



Last Updated: July 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board

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:

Supply and Demand Gap Projects: Rebecca.Mitchell@state.co.us

Water Storage Projects: Anna.Mauss@state.co.us

Conservation, Land Use Planning: Kevin.Reidy@state.co.us

Education & Innovation Activities: Mara.MacKillop@state.co.us

Agricultural Projects: Gregory.Johnson@state.co.us

Environmental & Recreation Projects: Linda.Bassi@state.co.us

Applicants interested in submitting an ‘Intent to Apply’ in the future are encouraged to check here ☐ and fill in all sections with the best information available at the time. Exhibits excluded.

This “Intent to Apply” will help CWCB prioritize Projects that are not ready for fully completed Water Plan Grant Application due to the initial timeframe and deadlines required.

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Trout Unlimited	
Name of Water Project	Needle Rock Ditch Diversion Modification	
CWP Grant Request Amount		\$ 20,000
Other Funding Sources <u>CRWCD</u>		\$ 10,000
Other Funding Sources <u>Partner Funding</u>		\$ 7,000
Applicant Funding Contribution: TU		\$ 3,000
Total Project Cost		\$ 40,000

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Applicant & Grantee Information	
Name of Grantee(s)	Trout Unlimited
Mailing Address	1777 N. Kent St. Suite 100
FEIN	38-1612715
Organization Contact	Cary Denison
Position/Title	Gunnison Basin Project Manager
Email	cdenison@tu.org
Phone	970-596-3291
Grant Management Contact	Danielle Typinski
Position/Title	Grants Compliance Coordinator
Email	dtypinski@tu.org
Phone	703-522-0200
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	
Mailing Address	
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	

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Description of Grantee/Applicant

Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).

Trout Unlimited (TU) is the nation's largest cold water conservation organization with approximately 150,000 volunteers and roughly 277 employees working to protect, reconnect, restore and sustain America's fisheries

In the Gunnison Basin, TU managed the diversion modification of the Relief Ditch on the Gunnison River that removed a barrier to native fish and wild trout as well as provided safe boater passage, improved irrigation water control, and restored riparian habitat. TU has been instrumental in the implementation of numerous other restoration and water conservation project in the Gunnison Basin and throughout Colorado.

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Type of Eligible Entity (check one)	
	Public (Government): 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.
	Public (Districts): Authorities, Title 32/special districts (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises.
	Private Incorporated: Mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations.
	Private Individuals, Partnerships, and Sole Proprietors: Private parties may be eligible for funding.
X	Non-governmental organizations (NGO): Organization that is not part of the government and is non-profit in nature.
	Covered Entity: As defined in Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes .

Type of Water Project (check all that apply)	
	Study
X	Construction
	Identified Process or Program
	Other

Category of Water Project (check all that apply)	
X	Supply and Demand Gap Projects - Multi-beneficial projects and those projects identified in basin implementation plans to address the water supply and demand gap. (Applicable Exhibit A Task(s) Task - Design of stream flow measurement station Task 4 - Stream gauge instrumentation purchase and installation
	Water Storage Projects - Projects that facilitate the development of additional storage, artificial recharge into aquifers, and dredging existing reservoirs to restore the reservoirs' full decreed storage capacity. (Applicable Exhibit A Task(s) _____)
	Conservation and Land Use Planning Projects - Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning. (Applicable Exhibit A Task(s) _____)
X	Engagement & Innovation Projects - Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application available on the website. (Applicable Exhibit A Task(s): Task 5 – Project Outreach and Education
X	Agricultural Projects - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency. Applicable Exhibit A Task(s): Task 2- Stream gauge engineering and design Task 4- Stream gauge instrumentation purchase and installation

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X	Environmental & Recreation Projects – Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation. Applicable Exhibit A Task(s): Task 1 - Fish passage channel design and engineering Task 3- Construction	
	Other	Explain:

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Location of Water Project

Please provide the general county and coordinates of the proposed project below in **decimal degrees**. The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable.

County/Counties	Delta County
Latitude	38.727831
Longitude	-107.530683

Water Project Overview

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.
The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit A, a detailed Statement of Work, Budget, Other Funding Sources/Amounts and Schedule.

Trout Unlimited with assistance from the Needle Rock Ditch Company, Colorado River District, Western Slope Conservation Center, and local stakeholders will modify the diversion structure of the Needle Rock Ditch diversion to allow fish to pass the upstream over the diversion, which is a barrier to all fish during most flow conditions. Additionally TU and partners will add remotely monitored flow measurement gauging station to Smith Fork Creek at the diversion

The Needle Rock Ditch often diverts the bulk of the flows in the creek leaving little water available for fish habitat below the diversion. Fish that migrate below the diversion during high spring run-off

The addition of a fish passage to the diversion dam will reduce fish loss, bolstering the number of wild fish in the Smith Fork and improve recreational opportunities on the creek.

Real-time stream flow monitoring will help the Crawford Water Conservancy District, other irrigators and the Division of Water Resources monitor flows in the creek allowing for improved management diversions and of stored water deliveries to downstream water users. The improvement will also help water managers track flow conditions and trends in the Smith Fork, which has not been gauged since 1994.

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Water Project Overview

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Measurable Results

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 Nonconsumptive
	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
6 miles	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)
100 acre-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

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Measurable Results		
X	Other	Explain: Raise public awareness about watershed health and improve water management by providing information about stream flows.

Water Project Justification
<p>Provide a description of how this water project supports the goals of Colorado's Water Plan, the most recent Statewide Water Supply Initiative, and the applicable Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan and Education Action Plan. 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>As emphasized in Chapter 1 of Colorado's Water Plan, this is a collaborative project that will compliment two of the three values listed in the same chapter; "Efficient and effective water infrastructure promoting smart land use; and a strong environment that includes healthy watersheds, rivers and streams, and wildlife." (Chapter 1, page 6 CWP)</p> <p>Installation of stream measurement at the Needle Rock diversion will help local water managers react to variable flow conditions, which is mentioned in Chapter 4 of the Water Plan as a future challenge. Chapter 6.2, Water Supply Management, mentions that the Gunnison Basin has agricultural water shortages. These shortages are obvious during low flow years like 2002 when many water users in the system were out of water in July. Agricultural water use in the Gunnison Basin and likely in the Smith Fork Drainage is less than 40% efficient. The measurement component of this project will help monitor water availability for more precise deliveries, while addressing other environmental needs, which will create the building block for adapting to water shortages.</p> <p>As mentioned on page 15 of Chapter 5 Water Demands, scientists predict that increasing temperatures, as a result of climate change, will reduce coldwater habitat for trout. Removing barriers allowing trout to seek refuge in colder waters, like those above diversions, is an important adaptive measure to sustain fisheries.</p> <p>The barrier removal and water measurement will build upon the Smith Fork of the Gunnison Watershed Assessment Completed by the Western Slope Conservation Center in Paonia on December 30, 2016 as well as the RCPP efforts being undertaken by the Colorado River District and partners. This report and engineering work through the RCPP process is a foundation for a Stream Management Plan as recommended in section 6.6 Environmental and Recreational Projects and Methods of chapter 6 of the Water Plan.</p> <p>This project will help the State of Colorado and local water users and interest groups meet the goals following goals which are listed on page 4 of Chapter 10 of the Water Plan.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A productive economy that supports vibrant and sustainable cities; viable and productive agriculture; and a robust skiing, recreation, and tourism industry. 2. Efficient and effective water infrastructure; and 3. A strong environment that includes healthy watersheds, river, streams and wildlife. <p>The following goals established by the Gunnison Basin Roundtable in their Basin Implementation Plan</p>

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Water Project Justification

will be met by the project:

1. (1) Protect existing water rights in the Gunnison Basin
2. (5) Quantify and protect environmental and recreational water uses.
3. (7) Describe and encourage the beneficial relationship between agriculture and environmental and recreational uses.
4. (8) Restore, maintain, and modernize critical water infrastructure including hydropower.
5. (9) Create and maintain active, relevant and comprehensive public education, outreach and stewardship processes involving water resources in the six sector of the Gunnison Basin.

Additionally, the proposed diversion modification and measurement project will serve as a valuable example to help guide future multi-purpose project in the Smith Fork watershed and elsewhere in the Gunnison Basin.

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.

Draft Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Lower Gunnison Project, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Colorado. July 2017

Numerous studies exist that describe how barriers negatively impact fisheries including the following: (<http://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/RA-Fish-Barrier-Studies.aspx>)

Colorado Parks and Wildlife, with assistance from Trout Unlimited, completed a survey of the fishery above and immediately below the Needle Rock Diversion on July 19, 2017. The preliminary results suggest that healthy populations of wild trout exist above the diversion and many trout are stranded downstream of the diversion.

Smith Fork of the Gunnison Watershed Assessment, Western Slope Conservation Center, December 30, 2016.

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.

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Previous CWCB Grants, Loans or Other Funding

No CWCB funds have been used on this project.

Needle Rock Ditch Company and Colorado River Water Conservation District has contracted with Applegate Engineering to perform the diversion, screen and piping project design and engineering using NRCS RCPP funds. The considered fish passage and stream measurement will complement the improvements to the ditch, reducing construction and design costs. Through the NRCS RCPP Lower Gunnison Project the ditch headgate will be modified, 1000 feet of pipe will be installed in the ditch, and remote flow monitoring and control will be added to the diversion at an estimated cost of \$23,000. This investment in monitor and control for the diversion is expected to greatly reduce the cost of stream flow measurement equipment and installation.

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.

None



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Submittal Checklist	
	I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the Standard Contract .
Exhibit A	
	Statement of Work ⁽¹⁾
	Budget & Schedule ⁽¹⁾ (<i>Spreadsheet</i>)
	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ⁽¹⁾
Exhibit B	
	Map ^{(1)S}
	Photos/Drawings/Reports
Pending	Letters of Support (Support letter from Basin Roundtable encouraged)
	Certificate of Insurance (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.)
	Certificate of Good Standing with Colorado Secretary of State ⁽²⁾
	W-9 ⁽²⁾
	Independent Contractor Form ⁽²⁾ (If applicant is individual, not company/organization)
Engagement & Innovation Grant Applicants ONLY	
	Engagement & Innovation Supplemental Application ⁽¹⁾

(1) Required with application.

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