



Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Mormon Mesa Ditch	
Name of Water Project	Mormon Mesa Ditch Improvement Project	
Grant Request Amount		\$272,289.00
Primary Category		\$272,289.00
<i>Agricultural Projects</i>		
Total Applicant Match		\$197,290.00
<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>		\$197,290.00
<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>		\$0.00
Total Other Sources of Funding		\$75,000.00
<i>DuBeque Plaeau Canyon Conservation District</i>		\$5,000.00
<i>Habitat Partnership Program</i>		\$70,000.00
Total Project Cost		\$544,579.00

Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee: Mormon Mesa Ditch
 Mailing Address: 9720 54 7/10 Road Molina CO 81646
 FEIN: 863,440,861

Organization Contact: Ty Bevan
 Position/Title: _____ Email: tybevan@live.com
 Phone: 970-314-3455

Grant Management Contact: Ty Bevan
 Position/Title: _____ Email: tybevan@live.com
 Phone: 970-314-3455

Description of Grantee/Applicant

No description provided

Type of Eligible Entity

- Public (Government)
- Public (District)
- Public (Municipality)
- Ditch Company
- Private Incorporated
- Private Individual, Partnership, or Sole Proprietor
- Non-governmental Organization
- Covered Entity

Other

Category of Water Project

- Agricultural Projects
Developing communications materials that specifically work with and educate the agricultural community on headwater restoration, identifying the state of the science of this type of work to assist agricultural users among others.
- Conservation & Land Use Planning
Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning.
- Engagement & Innovation Activities
Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website.
- Watershed Restoration & Recreation
Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation.
- Water Storage & Supply
Projects that facilitate the development of additional storage, artificial aquifer recharge, and dredging existing reservoirs to restore the reservoirs' full decreed capacity and Multi-beneficial projects and those projects identified in basin implementation plans to address the water supply and demand gap.

Location of Water Project

Latitude	39.133747
Longitude	-107.998636
Lat Long Flag	
Water Source	Cottonwood Creek
Basins	Colorado
Counties	Mesa
Districts	

Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type	Agricultural
Type of Water Project	Construction / Implementation
Scheduled Start Date - Design	
Scheduled Start Date - Construction	5/1/2024

Description

The Mormon Mesa Ditch intends to fix 500 feet of ditch that was taken out due to a rock slide. The ditch is an open earthen ditch and was built along steep grades along the canyon. Below the failure, the ditch serves 1,400 irrigated acres. This project will replace 500 feet of open ditch with 36-inch HDPE pipe which includes the slide area and beyond to prevent future slides that will occur in this part of the canyon. Historically, this section of the ditch has lost roughly 10% of ditch water due to leaks (roughly 250-300 AF per irrigation season).

Measurable Results

- New Storage Created (acre-feet)
- New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive
- Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
- New Storage Created (acre-feet)
- Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)

	Length of Pipe, Canal Built or Improved (linear feet)
	Efficiency Savings (dollars/year)
300	Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year)
1,400	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)
	Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms or water sharing agreement (acre-feet)
	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning
	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity
Other	
Protects 1,400 irrigated acres and habitat	

Water Project Justification

Fixing the slide in the ditch and piping with HDPE pipe will address seepage losses on the ditch and the failure. Not only will ditch water run again, but by installing pipe as opposed to just completing earthwork and additional 250-300 AF per year will be saved through efficiency improvements. This project and that outcome is in line with the goal of the Colorado River Basin Implementation Plan to “protect and preserve agricultural lands” and the Colorado Water Plan for “improvements to agricultural diversion and conveyance infrastructure can increase water delivery to farms and increase predictability of deliveries.”

The Mormon Mesa Ditch has also worked with the Habitat Partnership Program (HPP), which has invested over \$100,000 along the ditch the past few years. These investments have improved efficiency on the ditch itself and provided seed for landowners to help with habitat improvements for game and grazing. HPP has also contributed to fencing pastures under the Mormon Mesa Ditch to allow for better grazing practices which have provided more forage to wild game and domestic livestock. Over the past 10 years, the lands irrigated under the Mormon Mesa Ditch have become valuable habitat for elk and deer on Grand Mesa. While the agricultural users on the ditch hay and graze many of the hay fields, there are a few hundred acres of hayfields owned by private individuals that are not hayed and provide forage and habitat for wildlife. Due to the work done by landowners under the Mormon Mesa Ditch, ensuring water for irrigation also protects habitat and riparian areas that considerable investments have been made to improve habitat, which is another goal of the Colorado Basin Implementation Plan.

Related Studies

No Related Studies provided

Taxpayer Bill of Rights

No Tax Bill of Rights provided