COLORADO Colorado Water Conservation Board

Kendall Mountain Alluvial Aquifer Test Town of Silverton

Water Plan Grant Application

March 2021 Board Meeting



DETA	ILS
Total Project Cost:	\$55,405
Water Plan Grant Request:	\$27,702
Recommended Amount:	\$27,702
Other CWCB Funding:	\$2,100 (WSRF Grant)
Other Funding Amount:	\$11,752 (SWCD)
Applicant Match:	\$13,851 (Cash)
Project Type(s):	Study & Construction
Project Category(Categories):	Storage & Supply
Measurable Result:	242 AF New Supply

The Town of Silverton is the County seat of and the only incorporated municipality in San Juan County, Colorado. The Town provides potable water and wastewater services to residential and commercial customers within the Town limits for a population of approximately 530. Silverton is also a hub of recreational activities in the San Juan Mountains and is a portal for skiing, fishing, hiking, and camping and commercial services in the San Juan National Forest.

Silverton's current drinking water supply comes from two high elevation surface water supplies: Boulder and Bear Creek. Both of these supplies are vulnerable to droughts, earlier runoff periods, fires, rockfalls and avalanche hazards. Both intakes and diversions require significant upgrades from the mining era construction; however, they cannot be taken off line because demand will exceed the remaining supplies. In 2020, Silverton completed an engineering water resources study to identify new and redundant physical and legal water supplies, and this project is the result of a recommendation contained in that report. The project is a test well drilling program, along with water quality testing, to characterize the water quantity and quality of the Kendall Mountain Alluvial Aquifer.

Funding Recommendation: Staff is recommending a grant of \$27,702 from the Storage and Supply category of funding. This is approximately 50% of the project cost. The project will meet the Colorado Water Plan measurable result of adding new supply to meet the Municipal and Industrial gap. The

remainder of the project will be funded through a WSRF grant, a Southwestern Water Conservation District grant, and Town funds.

