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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:

Water Storage Projects	Anna.Mauss@state.co.us
Conservation, Land Use Planning	Kevin.Reidy@state.co.us
Engagement & Innovation Activities	Ben.Wade@state.co.us
Agricultural Projects	Alexander.Funk@state.co.us
Environmental & Recreation Projects	Chris.Sturm@state.co.us

FINAL SUBMISSION: Submit all application materials in one email to waterplan.grants@state.co.us in the original file formats [Application (word); Statement of Work (word); Budget/Schedule (excel)]. Please do not combine documents. In the subject line, please include the funding category and name of the project.

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	National Young Farmers Coalition	
Name of Water Project	Young Farmers and Ranchers Water Leadership Program	
CWP Grant Request Amount		\$35,695
New Belgium Brewing Foundation (Pending)		\$5,000
Other Funding Sources _____		\$
Other Funding Sources _____		\$
Applicant Funding Contribution		\$30,695
Total Project Cost		\$71,390

Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee(s)	National Young Farmers Coalition
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Mailing Address	1536 Wynkoop St, Denver, CO 80202
FEIN	47-2072946
Organization Contact	
Position/Title	Adam Brock, Western Program Director
Email	adam@youngfarmers.org
Phone	518-643-3564 ext 710
Grant Management Contact	
Position/Title	Maddie Morley, Operations Manager
Email	maddie@youngfarmers.org
Phone	518-643-3564
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	
Mailing Address	
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	

Description of Grantee/Applicant

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

The National Young Farmers Coalition represents, mobilizes, and engages young farmers and ranchers to ensure their success. Since our founding in 2010, our organization has grown to 45 chapters in 28 states, and a grassroots base of over 180,000 young farmers and supporters working together for change. We tackle the most critical structural and economic barriers preventing motivated young people from farming, with the goal of helping 25,000 young people enter into viable farming careers by 2022. Our work consists of coalition building, policy reform, and business services and includes a Western Program headquartered in Denver, Colorado.

Type of Eligible Entity (check one)



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	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 Projects and Processes (IPP)
X	Other: Education and Outreach

Category of Water Project (check the primary category that applies and include relevant tasks)	
	Water Storage - 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. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
	Conservation and Land Use Planning - Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
X	Engagement & Innovation - Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fellowship Development • Fellowship Delivery • Post-fellowship programming and evaluation
	Agricultural - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
	Environmental & Recreation - Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>



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	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/Countries	
Latitude	
Longitude	

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.

Young farmers and ranchers are under-represented in Colorado's local water districts, conservation districts, basin roundtables, and other decision-making bodies. As a result, the next generation of Colorado's producers are denied a critical opportunity to help shape the implementation of the state's water plan. The proposed project is designed to address this gap through an educational fellowship that would guide a dozen young farmers and ranchers towards leadership positions on water in Colorado. Fellows selected through an application process would receive a series of five virtual trainings, participate in multiple in-person gatherings, and benefit from mentorship with an existing water leader. Within six months of the completion of the fellowship, participants will be expected to lead a workshop training a cohort of their peers in water conservation techniques, as well as to seek a position on a water decision-making body.

Building on the existing success of water-focused leadership programs in Colorado, the fellowship is designed to provide participants with in-depth content on water law and policy while building leadership skills. CWCB funds would be used to develop educational curriculum; promote the fellowship across the state; deliver a series of webinars, in-person events and one-on-one calls for fellows; and conduct program evaluation.



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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)
	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
125	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity
	Other Explain:

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>Chapter 6 of Colorado's Water Plan, "Water Conservation and Reuse", lists the following among its overall goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Promote water efficiency ethic throughout Colorado" • "Seek creative options for improving agricultural irrigation conservation and efficiency" <p>Section 6.3.4, "Agricultural Conservation, Efficiency, and Reuse," outlines the goal of developing a strategic education plan which will include "outreach to the agricultural community about available agricultural water conservation techniques and incentives".</p> <p>Each of these goals will be served by the creation of a Young Farmers and Ranchers Water Leadership Program, which will provide Colorado's next generation of agricultural stewards with the knowledge, network and resources to improve water use on their own farms and share creative water solutions with their communities.</p> <p>The fellowship would also address multiple aims in Section 9.5 of Colorado's Water Plan, "Outreach, Education and Public Engagement". Part of this section's overall goal is to provide "high-quality, balanced, and grassroots water education and outreach efforts that inform Coloradans about the issues so that they may engage in determining Colorado's water future". The proposed fellowship program is designed to provide a diverse group of new and beginning producers with information about</p>



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water-sharing innovations, as well as the tools to share this knowledge with their communities throughout the state.

The latest Analysis and Technical Update to Colorado's Water Plan (formerly Statewide Water Supply Initiative) projects an incremental gap between available supply and agricultural demand in all five of its planning scenarios. A concerted effort to educate Colorado's agricultural producers of 2050 - the young farmers and ranchers of today - will be critical in mitigating this incremental gap.

Meanwhile, public perception research conducted for the most recent Technical Update found strong support, but little knowledge, of agricultural water use: while Colorado residents feel that agricultural irrigation should be one of the state's highest priorities for water use, "only one in three residents recognizes that agriculture is the largest water user in Colorado." (Preliminary Release of the Draft Technical Update, section 5.1.1, "Public Perception Insights"). By training twelve new experts in water policy embedded in rural communities throughout the state, the proposed fellowship will help improve awareness of water issues among the general public. Moreover, fellowship graduates that join local water districts, conservation districts and basin roundtables will be well-positioned to support the public's goal to protect farm water needs.

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.

Young Farmers' own evaluations from our ongoing Water Law and Policy Workshops have indicated that participants are inspired but overwhelmed with the new knowledge they have gained, and that a single workshop is insufficient for them to feel confident joining a water decision-making body. This feedback has led us to develop a more in-depth training approach necessary to cultivate emerging water leaders in the agricultural sector.

The forthcoming Statewide Water Education Action Plan (SWEAP) currently being developed by Water Education Colorado will introduce a "water education continuum" that includes objectives of increasing awareness, knowledge, behavior change and/or systems change. The proposed fellowship is designed to impact all four areas: by equipping participants with the information and support necessary to join water decision-making bodies, the program intends to increase knowledge and foster systems change. The workshops led by fellows for their farming and ranching peers, meanwhile, are intended to increase awareness and behavior change among agricultural communities throughout the state.

Another challenge in water education that the program aims to address is the lack of intergenerational engagement around water issues. For example, the Water Education Asset Mapping Project prepared for CWCB by MSU's One World One Water Center highlighted the widespread challenge of conducting water education across generations, noting that "groups in four out of five basins interviewed specifically mentioned the challenge of generational differences can create." By deeply engaging twelve young farmers and ranchers, and by providing overall water policy information to over 100 more, the proposed fellowship will ensure that the voices of young adults are more thoroughly integrated into water planning throughout the state.

Previous CWCB Grants, Loans or Other Funding



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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.

1. National Young Farmers Coalition
2. Training Young Farmers as Water Leaders through Colorado Water Law & Policy Bootcamps
3. Southwest
4. Jan. 23, 2018
5. POGG1 PDAA 201800000785
6. 83%

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.

N/A



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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⁾
	Engineer's statement of probable cost (projects over \$100,000)
	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ⁽¹⁾
Exhibit C	
	Map (if applicable) ⁽¹⁾
	Photos/Drawings/Reports
	Letters of Support (Optional)
	Certificate of Insurance (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.) ⁽²⁾
	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.

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ENGAGEMENT & INNOVATION GRANT FUND SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION

Introduction & Purpose

Colorado’s Water Plan calls for an outreach, education, public engagement, and innovation grant fund in Chapter 9.5.

The overall goal of the Engagement & Innovation Grant Fund is to enhance Colorado’s water communication, outreach, education, and public engagement efforts; advance Colorado’s water supply planning process; and support a statewide water innovation ecosystem.

The grant fund aims to engage the public to promote well-informed community discourse regarding balanced water solutions statewide. The grant fund aims to support water innovation in Colorado. The grant fund prioritizes measuring and evaluating the success of programs, projects, and initiatives. The grant fund prioritizes efforts designed using research, data, and best practices. The grant fund prioritizes a commitment to collaboration and community engagement. The grant fund will support local and statewide efforts.

The grant fund is divided into two tracks: engagement and innovation. The Engagement Track supports education, outreach, communication, and public participation efforts related to water. The Innovation Track supports efforts that advance the water innovation ecosystem in Colorado.

Application Questions

*The grant fund request is referred to as “project” in this application.

Overview (answer for both tracks)

In a few sentences, what is the overall goal of this project? How does it achieve the stated purpose of this grant fund (above)?

The decisions made around Colorado’s water resources today will impact the state’s agricultural community for decades to come. The proposed project aims to bring to the table the stakeholders that will be most impacted by those decisions: Colorado’s next generation of farmers and ranchers. By encouraging young producers to take a more active role in water planning conversations, and by providing them with the knowledge and resources to educate their local peers around water issues, the proposed fellowship will lead to more farmers and ranchers deeply engaging in the water supply planning process.

Who is/are the target audience(s)? How will you reach them? How will you involve the community?

The Young Farmers and Ranchers Water Leadership Program will target new and beginning agricultural producers interested in taking a leadership role in water issues. The fellowship will be promoted via National Young Farmers Coalition’s network of five chapters throughout the state, as well as in collaboration with Coalition partners such as Rocky Mountain Farmers Union, Colorado Ag Water Alliance, and Colorado Farm Bureau’s Young Farmers and Ranchers Program. Fellows will be chosen through an application process and selected to represent the geographic, economic and ethnic diversity of Colorado’s young farmers and ranchers.

While the primary goal of the fellowship is to support the cohort of fellows, the program has been designed to educate the greater community of Colorado’s young agriculturalists through a “train-the-trainer” model. As part of their commitment to the program, participants will be expected to give at least



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Overview (answer for both tracks)
one presentation on water policy and agriculture to their peers within six months of program completion, reaching an estimated total of 125 members of the general public.
Describe how the project is collaborative or engages a diverse group of stakeholders. Who are the partners in the project? Do you have other funding partners or sources?
<p>The proposed program is primarily a collaboration between National Young Farmers Coalition and Stephanie Scott, LLC, with support from several other organizations and water experts. The program will be managed by National Young Farmers Coalition, which has run over a dozen water education workshops across the Colorado River Basin since 2016. For this project, Young Farmers will be collaborating on program development and delivery with Leadership Program Consultant Stephanie Scott. Stephanie has been working to educate and develop leaders in the natural resource sector in Colorado for over a decade, and the programs that she currently manages focus on leadership in the water sector.</p> <p>While Young Farmers and Stephanie Scott will serve as the primary program managers, the fellowship will require the expertise of a broad group of stakeholders from Colorado's agricultural and water communities to succeed. To that end, a set of 5-8 local partners will be convened during the first phase of the project to form an advisory board, which will meet on a regular basis to inform choices around fellow selection, curriculum development, and program delivery. Additionally, specific water planners and professionals will be solicited to provide content expertise during program delivery.</p>
Describe how you plan to measure and evaluate the success and impact of the project?
<p>The success of the Young Farmers and Ranchers Water Leadership Program will be measured by the following metrics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The increase in fellow knowledge about Colorado's agriculture water policy, as measured by pre- and post-fellowship surveys;• The number of fellows that join local water conservation boards, water district boards, basin roundtables or other decision-making bodies within six months of graduation, as measured by self-reported follow-up interviews with fellows;• The number of attendees at workshops led by fellows within six months after graduation, as measured by attendance records from workshops. <p>Fellowship administrators will develop evaluation tools during the first phase of the project that will be employed throughout the duration of the program.</p>
What research, evidence, and data support your project?
<p>The peer-reviewed literature is scarce on leadership programming specifically related to water issues. However, there is an abundance of research on the effectiveness of leadership programs within the agricultural sector, with studies from the 1970s to the present day confirming that such programs are effective in influencing participants to serve on boards and commissions, testify before elected officials, and otherwise influence public policy.</p>



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Overview (answer for both tracks)
<p>A review from the year 2000 of successful agricultural leadership programs across the country, published in the <i>Journal of Southern Agricultural Education Research</i>, identified that most such programs share the dual goals of developing leadership skills while increasing knowledge of food systems and policy-making. The majority of these agricultural leadership programs target participants in the early stages of their careers, between the ages of 25 and 45. This same paper reviewed a qualitative evaluation of eight graduates of a Florida-based agricultural leadership program, and concluded that participants “increased their political savvy by becoming more comfortable working within the political system, being more actively involved in the political process, and having a greater understanding of the political process.”¹</p> <p>A 2001 survey of over 7,500 alumni of agricultural leadership programs, conducted by the W.K. Kellogg foundation, reported increased participation in boards and councils as a significant outcome, with 82 percent of respondents stating that their program participation contributed “very much” to their public service². Similarly, a 2005 review of Nebraska’s Leadership Education/Action Development Program (LEAD) found that program alumni were significantly more active as leaders in ag-related organizations and activities than members of a control group³.</p> <p>A 2005 study of a New Jersey-based agricultural leadership program in <i>Journal of Extension</i> found equally positive results: in a post-program follow-up survey, 72% of respondents reported joining or increasing their involvement in an agricultural organization, while 86% reported speaking at meetings and hearings. At the time of the evaluation, 16 of the program’s 63 alumni were officers on their county boards of agriculture, including six presidents and eight vice presidents.⁴</p>
<p>Describe potential short- and long-term challenges with this project.</p>
<p>The largest anticipated short-term challenge will be developing a program that will fit into the busy schedule of young farmers while still being robust enough to be effective. Based on conversations with farmers, the proposed sequence of a weekend in-person retreat, virtual trainings, individual calls and an in-person graduation is a realistic way to accommodate on-farm time demands. Nevertheless, it is possible that participants may not be able to attend all programming.</p> <p>In the longer term, the program faces the challenge of ensuring that participants have the motivation and time to participate in water leadership roles. Despite careful participant selection and program design, a number of factors may complicate the stated goal of guiding participants towards roles on water decision-making bodies. These factors include the time pressures of farming discussed above, competing leadership roles in other areas, driving time from meetings, and a decrease in interest over time.</p>

¹ Carter, Hannah and Rudd, Rick (2000). “Evaluation of the Florida Leadership Program for Agriculture and Natural Resources”. *Journal of Southern Agricultural Research*, 50:1

² Foster, Rick (2001). *Leadership for leaders in agriculture*. Symposium conducted at the annual meeting of the International Association of Programs for Agriculture Leaders, San Luis Obispo, CA.

³ Gallup Leadership Institute (2005). *Nebraska LEAD Program. Follow-up Study*, Nebraska Agricultural Leadership Council, Inc. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska. Retrieved February 3, 2005 from <http://lead.unl.edu/followup.htm>.

⁴ Diem, Keith G. and Nikola, Mary (2005). “Evaluating the Impact of a Community Agricultural Leadership Development Program”. *Journal of Extension*, 43:6



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Please fill out the applicable questions for either the Engagement Track or Innovation Track, unless your project contains elements in both tracks. If a question does not relate to your project, just leave it blank. Please answer each question that relates to your project. Please reference the relevant documents and use chapters and page numbers (Colorado’s Water Plan, Basin Implementation Plan, PEPO Education Action Plan, etc.).

Engagement Track

Describe how the project achieves the education, outreach, and public engagement measurable objective set forth in Colorado’s Water Plan to “significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues statewide by 2020, as determined by water awareness surveys.”

The proposed project is intentionally designed as a “train the trainer” model, in which participating fellows will graduate with the skills, confidence and technical knowledge to be able to engage their peers around relevant water issues. By taking the time to nurture a small and diverse group of young leaders, we believe we will increase public awareness and impact water policy in a more meaningful and long-lasting way than, for example, delivering workshops or creating a report.

Describe how the project achieves the other measurable objectives and critical goals and actions laid out in Colorado’s Water Plan around the supply and demand gap; conservation; land use; agriculture; storage; watershed health, environment, and recreation; funding; and additional.

While primarily an educational project, the proposed fellowship program is designed to cultivate emerging leaders interested in contributing directly to Colorado’s water policy dialogue. It is anticipated that the subsequent participation from fellowship graduates will help advance numerous objectives and critical goals of Colorado’s Water Plan, especially those relating to agriculture.

Describe how the project achieves the education, outreach, and public engagement goals set forth in the applicable Basin Implementation Plan(s).

As a statewide project, the proposed fellowship aims to include participants from all nine basins, and would therefore seek to integrate with the PEPO efforts and other education goals of each Basin Implementation Plan. The following information from the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan serves as an example of how the program would integrate with each BIP:

The overall education and outreach recommendation of the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan as outlined in section S.5.9 is to “*design and implement an intensive education, participation and outreach program designed to generate a lasting baseline of public awareness and support.*” Further discussion of education and outreach in section 4.1.3 highlights the need for integrating outreach strategy and messaging with PEPO representatives in other basins, as well as developing distinct approaches for specific stakeholder groups. The Young Farmers and Ranchers Water Leadership Program would support these goals by providing a forum for cross-basin exchange and collaboration, targeted towards the specific and vital stakeholder group of young farmers and ranchers.

Section 5.3.2, meanwhile, outlines specific water sharing practices for the agricultural sector to examine as a means of avoiding agricultural dry-up. These practices include switching to cool weather crops, reducing soil moisture evaporation by utilizing mulching and drip irrigation, deficit irrigation, rotational fallowing and dry year leasing. The proposed water fellowship would provide an ideal venue for tomorrow’s agricultural leaders to learn about these practices, as well as to contribute their own innovative ideas to the agricultural water-sharing dialogue.



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Describe how the project achieves the basin roundtable's PEPO Education Action Plans.
As a statewide project, the proposed fellowship would interface with each basin and its respective PEPO Education Action Plan. Each participant in the fellowship will be introduced to their local PEPO contact as they are developing their individualized leadership strategy. The fellow will work with their PEPO contact to understand the education priorities outlined in their basin's Education Action Plan and identify ways to align their knowledge and goals with these priorities. When appropriate, the fellow will serve as an advocate for farming and ranching education needs in their basin, and work to get those needs incorporated into future Education Action Plans.

Innovation Track
Describe how the project enhances water innovation efforts and supports a water innovation ecosystem in Colorado.
Describe how the project engages/leverages Colorado's innovation community to help solve our state's water challenges.
Describe how the project helps advance or develop a solution to a water need identified through TAP-IN and other water innovation challenges. What is the problem/need/challenge?
Describe how this project impacts current or emerging trends; technologies; clusters, sectors, or groups in water innovation.



COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant - Exhibit B

Budget and Schedule

Prepared Date:

Name of Applicant:

Name of Water Project:

Project Start Date:

Project End Date:

Task No.	Task Description	Task Start Date	Task End Date	Total	CWCB Funds	Other Matching
1	Fellowship Development			\$5,650	\$2,825	\$2,825
2	Fellowship delivery			\$57,940	\$28,970	\$28,970
3	Fellowship evaluation and fellow-led trainings			\$7,800	\$3,900	\$3,900

TOTAL **\$71,390.00** **\$35,695.00** **\$35,695.00**



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Colorado Water Conservation Board
Water Plan Grant - Exhibit A

Statement Of Work

Date:	8-1-2019
Name of Grantee:	National Young Farmers Coalition
Name of Water Project:	Young Farmers and Ranchers Water Leadership Program
Funding Source:	

Water Project Overview:

Young farmers and ranchers are under-represented in Colorado's local water districts, conservation districts, basin roundtables, and other decision-making bodies. As a result, the next generation of Colorado's producers are denied a critical opportunity to help shape the implementation of the state's water plan. The proposed project is designed to address this gap through an educational fellowship that would guide a dozen young farmers and ranchers towards leadership positions on water in Colorado. Fellows selected through an application process would receive a series of five virtual trainings, participate in multiple in-person gatherings, and benefit from mentorship with an existing water leader. Within six months of the completion of the fellowship, participants will be expected to lead a workshop training a cohort of their peers in water conservation techniques, as well as to seek a position on a water decision-making body.

Building on the existing success of water-focused leadership programs in Colorado, the fellowship is designed to provide participants with in-depth content on water law and policy while building leadership skills. CWCB funds would be used to develop educational curriculum; promote the fellowship across the state; deliver a series of webinars, in-person events and one-on-one calls for fellows; and conduct program evaluation.

Project Objectives:

The fellowship has been designed to achieve the following outcomes for its participants:

- Increased knowledge of water planning and policy in Colorado, specifically regarding the issues most relevant to farmers and ranchers
- Desire to participate in a public water decision-making body, such as local water board, water conservation board or basin roundtable
- Ability to educate and mobilize fellow farmers and ranchers towards systems change on relevant local water issues

An ancillary objective of the fellowship is to raise awareness and knowledge for over 100 farmers and ranchers from throughout Colorado on relevant local water issues via fellow-led workshops.



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Tasks
Task 1 – Fellowship Development
Description of Task:
This task will entail planning, promotion and curriculum development for the fellowship.
Method/Procedure:
As part of this task, program managers will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create and promote fellowship application • Develop handouts and other teaching materials • Develop measurement and evaluation tools • Form advisory board of partners to guide strategy and outreach • Coordinate guest lectures with partners • Select fellows
Deliverable:
The deliverable for this task will be a full roster of twelve fellows registered from throughout the state and a syllabus outlining the objectives, methods and instructors for each phase of the program. CWCB will be provided with a list of program participants and a copy of the syllabus outline.

Tasks
Task 2 – Fellowship Delivery
Description of Task:
The actual delivery of fellowship programming will take place throughout the middle of 2020.
Method/Procedure:



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Tasks
<p>During this time, program managers will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and facilitate a two-day leadership retreat with the following objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community-building among fellows ○ Review of Colorado law and policy ○ Review of water decision-making bodies ○ Identification of topics to explore in virtual meetings • Plan and host five two-hour virtual meetings around in-depth topics determined by fellows, such as in-stream flows, ATMs, conflict transformation and meeting facilitation • Provide ongoing one-on-one support and mentorship to fellows in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identifying local opportunities for serving on water conservation districts, water districts, basin roundtables, or other decision-making bodies ○ Identifying conferences, meetings and other gatherings that fellows can attend to advance their personal goals ○ Support applications and securing letters of recommendation to decision-making bodies ○ Assistance in planning and promoting participant-led water workshop for local peers • Plan and lead in-person fellowship debrief and graduation ceremony
<p>Deliverable:</p>
<p>The deliverable for this task will be the successful graduation of all twelve fellows at the conclusion of the program.</p> <p>CWCB will be kept updated on fellowship outcomes via photographs and written summaries of program activities.</p>

Tasks
<p>Task 3 – Post-fellowship programming and evaluation</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p>
<p>This final phase of the project will entail analysis and assessment of program outcomes, as well as support to fellowship graduates in delivering their required trainings.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p>
<p>During this phase, program managers will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct post-fellowship surveys and interviews with each fellow • Synthesize surveys and interviews into a report documenting short-term outcomes of fellowship • Track the number decision-making bodies applied for and joined, the number of peer-to-peer water workshops delivered, and the attendance at each workshop
<p>Deliverable:</p>
Empty space for deliverable details



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Tasks

Seven months after the graduation of the fellows, CWCB will be provided with a final report detailing overall program outcomes, a summary of the information tracked in the above metrics, and any proposed changes for future versions of the program.

Budget and Schedule

This Statement of Work shall be accompanied by a combined Budget and Schedule that reflects the Tasks identified in the Statement of Work and shall be submitted to CWCB in 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.

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 pay out the last 10% of the budget when 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.

Payment

Payment will be made based on actual expenditures and must include invoices for all work completed. The request for payment must include a description of the work accomplished by task, an estimate of the percent completion for individual tasks and the entire Project in relation to the percentage of budget spent, identification of any major issues, and proposed or implemented corrective actions.

Costs incurred prior to the effective date of this contract are not reimbursable. The last 10% of the entire grant will be paid out when the final deliverable has been received. All products, data and information developed as a result of this contract must be provided to CWCB in hard copy and electronic format as part of the project documentation.

Performance Measures

Performance measures for this contract shall include the following:

(a) Performance standards and evaluation: Grantee will produce detailed deliverables for each task as specified. Grantee shall maintain receipts for all project expenses and documentation of the minimum in-kind contributions (if



Last Updated: November 2018

Performance Measures

applicable) per the budget in Exhibit B. Per Water Plan Grant Guidelines, the CWCB will pay out the last 10% of the budget when 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.

(b) Accountability: Per Water Plan Grant Guidelines full documentation of project progress must be submitted with each invoice for reimbursement. Grantee must confirm that all grant conditions have been complied with on each invoice. In addition, per Water Plan Grant Guidelines, Progress Reports must be submitted at least once every 6 months. A Final Report must be submitted and approved before final project payment.

(c) Monitoring Requirements: Grantee is responsible for ongoing monitoring of project progress per Exhibit A. Progress shall be detailed in each invoice and in each Progress Report, as detailed above. Additional inspections or field consultations will be arranged as may be necessary.

(d) Noncompliance Resolution: Payment will be withheld if grantee is not current on all grant conditions. Flagrant disregard for grant conditions will result in a stop work order and cancellation of the Grant Agreement.



August 1, 2019

Ben Wade
Water Conservation Coordinator
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St.
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Wade,

The National Young Farmers Coalition writes to verify our matching requirement for our proposed project, "Young Farmers and Ranchers Water Leadership Program."

NYFC agrees to spend a minimum of \$35,695 of non-CWCB funding on the proposed project, which fulfills the 50% match requirement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin Lemos". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Martin Lemos, Interim Executive Director