

Funding Opportunity Announcement No. R22AS00195

WaterSMART Grants:

Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

for Fiscal Year 2022

Wilson Irrigation Company

Application for grant award to support the implementation of the

Canal System Automation Project Phase 1

Applicant:

Kevin Stratford, President
Wilson Irrigation Company
1742 W. 1900 N.
Farr West, UT 84404
801-430-0582

Project Manager:

Kevin Stratford, President
Wilson Irrigation Company
1742 W. 1900 N.
Farr West, UT 84404
801-430-0582

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Technical Proposal and Evaluation Criteria

(1) Executive Summary

Date: April 22, 2022

Applicant: Wilson Irrigation Company, Farr West City, Weber County, Utah

Wilson Irrigation Company (WIC, Company) is a **Category A** applicant.

WIC provides irrigation water to agricultural users and secondary water providers in northern Utah. The Company proposes to install electric actuators on the three controlling slide gates in the canal system, new level monitoring sites, and integrating new Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) software to control the new automation devices on existing structures. Automation and improvement of delivery technology as proposed will better manage their water supply, conserve water, make more efficient use of limited water supplies and improve relations between the Company's officers, watermaster and shareholders.

The proposed project will take less than the 24 months allotted under this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to complete. After design and bidding, it is anticipated that construction would start in January 2024.

The proposed scope of work is not on a Federal facility.

(2) Project Location

The proposed project is located west of Ogden City in Weber County, Utah. An electronic gate actuator is proposed at the Company's Weber River Diversion. The river diversion is located at 41°13'23.26"N and 111°59'19.65"W. Additional gate actuators are proposed at the North Branch/South Branch divisor. The divisor is located at 41°13'37.52"N and 112° 1'31.27"W¹. The proposed level monitoring stations and check features will be constructed along the main line canal and the North and South branches. The Project Location Map is included as Attachment 1.

(3) Technical Project Description

The proposed project will include the installation of three electric actuators, one on each of WIC's slide gates, the installation of sensors and communication devices to automate operation of each slide gate, and integration of a SCADA system to allow remote and automated control by the watermaster.

Each slide gate is currently raised and lowered by a manually operated handwheel on a threaded rod (stem). Once funds are secured, bids from experienced distributors with installation crews will be sought to correctly fit an amply sized electric actuator on each stem. Overhead power exists near each proposed actuator site and a 120V service will be secured at each location to operate the new head gate actuators.

¹ WGS84

It is also proposed that the grant monies would be used to help the WIC purchase and install sensors and communication apparatus and integrate a SCADA system. Including all these automation items in a single bid package will allow the Company to have a single source of contractual contact for startup, training, troubleshooting and continued support. The completed system will allow for automated, not simply remote, control of the head gates, and thus water levels in the canal system.

(4) Evaluation Criteria

Please note that in the following discussions of evaluation criteria, text in **blue italics** is a direct copy from the NOFO, while text in **standard black font** is the applicant's response.

Evaluation Criterion A—Project Benefits (35 points)

Benefits to the Category A Applicant's Water Delivery System: Describe the expected benefits to the Category A applicant's water delivery system. Address the following:

- *Clearly explain the anticipated water management benefits to the Category A applicant's water supply delivery system and water customers.*
 - It is expected that through implementation of the proposed project, the WIC Water Master will be able to respond more quickly to shareholders' needs by remotely changing head gate positions and remotely observing water levels. The remote observation of levels and adjustment of gates in the system will allow for canal system optimization, which is intended to reduce shareholder frustrations with long canal-flow-adjustment times and reduce end-of-line spills.
- *Explain the significance of the anticipated water management benefits for the Category A applicant's water delivery system and customers. Consider:*
 - *Are customers not currently getting their full water right at certain times of year?*
 - Yes
 - *Does this project have the potential to prevent lawsuits or water calls?*
 - Yes
 - *What are the consequences of not making the improvement?*
 - Without implementation of the proposed project, the WIC will continue to operate their system inefficiently, without the benefit of current technology. Continued operation of the canal system without technological upgrades would continue the practice of slow response times and greater-than-needed end-of-line spills.
 - *Are customer water restrictions currently required?*
 - Yes

- *Other significant concerns that support the need for the project.*
 - *Implementation of a SCADA system and remotely operated gates will improve WCIC's ability to attract and retain a watermaster that may not be accustomed to the tedium of manual operation. Implementation of these technologies is a personnel strategy, as well as an operational strategy.*

Broader Benefits: *Describe the broader benefits that are expected to occur as a result of the project. Consider:*

Will the project improve broader water supply reliability at sub-basin or basin scale?

- *Will the proposed project increase collaboration and information sharing among water managers in the region? Please explain.*
 - The proposed project has, and it is expected that it will continue to, generate positive interaction between the WIC and managers such as: Weber Basin Water Conservancy District and Weber River Watershed Coordinator; and user groups such as: Trout Unlimited and Utah Department of Agriculture and Food. Please see the attached letters of support from these groups.
- *Will the proposed project positively impacts/benefit various sectors and economies within the applicable geographic area (e.g., impacts to agriculture, environment, recreation, and tourism)? Please explain.*
 - Yes.
 - The automated/remote canal system operation is calculated to maintain proper water levels in the canal system, to provide each shareholder the proper amount of water to which they are entitled *when it is their turn*, thus having the potential to improve agricultural yields.
 - Improved operation at the river diversion has the potential to keep more water in the main channel, improving fish habitat and angling opportunities in the Weber River at the 24th Street overpass recreational turnout. Hence, the letter of support from Trout Unlimited.
- *Will the project complement work being done in coordination with NRCS in the area (e.g., the area with a direct connection to the districts water supply)? Please explain.*
 - No
- *Will the project help address drought conditions at the sub-basin or basin scale? Please explain.*
 - Basin benefit: As operational inefficiencies, and therefore losses in the canal system, are reduced, the subsequent demand on Weber River water will be reduced and help water stay in the river system.

Evaluation Criterion B—Planning Efforts Supporting the Project (30 points)

Plan Development: Describe how your project is supported by an existing planning effort. Identify the planning effort and who developed it. If the planning effort was not developed by the Category A applicant, describe the Category A applicant's involvement in developing the planning effort.

- The proposed project is an initial step in implementing the WIC's Water Conservation and Management Plan, developed by the Company's consultant engineer at the direction of the WIC Board of Directors in 2020.

Support for the Project: Describe to what extent the proposed project is supported by the identified plan. Address the following:

- *Is the project identified specifically in the planning effort?*
 - Yes
- *Explain whether the proposed project implement a goal or address a need or problem identified in the existing planning effort?*
 - The project and its associated benefits is described in the Company's Water Conservation and Management Plan (Plan) attached to this application. The proposed project is priority number 1 in the Plan for controlling flows in the canal system.
- *Explain how the proposed project has been determined as a priority in the existing planning effort as opposed to other potential projects/measures.*
 - The proposed project has been determined as a priority over other potential projects because the first step to more rapidly controlling the water levels in the canal system, with the objective of optimizing flows and reducing waste, is to establish the technological ability to remotely observe levels and control gates. Future phases will further focus on flow control, but this first phase will establish the ability to remotely control system operation.

Evaluation Criterion C—Implementation and Results (20 points)

- *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.*
 - The anticipated milestones for completion of the Canal System Automation Project, is shown on the next page:

Milestone / Task / Activity	Planned Start Date	Planned Completion Date
Environmental and cultural compliance	March 2023	September 2023
Engineering design and bid package preparation	March 2023	July 2023
Bidding process, contract execution	July 2023	August 2023
Purchase hardware	August 2023	February 2024
Prepare sites	January 2024	February 2024
Install hardware/integrate SCADA/startup	February 2024	April 2024

- *Describe any permits that will be required, along with the process for obtaining such permits.*
 - Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) permitting will be required for placing control panel mounting poles and electrical service lines for the divisor gate actuators and North and South branch level monitoring sites.
 - Union Pacific Rail Road (UPRR) permitting will be required to gain vehicular access to the river diversion structure.
 - The general contractor retained to construct the proposed project will be required to secure necessary permits before performing any work requiring permits.
 - The process for obtaining the necessary permits follows UDOT and UPRR protocols that generally consist of defining and mitigating project impacts on the travelling public, bonding for an encroachment permit and installing the needed infrastructure.
- *Identify and describe any engineering or design work performed specifically in support of the proposed project.*
 - Engineering principles were applied during the process of developing WICs Water Conservation and Management Plan. Within that plan, the problems of water loss and inefficiencies were identified. Solutions to the problems were also prioritized within the plan. The proposed project is a phase of the solution identified with the highest priority for implementation. Specific design work has not been done.
- *Describe any new policies or administrative actions required to implement the project.*
 - None
- *Describe the timeline for completion of environmental and cultural resource*

compliance. Was the timeline for completion of environmental and cultural resource compliance discussed with the local Reclamation office?

- It is anticipated that the environmental and cultural resource compliance (Categorical Exclusion) will be completed in 3-6 months after notice of grant award, if awarded. The timeline for completion was discussed with Mr. Peter Crookston in the Provo Area Office.

Evaluation Criterion D— Nexus to Reclamation (5 points)

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

Yes. The Weber Basin Project manages flows in the Weber River, from which WIC diverts the majority of its water right.
 - *Is the project on Reclamation project lands or involving Reclamation facilities?*

No.
 - *Is the project in the same basin as a Reclamation project or activity?*

Yes. The proposed project is in the same basin as the Weber Basin Project.
 - *Will the proposed work contribute water to a basin where a Reclamation project is located?*

Yes. Through conservation, the net effect of implementation of the proposed project will be the contribution of water to the Weber Basin Project.

Evaluation Criterion E— Presidential and Department of the Interior Priorities (10 points)

Combating the Climate Crisis

- *Please provide specific details and examples on how the project will address the impacts of climate change and help combat the climate crisis.*
 - Implementation of this project
 - Will help address the impacts of climate change (less snowpack and lower river flows throughout the year) by efficiently using and thus conserving water.
 - Well help combat the climate crisis by reducing the travel needs of the WIC water master and therefore reduce use and exhaust of fossil fuels, which are widely understood to contribute to accelerated climate change.
- *Does this proposed project strengthen water supply sustainability to increase*

resilience to climate change?

- Yes
- *Does the proposed project contribute to climate change resiliency in other ways not described above?*
 - No

Disadvantaged or Underserved Communities

- *Will the proposed project serve or benefit a disadvantaged or historically underserved community? Benefits can include, but are not limited to, public health and safety by addressing water quality, new water supplies, or economic growth opportunities.*
 - No

Tribal Benefits

- *Does the proposed project directly serve and/or benefit a Tribe? Will the project improve water management for a Tribe?*
 - No
- *Does the proposed project support Tribal resilience to climate change and drought impacts or provide other Tribal benefits such as improved public health and safety by addressing water quality, new water supplies, or economic growth opportunities?*
 - No

Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement

- This project's scope is a subset of the scope of work proposed in WIC's 2022 WaterSMART WEEG application (R22AS00023).
 - The Applicant's application for Funding Opportunity R22AS00023 was submitted November 3, 2021
 - Reclamation expects to contact potential award recipients and unsuccessful applicants in spring 2022.
 - WIC has not received any notifications regarding the prior the mentioned WEEG application.
- No funding applications regarding the scope of work included in this Application (R22AS00195) have been made other than the WEEG application mentioned above. No further funding applications for this scope of work will be submitted for funding consideration to any other funding source.

Project Budget

(1) Funding Plan and Letters of Funding Commitment

Describe how the non-Federal share of project costs will be obtained. Reclamation will use this information in making a determination of financial capability.

- The non-Federal funds for the cost share are currently held in a cash account by HCIC and ready for immediate disbursement as a match to awarded grant monies.

Identify whether the budget proposal includes any project costs that have been or may be incurred prior to award.

- The budget proposal for the project does not include any project costs that have been or may be incurred prior to award.

(2) Budget Proposal

Table 1.—Summary of Non-Federal and Federal Funding Sources

FUNDING SOURCES	AMOUNT
Non-Federal Entities	
1. Wilson Irrigation Company (Applicant)	\$99,597
2.	
3.	
Non-Federal Subtotal	\$99,597
REQUESTED RECLAMATION FUNDING	\$99,597

Table 2.—Total Project Cost Table

SOURCE	AMOUNT
Costs to be reimbursed with the requested Federal Funding	\$0
Costs to be paid by the applicant	\$99,597
Value of third-party contributions	\$0
REQUESTED RECLAMATION FUNDING	\$99,597

Please see the proposed project’s detailed budget estimate on the following page.

Table 3.—Budget Proposal

BUDGET ITEM DESCRIPTION	COMPUTATION		Qty Type	TOTAL COST
	\$/Unit	Quantity		
Salaries and Wages	0			\$0
Fringe Benefits	0			\$0
Equipment	0			\$0
Supplies and Materials	0			\$0
Contractual/Construction				\$184,194
Engineer				
Engineering/Design	\$15,743	1	LS	\$15,743
Construction Management	\$11,020	1	LS	\$11,020
Construction				
Mobilization	\$10,299	1	LS	\$10,299
Traffic Control	\$3,568	1	LS	\$3,568
River Diversion Actuator / Instrumentation	\$20,750	1	LS	\$20,750
River Diversion Installation	\$5,000	1	LS	\$5,000
Main Line Level Instrumentation	\$7,450	1	LS	\$7,450
Main Line Stilling Basin and Installation	\$13,000	1	LS	\$13,000
1900 W Division Actuator / Instrumentation	\$31,712	1	LS	\$31,712
1900 W Installation	\$7,500	1	LS	\$7,500
Branch Line Level Instrumentation	\$16,076	2	EA	\$32,152
Branch Line Stilling Basin and Installation	\$13,000	2	EA	\$26,000
Third-Party In-Kind Contributions	0			\$0
Other	0			\$0
Environmental Compliance	\$15,000	1	LS	\$15,000
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS				\$199,194
Indirect Costs	%	\$base		\$0
TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS				\$199,194

(3) Budget Narrative

Salaries and Wages

- No WIC Salaries or Wages are included. WIC staff time associated with implementation of the proposed project will be accounted as normal costs of business.

Fringe Benefits

- No Fringe Benefits are included.

Travel

- No travel related expenses are included in this estimate.

Equipment

- Equipment will be part of the contracted portion of the project.

Materials and Supplies

- Material and Supplies will be part of the contracted portion of the project and will be documented as required.

Contractual

- The Engineering and Design Contract will include design at 10 percent and construction management at 7 percent of the sum of the anticipated construction contract and environmental costs.
- WIC will invite bids for the construction portion of the project in accordance with its purchasing policy. The contractual costs shown are estimates to furnish and install each major component. Generally, the lowest bidder with acceptable qualifications will be selected.
- The Contractor will be hired to perform mobilization (estimated 7% of construction and environmental cost), Traffic Control (estimated 2.25% of construction and environmental cost), furnish and install actuators, instrumentation, stilling basins and all other items of work related to implementation of the proposed project.
- Items of work with their associated quantities and quantity types included in the budget proposal were identified based on the applicant's planning efforts and knowledge of construction means and methods. The applicant relied upon previously quoted values for instrumentation and estimates of installation costs for development of the detailed budget cost.

Third-Party In-Kind Contributions

- No Third-Party In-Kind Contributions will be made on this project.

Environmental and Regulatory Compliance Costs

- Reclamation was consulted for an appropriate compliance cost to include in

the subject budget proposal, along with appropriate timeline. Mr. Peter Crookston in the Bureau's Provo office indicated that the project sounded like it would likely qualify for a Categorical Exclusion, would cost \$5,000+ and would take 3-6 months to complete.

Other Expenses

- No other expenses are included.

Indirect Costs

- No indirect costs are included.

Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance***Environmental and Cultural Resource Considerations***

Will the proposed project impact the surrounding environment (e.g., soil [dust], air, water [quality and quantity], animal habitat)? Please briefly describe all earth-disturbing work and any work that will affect the air, water, or animal habitat in the project area. Please also explain the impacts of such work on the surrounding environment and any steps that could be taken to minimize the impacts.

- Yes.
 - Impacts are believed to be minimal.
 - Construction activities will include vehicular movement.
 - Light duty trucks will transport personnel and instrumentation.
 - A backhoe will be transported to each location to construct a stilling basin and install a mounting pole for communication and controls.
 - Stilling basins are expected to consist of a section of 24" diameter pipe installed vertically in the ground within 5' of the canal to a depth on greater than the bottom of the canal, and a means of getting water from the canal to the stilling basin.
 - Mounting pole installation will consist of installing a steel pole approximately 3' in the ground to a height of about 10' above the ground, on which to mount solar panels or small communication and/or control boxes.
 - Small-diameter conduits for protecting electrical and control wires will also be installed.
 - It is expected that an area of no more than 15' x 15' will be disturbed by excavation activities at each of the sites.
 - These efforts will temporarily increase vehicle emissions and create additional ground traffic in the immediate vicinity of the installation sites.
 - The impacts from these efforts will be minimized through requiring the installing contractor to do its work quickly, with few trips and to clean up and report any environmental incidents that may occur.

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? If so, would they be affected by any activities associated with the proposed project?

- No.

Are there wetlands or other surface waters inside the project boundaries that potentially fall under CWA jurisdiction as “Waters of the United States?” If so, please describe and estimate any impacts the proposed project may have.

- Yes.
 - WIC is proposing to install an electric gate actuator and level sensing instrumentation at its diversion from the Weber River.
 - Impacts are expected to be negligible.
 - Installation of the mentioned instrumentation will take place on the existing diversion structure and it is expected that there will be no contact of personnel, equipment or instrumentation with the river.
 - Work will take place only on or in the diversion structure.

When was the water delivery system constructed?

- WIC was organized in 1903 with a delivery system consisting of canals and ditches.

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 install gate actuators at the concrete river diversion and concrete canal divisor.
 - Stilling basins will be installed adjacent to the main line and branch canals.
 - It is unknown when the diversion and divisor were constructed, but Weber County historical records indicate that a significant infusion of funds from the Utah Water and Power Board in 1961 provided the means to install a concrete lining on the North and South Branch canals.
 - It is assumed that the diversion and divisor were also

improved with the mentioned funds in the 1960s.

- Maintenance of corrodible gates on the concrete structures and repair of the concrete lining has most likely occurred in the intervening years, but there are no known records documenting such activities.

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.

- It is likely that there are eligible buildings, structures or features within the area served by the WIC. It does not appear to the WIC that there are any eligible buildings, structures or features at or near the sites proposed for improvement under this Application.

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

- No.

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

- No.

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

- No.

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?

- No.

Required Permits or Approvals

Applicants must state in the application whether any permits or approvals are required and explain the plan for obtaining such permits or approvals.

- UPRR permitting will be required to cross their tracks with service vehicles at the River Diversion.
- UDOT permitting will be needed to work within their right-of-way at the divisor and on the North and South Branches.
- The onus for securing applicable permitting will be placed on the installing contractor.

Letters of Project Support and Letters of Partnership

- Letters of support from the Utah State Division of Wildlife Resources, Weber Basin Water Conservancy District, Trout Unlimited and the Weber River Watershed Coordinator are included as Attachments to this Application.
- The Applicant is not party to any partnership, nor does it intend to enter into any partnerships.

Official Resolution

Include an official resolution adopted by the applicant's governing body to commit the applicant to the financial and legal obligations associated with receipt of a financial assistance award under this FOA.

- The official resolution is included in the Attachments to this application.

Resolution
By the Board of Directors
Wilson Irrigation Company
Board of Directors Meeting Held FEBRUARY 15, 2022

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, it was determined during the meeting of the Board of Directors of Wilson Irrigation Company (the Company), that an effort should be made to apply for the WaterSMART Grants: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects for Fiscal Year 2022.

AND WHEREAS, that the Company President and/or the Company General Manager and Treasurer are authorized to submit completed applications for the above referenced funding grant opportunities;

AND WHEREAS, the Company has the ability to provide the amount of funding and/or in-kind contributions as specified in the funding plan;

AND WHEREAS, the Company will work with the Bureau of Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into grant or cooperative agreement;

AND WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Company have reviewed the finished/completed applications prior to the submission of the final applications to the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that at the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wilson Irrigation Company, held FEBRUARY 15, 2022, that Kevin Stratford, President of Wilson Irrigation Company, is authorized to submit completed applications for the above referenced funding grant opportunities.

CERTIFICATION:

I, Kevin Stratford, certify that I am President of the Wilson Irrigation Company, organized under the laws of the State of Utah, and that the resolution stated above was adopted at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company duly and properly called and held on FEBRUARY 15, 2022.

K

Kevin Stratford, President
Wilson Irrigation Company

APRIL 26, 2022

Date

ATTEST:

Ray Holmes

Name

APRIL 26, 2022

Date

Role: Ray Holmes

Signature: 
Kevin Stratford (Apr 26, 2022 13:20 MDT)
Email: k_stratford@msn.com

Signature: 
Rockhard Excavating (Apr 26, 2022 19:39 MDT)
Email: rockhardexcavating@gmail.com

Digital signatures applying to both Attachment 2 and Attachment 3



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAEL D. FOWLKS
Division Director

Attachment 4.1

February 26, 2020

Kevin Stratford
President
Wilson Irrigation Company
1742 West 1900 North
Farr West, UT 84404

Subject: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

Dear Mr. Stratford:

As the Aquatics Program Manager in Northern Utah for the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR), I am pleased to write in support of the grant application you are submitting to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects Program. I applaud your efforts to increase the efficiency of your system and conserve valuable water and energy. All water savings in the Weber River watershed are valuable to ensure that we have adequate water for future generations.

The Bonneville Cutthroat Trout and Bluehead Sucker are native fish species found in portions of the Weber River. Both species are covered by conservation agreements the State of Utah has entered into with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other parties. The population status of these two sensitive species warrants additional conservation effort to diminish the likelihood of future listings under the Endangered Species Act. The population of Bonneville Cutthroat Trout in the lower Weber River is quite unique in that they travel considerable distances in the mainstem of the Weber River and ultimately up tributary streams to spawn. This life history attribute has been lost from almost all other Bonneville Cutthroat Trout populations, but still persists in the Weber River!

The UDWR's approach to aquatic species management and conservation in the Weber River, in part, focuses on reconnecting and maintaining connectivity of priority habitats by removing unnecessary barriers to fish migration, or by modifying existing barriers to allow upstream movement of these species, particularly for Bonneville Cutthroat Trout and Bluehead Sucker. Naturally of course, stable and connecting flows between those habitats are a fundamental requirement for those conservation actions to be successful. Within that context, most any project that enhances the continuity and maintenance of flows within the Weber River is a step in the right direction, as we work cooperatively to protect and conserve these native species.



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February 26, 2020

We are very excited regarding the objective of canal system automation and conservation within the Hights Irrigation grant proposal as efficiency efforts such as this one help ensure that the Bonneville Cutthroat Trout and Bluehead Sucker have adequate flows to carry out their life history requirements and thrive within the Weber River system.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Christopher R. Penne in black ink.

Chris Penne

Aquatics Program Manager, Norther Region
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources



WEBER BASIN WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

2837 EAST HIGHWAY 193 • LAYTON, UTAH • PHONE (801)771-1677 • SLC (801) 359-4494 • FAX (801) 544-0103

Attachment 4.2

Tage I. Flint
General Manager/CEO

November 3, 2021

Board of Trustees:

Dee Alan Waldron
President
Morgan County

Kevin Stratford, President
Wilson Irrigation Company
1742 West 1900 North
Farr West, UT 84404

Kym O. Buttschardt
Weber County

Randy B. Elliott
Davis County

RE: Letter of Support for Wilson Irrigation Company

Scott K. Jenkins
Weber County

Dear Kevin:

Marlin K. Jensen
Weber County

Weber Basin Water Conservancy District is pleased to support your effort to improve the efficiency of your water system under the Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Program. We appreciate the importance you have placed on this project and the opportunity this will give you to conserve as much water as possible in our water-short basin.

P. Bret Millburn
Davis County

Angie Osguthorpe
Weber County

Paul C. Summers
Davis County

Weber Basin Water delivers wholesale irrigation water to Wilson Irrigation Company. Weber Basin Water is also a stockholder in Wilson Irrigation Company and has a great partnership and history working with them to deliver water to our secondary water system located in West Haven City.

Dave Ure
Summit County

Weber Basin is excited about the improvements this project will make on your system. We strongly support your grant application and appreciate the advancements it will make in water conservation efforts and efficiencies for Wilson Irrigation Company and the Weber River Basin.

Sincerely,

Darren E. Hess, PE
Assistant General Manager/COO

DEH/dh



Trout Unlimited
1777 N Kent Street, Suite 100
Arlington, VA 22209
(703) 522-0200

November 2, 2021

Kevin Stratford
President
Wilson Irrigation Company
1742 West 1900 North
Farr West, UT 84404

Dear Mr. Stratford:

Trout Unlimited is enthusiastically supportive of your proposal and grant application for WaterSMART funding to modernize the Wilson Canal and diversion structure on the Weber River.

The Weber River is designated by the state as a Blue Ribbon Fishery, meaning it provides highly satisfying angling experiences for a diverse set of demographic groups. It is also home to two imperiled fish species: Bonneville cutthroat trout and bluehead suckers. This watershed is one of the most threatened natural resources in Northern Utah, as explosive growth pushes out agriculture and replaces farms, fields, and wetlands with pavement and houses. The result is a measurable degradation of water quantity for fisheries, water quality, and natural habitats.

The Wilson Canal is located in an important area on the lower Weber River. This reach of the lower Weber River has been the site of a renaissance with the recent reconstruction of the Ogden Whitewater Park by Ogden City, and redevelopment of a historically blighted area in West Ogden. The time is right to modernize the Wilson Canal Diversion as well. The Wilson Canal diversion is located immediately upstream of the Ogden Whitewater Park, and downstream of Fort Buena Ventura. Both of these areas are extensively used by the public for angling and other outdoor recreation.

Further, modernizing this irrigation diversion supports the broader goals of the 2014 Weber River Watershed plan, which highlights the need to reconnect habitats for native fish. In 2013, TU identified over 196 barriers to fish movement, and the Wilson Canal Diversion was one of the key barriers identified. Because the Wilson Canal Diversion is located in the lower Weber River with both Bonneville Cutthroat Trout and Bluehead Sucker will benefit from habitat reconnection, this is a high priority diversion to reconstruct.

We also support improvements of conveyance efficiency for agricultural water users. As more pressures are placed on our water systems it becomes increasingly important to optimize water

use for the various interests within Utah. We commend the Wilson Canal Company for developing broad goals for this modernization proposal. We commit to help raise funding to modernize this diversion structure, and hope to work with you as the project moves forward.

With Kind Regards.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Burnett", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Paul Burnett
Utah Water and Habitat Director
5279 S. 150 E.
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Weber River Watershed Coordinator

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November 3, 2021

Kevin Stratford, President
Wilson Irrigation Company
1742 West 1900 North
Farr West, UT 84404

Dear Mr. Stratford:

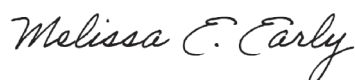
As Weber River Watershed Coordinator, from the mountainous headwaters to the lower Weber Delta, I sincerely support the Irrigation Company's grant and proposal for WaterSMART funding to modernize the Wilson Canal and diversion structure on the Weber River.

The Weber River is crucial to people and wildlife alike: agricultural rural livelihoods, Bonneville cutthroat habitat, and outstanding recreational opportunities in northern Utah. Many family farms have existed for generations but are increasingly being threatened by urban growth and development, hungry for water resources. This theme continues to accelerate amid the COVID-19 pandemic and drought of 2021, situated amid the larger context of climate change and people moving to Utah for the amazing natural resources and outdoor access. Thus, the modernization of this Wilson Canal irrigation diversion is even more pertinent and necessary for a variety of reasons.

The modernization of this irrigation diversion fits nicely within the framework of the 2014 Weber River Watershed plan, which identifies a key need for reconnecting native fish habitat. The efficiency improvements for agricultural water users that optimize water use are also a great benefit. As more and more pressures seek water from our systems, water optimization is crucial for all diverse user groups.

Lastly, the location of the Wilson Canal is of grand significance in the Lower Weber Watershed! Ogden City is fast becoming a recreational river paradise for urban angling, whitewater kayaking, birdwatching along the river trail, and overall enjoyment of the river corridor – in areas formerly blighted by economic decline. The Wilson Canal is situated upstream of the Whitewater Park and downstream of Fort Buena Ventura, areas used by residents and tourists alike. Modernization of the Wilson Canal Diversion is truly smart in a multitude of ways and brings diverse partnerships together for riparian health and continued economic livelihoods.

Sincerely,



Melissa Early, Weber River Watershed Coordinator