CDM

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Federal Funding Opportunities Study

August 12, 2005

Final Report

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Overview

1.1 Scope of Study

The Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) commissioned this Federal Funding Opportunities Study in an effort to identify and work toward securing federal funds to support Colorado's significant water resources needs. Water supply needs of all water users in Colorado were investigated in the first phase of the Statewide Water Supply Initiative (SWSI). Key recommendations flowing from that effort included an emphasis on pursuing potential sources of federal funding to help address those needs. This report and its accompanying tabulation of grant programs relevant to CWCB's activities provide an initial step toward these goals.

1.2 Water Resources Needs in Colorado

CWCB plays a critical role in the management and protection of Colorado's water resources and is a nationally recognized leader in stream and lake protection. Recently, CWCB and CDM completed the first phase of SWSI, a major step toward further understanding and planning for Colorado's future water resources and supply needs. An important element brought to light as part of SWSI was the major needs of, and potential for conflicts between, Colorado's water users. This Federal Funding Opportunities Study represents CWCB's initial effort to address water users' financial needs and comprises the first phase of a Strategic Federal Funding Initiative.

The financial needs for Colorado's smaller and rural communities, as well as agricultural, and recreational and environmental uses, were highlighted in several of SWSI's key findings, including:

- Without a mechanism to fund environmental and recreational enhancement beyond the project mitigation measures required by law, conflict among users will intensify.

- The ability of smaller, rural water providers and agricultural water users to adequately address their existing and future water needs is significantly affected by their financial capabilities.

- In SWSI roundtable meetings and public meetings in every part of the state, Coloradans made two points clearly and often: 1) financial issues represent the biggest challenge in meeting the state's future water needs and 2) a key role the State could play in addressing those needs is funding and financing assistance

As a first step toward addressing these concerns, CWCB staff has commissioned this Federal Funding Opportunities Study, with an initial focus on identifying federal funding grants that can support the CWCB's ongoing activities. In particular, CWCB may seek federal grants that could serve to match and/or offset ongoing projects and expenditures currently supported through the state severance tax fund and the non-

reimbursable fund. Since most federal funding programs require a non-federal cost share, it is critically important that the CWCB identify and take credit for the state and local contributions – both cash and in-kind – that are already being made available to support projects and related goals. Subsequent phases of this Federal Funding Initiative will build on this first phase via active pursuit of applicable federal grants, legislation, and appropriations.

Section 2
Federal Agencies and Their Role in Water Resources Projects

2.1 Background

This section provides background information on the major Federal agencies that provide funding for water resources projects and their authority to do so. Other agencies offer water resources funding programs and vehicles on a smaller scale, or that are tangential to water resources projects, such as economic development initiative programs.

The three major categories of federal funding and financing assistance are highlighted in Table 2-1. As noted above, CWCB's initial focus will be on existing grant programs; however, the financial limitations and competitive nature of grant programs may drive an interest in moving toward line-item appropriations as this initiative progresses and more significant funding is sought. Also, in addition to the non-repayable grant programs highlighted here, federal loan, loan guarantee, or grant/loan combinations could also be explored to allow water supply and protection solutions to move forward.

Table 2-1 Overview of Federal Funding Types

Category	General Applicability	Advantages	Drawbacks
Existing Grant Programs	Smaller projects or financial needs	▪ Ability to secure funding relatively quickly ▪ "Rules" established in advance	▪ Highly competitive ▪ Inability to tailor to individual needs
Existing Program Authorities	Depends on specific authority	▪ May not need separate congressional authority ▪ "Rules" established in advance	▪ Can be very competitive and variably-funded from year to year ▪ Not all water needs covered by existing authorities ▪ Limited ability to tailor to individual needs
Line-Item Authority & Appropriations ("Earmarks")	Major projects or unique needs	▪ Ability to tailor to individual needs ▪ No competition for appropriated funds	▪ Investment in developing and securing authority/ appropriation ▪ Can take years to secure appropriation

Specific grant opportunities that may be applicable to CWCB's programs, initiatives, and mission are identified in the accompanying attachment to this memorandum. The suggested use of that information is described in more detail in later sections of this memorandum.

As posited by the Western Water Policy Review Advisory Commission, the solutions to western water resources conflicts lies in strategically matching community needs with available authorities and funding opportunities - or creating new authorities and funding structures where present agency capabilities are not sufficient.

2.2 Department of Defense, Army Corps of Engineers

Following a lengthy hiatus of new construction of federally financed water projects under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (WRDA) and subsequent biennial renewals and updates, re-established a tradition and re-invigorated the USACE. WRDA 1986 changed USACE operations policy, increased non-federal cost shares – resulting in broader distribution of funds and planning capability.

The Water Resources Development Act of 2002 (WRDA 2002) developed by the USACE in close coordination with the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee illustrated the tension between expansion of agency mission and downward pressure on agency budgets. While Congress is being encouraged by some to expand assistance to states and local communities in implementing comprehensive water management programs encompassing flood control, water supply, and environmental protection objectives, others are equally strident in making sure that dwindling agency funds remain focused on traditional agency objectives.

The long-delayed WRDA is currently scheduled for debate in both the House and Senate. Once adopted by each body, the respective versions of the legislation will be reconciled and the final, conferenced, bill will be voted on by the Congress and sent to the President. The FY 2006 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, covering the USACE and Bureau of Reclamation budgets and programs, further demonstrates Congress' intention to focus these two agencies on their traditional mission elements and on reducing and targeting spending.

While the USACE is not a granting agency, it does have the ability to fund water resources projects, albeit through Congressional appropriations. The USACE funding projects generally through two programs: the Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) and the Planning Assistance to States (PAS). Large projects are the subject of specific Congressional authorization under the biennial Water Resources Development Act. In instances where needs or projects are "small" in scope, the USACE has authority to act without further authority under the CAP. Here, the USACE has the general authority to study, and if proven feasible, approve and construct certain water

resources development projects. The limits on USACE activities under the CAPs relate to cost-share and total project cost.

Army Corps of Engineers – Continuing Authorities Programs

Section 206 funds aquatic ecosystem restoration projects on a 65 federal/35 non-federal cost share with a $5 million per project cap.

Section 1135 funds environmental improvements projects for modifications to existing Corps projects on a 75 federal/25 non-federal cost share with a $5 million cap.

Section 219 funds specific water supply projects as well as wastewater programs aimed at protecting and enhancing water quality. Cost sharing ratios under this program are 75 federal/25 non-federal for planning, design and construction.

Urban River Restoration Initiative funds environmental quality improvements and economic revitalization via water quality improvement and riparian habitat restoration.

Water Supply Assessment and Technical Assistance funds regional infrastructure to meet supply needs and economic development.

In addition to the CAP, the USACE has authority under Section 22, Planning Assistance to States and under Section 219, Environmental Infrastructure Programs, to assist local government. The PAS allows for comprehensive planning for the development, utilization and conservation of water related land resources. Typical activities studied under the Section 22 Program are flood control, water supply, water conservation, water quality, hydropower, erosion, environmental evaluation, and navigation. These projects are conducted on a 50% cost-share, and the local share can be entirely in in-kind services.

2.3 Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation

For three-quarters of a century the Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) was the premier water development and water infrastructure agency in the West -- with a primary mission of agricultural water supply and a secondary, but no less important, function of hydroelectric power generation. While Reclamation's activities are largely centered upon the construction, operation and maintenance of specifically authorized project and facilities, the agency possesses an organic authority to study watershed and water management and to design water infrastructure.

In general, the Bureau has authority to undertake programs for: Dam Safety; Irrigation Drainage; Drought Emergency; Environmental and Interagency

Coordination; Environmental Program Administration; Indian Projects; Miscellaneous Flood Control; National Fish and Wildlife Foundation; Science and Technology; Technical Assistance to States; Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program; Water Management and Conservation; and Wetlands Development.

Bureau involvement in water resource evaluation or development can be initiated under Bureau organic authority for investigation or pilot project action – through directive statutory language in the federal appropriations process or through specific legislative authority. Construction of a project, however, will almost always require specific legislative authority.

In the midst of this reshaping of policy and management objectives at the Bureau, Congress was also able to provide "rural water supply" project authority to Reclamation for both agriculture and municipal and industrial (M & I) purposes, another significant departure from the traditional agricultural emphasis. Additionally, the funding authority for projects under this authority is significantly different from traditional cost-sharing, with the federal share reaching 75-80% of total project costs.

Similarly, Reclamation was given authority in 1992 to "investigate and identify opportunities for reclamation and reuse of municipal, industrial, domestic and agricultural wastewater, and naturally impaired ground and surface waters" and for the "design and construction of demonstration and permanent facilities to reclaim and reuse wastewater" and to "conduct research, including desalting, for the reclamation of wastewater and naturally impaired ground and surface waters." This authority is now known as the "Title XVI Reclamation and Reuse" Program.

At present Reclamation's annual budget is approximately $800 million, with around $7 billion in backlogged authorized, but not executed construction projects. There is an effort among Western interests to increase Reclamation's budget to $1 billion annually to both reduce the backlog and increase Reclamation's capabilities in light of drought, regulatory, and population-growth induced needs. At the same there is a distinct White House policy of reducing federal agency expenditures. With these forces at play, pressure on existing funds and accounts is significant, particularly where new starts and new activities are proposed.

Recognizing the changing water needs of the West, the realities of financing water resource development, infrastructure rehabilitation and updating, and corresponding policy and program needs, Senators Pete Domenici (R-NM) and Jeff Bingaman (D-NM), with the Bush Administration's support have introduced legislation to address the inability of many rural communities to afford new water infrastructure. S. 895, the Rural Water Supply Act of 2005 provides new, innovative financing options for local development of water supply infrastructure.

The Senators also introduced S. 689, The Community Drinking Water Assistance Act of 2005 to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to establish a program to provide assistance to small communities for use in carrying out projects and activities necessary to achieve or maintain compliance with drinking water standards.

The newest initiative for funding water resources project in the western United States is the Water 2025 Program, presently in its second funding cycle. The program was launched in June of 2003 to encourage water-starved areas to be proactive and forward-thinking in their water supply planning. Interior Secretary Gale Norton awarded $4 million for water resources projects in June 2004 for FY04. Two challenge grant programs were available in FY05, the smaller of which, only $1 million total, was limited to state agencies from the 17 western states. The challenge grants made available specifically to state agencies allow for a broader range of water projects, bur focuses on projects that can be completed within 24 months and will result in more efficient use of existing water supplies through water conservation, efficiency and markets. While the Senate Energy and Water Appropriations bill allocates $20 million for the Water 2025 programs, the House bill contains no funding, arguing that Water 2025 lacks sufficient authority to operate.

2.4 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

In contrast to the USACE and Reclamation's longstanding presence in western water development, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is a relative newcomer. Born of a shift in policy emphasis towards environmental concerns and of regulatory mandate, the EPA and the State Revolving Fund designed to implement Clean Water Act point source pollutant reductions, have significantly evolved.

There are two key EPA funding accounts that are funding through project-specific congressional appropriations. These are the State and Tribal Assistance Grants Account (STAG) and the Environmental Programs Management (EPM). The STAG account funds local water supply and wastewater projects. There is a 55 federal/45 non-federal cost-share, and the funds can be used for both studies and construction. For FY02, Congress approved a $100 million increase for EPA's State and Tribal Assistance Grant Program, rising from $3.63 billion in FY01 to $3.73 billion in FY02. The EPM funds are available on a 95 federal/5 non-federal cost-share for non-construction activities. In FY02, Congress trimmed $33 million from EPA's Environmental Programs and Management Account for a decrease from FY01's $2.88 billion to FY02's $2.055 billion.

While the bulk of water project funded by the EPA are through Congressional appropriation, there are some grant programs available, but they are highly competitive.

Overall, the ongoing and upcoming EPA initiatives and regulatory actions emanating from Clean Water Act implementation will likely be a focus of water project operations, agricultural conservation program application and water quality conflicts.

2.5 Department of Agriculture

2.5.1 Rural Development Programs

Looking beyond the traditional action and regulatory agencies impacting water management and infrastructure development for potential agency partners is important to supporting comprehensive water resource strategies. For instance, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service oversees $750 million annually in grants and loans for development of water projects in rural communities, and for rural, agriculturally based communities.

The USDA Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Water Programs Division oversees four programs providing technical and financial assistance for development and operation of safe and affordable water supply systems, as well as sewage and other waste disposal facilities.

Water and Waste Disposal

The RUS provides loans (with up to 40 year repayment terms), loan guarantees, and grants for water, sewer, storm water, and solid waste disposal facilities in rural areas and towns of up to 10,000 people. Grants under these programs can cover up to 75% of eligible facility development costs, and loan guarantees of 90% of eligible losses incurred by a lender are available. With the loan guarantee, a lender pays a one percent guarantee fee, which can be passed to the loan recipient.

RUS loans and grant funds may be used for construction, repair, modification or other improvement to water supply and distribution, waste treatment or collection systems, and storm drainage or solid waste disposal facilities. Funds may also be used to acquire land, water resources, or water rights, and to pay legal or engineering fees associated with facilities development.

> Rural Business Cooperative Service - Rural Economic and Development Loan Program provides zero interest loans and grants for water infrastructure projects that are critical to economic development in rural areas (less than 20,000 residents).
>
> Rural Utilities Service - Water and Waste Disposal Systems for Rural Communities assists state and local governments with planning, construction and implementation of water and waste disposal facilities in rural areas (less than 10,000 residents).

Emergency Assistance

Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants may be made available to rural communities after a flood, earthquake or other disaster. Funds may be used for extension, repair or significant maintenance of existing water systems; construction of new water sources or delivery infrastructure; development of new wells, reservoirs or treatment plants. Related expenses: legal, engineering, environmental impact analyses, acquisition of rights associated with developing sources of, treating, storing

or distributing water are also covered. Grants of up to $500,000, covering up to 100% of eligible costs, may be made available under this authority.

Technical Assistance and Training
Grants for: identification and evaluation of solutions to water or waste related problems in rural areas; assistance with loan or grant applications under RUS authority; training to improve management, operation or maintenance of water or waste facilities; and, expenses related to provision of technical assistance or training are available. These grants can pay up to 100% of eligible costs.

2.5.2 Farm Bill Conservation Title Programs

Farm Bill Conservation Title programs may also provide federal funding assistance where water quality, habitat conservation and watershed protection are an integral part of a community's or region's resource management plans. The U.S. Department of Agriculture directs a number of programs designed to provide farmers with economic incentives to alter cropping patterns for environmental benefit. Originally conceived as the Soil Conservation Service, and focused on preventing overworking farmland and creating a dustbowl and for checking production, these programs have significantly changed in recent years (particularly since the 1996 Farm Bill). While the economic incentives and the production control elements remain, there has been increased focus on environmentally based conservation of species habitat, wetlands, and grasslands/rangelands.

Because or statutory or regulatory restrictions, the applicability of the USDA conservation programs is largely limited to farming operations in the Midwestern U.S. In 1996 some elements of the environmental community initiated an effort to make USDA conservation programs more broadly applicable – with a focus on conservation of highly valued species habitats. The result of these earlier efforts include the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), the Farmland Protection Program (FPP), the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP), and the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP). Efforts to expand the applicability and capability of USDA conservation programs continue in this regard, and are an important element of the 2002 Farm Bill implementation.

In the face of demand for conservation program participation far in excess of available resources, and in the face of White House budget reductions, Members of both the House and Senate have begun developing support for increased funding for currently authorized USDA conservation programs.

In addition to increasing the amount of available financial resources for current USDA conservation programs, Members of Congress and stakeholders are also seeking to expand the applicability of these programs to include high value lands -- such as in coastal agricultural states and urbanizing areas where property values are particularly high – but where species and habitat (dryland and wetland) conservation concerns are

of equally high importance. Without diminishing the benefit to traditional program recipients, the intended program expansion would provide conservation incentives/benefits to grasslands, rangelands, wetlands, riparian areas and other valuable habitats not currently served.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) - Conservation Operations
Operated under the NRCS rather than the more commodity/production oriented Farm Service Agency, this is the core USDA conservation program and primary source of technical assistance to, among other things, to improve and conserve water, reduce upstream flooding, and enhance fish and wildlife habitat – all for the general purpose of protecting and enhancing the natural resource base.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
This program, administered by the Farm Service Agency, enables producers to retire highly erodible or environmentally sensitive cropland, usually for ten years. Enrollment in the program is statutorily limited to 39.2 million acres. Successful bidders receive annual rental payments. The average payment is approximately $50 per acre.

Funding is mandatory through the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). The 2002 Farm Bill reauthorized the CRP through 2007, and permits the harvesting of biomass for energy on CRP acreage, and makes land on which surface or groundwater is conserved eligible for enrollment. A new one million acre wetlands pilot program is also authorized.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
The CREP provides for payment of higher rents through state-initiated conservation programs. This program targets mitigation of significant agriculture-related environmental impacts. For example, Maryland intends to enroll 100,000 (the regulatory acreage limit per state) acres in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. That program is expected to cost $195 million, with a federal cost share of $170 million. Fourteen other states have approved enhancement programs. California was approved in January 2001.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
This program, administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, is intended to provide a conservation program for farmers and ranchers facing serious threats to soil, water and related natural resources. Half of the program's resources are targeted towards livestock-related natural resource concerns.

EQIP is funded through the CCC. In the 2002 Farm Bill, EQIP is reauthorized through 2007. Program level is increased from $200 million annually to $1.3 billion annually, with livestock producers receiving 60% of annual funding, and crop producers receiving the other 40%. This increase is a result of the great interest expressed by producers in expanding this program because it provides them with a tool to perform multiple land management practices and promote the enhancement of soil, water, air

and other resources. Furthermore, this program assists producers in complying with government regulations.

The EQIP water conservation program provides a total of $600 million for cost-share incentives and assistance for efforts to conserve ground and surface water. Of this amount, $50 million is reserved specifically to assist producers in the Klamath Basin and to address the concerns of smaller producers and socially disadvantaged producers in Oregon and California.

Eligible land includes cropland, rangeland, pasture, forestland, or other agricultural land that the Secretary determines poses a serious threat to soil, air, water or related resources. Total cost-share and incentive payments are limited to $450,000 for all contracts entered into under this chapter by the individual or entity during the period of fiscal years 2002 through 2007, regardless of the number of contracts entered into by the individual or entity.

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)
This program, also administered by the NRCS, is designed to assist landowners (primarily private) in developing and improving wildlife habitat, wetland habitat, and habitat of threatened or endangered species. WHIP can be used to restore aquatic habitat, as well as adjacent streambanks and uplands. Cooperating state agencies, non-profit or private organizations may provide additional funding. WHIP is funded through the CCC. WHIP funds cannot be used for mitigation or on land designated as converted wetland. Generally, the total WHIP cost-share cannot exceed $10,000 per agreement.

Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)
This program, administered by the NRCS, uses easements to protect farmed wetlands. Landowners elect to sell a conservation easement or enter into a cost-share agreement with USDA to restore and protect wetlands. Easements are permanent or 30-year duration. A restoration cost-share agreement requires a minimum 10-year commitment, with a 75% USDA cost share. The landowner provides the restoration site without reimbursement. WRP funds cannot be used for lands converted after December 1985.

2.6 Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) became part of the Department of Homeland Security in the fall of 2001. FEMA is responsible for disaster prevention, mitigation, and rehabilitation across the nation. In particular, the nation's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is operated by FEMA. This program is the nation's primary source of guidance and funding for flood hazard identification and mapping, as well as flood hazard mitigation and assistance. FEMA's most aggressive funding program at present is the Map Modernization program, the objective of which is to update and digitize the nation's flood maps. Congress has presently authorized over

one billion dollars in Map Modernization funds, which is divided among the FEMA regions and from there distributed to local, county, and state agencies.

Section 3
Applying for Federal Grants

3.1 Timeline for Applying for Federal Grants

Given the policy of the current Governor's office requiring advance authorization of any efforts to pursue Federal funding, it is important that CWCB be strategic and informed in applying for any Federal grants. The grant database attached with this report should be used as a starting point; effort has been made to provide a point of contact or a website address for additional information. Specifically, the application and funding details for many grants change from year to year, hence, in order to have at hand the most recent information; CWCB needs to thoroughly investigate grant opportunities on a regular basis prior to applying.

Of importance to CWCB when selecting a grant opportunity to pursue is the level of funding (both total funds and individual awards) and the likelihood of success for any given grant opportunity. While the latter is difficult to predict, information on trends in funding levels and the number of grants awarded through any specific program can be located easily. For Federal funding opportunities, funding levels and awards given is public information and can be found through either the Catalog of Federal Funding Sources or by calling the point of contact for any particular grant program.

Table 3-1 provides a general time frame for requesting funds and suggested timing for researching and applying for Federal grants. Since CWCB is required to apply for state funds up to 18 months in advance of receiving them, requests for severance tax funds and non-reimbursable funds will likely precede grant applications by six to twelve months. Given that many Federal grant opportunities are reoccurring from year to year, CWCB should consider matching grant opportunities with severance tax and non-reimbursable fund requests, even though applications for those grants will not be submitted for up to one year. By requesting severance tax and non-reimbursable funds prior to applying for a Federal grant, CWCB benefits in two ways. First, most Federal grants have matching ("cost-sharing") requirements; if CWCB has already secured a particular amount of funding through either the severance tax fund or the non-reimbursable fund, it can put forth a stronger, more competitive application for a Federal grant. Such was the case in CWCB's recent application for state-agency Water 2025 funds, in which existing state appropriations for SWSI's second phase were shown as a non-federal cost share in the application. Second, CWCB may be better able to acquire in-state funding by demonstrating that it is applying for supplemental Federal funding.

Table 3-1 Timeline for CWCB Project Funding Process.

Activity	2006												2007											
	Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4		
Research grant opportunities																								
Request made for severance tax funds																								
Request made for non-reimbursable funds																								
Apply for grants																								
Non-reimbursable funds available																								
Severance tax funds available																								
Grant money received																								
Projects Start																								

To maintain a viable federal funding effort, portions of this timeline should recur on an annual cycle. In particular, it will be important for CWCB to review its list of requests for severance tax funds, non-reimbursable funds, and construction funds beginning in the fall to winter of each year. Upon review and prioritization of that list for federal funding, CWCB should revisit the available grant opportunities for that particular fiscal year and identify potential matches between funding needs and grant programs.

3.2 Available Grant Programs

A matrix of federal grant programs that are available on a yearly basis for state governments seeking funding for a variety of water resources projects are presented in Table 3-2. This table is also included in expanded electronic format as an Excel spreadsheet. This information was obtained through several public and non-public web-based search engines, which are discussed in detail later in this report. The data of particular importance to CWCB is the due dates, matching requirements and typical project type. This database is meant to serve as the starting point, not an end point, for CWCB's endeavors to obtain federal funding. Hence, it should be updated, revised, and expanded annually to provide an up-to-date "short list" of potentially relevant programs, reflecting changes in both CWCB's evolving mission and objectives, and changes in available grant programs. In addition, a detailed set of grant fact sheets has been prepared with this report providing a greater degree of detail for several grant programs. These fact sheets include additional detail on how

exactly to apply for the grants, a contact name, and details on funding and comments on project types. Where available, information has been included relating to the number of grants awarded compared to the number of applications received.

Those programs most closely matching CWCB's specific projects, coupled with updated information about the level of funding for the targeted grant programs, will form the basis of a prioritized list of grants to pursue. Using the sources of information described in this memorandum, CWCB can then investigate the specific grant programs in more detail. Upon approval from the Governor's office, applications for those prioritized grants can then be submitted. Generally, this will occur in the first and second quarter of each calendar year, though individual grant programs may require submittal at a different time of the year. Grant programs are subject to change on an annual basis so it is imperative that information on specific grant programs be verified prior to committing the time and effort required to submit and application.

3.3 Primary Federal Grant Programs

Four grant programs from the aforementioned database are highlighted in this report. These programs were determined to be most applicable to the greatest number of CWCB projects across all of the sections. The four programs selected are from different agencies and are for varying amounts, in order to provide CWCB with a clearer picture of the wide spectrum of grant programs and levels of effort.

3.3.1 Bureau of Reclamation Water 2025 Challenge Grant Program

As mentioned in an earlier section, Interior Secretary Gale Norton implemented the Water 2025 Program to encourage water-starved western states to take pro-active approaches with respect to planning, conservation, collaboration, and research into innovative technologies that may help alleviate the pressure on water supplies. The centerpiece of this program is a series of challenge grants, the most recent of which, the Western States Challenge Grants, was made available only to governments of the 17 western states. The Bureau received 25 applications for this grant program and will make four awards. CWCB did submit an application for this grant for the second phase of SWSI; however, it did not receive one of the awards. The process of applying for a Water 2025 grant was a valuable learning experience with respect to the advance planning and level of effort required to submit an application for a grant of this magnitude.

Table 3-2. Federal Grant Database for Water Resources Projects

Federal Entity	Major Grant Programs	Description	Project Types Funded				Annual Funding Available (Per Project)	Annual Total Program Funding (Most recent information)	State/Local Matching Requirement (Minimum)	Approximate Due Date	Contact Information	CWCB Section Applicability					
			Planning	Design	Research	Construction						Water Supply Protection	Stream & Lake Protection	Flood Protection	Conservation & Drought Planning	Decision Support Systems	Water Supply Planning & Finance
Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8	Consolidated Funding Process Grants	Consolidated grant process for all of Region 8 programs including the Water Quality Cooperative Agreements, TMDLs, Wetlands Protection Projects, and Source Water Protection Projects.	X	X	X	X	$45k	$2.5m	Varies	Mid December	http://www.epa.gov/region8/ecosystems/cfp.html	X	X				
Environmental Protection Agency	Targeted Watersheds Assistance Program	All manner of watershed preservation and protection projects. Projects that improve water quality as well as improve habitat, enhance floodplain storage, etc, are eligible. **Nomination of Governor is required.**	X				$600k to $900k	$15m expected for FY06	25%	Mid May	http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/initiative/	X	X	X			
Environmental Protection Agency	Wetlands Program Development Grants	Projects that promote the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys, and studies relating to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution.	X	X		X	N/A	$500k	25%	Late April	http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/grantguidelines/	X	X	X			
Department of the Interior	Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program	River conservation, floodplain planning, watershed planning	X	X		X	N/A	N/A	None	Early August	http://www.nps.gov/rtca		X	X			
Department of the Interior	Land and Water Conservation Fund	Design and construction of projects that provide recreational benefits as well as environmental/habitat enhancement	X	X		X	Varies	$89m	50%	Varies by State	http://www.nps.gov/lwcf/	X	X	X			
Department of the Interior	North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grants Program	Funds projects for the protection and enhancement of wetlands	X		X		$50k to $1m	$35m	50%	Late July	http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/NAWCA/grants.htm						
Federal Emergency Management Agency	Flood Mitigation Assistance	Identification and implementation of flood mitigation and prevention projects	X	X		X	Varies; generally $75k min	Varies	75%	Mid July	http://www.fema.gov/fima/fma.shtm			X			
Federal Emergency Management Agency	Cooperating Technical Partners Flood Hazard Mapping Program	Partnerships for States and other entities to enhance flood hazard mapping, and DFIRM production and conversion	X				Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	http://www.fema.gov/fhm/ctp_main.shtm			X			
Federal Emergency Management Agency	Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program	Activated only following a presidentially-declared disaster; available for long-term projects designed to reduce impacts from disasters	X			X	Varies	Varies	25%	Within 12 months of a Presidentially-declared disaster	http://www.fema.gov/fima/hmgp/			X			
Bureau of Reclamation	Water2025 Challenge Grant Program for Western States	Projects that can be completed within 24 months and that reduce conflicts through water conservation, efficiency, and markets.	X				Up to $250k	$1m	50%	Mid June	http://www.doi.gov/water2025/states.html	X	X		X	X	X
Bureau of Reclamation	Water2025 Challenge Grants	Projects that can be completed within 24 months and that reduce conflicts through water conservation, efficiency, and markets.	X				Up to $300k	Unknown	50%	Unknown	http://www.doi.gov/water2025/	X	X		X	X	X
Bureau of Reclamation	Desalination and Water Purification Research and Development Program	Research, pilot studies, or demonstration projects to develop new water supplies	X	X	X		N/A	$1.4m	75%	Late June	http://www.usbr.gov/pmts/acquisitions/AAMSsol.html	X					
Bureau of Reclamation	Water Conservation Field Services Program	Funds projects that improve water use efficiency and improve water management practices	X				Up to $25k	$300k	None	Varies	http://www.usbr.gov/waterconservation/index.html	X			X	X	
Department of Agriculture	Watershed Protection and Flood Protection Program	Technical assistance is provided in planning, designing, and implementing watershed rehabilitation works of improvement; projects may include reconstruction or decommissioning of the dam and relocation or flood proofing of downstream property; primarily dam rehabilitation	X	X		X	Averages $770k per state	$75m	75%	Eligible project sponsors may submit formal requests for assistance to the NRCS state conservationists at any time.	http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/watershed/index.html	X	X	X			
Department of Agriculture	Watershed Processes and Water Resources Program	Sponsors research that address two areas: (1) Understanding fundamental watershed processes and (2) Developing appropriate technology and management practices for improving the effective use of water (consumptive and non-consumptive) and protecting or improving water quality for agricultural and forestry production.	X		X		$100k	$4.3m	Case-dependant	On going	http://www.crees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/nri_rfa.html	X	X		X	X	X
Department of Agriculture	Emergency Watershed Protection	Funds emergency projects required to preserve lives and property threatened by natural disasters such as floods, tornadoes, and hurricanes.	X			X	Varies	Varies	25%	Varies	http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/ewp/	X	X	X			
Department of Agriculture	Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program	Salinity control projects within the Colorado River Basin	X	X	X	X	Varies	Unknown	30%	Unknown	http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/salinity/	X					
Department of Agriculture	National Research Initiative Standard Research (Part T): Watershed Processes and Water Resources	Innovative research in understanding fundamental processes that affect the quality and quantity of water resources at diverse spatial and temporal scales, ways on improving water resource management in agricultural, forested, and rangeland watersheds, and developing appropriate technology to reach those goals.	X		X		$500k	$120m	None	Early March	moneill@csrees.usda.gov	X	X	X	X	X	
Department of Agriculture	Water and Wastewater Supply Systems for Rural Communities	Funds projects that support the development of rural water systems; would require CWCB to partner with conservation district or local government.	X	X		X	$600k	$400m plus	Unknown	Contact state representative	www.usda.gov/rus/water/programs.htm						X
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	General Matching Grants Program	Funds projects that promote fish and wildlife conservation as well as conservation of their habitats	X	X	X	X	Varies	Unknown	None	Fall	http://nfwf.org/programs/guidelines.htm	X	X	X	X		
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	Bring Back the Natives Grant Program	Funds "on the ground" projects that help to restore native populations of sensitive or listed aquatic species. Specifically encourages projects with a public/private partnership component		X		X	Up to $100k maximum	$1.15m	50%	Mid February	http://www.nfwf.org/programs/bbn.htm	X					
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	Hydrologic Research Grants	To conduct joint research and development on pressing surface water hydrology issues common to National, regional, local operational offices. Eligible applicants are Federally recognized agencies of State or local governments, quasi-public institutions such as water supply or power companies, hydrologic consultants and companies involved in using and developing hydrologic forecasts.			X		Up to $125k	$500k	None	18-Nov-05	www.grants.gov			X	X		
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration / National Weather Service	Automated Flood Warning Systems	The objective of the Automated Flood Warning Systems Program is to provide funding to communities with flood or flash flood problems that affect safety of life and property to assist them in creating, renovating, or enhancing Automated Flood Warning Systems (AFWS).	X	X			Up to $100k	$500k	None	Mid October	www.grants.gov			X			

The Water 2025 program directly aligns with CWCB's mission in nearly all sections; furthermore, indications are that it will continue to receive appropriations from the federal government for sometime. There will be another round of challenge grants that, while likely open to a wider array of applicants, will also have a larger pool of funding. In FY05, the Bureau awarded over 40 grants, ranging in value from $100k to $300k to water districts, local governments, irrigation districts, and other entities in over 13 states. There were three grants awarded to entities in Colorado, one to a irrigation company, one to a groundwater management sub-district, and one to a combined proposal from two water conservancy districts. Each grant was for $200k or more. The Water 2025 program is probably CWCB's most likely candidate for larger grants of over $100k.

While the application process for the next round of challenge grants is not yet known, CWCB can expect the process to be similar to that for the Western States Challenge Grants. There is a lengthy application form which requires a significant amount of detail and technical information. Applicant instructions as well as the application form will be available on the Water 2025 website, www.doi.gov/water2025.

As can be expected with the larger grant programs where larger award amounts are at stake, the Western States Challenge Grant application required no fewer than 40 FTE hours to put together a comprehensive application with supporting documentation. It is recommended that CWCB assign a point person to track the Water 2025 Challenge Grant Programs and to coordinate applications in advance to minimize competition within the state government. Furthermore, given the significant amount of effort involved in assembling the Water 2025 Challenge Grant applications, it is important for CWCB to have a significant amount of preparation time before the grant is due. A strategic way for CWCB to be able to apply Water 2025 to a number of smaller programs (rather than just to one single project, such as SWSI), would be to group a set of projects with smaller funding requirements together and apply jointly for funding. Most importantly, however, given the potential funding value for CWCB with respect to the Water 2025 program, CWCB needs to have a single person responsible for tracking and coordinating application efforts.

3.3.2 NOAA Hydrologic Research Grants

In contrast to the grand scale of the Water 2025 program are the smaller grants offered through NOAA for a wide variety of hydrologic research projects. There is also a similar grant program available through NOAA for early flood warning systems. While current FY 2006 funding is contingent upon Congressional appropriations, the agency expects to grant four awards for up to $125,000 annually for a project period of one to three years. In FY04, NOAA received 28 applications for Hydrologic Research Grants and made four awards. Past applicants and awards were namely academic institutions; however, state and local governments are eligible. Since matching is not required for this grant, demonstration of such funds does not give CWCB a competitive advantage. CWCB may be able to increase their competitive for this

grant program by partnering with engineering or environmental science departments at either the University of Colorado or Colorado State University and submitting as co-applicants. Pre-proposals for the FY06 Hydrologic Research Grants must be received by November 18, 2005, and final proposals are due on January 31, 2006. Applications for this grant can be submitted online through the Grants.gov website.

3.3.3 U.S. EPA Targeted Watershed Assistance Grants

The Targeted Watershed Assistance Grant program is a relatively new initiative authorized in 2002 by President George W. Bush to support projects that protect watersheds valued for drinking water, fisheries, recreation, and other important uses. This program is based on an approach that focuses on improving watersheds as a route to improving overall water quality and restoring water resources. This approach recognizes needs for water supply, water quality, flood control, navigation, hydropower generation, fisheries, biodiversity, habitat preservation and recreation. It also recognizes that these needs often compete. As a result, projects selected under this program must focus on an integrated ecosystem-based approach to conservation and restoration throughout a watershed. These grants specifically seek projects that are multi-faceted and have a consortium of stakeholders such as community watershed groups, government entities, and other such water users.

As suggested with the Water 2025 program, the Targeted Watershed Assistance grant program is an opportunity for CWCB staff to coordinate across the sections and potentially group projects together to put forth a stronger application. For example, CWCB could apply for a project that has a floodplain management component, a natural lake-level study component, an invasive species control component, and a recreational enhancements component.

There are two key components to successful applications for the Targeted Watershed Assistance Grants. First, the nomination of the governor is required for the EPA to even consider an application. Since CWCB is presently required to secure approval from the Governor's office before submitting any applications for federal funding, CWCB is well situated to garner support for a particular project at the same time as seeking approval. It is important to note that each governor may only nominate two watersheds from his or her state; however, he or she may nominate an unlimited number of watersheds that cover two or more states. The second key component for a successful application for this particular grant program is a well-organized group of partner agencies and entities. This is actually a win-win situation for CWCB, given the findings of the SWSI final report where many users, entities and organizations voiced the need for financial support, particularly for environmental projects, from CWCB.

The Targeted Watershed Assistance Grant program is a well-funded one; there is over $10 million in funding available for the FY05 program and individual awards are expected to range between $600k and $900k. Although the deadline for the FY05 program passed in mid-May, it is expected that the FY06 solicitation for proposal will

be available in February 2006. The application package should consist of title page with relevant project information (i.e., contact info, project title), 150-word abstract, project work plan, education and outreach activities. At this time, there are no indications that electronic submittals are allowed; proposals must be submitted via mail or hand-delivery. As with the Water2025 program, pursuing a large grant program like the Targeted Watershed Assistance program will require a significant amount of preparation and research to not only identify an alignment of a CWCB project with the grant program, but also identify a solid group of partner entities and organizations. For the FY05 grants, the EPA received over 50 nominations, including two from Colorado. The Colorado nominees were Clear Creek and the North Fork River watersheds, nominated on behalf of the Clear Creek Watershed Foundation and North Fork River Improvement Association.

3.3.4 U.S. EPA Region 8 Consolidated Funding Process

Starting with FY01, Region 8 redesigned their funding process in order to offer "one-stop-shopping" to applicants seeking funding in specific funding areas by sending out a single, multi-program RFP. This process is referred to as the consolidated funding process (CFP) and covers the Wetlands Program Development Grants, Cooperative Water Quality Agreements, Source Water Protection Funding, and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Funding. Authority for the CFP is under Section 104(b)(3) of the Clean Water Act. In order to more closely align EPA Region 8's environmental accomplishments with the regional priorities, emphasis is being placed on soliciting proposals that support Regional priorities. All CFP funding areas will include ranking criteria that evaluate proposals for both program specific components as well as alignment with regional priorities. Region 8's priorities are: 1) Agriculture; 2) Energy; 3) Homeland Security; and, 4) Revitalization. Of these priorities, agriculture and revitalization most closely align with CWCB's mission, however, it is possible that the Water Supply Protection Section could develop projects that align with the homeland security priority. The advantage of the Region 8 CFP is that a very large number of awards are made and competition is regional, not national. Candidate projects are those that can be completed within 12 to 18 months. CWCB is not probably eligible to apply for TMDL or the Water Quality funding; however, it can apply for funding in the other areas. CWCB should expect the RFP for this funding program to be announced in mid October 2005 for FY06. As with other grant programs, CWCB should designate a point person to be in charge of coordinating applications for this grant program. Indications are that CWCB may submit more than one application in a given year, though this could not be confirmed.

3.4 Additional Grant Programs

In addition to the four grant programs presented in detail in the previous section, CDM researched additional grants that also have applicability to CWCB projects. Table 3-2 indicates which CWCB section each grant program applies to. As with the four primary grant programs described in Section 3.3, grant programs often apply to

more than one section and encourage multi-faceted projects that accomplish multiple objectives. The next section presents these grants by agency.

3.4.1 U.S. EPA Grant Programs

The **Wetlands Program Development** (WPD) grants fund projects that promote the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys, and studies relating to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution. As with the Region 8 CFP grants and the Targeted Watershed Assistance grants, the authority for the WPD grants is through Section 104(b)(3) of the Clean Water Act. In the FY2005 RFP, the emphasis was on projects that addressed the four national wetland program priorities that EPA has identified: 1) strengthening State/Tribal comprehensive wetland programs; 2) developing a comprehensive wetland monitoring and assessment program; 3) improving the effectiveness of compensatory mitigation; and 4) refining the protection of vulnerable wetlands and aquatic resources. It is expected that the RFP for the next fiscal year will be released in late February. In Colorado, applications for this program may also be submitted through the CFP grant process described in the previous section.

3.4.2 U.S. Department of the Interior Grant Programs

The largest number of federal grant programs for water resources projects is in the Bureau, administered under the Department of the Interior. The **Water Conservation Field Services Program** funds projects that improve water use efficiency and improve water management practices. These grants are typically offered to major geographic and hydrologic regions in the western U.S. The most recent RFP available for Colorado sought projects specifically in the Bureau's Upper Colorado Region, which includes western Colorado, southeast Idaho, New Mexico, southwest Texas, Utah, northeast Arizona, and southwestern Wyoming. As with other Bureau programs, a hard-copy application must be submitted; it cannot be faxed or emails. Information required in the application typically includes a description of the proposed project and how it will accomplish the goals of the Water Conservation Field Services Program, a schedule, and budget. Total funds for each Water Conservation Field Services Program grant RFP is typically around $500,000, with awards of up to $25,000. The grantee is required to provide a 50% match of total project funds.

The **Desalination and Water Purification Research and Development Program** is another smaller grant program through the Bureau. It specifically seeks to encourage the development of technologies to augment the supply of water in the U.S. Funding is available for three types of projects: research and laboratory studies, pilot-scale projects, and demonstration-scale projects. Total FY05 program funds are $1.4 million, with award amounts varying depending on project type. Applicants for this grant program must generally provide a minimum 75% of project costs in non-Federal cash or in-kind resources.

Other programs operated by the Department of the Interior outside of the Bureau include the **Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance Program**. The general purpose of this programs is to assist local and State governments and community groups to conserve rivers, preserve open space, and develop trails and greenways. The goal is to help applicants achieve on-the-ground conservation successes for their projects. The program provides staff assistance to help build partnerships to achieve community-set goals, assess resources, develop concept plans, engage in public participation, and identify potential sources of funding. Although these are not likely grant programs that CWCB itself would apply for, knowledge of these programs will be instrumental in developing partnerships with other users and executing water resources projects with conservation and recreational components through these partnerships.

3.4.3 U.S. Department of Agriculture Grant Programs

The National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), which operates under the USDA, administers the Watershed Protection and Flood Protection. The **Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act** (PL 83-566), August 4, 1954, as amended, authorized NRCS to cooperate with States and local agencies to carry out works of improvement for soil conservation and for other purposes including flood prevention; conservation, development, utilization and disposal of water; and conservation and proper utilization of land. This program provides technical assistance in planning, designing, and implementing watershed rehabilitation works of improvement. Included in this program are projects involving the decommissioning and/or rehabilitation of dams as well as watershed planning studies. Annual program funding for FY05 is approximately $75 million and there is a 3:1 matching requirement; according to the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance, approximately 90% of requests are funded. Applicants seeking funds through this program can apply at any time directly through the state NRCS office.

The NRCS also administers the **Emergency Watershed Protection Program** (EWPP) which provides funding for such work as clearing debris from clogged waterways, restoring vegetation, and stabilizing river banks. The measures that are taken must be environmentally and economically sound and generally benefit more than one property owner. EWP also provides funds to purchase floodplain easements as an emergency measure. Floodplain easements restore, protect, maintain, and enhance the functions of the floodplain; conserve natural values including fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, flood water retention, ground water recharge, and open space; reduce long-term federal disaster assistance; and safeguard lives and property from floods, drought, and the products of erosion. These funds are available only within 60 days of a natural disaster and are most likely applicable in Colorado to mitigation activities in the wake of a wild fire.

The **Watershed Processes Program** sponsors basic and mission-linked research that address two areas: (1) Understanding fundamental processes controlling a) source areas and flow pathways of water, b) the transport and fate of water, sediment,

nutrients, dissolved matter, and organisms (including water-borne pathogens), within forest, rangeland, and agricultural environments as influenced by watershed characteristics and contaminant origin, and c) water quality. (2) Developing appropriate technology and management practices for improving the effective use of water (consumptive and non-consumptive) and protecting or improving water quality for agricultural and forestry production, including the evaluation of management policies that affect the quantity and quality of water resources. This program is administered through the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service's National Research Initiative Competitive Program. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance indicates that approximately 10 – 15 percent of projects are funded, with the typical highest award amount being $100 thousand.

3.4.4 Federal Emergency Management Agency Grant Programs

FEMA's **Flood Mitigation Assistance Program** (FMA) provides assistance to states for the planning and implementation of flood mitigation and prevention. In this annual program, funding is given directly to a state agency (i.e., CWCB), who then acts as the grantee for local communities or counties. CWCB retains a portion of the funds to cover the cost of administering the program. The state is responsible for prioritizing programs, evaluating applications, making awards, and coordinating with FEMA. Approximately $20 million is available annually, with typical award amounts averaging $75 thousand and a 3:1 match required.

Like the NRCS, FEMA also has an emergency grant program available to states in cases of Presidential disasters called the **Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program**. In Colorado, these typically include wild fires, flash floods, and tornadoes. Projects may include long-term planning projects to prevent and mitigate damage in case of a disaster as well as the implementation of mitigation measures during the immediate recovery from a disaster. FEMA can fund up to 75% of the total eligible project costs; as the number and severity of Presidential disasters varies each year, so does the annual funding for this program. Applications for assistance through this program are routed through the FEMA Regional office.

Another program administered by FEMA is the **Cooperating Technical Partners Program**, which aims to build community partnerships and improve the accuracy of the nation's flood maps. CTP Program-related activities may be funded based on FEMA's priority of mapping needs and the availability of FEMA funds for mapping. If FEMA funds are provided, the Partner will receive funds through a Cooperative Agreement. Because the FEMA mapping budget varies annually, the amount of funding for CTP Program-related activities also will vary. Each FEMA Regional Office will determine how much of its annual mapping budget will be allocated to mapping activities under the CTP Program. The Cooperative Agreements awarded for mapping activities under the CTP Program are intended to supplement, not supplant, ongoing mapping efforts by a Partner, whether it be a community, regional agency, or State agency. Funds provided by FEMA would be in addition to the resources

provided by the Partner for the mapping activities. The State of Colorado is already actively engaged in this program.

3.4.5 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant Programs

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) administers two grant programs that apply to CWCB projects. Namely, the **General Matching Grants Program**, funds projects that promote fish and wildlife conservation as well as conservation of their habitats. Grants are awarded to projects that: (1) address priority actions promoting fish and wildlife conservation and the habitats on which they depend; (2) work proactively to involve other conservation and community interests; (3) leverage available funding; and (4) evaluate project outcomes. FY05 funds for this program are approximately $4 million, with a median award amount of $75 thousand. NFWF funds must be matched on at least a 1:1 basis, although 2:1 is encouraged, and higher ratios are more competitive.

NFWF also administers the **Bring Back the Natives Grant Program**, which provides funds to restore damaged or degraded riverine habitats and their native aquatic species through watershed restoration and improved land management. Funding is provided by the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and USDA Forest Service. The program seeks multi-faceted project that include and or all of address any or all of the following: (1) revised land management practices to eliminate causes of habitat degradation; (2) multiple species benefits, (3) direct benefits to native fish and aquatic community resources; (4) multiple resource management objectives, (5) multiple project partners and innovative partnerships; (6) where appropriate, demonstration of a landscape ecosystem approach; and (7) innovative projects that develop new technology that can be shared with others. Total FY05 program funding is approximately $1.1 million, with a typical award amount of $100 thousand. 1:1 match is required, but at least a 2:1 match is preferred. Applicants with a 2:1 or higher match will be competitive in the selection process.

3.4.6 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Grant Programs

There are two grant programs administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) that are applicable to the Flood Protection Section. The purpose of the **Hydrologic Research Grant** program is to encourage joint research and development on pressing surface water hydrology issues common to National, regional, local operational offices. Typically applicants for this grant are academic institutions; however, state governments are eligible and this program could be a potential partnering opportunity for CWCB. FY05 funding for the program is $500 thousand and there will be four awards this year of $125 thousand each. This is a yearly grant program, which RFPs generally solicited in July for the following year. NOAA also administers the **Automated Flood Warning Systems Program**, which operates under nearly identical parameters as the Hydrologic Research Grants. The objective of the Automated Flood Warning Systems Program is

to provide funding to communities with flood or flash flood problems that affect safety of life and property to assist them in creating, renovating, or enhancing Automated Flood Warning Systems (AFWS).

3.5 Resources for Identifying Additional Federal Grant Opportunities

Funding levels and grant opportunities vary from year to year, and it is important to regularly verify information regarding specific grant opportunities as well as keep informed of new opportunities as they are made available. This section describes some of the available resources for identifying Federal grant opportunities. The following section provides guidance regarding the processes that CWCB might institutionalize to coordinate its funding requests to the state legislature with its Federal funding requests.

There are a variety of resources available for identifying Federal grant opportunities applicable to CWCB. Three internet search engines, operated by the Federal government, are available to the public free of charge. The online Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance, http://12.46.245.173/cfda/cfda.html, allows users to search for Federal funding based on keywords, matching requirements, and Federal agency, among others. Information returned includes funding authority, total program funding levels, individual grant amounts, contact information, deadlines, and matching requirements. This website is updated biweekly or as often as new information is available by the General Services Administration.

A similar but more comprehensive website is www.Grants.gov, which is one of 24 President's Management Agenda E-Government initiatives. Managed by the Department of Health and Human Services, Grants.gov provides a simple, unified electronic storefront for interactions between grant applicants and the Federal agencies that manage grant funds. Many grant applications may actually be completed and submitted online through Grants.gov.

Finally, the EPA maintains the Catalog of Federal Funding Sources for Watershed Protection, located online at http://cfpub.epa.gov/fedfund/. This website allows users to search for grant opportunities by agency, eligibility, type of assistance, and keyword. The information returned is similar to that found in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance; however, it is more simplified and user-friendly. It is not clear, however, how regularly the information on this particular website is updated. Thus it is recommended that information obtained from the Catalog of Federal Funding Sources for Watershed Protection be corroborated by either Grants.gov or the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.

In addition to the publicly available search engines described above, there are other grant-locating services available for variable fees. As an example, eCivis.com, a product of The Furgeson Group, a Washington-based lobbying firm, offers a detailed grant search engine as well as training, research and consulting services. This product

is useful and is updated on a daily basis. eCivis.com requires and annual subscription based on the population the agency serves. CWCB should consider the relative costs and benefits of subscribing to such a service as it moves forward with the Federal Funding Initiative requires an annual subscription based on the population the agency serves. Appendix A presents a set of eight fact sheets which serve as an information resource for each federal grant.

3.6 Challenges for CWCB in Applying for Federal Funding

CWCB faces three main challenges in developing their program for securing grant money from the federal government. The first is staff time; larger grant programs, such as Water 2025 require a significant sustained effort to track and apply for. It is recommended that CWCB select only one or two major grant programs such as Water 2025 and the Targeted Watershed Assistance Program, and designate a point person for each. It is recognized, however, that CWCB staff presently have limited time available for such work. Therefore, CWCB management will need to determine the extent to which they wish to pursue the major grant programs and potentially engage a consultant to help track and apply for them.

The second challenge that CWCB faces is that seeking out federal funding sources is presently not part of the state "culture." In order to fully engage in the process of securing federal grants and ultimately federal line-item appropriations, CWCB needs to experience a culture shift wherein management regularly consider federal funding as a means to supplement state funding for water resources projects. The development of such institutional knowledge will certainly take time and it is important to recognize that if a first attempt at applying for a federal grant is unsuccessful, the entire initiative should not be considered a failure. A way to encourage CWCB management to develop their knowledge of federal funding sources would be to require staff to suggest potential federal grant programs when requesting severance tax or non-reimbursable funds from the state for their project. Certainly not all CWCB projects directly align with a federal grant program and ultimately the best way to secure federal funding is to obtain line-item appropriations; however, many CWCB programs do align with grant programs and the more grants CWCB applies for, the more likely staff pursuits are to meet with success.

The third challenge facing CWCB is the coordinated effort and approval process from the governor's office prior to applying for federal funds. Requests for Governor's office approval should be coordinated through the office of the Director of the Division of Natural Resources, and should be accompanied by the following information (at a minimum):

- Name and brief description of project for which funding is sought;
- Deadline for CWCB receipt of Governor's office approval and deadline for submission of grant approval to granting agency;

- CWCB contact person and program under which this project will be managed;
- Brief rationale for grant request and selection of grant program selected for application;
- Total project cost, amount of grant request, and source(s) of non-federal funding for the project;
- Project schedule highlights;
- Brief description of consequences if this grant is not secured.

Frequent coordination and communication with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and/or Governor's office personnel will be necessary to secure Governor's office approval in a timely manner. It is recommended that CWCB work with the DNR and the Governor's office to develop a linear process for securing approval from the Governor's office including the establishment of a turn-around time. It is realistic to expect that if CWCB begins to incorporate applying for federal funding into their projects on a more regular basis, the process for securing Governor approval will streamline.

3.7 Other Approaches to Obtaining Federal Funding

Pursuit of funding under existing grant programs can form a key component of a federal funding initiative. Many public, private, and other non-governmental organizations have staff dedicated to identifying and applying for funding under the various grant programs made available from federal agencies; however, as noted in an earlier section, "application-based" grants are among the most competitive means of obtaining federal funding and often have typical funding levels or maximum per-project financial constraints that fall below the needs associated with CWCB's major projects and initiatives. Furthermore, many federal agency programs traditionally operated via competitive grant process are subject to specific Congressional allocation or "earmarking", placing those wholly dependent on the traditional process at a potential disadvantage.

To that end, as CWCB implements its Federal Funding Initiative, it may expand its assessment and pursuit of funds to other existing federal authorities and/or line-item appropriations. In doing so, CWCB should recognize that the process for obtaining line-item appropriations differs significantly from applying to agencies for grants. Instead of responding to programs made available to public and private entities by the federal agencies, CWCB would need to actively engage the Colorado Congressional delegation to draft, introduce, support and defend legislative language and line-item appropriations. If and when passed, the federal agencies would then be legislatively directed to execute the legislative language, which would specify the use of those funds for the requested CWCB activities.

SWSI provides a strong and visible platform for CWCB and Coloradans to highlight the state's water and financial needs to our Congressional Delegation. In addition to highlighting the results of SWSI, Colorado can point to our existing state and local funding initiatives, such as the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) program and Division of Wildlife Grant programs, as demonstration of our local commitment to leveraging federal dollars to meet our water supply and protection needs. Nearly every federal grant program includes a non-federal ("local") cost-share requirement. By acknowledging the state and local funding programs already in place, federal funding could be secured with fewer "new" state and local funding contributions.

In addition to single-agency grant submittals initiated by CWCB, the CWCB may also consider seeking out partnerships with other governmental and/or non-governmental entities. Some of the most successful pursuits of federal funding often come from broad-based coalitions of support. Congressional delegations often view diversity in the applicability and support for a given project – both geographic and in they types of interests involved – as a strength towards achieving multiple objectives while not alienating any particular group. Coalitions of public and private entities such as those supporting improvements to the urban reaches of the South Platte River in Denver can prove very powerful in moving a project forward through the federal funding process. Moreover, many governmental and non-governmental have established grant pursuit activities as an integral part of their business, such that partnerships between CWCB and those entities could leverage the financial and staff resources of each.

Section 4
Summary and Future Considerations

4.1 Need for Supplemental Federal Funding

Across the West, there is a growing disparity between current and future demand and the capabilities of existing water resources and clean water infrastructure, a fact openly recognized by Congress and the Federal agencies. During the last five years numerous initiatives have been introduced and debated in Congress to address the gap between the funds needed to develop or rehabilitate the nation's water infrastructure and what is currently authorized or available at the federal level. Some estimates of this funding gap range upwards of $900 billion over the next 30 years. Budget realities prevent adoption of any spending program that would address this matter in the traditional manner of simply granting funds to states and local governments.

Financing is *the* critical path obstacle to achieving medium and large scale infrastructure objectives; however, the scope and magnitude of the infrastructure funding "gap" all but prohibit large-scale federal capital investment in any single project or program. New funding mechanisms such as federal guarantees of private financing – to make municipal infrastructure an acceptable risk to the financial community – are being considered.

4.2 Grant Programs That Align with CWCB Programs

Based on information from recent Severance Tax Fund requests, CDM paired CWCB projects with applicable federal grant programs. This information is illustrated in Table 4-1. The intent of this table is not only to provide CWCB staff with a general idea of grants that may apply to their sections' projects, but also to illustrate the applicability of some major grant programs to multiple CWCB sections' projects. Many grant programs are applicable to a fairly wide range of projects, not simply to allow for many different applicants, but to encourage applicants to develop more complex projects that are multi-faceted and multi-objective in nature. For example, the USEPA Targeted Watershed Assistance Grants, discussed in detail in Section 3.2, specifically looks for watershed-wide projects that have, among other things, a public outreach component, a recreational component an ecological component and a water quality component. Furthermore, most grant programs specifically look for the presence of stakeholder groups and government/public partnerships. These requirements have the potential to be very beneficial to CWCB. It can enable CWCB to execute larger, more complex, multi-disciplinary projects and to more effectively leverage severance tax and reimbursable fund requests against matching requirements. Additionally, the requirements for partnerships or stakeholder groups can aid CWCB in addressing one of the major findings of the SWSI Final Report, which was the need develop additional funding mechanisms for environmental and recreational water uses.

Table 4-1 Grant Programs Aligning with CWCB Projects

CWCB Section	Project[1]	Applicable Grant
Water Supply Protection	Bent Tamarisk Removal Project	USEPA Region 8 CFP Grants
	Native Species Conservation Program	USEPA Region 8 CFP Grants
Flood Protection	Development of Infiltration and Unit Hydrograph Parameters for Inflow Design Flood Studies	NOAA Hydrologic Research Grant
	Multi-Objective Watershed Restoration Projects	USEPA Targeted Watershed Assistance Grants
Conservation & Drought Planning	Irrigation Water Management	BOR Water Conservation Field Services Program BOR Water 2025 Challenge Grants
	SWSI	BOR Water 2025 Challenge Grants
Stream & Lake Protection	Natural Lake Level Data Collection	NFWF General Grants Matching Program USEPA Targeted Watershed Assistance
	Instream Flow Program Outreach and Education	USEPA Region 8 CFP Grants USEPA Targeted Watershed Assistance
Decision Support Systems	DSS Development and Updates	BOR Water 2025 Challenge Grants USEPA Targeted Watershed Assistance
Water Supply Planning & Finance	Rural Water Supply Planning	BOR Water 2025 Challenge Grants
	DeBeque Water Intake and Water Supply Study	BOR Water 2025 Challenge Grants

[1] Obtained from February 2004 and 2005 Severance Tax Fund requests

4.3 Specific Recommendations for Obtaining Federal Grants

In order to actively and effectively pursue federal funding for water resources projects, the staff of CWCB must develop a coordinated, well-orchestrated strategy. As discussed in Section 3, CWCB staff will be required to think differently when planning their yearly project funding requests. Specifically, the following is recommended:

- Identify and actively pursue one or two major grant programs;
- Identify a staff member to track the major grant programs and coordinate application efforts;

- Identify section projects that may be combined to more effectively leverage major grant money;

- Create a linear standard operating procedure for obtaining approval of funding pursuits from the Governor's office;

- Require CWCB staff to include potential federal grant opportunities when requesting project funding through either the severance tax fund or the non-reimbursable fund.

4.4 Long Term Strategic Recommendations

The reality of federal grant opportunities today is that funding is limited and competition is intense. The reason for the limited grants and limited funding is that the vast majority of federal funding dollars is ear-marked in congressional appropriations bills for specific projects in specific locations. After all of these line item appropriations are funded, remaining funds are distributed at the discretion of individual agencies. For larger water resources infrastructure projects, those with funding requirements in the millions and billions of dollars, CWCB will likely find more success in obtaining federal funding through line-item appropriations.

In recent years, Colorado appears to have trailed other states in the pursuit of federal funding for our water resources needs. For example, cumulative grants from 1992 through 2004 under the broadly-applicable EPA STAG program averaged about $115 million per state. However, during that time, Colorado received only $13 million in STAG grants while our less populous neighbors New Mexico and Utah secured $101 million and $52 million, respectively.

Recent changes in Colorado's U.S. Congressional Delegation and their roles in Congress may present an opportunity to change this trend. Senator Wayne Allard now sits on the Senate Appropriations Committee and its subcommittee on Energy and Water. His role in that regard is evidenced in actions such as the June 2005 approval by the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water of his request to fund Colorado tamarisk removal programs at $400,000 in the current fiscal year. That request will now move to the full Senate for consideration as part of the Energy and Water Appropriations bill.

Senator Ken Salazar and Representative John Salazar also have an understanding of Colorado's complex water issues, and the financial needs that accompany them. As an example of his involvement, Senator Salazar was one of the key leaders in implementing the South Platte River Urban Watershed Restoration initiative in Denver, and also served as an ex-officio member of the CWCB Board as State Attorney General.

United States Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton is another former Colorado Attorney General who has an in-depth understanding of our state's water resources

needs and issues. Colorado's water supply and resource protection needs fit well with Interior's recent push to "prevent conflicts and crises in the west" via its Water 2025 Challenge Grant program. In light of this, CWCB recently submitted an application for the state-agency Water 2025 grants to support the continuation of the SWSI process in 2005 and 2006, leveraging the existing state $500,000 appropriation as a local cost-share against the requested $250,000 Water 2025 grant. Other funding programs under Secretary Norton's purview, such as Reclamation's Title XVI program for investigating and implementing water reclamation and reuse projects are also viable candidates for helping meet Colorado's water future.

The process for obtaining line-item appropriations is entirely different than applying for federal grants. This effort often requires yearly trips to the nation's capital to lobby the Colorado Congressional Delegation on the project's behalf and retaining the services of a lobbying firm for line-item appropriations. The challenge of congressional line-item appropriations is that such bills are not always passed. Still, obtaining line-item appropriations should certainly be the long term goal for CWCB with respect to securing federal funding for large water resources infrastructure projects.

One of SWSI's major recommendations was to "assess potential new state roles in implementing solutions to Colorado's current and future water needs. In this light, each CWCB program was urged in SWSI to "identify and exploit federal funding opportunities." In order to develop new multi-objective water resources infrastructure projects the State of Colorado may require additional federal funding. By leveraging existing project funds with federal funds obtained either through competitive grants or line-item appropriations, CWCB will enhance its ability to fulfill its mission to conserve, develop, protect and manage Colorado's water for present and future generations.

CWCB Federal Funding Study Grant Fact Sheets
Water Supply Protection, Stream & Lake Protection, Decision Support Systems,
Conservation & Drought Planning Sections

Grant Name:	Water 2025 FY06 Challenge Grants
Federal Entity:	U.S. Department of Interior
Sub-Entity :	Bureau of Reclamation

Total Program Funds:	>$10 million	Website:	www.doi.gov/Water2025
Average Award Amount:	$250k (FY05)	Contact :	Avra Morgan
Matching Requirement:	1:1		(303) 445-2906

Applicable CWCB Project: SWSI, South Platte DSS, among many others

Solicitation Date: Anticipated late 2005 Due Date: Anticipated January 2006

How to Apply: Application will be available for download on the Water 2025 website. Application must be delivered to Bureau office either by hand or mail/courier (application may not be faxed or emailed).

Estimated Level of Effort: High – 40 hours for application alone, suggest developing strategy well in advance of solicitation date.

Important Notes: Projects should involve innovative solutions to water supply issues, and should help states to better manage water resources to meet competing demands for water. Priority will be given to projects with practical applications that will lead to demonstrable results, including improved water management, increased water conservation, and decreased likelihood of conflicts over water, and which can be completed within 24 months from the date of award. Projects could include the development of water markets, physical improvements that will conserve water, and other approaches that will help states to more efficiently manage, or administer water rights, comply with interstate compacts, or otherwise stretch scarce water supplies.

CWCB Federal Funding Study Grant Fact Sheets
Water Supply Protection, Stream & Lake Protection, Flood Protection,
Conservation & Drought Planning Sections

Grant Name: Targeted Watershed Assistance Grants
Federal Entity: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Sub-Entity :

Total Program Funds: $15 million
Average Award Amount: $750k
Matching Requirement: 1:1

Website: http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/initiative/
Contact : Carol Peterson
(202) 566-1304

Applicable CWCB Project: Combination project involving topics such as flood protection, stream restoration, purchase of water rights, water quality studies, etc.

Solicitation Date: Anticipated Feb 2006
Due Date: Anticipated May 2006

How to Apply: No standard application form, however, application must include a title page with relevant project information (i.e., contact info, project title), 150-word abstract, project work plan, education and outreach activities.

Estimated Level of Effort: High – 40 hours for application alone, suggest developing strategy well in advance of solicitation date.

Important Notes: Nomination from Governor's office is required. Opportunity for CWCB to develop partnerships with other entities such as watershed groups, recreational users, local water providers, irrigation districts, etc. Plays into SWSI findings/recommendations of helping local/recreational/environmental users obtain funds for projects. Focuses on comprehensive, multi-faceted approaches to improving watershed health. 14 watersheds were selected in 2004; over 50 applicants in 2005.

CWCB Federal Funding Study Grant Fact Sheets
Flood Protection Section

Grant Name: Hydrologic Research Grants
Federal Entity: Department of Commerce
Sub-Entity : NOAA

Total Program Funds: $500k
Average Award Amount: $125 maximum
Matching Requirement: None

Website: www.grants.gov
Contact : Pedro Restrepo
(301) 713-0640 ext. 210

Applicable CWCB Project: Development of Infiltration and Unit Hydrograph Parameters for Inflow Design Flood Studies

Solicitation Date: June 30, 2005
Due Date: November 18, 2005

How to Apply: Applicants may apply online through Grants.gov website. Four-step application process and detailed instructions available online. Under "Apply for Grants," click "Download Application Package." CFDA number for this grant is 11.462.

Estimated Level of Effort: Medium – 20 hours for application, additional time if partnerships are sought.

Important Notes: Typically applicants for this grant are academic institutions; however, state governments are eligible. Potential opportunity for partnering.

CWCB Federal Funding Study Grant Fact Sheets
Stream & Lake Protection and Water Supply Protection Sections

Grant Name:	Region 8 Consolidated Funding Process Grants
Federal Entity:	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Sub-Entity :	Region 8 Ecosystem and Water Programs

Total Program Funds:	$2.5m in FY04	Website:	http://www.epa.gov/region8/ecosystems/cfp.html
Average Award Amount:	$45k	Contact :	R8CFP@epa.gov
Matching Requirement:	Depends on project type		

Potential Project Types: Watershed management master plans, Riparian Ecosystem Assessments Before and After Bent Tamarisk Removal; Instream Flow Program Outreach and Education

Solicitation Date: Anticipated Mid Oct Due Date: Anticipated Mid Dec

How to Apply: Coordinate directly with Regional Office for application package (no formal application form). Application may not be faxed, emailed, or submitted online. Application must include executive summary, proposal, detailed budget, letters of commitment and support, signature page, and checklist.

Estimated Level of Effort: Medium to High, likely 40 hours to fully complete application

Important Notes: EPA Region 8 has developed a consolidated grant process for all of its programs including the Water Quality Cooperative Agreements, TMDLs, Wetlands Protection Projects, and Source Water Protection Projects. Application process for FY05 is complete; RFP for FY06 has not yet been announced.

CWCB Federal Funding Study Grant Fact Sheets

Water Supply Protection, Water Supply Planning, Water Conservation Planning Sections

Grant Name: Water Conservation Field Services Program FY07

Federal Entity: U.S. Department of Interior

Sub-Entity : Bureau of Reclamation

Total Program Funds:	$450k	Website:	http://www.usbr.gov/waterconservation/index.html
Average Award Amount:	Up to $25k	Contact :	Linda Daniel
Matching Requirement:	1:1		ldaniel@uc.usbr.gov

Potential Project Types: Rural Water Supply Planning, Irrigation Water Management

Solicitation Date: Anticipated late 2006 Due Date: Anticipated late 2006

How to Apply: Limited information for FY07 available. FY06 grants required written proposal that limited to five (5) 8-1/2 inch X 11 inch pages, in 10 or 12 point font. The cover sheet (Standard Form 424) and Assurances (Standard Form 424B or D, as applicable) will not be counted in the 5-page limit. One original application and one copy were required.

Estimated Level of Effort: Medium, 20 to 40 hours to prepare application.

Important Notes: Specifically seeks activities that promote the preparation of written water management and conservation plans; demonstrate water management technologies and practices that are new or unfamiliar to local water users; implement activities identified in written water management plans; and promote improved understanding of good water use practices and principles.

CWCB Federal Funding Study Grant Fact Sheets
Flood Protection Section

Grant Name: Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants
Federal Entity: Department of Homeland Security
Sub-Entity : Federal Emergency Management Agency

Total Program Funds:	$20m annually	Website:	http://www.fema.gov/fima/fma.shtm
Average Award Amount:	~$75K	Contact :	mtegrants@dhs.gov
Matching Requirement:	3:1		(866) 476-0544

Potential Project Types: Planning or project grants to help study or implement measures designed to reduce flood losses. Planning grants would include the preparation of flood mitigation plans. Project grants would include

Solicitation Date: On-going Due Date: Mid July

How to Apply: Applicants should use the FEMA web-portal to apply online: https://portal.fema.gov/famsVu/dynamic/mitigation.html. Alternatively, applicants can print out a paper application and submit it via mail.

Estimated Level of Effort: Medium (20-40 hours) for the actual application, however, the FMA program requires contact and coordination with FEMA Regional Office and Headquarters on a year-round basis.

Important Notes: This is an annual program. Provides funding to assist States and communities in implementing measures to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other structures insurable under the NFIP. Funding is given directly to the state agency (i.e., CWCB), who then acts as the grantee for local communities or counties. CWCB retains a portion of the funds to cover the cost of administering the program. State is responsible for prioritizing programs, evaluating applications, making awards, and coordinating with FEMA.

CWCB Federal Funding Study Grant Fact Sheets
Water Supply Protection, Flood Protection, Stream & Lake Protection Sections

Grant Name: General Matching Grants Fund
Federal Entity: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Sub-Entity :

Total Program Funds:	unknown	Website:	http://nfwf.org/programs/guidelines.htm
Average Award Amount:	$10k to $140k	Contact	Claire Thorp (SW Regional Director)
Matching Requirement:	2:1		(415) 778-0999

Potential Project Types: Tamarisk removal efforts, riparian/wetlands restoration projects, any of a wide variety of projects that have a conservation/environmental restoration component.

Solicitation Date: On-going

Due Date: Next deadline for pre-proposals is September 15th, final proposals by October 31st for awards in April 2006.

How to Apply: Pre-proposals are submitted online at https://collective.nfwf.org/pre-proposal/Preproposal.php. If pre-proposal is successful, applicant will be provided an official grant matching form to fill out as part of a full proposal.

Estimated Level of Effort: Over all, this grant program will require a high level of effort. 20 hours to fill out pre-proposal form. Up-front work will be required to coordinate with potential partners. The full proposal form will likely require upwards of 40 hours.

Important Notes: Grant guidelines specifically call out “ability to leverage Federal Funds” and opportunities for multi-sector participants as key to successful applications. This could work in CWCB’s favor first because they can demonstrate severance tax or non-reimbursable funds for leverage and form partnerships to help local entities such as smaller water providers obtain funds for environmental activities, per the recommendations of SWSI. 35% of pre-proposal applicants requested to submit full proposal; 65% of full proposal applicants funded. NFWF funds must be matched on at least a 1:1 basis, although 2:1 is encouraged, and higher ratios are more competitive.

CWCB Federal Funding Study Grant Fact Sheets
Flood Protection, Stream & Lake Protection, Water Supply Protection Sections

Grant Name: Land and Water Conservation Fund
Federal Entity: Department of the Interior
Sub-Entity : National Park Service

Total Program Funds:	$89 million	Website:	http://www.nps.gov/lwcf/
Average Award Amount:	Varies	Contact	CO State Parks Department
Matching Requirement:	None		

Potential Project Types: Stream restoration or floodplain management-related projects with a recreational and/or conservation component. Will likely require a partnership with watershed group or local community.

Solicitation Date: On-going Due Date: Anticipated Early August 2006

How to Apply: Detailed specifications for written proposal are given on website, but no formal application form. Proposal needs to include detailed project description, participating parties, schedule, budget, project justification, expected impacts, benchmarks for success.

Estimated Level of Effort: High, 40 hours minimum to assemble proposal. Additional effort to build stakeholder coalition/partnerships.

Important Notes: Successful projects should have a significant public outreach or education component. Projects with a multi-disciplinary component, broad public support, and measurable benchmarks for success will stand out. Coordination with Regional Office should happen prior to beginning of application process. This grant is a partnering opportunity for CWCB with community groups and local or county governments, not a grant that CWCB would apply for itself.