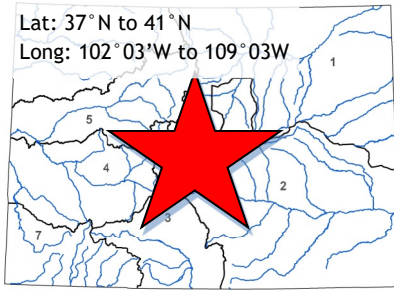




## Water Plan Grant Application



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

D E T A I L S	
Total Project Cost:	\$249,050
Water Plan Grant Request:	\$124,000
Recommended Amount:	\$0
Other CWCB Funding:	\$0
Other Funding Amount:	\$0
Applicant Match:	\$125,050
Project Type(s):	Other
Project Category(Categories):	Agricultural, Conservation & Land Use Planning, Engagement/Innovation, and Environmental & Recreational
Measurable Result:	Estimated 30% of ag water right holders (surface and groundwater) to be impacted by outreach and/or technical assistance as an estimated percentage of water controlled by agriculture.

The applicant, Colorado Cattlemen’s Association (CCA) Agricultural Water NetWORK’s (AWN) focuses on “keeping ag water connected with ag land.” CCA provides outreach, education, feedback and technical assistance, the AWN equips agricultural producers with in-depth knowledge about ag water-related challenges and opportunities in Colorado. CCA/AWN is jointly applying with the Colorado Ag Water Alliance (CAWA) which is an association of agricultural organizations that focuses on education and outreach within the agricultural community.

The applicant proposes to: Conduct twelve outreach presentations for Ag producers in each of the Basin Roundtables geography with an additional meeting in the Colorado, Arkansas, and the South Platte Basins. The 12 presentations would focus toward a target audience of agriculture producers and other water stakeholders with topics on Watershed Management, Stream Management Plans, Regulation 85, and infrastructure assessments; Nine Trainings/Mini- Workshops which would offer an engagement opportunity to bring ag water users to focus on achieving elements of the state water plan; A combination of ten publications, webinars or exhibit booths and one video vignette that would be publicized in agricultural trade publications and earned media. CWCB has funded similar proposals through this Water Plan category as well as supported through a Water Supply Reserve Fund grant.

The applicant also proposes to provide technical assistance to Ag organizations and individual farmers and ranchers who are seeking grant funding as well researching and developing an Infrastructure Inventory database for self-assessment of infrastructure. The database would be designed to enable farmers and ranchers to upload their infrastructure to a simple database and start compiling an inventory of infrastructure condition and needs across Colorado.

The applicant believes this project meets goals in the Water Plan of engaging and educating Coloradoans, conserving Ag water, and bringing an Ag voice to land use planning and stream management planning.

Funding Recommendation: Staff is not recommending approval from the Engagement and Innovation category of funding due to limited funding and a lower application score compared to other proposals.



Last Updated: Nov. 2020

**Colorado Water Conservation Board**

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**Water Plan Grant Application**

**Instructions**

To receive funding for a Water Plan Grant, applicant must demonstrate how the project, activity, or process (collectively referred to as “project”) funded by the CWCB will help meet the measurable objectives and critical actions in the Water Plan. Grant guidelines are available on the CWCB website.

If you have questions, please contact CWCB at (303) 866-3441 or email the following staff to assist you with applications in the following areas:

Water Storage Projects Conservation, Land Use Planning Engagement & Innovation Activities Agricultural Projects Environmental & Recreation Projects	Anna.Mauss@state.co.us Kevin.Reidy@state.co.us Ben.Wade@state.co.us Alexander.Funk@state.co.us Chris.Sturm@state.co.us
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**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	Colorado Cattlemen’s Association (Colorado Ag Water Alliance)
Name of Water Project	Agriculture Water User 2021 Priorities: Outreach, Technical Assistance, Infrastructure Inventory
CWP Grant Request Amount	\$ 124,000
Other Funding Sources _____	\$
Other Funding Sources _____	\$
Other Funding Sources _____	\$
Applicant Funding Contribution	\$ 125,050
Total Project Cost	\$ 249,050



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Applicant & Grantee Information	
Name of Grantee(s)	Colorado Cattlemen's Association
Mailing Address	8833 Ralston Road, Arvada, CO 80002
FEIN	84-0174480
Organization Contact	Terry Fankhauser
Position/Title	CCA Executive Vice President
Email	<a href="mailto:terry@coloradocattle.org">terry@coloradocattle.org</a>
Phone	303-431-6433
Grant Management Contact	Erin Karney
Position/Title	Industry Advancement Director
Email	<a href="mailto:erin@coloradocattle.org">erin@coloradocattle.org</a>
Phone	303-431-6422
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	Same as Grantee
Mailing Address	NA
Position/Title	NA
Email	NA
Phone	NA
Description of Grantee/Applicant	
Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).	
<p>The Colorado Cattlemen's Association (CCA) Agricultural Water NetWORK's (AWN) focuses on "keeping ag water connected with ag land." Through outreach, education, feedback and technical assistance, the AWN equips agricultural producers with in-depth knowledge about ag water-related challenges and opportunities in Colorado.</p> <p>The Colorado Ag Water Alliance (CAWA) is an association of agricultural organizations that focuses on education and outreach within the agricultural community. Our goal is to preserve irrigated agriculture by providing farmers and ranchers with information and resources to address water issues and use water to the benefit of their agricultural operations and the state of Colorado.</p> <p>We have continued to focus our efforts, as a team, that represents nearly 30 ag organizations and their priorities which have been set by the CAWA member organizations and the advisory council, composed of water users and other water stakeholders, of the Agricultural Water NetWORK. Together, we have created more focused and achievable outcomes for ag water users that decreases duplicity, confusion and maximizes private and public investments that are result driven.</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
	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.. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
X	Conservation and Land Use Planning - Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
X	Engagement & Innovation - Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
X	Agricultural - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
X	Environmental & Recreation - Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
	Other      Explain:



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<b>Location of Water Project</b>	
Please provide the general county and coordinates of the proposed project below in <b>decimal degrees</b> . The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable.	
County/Countries	All Counties in Colorado
Latitude	37° N to 41° N Latitude
Longitude	102°03' W to 109°03' W Longitude

<b>Water Project Overview</b>
<p>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.</p> <p>The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit A, a detailed Statement of Work, Budget, Other Funding Sources/Amounts and Schedule.</p>
<p>This is a joint application from the Ag Water NetWORK and the Colorado Ag Water Alliance. Together, they will complete:</p> <p><b>Outreach &amp; Education:</b></p> <p><u>Twelve (12) Outreach Presentation for ag producers will be accomplished.</u> One in each of the Basin Roundtables geography with an additional meeting in the Colorado, Arkansas, and the South Platte. We would also engage Basin Roundtables in these meetings to strive for ongoing consistency and focus of messaging and programmatic implementation as outlined in the proposal. These presentations will focused toward a target audience of agriculture producers and other water stakeholders with topics on Watershed Management (WMP), Stream Management Plans (SMP), Regulation 85, and infrastructure assessments. These will likely be virtual with allowable in-person listening/engagement satellite meetings in the first half of the year.</p> <p><u>Nine (9) Trainings/Mini- Workshops</u> will be focused toward the second half of the year. These workshops will offer an interactive engagement opportunity to bring ag water users back to gather and focus on achieving elements of the state water plan. CWCB will be engaged to communicate enhancements/direction of the state water plan updates. These will be done in coordination with local agricultural organizations and member organizations.</p> <p><u>A combination of ten (10) Publications, Webinars or Exhibit Booths and one (1) Video Vignette</u> will be publicized in all agricultural trade publications and earned media. Various formats including written, digital and social media will be used to communicate. If able to, the exhibit booths will be at agricultural conferences/events to provide producers with information on water issues impacting agriculture. The exhibit will display videos of projects related to stream management planning, has resources on issues like Regulation 85, and our grant guides for agricultural producers.</p>



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**Technical Assistance:**

Collaborative engagement and coordinative assistance will be provided to agricultural organizations and individuals farmers and ranchers on a as needed basis for initiation and development of interest in stream / watershed management planning, along with training of new employees and/or volunteers working on ag-oriented watershed / stream planning efforts. We will provide support to agricultural producers and organizations who are unfamiliar with the grant process, and assist in preparing applications for state and federal grants related to projects that deal with infrastructure, stream management, water quality, and conservation.

**Infrastructure Inventory:**

Research and develop a database for self-assessment of infrastructure. This will all the AWN to offer data-driven information related to types, frequency and costs for infrastructure projects that enhance water efficiency, conservation and modernization of infrastructure that benefits environmental priorities. The database will enable farmers and ranchers to quickly upload their infrastructure to a simple database in order to start compiling a comprehensive inventory of infrastructure condition and needs across Colorado.



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<b>Measurable Results</b>	
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 Non-consumptive
	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
30 %	Other Estimated % of ag water right holders (surface and groundwater) to be impacted by outreach and/or technical assistance as an estimated percentage of water controlled by agriculture.

<b>Water Project Justification</b>
<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>This grant aims to help achieve the measurable objective set out in the Colorado Water Plan.</p> <p><b>Conservation:</b> Through education and outreach, our hope is that ag water users find unique ways to conserve water. This could come from infrastructure improvement and enhancement, applying for grants to improve practices, etc. Our goal throughout the grant is to educate ag water users and other water stakeholders on conservation vs. efficiency.</p> <p><b>Land Use:</b> As watershed and stream management planning in local communities lay out water-saving and land-use planning actions, our hope is to bring an agriculture voice to the table to have all water interests involved.</p> <p><b>Agriculture:</b> We have brought over 30 agriculture organizations together to lay out the priorities of the agriculture community. This grant is the culmination of the priorities and how agriculture is contributing to achieving the goals and objectives laid out in the water plan.</p> <p><b>Watershed Health, Environment, Recreation:</b> Through this grant we are educating ag water users on watershed and stream management planning and how they can get involved. By having agriculture involved, the plans will be a comprehensive plan ensuring that all interests were represented.</p>



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Education, Outreach, and Innovation: Through our previous CWCB funded grants, we have seen an increase in agriculture producers water knowledge and involvement. Our goal is to increase the base level of knowledge, encourage involvement, and through that we hope to see collaboration with other water stakeholders to find innovative solutions to water issues.

### 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.

This project is complementary to the CWCB Watershed Restoration grant program, as well as other CWCB grant programs designed to advance projects that involve agricultural water use, multi-benefit projects, efficiency, demand management and storage. It also complements CWCB strategies associated with conservation, land use and drought planning grant programs, and the water education, outreach, and innovation program.

### 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.

- 1) Colorado Cattlemen's Association
- 2) Water Plan Grant; Assoc. Engagement and Innovation.
- 3) Approving RT(s) – N/A
- 4) 01/10/18
- 5) POGG1 PDAA 201800000656
- 6) 50%

- 1) Colorado Cattlemen's Association
- 2) Water Plan Grant AG CO Cattlemen's Assoc Outreach/Tech Asst.
- 3) Approving RT(s) – N/A
- 4) 01/8/19
- 5) POGG1,PDAA,201900002548
- 6) 50%

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

- 1) Colorado Cattlemen's Association
- 2) Water Plan Grant CO Cattlemen's Assoc Outreach/Tech Asst.
- 3) Approving RT(s) - N/A
- 4) 12/16/19





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5) POGG1,PDAA,202000002612 6) 50%  1) Colorado Ag Water Alliance 2) Outreach & Capacity Building for Ag Water Projects 3) South Platte Basin & Colorado River Basin 4) 5/20/2020 5) POGG1,PDAA,202000003164 6) 75%
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**Taxpayer Bill of Rights**

The Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) may limit the amount of grant money an entity can receive. Please describe any relevant TABOR issues that may affect your application.

No TABOR related-constraints are known or anticipated.

**Submittal Checklist**

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)
	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Commitments <sup>(1)</sup>
Exhibit C	
NA	Map (if applicable) <sup>(1)</sup>
NA	Photos/Drawings/Reports
X	Letters of Support (Optional) (to be submitted)
X	Certificate of Insurance (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.) <sup>(2)</sup>
X	Certificate of Good Standing with Colorado Secretary of State <sup>(2)</sup>
X	W-9 <sup>(2)</sup>
NA	Independent Contractor Form <sup>(2)</sup> (If applicant is individual, not company/organization)
Engagement & Innovation Grant Applicants ONLY	
X	Engagement & Innovation Supplemental Application <sup>(1)</sup>

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(1) Required with application.

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

(1) Required with application.

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



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## ENGAGEMENT & INNOVATION GRANT FUND SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION

### Introduction & Purpose

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

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

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

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

### Application Questions

\*The grant fund request is referred to as “project” in this application.

Overview (answer for both tracks)
<p>In a few sentences, what is the overall goal of this project? How does it achieve the stated purpose of this grant fund (above)?</p>
<p>We want to continue to engage and broaden our outreach to Colorado’s farmers and ranchers on a number of critical water issues. We are the only organizations engaging agricultural producers statewide and getting them involved issues like stream management, water quality, infrastructure, and conservation. Our goal is to continue to keep the agricultural community engaged in these issues, especially after such a dry and economically difficult year. Their knowledge of and participation in issues like stream and watershed management, conservation, rebuilding infrastructure, and water quality is key.</p>
<p>Who is/are the target audience(s)? How will you reach them? How will you involve the community?</p>
<p>Our target audience is farmers and ranchers throughout Colorado. This is a community that is not easy to engage. Over the years, our organizations have built in rows into these communities. We rely a lot on personally relationships, and really planning our outreach around their schedule. Often, this means communicating for an entire year to plan one small meeting, or only meeting during specific times of the year.</p>
<p>Describe how the project is collaborative or engages a diverse group of stakeholders. Who are the partners in the project? Do you have other funding partners or sources?</p>
<p>We will be working with our member organizations, soil conservation districts, water conservancy and conservation districts, county stock growers, ditch companies, and basin roundtables. To adequately engage farmers and ranchers, we have to work with local established organizations to contact and meet with landowners.</p>



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Overview (answer for both tracks)					
Describe how you plan to measure and evaluate the success and impact of the project?					
We plan to measure our success of this project by the number of agricultural producers we are able to engage, surveys and feedback from those who attend meetings. We will also keep track of participation from the agricultural community on certain issues and projects as a result of this outreach. Our goal is to get 500 unique infrastructure assessments.					
What research, evidence, and data support your project?					
CAWA has been using comprehensive surveys to gauge the value of workshops and the desire for similar programming. 35% of regional workshop attendees completed surveys and the majority of responses were positive to CAWA efforts to engages producers:					
<b>Key Questions:</b>					
<b>I found the following information helpful....</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Neither</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>
<b>Today's workshop as a whole</b>		<1%	8%	55%	36%
<b>The role of CAWA and what they are doing</b>		<1%	16%	50%	33%
CCA's Ag Water NetWORK surveyed Colorado agricultural producers to assess their familiarity with the watershed and stream management planning process, and to better understand their needs and priorities related to water. Seventy (70) percent of producers indicated it would be helpful to have a better understanding of watershed management plans if they were to participate in the planning process.					
According to the recent technical update of the Water Plan, in all scenarios of growth and climate change agricultural producers face water shortages through the state, especially in groundwater dependent regions like the Eastern Plains and the San Luis Valley. In these areas, conservation is one of the tools that will likely be necessary to maintain agricultural viability in these regions.					
An updated analysis of that state's water supply recommends that Colorado's water community determine and pursue solutions to meeting the state's consumptive and nonconsumptive supply needs. After evaluating the needs of agriculture, we believe that an inventory of infrastructure is needed to gauge the water efficiency and conservation opportunities is infrastructure is upgrades.					
It is no secret that a lot of water infrastructure is in need of repair, but just how bad is it? Through a simple and easy-to-use database, the inventory database will allow farmers and ranchers out in the field to upload pictures and descriptions of infrastructure to easily assess the condition. This is meant to put structures into general maintenance categories.					
Describe potential short- and long-term challenges with this project.					
The main issue is convening group meetings with COVID. We have and will continue to host meetings with some in-person presence, but also virtually. However, this is an audience that often lacks sufficient internet and we will do our best to schedule safe, in-person meetings for our constituents.					



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

Engagement Track
Describe how the project achieves the education, outreach, and public engagement measurable objective set forth in Colorado’s Water Plan to “significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues statewide by 2020, as determined by water awareness surveys.”
CCA and CAWA represent Colorado’s agricultural water interests. Through workshops, webinars, tours, videos, presentations, the project will inform participants on pertinent water issues. Workshops targeting ag producers will include an array of topics that affect irrigators, including efficiency, water conservation, leasing fundamentals and important concepts of water law like consumptive use and the value of a water right. The last series of workshops had robust turnout and received significant support and attention. This project will push forward on multiple outreach fronts, engaging producers that have thus far not been involved in dialogs about ag water.
Describe how the project achieves the other measurable objectives and critical goals and actions laid out in Colorado’s Water Plan around the supply and demand gap; conservation; land use; agriculture; storage; watershed health, environment, and recreation; funding; and additional.
CCA and CAWA’s goal is to preserve irrigated agriculture and empower producers to make the best decisions possible regarding how they manage and maximize the value and utility of their water rights. The overarching goal of this project is to help minimize buying and drying of irrigated ag land by creating a knowledgeable ag water right holder community that brings a balanced and innovative perspective to the challenge of closing the demand-supply gap. Topics including storage, conservation, conjunctive use, ATMs, and flow re-timing are of interest to both ag and non-ag interest groups, and ultimately will lead to innovative approaches to increasing conservation, improving watershed health, recreation and the environment, securing irrigated agricultural land near towns and cities, protecting food security, and building a framework which enables a more sustainable ag industry
Describe how the project achieves the education, outreach, and public engagement goals set forth in the applicable Basin Implementation Plan(s).
The South Platte Basin Implementation Plan calls for efforts to garner community and political support to develop tools to sustain irrigated agriculture (1.9.1). The Yampa/White/Green BIP calls for protecting and encouraging “agricultural uses of water in the YWG Basin within the context of private property rights” (1.2.4). Sustaining, protecting, and promoting agriculture is major theme of the Colorado BIP (16). The Gunnison BIP also emphasizes the goal to “discourage the conversion of productive agricultural land to all other uses within the context of private property rights” (2). The Rio Grande BIP also cites the need for “outreach events designed for <i>agricultural water users</i> [emphasis added], public officials, and community members” (160). The focus of the CAWA project is to provide information and support to producers to benefit irrigated agriculture by identifying and supplying information that can address and benefit both the irrigated ag industry and non-ag water uses.



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

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



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<b>Colorado Water Conservation Board</b>
<b>Water Plan Grant - Exhibit A</b>

Statement of Work	
<b>Date:</b>	<b>November 30, 2020</b>
<b>Name of Grantee:</b>	<b>Colorado Cattlemen’s Ag Water NetWORK (Colorado Ag Water Alliance)</b>
<b>Name of Water Project:</b>	<b>Agriculture Water User 2021 Priorities: Outreach, Technical Assistance, Infrastructure Inventory</b>
<b>Funding Source:</b>	<b>Agricultural Projects, Innovation and Education, Conservation and Land Use Planning, Environment</b>
<b>Water Project Overview:</b>	
<p>This year’s proposal represents a combination of projects from both Colorado Cattlemen’s Association (Ag Water NetWORK) and the Colorado Ag Water Alliance (CAWA). The focus of the projects included in this proposal include watershed and stream management planning outreach and assistance, Regulation 85 and related water quality issues, and irrigation efficiency and infrastructure.</p> <p>CCA’s Ag Water NetWORK’s 2019 survey of Colorado agricultural producers found that seventy (70) percent of producers felt that if they were to participate in local watershed or stream management planning, it would be helpful to have a better understanding of WMPs and SMPs. Interestingly, 52 percent of the survey respondents indicated they had previously and/or were currently involved in a local watershed or stream management planning process. Thus, greater understanding of WMPs and SMPs is needed across the spectrum of agricultural producers, with a provision for more in-depth information that elevates producers’ knowledge and familiarity WMPs and SMPs, and how they fit into larger watershed and water plan objectives.</p> <p>In 2021, the Ag Water NetWORK and Colorado Ag Water Alliance will engage producers on ag water issues via outreach and training using a tailored approach that strives to meet producers at their level of informational need. Outreach activities will include collaboration with other ag organizations (CAWA, Colorado State Conservation Board, individual conservation districts, Farm Bureau, Colorado Corn, CLA) and conservation organizations like the River Network and Trout Unlimited. Our work will focus on elevating understanding about ag water issues among ag producers and organizations &amp; individuals that work with ag producers, including how the producer survey findings can be used locally to help strategically engage producers by improving their participation experience.</p>	
<b>Outreach &amp; Education:</b>	
<p>Twelve (12) outreach meeting activities will be held around the state. One in each of the Basin Roundtables geography with an additional meeting in the Colorado, Arkansas, and the South Platte. We would also work to engage Basin Roundtables in these meetings to strive for ongoing consistency and focus of messaging and programmatic implementation as outlined in the proposal. These presentations will be focused toward a target audience of agriculture producers and other water stakeholders with topics on Watershed Management (WMP), Stream Management Plans (SMP), Regulation 85, and</p>	



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infrastructure assessments. These will likely be virtual with allowable in-person listening/engagement satellite meetings in the first half of the year.

Nine (9) trainings and 1 mini-workshops will be focused toward the second half of the year. These workshops will offer an interactive engagement opportunity to bring ag water users back to gather and focus on achieving elements of the state water plan. CWCB will be engaged to communicate enhancements/direction of the state water plan updates. These will be done in coordination with local agricultural organizations and member organizations.

Meetings and trainings are designed to explain ag water issues including watershed and stream management plans in relatable terms to agricultural producers and will provide guidance to ag-oriented watershed planning efforts on how to best engage producers in stream management and watershed planning initiatives. Outreach and training materials are web-accessible for anytime-access through multiple platforms.

A combination of ten (10) publications, exhibit booths, and/or webinars will be focused be publicized in all agricultural trade publications and earned media. Various formats including written, digital and social media will be used to communicate. If we are able to, the exhibit booths will be at agricultural conferences/events to provide producers with information on water issues impacting agriculture. The exhibit will display videos of projects related to stream management planning, has resources on issues like Regulation 85, and our grant guides for agricultural producers.

**Technical Assistance:**

The AWN and CAWA will also be providing technical and coordinative assistance to agricultural organizations and coordinators. will be provided to agricultural organizations and individuals farmers and ranchers on an as needed basis for initiation and development of interest in stream / watershed management planning, along with training of new employees and/or volunteers working on ag-oriented watershed / stream planning efforts. We will provide support to agricultural producers and organizations who are unfamiliar with the grant process, and assist in preparing applications for state and federal grants related to projects that deal with infrastructure, stream management, water quality, and conservation.

**Inventory Infrastructure:**

Research and develop a database for self-assessment of infrastructure. This will allow the AWN to offer data-driven information related to types, frequency and costs for infrastructure projects that enhance water efficiency, conservation and modernization of infrastructure that benefits environmental priorities. The database will enable farmers and ranchers to quickly upload their infrastructure to a simple database in order to start compiling a comprehensive inventory of infrastructure condition and needs across Colorado.

The project will influence ag water decision-makers through collaboration with other agricultural organizations and engage with governmental entities (Colorado State Conservation Board, Conservation Districts, NRCS, CDPHE, CWCB, etc.) to ensure the project elements are successfully executed. In conjunction with the outreach and training activities, we will provide technical coordinative assistance to ag producer groups that are interested in developing and/or implementing watershed and stream management plans.

Colorado Ag Water Alliance (CAWA) will be focusing on water quality, especially related to the implications of Regulation 85 and best management practices (BMPs) being used to reduce agricultural nutrient discharges from fields. CAWA will also focus on irrigation water conservation, and provide assistance to agricultural entities desiring to prepare grant proposals for multi-benefit projects involving agricultural infrastructure and efficiency.





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**Goals & Outcomes:** Raise awareness and improve understanding of ag water issues among agricultural producers statewide. Prepare ag-oriented individuals to engage and lead or co-lead local WMP / SMP initiation, planning and implementation efforts as well as educate producers about Regulation 85, infrastructure inventory, etc. including addressing the following:

- Characterizing what watershed management plans and stream management plans are, and the differences between them and explaining typical plan features.
- Building and expanding producer foundational knowledge on water rights, irrigation, efficiency and conservation, water quality, funding sources and multi-benefit projects.
- Explaining how watershed and stream management development processes support a holistic approach that favors multi-benefit, long-term improvements in watersheds, rivers, and streams.
- Providing examples of how diverse stakeholder collaboration can result in outcomes that benefit agricultural producers, other stakeholders, watersheds and streams.
- Assisting with training new or existing staff, volunteers and interested ag-oriented individuals in conjunction with their current needs related to WMP / SMP initiation, planning, and implementation.
- Explaining the value of data collection and resource inventorying to characterize water and land use resources within a watershed or stream reach (improved understanding of flow regimes, land use, water use and shortages, aquatic life, hydrology, water quality, and needs).
- Emphasizing the value of reviewing past studies first to maximize cost efficiency and save time.
- Utilizing collaborative approach strategies.
- Funding for Improvements: Reviewing and documenting funding sources available and data gathering, planning, development, design and implementation.
- Inventory existing infrastructure needs for agricultural producers.
- Provide technical assistance to ag water users on an as needed basis.

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**Geographical Scope and Existing Information: Statewide.**

This project will include rural outreach, including presentations at meetings of agricultural organizations, irrigation districts, conservation districts, and other ag-affiliated organizations, with the objective of reaching agricultural producers across the state. Publications and media releases will be used to assist in reaching ag-stakeholders.

Outreach and training efforts will be targeted to the agricultural community in watersheds where planning efforts are being considered or in early development and will benefit from agricultural involvement. We will engage with non-ag water interests through these efforts to facilitate sharing of perspectives and needs among the disparate stakeholders.

**Organizational Capacity:**

CCA's Ag Water Network and CAWA will collaborate with other organizations to maximize the impact and efficiency of the projects. We anticipate collaborating with and receiving cooperative support from several agriculture-oriented organizations, potentially including Colorado Corn Growers, Colorado Livestock Association, Colorado Association of Conservation Districts (CACD), CDA, CAWA, Colorado Pork Producers Council, Farm Bureau, Farmers Union, individual ditch and reservoir companies, DARCA, water conservancy districts, and the USDA-NRCS.

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**Project Objectives:**

**This project will accomplish the following objectives (see TASKS 1 – 5 for details):**

- Outreach & Education: **Twelve (12) Outreach activities (or more) around the state, Nine (9) training and mini-workshops, Ten (10) publications, exhibit booths, and/or webinars and one (1) video vignette.** Most outreach activities will include collaboration with other ag and water stakeholder organizations. Outreach will likely be virtual with allowable in-person meetings, small gatherings, presentations, and exhibits and attendance where possible at industry gatherings and conferences with discussions and/or presentations around agricultural involvement in watershed management and stream restoration plans in collaboration with other stakeholders. Training and informational mini-workshops will be held around the state the second half of the year to equip producers and ag-oriented individuals to engage locally with other water stakeholders on watershed and stream management planning, and learn the various aspects of watershed and stream management plans and available project funding sources. Training will also include a solicitation for feedback from participants regarding their interests and needs related ag water in their local areas. These events may include non-ag stakeholder presenters and will be implemented with one or more other ag-oriented organizations, such as local conservation districts, CCA affiliates, etc. The publications and the webinars will cover topics related to WMPs, SMPs, water rights, water quality and quantity, new research results, multi-benefit projects, and funding.
- Technical Assistance: **The AWN and CAWA will also be providing technical and coordinative assistance** to agricultural organizations and coordinators. Assistance will be provided to agricultural organizations and individuals farmers and ranchers on an as needed basis for initiation and development of interest in stream / watershed management planning, along with training of new employees and/or volunteers working on ag-oriented watershed / stream planning efforts. We will provide support to agricultural producers and organizations who are unfamiliar with the grant process, and assist in preparing applications for state and federal grants related to projects that deal with infrastructure, stream management, water quality, and conservation.
- Inventory Infrastructure: **Research and develop a database for self-assessment of infrastructure.** This will allow the AWN to offer data-driven information related to types, frequency and costs for infrastructure projects that enhance water efficiency, conservation and modernization of infrastructure that benefits environmental priorities. The database will enable farmers and ranchers to quickly upload their infrastructure to a simple database in order to start compiling a comprehensive inventory of infrastructure condition and needs across Colorado.

**Tasks**

**Task 1– Outreach & Education**

Description of Task:



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CAWA and the AWN will work to increase water knowledge among ag producers on a variety of topics and in a variety of different avenues. These different approaches will increase the number of producers touched as well as increase the base knowledge in the ag water community. To do this we will commit to: Twelve (12) Outreach activities around the state (meetings, presentations, engagement at industry conferences, etc.), Nine (9) training and informational meetings or mini-workshops, and A combination of Ten (10) Publications, Exhibit Booths and Webinars, and one (1) video vignette.

**Outreach Activities:** Meetings and presentations will be held around the state with one in each Basin Roundtable geography with an additional meeting in the Colorado, Arkansas, and South Platte. Outreach may include examples of watershed and stream management plan elements, Regulation 85, Edge-of-field studies and modeling studies, funding, an overview of the Ag Water NetWORK's survey results, and examples of how cooperating with other water stakeholders can yield benefits for agricultural producers and other water interests. Additional topics in collaboration with local agricultural groups may include water rights, water quality, stream and watershed assessment, wildfire hazard risk assessment and mitigation planning, demand management, drought contingency planning, and monitoring.

These presentations will be to a wide variety of agricultural groups: ditch companies, commodity groups, conservation districts, water conservancy districts, regional chapters of agricultural organizations, and member organizations of CAWA.

Discussions with industry leaders will amplify and expedite outreach efforts within the agricultural community around WMPs and SMPs. Outreach will also elevate understanding on agriculture's unique position regarding water in Colorado within a larger context of drought and competing demands for water.

**Trainings and Mini-Workshops:**

Trainings / or mini-workshops will include ag-oriented producers / leaders sharing examples and experiences, with topics including characteristics of WMP and SMPs, organizational structuring, effective outreach methods, funding sources, irrigation methods, fundamentals of water rights, efficiency vs. conservation, demand management and other topics of interest. Additionally, training will include information on initiating projects and defining desired outcomes and steps necessary to achieve them, multi-benefit project examples, and methods of developing plans and executing implementation projects. We will also cover the importance of follow-up monitoring and ongoing plan updating and implementation. These events may include non-ag stakeholder presenters and will be implemented with one or more other ag-oriented organizations, such as CAWA, local conservation districts, CCA affiliates, etc. Venue and food costs will be included.

Inclusion of the perspectives of municipal, environmental and recreational interests will be part of the training forums. Time will be set aside during each meeting for questions and discussion around topics of interest.

An attendance stipend will be offered to prospective ag-oriented coordinators that need financial assistance in order to attend. Partial or full expense reimbursement will also be provided to presenters that require it in order to attend.

**Publications, Exhibit Booths, Webinar:** The publications and the webinars will cover topics related to WMPs, SMPs, water rights, water quality and quantity, new research results, multi-benefit projects, funding, and the Stewart Canal diversion project. A video vignette will also be created in conjunction with the Stewart Canal diversion project. The video and an article and webinar on the canal will be focused on initiation of the project, sources of funding, and multi-benefit aspects of planned improvement. Related website additions and updates will accompany the various outreach products. CAWA will maintain a booth at conferences/events for the agricultural community, COVID-19 willing. These provide us another



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opportunity to engage agricultural producers, provide information about CAWA, and provide information on specific water issues.

Publications, webinars and the video will be media-released and posted online. Media releases will be followed up with contacts to rural media outlets to help ensure broad distribution and use.

Method/Procedure:

In collaboration with local agricultural and water stakeholders and Basin Roundtables, presentations, meetings and/or events will be prepared to address locally identified water interests. Meetings will be promoted through CCA and other organizations, soil conservation districts, water conservancy districts, local media outlets and others. Outreach will likely include presentations at conservation and irrigation district meetings, as well as other agricultural organization venues. Outreach may include field trips to showcase planning and implementation efforts and hear from individual producers about benefits resulting from engaging in the WMP and SMP process.

Informational objectives will be defined and corresponding presentation material will be modified as necessary to accommodate local topics of interest. Agendas for meetings will be tailored to local needs and concerns. Speakers will provide local / regional perspective and project examples. Notes will be taken to inform later meetings and upcoming training agendas.

Publications and webinars prepared during the grant period that address one or more of the identified information gaps with references that enable readers to learn more. We will also solicit feedback from ag-oriented individuals to gather input on challenges, needs and progress on water issues. Accompany the release of each publication with a media release including follow-up with rural media outlets to maximize reader exposure.

Deliverable:

1. Hold meetings and/or facilitate presentations statewide designed to inform and educate ag water stakeholders about watershed and stream management plans.
2. Document attendee numbers at meetings, workshops, presentations, and track basic details of discussions. We will also include feedback on these presentations.
3. Summarize comments and questions received to identify knowledge gaps, involvement incentives, etc.
- 4.. Compile and develop list of WMP / SMP planning and project funding sources including pertinent details such as eligibility, application deadline, and funding and match requirements.
- 5.A combination of ten (10) publications, exhibit booths and webinars focused on ag water topics.
- 6.One (1) video vignette focused on the initial stages of the Stewart Canal Diversion improvement.
- 7.Media outreach in conjunction with the release of each publication, webinar and video.

**Task 2 – Technical Assistance**

Description of Task:



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<p>Collaborative engagement and coordinative assistance to agricultural-related entities on an as needed basis. Examples of technical assistance will be for ag water users seeking to initiate, develop and/or implement components of WMPs/SMPs/IWMPs will be provided, along with assistance training new employees and/or volunteers working on ag-oriented watershed / stream planning efforts. CAWA will also work with ag producers to assist in grant writing as many producers are not aware of grant funding opportunities available. The Ag Water NetWORK will serve in a consultative and assistive role in these capacities. We will also work with USDA-NRCS and other funding entities to explore incentives for multi-benefit project technical assistance, planning and implementation.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p>
<p>Assistance will include phone, email and Zoom communications, on-site meetings and presentations, and potentially the facilitation of limited field work demonstrations (ex: inventorying irrigation infrastructure using GPS, water sampling, etc.). We will also be sharing tips, proven strategies and helpful resources to training participants directly and/or through local coordinators. This task may include utilizing the services of one or more field-specific experts. We will also monitor post-training momentum and perceptual changes related to understanding and familiarity with WMP/SMP/IWMP elements.</p> <p>Follow-up contact and ongoing assistance will be provided to training participants to ensure a successful transition from training to engagement around WMPs or SMPs within their local area. Communications and meetings with the entities described above to help facilitate additional structural capacity and funding for agricultural engagement on WMP and SMP related activities, and to explore and pursue innovative methods and strategies for accelerating both planning and implementation activities.</p>
<p>Deliverables:</p>
<p>Documentation and reporting of assistance provided to WMP / SMP coordinators and related ag-entities over the grant period, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tracking and reporting the type and extent of assistance provided.</li><li>• Documenting areas / topics of greatest support needs.</li><li>• Summarizing challenges and solutions, lessons learned, technical assistance voids, and assessment of needs going forward included in the final report.</li><li>• Engagement in discussions with CDA and conservation districts around shared goals involving agriculture engagement and how to better facilitate producer input in WMP and SMP planning activities around the state that can enhance conservation practice installation and cost-sharing.</li><li>• Dialog with conservation-minded non-profit funders regarding innovative ways to engage with agricultural producers to enhance funding and achieve multi-benefit water resource outcomes.</li><li>• We will provide a summary of the work we have done with agricultural producers on grant assistance, and we will also include any grant applications.</li></ul>
<p><b>Task 3 – Inventory Agriculture Infrastructure</b></p>
<p>Description of Task:</p>



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The Ag Water NetWORK has identified a need for agriculture water right holders have the ability to quickly self-assess and upload data pertaining to their water infrastructure in order to get a better idea of the general condition of infrastructure. This project will implement a smartphone (other options will exist for hard copy infrastructure inventories) enabled application to gather infrastructure location, pictures, descriptions, usage, etc. that will automatically upload into a centralized database whereby the evaluation data will have consistency and can be utilized to delineate a number of observation points important to securing resources and assistance enabling modernization of Colorado’s irrigation infrastructure...that in some cases can be well over 100 years old. This will allow the AWN to offer data-driven information related to types, frequency and costs for infrastructure projects that enhance water efficiency, conservation and modernization of infrastructure that benefits environmental priorities. The database will enable farmers and ranchers to quickly upload their infrastructure to a simple database in order to start compiling a comprehensive inventory of infrastructure conditions and needs across Colorado. CCA AWN will then assist producers, on an as requested basis, to structure needed engineering, technical assistance and financial investment overview for enhancement projects. Based on CCA’s ability to offer a trust-based approach that agriculture producers have consistently shown engagement support for, this inventory approach will last well beyond the scope of this grant. CCA’s AWN is committed to funding and carrying this effort forward.

The Ag Water NetWORK is a trusted resource for ag water right holders to help educate on inventorying infrastructure, developing an easy-to-use database and process and to summarize the results uploaded. When the grant is completed, the ag water community be better prepared to speak on the condition of water infrastructure as well as the needs to improve the infrastructure.

Method/Procedure:

1. Develop a database and easy-to-use process to upload information and photos.
2. Provide in-person and virtual training to agriculture water right holders
3. Compile that data collected into an easy to read report
4. Communicate the need to utilize this.

Deliverables:

The database will be available to the public and once developed will be shared with CWCB. At the end of the grant, we will summarize the data that we have received and give a general state of the agriculture water infrastructure.

### 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 reports 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.





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**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.

Project costs not covered by those or other grants, and are therefore the responsibility of the grantee, will be eligible for CWCB funds at the following percentages of project costs:

Type of Activity	Percent of Project Costs		
	Recommended Grant Funding Request	Max Grant Funding Request (All CWCB Sources)	Minimum Funding Match (Non-CWCB Sources)
Engineering & Construction	20%	50%	50%
Feasibility Study	50%	50%	50%
Reducing Agricultural Dry Up	50%	80%	20%
Conservation/Efficiency Methods	50%	80%	20%
Educational Efforts	50%	80%	20%
Environmental Conservation	50%	80%	20%
Watershed Improvements	50%	80%	20%
Stream Improvements	50%	80%	20%
Land Use Planning	20%	50%	50%
Recreational Projects	20%	80%	20%

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.



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(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.





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Department of Natural Resources

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**Water Plan Grant - Exhibit B**

**Budget and Schedule**

**Name of Grantee: Colorado Cattlemen's Association (Colorado Ag Water Alliance)**

**Name of Water Project:** Agriculture Water User 2021 Priorities: Outreach, Technical Assistance, Infrastructure Inventory

**Approved Start Date: 5/01/2021**

**Project End Date: 5/31/2022**

Task No.	Task Description	Task Start Date	Task End Date	Grant Funding	Match Funding	Total
1	Outreach & Education: <u>12</u> Outreach activities around the state (meetings, presentations, workshops, conferences), 9 Training and Mini-Workshops, 10 Publications, Exhibit Booths, and/or Webinars and one (1) video vignette..	5/1/2021	5/31/2022	\$ 42,000	\$ 53,000	\$95,000
2	Technical Assistance on an as needed basis to agricultural-connected groups seeking to initiate, develop and/or implement components of WMPs/SMPs/IWMPs, assiting ag producers in applying for grants, and other ag water related assistance.	5/1/2021	5/31/2022	\$ 42,000	\$ 21,550	\$63,550
3	Inventory infrastructure of ag water right holders by developing a database and process for farmers and ranchers to self-assess their water infrastructure.	5/1/2021	5/31/2022	\$ 40,000	\$ 50,500	\$90,500
						\$0
<b>Total</b>				\$124,000	\$125,050	\$249,050