of knowledge of available funding sources and how to combine them, and lack of access to appropriate technical skills to develop project plans. In response to this need, this two-year pilot will provide agriculture organizations in the Yampa and Southwest basins with resources to increase the quantity and quality of multi-benefit projects on private lands. It will assist local ag organizations to advocate for projects that integrate irrigation water management, infrastructure improvements, and river and riparian restoration.</p> <p>In Southwest Colorado, the Mancos Conservation District will replicate and expand the footprint of its already successful approach for upgrading diversion infrastructure, restoring riparian and floodplain areas, and improving agricultural drought resilience. Southwest Colorado is vulnerable to future climate challenges, most especially drought. We will identify priority projects while using an integrated, holistic approach to watershed resilience for all water users.</p> <p>In the Yampa Basin, the Community Agriculture Alliance will expand its capacity to provide meaningful outreach to agricultural water users to identify and coordinate multi-benefit projects. With the current IWMP and its Diversion Assessment, there is an opportunity now to make projects happen with agricultural producers. As an example, Beverly Powell, land owner and head of Shelton Ditch in Hayden recently participated in IWMP Diversion Assessment. Her following statement is typical of those who participated in the assessment: <i>"The IWMP Diversion Assessment identified several improvements and opportunities to be more effective with our ditch use. The question is what now? We have ten irrigators on our ditch and trying to get everyone in agreement and working together is challenging. It would make a huge difference for us if we had someone to organize projects and coordinate with all the owners. We don't have the expertise or resources to find funding and complete grant applications. Having someone to facilitate projects in the Yampa Valley could help all water users."</i></p> <p>River Network will provide project management and communications support, coordinate hiring of technical expertise, and will lead efforts to identify the best way to scale up this approach in other basins.</p> |   |



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**Project Objectives:**

1. Pilot a project to overcome the primary limiting factors affecting the ability of local agriculture organizations to identify, design and implement high priority multi-benefit projects.
2. Make meaningful progress implementing projects that are a high priority on IPP lists and stream or watershed plan recommendations in the two pilot basins that do not have a clear project proponent or path forward.
3. Enable local agriculture organizations to better understand and access CWCB grants, other state agency and federal governmental grants, and private philanthropy dollars to implement multi-benefit projects.
4. Recommend actions and locations to scale this project up after the pilot phase.

**Tasks**

**1) Task 1 – Project Identification**

**Description of Task:**

The Grantees will use their collective history in the basins and networks to inform potential applicants in the Yampa and Southwest basins about the availability of project support, and develop a list of project proposals.

We will strive to identify a diversity of high-quality agriculture projects that will positively impact water management, river ecosystems and agricultural economies. They will range in scale, complexity, stakeholder representation, and geography.

Each basin will develop a prioritization process to identify a smaller number of high quality, high priority projects that we will support in Task 2. For projects that are not selected for further work, CAA and MCD will leave the landowner with resources they can use to pursue it on their own and commit to continued communication.

**Method/Procedure:**

- Mine existing knowledge by meeting with Conservation District watershed organizations, reviewing BRT IPP lists and watershed plans, meeting with NRCS and Extension staff, meeting with conservation orgs like watershed groups, TU, Rivers Edge West and TNC and meeting with other local agriculture organizations like Cattleman's Association and RMFU chapters.
- Meet and coordinate with interested landowners to identify their needs and opportunities
- Provide one point of contact for landowners to refer projects to
- Prioritize the projects using locally-appropriate criteria and select up to 5 per basin for support

**Deliverable:**

- Outreach materials and a record of meetings held to advertise available project support
- Website and phone number that will serve as a single point of contact for interested landowners to discuss projects
- Project list and prioritization scheme



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| Tasks   |
|---|
| <b>2) Task 2 – Project scoping</b>  |
| Description of Task:  |
| For the projects selected: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop or refine project descriptions</li><li>• Work with landowners to assemble proposals and scopes of work</li><li>• Provide basic technical project design assistance through an NGO or local government partner, or if none exists, through contract assistance</li></ul>  |
| Method/Procedure:   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify NGO or local government partners with interest and capacity to provide technical assistance for project scoping</li><li>• Where no local partner exists, provide contract technical assistance (i.e. river ecosystems, irrigation efficiency, structure engineering or riparian health consulting)</li><li>• Develop at least 10 project proposals (5 in each basin) with interested landowners/irrigators</li></ul> |
| Deliverable:  |
| Up to 10 fully developed project proposals  |

| Tasks  |
|--|
| <b>3) Task 3 – Arrange Funding</b>   |
| Description of Task:   |
| We will explore funding sources for the selected projects, and write the necessary grants to fund them. Funding sources will include CWCB grants, other state agency grants, federal programs like Farm Bill, WaterSmart and EPA, local government and private philanthropy. In addition to funding the projects themselves, this will expand the knowledge and experience of MCD and CAA with the various other funding sources to help them more readily utilize them in the future. |
| Method/Procedure:  |
| CAA, MCD and River Network will write CWCB, other state agency, federal agency and private philanthropy grants in partnership with landowners.   |
| Deliverable:   |
| Up to 10 funded projects in the Yampa and Southwest basins   |



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| Tasks   |
|---|
| <b>4) Task 4- Scaling up through outreach and lessons learned</b>   |
| Description of Task:  |
| After two years of implementing this pilot in two basins, our team will be prepared to discuss what worked well, what didn't, and how the approach could be scaled up in other locations. We will complement that discussion with a coarse analysis of agriculture organizations at the HUC-8 scale (mission/purpose, how active they are, recent focus areas, interest in expanding their role, etc) and provide possible locations where this approach could be successfully replicated. In addition, our team will raise awareness about this pilot, its successes and outcomes through a variety of mediums (articles, social media, presentations) with the goal of creating interest in this model in other basins where it makes sense and creating an awareness of the array of project funding sources that are available for ag projects.   |
| Method/Procedure:   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• River Network will document the approach and outcomes of this pilot by regularly monitoring its progress, the challenges that occur, and methods that appear to work successfully. MCD and CAA will conduct post-pilot surveys/interviews with those involved, including land owners.</li><li>• Together, we will compile guidance for best practices to scale the approach and lessons of this pilot up to other locations.</li><li>• River Network will conduct a coarse review of local ag organizations at the HUC-8 scale and classify their desire and readiness to implement similar work.</li><li>• Together, we will conduct outreach statewide to discuss this project and its outcomes. River Network will provide primary communications support by creating articles, videos, social media stories, etc with the goal of creating interest in this model in other basins where it makes sense and creating an awareness of the array of project funding sources that are available for ag projects. MCD and CAA will present at ag meetings statewide.</li></ul> |
| Deliverable:  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Final report that documents the approach and outcomes of this pilot, best practices and location recommendations for scaling it up</li><li>• Index of outreach conducted</li></ul>  |
| Tasks   |
| <b>5) Task 5 - Project Oversight</b>  |
| Description of Task:  |
| River Network will ensure completion of all tasks, including project administration and reporting, and ensure that the project is implemented on-time and within budget. River Network will also facilitate effective collaboration among team members in the Yampa and Southwest basins.   |
| Method/Procedure:   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• River Network will ensure there are regular internal meetings between the leads in the Southwest and Yampa basins to encourage consistent approaches and to stay on budget and schedule</li><li>• River Network will provide financial accounting services and fund disbursement</li><li>• River Network will create grant progress reports every six months</li></ul>  |
| Deliverable:  |
| 6-month grant progress reports that include financial statements  |

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

Last Updated: June 2020

### Performance Measures

(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: 11/30/20

Name of Applicant: River Network

Name of Water Project: Piloting Multi-Benefit Project Coordinators

Project Start Date: 4/1/2021

Project End Date: 6/30/2023

| Task No.     | Task Description                                | Task Start Date | Task End Date | Grant Funding Request | Match Funding    | Total            |
|--------------|---|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1            | Project Identification                          | 4/1/2021        | 8/1/2022      | \$ 49,775.00          | \$ 49,300.00     | \$99,075         |
| 2            | Project Scoping                                 | 4/1/2021        | 6/30/2023     | \$ 39,099.00          | \$ 52,064.00     | \$91,163         |
| 3            | Arrange Funding                                 | 9/1/2021        | 6/30/2023     | \$ 3,887.50           | \$ 6,201.50      | \$10,089         |
| 4            | Scaling up through outreach and lessons learned | 9/1/2021        | 6/30/2023     | \$ 27,680.75          | \$ 16,775.00     | \$44,456         |
| 5            | Project Oversight                               | 4/1/2021        | 6/30/2023     | \$ 12,728.00          | \$ 11,900.00     | \$24,628         |
| <b>Total</b> |   |                 |               | <b>\$133,170</b>      | <b>\$136,241</b> | <b>\$269,411</b> |

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant - Detailed Budget Estimate

Fair and Reasonable Estimate

Prepared Date:Nov 30, 2020

Name of Applicant:River Network

Name of Water Project:Piloting Multi-Benefit Project Coordinators

Task 1 - Project Identification

| Sub-task                       | Item                          | Hourly Rate | # Hours | Sub-total | Direct Cost | Total     | CWCB Funds | Cash Matching Funds | In-Kind Matching Funds |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Outreach and project awareness | CAA Staff time                | \$ 53       | \$ 480  | \$ 25,440 | \$ 3,095    | \$ 28,535 | \$ 17,535  | \$ 6,000            | \$ 5,000               |
|                                | MCD Staff time                | \$ 55       | \$ 740  | \$ 40,700 | \$ 564      | \$ 41,264 | \$ 18,164  | \$ 17,600           | \$ 5,500               |
|                                | RN Staff Time - Program Manağ | \$ 53       | \$ 74   | \$ 3,922  | \$ 739      | \$ 4,661  | \$ 1,161   | \$ 1,000            | \$ 2,500               |
|                                |                               |             |         |           |             |           |            |                     |                        |
| Project prioritization         | CAA Staff time                | \$ 53       | \$ 180  | \$ 9,540  |             | \$ 9,540  | \$ 6,040   | \$ 1,000            | \$ 2,500               |
|                                | MCD Staff time                | \$ 55       | \$ 250  | \$ 13,750 |             | \$ 13,750 | \$ 6,875   | \$ 6,875            | \$ -                   |
|                                | RN Staff Time - Program Manağ | \$ 53       | \$ 25   | \$ 1,325  |             | \$ 1,325  | \$ -       | \$ 1,325            | \$ -                   |
|                                |                               |             |         |           |             |           |            |                     |                        |
| TASK TOTAL                     |                               |             |         | \$ 1,749  | \$ 4,398    | \$ 99,075 | \$ 49,775  | \$ 33,800           | \$ 15,500              |

Task 2 - Project Scoping

| Sub-task             | Item                          | Hourly Rate | # Hours | Sub-total | Direct Cost | Total     | CWCB Funds | Cash Matching Funds | In-Kind Matching Funds |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Project Scoping      | CAA Staff time                | \$ 53       | \$ 480  | \$ 25,440 | \$ 3,095    | \$ 28,535 | \$ 14,535  | \$ 9,000            | \$ 5,000               |
|                      | MCD Staff time                | \$ 55       | \$ 450  | \$ 24,750 | \$ 564      | \$ 25,314 | \$ 12,939  | \$ 3,875            | \$ 8,500               |
|                      | RN Staff Time - Program Manağ | \$ 53       | \$ 25   | \$ 1,325  | \$ 739      | \$ 2,064  | \$ -       | \$ -                | \$ 2,064               |
|                      |                               |             |         |           |             |           |            |                     |                        |
| Technical Assistance | CAA Consulting Expertise      | \$ 100      | \$ 240  | \$ 24,000 |             | \$ 24,000 | \$ 6,000   | \$ 15,500           | \$ 2,500               |
|                      | MCD Consulting Expertise      | \$ 75       | \$ 150  | \$ 11,250 |             | \$ 11,250 | \$ 5,625   | \$ 5,625            | \$ -                   |
|                      |                               |             |         |           |             |           |            |                     |                        |
|                      |                               |             |         |           |             |           |            |                     |                        |
| TASK TOTAL           |                               |             |         | \$ 1,345  | \$ 4,398    | \$ 91,163 | \$ 39,099  | \$ 34,000           | \$ 18,064              |

Task 3 - Arrange Funding

| Sub-task               | Item                          | Hourly Rate | # Hours | Sub-total | Direct Cost | Total     | CWCB Funds | Cash Matching Funds | In-Kind Matching Funds |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Grant/proposal writing | CAA Staff time                | \$ 53       | \$ 75   | \$ 3,975  | \$ 100      | \$ 4,075  | \$ 575     | \$ 2,000            | \$ 1,500               |
|                        | MCD Consulting Expertise      | \$ 75       | \$ 35   | \$ 2,625  | \$ -        | \$ 2,625  | \$ 1,313   | \$ -                | \$ 1,313               |
|                        | RN Staff Time - Program Manağ | \$ 53       | \$ 50   | \$ 2,650  | \$ 739      | \$ 3,389  | \$ 2,000   | \$ 1,389            | \$ -                   |
|                        |                               |             |         |           |             | \$ -      |            |                     |                        |
| TASK TOTAL             |                               |             |         | \$ 160    | \$ 839      | \$ 10,089 | \$ 3,888   | \$ 3,389            | \$ 2,813               |

Task 4 -Scaling up through outreach and lessons learned

| Sub-task                     | Item                           | Hourly Rate | # Hours | Sub-total | Direct Cost | Total     | CWCB Funds | Cash Matching Funds | In-Kind Matching Funds |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Guidance and recommendations | CAA Staff time                 | \$ 53       | \$ 40   | \$ 2,120  | \$ 100      | \$ 2,220  | \$ 1,020   | \$ -                | \$ 1,200               |
|                              | MCD Staff time                 | \$ 55       | \$ 50   | \$ 2,750  | \$ 4,606    | \$ 7,356  | \$ 5,981   | \$ -                | \$ 1,375               |
|                              | RN Staff Time - Program Manağ  | \$ 53       | \$ 60   | \$ 3,180  | \$ 3,198    | \$ 6,378  | \$ 3,878   | \$ -                | \$ 2,500               |
|                              | RN Staff Time - Prog Associate | \$ 38       | \$ 120  | \$ 4,560  |             | \$ 4,560  | \$ 4,560   | \$ -                | \$ -                   |
|                              |                                |             |         |           |             |           |            |                     |                        |
| Outreach and storytelling    | CAA Staff time                 | \$ 53       | \$ 40   | \$ 2,120  |             | \$ 2,120  | \$ 920     | \$ -                | \$ 1,200               |
|                              | MCD Staff time                 | \$ 55       | \$ 80   | \$ 4,400  |             | \$ 4,400  | \$ 2,200   | \$ -                | \$ 2,200               |
|                              | RN Staff Time - Prog Associate | \$ 38       | \$ 219  | \$ 8,322  |             | \$ 8,322  | \$ 4,822   | \$ -                | \$ 3,500               |
|                              |                                |             |         |           |             |           |            |                     |                        |
| Statewide Ag Org Review      | RN Staff Time - Program Manağ  | \$ 53       | \$ 100  | \$ 5,300  |             | \$ 5,300  | \$ 2,120   | \$ 3,180            | \$ -                   |
|                              | RN Staff Time - Prog Associate | \$ 38       | \$ 100  | \$ 3,800  |             | \$ 3,800  | \$ 2,180   | \$ 1,620            | \$ -                   |
|                              |                                |             |         |           |             |           |            |                     |                        |
|                              |                                |             |         |           |             |           |            |                     |                        |
| TASK TOTAL                   |                                |             |         | \$ 809    | \$ 7,904    | \$ 44,456 | \$ 27,681  | \$ 4,800            | \$ 11,975              |

Task 5 - Management & Grant Administration

| Sub-task                              | Item                          | Hourly Rate      | # Hours | Sub-total  | Direct Cost | Total      | CWCB Funds | Cash Matching Funds | In-Kind Matching Funds |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|---------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Project Oversight & Team Coordination | CAA Staff time                | \$ 53            | \$ 40   | \$ 2,120   | \$ 100      | \$ 2,220   | \$ 1,720   | \$ -                | \$ 500                 |
|                                       | MCD Staff time                | \$ 55            | \$ 75   | \$ 4,125   | \$ -        | \$ 4,125   | \$ 2,063   | \$ 2,063            | \$ -                   |
|                                       | RN Staff Time - Program Manağ | \$ 53            | \$ 65   | \$ 3,445   | \$ 1,521    | \$ 4,966   | \$ 3,445   | \$ 1,521            | \$ -                   |
|                                       |                               |                  |         |            |             |            |            |                     |                        |
| Financial Management                  | Administrative Costs          | 10% grant amount |         | \$ 13,317  |             | \$ 13,317  | \$ 5,500   | \$ 7,817            | \$ -                   |
|                                       |                               |                  |         |            |             |            |            |                     |                        |
| TASK TOTAL                            |                               |                  |         | \$ 180     | \$ 23,007   | \$ 24,628  | \$ 12,728  | \$ 11,400           | \$ 500                 |
| SubTOTAL                              |                               |                  |         | \$ 4,243   | \$ 250,251  | \$ 19,160  |            |                     |                        |
| Other Direct Costs (see below)        |                               |                  |         | \$ 19,160  |             |            |            |                     |                        |
| OVERALL TOTAL                         |                               |                  |         | \$ 269,411 |             | \$ 269,411 | \$ 133,170 | \$ 87,389           | \$ 48,852              |

Other Direct Costs

| Item:        | Copies & Printing (Black & White) | Copies & Printing (Color) | Materials and Final Report Production Lump Sum | Lodging and Meals | Travel Expenses (Airfare and Car Rental) Lump Sum | Mileage | Total    |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|-------------------|---|---------|----------|
| Units:       | No.                               | No.                       |  | Per Diem          |   | Miles   |          |
| Unit Cost:   | \$0.10                            | \$0.50                    |  | \$ 175.00         |   | \$0.535 |          |
| Task 1       | 25                                | 25                        | \$ 100   | 10                | \$ 500  | 3,800   | \$4,398  |
| Task 2       | 25                                | 25                        | \$ 100   | 10                | \$ 500  | 3,800   | \$4,398  |
| Task 3       |                                   |                           | \$ 100   | 3                 |   | 400     | \$839    |
| Task 4       | 150                               | 100                       | \$ 1,100                                       | 20                | \$ 1,500  | 3,250   | \$7,904  |
| Task 5       |                                   |                           | \$ 600   | 4                 |   | 600     | \$1,621  |
| Total Units: | 200                               | 150                       | 2,000  | 47                | 2,500   | 11,850  |          |
| Total Cost:  | \$20                              | \$75                      | \$2,000  | \$8,225           | \$2,500   | \$6,340 | \$19,160 |



Colorado Department of Natural Resources  
Colorado Water Conservation Board  
1313 Sherman St  
Denver, CO 80203

December 1, 2020

Dear CWCB Grant Committee,

I am writing this letter to express River Network's support and confirm a financial commitment for River Network's Colorado Water Plan Grant Application - Piloting Multi-Benefit Project Coordinators.

Over the course of two years of this grant, River Network will provide \$10,564 of in-kind matching funding in the form of personnel time, travel, meeting and supply costs and \$17,852 in cash match.

River Network is excited to embark upon this expansion of the past four years of work initiating Stream Management Plans alongside its two local agricultural partners in the Yampa and southwest basins. Furthermore, this proposal helps River Network accomplish our mission, which is to unite people to protect and preserve rivers.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions by email [nseltzer@rivernetwork.org](mailto:nseltzer@rivernetwork.org) or by phone at (970) 744-0324.

Sincerely,

Nicole Seltzer  
Science & Policy Manager

November 25, 2020

Alexander Funk  
CO Water Conservation Board

Re: Letter of Support for CWCB CO Water Plan Grant

The Community Agriculture Alliance (CAA) Board fully supports the grant application submitted by CAA, River Network, and the Mancos Conservation District. CAA commits to the following support:

- In kind support - CAA staff time and expertise = \$19,400
- CAA Cash Match = \$18,500
- Cash Match – Pending TAFC grant application = \$15,000

CAA recognizes the important potential of this project for not only agriculture in the Yampa Valley, but as an example for multi benefit water projects throughout the State.

- Agriculture is a critical part of Colorado's economic, cultural, and water future.
- Resources to assist agriculture water right owners are needed
- The Yampa River is a unique system providing riparian resources for agriculture, municipalities, recreation, wildlife and fish, native plant communities and environmental protection. Supporting a balanced approach for multi beneficial projects is necessary for all interests.
- The Yampa White Green Basin Roundtable Integrated Water Management Plan conducted over 40 agriculture diversion assessments. Participants are eager to move potential improvement projects forward but lack coordination and resources.

We appreciate your consideration of this grant request and encourage your approval.

Thank you for your consideration.

*Shiloh Whaley*, Board Chair  
Community Ag Alliance



community  
agriculture  
alliance

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Community Agriculture Alliance  
743 Oak Street  
PO Box 774134  
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477  
970.879.4370

[www.communityagalliance.org](http://www.communityagalliance.org)



*To promote long-term sustainable use and protection of the Mancos River Watershed. We provide educational, financial and technical assistance to meet these conservation goals.*

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
1313 Sherman St., Denver, CO 80203  
Re: Colorado Water Plan Grant

Dear Colorado Water Conservation Board,

The Mancos Conservation District's mission is "To promote long-term sustainable use and protection of the Mancos River Watershed . . . ". The District provides educational, financial, and technical assistance to meet the conservation goals of the Mancos Watershed, including leading water conservation projects and the outreach. We are therefore strongly supportive of the request from the River Network for their Colorado Water Plan proposal. River Network's project is an important, and timely, critical step to advance water conservation by demonstrating the power of targeted, landscape-scale conservation.

Through this project, we will commit to a cash match of \$36,038 and \$18,888 in-kind match towards working with agricultural producers and land managers to identify multi-beneficial projects and assist with funding availability. The District will provide staff, access to our agriculture and ditch network, and community leadership. Additionally, the District will encourage innovation through technical assistance that rethinks how traditional methods can be used in new ways to conserve water, reduce impacts, and enhance riparian habitat.

The District is a highly respected regional leader of conservation, and our members represent a significant proportion of agriculture, ranching, and ditch companies in the valley. We will share lessons learned from these pilots to help recruit landowners and ditch companies to participate in future phases beyond our watershed.

These improvements for the agricultural, watershed, viewshed and wildlife values are a significant step in efforts to protect the ecological services and agricultural future of the San Juan River Basin.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gretchen Rank'.

Gretchen Rank, Executive Director  
Mancos Conservation District

604 Bauer Avenue  
P.O. Box 694  
Mancos, CO 81328  
970-533-7317



**COLORADO**  
**Department of Agriculture**  
Conservation Services Division

Colorado State Conservation  
Board  
305 Interlocken Pkwy  
Broomfield, CO 80021

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

Re: Colorado Water Plan Grant

11/30/2020

I write this letter to convey my support for the River Network's application in collaboration with the Mancos Conservation District to support projects that integrate irrigation water management, irrigation infrastructure improvements, river flow restoration or leases, and management of private riparian lands. In Southwestern Colorado, the Mancos Conservation District will scale up its approach to improve diversion infrastructure, restoring riparian corridors and floodplain connectivity on private lands; and improve drought resilience of agricultural producers by working with local landowners to identify and shepherd priority projects.

Drought, wildfires, increasing temperatures, development, and population growth all contribute to a greater strain on the Basin's water systems. The Four Corners Region is perhaps the hardest hit area in the Basin in terms of suffering long term impacts of drought. The heart of this Basin's economy relies on water, including agriculture, tourism, food services, and recreation. As the water supply is strained, these economic drivers are impacted.

This funding will enable the Mancos Conservation District to conduct outreach statewide to demonstrate past successful projects and their outcomes. They will participate in presentations at agricultural meetings statewide, increase the capacity for other conservation districts, and assist with funding requests for identified projects, all with the goal of creating opportunities for this model in other basins and creating an awareness of the array of project funding sources that are available for agricultural irrigation improvement projects.

Thank you for your time. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Cindy Lair  
Manager  
Colorado State Conservation Board





December 1, 2020

Alexander Funk  
CO Water Conservation Board

Dear Mr. Funk,

Established in September 2019, the Yampa River Fund was and is a community-based collaborative effort dedicated to identifying and funding activities that protect the water supply, wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities provided by the Yampa River. The Yampa River Fund invests in projects and programs that enhance and benefit the agricultural, industrial, environmental and recreational users of the Yampa River Basin, to ensure that a healthy, flowing Yampa River remains the thriving center of our communities for generations to come.

The Fund was established with significant support from the agricultural community with its promise of providing resources to create a more certain future for ag users. Therefore, the Yampa River Fund fully supports the grant application submitted by CAA, River Network, and the Mancos Conservation District.

The Yampa River Fund recognizes the important potential of this project for not only agriculture in the Yampa Valley, but as an example for multi benefit water projects throughout the State. In addition, we see opportunities for partnerships with CWCB to leverage these funds for greater impact.

The Yampa River is a unique system providing riparian resources for agriculture, municipalities, recreation, wildlife and fish, native plant communities and environmental protection. With the importance of agriculture in Colorado's economic, cultural, and water future there is a great need for resources to assist agriculture water right owners and other users in a balanced manner. With over 40 agriculture diversion assessments identified by the Yampa White Green Basin Roundtable IWMP, creative coordination that this grant will provide is critical.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Andy Baur  
Yampa River Fund Manager



Colorado Water Conservation Board  
1313 Sherman St., Denver, CO 80203  
Re: Colorado Water Plan Grant

11/30/2020

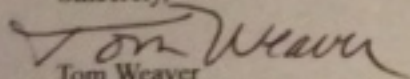
Colorado Water Conservation Board,

My name is Tom Weaver, and I am a cattle rancher and grow certified weed free hay in the Mancos Valley Watershed. I am writing today to offer support for the River Network's application in collaboration with the Mancos Conservation District. It is the conservation district's mission to advocate for projects that integrate irrigation water management, irrigation infrastructure improvements, diversion structures, and management of private riparian lands. The Mancos Conservation District has been integral to the successful completion and funding of multiple projects that address water conservation and water quality issues. Their work has enabled irrigators to implement projects that are both agriculturally and environmentally sound.

Drought, wildfires, increasing temperatures, and population growth all contribute to a greater strain on our water resources. A significant portion of the Mancos Watershed's economy relies on water, specifically agricultural production. As we see increased drought years back to back, these projects become more important for long-term planning.

The Mancos Conservation District has proven the ability to conduct outreach for water concerns and speak directly with the landowner about issues and solutions. I have experienced this firsthand and fully support the opportunity for the conservation district to expand their reach and take what they have accomplished in the Mancos Watershed statewide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Tom Weaver". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tom" and last name "Weaver" clearly distinguishable.

Tom Weaver

Root and Ratliff Board Member, Rancher  
weavercattle@hotmail.com