

Last Updated: June 2020

Colorado Water Conservation Board
Water Plan Grant Application

Instructions		
<p>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.</p> <p>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:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Storage Projects Conservation, Land Use Planning Engagement & Innovation Activities Agricultural Projects Environmental & Recreation Projects </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matthew.Stearns@state.co.us Kevin.Reidy@state.co.us Ben.Wade@state.co.us Alexander.Funk@state.co.us Chris.Sturm@state.co.us </td> </tr> </table> <p>FINAL SUBMISSION: Submit all application materials in one email to <u>waterplan.grants@state.co.us</u> 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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Storage Projects Conservation, Land Use Planning Engagement & Innovation Activities Agricultural Projects Environmental & Recreation Projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matthew.Stearns@state.co.us Kevin.Reidy@state.co.us Ben.Wade@state.co.us Alexander.Funk@state.co.us Chris.Sturm@state.co.us
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Storage Projects Conservation, Land Use Planning Engagement & Innovation Activities Agricultural Projects Environmental & Recreation Projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matthew.Stearns@state.co.us Kevin.Reidy@state.co.us Ben.Wade@state.co.us Alexander.Funk@state.co.us Chris.Sturm@state.co.us 	

Water Project Summary	
Name of Applicant	Middle Colorado Watershed Council
Name of Water Project	Middle Colorado Integrated Water Management Plan – Implementation Phase 1
CWP Grant Request Amount	\$27,400
Other Funding Sources – <u>CWCB Watershed Restoration Program</u>	\$134,740
Other Funding Sources – <u>Matching Cash</u>	\$108,065 (\$103,065 secured, \$5,000 will be applied for in 2021)
Other Funding Sources – <u>Matching in-kind</u>	\$53,000
Applicant Funding Contribution	\$
Total Project Cost	\$323,205



Last Updated: June 2020

Applicant & Grantee Information	
Name of Grantee(s) - Middle Colorado Watershed Council (MCWC)	
Mailing Address - 200 Lion Park Circle, Rifle, CO 81650	
FEIN – 46-4352983	
Organization Contact – Laurie Rink	
Position/Title – Project Manager	
Email – laurie@midcowatershed.org	
Phone – 303-204-4164	
Grant Management Contact – George Wear	
Position/Title – Treasurer	
Email – ghwater@sopris.net	
Phone – 970-274-2466	
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).	
<p>MCWC is the lead project sponsor and will assume responsibility as project manager and fiscal agent. MCWC was organized in 2013 as a local, nonprofit 501(c)3 with the mission to evaluate, protect and enhance the middle section of the Colorado River through the cooperative efforts of diverse stakeholders. The organization is managed by a nine-member volunteer board of directors that utilizes a number of advisory committees to inform its operations. The geographic focus is on the “middle” section of the Colorado River, a 2,000 square-mile area that includes 75 miles of the Colorado River mainstem and a host of tributaries spanning from the head of Glenwood Canyon to De Beque Canyon, most of which lies in Garfield County.</p>	

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.

Last Updated: June 2020

	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
X	Identified Projects and Processes (IPP)
	Other

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>
	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>
	Agricultural - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
X	Environmental & Recreation - Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i> Task 3 for which Colorado Water Plan funding is requested.
	Other Explain:

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
Latitude	39°32'28.9"N
Longitude	107°38'43.9"W

Last Updated: June 2020

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.

A subset of twelve Actions (out of a total of fifty-five) from the Middle Colorado Integrated Water Management Plan have been selected for a first phase of plan implementation. These twelve Actions address immediate water-related needs ripe for implementation and are supported by a variety of partners actively assembling the necessary resources for execution. Together the Actions begin to fill identified gaps in meeting consumptive, environmental and recreation use needs in the watershed to further the goal of maintaining and enhancing healthy watersheds, rivers and streams. All twelve Actions are identified and described in the attached Scope of Work.

Colorado Water Plan (CWP) funds will support implementation of one of the twelve Actions: Improvements at Silt Boat Ramp at Silt Island Park. The existing boat ramp provides direct access for recreational use of the Colorado River (see Figure 1 in Exhibit C). This boat launch has experienced a rapid increase in user traffic over the last few years, particularly in 2020 during the pandemic. Funds will support design and engineering required for improvements that will: 1) increase capacity for boat launching and vehicular parking, and 2) improve traffic movement and flow.

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
		Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity
Yet to be Quantified	Other	Explain: Improved recreation access for the general public. Number of users that will benefit have not been developed because of lack of data. Note that recreation use surveys are described in the IWMP as a future actionable item.

Last Updated: June 2020

Water Project Justification

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).

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;)

The proposal in its totality supports the following five goals of the Colorado Water Plan through implementation of specific Actions (aka Tasks in the Scope of Work)) as cited below. (Goals referenced from CWP Section 6.6: Environmental and Recreational Projects and Methods, pp. 6-157).

- 1) Promote restoration, recovery, sustainability, and resiliency of endangered, threatened, and imperiled aquatic- and riparian-dependent species and plant communities. (Actions 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 10, 11, and 12).
- 2) Protect and enhance economic values to local and statewide economies that rely on environmental and recreational water uses, such as fishing, boating, waterfowl hunting, wildlife watching, camping, and hiking. (Actions 3 and 4).
- 3) Support the development of multipurpose projects and methods that benefit environmental and recreational water needs as well as water needs for communities or agriculture. (Actions 1 and 2).
- 4) Understand, protect, maintain, and improve conditions of streams, lakes, wetlands, and riparian areas to promote self-sustaining fisheries and functional riparian and wetland habitat to promote long-term sustainability and resiliency. (Actions 1, 5, 6, 10, 11, and 12).
- 5) Maintain watershed health by protecting or restoring watersheds that could affect critical infrastructure and/or environmental and recreational areas. (Actions 5, 11, and 12).

The request specific to the Colorado Water Plan grant would fund Action/Task 3, Improvements to the Silt Boat Ramp which is consistent with Goal 2 above.

The proposed work is consistent with the Colorado Basin Roundtable (CBRT) Basinwide Theme #1 – Protect and restore healthy rivers, streams, lakes and riparian areas and the several sub-goals identified within this theme (2015 BIP, Section 2, Pg. 43).

All twelve Actions/Tasks proposed herein are included in the current list of IPPs for the CBRT BIP Update (in draft form).

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.

Middle Colorado Integrated Water Management Plan. Estimated completion 1st quarter 2021. Supported by CWCB WSRF and CBRT grant funding from 2018. Draft report currently in review can be accessed [HERE](#).



Last Updated: June 2020

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.

- 1) Middle Colorado Watershed Council
 - a. Middle Colorado Integrated Water Management Plan
 - b. Colorado Basin Roundtable
 - c. Approved by CWCB Board - January 2018
 - d. CTGG1 2018-2054 CMS #110013
 - e. Statewide WSRF funding 50%, CBRT WSRF funding 25%, remaining funding local
- 2) Middle Colorado Watershed Council
 - a. River Recreation Map for the Middle Colorado River
 - b. Colorado Basin Roundtable
 - c. Approved by CBRT PEPO Committee in October 2019
 - d. GAX PDAA 20200000000000000283
 - e. CBRT PEPO funding 25%, remainder other sources
- 3) Middle Colorado Watershed Council
 - a. Colorado River Interpretive Center
 - b. Colorado Basin Roundtable
 - c. Approved by CWCB Board - January 2018
 - d. POGG1 PDAA 201800000775
 - e. CWP funding 78%, CBRT PEPO funding 5%, remainder other sources

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.

No TABOR issues we are aware of.

Last Updated: June 2020

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⁾
	Engineer's statement of probable cost (projects over \$100,000)
X	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ⁽¹⁾
Exhibit C	
X	Map (if applicable) ⁽¹⁾
	Photos/Drawings/Reports
X	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.

Last Updated: June 2020

Colorado Water Conservation Board
Water Plan Grant - Exhibit A

Statement Of Work	
Date:	December 2020
Name of Grantee:	Middle Colorado Watershed Council
Name of Water Project:	Middle Colorado Integrated Water Management Plan – Implementation Phase 1
Funding Source:	Colorado Water Plan – Environment and Recreation
Water Project Overview:	
<p>A subset of twelve Actions from the Middle Colorado Integrated Water Management Plan have been selected for a first phase of plan implementation. These twelve Actions address immediate water-related needs ripe for implementation with willing partners actively assembling the necessary resources for execution. Together the Actions begin to fill identified gaps in meeting environmental and recreation use needs in the watershed to further the goal of maintaining and enhancing healthy watersheds, rivers and streams.</p> <p>The list of twelve Actions was selected according to a few criteria.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Actions that address an immediate set of needs; ✓ Actions that together, through a multi-objective approach, address an integration of environmental, recreational and consumptive use needs; ✓ Actions that are ripe for implementation by way of resource availability with support from a broad base of partnerships; and ✓ Actions that compliment each other and benefit from efficiencies and synergies. <p>The twelve actions are listed below -- more detailed descriptions can be found in the attached Scope of Work as well as in the IWMP Action Plan (draft in review – cross-referencing number provided below).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Riparian Restoration and Invasives Control (WQR3) 2. Pilot Local Market for Agricultural Products (CONS7) 3. Improvements Silt Boat Ramp (REC2) 4. River Access Facility Improvements (REC8) 5. Best Practices for Gravel Pit Reclamation (AQ9) 6. Pilot Gravel Pit Reclamation (WQR4) 7. Educational Signage Nonnative Transport (AQ5) 8. Landowner Outreach for Fishery Best Management Practices (AQ10) 9. Citizen Science to Track Invasives (AQ11) 10. Participation in Flow Management Partnerships (AQ7) 11. Best Management Practices for Floodplain Uses (WQR10) 12. Collaborative Post-Fire Watershed Management (AQ6) 	
Project Objectives:	

Last Updated: June 2020

The Middle Colorado IWMP identified 29 objectives. A total of 17 out of the 29 will be addressed, in part, by the Phase I implementation work, as follows. Actions (aka Tasks) that address each objective are noted.

- Maintain healthy, productive aquatic communities of native and other desirable species at viable population levels commensurate with the species' and habitats' potential (Actions 5, 8, 9 and 12).
- Restore stream network connectivity for native warmwater fish and cold-water sport fish along the mainstem Colorado River and lower segments of tributary streams (Action 10).
- Conserve and/or recover ESA-listed species and the ecosystems on which they depend through on-going, conservation activities (Actions 5, 7, 8, 9 and 12).
- Maintain or enhance special status species and their habitats to provide for on-going conservation and recovery (Action 12).
- Reduce or eliminate threats to sensitive species to minimize the likelihood of and need for listing of these species under the ESA (Actions 5, 7, 8, 9 and 12).
- Sustain ongoing monitoring and research efforts characterizing native fish and invasive fish abundance and range throughout the watershed (Actions 9 and 10).
- Enhance community awareness of state and federal fishery management objectives and the critical role that individuals can play in meeting those objectives (Actions 5, 7, 8, 9 and 12).
- Protect areas of contiguous riparian habitat from future degradation or loss (Actions 1 and 11).
- Reduce acreage of riparian area functionally degraded by invasive plants (Action 1).
- Increase the acreage of contiguous high-quality riparian habitat (Actions 1, 6 and 11).
- Restore and preserve the connectivity between the river and the functional floodplain (Actions 1, 6 and 11).
- Increase community awareness of the consequences of water management decision-making for human and natural systems (Action 11).
- Enhance opportunities for day and overnight floating activities (Action 3).
- Minimize conflicts among recreation visitors, between recreation visitors and other users of the river, and with private landowners (Action 4).
- Limit recreational impacts on areas of significant cultural, historic, biological and conservation value (Action 4).
- Add or maintain contributions to the local economy and support local businesses in the Middle Colorado River Reach (Actions 3 and 4).
- Enhance market opportunities and flexibility for water use/management by agricultural producers (Action 2).

Tasks

Task 1 – Action 1: Riparian Restoration and Invasives Control (WQR3) – Focus Silt River Preserve.

Description of Task:



Last Updated: June 2020

Tasks
<p>Purchased with the help of GOCO funding in 2009, the 132-acre Silt River Preserve is now owned by the Town of Silt and conserved through the Aspen Valley Land Trust (AVLT). Once heavily grazed and later identified as part of a proposed 2,000-unit development along 0.6 miles of the Colorado River, this land is relatively degraded, but with excellent restoration potential to become a natural, riverside park. The preserve provides habitat and first-class wildlife viewing opportunities for bald eagles, great blue herons, osprey, turkeys, deer, mink, river otter, and more. It has been largely underutilized by the public until the pandemic and has recently experienced a dramatic increase of use by families seeking nature trails and quiet open space. Work on the property completed over the last few years through collaborative partnerships has included removal of tamarisk and Russian olive, improved irrigation efficiency on hay fields, the installation of informal nature trails, and initial offerings for youth outdoor education programs on ecology and land stewardship.</p>
<p>Funds requested from the CWCB Watershed Restoration Program (WRP) will be used to determine how pre-compact water rights can be used for habitat restoration efforts and to sustain existing and future opportunities for agricultural leases that support innovative approaches to addressing local food security (see Action 2).</p>
<p>Matching funding will be used as follows: 1) to work with partners at the Silt River Preserve on ecological restoration through secondary invasive weed control, native understory revegetation, and riparian and wetland habitat restoration, and 2) to create an outdoor classroom space with shade and restrooms for use by local schools, nonprofit partners, and other community groups.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p>
<p>An engineer will be retained to evaluate the Town's water rights portfolio for the property and to develop a water delivery rehabilitation and application plan to facilitate habitat restoration, secure water needs for current ag leases at the property, and evaluate the potential for expanded ag leases. The evaluation will utilize the South Side Conservation District infrastructure inventories completed for both the Rising Sun and Last Chance ditches that flow through the property.</p>
<p>Secondary weed control will be accomplished through the application of integrated weed management practices and native reseeding using Goats Green LLC. Intensive and rotational grazing including incorporation of native overseeding will occur over a three-year period. DHM Design will be retained to create a riparian and wetland habitat restoration plan and outdoor classroom design. Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers (RFOV) will be deployed to complete additional trail work and site clean-up (e.g., removal of old fencing, etc.). Interpretive signage and outdoor classroom facilities will be developed and installed.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p>
<p>(for WRP cash request)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Water rights evaluation and plan for rehabilitation of existing water diversion and delivery structures plus construction cost estimate <p>(associated with match)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ 3-year Integrated Weed Management Program (Town of Silt and AVLT)✓ Riparian and wetland restoration design plan and cost estimate (Town of Silt and AVLT)✓ Volunteer day for site maintenance and clean-up (RFOV)✓ Educational interpretive signage plus outdoor classroom support facilities (Town of Silt and AVLT)



Last Updated: June 2020

Tasks
<p>Task 2 – Action 2: Pilot Local Market for Agricultural Products (CONS7) – Focus Silt River Preserve</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>Silt River Preserve is also home to Highwater Farm, a nonprofit community farm that seeks to employ local high school students, with an emphasis on diversity and equity, to help grow vegetables, learn job and life skills, and in turn donate a portion of their harvest to local food banks addressing an acute and now growing food insecurity problem in the region. Highwater Farm has persevered through their first year of operations despite this pandemic, and has been recognized for engaging and feeding an often-overlooked and vulnerable part of this community</p> <p>Funds requested through the CWCB Watershed Restoration Program will be used to support Highwater Farm staff in outreach to and coordination with other local producers to expand market offerings using a Community Support Agriculture (CSA) template. This will include engaging a community process that could result in a shared processing facility or market space.</p> <p>Matching funds raised by Highwater Farm will help provide the needed infrastructure for Highwater Farm to complete their vision for community engagement and food production. Community farm infrastructure improvements currently planned include irrigation upgrades, a shade structure for classes, and hedgerow windbreaks for crops.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <p>Opportunities and challenges for enhanced market development will be assessed through communications with other producers in the geographic region. The Colorado Agricultural Commission will be contacted to learn about emerging opportunities for innovation that support development of local markets. Opportunities for on-site increased ag land leasing will be investigated along with the availability of water to support additional operations (see Action 1).</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p> <p>(for WRP cash request)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Written report on results of outreach/coordination efforts, recommended next steps, identification of needed resources, and suggested partnerships. <p>(for cash match)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Farm infrastructure upgrades to increase production capacity (Highwater Farm)

Tasks
<p>Task 3 – Action 3: Improvements Silt Boat Ramp (REC2).</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>Silt Island Park currently contains two gravel/dirt boat ramps and day-use picnic facilities. This boat launch has experienced a rapid increase in user traffic over the last few years as its popularity has increased, anglers are pushed to new locations when fishing closures arise, and with pandemic-era use. The launch area can only accommodate one to two vehicles at a time depending upon flow conditions. The vehicular approach to the launch area is limited by a single lane dirt road that connects to a large parking area, resulting in traffic flow issue involving vehicles and vehicles towing boat trailers.</p> <p>Funds from the Colorado Water Plan grant program will be used to develop an enlarged and improved launch, circulation, and parking area design.</p>



Last Updated: June 2020

Tasks
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <p>An engineer will be retained to complete the design work and to advise regarding necessary permits and construction costs. The design will need to consider a sensitive approach that minimizes impacts to riparian vegetation and maintains streambank and channel integrity. The engineer will work closely with Town of Silt staff on design elements as the Town will likely be using its staff and equipment to complete a portion of the construction.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p> <p>(associated with this funding request) Design plan sufficient for determining construction costs and to acquire permits</p>

Tasks
<p>Task 4 – Action 4: River Access Facility Improvements (REC8).</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>The Middle Colorado IWMP has identified several opportunities for expanded and new river access between Glenwood and De Beque to support efforts of local communities to provide river access for its residents and visitors. River access points provide an excellent opportunity for posting information to educate river visitors on river ecology, safety, use etiquette, and stewardship. Using common branding and messaging between access location can be most effective when communicating with the public. Providing for common amenities like picnic tables, trash receptacles, and restroom will work to minimize impacts of river visitors on private property.</p> <p>Coordinate the development of branded messaging and a recommended list of facilities that should be considered at existing and future river access points in the watershed. Based upon results, install prototype messaging at Silt Island Park boat ramp (see Action 3).</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <p>Engage members of the Middle Colorado IWMP Recreation Focus Group to participate in developing common branding, standard messages and construction standards for future educational signage and site amenities. Work with the forum organized by the Greater Rifle Improvement Team (GRIT) to build upon existing working relationships between communities. Utilize American Whitewater Open Source Tool Box as a planning resource.</p> <p>Create prototype messaging for Silt Island Park and install concurrent with park improvements.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p> <p>(for WRP cash request)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Formatted graphics, narrative, and specifications for educational signage. ✓ Suggested design specifications for common river access amenities. ✓ Three manufactured prototype signs. <p>(associated with match)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Three signs installed at Silt Island Park by Town of Silt staff.

Last Updated: June 2020

Tasks
Task 5 – Action 5: Best Practices for Gravel Pit Reclamation (AQ9).
<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>Gravel pits throughout the watershed have been documented to support nonnative fish that regularly escape to the mainstem Colorado River and compete with native river fishes. Current state and local mining regulations do not require full mitigation for habitat or resource losses or the issues posed by creating nonnative fish habitat. Although legally augmented, the resulting open water bodies additionally evaporate valuable Colorado River water.</p> <p>Develop best practices for reclamation of completed gravel operations for use in development reviews by the counties and local governments.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <p>Coordinate with natural resource agencies (CPW, BLM, USFWS), NGOs (TU, REW) and interested parties to compile a list of recommended best practices for gravel mine reclamation that serve to offset or mitigate identified issues. Incorporate reclamation techniques that minimize opportunities for nonnative fish reproduction and spread, minimize water losses due to open water evaporation, and maximize regeneration of riparian communities. Gather input from the regulated industry to explore and establish feasible practices. Present work product to Garfield and Mesa counties and local municipalities for use in reviewing future mine permit applications. Communicate results to Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p> <p>(for WRP cash request)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Handbook of best practices for gravel mining operations in Middle Colorado Watershed

Tasks
Task 6 – Action 6: Pilot Gravel Pit Reclamation (WQR4).
<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>This Action builds upon Action 5 by engaging with existing and potentially new gravel pits operations in the Silt area to pilot best practices for reclamation. Two existing operations are located adjacent to the Silt River Preserve while a third property, an island in the river upstream of the Preserve, is slated for extraction. A fourth operation, the Mamm Creek Pits, are located somewhat downstream of Silt.</p> <p>Engage gravel pit operators in discussions to convey stakeholder concerns and issues with current, standard gravel pit reclamation techniques and to explore opportunities for piloting alternatives techniques.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p>

Last Updated: June 2020

Tasks
<p>Contact the four owner/operators mentioned above to explore willingness and interest in examining the feasibility of alternative methods and practices for reclamation. Initiate discussions on piloting opportunities, discuss scope of efforts, develop preliminary cost estimates, and explore funding resources to support piloting. Include CPW aquatics staff in discussions as an advisory entity.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p>
<p>(for WRP cash request)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Technical memorandum documenting the result of outreach and engagement efforts with the four entities. If results are fruitful, the memo will serve as documentation to support implementation next steps.
Tasks
<p>Task 7 - Action 7: Educational Signage Nonnative Transport (AQ5).</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>Non-native fish introduced into the Colorado River mainstem negatively impact native fishes through predation and competition for resources. Nonnative fish, for example northern pike and smallmouth bass, are known to escape private ponds with hydrologic connections to the Colorado River or are illegally relocated from managed sport fisheries (i.e., reservoirs) to the river. As described in Action 5, gravel pits can serve as breeding grounds for non-natives. Education through location-focused signage can help mitigate the problem.</p> <p>Develop and install signage around gravel pits, public ponds, boat ramps, and river access area in the Silt-area indicating prohibition against moving nonnative fish, bullfrogs and other aquatic species between waterbodies.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <p>Develop an inventory of locations for sign installation in the Silt geographic area and select the top ten. Consult with CSU on research results regarding the social aspects of working with the public on non-natives control for any insight on effective communication methods. Work with CPW staff to develop and vet sign text and graphics. Contract for fabrication of ten signs to serve as prototype for rest of watershed area.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p>
<p>(for WRP cash request)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Prototype messaging text and graphics for watershed-wide use ✓ Ten fabricated signs <p>(associated with match)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ten signs installed in Silt area by Town of Silt staff

Last Updated: June 2020

Tasks
Task 8 – Action 8: Landowner Outreach for Fishery Best Management Practices (AQ10).
Description of Task:
<p>Private lakes and ponds can be sources of non-native fish which are problematic for native fish in the middle Colorado River watershed as described in Action 7. Private landowners can implement best management practices to minimize the unintended consequences of breeding non-native fish if properly informed. Outreach will include educational information about obtaining a stocking permit, isolating nonnatives, prohibiting movement of nonnatives from pond to river or off-property, drying ponds out annually to minimize reproduction of invasive species, etc.</p> <p>Deliver targeted outreach to private landowners about best practices for fishery management. Target the Glenwood to Silt reach of the mainstem Colorado River.</p>
Method/Procedure:
<p>Focus effort on landowners adjacent to the river with existing ponds. Coordinate with CPW staff to develop a list of best practices for private pond management. Translate information into meaningful and understandable text and tools for private landowner use. Consult with CSU on research results regarding social aspects of working with the public on non-natives control to ascertain the best methods for communication. Analyze county records in association with aerial photography to derive a list of property/owners for targeted outreach from Glenwood to Silt. Conduct one on one outreach efforts with up to twenty parties.</p>
Deliverable:
<p>(for WRP cash request)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Outreach materials (handbook, pamphlets, or other) in printed and on-line form ✓ Up to twenty site visits to disseminate materials

Tasks
Task 9 – Action 9: Citizen Science to Track Invasives (AQ11).
Description of Task:
<p>Invasive aquatic species, particular fish, are an ongoing threat to maintaining healthy populations of native fish, including federally threatened and endangered species (see related work in Actions 5, 6, 7 and 8). An interactive application for use on personal electronic devices will be developed to educate a specific sector of the public on the harmful impacts of nonnatives while allowing for the collection of citizen science-based data for use by resource managers. The app will provide descriptive data and photos to help anglers, recreational boaters and other river users identify and differentiate native and sport fish from nonnative invasive species, provide information on what to do if one is hooked or captured, and give the user the ability to report its location and findings in real time. Aquatic resource managers can review data to learn more about the geographic extent of and current location of invasive species they can subsequently target for mechanical or chemical removal.</p> <p>Develop a free application for use by anglers that allows for timely reporting of captured nonnative invasive species, for example Northern Pike, Bullfrogs, invasive aquatic plants, etc. and any new, emerging species. Functionality would be provided to identify and report on capture and release of endangered fishes.</p>

Last Updated: June 2020

Tasks
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <p>Partner with a local university for staff and student assistance with development and testing of the application. Collaborate with CPW on application functionality requirements. Develop, pilot and refine the app with assistance of local guides/outfitters. Market the free app through local guides and equipment outlets.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p> <p>(for WRP cash request)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Electronic application available through the public domain for free download

Tasks
<p>Task 10 - Action 10: Participation in Flow Management Partnerships (AQ7, REC13, WQR8).</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>Seasonal and periodic flow needs and thresholds for the mainstem of the middle Colorado River were developed as part of the IWMP process for the protection of environmental and recreational uses. The Historic User Pool, Coordinated River Operations, and the Upper Colorado River Wild and Scenic Stakeholders Group through its Cooperative Measures Committee are just a few examples of groups that meet on a regular basis to discuss coordinated water management opportunities for balancing a number of water uses and interests in the Colorado River basin. These forums provide the opportunity for exchanging technical information regarding water needs and timing that could benefit the middle Colorado River.</p> <p>Provide local representation at: 1) Historic User Pool, 2) Coordinated River Operations, 3) Upper Colorado Wild and Scenic Stakeholder forums, 4) future Demand Management forums, and 5) global water settlements to advocate for annual water management scenarios that benefit the middle Colorado River mainstem. Funding is requested for a three-year period.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <p>Use IWMP-generated flow thresholds to inform recommendations that could consider timed releases in spring to inhibit smallmouth bass reproduction, timed releases during peak runoff to enhance opportunities for channel maintenance and riparian regeneration, and releases to mitigate effects of post-wildfire runoff. Provide input on implementing operational BMPs at Shoshone to minimize impacts from flushing sediment from behind the dam and to protect fish from stranding or flushing with drastic changes to flow. Provide periodic reports to Garfield County Commissioners (through Garfield County Water Forum) regarding partnership outcomes.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p> <p>(for WRP cash request)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Technical memorandum summarizing meetings attended, specific management requests made and responses to those requests, final outcomes that provided benefit to the middle Colorado River, and recommendations regarding future participation in current forums.



Last Updated: June 2020

Tasks
Task 11 – Action 11: Best Management Practices for Floodplain Uses (WQR10).
Description of Task: <p>A Fluvial Hazard Zone (FHZ) map has been developed for the middle Colorado River as an IWMP deliverable. FHZ mapping is a component of the Colorado Hazard Mapping Program effort underway by the CWCB in partnership with the Colorado Geological Survey, the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, and local governments. An understanding of the components of an FHZ can elucidate the need for carefully crafted use regulations to reduce risk to life, property, and river function.</p> <p>Develop a set of recommended best management practices that can be used by municipal and county governments as a companion reference document to IWMP FHZ mapping to improve local management decisions related to floodplain development and uses.</p>
Method/Procedure: <p>Engage a technical consultant to assist in the compilation of a set of best management practices (BMPs) that can be applied to the different fluvial hazard types identified in the IWMP-generated FHZ mapping for the middle Colorado River mainstem from Glenwood to De Beque. Coordinate with Garfield County staff and natural resource management agencies (CPW, BLM, NRCS) on BMP language development and its application under current code with an eye towards integration into future code and zoning updates. Utilize CWCB Watershed Health Engineering Services and materials generated through the CWCB Hazard Mapping Program as a resource. Meet with Garfield and Mesa Board of County Commissioners and municipal boards to inform on mapping and BMP products and recommended use.</p>
Deliverable: <p>(for WRP cash request)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Handbook of Best Management Practices for use in association with FHZ mapping for the middle Colorado River

Tasks
Task 12 – Action 12: Collaborative Post-Fire Watershed Management (AQ6).
Description of Task: <p>Both the Grizzly Creek and Pine Gulch fires of 2020 occurred within the middle Colorado Watershed. Post-fire recovery and rehabilitation in the burn areas will be needed to reduce the risk of well-known post-fire hazards, such as flooding and erosion/debris flows that can have devastating effects on human life and infrastructure as well as acute and chronic effects on water quality and availability, affecting potable drinking water sources, irrigation needs, and aquatic biota health. Recognizing that no single entity has jurisdiction over the two immediate burned areas of initial focus, a coalition of interests can provide a forum for individual stakeholders, both public and private, to discuss actions, arrive at consensus, and implement solutions to address the most vulnerable areas and natural resource assets.</p> <p>Take immediate and initial steps in organizing an ad hoc coalition (or two – one for each sub-basin) to serve as a post-fire planning and coordination hub that bridges individual entity interests and efforts. Once commitments for coalition participation are established, implement planning and prioritization activities in discrete phases timed with concurrent emergency funding requests.</p>

Last Updated: June 2020

Tasks
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <p>Identify and contact key stakeholders and potential funding partners to acquire written commitments for participation in a multi-year ad hoc coalition(s) for post-fire response. Initiate drafting of an intraparty operating agreement that defines the mission, intents, and individual roles and responsibilities of participants. Organize and facilitate initial group discussions that result in a first phase set of prioritized tasks and costs to enable initial implementation funding requests. Utilize technical resources available through the CWCB Watershed Health Engineering Services program for operating agreement input and guidance on designing a first phase response plan.</p> <p>Candidate partners for the ad hoc coalition that will be contacted include: City of Glenwood, Town of De Beque, BLM, U.S. Forest Service, CPW, Colorado Department of Transportation, NRCS, Bookcliff Conservation District, Bluestone Conservation District, Colorado River District, U.S. Geological Survey, Garfield County, Mesa County, CWCB, Eagle River Watershed Council, RFOV, Shoshone (Xcel), Cameo (Grand Valley Water Users), Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p> <p>(for WRP cash request)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Letters of commitment from participating entities (approx. 20 identified to date) ✓ Draft operating agreement under consideration by participating entities (draft pursuant to legal review that may take some time to finalize) ✓ Initial set of prioritized actions and plan for funding requests

Budget and Schedule
<p>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.</p>

Reporting Requirements
<p>Progress Reports: The applicant will 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 will 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.</p>
<p>Final Report: At completion of the project, the applicant will provide the CWCB a Final Report on the applicant's letterhead that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>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.</p>

Last Updated: June 2020

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 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.



Colorado Water Conservation Board

**Water Plan Grant - Exhibit B
 Budget and Schedule**

Prepared Date: December 1, 2020

Name of Applicant: Middle Colorado Watershed Council

Name of Water Project: Middle Colorado Integrated Water Management Plan – Implementation Phase 1

Project Start Date: April 2021

Project End Date: March 2024

Task No.	Task Description	Task Start Date	Task End Date	Grant Funding Request	Match Funding	Total
1	Riparian Restoration and Invasives Control	Apr-22	Mar-23		\$104,165	\$104,165
2	Pilot Local Market for Agricultural Products	Apr-21	Mar-23		\$30,000	\$30,000
3	Improvements Silt Boat Ramp	Apr-21	Sep-23	\$27,400		\$27,400
4	River Access Facility Improvements	Apr-21	Mar-24		\$11,600	\$11,600
5	Best Practices for Gravel Reclamation	Apr-21	Sep-23		\$22,600	\$22,600
6	Pilot Gravel Pit Reclamation	Sep-21	Mar-24		\$6,000	\$6,000
7	Educational Signage Nonnative Transport	Apr-21	Mar-23		\$16,000	\$16,000
8	Landowner Outreach for Fishery Best Management Practices	Apr-21	Mar-23		\$7,000	\$7,000
9	Citizen Science to Track Invasives	Apr-21	Mar-24		\$14,800	\$14,800
10	Participation in Flow Mgmt Partnerships	Apr-21	Mar-24		\$9,000	\$9,000
11	Best Management Practices for Floodplain Uses	Sep-21	Sep-23		\$36,000	\$36,000
12	Collaborative Post-Fire Watershed Mgmt	Apr-21	Jun-21		\$38,640	\$38,640
Total				\$27,400	\$295,805	\$323,205