



Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Supply Reserve Fund - Basin

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Morrison Consolidated Ditch Company	
Name of Water Project		
Basin Account Request Subtotal		\$99,233.06
Applicant Cash Match		\$26,877.69
Applicant In-Kind Match		\$6,200.00
Basin Requests		
Sources of Funding		

Grant Details

Water Project Justification

This project supports the Southwest Basin's Roundtable's Implementation Plan (BIP) goal of "Supports the needs of Agriculture". The strategies to meet the goal are to "support implementation of efficiency measures to maximize beneficial use and production" and to "support implementation of projects that work toward meeting agricultural water supply shortages and address delivery concerns created by aging infrastructure". Found on page 22 of the BIP. Our proposed project fits both of these strategies by replacing aging infrastructure to guarantee irrigation water delivery to our shareholders who are agricultural producers. In addition, this project also supports the goal of "Meet environmental water needs". The strategies to meet this goal are on page 24 of the BIP. This project will help "support the efforts to protect, maintain, monitor, and improve the condition and natural function of stream..." Ignacio Creek is the natural drainage that runs through this undershot beneath the Morrison Ditch. Replacing the separated concrete culverts with new culverts will ensure the continued function of this natural drainage. Along with being categorized as a goal for SW Roundtable's BIP, this project meets the "Meeting Future Water Needs" goal within the Colorado Water Plan page 194. According to the Partner Actions, this project specifically meets the "Conveyance efficiency improvement" by replacing old infrastructure ensuring "water delivery to farms and increasing predictability of delivery" Allowing for consistent delivery of irrigation water to our Shareholders/producers.

Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee: Morrison Consolidated Ditch Company
Mailing Address: 7170 State Hwy 172 Ignacio CO 81137

Organization Contact: Kelly McCaw
Position/Title: Secretary/Bookkeeper
Phone: 970-884-0247

Email: 4ditchwitch@gmail.com

Grant Management Contact: Kelly McCaw
Position/Title: Secretary/Bookkeeper
Phone: 970-884-0247

Email: 4ditchwitch@gmail.com

Agency Information



Last Update: January 10, 2022

<https://cwcb.colorado.gov/>

Colorado Water Conservation Board	
Water Supply Reserve Fund	
<u>Exhibit A - Statement of Work</u>	
Date:	3/20/2025
Water Activity Name:	Undershot Replacement Project
Grant Recipient:	Morrison Consolidated Ditch Company
Funding Source:	WSRF Southwest Basin Account
Water Activity Overview: (Please provide brief description of the proposed water activity (no more than 200 words). Include a description of the overall water activity and specifically what the WSRF funding will be used for. (PLEASE DEFINE ALL ACRONYMS).)	
<p>Currently there is an old concrete undershot beneath the Morrison Ditch. This undershot was installed to allow water from Ignacio Creek to flow beneath the Morrison Ditch. The concrete sections of pipe are separated. Gaps between the pipes can cause water to erode the ditch above the undershot leading to ditch instability and a partial or complete collapse of the Morrison Ditch.</p> <p>The proposed water activity involves replacing the outdated undershot structure with 100 feet of a new 60" culvert to improve water flow and reduce erosion and prevent the collapse of the Morrison Ditch. The existing structure will be removed. A new culvert, designed to accommodate natural stream conditions and peak flow events, will be installed in its place. The project will involve excavation, culvert placement, backfilling, and stabilization of the surrounding area. Best management practices will be implemented to minimize environmental impact, including the reseeded of disturbed areas. The funds received from the WSRF Southwest Basin Account will be spent directly on construction, materials, and administration of the project.</p>	
Objectives: (List the objectives of the project. (PLEASE DEFINE ACRONYMS).)	
<p>The objective of this project is to replace aging infrastructure to ensure a resilient infrastructure solution that supports both agricultural and environmental needs for the future. Replacing the failing structure with a durable, long-lasting culvert to prevent a collapse will guarantee the carriage of irrigation water to our shareholders.</p>	



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Last Update: January 10, 2022

<https://cwcb.colorado.gov/>

Tasks	
Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format: (PLEASE DEFINE ACRONYMS)	
Task 2 - Install of Concrete Walls/Apron Inlet	
Description of Task:	
<p>This task involves constructing reinforced concrete walls and an apron at the inlet of the newly installed culvert. These structures will help stabilize the water flow, minimize erosion, and enhance the longevity of the culvert. The site will be prepared, excavation and formwork for the installation will be done. Concrete will be poured and cured. Formwork will be removed and finishing techniques such as smoothing or texturing to optimize water flow and reduce turbulence will be done. Backfill around the concrete walls and compaction of backfill will be completed.</p>	
Method/Procedure:	
<p>The Morrison Ditch contractor will prepare the site. Sturdy formwork will be built to shape the walls and apron according to plans. Rebar will be placed within the formwork to strengthen the concrete structure. High strength concrete will be poured and finished. Once the concrete has cured, the formwork will be removed and backfill and compaction will be completed.</p>	
Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)	
<p>The Grantee deliverable from this project is the successful forming and pouring of a concrete apron and wing walls on the inlet side of the newly installed 60" culvert. This concrete structure on the inlet of the undershot will ensure the longevity and stability of the new culvert. Improvement of infrastructure within our ditch system.</p>	
CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)	
<p>The grantee deliverable to the CWCB will be a comprehensive project completion report documenting the successful installation of new concrete wing walls and apron at the inlet of the new culvert. A final project report with photographic documentation along with a financial and expenditure summary will be delivered to the CWCB</p>	



COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

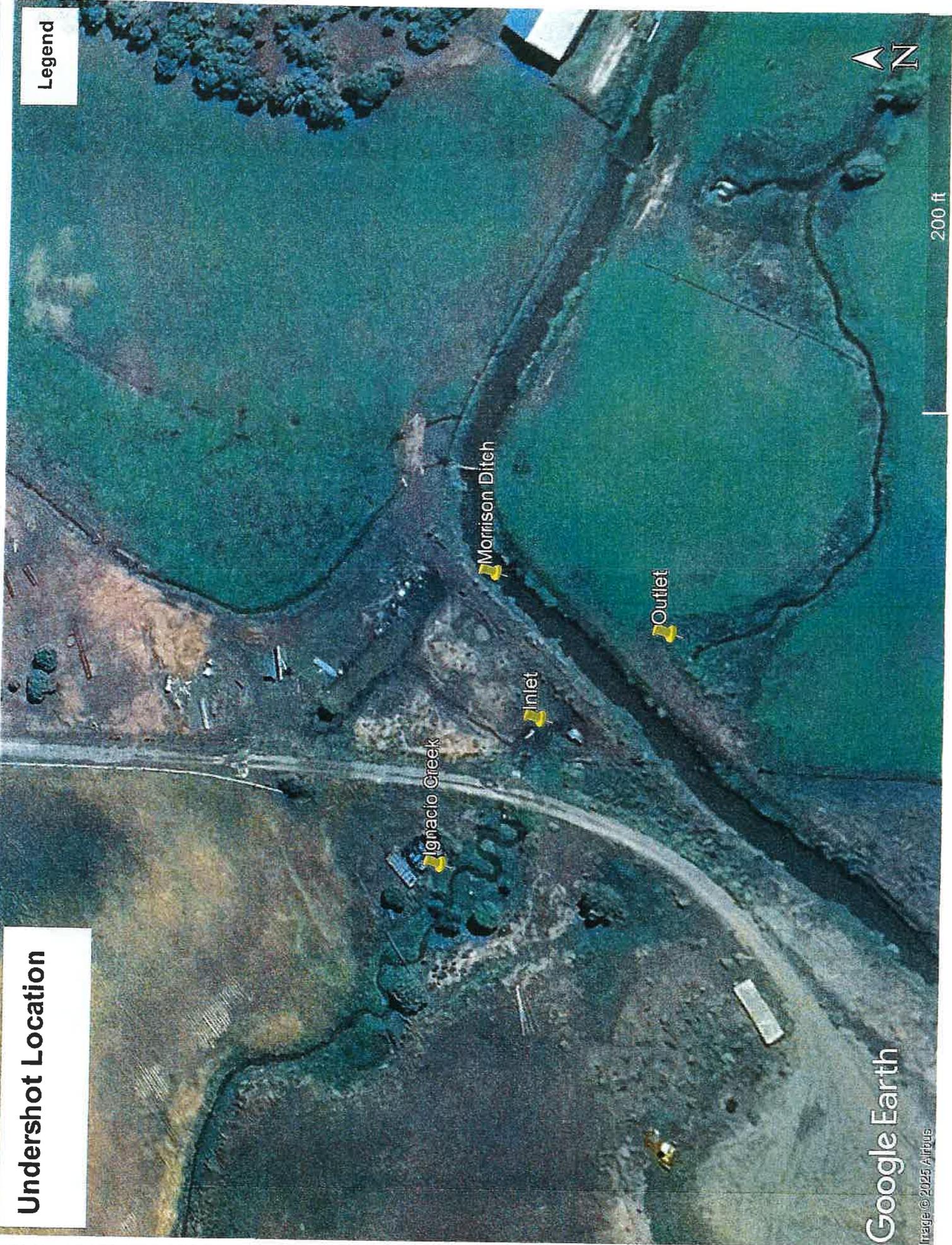
Last Update: January 10, 2022

<https://cwcb.colorado.gov/>

Tasks
Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format: (PLEASE DEFINE ACRONYMS)
Task 4 - Grant Administration
Description of Task: Task 4 focuses on the administrative aspects of managing the project, ensuring that all aspects of the project are executed efficiently and in compliance with grant requirements. This task includes the oversight and management of both financial and procedural elements to ensure the successful completion of the project.
Method/Procedure: The grant administrator will monitor and manage the grant budget to ensure funds are used appropriately and in accordance with the grant guidelines. Duties include tracking expenditures, correspondence with CWCB, submittal of documents, submittal of payment requests, correspondence with contractors and Board of Directors, payment of invoices, all reporting including status reports and final reports. Grant Administrator will also work with the Project Manager to make sure all costs are aligned with project budget.
Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task) The Grantee deliverable from this task is accurate financial tracking, project progress reporting, compliance with grant terms and ensuring the project meets all the expectations of the expected outcome.
CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task) The grantee deliverable to the CWCB will be a comprehensive project completion report. A final project report with photographic documentation along with a financial and expenditure summary will be delivered to the CWCB

Undershot Location

Legend



Google Earth

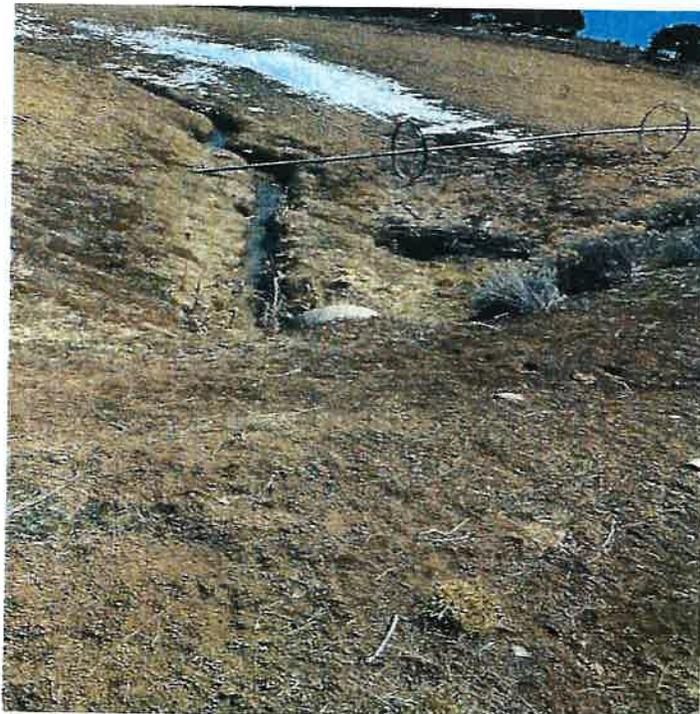
Image © 2025 Airbus



Inlet side of undershot. Morrison Ditch Bank above.



Outlet side of undershot. Morrison Ditch Bank above



Morrison Consolidated Ditch Co
undershot Replacement Project

SOUTHWEST BASIN ROUNDTABLE'S EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE

To assist the Roundtable in determining whether and to what extent a proposed project and/or process meets the values set forth in the Roundtable Bylaws and goals of the Basin Implementation Plan, the following questions should be addressed separately as can reasonably be answered by the applicant. *Note: this is not an exhaustive list and additional questions may be asked of the applicant.*

1. Identify the benefit(s) the project would provide. Are there multiple purposes (Agricultural, Environmental, Municipal, Industrial, Recreational) that the project would meet as defined in the Basin Implementation Plan? *Note: Projects that meet multiple purposes are strongly encouraged; however, this does not mean that a single purpose project would be rejected.*

Replacing the undershot ensures the water is directed where needed, minimizing waste and enhancing overall irrigation efficiency. The current corrosion of culverts are compromising the structural soundness of this undershot structure and the Morrison Ditch above the undershot. Installing a new undershot will restore the ditches' reliability in carrying irrigation water to our 168 shareholders and prevent a total or partial collapse of the Morrison Ditch. The Morrison Ditch carried approximately 100 cfs of water to 8200 acres of land. Additionally, a well-maintained irrigation system minimizes erosion, protecting soil health and water quality. This project aligns with the Basin's BIP by sustaining agricultural needs and replacing old failing structures.

2. Outline the steps needed for completion of the project. Are there permit issues that must be overcome? How will funds acquired in this process be used to accomplish the final goal?

The following steps outline the process to ensure a successful replacement:

-Assessment of the failing undershot by the Board of Directors with direction and proposed replacement plan from the Project Manager.

-Develop the replacement plan by creating the project scope and getting estimates for the project's cost. Based on the bids and the availability of the contractors, we will select the contractor for this project.

-Estimate the project cost and identify funding sources

-Apply for the Southwest Roundtable's and CWCB grant

-If approved by the SW Roundtable, the Ditch Company will schedule the replacement during the non-irrigation season to minimize disruption of water delivery. This period typically falls between October 15 and March 15.

-Site preparation to clear the project area from any obstructions

-Carefully excavate to dismantle and dispose of the existing structure

-Install the new culvert as per the approved plan, ensuring proper alignment and integration with the existing ditch. Also installing concrete wing walls and an apron on the inlet side of the culvert

-Restore the site by rehabilitating any areas disturbed during construction, including reseeding as necessary to prevent erosion.

The Ditch Company will use its prescriptive easement so no permits will be needed.

The funds acquired will be used in all steps of the project from removal of the old concrete culverts, to installation of the new culverts, to rehabilitating the project area.

2. For prioritization of different proposals and assessment of the merits of the plan, can this project be physically built with this funding? Are further studies needed before actual construction is commenced

the inefficiencies of the current undershot, the project not only will continue to improve agricultural productivity but also plays a vital role in conserving and protecting the natural environment.

8. Are there impacts of the proposed action on other non-decreed values of the stream or river? Non-decreed values may include things such as non-decreed water rights or uses, recreational uses and soil/land conservation practices.

There are no impacts of this project on other stream or river decrees. This structure is within the prescriptive easement of the Ditch Company and will be replaced in the same location. See attached maps and pictures.

9. Does this project relate to a Stream Management Plan (SMP) or Needs Assessment for one of southwest Colorado river reaches? If yes, please explain and provide detailed evidence of how project will meet SMP goals or needs.

This project does not relate to a Stream Management Plan.

10. Does this project relate to local land use plans? If yes, please explain.

This project does not fall under any local land use plans.

11. Does the project depend on a conversion of an agricultural water right? If yes, please explain.

This project does not depend on the conversion of agricultural water rights.

12. Does the project support agricultural development or protect the existing agricultural economy? If yes, please explain.

Yes. Replacing the separating and leaking undershot is crucial for both supporting agricultural development and protecting the existing agricultural economy. Efficient irrigation systems provide better soil aeration and moisture control, leading to healthier crops and increased yields. Upgraded irrigation infrastructure minimizes soil erosion by controlling water flow and reducing runoff, preserving fertile topsoil essential for agriculture. A reliable irrigation system facilitates timely field operations, reducing delays in planting and harvesting, which is vital for maintaining the agricultural economy. This project not only supports the growth and sustainability of agricultural activities but also safeguards the economic stability of the farming community.

13. Does the project optimize existing water rights and/or existing infrastructure? If yes, please explain.

Yes. Replacing the undershot enhances the functionality of our ditch system, ensuring that water is conveyed efficiently and in accordance with established water rights. This optimization benefits both the agricultural operations relying on the water and the broader objectives of sustainable water resource management.

14. Does the applicant anticipate future funding requests to complete the additional components of this project? Does the applicant have a long-term operation, maintenance, and replacement plan? When was the last update of the plan?

The Morrison Consolidated Ditch does not anticipate any future funding of additional components of this project. The lifespan of the new infrastructure should be over 60 years. With limited finances, the Board prioritizes needs on the Ditch. Some years we can do special maintenance and other years we can only do regular maintenance. In January 2025 the Shareholders increased assessments to add