



**COLORADO**

**Colorado Water  
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

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**TO:** Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

**FROM:** Cole Bedford P.E., Chief Operating Officer  
Jackie Daoust, Regional Grant Manager (South Platte, Metro, North Platte)  
Lauren Duncan, Regional Grant Manager (Arkansas)  
Ashley Garrison, Regional Grant Manager (Colorado, Gunnison,  
Yampa/White/Green)  
Laura Spann, Regional Grant Manager (Southwest, Rio Grande)

**DATE:** March 13-14, 2024

**AGENDA ITEM: 15a-15hh Water Plan Grants**

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**Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends Board action on 34 Water Plan Grant applications above \$100,000 as described in the following summary tables.

**Introduction**

The 2023 Water Projects Bill (SB23-177) appropriated \$25.2M for Water Plan Grant awards available beginning in fiscal year 2024. Water Plan Grant awards are made in two cycles during the fiscal year. The Board awarded \$7.8M of the appropriation to applications submitted during the first review cycle, leaving \$17.4M available for the second review cycle. The due date for the second review cycle of the 2024 fiscal year was December 1, 2023. On that date, CWCB received 70 applications requesting \$25.6M, or \$8.2M more than was available. All applications are available for public viewing online at: <https://cwcb.colorado.gov/december-2023-water-plan-grant-applications>

The process of reviewing the applications consisted of soliciting feedback from CWCB regional and technical experts, consultations with other state agencies, dialog with the applicants, and consideration by all CWCB sections. The end result of the review is a portfolio of recommendations representing the strongest individual projects which collectively best advance the Colorado Water Plan. The full \$17.4M available is recommended for awards.

Per CWCB Policy #25, grant recommendations are considered for approval in three separate groups, depending on the amount recommended. Those awards above \$100,000 will be placed on the full agenda for consideration by the Board, those between \$50,000 and \$100,000 and those not recommended for funding will be placed on the consent agenda, and those below \$50,000 are considered by the CWCB Director. This agenda item recommends approval of 34 applications above \$100,000 for a total recommended amount of \$16.5M as shown in Table 1. See attached Data Sheets for additional project details.



Table 1: Award Recommendations above \$100,000

Category	Number of Applications	Recommended
Agriculture	7	\$ 3,878,658.45
Conservation & Land Use	8	\$ 2,367,918.66
Engagement & Innovation	4	\$ 671,034.70
Water Storage & Supply	5	\$ 4,764,360.00
Watershed Health & Recreation	10	\$ 4,786,729.00
Total	34	\$ 16,468,700.81

**Project Issues/Additional Needs:**

- All funding awards are contingent upon the applicants’ ability to secure match funding.
- Grantees should adequately address CWCB staff comments to scopes of work and engineering designs (when applicable). Staff will contact each successful applicant to discuss comments and contracting procedures prior to contracting.
- All grantees should adhere to their organizational procurement policies when hiring contractors and consultants. CWCB recommends that State procurement policies be used as a guide if an organization does not have procurement policies.
- Projects should comply with the CWCB’s Rules and Regulations for Regulatory Floodplains in Colorado, when applicable.



### Agriculture

	Applicant	Project Name	Request	Recommendation	Total Project Cost	Match	Basin
15a	Colorado Open Lands	Charting a New Course for Water Smart Land Conservation in the South Platte River Basin	\$268,788.88	\$268,788.88	\$824,878.90	67.4%	South Platte
15b	Colorado State University	South Platte River Basin Salinity Study	\$464,361.49	\$464,361.49	\$619,151.14	25.0%	Metro; South Platte
15c	Mormon Mesa Ditch Company	Mormon Mesa Ditch Improvement Project	\$272,289.00	\$272,289.00	\$544,579.00	50.0%	Colorado
15d	Trout Unlimited	Intermountain West Alternative Forages Project - Phase II	\$490,818.08	\$490,818.08	\$654,424.11	25.0%	Southwest; Colorado
15e	Colorado Trout Unlimited	Middle Colorado AG Collaborative Phase 3: Elk Creek	\$1,500,000.00	\$1,500,000.00	\$5,671,703.00	73.6%	Colorado
15f	Western Slope Conservation Center	North Fork Consolidated Diversion Improvements	\$636,663.00	\$636,663.00	\$848,884.00	25.0%	Gunnison
15g	Western Water Partnerships	Las Animas Water Sharing Program	\$245,738.00	\$245,738.00	\$331,201.00	25.8%	Arkansas

**\$3,878,658.45**



### Conservation & Land Use

	Applicant	Project Name	Request	Recommendation	Total Project Cost	Match	Basin
15h	Adams County	Master Water Management Plan	\$397,500.00	\$397,500.00	\$530,000.00	25.0%	Metro; South Platte
15i	Mile High Flood District	Denver One Water Plan Implementation Phase 2	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$400,000.00	50.0%	South Platte
15j	Multiplier	Advancing Water Efficiency Solutions in Colorado Communities-Ph 2	\$331,885.00	\$331,885.00	\$442,513.33	25.0%	Statewide
15k	Rocky Mountain Section American Water Works Association	Statewide Commercial, Industrial and Institutional Water Efficiency Program	\$318,625.00	\$318,625.00	\$509,625.00	37.5%	Statewide
15l	Sonoran Institute	Colorado Growing Water Smart	\$446,783.66	\$446,783.66	\$655,384.18	31.8%	Statewide
15m	University of Colorado Boulder	Effects of Landscape Transformations on Urban Heat and Water Quality	\$295,967.00	\$295,967.00	\$420,952.00	29.7%	Metro
15n	Western Resource Advocates	Advancing Water Wise Landscaper Certification	\$152,158.00	\$152,158.00	\$202,876.80	25.0%	Statewide
15o	Westminster, City of	Westminster City Hall Landscape Transformation	\$225,000.00	\$225,000.00	\$999,999.57	77.5%	Metro

**\$2,367,918.66**



**Engagement & Innovation**

	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Request</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>Match</b>	<b>Basin</b>
15p	Colorado State University	Colorado Water Fellows Program	\$321,887.08	\$306,000.00	\$429,196.39	25.0%	Southwest; South Platte; Metro; Colorado
15q	Groundwork Denver	Advancing Public Knowledge Via Rain Barrel Distribution	\$116,087.00	\$116,087.00	\$198,515.00	41.5%	South Platte
15r	Montezuma Land Conservancy	Place-Based Water Education in SW Colorado	\$112,000.00	\$112,000.00	\$162,400.00	31.0%	Southwest
15s	Roaring Fork Conservancy	Watershed PenPal Program	\$136,947.70	\$136,947.70	\$183,028.60	25.2%	South Platte; Colorado

**\$671,034.70**



**Water Storage & Supply**

	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Request</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>Match</b>	<b>Basin</b>
15t	Central Colorado Water Conservancy District	Sweet Valley Reservoir Complex Water Storage Project	\$304,919.00	\$304,919.00	\$406,559.00	25.0%	South Platte
15u	Consolidated Mutual Water Company	Welton Reservoir Expansion	\$919,441.00	\$919,441.00	\$2,002,289.00	54.1%	South Platte
15v	Donala Water and Sanitation District	Donala Water and Sanitation District Aquifer Storage and Recovery Pilot Study	\$2,363,500.00	\$290,000.00	\$4,727,000.00	50.0%	Arkansas
15w	City of Gunnison	City of Gunnison Project 1: Raw Water and Infiltration Gallery Infrastructure Improvements	\$1,500,000.00	\$1,500,000.00	\$4,365,550.00	65.6%	Gunnison
15x	North Poudre Irrigation Company	Park Creek Reservoir Expansion	\$2,960,210.33	\$1,750,000.00	\$10,963,741.96	73.0%	South Platte

**\$4,764,360.00**



### Watershed Health & Recreation

	Applicant	Project Name	Request	Recommendation	Total Project Cost	Match	Basin
15y	Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation	Conejos River Restoration Phase II	\$494,221.00	\$494,221.00	\$988,442.00	50.0%	Rio Grande
15z	Colorado Trout Unlimited	South Boulder Creek-Watershed Restoration PH III	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,600,000.60	37.5%	South Platte
15aa	Learning By Doing, Inc	Implementation of Grand County's Stream Management Plan	\$145,350.00	\$145,350.00	\$214,150.00	32.1%	Colorado
15bb	Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District	Kawuneeche Valley Restoration Collaborative Project Monitoring	\$441,712.39	\$150,177.00	\$591,889.83	25.4%	Colorado
15cc	Purgatoire Watershed Partnership	Purgatoire River Fish & Boat Passage Project	\$1,398,567.00	\$1,390,000.00	\$4,051,382.50	65.5%	Arkansas
15dd	River Network	Capacity & Tech Assistance for Watershed Groups	\$246,382.13	\$246,382.00	\$328,509.50	25.0%	Statewide
15ee	River Network	West Plum Creek Stream Management Plan, Phase II	\$159,771.00	\$159,771.00	\$213,028.00	25.0%	South Platte
15ff	RiversEdge West	Dolores River Riparian Habitat Restoration	\$336,758.40	\$336,758.00	\$674,278.20	50.1%	Southwest
15gg	The Friends of the Yampa	Yampa River Scorecard Project and Yampa River Stewardship Program	\$576,570.00	\$576,570.00	\$976,099.00	40.9%	Yampa/White/Green
15hh	Colorado Trout Unlimited	Middle Colorado AG Collaborative Phase 3: Canyon Creek	\$287,500.00	\$287,500.00	\$711,520.00	59.6%	Colorado

**\$4,786,729.00**

