

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Supply Reserve Fund - Statewide & Basin

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant Colorado Watershed Assembly

Name of Water Project

Basin Account Request Subtotal \$93,750.00

Statewide Request Amount \$0.00

Statewide Project Category

Applicant Cash Match

Drought Resiliency
\$3,500.00

Applicant In-Kind Match \$15,625.00

Basin Requests
Sources of Funding

Grant Details

Statewide Project Category Justification

Public outreach and education project, initial requests to Metro and South Platte Basin Roundtables, as planning year work will take place there, before statewide launch.

Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee: Colorado Watershed Assembly Mailing Address: PO Box 460736 Glendale CO 80634

FEIN: 841,600,089

Organization Contact: Donny Roush

Position/Title: Email: donnyroush@gmail.com

Phone: 303-870-4690

Organization Contact - Alternate: Casey Davenhill

Position/Title: Executive Director Email: casey@coloradowater.org

Phone: 303-345-1675

Grant Management Contact: Donny Roush

Position/Title: Email: donnyroush@gmail.com

Phone: 303-870-4690

Grant Management Contact - Alternate: Casey Davenhill

Position/Title: Executive Director Email: casey@coloradowater.org

Phone: 303-345-1675

Description of Grantee/Applicant

Colorado non-profit corporation whose mission is to support collaborative efforts to protect and improve the conservation values of our state's land, water, and other natural resources by providing the network to connect a diversity of interests with Colorado's watershed groups and other decision makers.

		Location of Water Project
Latitude Longitude Lat Long Flag	0.000000 0.000000	
Water Source Basins Counties		
Districts		

	Water Project Overview
Major Water Use Type	
Type of Water Project	
Scheduled Start Date - Design	4/27/2024
Scheduled Start Date - Construction	4/27/2024
Description	

	Measurable Results
0	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
0	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive
0	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
0	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
0	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)
0.00	Length of Pipe, Canal Built or Improved (linear feet)
\$0	Efficiency Savings (dollars/year)
0	Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year)
0	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)
0	Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms or water sharing agreement (acre-feet)
0	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning
0	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity
Other	
No addition	nal measurable results provided



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	Colorado Water Conservation Board
	Water Supply Reserve Fund
	Exhibit A - Statement of Work
Date:	April 15, 2024
Water Activity Name:	Youth Development, Water Education, and the Colorado Water Plan (Year Zero)
Grant Recipient:	Colorado Watershed Assembly
Funding Source:	Water Supply Reserve Fund, Metro Basin Roundtable Water Supply Reserve Fund, South Platte Basin Roundtable

Water Activity Overview: (Please provide brief description of the proposed water activity (no more than 200 words). Include a description of the overall water activity and specifically what the WSRF funding will be used for. (PLEASE DEFINE ALL ACRONYMS).

Description: This project brings best practices from the field of environmental education into implementation of the Colorado Water Plan, applying educational standards of excellence and quality youth development approaches to identify (through empirical evidence) a statewide collection of the "water education exemplars" for further promotion and amplification.

Need: Today's youth – even a child born today – will be an adult by 2050, the year the Colorado Water Plan is to be fully implemented. Young people will be the ones to turn the plan into reality.

"How old will you be in 2050?"

For about a year, we have been using this guiding question when teaching – with positive, eyeopening effects. It has also prodded a group of water educators to consider how their work can better support the Colorado Water Plan. We notice that nowhere in the Water Plan will you find the words "youth," "children," or "K-12." We contend young people must be better considered and engaged to achieve the plan's vision.

We want to harness the power of Colorado's strong environmental education field in service of the Plan and young Coloradans. To start, we propose a planning year to design and begin a lasting youth-developing, water-conserving mechanism.



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Objectives: (List the objectives of the project. (PLEASE DEFINE ACRONYMS).

This project directly and precisely addresses <u>South Platte Basin Implementation Plan Goal 11</u> <u>– Broaden South Platte communications, outreach, and education programs</u>. Secondarily, this project addresses SPBIP goals and objectives <u>1.B</u>, <u>3.E</u>, <u>4.D</u>, <u>5.G</u>, <u>6.A.6</u>, and <u>7.A</u>.

Further, this project uses the first Colorado Water Plan <u>Tool for Action: Public outreach and education</u>. It innovatively focuses on youth, who are currently missing from plan implementation efforts. Agency Actions 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.6, and 5.7 are supported.

From the field of environmental education, the project uses the *Guidelines for Excellence in Environmental Education* (national standards), best practices in youth development (revolving around invitation, skills-building, and full inclusion in the work), and moves selection of water education programs and materials beyond simple professional judgment of quality.

Broadly, the project accelerates development of the next generation of Coloradans, teaching them knowledge, skills, and patterns of behavior to conserve water. The goal of environmental education, per the foundational Tbilisi Declaration (UNESCO 1977), is environmentally responsible behavior – which is exactly what the Colorado Water Plan seeks, and this project is designed to deliver.

Tasks

Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format: (PLEASE DEFINE ACRONYMS)

Task 1 - (Name)

Water Education Exemplars

Description of Task:

Identify and evaluate the best existing programs and resources that teach youth to become informed water decision-makers, creating an initial collection of 15 "Water Education Exemplars." More than an inventory, nominees will be assessed using *Guidelines for Excellence in Environmental Education*, the national standards for the field. Exemplars address the "key characteristics" of excellence via expert reviews. Water education partners are nominating programs and materials for the first collection. In subsequent years, nominations will be sought more widely, more reviewers (including youth reviewers) will be used, and 30 annual reviews will be completed. (March 2025)



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Tasks

Method/Procedure:

The National Project for Excellence in Environmental Education, started in 1994, developed a series of guidelines that set the standards for high-quality environmental education. These are the field's national educational standards. Two sets of Guidelines will be used as a quality assurance/quality control tool for this project: Environmental Education Programs: Guidelines for Excellence and Environmental Education Materials: Guidelines for Excellence. Both documents and their accompanying rubrics are included as additional files. Colorado Watershed Assembly proposes to hire an individual who is a Certified Master Environmental Educator with extensive experience with the Guidelines for Excellence in Environmental Education as a member of the Guidelines' Trainers Bureau, being a program reviewer and/or a member of a Guidelines' writing team. Reviews are conducted on-site with a participant-observer method and are completed in collaboration with the water educators responsible for instructional delivery of the program or material. A thorough review of an established program may take up to a week. Considered a form of external evaluation, reviews result in a completed rubric and recommendations for continual improvements. Rubrics measure levels of incorporation of "key characteristics." Key characteristics, such as "instructional effectiveness" and "program structure and delivery," are comprised of 3 to 8 indicators (see rubrics provided as additional files). Reviews will provide the first empirical evidence of Colorado's water education exemplars, moving beyond the simple professional judgment used currently.

Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)

15 Water Education Exemplars, as determined by evidence from Guidelines for Excellence review rubrics

CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)

Published Water Education Exemplars collection catalog (analog and digital), including program and/or materials with Guidelines for Excellence review rubrics

NB: Year Zero focuses on South Platte/Metro education providers, expanding statewide in Year One and beyond

Tasks

Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format: (PLEASE DEFINE ACRONYMS)

Task 2 - (Name)

Youth and Water Convening

Description of Task:



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Tasks

Youth development experts and water-interested youth will be recruited to review the Plan and first Water Education Exemplars, and then make recommendations about how to better engage youth into the Water Plan's vision. Kept purposely small (9 youth and 3 facilitators), an in-person workshop will have three parts: Colorado Water Plan orientation, direct experiences with Water Education Exemplars, and strategic planning input for the project plan. Youth participants will be compensated. (June 2025)

Method/Procedure:

Youth development experts who are project partners will continue to be consulted on recruitment of young people. Current partners with active youth groups include Earth Force (RISE [Resilience-Innovation-Sustainability-Environment] Challenge, in particular Estes Park Middle School team), Environmental Learning for Kids (Youth in Natural Resources Leadership Corps), The Greenway Foundation (Grassroots Leadership Opportunities Ambassadors [with Mile High Flood District] and Urban River Rangers), and Lincoln Hills Cares (South Platte River Advisory Youth Council). These groups will be consulted and potentially tapped for our Year Zero youth participants, as will institutions of higher education with water-centric nodes such as the One World One Water Center. Year Zero will focus on training youth to be Guidelines for Excellence reviewers and gathering input as to how better to engage young people in Colorado Water Plan implementation. Youth will be compensated, which is a tenet of youth development best practices when seeking meaningful participation.

We will convene a 2-day, 1-night gathering at a non-Denver location which is itself a water education facility, such as the Poudre Learning Center (Greeley), Evergreen Lake House (Evergreen), or The Watershed Center (Winter Park). The agenda and facilitation will follow the *Leadership Clinic Manual: Tools for Transforming Conference Design* (National Environmental Education Advancement Project 2001), which focuses on productive small team interactions in strategic planning efforts.

Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)

Convening with high-quality agenda and facilitation that feeds the Year One and beyond Project Plan with youth input and youth development best practices. Banner and podium recognition of all funders.

CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)

Report on Convening including agenda, participant profiles, raw input into Project Plan, and photos. A video report could be made if desired.



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Tasks

Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format: (PLEASE DEFINE ACRONYMS)

Task 2 - (Name)

Project Plan

Description of Task:

With input from the Youth and Water Convening, the Water Education Exemplars review process, and our project partners, we will write a plan for project continuation, including budget projections. It will combine ways of better engaging youth, pathways to drive scale-up of exemplary water education, and plans to raise the necessary funding, with a 3-5-year timeline. Promotion, amplification, and potential replication of Water Education Exemplars will be a focus on the plans. (September 2025)

Method/Procedure:

The writing process for the Project Plan will be similar to the process used to gather partners and generate project plans so far, including this proposal.

Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)

Youth Development, Water Education, and the Colorado Water Plan Continuation Plan, a document that's partly a strategic plan, a business plan, and a grant proposal. It will form the basis of seeking Year One and beyond funding to ramp up the project.

CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)

Youth Development, Water Education, and the Colorado Water Plan Continuation Plan, a document partly a strategic plan, business plan, and grant proposal.

Budget and Schedule

Exhibit B - **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 <u>excel format</u>. A separate <u>excel formatted</u> Budget is required for engineering costs to include rate and unit costs.

Reporting Requirements

Progress Reports: The grantee 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



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Reporting Requirements

the status of the tasks identified in the statement of work, including a description of any major issues that have occurred and any corrective action taken to address these issues. The CWCB may withhold reimbursement until satisfactory progress reports have been submitted.

Final Report: At completion of the project, the grantee shall provide the CWCB a Final Report on the grantee'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.

Payments

Payment will be made based on actual expenditures, must include invoices for all work completed and must be on grantee's letterhead. 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.

The CWCB will pay the last 10% of the <u>entire</u> water activity 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 water activity and purchase order or contract will be closed without any further payment. Any entity that fails to complete a satisfactory Final Report and submit to CWCB within 90 days of the expiration of a purchase order or contract may be denied consideration for future funding of any type from CWCB.

Performance Requirements

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 Grant Guidelines, the CWCB will pay out the last 10% of the budget when the final deliverable is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the final deliverable has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the purchase order or grant will be closed without any further payment.
- (b) Accountability: Per the 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 the 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.



Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Supply Reserve Fund

EXHIBIT B - BUDGET AND SCHEDULE - Direct & Indirect (Administrative) Costs

Date: April 15, 2024

Water Activity Name: Youth Development, Water Education, and the Colorado Water Plan (Year Zero)

Grantee Name: Colorado Watershed Assembly

Task No. (1)	<u>Description</u>	<u>Start Date⁽²⁾</u>	End Date	Matching Funds (cash & in-kind) ⁽³⁾	WSRF Funds	<u>Total</u>
1a	Identify Water Education Exemplars - program evaluations	10/1/2024	2/28/2025	\$ 8,020	\$ 32,080	\$40,100
1b	Identify Water Education Exemplars - documentation	3/1/2025	3/31/2025	\$ 1,560	\$ 6,240	\$7,800
1c	Identify Water Education Exemplars - project community presence	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$ 2,570	\$ 10,280	\$12,850
2a	Convening Youth Participants - recruit and train youth reviewers	10/1/2024	4/15/2025	\$ 838	\$ 3,352	\$4,190
2b	Convening Youth Participants - plan and host 2-day workshop	12/1/2024	6/30/2025	\$ 8,687	\$ 17,498	\$26,185
3	Develop Project Plan	7/1/2025	9/30/2025	\$ 6,075	\$ 24,300	\$30,375
4	Grant Administration	10/1/2024	9/30/2025	\$ 3,500	\$ -	\$3,500
			Total	\$31,250	\$93,750	\$125,000

⁽¹⁾ The single task that include costs for Grant Administration must provide a labor breakdown (see Indirect Costs tab below) where the total WSRF Grant contribution towards that task does not exceed 15% of the total WSRF Grant amount.

- Reimbursement eligibility commences upon the grantee's receipt of a Notice to Proceed (NTP)
- NTP will not be accepted as a start date. Project activities may commence as soon as the grantee enters contract and receives formal signed State Agreement.

The CWCB will pay the last 10% of the entire water activity budget when the Final Report is completed to the satisfaction of the CWCB staff project manager. Once the Final Report has been accepted, the final payment has been issued, the water activity and purchase order (PO) or contract will be closed without any futher payment. Any entity that fails to complete a satisfactory Final Report and submit to the CWCB with 90 days of the expiration of the PO or contract may be denied consideration for future funding of any type from the CWCB.

- Additionally, the applicant shall provide a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of contract execution
- Standard contracting proceedures dictate that the Expiration Date of the contract shall be 5 years from the Effective Date.

⁽²⁾ Start Date for funding under \$50K - ~ 45 Days from Director Approval; Start Date for funding over \$50K - ~90 Days from Board Approval.



Colorado Water Conservation Board

Detailed Budget Estimate

Date: 15-Apr-24

Overhead

Total Cost:

Water Activity Name: Youth Development, Water Education, and the Colorado Water Plan (Year Zero)

Grantee Name: Colorado Watershed Assembly

Proposed project: Program creation to incorporate youth development and environmental education best practices into implementation of the Colorado Water Plan

Task 1 - Identify Water Educ	cation Exemplars					
ub-task	ltem	Hourly I	Rate # Ho		Subt	atal
Identify and evaluate progra		Hourty	vate # iic	uis	Jubi	otai
, р8	Project					
	management/program					
	review	\$	78.00	450) \$	35,100.00
	Program and material fees				\$	-
	Travel - mileage, lodging				\$	-
ocument Water Education	n Exemplars					
	Project					
	management/program					
	review	\$	78.00	100		7,800.00
					\$	-
uild and maintain project p						
	Project					
	management/program		70.00	,		
	review	\$	78.00	150		11,700.00
TOTAL	Travel - mileage, lodging, re	gistration	rees		\$	-
IUIAL						
ask 2 - Convening Youth Pa	articipants					
	•					
ıb-task	Item	Hourly I	Rate # Ho	urs	Subt	otal
ecruit and train youth revie	ewers					
	Project					
	management/program					
	review	\$	78.00	30	\$	2,340.00
	Program and material fees				\$	-
	Travel - mileage, lodging				\$	-
lan and host 2-day worksh	Project					
	project management/program					
	review	\$	78.00	26	\$	2,808.00
	Youth stipends	ږ	, 3.00	30	\$	2,000.00
	Partipant lodging				\$	
	Venue				\$	
	Catering				Ś	
TOTAL	Cutching				,	-
ask 3 - Develop Project Pla	an					
Sub-task	Item	Hourly I	Rate # Ho	urs	Subt	otal
Write a plan for project con	tinuation, including budget projectio	ns				
	Project					
	management/program					
TOTAL	review	\$	78.00	389.42	\$	30,375
TOTAL						
ther Direct Costs						
Grant administration	30)	100			3,000

500

\$3,500