

# **WaterSMART GRANT APPLICATION:**

**SMALL-SCALE WATER EFFICIENCY GRANT FY2018  
FOA: BOR-DO-18-F009**

## **Automated Waste Gates for Cimarron Canal**



**Bostwick Park Water Conservancy District**

**Montrose, COLORADO**

**APPLICANT: Allen Distel, President  
Bostwick Park Water Conservancy District  
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## Acronyms

Name	Acronym
Acre feet	AF or Ac-Ft
Bostwick Park Water Conservancy District	District
Cimarron Canal Company	Company
Cubic feet per second	CFS or cfs
Colorado Division of Water Resources	CDWR
Funding Opportunity Announcement	FOA
National Environmental Policy Act	NEPA
Operation and Maintenance	O&M
Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition	SCADA
United States Bureau of Reclamation	Reclamation
Western Colorado Area Office	WCAO

# 1 Technical Proposal and Evaluation Criteria

## 1.1 Executive Summary

Date:	July 31, 2018
Applicant Name:	Bostwick Park Water Conservancy District
City:	Montrose
County:	Montrose
State:	Colorado
Estimated Project Start:	Fall 2018
Project Length:	12 Months
Estimated Project Completion:	Fall 2019
Federal Facility:	Serves a Reclamation Project
Amount Requested:	\$73,000

Project Summary: The Project Sponsors, comprised of the Bostwick Park Water Conservancy District (District) and Cimarron Canal and Reservoir Company (Company) desire to install 3 new automated water control gates in the Cimarron Canal, the main delivery facility for the Bureau of Reclamation’s Bostwick Park Project. The purpose of the gates is to automatically release water from the canal in the event of a large inflow of tributary storm water that can (and has in the past) cause catastrophic failure of the canal. The excess water will be released to natural streams. The project is comprised of the fabrication, installation and calibration of automatic water control gates and associated SCADA instrumentation at three sites along the Cimarron Canal.

Total cost is estimated at \$146,937.62.

Eligibility: This project falls within this FOA’s Section C.3.1 – Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition and Automation.

## **1.2 Background**

### **1.2.1 Bostwick Park Project**

The District contracts with the Bureau of Reclamation for the storage water in Silver Jack Reservoir. The District then contracts with the Company to convey this storage water through the Cimarron Canal. The District and the Company share the cost of maintenance and repair of all District and Company works in the ratio of 65% and 35% respectively.

The Cimarron Canal begins at elevation 8,600 ft. approximately three miles downstream of Silver Jack Reservoir, storage vessel for Reclamation's Bostwick Park Project, at the diversion structure on the Cimarron River. The canal has a decreed capacity of 185 cubic feet per second (cfs) and traverses approximately 23 miles where it discharges into the private Hairpin and Vernal Mesa ditches. At this point a small flow is also diverted into the Cerro Reservoir on top of Cerro Summit. Only a minor amount of irrigation water is used in this 23-mile reach. The City of Montrose owns and operates Cerro Reservoir for domestic water supply purposes. The Vernal Mesa Ditch, with an initial capacity of at least 80 cfs, and the Hairpin Ditch, with an initial capacity of at least 45 cfs, begin at Cerro Summit. The Vernal Mesa Ditch serves the Bostwick Park Project area to the northwest. The Hairpin Ditch serves the Shinn Park and Kinikin Heights areas to the south. Other laterals and ditches subsequently originate from the Vernal Mesa and Hairpin Ditches to distribute water to the irrigated lands.

### **1.2.2 Crops Grown**

Originally a fairly wide variety of crops were grown in the project area. They included hay, grain, and truck farm crops. The predominant crops grown at the present are alfalfa and grass hay, grain for livestock feed, and a minor amount of cereal and miscellaneous crops.

### **1.2.3 Project Facilities**

Bostwick Park Project District facilities consist primarily of open earthen ditches/canals. A pipe/siphon is used on the Bostwick Lateral to convey the water across the valley and then goes back to an open ditch. Table 9 below shows an inventory of facilities.

COMBINED FACILITY INVENTORY		
DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY/LENGTH	NOTES
Storage Dams	3	Fish Creek Numbers 1 & 2 and Silver Jack Reservoir
Diversion Dams	1	Cimarron Canal
Canals	23 Miles	Cimarron Canal
Laterals/Ditches	49 Miles	Hairpin, Vernal Mesa, and Bostwick Lateral
Drains	7.2 Miles	Open drain ditches constructed in 1973.
Siphons	1.1	Feeds Bostwick Lateral from East Vernal Mesa Ditch.
Large Parshall Flumes	2	Located at headgate and mid-point of Cimarron Canal
Turn-out structures with gates and flumes	Uncertain	Numerous water delivery structures to users.
Spill Boxes	15	Used to protect canal banks from overtopping during periods of high runoff.

The Vernal Mesa Ditch splits on the upper (south) end of Bostwick Park into the East and West Vernal Mesa Ditches. However, this arrangement was not sufficient to provide irrigation to arable land on the far west side of Bostwick Park. Because of this the BPWCD Project developed a 24" concrete siphon approximately 1.1 miles long that carries water from the East Vernal Mesa Ditch across Bostwick Park to the Bostwick Lateral.

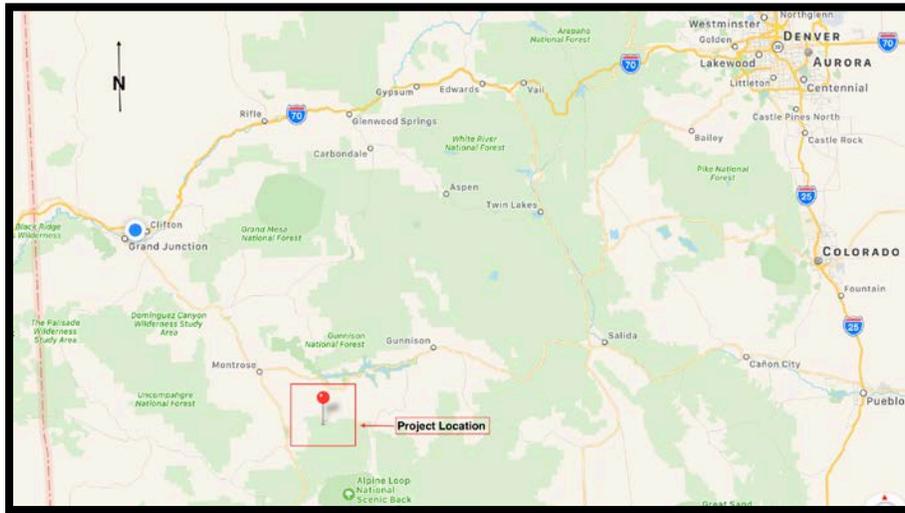
Ownership/Management of facilities is demonstrated in the following Table. Project water refers to storage water made available by the Bostwick Park Project works. Other water is made available by storage and direct flow water rights held by the CC & RC.

FACILITY OWNERSHIP/MANAGEMENT			
DISTRICT – PROJECT WORKS		COMPANY WORKS	
Silver Jack Reservoir	13,500 acre-feet	Cimarron Canal including headgate and diversion dam.	Approximately 23 miles
Bostwick Lateral	1.771 miles Earthen ditches	Hairpin Ditch	7.468168 Miles
Bostwick Lateral Siphon	1.1 mile 24" concrete pipe	Kinikin Ditch	3.15351 Miles
Land Drains	6.1 miles rehab. 1.1 miles new	Waterdog Ditch	4.298551 Miles
		Shinn Park Ditch	3.346298 Miles
		Vernal Mesa Ditch	11.083 Miles

		East Vernal Mesa Ditch	4.21 Miles
		West Vernal Mesa Ditch	4.484 Miles

In 2018 the District installed a Fiber Optic line to the headgate for high speed internet for the monitoring and control with live feed cameras. Also in 2018 the District installed a new ramp flume to accurately measure and record the water diverted out of the Cimarron River, this measurement will be used for the auto control of the headgate. The control and monitoring are part of the District’s SCADA system, which is to be expanded as structures are installed within the system. The long-range plan is for the entire system to be completely automated.

### 1.2.4 Location Maps



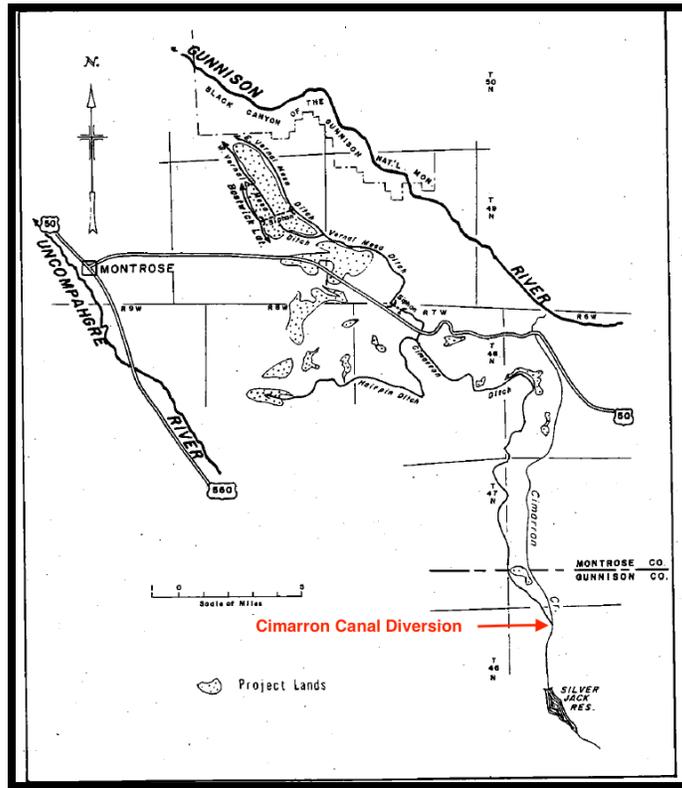


Figure 1 Project Location Maps

The project is located about 22 miles east south-east of Montrose, Colorado at approximately 38° 15' 58"N, 107° 32' 32"W.

### 1.3 Project Description

#### 1.3.1

The Cimarron Canal is located in a unique location, ranging from 8600 Feet in Elevation to 8250 Feet in elevation, it is prone to large downpours along the upper reaches of the canal. This causes and has (in the past) caused overtopping of the canal and possible large breaches in the canal bank. This has causes extensive damage to the properties below the canal with heavy erosion to the land and infrastructure.

The District and Company hold the right-of-ways and easements for this canal and therefore are responsible for the protection of the canal.

The District needs to install automated control structures for protection from these events. In the event of a large rainstorm or flood the waste gate would automatically open and discharge the excess water into a natural drainage and not endanger the canal banks by overtopping.

The District personnel are at least 1 hour in travel time away from these locations and could not get to the control structure in time to save the canal in the event of one of these storm events.

One of the most dangerous waste ways is on the North side of a natural creek with a large drainage area (Coal Creek). This creek floods several times per year with small discharges and 1 or 2 times per year with large or very large discharges (50 to 100 cfs). The configuration of this spillway is convoluted and in close proximity to the county road. The last large discharge from the creek washed out the county road and filled the private land with debris and caused erosion. The District desires to move the waste way upstream about 300 feet to the south side of the creek and divert the spill back into the natural creek. This will require the installation of a culvert across an access road to divert the water to the creek. This structure will be automated to keep the canal from overtopping and causing a dangerous situation.

The installation of these automated waste gates will not only help to protect the canal but would also help protect the safety of the general public by diverting excess into a natural drainage.

The automation at these waste ways will be operated by a high speed broadband internet network that the District is installing throughout the entire District. (No cell service or other cable service is available in this rural mountain area).

These waste ways will also allow the system operators to minimize damage if a problem arises within the canal system during normal operations. The automated waste ways will allow personnel to divert the canal flow closer to the problem areas and in smaller amounts causing less erosion damage and maximize water efficiency. Operation of the automated waste ways will also minimize winter flows in the canal that cause problems with ice build-up from natural inflows and snow melt.

This project is comprised of the installation of 3 of these waste gates. All 3 will be the same size and replace old structures now in the canal. These old structures are designed

to use drop boards that have to be removed by hand with personnel at the structure. This is very dangerous to the personnel during flood events and in many events the personnel arrive too late to prevent damage to the canal.

This new automated equipment can detect increases in flows and operate the waste gate accordingly and can close the waste gate when normal flows resume resulting in less wasted water. The personnel would have to wait until the traveling conditions were safe to put the drop boards back into the structure, which in some instances may be more than 24 hours.

This equipment may also be manually operated remotely from a smart phone, lap top or office computer.

**The project is comprised of the following specific tasks:**

- **NEPA/Permitting/and Archeological Surveys as necessary**
- **Removal of Existing Structures**
- **Fabrication and Installation of one precast box culvert**
- **Fabrication and installation of waste way gates**
- **Design and installation of SCADA instrumentation**

## **1.4 Evaluation Criteria**

### **1.4.1 Criterion A: Project Benefits**

- **Describe the expected benefits and outcomes of implementing the proposed project. What are the benefits to the applicant's water supply delivery system?**

Implementation of the project will create a safer and more efficient operation of the Cimarron Canal. Instrumentation installed with the SCADA system will determine whether storm water runoff entering the canal should either be wasted or left in the canal for downstream use depending on the existing water levels in the canal. This will result in a more efficient use of water and will lead to less water being released from Silver Jack dam as the canal headgate can also be regulated as needed to accommodate the increased flow in the canal from storm water runoff.

In addition, installation and operation of the automated waste way gates will result in a safer canal system. There have been occasions in the past when excessive side inflows have caused the canal to breach causing

damage to county road infrastructure and private property. Not to mention the interruption in service to Reclamation's Bostwick Park Project and other private ditch systems.

- **If other benefits are expected explain those as well in consideration of the following:**

- **Extent to which the proposed project improves overall water supply reliability.**

Installation and operation of the automatic waste way gates will provide a means for real-time changes to take place in the canal system. In the past, these waste ways were operated by hand by manually removing check-boards after driving for up to an hour to reach the location in question. Consequently this project will result in a more reliable and efficient operation for the Cimarron Canal.

- **The expected geographic scope of benefits from the proposed project (e.g., local, sub-basin, basin)**

Operation of the Cimarron Canal impacts the area covered by the District and Company, an area spanning approximately 100 square miles. In addition operation of the canal provides a portion of the domestic water for the City Montrose, Colorado.

In a larger context, diversions into the Cimarron Canal can impact the discharge of flows in the Cimarron River, which is a critical tributary and integral component to Reclamation's Aspinall Unit on the Gunnison River, which ultimately impacts operation for the Black Canyon Water Right, benefit of endangered fishes in the Colorado and Gunnison rivers and water levels in Lake Powell.

- **Extent to which the proposed project will increase collaboration and information sharing among water managers in the region.**

Large releases from the automatic waste ways into natural drainages during storm events could impact downstream stakeholders such as irrigators, county facilities, public land managers and State water officials. This information can be made available as part of a flash flood warning system.

- **Any anticipated positive impacts/benefits to local sectors and economics (e.g., agriculture, environment, recreation, tourism).**

This project will provide a more reliable water supply to downstream irrigators. It will result in a more efficient and safer operation of the Cimarron Canal and thus hold water and operation and maintenance costs lower for agricultural producers receiving water from the canal.

- **Extent to which the project will complement work done in coordination with NRCS in the area. Describe any on-farm efficiency work that is currently being completed or is anticipated to be completed in the future using NRCS assistance through EQIP or other programs.**

#### 1.4.2 Criterion B – Planning Efforts Supporting the Project

- **Describe how your project is supported by an existing planning effort.**

The District identified spill boxes and crossings as a water management problem in its existing water management plan.

- **Does the proposed project implement a goal or address a need or problem identified in the existing planning effort?**

Yes. Installation of the waste way gates will address this problem by releasing excess water in a more controlled manner helping to control excessive erosion caused by a canal breach and more efficiently managing water resources.

- **Explain how the proposed project has been determined as a priority in the existing planning effort as opposed to other potential projects/measures.**

The District Board and staff evaluated this project and determined that this project would assist in providing a more reliable source of water, create a more stable safer operation, and reduce future operation costs and liability. Other projects considered include water divisions downstream from this location. The District believes its better served by working upstream to downstream, following the water, so-to-speak.

#### 1.4.3 Criterion C: Project Implementation

- **Describe the implementation plan for the proposed project. Please include an estimated project schedule that shows the stages and duration of the proposed work, including major tasks, milestones, and dates.**

Installation of the automatic waste way gates will take place during the 2018-2019 off-season beginning in October of 2018. Any work not completed prior to winter conditions setting in will be completed in the spring of 2018 as conditions allow.

- **Describe any permits that will be required, along with the process for obtaining such permits.**

Discussion with Western Colorado Area Office regarding NEPA and permitting suggest that a Corp of Engineers permit may be needed for installation of the rerouted waste way. However, under the circumstances it may be accomplished under a Nationwide Permit.

- **Identify and describe any engineering or design work performed specifically in support of the proposed project.**

JUB Engineers and Ag. Fab have completed preliminary design work on the proposed project and provided the cost-estimate and budget shown below.

- **Describe any new policies or administrative actions required to implement the project.**

No new policies or administrative actions are required to implement the project.

- **Describe how the environmental compliance estimate was developed. Have the compliance costs been discussed with the local Reclamation Office?**

Environmental compliance costs were estimated based on discussion with Reclamation's Western Colorado Area Office. An archeological survey may be required. See Section 2 below.

#### **1.4.4 Criterion D – Nexus to Reclamation**

- **Is the proposed project connected to a Reclamation project or activity? Is so, how? Please consider the following:**

- **Does the applicant receive Reclamation project water?**

Yes. The District is the contracting entity for operation and maintenance of Silver Jack Dam and Reservoir and the Bostwick Park Project. 11,320 Ac-Ft of storage water is allocated to the District for irrigation.

- **Is the project on Reclamation project lands or involving Reclamation facilities?**

The proposed project is a critical component in delivering water released from Reclamation's Silver Jack Reservoir for Reclamation's Bostwick Park Project for which the District is responsible.

- **Is the project in the same basin as a Reclamation project or activity?**

Yes. The project is located downstream of Reclamation's Silver Jack Dam off of the Cimarron River.

- **Will the proposed work contribute water to a basin where a Reclamation project is located?**

Waste-water from the Bostwick Park Project flows into Reclamation's Uncompahgre Project and is reused for irrigation purposes.

- **Will the project benefit any tribe(s)?**

None of Reclamation's tribe trust responsibilities will be helped with implementation of this project.

#### **1.4.5 Criterion E – Department of the Interior Priorities**

- **Modernizing our infrastructure**

This project will be a component to the modernization of the Cimarron Canal. Installation of automated waste gates will replace aging non-efficient manually operated gates with modern efficient gates supported by 21<sup>st</sup> century SCADA technology.

## **2 Budget**

### **2.1 Funding Plan and Letters of Commitment**

- The Cimarron Canal Company and the Bostwick Park Water Conservancy District through a combination of cash and in-kind

service will cover the non-federal costs for the project. The District has sufficient funds in reserve accounts available to cover the non-federal cash needs of the project. Annual audit and financial reports are available if required.

Non-Federal Costs: \$73,938 to be provided through cash and in-kind contributions from Bostwick Park Water Conservancy District.

Amount Requested from Reclamation: \$73,000

Total Project Costs: \$146,938

## 2.2 Budget Proposal

- The table below comprises the proposed budget for the project:

BOSTWICK PARK WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT							
Installation Costs							
Item	Description	Unit	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price	Federal	Non-Federal
1	<b>Contractual/Construction</b>						
	Waste Gate	ea	3	\$9,500	\$28,500	\$28,500	
	SCADA Installation	ea	3	\$10,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	
	Engineering Design and Review	hr	10	\$250	\$2,500		\$2,500
	Gravel	Ton	100	\$27.75	\$2,775		\$2,775
	Internet Materials and Supplies	ea	3	\$7,500	\$22,500	\$14,500	\$8000
	Pre-Cast Box Culvert	ft	60	\$560	\$33,600		\$33,600
2	<b>Equipment Usage</b>						
	Skid Steer	hr	20	\$29.42	\$588.40		\$588.40
	Excavator	hr	40	\$61.30	\$2,452		\$2,452
	Large Excavator	hr	20	\$165	\$3,300		\$3,300
3	<b>Personnel</b>						
	Trey Denison	hr	40	\$20.73	\$829.20		\$829.20
	Allen Distel	hr	20	\$35	\$700		\$700
	Operator/Laborer	hr	40	\$21	\$840		\$840
4	<b>Fringe Benefits</b>						
	Trey Denison – Full-time	hr	40	\$9.71	\$388.40		\$388.40
	Part-time employee	hr	40	\$1.53	\$61.20		\$61.20
6	<b>Other</b>						
	Contingency 10%	ls	1	\$12,903.42	\$12,903.42		\$12,903.42
	NEPA/Cultural Resource Inventory	ls	1	\$5,000	\$5,000		\$5,000
	<b>Total Project Costs</b>				\$146,937.62	\$73,000	\$73,937.62

## 2.3 Budget Narrative

- The following is an explanation of proposed contract costs for the project:
  - Automatic Waste Gates- Design, Fabrication, and installation of 3 Automatic Waste Gates- \$9,500 each Ag. Fab.

- SCADA – Procurement, installation, calibration of SCADA instrumentation – Mountain Peak Controls \$10,000 each.
  - Design – Design review to ensure correct materials and measurements. JUB Engineering \$2,500.
  - Gravel - This material will be used to repair or reconstruct the road as needed. \$2,775.00 100 Tons @ \$27.75 per ton delivered to the sites.
  - Internet Hookup - This cost is the estimated cost to provide the connection to the Internet network that the District has in place. This cost includes all the necessary switches, receivers, wiring, and power required. \$22,500.00 3 hookups @ \$7,500.00 Each
  - Box Culvert The purpose of this unit is to transport the storm water or other flows during wasting operations to the existing creek across the existing ingress and regress road. It will be precast and shipped to the site. \$33,600.00 60 Feet @ \$560.00 per liner foot including freight to the site.
- Equipment Usage – The equipment needed to remove the old structure and install the new automatic waste gates and box culverts is the excavator: Kubota KX080-4. This machine was used for the installation of the ramp flume in May of 2018 and the rate for it is \$61.30 per hour. It is estimated it will take 40 hours of machine time to remove the old structures and install the new automatic waste gate. \$2,452.00 40 Hours @ \$61.30 per hour. A large excavator will be needed to handle the sections of concrete box culvert. This work will be performed by the hour. The company the District hires will own and operate the large excavator. \$3,300.00 \$165.00 per hour estimated time 20 Hrs. Skid Loader - This Machine will be used to move material around the work site and backfill the structures and box culvert. \$588.40 20 Hours @ 29.42 Hr
  - Labor and Fringe Benefits - Trey Denison will be the project supervisor and will assist the contractor in the removal of the old waste gates and installation of the new automatic waste gates and concrete box culvert. \$1217.60 \$829.20 40 Hrs @ \$20.73 per hour and \$388.40 40 hours Fringe Benefits. Allen Distel will be the project manager and his duties will be to oversee the overall project and do all the reports and documentation needed. \$700.00 20 Hours @ \$35.00 per hour

Operator/Laborer - His duties will be to operate the equipment as needed and help the contractor with hand labor if needed. \$225.30 10 Hrs @ \$21.00 per hour and \$15.30 Fringe Benefits  
These are the actual labor rates of the actual personnel.

- NEPA – It is unwise to pre-determine NEPA requirements. The project has been discussed with Reclamation’s Western Colorado Area Office. Cultural Resource/Archeological surveys may be necessary. \$5,000 has been budgeted for NEPA activities.

### 3 Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance

- **Will the proposed project impact the surrounding environment?**

Possibly: The proposed project will have an impact on the surrounding environment as ground will be disturbed during the installation of the Coal Creek automatic waste gate. This waste gate will be moved upstream approximately 300 feet and a culvert placed under the existing access road to divert the discharge to the natural creek. The old structure will be removed from the canal bank. For the other two waste gates, all the work will be within the area of the existing structures.

- **Are you aware of any species listed or proposed to be listed as a Federal threatened or endangered species, or designated critical habitat in the project area?**

The District is not aware of any threatened or endangered species, proposed or listed in the project area.

- **Are there wetlands or other surface waters inside the project boundaries that potentially fall under Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction as “Waters of the United States?”**

Possibly: There are not any wetlands or other surfaces waters inside the project boundaries. However, discharge of the relocated structure will enter an existing natural drainage. Work should be accomplished under a COE Nationwide Permit.

- **When was the water delivery system constructed?**

Construction of the Cimarron Canal took place between 1899 and

1902.

- **Will the proposed project result in any modification of or effects to, individual features of an irrigation system (e.g., headgates, canals, or flumes)? If so, state when those features were constructed and describe the nature and timing of any extensive alterations or modifications to those features completed previously.**

Yes: The project will replace waste way gates that were installed when the canal was constructed and one of them will be moved upstream.

- **Are any buildings, structures, or features in the irrigation district listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? A cultural resources specialist at your local Reclamation office or the State Historic Preservation Office can assist in answering this question.**

A Class III cultural resource inventory will likely be done on the project area. The canal is likely eligible for the NRHP, so there may be a MOA and some mitigation that will need to be done, such as Level I Documentation.

- **Are there any known archeological sites in the proposed project area?**

None known at this time.

- **Will the proposed project have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations?**

The total project cost is about \$150,000 and should not affect low income or minority populations.

- **Will the proposed project limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts on tribal lands?**

No. The project is not situated near any tribal lands.

- **Will the proposed project contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area?**

During the construction process, Best Management Practices will be

utilized to minimize the spread of weeds from the project area.

#### **4 Required Permits and Approvals**

The project will likely qualify for the USACE's irrigation exemption or be covered under Nationwide Permit No. 5 - Scientific Measurement Devices. This permit doesn't require a Pre-Construction Notification to the USACE, and there are no Regional Conditions for Colorado associated with that permit. Any other required state or local permitting will be acquired as necessary.

#### **5 Official Resolution**

- The District Board will submit an Board Resolution committing District resources to the project within 30 days after the application deadline.

## **6 APPENDIX - Attachments**

### **6.1 Board Resolution**

# APPENDIX – Attachments

## Board Resolution

### Resolution Board of Directors Bostwick Park Water Conservancy District

**Whereas**, the Bostwick Park Water Conservancy District (“District”) is a water conservancy district organized pursuant to C.R.S. 37-45-101 *et seq.*

**Whereas**, project was authorized as a participating project to the Colorado River Storage Project Act (70 Stat. 105) on September 2, 1964 by Public law 88-568 (78 Stat. 852).

**Whereas**, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation completed construction of the Bostwick Park Project in 1975.

**Whereas**, the District desires to replace three wasteway gates on the Cimarron Canal and automated them, and are seeking grant funding to do so;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Bostwick Park Water Conservancy District Board of Directors hereby:

- Designates the President of the District, Allen Distel, as the legal authority/representative to enter into agreements related to the acquisition of grant funding for the above stated purposes
- Verifies the application for grant funding has been reviewed to the Board’s satisfaction and supports the application submitted
- Commits the necessary in-kind and cash contributions necessary to complete the proposed project as outlined in the project funding plan
- Pledges to work with Reclamation as necessary to meet established deadlines for entering into necessary funding agreements

ADOPTED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018 by unanimous vote:

BOSTWICK PARK WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

BY:   
Allen Distel, President