



COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members
FROM: Kevin Reidy and Sam Stein, Water Supply Planning Section
DATE: September 20-21, 2022

AGENDA ITEM: 7 c-i Water Plan Grants - Water Conservation and Land Use Category

Introduction

On July 1, 2022, the CWCB received 7 applications requesting funding of \$100,000 or greater for the Water Conservation and Land Use category totaling \$1,060,497.75. Staff is recommending approval of 7 grants totaling \$1,060,497.75. Item 7d. is in the Conservation and Land Use grant area but the funds will be taken out of the Watershed Health and Recreation grant area. In the end, the total for the Conservation and Land Use grant area will be actually be \$870,497.75. Staff did recommend one grant for funding which is in the Consent Agenda for \$62,500 and two grants for under \$50,000 that were on the Director’s Report. See attached Data Sheets for locations and project summaries.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends the following Board action for activities listed in the following table regarding Colorado’s Water Plan Grant Program funding.

Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request Amount	Staff Recommendation
c. Resource Central	Resource Central Landscape Change Program	\$110,070	\$110,070
d. San Miguel Watershed Coalition	Integrated Hydrological Modeling of the San Miguel Watershed: A modern tool for water resource evaluations	\$150,000	\$150,000
e. Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, Environment, and Security	Diversifying Colorado’s Water Portfolio: The Potential for Stormwater Capture and Use to Contribute to a Water Resilient Future	\$209,744.75	\$209,744.75
f. Fort Collins Utilities	Xeriscape Incentive Program Expansion	\$100,000	\$100,000



g. Fort Collins Utilities	Fort Collins Utilities Water Efficiency Plan Update	\$200,000	\$160,000
h. – University of Colorado Denver	Examining the use of recycled water in agricultural production in Colorado	\$150,000	\$150,000
i. Aspen Global Change Institute Inc.	Roaring Fork Watershed – Evaluation of Soil Moisture for Water Planning	\$140,683	\$140,683
Total Recommended for Approval			\$1,020,497.75

Background:

CWCB staff, with assistance from a review committee, review all water conservation and land use applications according to the Colorado Water Plan Grant Program criteria and guidelines and category specific criteria. The grant review committee consists of Colorado Water Conservation Board staff in consultation with Colorado Department of Local Affairs where appropriate. The review committee evaluates water conservation and land use grants on several criteria including whether the project furthers critical action items identified in the Colorado Water Plan, whether the project promotes collaboration, and whether the project provides an innovating, multi-benefit approach to solving water resource challenges affecting Colorado’s municipal sector.

Project Issues/Additional Needs:

- All funding awards are contingent upon the applicants’ ability to secure match funding within a reasonable time period; based on applicants continued efforts to secure match funding
- Grantees should adequately address CWCB staff comments to scopes of work and engineering designs (when applicable) prior to contracting. This may result in changes, especially in the case of partial funding awards. Staff will schedule meeting with each successful application to discuss comments and contracting procedures.

