

Project ID:	2022 - IWMP - 13
Project Description:	Moffat County: Secure funds to implement multi-benefit diversion structure upgrades per CAA/Ag workgroup's 2021 Flowchart and Prioritized List
Reason for Project:	Develop sustainable funding to continue Ag Water Coordinator work in Moffat County to develop and implement multi benefit projects in coordination with landowners, building on CAA's current grant-funded positions (through mid-2023). Expand implementation from Tier 1 to Tier 2-3 projects based on Priority List and Flowchart developed by CAA and IWMP Ag workgroup. Coordinate with stakeholders to identify projects, provide basic engineering and cost estimating, aid with identifying funds and assisting with the grant process. In addition, develop and implement a process/structure to seek input from partners to help identify and vet multi-benefit projects. Support BIP goals to involve river ecology/science expertise in project design; and minimize need for push water and/or waste gates. This recommendation is replicated above for Routt County. This Recommendation also includes identification of a fiscal sponsor (e.g., CFCD)
Project Status:	
Lead Proponent:	CFCD. Gena Hinkemeyer
Lead Contact:	CFCD. Gena Hinkemeyer
Partners:	CFCD, CAA, River Network, CCA, NRCS, CRD, Others TBD
Estimate Cost:	\$180,000 over 3 years
Water District	
Project Key Words:	Ag Infrastructure
Estimate Yield:	
Water Right Needed:	
Latitude/Longitude:	
Funding Sources:	CRN, CWCB, CRCD, CAA, RN, CCA, NRCS, Others TBD
Schedule:	0 to 1 years
BIP Obj. Addressed	Protect the YWG Basin from compact curtailment of existing decreed water uses and some increment of future use, Restore, maintain, and modernize water storage and distribution infrastructure, Protect and encourage agriculture uses of water in the YWG Basin within the context of private property rights, improve agricultural water supplies to increase irrigated land and reduce shortages, Protect pre-compact water rights

Needs & Next Steps	<p>Provide proposal for Moffat County Water Project Coordinator to CFCD. Following approval of proposal, secure grant funds for coordinator. Possible partners include Colorado First Conservation District, CAA, River Network, Colorado Cattlemen's, NRCS, Colorado River District and others</p>
Status Update:	<p>CAA, Mancos Conservation District and River Network obtained a Water Plan Grant for Multi-Benefit Project Coordinators as a two-year pilot project. Ten structures were chosen for demonstration projects. Five structures in Routt County and five in Moffat. Ag Water Coordinator for Moffat County was able to secure three grants totaling \$133,000 for work to begin summer of 2023 on one of the projects. The four other projects have been completed by providing the stakeholders with documentation and reports needed to move forward with their project at their discretion. This pilot project grant ends at the end of June 2023. The pilot program has been regarded as a success with landowners, City, County, NGO's and other partners in full agreement the need for an Ag Water Coordinator is warranted.</p> <p>CFCD's Kacey Green and Gena Hinkemeyer had numerous conversations regarding CFCD role in participating as a partner, along with CAA, in securing grant funds through a CWCB Water Plan Grant to continue the Ag Water Coordinator position within Moffat County. CFCD agreed to be the fiscal agent for the grant. CAA reached out to CWCB Water Plan Grant Ag leader Ashley Garrison and Nora Flynn to discuss the possibility of CFCD and CAA partnering on either 1) two separate grants – one for Routt and one for Moffat to continue Ag Water Coordinator work or 2) a combined grant to cover Ag Water Coordinators in both counties. CWCB personnel stated it would be better to do one grant under CAA for both Moffat and Routt Counties. CWCB also mentioned using Water Plan Grant funds to pay for salaried positions in frowned upon and they had no interest in funding such a position. If we were able to come up with a very specific stretch of the river for multi-beneficial projects, they might entertain supporting a Water Plan grant.</p> <p>There are no specific reaches on the Yampa in Moffat County that have been identified that would meet the requirements laid out by CWCB personnel. There are, however, many structures that have been identified as needing help modernizing and/or needing repairs in order to keep water rights intact. Unfortunately, these structures are basin wide and are not located on one specific stretch of the river or tributary. CAA was able to secure funds through a Upper Yampa Water Conservation District grant to continue Routt County's Ag Water Coordinator position. It is with great disappointment, the Ag Water Coordinator position for Moffat County is on hold until such time as a reach of the river has been identified for multi-beneficial projects or funding is found other than obtaining a grant from the CWCB.</p>