



**COLORADO**  
**Colorado Water  
Conservation Board**  
Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 718  
Denver, CO 80203  
P (303) 866-3441  
F (303) 866-4474

Jared Polis, Governor  
Dan Gibbs, DNR Executive Director  
Lauren Ris, CWCB Director

**TO:** Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

**FROM:** Ben Wade & Dori Vigil, Grants Section

**CC:** Jeannine Shaw, Grants Section Chief

**DATE:** July 16, 2025

**AGENDA ITEM:** Consent Agenda Item #2a-c, Water Supply Reserve Fund, Grant Funding Recommendations

---

### **Staff Recommendation - Action Items: WSRF Grant Requests:**

A summary of staff's recommendations for each WSRF application are provided in the first component of the attached table.

Favorable recommendations may be contingent on providing the CWCB with additional information, clarifications, or modifications in the scope of work. Please refer to the Water Activity Summary Sheets contained within this agenda item to find a summary of staff's review and any conditions associated with each recommendation.

### **Background:**

For this agenda item, the Board is provided with a brief overview of applications to the Water Supply Reserve Fund (WSRF). Attachments to this memo include:

- Summary spreadsheet detailing funding requests for the basin and statewide accounts.
- Summary spreadsheet displaying current WSRF Balance Summary of Fund Appropriations and Receipts by Fiscal Year, and Fund Distribution by Basin and Statewide Account.
- Water Activity Summary Sheets, which provide an overview, discussion, issues/additional needs, and staff recommendation regarding funding, partial funding, or not funding the applications.

Staff's review of the applications involves the following steps:

- 1) Applications are reviewed for completeness based on the information requirements, verify that the water activity meets the eligibility requirements and also verifies that the applicant was an eligible entity to receive funding which are primarily outlined in the Grant Guidelines.
- 2) Staff then prepares the Water Activity Summary Sheet which documents the outcome of the review process and contains staff's recommendations.

### **Water Supply Reserve Fund Balance Summary and Project Status Report:**

To provide the Board updates on the status of specific Water Supply Reserve Fund grant applications and projects, staff can provide a status report of the following information upon request:

- List of completed WSRF projects;
- List of WSRF projects in progress; and



- List of WSRF projects in the contracting and procurement process.

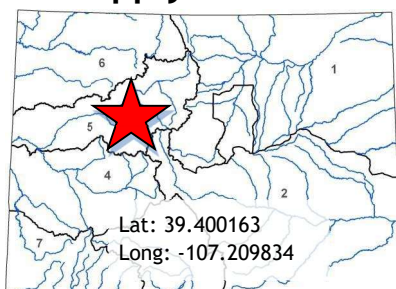


Water Supply Reserve Fund Applications for Consideration at the July 2025 CWCB Board Meeting												
Agenda Item	Basin	Applicant/Grantee	Name of Water Activity	Basin RT Recommended Amount	Non-WSRF Cash Match	Non-WSRF In-Kind Match	Non-WSRF Total Match	Total Project Costs	Basin Only Request Match % (min 25%)	Special Flood Hazard Area/Regulatory Floodplain?	PM	Grants Portal ID
Director's Report	Arkansas	Colorado Canal Company	Lake Meredith Rehab	\$37,275	\$37,275.00	\$0	\$37,275.00	\$74,550.00	50.00%	No	Joshua	App-02766
Consent Agenda - 2a	Colorado	American Whitewater	Survey River Recreation Opportunities in the Colorado River Basin	\$89,900	\$18,000.00	\$12,000	\$30,000.00	\$119,900.00	25.02%		Chris	App-02769
Director's Report	Colorado	Blue River Watershed Group	Summit County WRW Wildfire Ready Action Plan	\$30,000	\$558,250.00	\$3,750	\$562,000.00	\$592,000.00	94.93%		Andrea	App-02724
Agenda Item - 5a	Colorado	Collbran Conservancy District	Parker Basin Project	\$150,000	\$773,596.00	\$0	\$773,596.00	\$923,596.00	83.76%	No	Joshua	App-02770
Agenda Item - 5b	Colorado	Pitkin County Board of Commissioners	Pitkin County Lincoln Creek Watershed Phase 2 Project	\$100,000	\$57,000.00	\$0	\$157,000.00	\$257,000.00	61.09%	Yes, Permits being secured for project	Steve	App-02760
Director's Report	Colorado	Roaring Fork Valley Wildfire Collaborative	RFVWC's Wildfire Ready Watersheds Action Plan	\$30,000	\$290,745.50	\$0	\$320,745.50	\$350,745.50	91.45%		Andrea	App-02775
Director's Report	Colorado	Roaring Fork Water Conservancy	Roaring Fork Valley Drought Resiliency	\$30,867	\$16,310.00	\$0	\$16,310.00	\$47,177.00	34.57%		Ben	App-02773
Consent Agenda 2b	Colorado	Snake River Water District	Well Redevelopment - PFAS Compliance	\$75,000	\$25,000.00	\$0	\$25,000.00	\$100,000.00	25.00%	No	Ben	App-02771
Consent Agenda 2c	Rio Grande	Alamosa La Jara Water Conservancy District	Alamosa River Water Delivery Improvement Project Phase 2	\$61,000	\$54,500.00	\$0	\$54,500.00	\$115,500.00	47.19%		Zach	App-02736
Director's Report	YWG	Yampa Valley Sustainability Council	Yampa River Forest Restoration Project	\$48,933	\$21,000.00	\$20,094	\$41,094.00	\$90,027.00	45.65%	Regulatory Floodplain	Chris	App-02725
				\$652,975.00	\$1,851,676.50	\$35,844	\$2,017,520.50	\$2,670,495.50				

Basin	Total Requests
Arkansas Basin	\$37,275.00
Colorado Basin	\$505,767.00
Gunnsion Basin	\$0.00
Metro	\$0.00
North Platte	\$37,275
Rio Grande	\$61,000.00
Southwest	\$0.00
South Platte	\$0.00
Yampa/White/Green	\$48,933
Water Supply Reserve Fund Total Requests	\$690,250.00



## Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant Application



LOCATION
<b>Counties:</b> All counties in the basin
<b>Basin:</b> Colorado

DETAILS	
<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	\$119,900
<b>Total WSRF Grant Request:</b>	\$89,900
<b>Colorado Basin Account Request:</b>	\$89,900
<b>Recommended Amount:</b>	\$89,900
<b>Other CWCB Funding:</b>	\$0
<b>Other Funding Amount:</b>	\$27,000
<b>Applicant Match:</b>	\$3,000
<b>Project Type:</b> Study	
<b>Major Water Use Type:</b> Environmental	
<b>Measurable Result:</b> The project's goal is to expand river recreational opportunities on rivers in the Colorado basin	

American Whitewater is a national 501c(3) non-profit river conservation organization with 85 local-based affiliate clubs, representing whitewater enthusiasts across the United States. American Whitewater's mission is to "protect and restore America's whitewater rivers and to enhance opportunities to enjoy them safely".

American Whitewater (AW) will use WSRF funds to conduct a study of dams from the Division of Water Resources Dam Safety's Restricted Reservoir list to determine if a pool can be created to release water for recreational and environmental needs following maintenance or improvements to reservoirs. The study will also analyze ditches upstream from recreational reaches to see if there is a possibility of improved flows through those reaches to create more opportunities for recreational activities. AW will meet with the Division 5 Division Engineer to discuss what administrative issues there are with their proposed solutions.

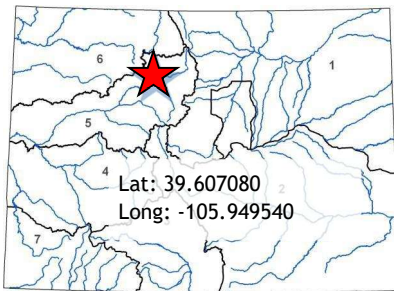
AW was awarded a Water Plan grant in March 2023 that attempted to quantify water recreational needs and risks as well as to develop drafts of collaborative water sharing agreements (CWSA). The WSRF grant builds on the CWSA progress made in the WPG. One task deliverable in this proposal is to draft conceptual water-sharing pilot projects with one reservoir owner and one ditch company in the Colorado River Basin. AW will complete the draft conceptual scope of work in this phase and will use the draft scope of work to fund and implement the pilot project in the next phase of the project.

The project aligns with the Colorado Basin Implementation Plan by supporting and providing for high quality river and stream recreational opportunities with appropriate flows.

**Issues/Additional Needs:** The applicant must secure all match funding prior to contracting. No further issues or additional needs have been identified.

**Funding Recommendation:** Staff recommends approval of up to \$89,900 from the Colorado Basin Account. Project approval is contingent upon the applicants' abilities to resolve issues and additional needs identified by staff.

## Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant Application



LOCATION
<b>County:</b> Summit
<b>Basin:</b> Colorado

DETAILS	
<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	\$100,000
<b>Total WSRF Grant Request:</b>	\$75,000
<b>Colorado Basin Account Request:</b>	\$75,000
<b>Recommended Amount:</b>	\$75,000
<b>Other CWCB Funding:</b>	\$0
<b>Other Funding Amount:</b>	\$0
<b>Applicant Match:</b>	\$25,000
<b>Project Type:</b> Study	
<b>Major Water Use Type:</b> Municipal	
<b>Measurable Result:</b> 370 acre-feet annual water supplies conserved or developed;	

The Snake River Water District (SRWD) is a water provider that annually delivers 650-acre feet to the 9,900 residents in the Town of Keystone. SRWD's water supply comes solely from groundwater they pump through eight wells.

Recently, SRWD detected high levels of Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in three of the eight wells used for the Town's drinking water. SRWD is in the process of understanding what options are available to mitigate impacts to their customers and to comply with EPA regulations.

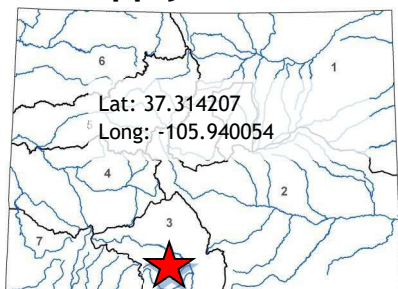
SRWD believes an abandoned well is PFAS free and they will use WSRF funds to conduct a feasibility study to determine if rehabilitation/redrilling of the well is a viable option.

The project aligns with the Colorado Basin Implementation Plan by meeting the goals of understanding water quality needs and at-risk water bodies and resolving impairments and securing safe drinking water.

**Issues/Additional Needs:** SRWD does not expect the redevelopment of the abandoned well to result in water rights injuries but they are consulting with the Division of Water Resources. No other issues or additional needs have been identified.

**Funding Recommendation:** Staff recommends approval of up to \$75,000 from the Colorado Basin Account. Project approval is contingent upon the applicants' abilities to resolve issues and additional needs identified by staff.

## Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant Application



LOCATION
<b>Counties:</b> Alamosa, Conejos, Rio Grande
<b>Basin:</b> Rio Grande

DETAILS	
<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	\$116,164
<b>Total WSRF Grant Request:</b>	\$61,000
<b>Rio Grande Basin Account Request:</b>	\$61,000
<b>Recommended Amount:</b>	\$61,000
<b>Other CWCB Funding:</b>	\$0
<b>Other Funding Amount:</b>	\$0
<b>Applicant Match:</b>	\$55,164
<b>Project Type:</b> Construction/Implementation	
<b>Major Water Use Type:</b> Agricultural	
<b>Measurable Result:</b> Removal & replacement of diversion structures, Parshall flumes, and headgates.	

The Alamosa-La Jara Water Conservancy District (ALJWCD) administers funds for water quality, conservation, and river maintenance and restoration purposes. ALJWCD's boundaries include approximately 14,800 irrigated acres comprised of alfalfa, barley, oats, and other small grains and forage crops. Producers get their water supply from the Alamosa River.

ALJWCD will use grant funds to repair numerous irrigation structures, such as deteriorated headgates, Parshall flumes, and diversion structures, as well as install either radar telemetry or automated headgates to ditches on the Alamosa River. ALJWCD will target diversions that have the most critical needs, so water delivery can be accurate and efficient. Division 3 Water Commissioners have assisted ALJWCD in identifying priority projects that will help improve water administration.

The project aligns with the goals in the Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan by repairing aging infrastructure to support agriculture in the basin. The project also conserves water, improves drought resiliency, and improves water administration to comply with state statutes and the prior appropriation doctrine.

**Issues/Additional Needs:** No issues or additional needs have been identified.

**Funding Recommendation:** Staff recommends approval of up to \$61,000 from the Rio Grande Basin Account.