



# Is Additional Capacity the Answer for Overcoming Barriers in Rural Communities?

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# Coordinators for Meaningful Capacity

Communication

Self-motivation

Passion

Organization

Planning and project  
scoping and  
management

Grant writing and  
fundraising

Facilitation and conflict  
resolution skills

Some level of technical  
background

Understanding the river  
system and water rights

Understanding the local  
agricultural community

Build trust

Listening is key

# Challenges and Barriers

Consecutive Years of Drought

Wildfire Risk

Inflation of Materials

Access to Funding

Technical Assistance

Climate

Poverty





## Additional Challenges and Barriers

Applications are labor  
intensive

Applications may  
require a third-party or  
fiscal agent

Projects lose  
momentum due to long  
wait times for grants

Lack of technical  
assistance

Project scoping does  
not align with grant  
deadlines

Reimbursement basis  
only

Lack of permitting and  
water rights awareness

Difficulty navigating  
grant portals and federal  
required documents

Check the wrong box,  
application can be  
thrown out

Match requirements and  
timelines

Administrative and  
reporting requirements

Federal ranking criteria  
based on population

## Partners and Technical Assistance Providers

- Colorado Parks and Wildlife
  - Colorado River Watch Program
- Colorado State Forest Service
- Division of Mining Reclamation and Safety
- Independent Contractors/Technical Team
- Irrigation and Ditch Companies
- Mancos High School
- Mancos Water Conservancy District
- Mesa Verde National Park
- Mountain Studies Institute
- Natural Resources Conservation Services
- Private Landowners
- River Network
- Town of Mancos
- United States Forest Service – RMRI
- Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
- Wilson Water Group

# Federal Funding Resources

## Bureau of Reclamation

- WaterSmart
- Salinity Control FOA
- Basin States Salinity Control Program

## Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

## Natural Resource Conservation Service

- EQIP
- District Conservation Technician (Partnership with the Colorado State Conservation Board)
- PL-566
- 2023 - RCPP

## RESTORE Colorado Partnership (Public and Private)

## U.S. Fish and Wildlife – Fish Passage Program

## U.S. Forest Service (In-Kind)

- Rocky Mountain Restoration Initiative
- San Juan National Forest

## United States Department of Agriculture

# Non-federal Funding Resources

Colorado State Conservation Board

Colorado Water Conservation Board

River Network

Southwest Basin Roundtable

Southwestern Water Conservation District

The Nature Conservancy

Town of Mancos

Wildlife Conservation Society

# Hope Beyond Barriers

