



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

• Visitor Services • Open Lands • Weed Management & Forestry
 1800 South County Road 31
 Loveland, CO 80537
 (970) 679-4570/ (970) 679-4574 FAX
 www.larimer.org/naturalresources

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 21, 2015
TO: Open Lands Advisory Board
THRU: Gary Buffington, Director
 Kerri Rollins, Open Lands Program Manager
FROM: Alexandria Castino, Land Agent
RE: Funding request: X Preliminary or Final

PROJECT TITLE Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Alternative Agricultural Water Transfer Methods Grant - Match

HISTORY/BACKGROUND

Conservation of irrigated agriculture has become increasingly expensive and urgent as more ag land is converted to other uses throughout the Front Range. To meet Larimer County citizens' request and Open Lands' mission to conserve irrigated farmland in Larimer County, we will need to utilize water sharing partnerships with municipal and industrial providers. To develop these innovative water sharing agreements and cover water transactional costs, we are applying for a grant from the CWCB.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF CURRENT REQUEST

The CWCB grant requires a 10% cash match to the amount requested. We plan to request \$200,000 in grant funding for the above purposes, and would like to include in our application the dedication of the match funds. We will also be inquiring into other matching funds to increase our match above the required 10%, which will allow us to be more competitive in obtaining the grant by demonstrating more buy-in to the project.

ESTIMATED COST & BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Colorado Water Conservation Board (anticipated request)	\$200,000
Larimer County grant match	\$20,000
AMOUNT REQUESTED	\$20,000

PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Larimer County has the opportunity to be on the forefront of water conservation on the front range that communities with limited land conservation funding can follow to accomplish conservation of irrigated ag lands throughout Colorado and the west. Conserve irrigated ag lands in Larimer County at a fraction of the price through innovative partnerships and water agreements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost