

Last Updated: July 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant Application – Colorado River Interpretive Center

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	Middle Colorado Watershed Council
Name of Water Project	Colorado River Interpretive Center
CWP Grant Request Amount	\$ 47,400
Other Funding Sources <u>CBRT PEPO</u>	\$ 3,000
Other Funding Sources Private Donors	\$ 10,000
Total Project Cost	\$ 60,400

Last Updated: July 2017

Applicant & Grantee Information	
Name of Grantee(s)	Middle Colorado Watershed Council
Mailing Address	200 Lion's Park Circle, Rifle, CO 81650
FEIN	46-4352983
Organization Contact	Anne Whetzel
Position/Title	Community Outreach Coordinator
Email	annie@midcowatershed.org
Phone	412-952-3649
Grant Management Contact	<u>Anne Whetzel</u>
Position/Title	Community Outreach Coordinator
Email	annie@midcowatershed.org
Phone	412-952-3649
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	
Mailing Address	
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	

Last Updated: July 2017

Description of Grantee/Applicant
Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).
<p>The Middle Colorado Watershed Council (MCWC) aims to evaluate, protect and enhance the Middle section of the Colorado River through the cooperative efforts of our diverse stakeholders. We work with stakeholders ranging from concerned citizens, to municipal water providers, to the oil and gas industry, to agriculture and ranching, to recreation. We are governed by a diverse board representing most of the stakeholder sectors in our watershed. Our current projects include water quality impairment assessments, citizen science water quality testing, riparian restoration, and public outreach and education on the watershed.</p> <p>The MCWC is active in the Colorado Basin Roundtable and has formed working partnerships across our region with adjoining watershed groups, community groups, and local, state and federal agencies.</p> <p>The MCWC is a 501(c)3 organization Colorado corporation.</p>

Last Updated: July 2017

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
	Construction
	Identified Process or Program
X	Other

Category of Water Project (check all that apply)		
	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)_____)	
	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)_____)	
	Agricultural Projects - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency. (Applicable Exhibit A Task(s)_____)	
	Environmental & Recreation Projects – Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation. (Applicable Exhibit A Task(s)_____)	
	Other	Explain:

Last Updated: July 2017

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/Countries	Garfield County
Latitude	
Longitude	

Water Project Overview
<p>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.</p> <p>The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit A, a detailed Statement of Work, Budget, Other Funding Sources/Amounts and Schedule.</p>
<p>The Middle Colorado Watershed Council (MCWC) is endeavoring to create a Colorado River Interpretive Center for educating the public on the Colorado River and its value to the residents of Colorado.</p> <p>The Colorado River Interpretive Center will engage the public, from school groups, to tourists, to local stakeholders along the Middle Colorado River. The Colorado River Interpretive Center will include themes and stories about the river, connect people emotionally to the river, and leave the visitors with new knowledge about the River and issues facing Colorado water.</p> <p>The CWP Funding will be put towards three tasks.</p> <p>Task 1: Audience definition and stakeholder engagement. This will involve key education specialists in the region in a design charrette process to identify the target audiences and determine a set of priority themes and messages for the Center.</p> <p>Task 2: Interpretive Material Creation and Design. This task will take the agreed upon educational themes, stories and messages and transform them into displays that work together functionally within the Center environment.</p> <p>Task 3: Interpretive Center Programming. The MCWC will work with local partners and schools to create special events and educational opportunities in conjunction with the Center.</p>

Last Updated: July 2017

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)	
	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear 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	
To Be Determined	Other	Explain: We will track the number of guests who utilize the interpretive center and, to the best of our ability, collect contact information. This will measure the reach of the visitor center and provide for continued contact and engagement with the Middle Colorado Watershed Council.

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>Goals supported from the Colorado Water Plan:</p> <p>Section 10.2 H, p 10-7 Outlines the CWP intention of creating measurable goals for Education, Outreach and Innovation through increasing public awareness on water issues. The Middle Colorado Watershed Council believes the Colorado River Interpretive Center (Center) will serve as an outreach and education hub for Garfield County and to inform the public and those travelling through the state on key issues outlined in the CWP.</p> <p><i>"Colorado's Water Plan will expand outreach and education efforts that engage the public to promote well-informed community discourse and decision making regarding balanced water solutions. This work will be collaborative and include state, local, and federal partners. As one component of this overall strategy, the CWCB will work with Colorado's innovation community, education and outreach experts, research institutions, and the Governor's Colorado Innovation Network (COIN) to address Colorado's water challenges with innovation and "outside-the-box" creativity."</i></p> <p>The Center falls into the "outside the box" creativity category as it provides an opportunity to capture the attention of local and statewide residents, regional schools and other constituent groups, and non-residents travelling along the Colorado River through the I-70 corridor. Given that the Center is strategically located at a "mid-point" along the Colorado River mainstem in Colorado, it offers the</p>

Last Updated: July 2017

Water Project Justification

opportunity to highlight basin-wide Colorado River functions, themes, and issues as described in the Colorado River BIP as well as focusing on local river-related issues that can be visually explored in the immediate environs.

Chapter 3, p 3-20 Highlights the themes of importance for the Colorado River Basin. These themes include:

1. *Protect and restore healthy streams, rivers, lakes, and riparian areas.*
2. *Sustain agriculture.*
3. *Secure safe drinking water.*
4. *Develop local water-conscious land-use strategies.*
5. *Assure dependable basin administration.*
6. *Encourage a high level of basin-wide conservation.*

The Center has the potential to cover these six themes in an educational and engaging way for the visiting public, constituent groups, and school groups. Education and public outreach on these themes will ultimately help local/regional decision-makers, land and resource managers, and the public, make informed decisions on land-use strategies, riparian protection, and basin-wide conservation.

Colorado Basin BIP Goals Achieved:

We intend to use the Colorado River BIP to guide our stakeholder engagement questions and direct our targeted themes.

Section 2.3, p 41 outlines goals and ways to increase public outreach efforts within the basin. One aspect that relates directly to the Colorado River Interpretive Center is:

“Enhancing coordination with watershed groups and other community organizations to inform a broader set of the public about the CWP and encourage input and participation.”

The MCWC aims to reach the constituents of Western Garfield county, and those travelling through the region. This Center is in a centralized location, and is a logical way to educate and inform those about the issues within the river, our state, and the local watershed specifically.

Section 2.3, p 41 also mentions expanding K-12 water education opportunities.

“Enhancing K-12 water education opportunities, both inside and beyond the classroom. Programs established by the Roaring Fork Conservancy and the Keystone Science School provide models for potential initiatives throughout the basin.”

We intend for the Center to serve as a hub for environmental and water sciences in Western Garfield County. Because of our proximity to the Colorado River and an adjacent pond with a short walking trail, it provides good access for educating K-12 students on aquatic invertebrates, water-dependent wildlife, and native and invasive species.

Section 2.3, p 42 mentions reaching the public that doesn't have an intrinsic interest in water science and policy.

“Using film, radio, art and literature to engage people who don't have an intrinsic interest in water science and policy issues. Very popular presentations by photographer Peter McBride and author Kevin Fedarko, as well as the positive reception to a 30-minute documentary on the Grand Valley and its Rivers produced by the Water Center at Colorado Mesa University, demonstrate the potential of such efforts.”

The Center will be vital in reaching the public that doesn't otherwise have an affinity for water. It will provide accessible and engaging materials that can reach a wide audience.

Last Updated: July 2017

Water Project Justification

Development of the Center is inherently committed to collaboration. We will look to the Colorado River District, local stakeholders, local education leaders, and other partners to help shape the outreach materials and interpretive displays. The MCWC will partner with local schools, including Colorado Mountain College, to bring students interested in environmental science and water issues to the Center to learn more about the watershed and basin-wide issues.

The Center will address a need for education and outreach, one of the water gaps outlined in the BIP. This Center will serve as an educational and outreach hub for water issues in Western Garfield County.

After initial funding from the CWP for creating the space and providing programming for the initial year, the Interpretive Center will rely on MCWC staff, board members, volunteers and partner organizations to keep the materials up-to-date and engaging, and the programming relevant. This project is feasible for our organization and will be a great asset to the communities in Western Garfield County.

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.

Related Studies

The Middle Colorado Watershed Council is applying for a CWCB Watershed Restoration Grant in November of 2017 to support an initial phase of Integrated Water Management Planning. The Center will afford the opportunity to promote any work that is implemented pursuant to the management plan.

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.

None awarded to date.

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 known.

Last Updated: July 2017

Submittal Checklist	
x	I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the Standard Contract .
Exhibit A	
x	Statement of Work ⁽¹⁾
x	Budget & Schedule ⁽¹⁾ (<i>Spreadsheet</i>)
	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ⁽¹⁾
Exhibit C	
X	Map ⁽¹⁾
	Photos/Drawings/Reports
x	Letters of Support (Support letter from Basin Roundtable encouraged)
	Certificate of Insurance (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.)
x	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	
x	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.

Last Updated: July 5, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board
Water Plan Grant - Exhibit A

Statement Of Work	
Date:	October, 1 2017
Name of Applicant:	Middle Colorado Watershed Council
Name of Water Project:	Colorado River Interpretive Center
Funding Source:	Engagement & Innovation
Water Project Overview:	
<p>The Middle Colorado Watershed Council (MCWC) is endeavoring to create a Colorado River Interpretive Center for educating the public on the Colorado River and its value to the residents of Colorado.</p> <p>The Colorado River Interpretive Center will engage the public, from school groups, to tourists, to local stakeholders along the Middle Colorado River. The Colorado River Interpretive Center will include themes and stories about the river, connect people emotionally to the river, and leave the visitors with new knowledge about the River and issues facing Colorado water.</p> <p>The CWP Funding will be put towards three tasks.</p> <p>Task 1: Audience definition and stakeholder engagement. This will involve key education specialists in the region in a design charrette process to identify the target audiences and determine a set of priority themes and messages for the Center.</p> <p>Task 2: Interpretive Material Creation and Design. This task will take the agreed upon educational themes, stories and messages and transform them into displays that work together functionally within the Center environment.</p> <p>Task 3: Interpretive Center Programming. The MCWC will work with local partners and schools to create special events and educational opportunities at the Center.</p>	
Objectives: List the objectives of the project.	
<p>Objectives</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define the target audiences and select appropriate educational themes. 2. Engage community educators as partners in development of the Center. 3. Design an appropriate presentation strategy to create and install displays. 4. Host community events at the Center. 5. Host pre- and post-school events. 6. Maintain accessibility for the public. 	

Last Updated: July 5, 2017

Tasks	
Task 1 – Audience Definition and Stakeholder Engagement	
Description of Task:	
Involve key education specialists in the region in a design charrette process to identify the target audiences and determine a set of priority themes and messages for the Center.	
Method/Procedure:	
<p>A consultant will be retained to assist with assembling and managing a community- driven stakeholder process to guide development of an initial set of educational materials and programs for the Center. Key community educators will be invited to participate in a design charrette style process to identify, prioritize and select a series of educational themes, messages, stories and programs that fulfill an agreed upon set of educational objectives.</p> <p>Existing information that will be used to inform the process include relevant excerpts from the CWP and Colorado River BIP, and public stakeholder survey results from the Colorado River BIP, and needs for outreach and education outlined in the Middle Colorado Watershed Plan.</p> <p>The MCWC will also work with local education partners including the Aspen Center for Environmental Science, Eagle River Watershed Council, Roaring Fork Conservancy, and the local school districts to highlight opportunities for fulfilling specific science education standards regarding water education.</p>	
Grantee Deliverable:	
MCWC will use the information gathered from the design charrette to direct the creation of the interpretive center educational materials.	
CWCB Deliverable:	
Documentation of minutes from the community meetings and resulting information solicitation.	

Tasks	
Task 2 – Interpretive Material Creation and Implementation	
Description of Task:	
This task will take the agreed upon educational themes, stories and messages and transform them into displays that work together functionally within the Center environment.	
Method/Procedure:	
Utilizing the services of a consultant, the selected set of educational elements from Task 1 will be transformed from concepts into prototype two-dimensional, three- dimensional, and multimedia displays. Prototypes will be shared with the original stakeholder group for comment and consensus. A functional layout for the Center will be developed to illustrate the positioning and flow of the various elements. As necessary, specialty vendors will be used to develop and install final interpretive elements.	

Last Updated: July 5, 2017

Tasks
Grantee Deliverable:
A set of selected interpretive signage and educational materials that address and fulfill the water educational needs of the community and the Colorado Basin Round Table.
CWCB Deliverable:
The MCWC will provide final schematics for materials installed in the interpretive centers and pictures post-installation.

Task 3 – Interpretive Center Programming
Description of Task:
The MCWC will work with local partners and schools to create special events and educational opportunities at the Center.
Method/Procedure:
The MCWC will use the Center as a place to host water education events, water tours, and water-related trainings. The MCWC Community Outreach Coordinator will be responsible for identifying and designing year-round programming in coordination with the MCWC Outreach and Education Committee and other local partners. This grant request seeks support for the planning of these events for a one-year period. In order to keep the Center accessible to the public, this grant request also seeks funding for a part-time docent for a one-year period.
Grantee Deliverable:
Feedback from participating partners on the desired subject matter and content of programming for the first year of the Center's operation.
CWCB Deliverable:
The MCWC will keep record of the events hosted after the completion of the Interpretive Center, along with reports on number of people who attended the programming, and demographic information of those attendees as available.

Budget and Schedule
Budget: The budget of the Colorado River Interpretive Center is attached in the Excel format. Schedule: The schedule of the Colorado River Interpretive Center is attached in the Excel format.

Reporting Requirements
Progress Reports: The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of issuance of a purchase order, or the execution of a contract. The progress report shall describe the status of the tasks identified in the statement of work, including a description of any major issues that have occurred and any corrective action taken to address these issues. The CWCB may withhold reimbursement until satisfactory progress reports have been submitted.

Last Updated: July 5, 2017

Reporting Requirements

Final Report: At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a Final Report on the applicant's letterhead that:

- Summarizes the project and how the project was completed.
- Describes any obstacles encountered, and how these obstacles were overcome.
- Confirms that all matching commitments have been fulfilled.
- Includes photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs.

The CWCB will withhold disbursement the last 10% of the budget until the Final Report is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the Final Report has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the purchase order or grant will be closed without any further payment.



Mara MacKillop
Public Engagement Specialist
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Support for the MCWC's Colorado River Interpretive Center

Dear Mara MacKillop,

The Middle Colorado Watershed Council's Colorado River Interpretive Center will be an entertaining and engaging center to inform the public about the Colorado River. As the Garfield Healthy Communities Coalition (GHCC) Coordinator at Garfield County Public Health, I write in support of the Colorado River Interpretive Center in Rifle, Colorado.

The Garfield Healthy Communities Coalition supports collaborative efforts in providing community resources so that all people within Garfield County have full, equal and equitable access to opportunities that enable them to lead healthy lives.

GHCC supports the Colorado River Interpretive Center because it will be an environmental educational center for the region. The Western Garfield County communities of New Castle, Silt, Rifle and Parachute/Battlement Mesa are GOCO Inspire communities and this project supports Inspire by connecting youth and families to the outdoors. The MCWSC is a partner in the GOCO Inspire Initiative and we strongly support their Interpretive Center project as it would be a great addition to our communities that would offer a variety of environmental education opportunities.

Thank you for considering the Middle Colorado Watershed Council's Colorado River Interpretive Center for the Engagement and Innovation Grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dana Wood".

Dana Wood
Garfield County Public Health
195 W. 14th Street
Rifle, CO 81650