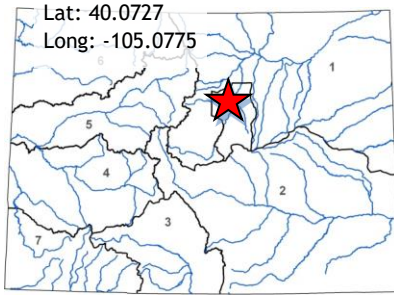




Howell Ditch Diversion Reconstruction Boulder County Parks and Open Space

March 2022 Board Meeting

Water Plan Grant Application



L O C A T I O N	
County/Countries:	Boulder
Drainage Basin:	South Platte

D E T A I L S	
Total Project Cost:	\$2,127,956
Water Plan Grant Request:	\$800,000
Other CWCB Funding:	\$0
Other Funding Amount:	\$1,227,956
Applicant Match:	\$100,000
Project Type(s):	Construction
Project Category(Categories):	Agriculture
Measurable Result:	1800 LF restored or preserved stream; 6 acres restored or preserved habitat; Perfects 5cfs water right for ag use

This grant award will fund the design and construction of a diversion structure that will divert water for agricultural production.

The Howell Ditch is jointly-owned by Boulder County and City of Boulder. It provides a 5 CFS flow-right for irrigating nearby county and city owned lands. Currently, water is diverted into the ditch with a push-up sand dam that is reconstructed annually. This diversion must be made permanent in order to retain the water right. Boulder County Parks & Open Space, the City of Boulder Utilities Department, and Mile High Flood District (MHFD) are partnering to implement the project. In addition to perpetuating agricultural use and water storage functions, stream restoration will promote natural resilience, ecological function, and floodplain connectivity. The permanent diversion structure design incorporates passage for native fish species and sediment transport.

The application for this grant was submitted with support letters from the Boulder County Board of County Commissioners, the City of Boulder Utilities Department, the South Platte Basin Roundtable, the Water Division 1 Engineer, local landowner Dee Jay Smith, and the Mile High Flood District which is contributing \$1.2 million toward the stream restoration components of the project.

Funding Recommendation:

Staff recommends Board approval of \$250,000 to Boulder County Parks and Open Space for the Howell Ditch Diversion Reconstruction and Boulder Creek Restoration Project.

