# Black Canyon Main Canal Metering Project
# Project Narrative

## WaterSMART: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects
## No. R24AS00059


***Applicant:*** Black Canyon Irrigation District

***Project Manager:*** Carl Hayes
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*January 15th, 2023*

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# Section 2: Technical Proposal

*Executive Summary*

**Date:** January 15th, 2023
**Applicant:** Black Canyon Irrigation District
**Location:** Notus, Idaho (Canyon County)

The Black Canyon Irrigation District, located in Notus, Idaho, qualifies as a Category "A" applicant in accordance with the requirements outlined in Section C.1 in the Notice of Funding Opportunity Announcement for the WaterSMART – Small-Scale Water Efficiency Program.

**Project Scope:** The Black Canyon Irrigation District (District) is in pursuit of the ability to effectively monitor water distribution along the Black Canyon Main Canal. Monitoring will be achieved by installing meters on various types of water deliveries. This project holds significant importance for the District, as most of these connections supply customers within the adjacent Emmett Irrigation District. Presently, these water orders are not being recorded, posing operational difficulties in estimating daily water requirements. By introducing metering systems, precise measurements will be obtained, enabling the District to control water discharges more effectively to downstream users. This proposal assists in both management and conservation of the District's irrigation water. The incorporation of these management mechanisms will enhance operational efficiency, which is a top priority for the District as water becomes more limited and demands continue to rise.

**Project Length and Estimated Completion Date:** The proposed project will be completed in 2 separate phases over 2 years. The proposal is for phase 1 funding, with an estimated commencement in March 2024, and completion in May 2025.

**Federal Facilities:** The proposed project is located on a federal facility operated by the District. The federal facility is the "Black Canyon Main Canal," which is owned by the US Bureau of Reclamation (BOR).

## *Project Location*

The District is composed of two separate units. The first unit was established in 1921 and covers an area of 6,900 acres. The second unit was constructed in 1940 and encompasses a substantial 53,200 acres. In addition to feeding the District's second unit, the Black Canyon Main Canal also supplies 5,100 acres to Emmett Irrigation District patrons. Historically, the Black Canyon Main Canal is diverted from the Payette River at the top of the Black Canyon Dam. The proposed project will take place along the first 20 miles of the Black Canyon Main Canal running southwest to the start of the District's second unit (**Figure 1**).

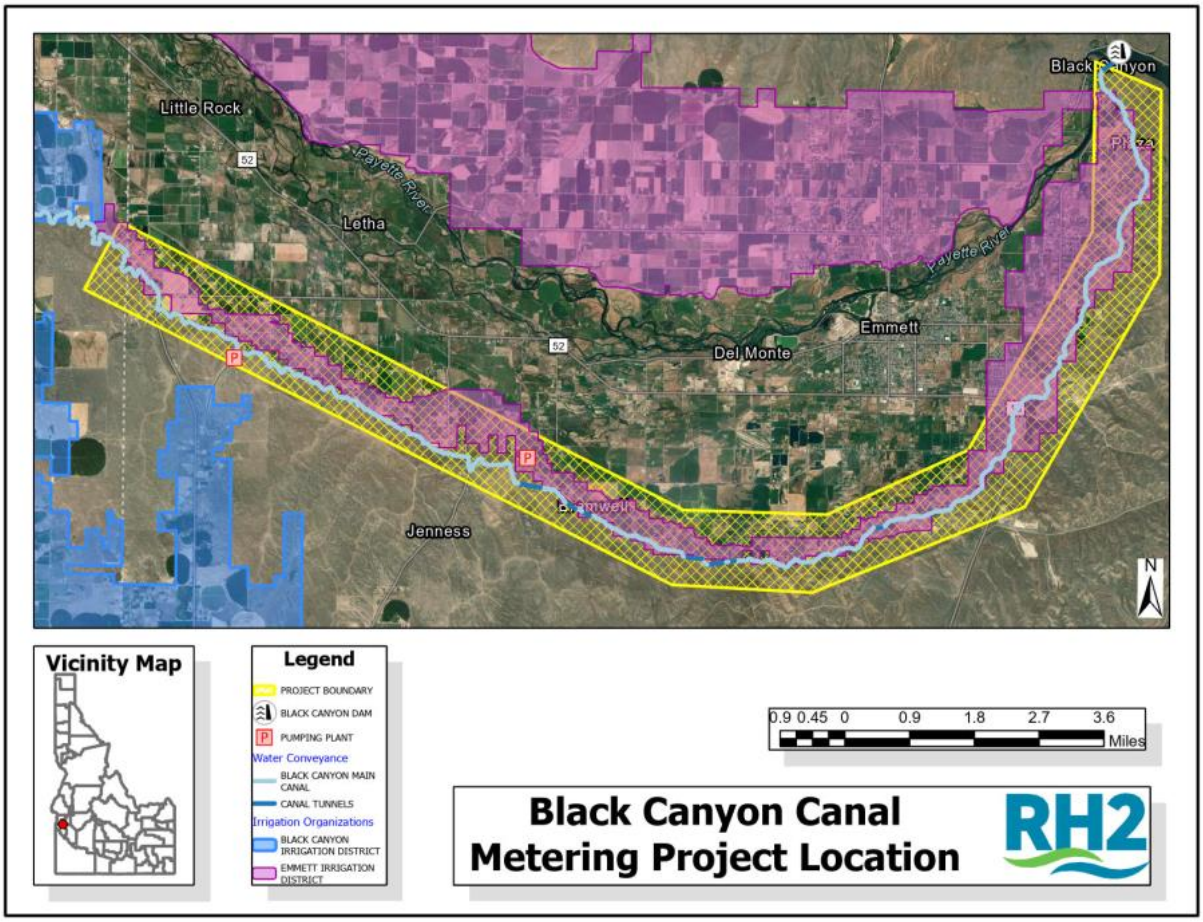


**Figure 1: Project Location for Black Canyon Canal Metering**

## *Technical Project Description*

In pursuit of enhancing water management practices, the District plans to introduce canal delivery metering along the Black Canyon Main Canal. This proposed initiative will identify approximately 100 unmetered deliveries and transition them onto a metered system that captures withdrawal timing, withdrawal volume, and the party responsible for the withdrawal. The District will use this data to gain insights on the extent of surface water consumption by external users, optimize delivery processes to reduce water waste, and establish formalized control over this valuable resource.

The successful execution of the project involves three main phases: 1) initial identification of the type of water delivery for locations along the Black Canyon Main Canal; 2) design and installation of suitable metering equipment; and 3) data collection for regulation.

The initial phase of the project is extremely critical in ensuring the project's success. In this phase, the District will accurately document water discharges from the Black Canyon Main Canal. This will provide the District with a comprehensive database containing detailed records of visible water extractions. Ultimately, this dataset allows for the subsequent design phase, which will encompass a wide array of delivery methods, such as siphons, taps, and pumps.

The design and installation phase involves the integration of standardized equipment tailored to meet diverse delivery requirements. Broadly, the metering process will be housed within a pre-cast concrete enclosure typically not exceeding dimensions of 4 feet by 4 feet by 4 feet. This structure will accommodate the canal delivery piping, a gate valve for District-controlled delivery regulation, and a meter comparable to the Badger M5000 MAG Meter supplemented by a remotely mounted amplifier. The objective is to embed this structure in the ground, with its lid flush with the surrounding grade. A flexible conduit will shield the Mag Meter cable, which will extend above the ground to a mounted enclosure hosting the meter readout. This enclosure will be affixed to a 4-inch by 4-inch post positioned 4 feet above the ground. See **Appendix B** for preliminary installation schematic.

The final component of this project will involve the implementation of a remote software setup within the ditch rider's vehicle. This system will be designed to seamlessly capture the meter readout signal and subsequently store the acquired data within the equipment onboard the vehicle during daily canal inspections.

## *Evaluation Criterion A – Project Benefits*

### District Benefits

*Will the project result in more efficient management of the water supply? Where any conserved water as a result of the project will go and how it will be used?*

The main beneficiaries of this data acquisition and subsequent delivery control will be the District patrons. Excessive withdrawals from external users will be reduced, providing a much more consistent and managed demand along the main canal. Additional water will be able to be delivered downstream through simple, increased, regulatory control. The District would enforce water deliveries to external users, providing more water in the Main Canal, and combating demand concerns in the District's second unit.

District staff operating the Main Canal will also be a beneficiary of the project. The metering project will allow the District to better understand water discharges from the Black Canyon Main Canal between its point of origin and the start of the District's second unit. Operations staff will be able to control the requests for water, and more importantly fluctuations in requested water during the irrigation season.

If the District were to assume that any delivery pulling from the Black Canyon Main Canal that is unmetered pulled 1.5 times the allocated amount, the potential revenue by regulating these deliveries would yield upwards of $372,600 per year per 120 cubic feet per second (cfs) at the District's going rate of $23 per acre-foot (af). This amount was determined using the following assumptions:

1. Assumed allotment is 120 cfs at a 25-percent loss (90 cfs).
2. Assumed to be consuming 1.5 times their allotment (135 cfs).
3. Metering regulates deliveries to the allotted amount (savings of 45 cfs).
4. Irrigation season is 6 months long (180 days).
5. This results in roughly 16,200 af of water saved annually.
6. 16,200 af would serve a full annual allotment of 3,240 acres of District Lands.
7. At $23 per af, anticipated monetary savings of $372,600 per year.

*Are customers not currently getting their full water right at certain times of year? Are customer water restrictions currently required?*

Over the past several decades, the District has struggled with the challenge of limited water conveyance from the start of the Black Canyon Main Canal to the District's origin 20 miles downstream. This predicament results from tunnel passages in the Black Canyon Main Canal that limit the maximum flow rate. The District operates at maximum capacity in the Black Canyon Main Canal during irrigation season and roughly 100 unmetered deliveries extract unknown amounts of irrigation water, further reducing the District's capacity. With increasing demand, the District struggles to fulfill water allocations for downstream stakeholders. The District is eliminating unmetered withdrawals as a first step in solving the canal's capacity concerns. This project will remove one unknown element to help define if capacity concerns are exclusively from infrastructure or if excessive withdrawals contribute as well. This systematic supervision will enable the District to judiciously differentiate excessive withdrawals from broader system limitations.

*Does this project have the potential to prevent lawsuits or water calls? What are the consequences of not making the improvement?*

If this water management challenge remains unaddressed, the District will continue to struggle with significant fluctuations of unregulated irrigation water withdrawals, which adds risk for both the agricultural and residential patrons downstream. For example, when the District makes restrictions in allotments to regulated downstream users, it cannot ensure the same for the unmetered upstream patrons. A downstream user could question whether the water is being restricted because of a shortage or because an unmetered user is consuming more than allowed, causing deficiencies further down the conveyance system. Ultimately the proposed meters provide a transparent and reliable method for quantifying water usage. In the long term, this project will allow the District to provide evidence in cases of water right disputes, preventing conflicts and fostering equitable distribution.

*Other significant concerns that support the need for the project.*

In addition to regulating water volumes fairly for all users, the District also believes that when allocations are unmetered, patrons are not motivated to manage their irrigation water usage with conservation in mind because it is essentially an unlimited source. This "unlimited source" leads to complacency in dated and inefficient applied irrigation water methods, which ultimately leads to the wasting of valuable irrigation water. Moreover, the District is already facing capacity constraints in the Black Canyon Main Canal, and the lack of metering in the first 20 miles only exacerbates the already strained irrigation water supply system.

If the first 20 miles of the Black Canyon Main Canal are left unmetered, the District is left managing irrigation water without data to implement regulations. It is impossible to manage a resource that the District has limited to no control over. This reason alone highlights the urgency and importance of the proposed project's execution to establish a more structured and efficient water delivery management system.

## Broader Benefits

*Will the proposed project increase collaboration and information sharing among water managers in the region?*

Currently the District has limited collaboration with the external water managers that use the Black Canyon Main Canal to serve their patrons. The integration of these meters would help foster conversation between entities to work together in water management efforts.

*Is the project in an area that is experiencing, or recently experienced, drought or water scarcity?*

There have been times within the past decade where the District has had to restrict water to its patrons as a direct result of drought years. Dryer years seem to be happening more frequently and the District is actively looking at how they can best use their capital to combat the water scarcity issues. With the installation of new meters, the District hopes to mitigate wasted irrigation water, which aligns with the overarching goal of climate change mitigation. Inevitably, these efforts facilitate a heightened sense of stewardship, as it enables the District to detect and address wasteful practices, unauthorized diversions, or excessive withdrawals. This not only conserves water but also exemplifies responsible resource management.

*Will the project benefit species that are federally threatened or endangered?*

The scope of this work will have no effect on federally threatened or endangered species.

*Will the proposed project positively impact/benefit various sectors and economies?*

The proposed project will positively impact the agriculture sector within the District boundaries. Agriculture cannot prosper without water, making this resource critical to the livelihood of farmers throughout the Treasury Valley. Through meter regulation the District will ensure that their agricultural patrons are not being hindered because of uncertainties in the District's distribution system.

*Will the project complement work being done in coordination with NRCS in the area?*

The metering of the Black Canyon Main Canal deliveries will take place in Water District 65, which is composed of the entire drainage basin of the Payette River. Water District 65 is derived from the Idaho Department of Water Resources with the goal to protect, conserve, develop, and manage the state's water. Even though the proposed metering will not directly affect the daily water management practices of Water District 65, it does serve as a complement to the efforts of Water District 65.

## *Evaluation Criterion B – Planning Efforts Supporting the Project*

*Is your project supported by a specific planning document or effort? If so, describe the existing plan. When was the plan developed? What is the purpose and objective of the plan?*

The proposed project is not supported by a specific planning document or effort.

*Who developed the planning effort? What is the geographic scope of the plan? 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 not supported by a specific planning document or effort.

*Describe to what extent the proposed project is supported by the identified plan.*

The District's Board of Directors have been working hard to tackle the District's largest insufficiencies. Putting District dollars towards pressing infrastructure demands has been deemed the most beneficial use given the District's current conditions. The District hopes to develop a physical planning document in the future that addresses concerns like regulatory measures within the District's Main Canal.

Metering the Black Canyon Main Canal is a top priority for the District because as an Irrigation District they are responsible for understanding when and how much water enters and exits their system to ensure all patrons within its boundaries receive water. The District currently lacks understanding along the first 20 miles of the Black Canyon Main Canal because over 100 deliveries are unmonitored.

## *Evaluation Criterion C – Implementation and Results*

*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.*

**Table 1: Summary of Project Schedule**

| PROJECT SCHEDULE | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **#** | **TASK** | **MONTHS** | **TIME PERIOD** |
| 1 | Funding Applications and Funding Agreements | **4** | October 2023 – January 2024 Not included in estimate |
| 2 | Identification of Delivery and Delivery Information | **1** | March 2024 |
| 3 | RH2 Draft 90% Plans for District Review | **5** | April 2024 – August 2024 |
| 4 | Revisions per District Comments | **2** | September 2024 – October 2024 |
| 5 | Bid Construction Contract – Phase 1 | **2** | November 2024 – December 2024 |
| 6 | Physical Integration of Meters – Phase 1 | **3** | January 2025 – March 2025 |
| 7 | Meter Calibration/Setup | **2** | April 2025 – May 2025 |
| **ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT (MONTHS)** | | **15** | |

*Proposals with a budget and budget narrative that provide a reasonable explanation of project costs will be priorities under this criterion.*

**Please see Section 3:** Project Budget and Budget Narrative (Page 12)

*Describe any permits and agency approvals that will be required along with the process and timeframe for obtaining such permits and approvals.*

There are no known permits required for this project at the time of application.

*Identify and describe any engineering or design work performed specifically in support of the proposed project. What level of engineering design is the project currently? If additional design is required, describe the planned process and timeline for completing the design.*

RH2 Engineering, Inc. (District's contracted engineer) will be responsible for the design of the metering system. At the time of submission, the District had not begun the engineering design for the Main Canal Metering Project. The District does, however, intend to have most of the engineering accomplished prior to the awarding of the Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grant. All engineering work is anticipated to be accomplished before the end of October 2024.

*Does the applicant have access to the land or water source where the project is located? Has the applicant obtained any easements that are required for the project? If the applicant does not yet have permission to access the project location, describe the process and timeframe for obtaining such permission.*

The applicant has complete access to all land and water within the scope of work for the proposed project. Black Canyon Main Canal is a District operated facility meaning all necessary easements have been established.

*Identify whether the applicant has contacted the local Reclamation office to discuss the potential environmental and cultural resource compliance requirements for the project and the associated costs. Has a line item been included in the budget for costs associated with compliance? If a contractor will need to complete some of the compliance activities, separate line items should be included in the budget for Reclamation's costs and the contractor's costs.*

The applicant has not contacted the local Reclamation office to discuss the potential environmental and cultural resource compliance requirements. The District assumes that the local Reclamation office will require some form of compliance requirements and therefore has been accounted for in the project budget as a separate line item. This compliance request will be handled during design by the consultant.

## *Evaluation Criterion D – Nexus to Reclamation*

*Does the applicant have a water service, repayment, or operations and maintenance (O&M) contract with Reclamation?*

The District is under a repayment contract with Reclamation.

*If the applicant is not a Reclamation contractor, does the applicant receive Reclamation water through a Reclamation contractor or by any other contractual means?*

The District is a Reclamation contractor. Not applicable.

*Will the proposed work benefit a Reclamation Project area or activity?*

The proposed work will benefit the existing infrastructure with the Boise Project area.

## *Evaluation Criterion E – Presidential and Department of the Interior Priorities*

### Resilience to Climate Change

*Please provide specific details and examples on how the project will address the impacts of climate change and help combat the climate crisis. Does this proposed project strengthen water supply sustainability to increase resilience to climate change? Does the Proposed Project contribute to climate change resiliency in other ways not described above?*

The reduction in water waste due to new meter supervision contributes to the conservation of this precious resource, which aligns with the overarching goal of climate change mitigation. This recovery of water supply is extremely valuable, especially with changing precipitation patterns and the need to ensure a reliable water source in the face of climate uncertainties. Inevitably, these efforts facilitate a heightened sense of stewardship, as it enables the District to detect and address wasteful practices, unauthorized diversions, or excessive withdrawals. This not only conserves water but also exemplifies responsible resource management.

The District will also be able to conserve power and generate more energy with this project. Currently, the District is required to divert water (spill) out of the Black Canyon Main Canal at Tunnel No. 2 due to capacity issues of the main canal, and then pump water back into the main canal downstream to meet delivery demands. The new data captured by the meters has the potential to reduce water spillage, which, in turn, can lead to a decrease in the need for pumping and result in substantial power conservation. If the District deems it necessary to limit water deliveries, such an action could keep more water in the canal. Currently, the District has infrastructure in place to capture hydropower from flowing water in the Black Canyon Main Canal. Thus, with the strategic management of water deliveries, the District can increase hydroelectric power production. In essence, the new data from the meters not only promises greater efficiency in water management but also unlocks a promising step towards sustainable and cost-effective energy generation for the District.

# Section 3: Project Budget

## *Non-Federal and Federal Funding Sources*

**Table 2: Summary of Non-Federal and Federal Funding Sources**

| FUNDING SOURCES | AMOUNT |
|---|---|
| 1. Black Canyon Irrigation District | $62,765 |
| 2. Water District 65 (In-Progress) | $50,000 |
| **Non-Federal Subtotal** | $112,765 |
| **REQUESTED RECLAMATION FUNDING** | **$99,998** |

## *Budget Breakdown*

**Table 3: Summary of Budget Narrative**

| BUDGET OBJECT CATEGORY | TOTAL COST | FEDERAL ESTIMATED AMOUNT | NON-FEDERAL ESTIMATED AMOUNT |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Administrative and Legal Expenses | $0 | | |
| 2. Land, Structures, Right-of-Way, etc. | $0 | | |
| 3. Relocation Expenses and Payments | $0 | | |
| 4. Architectural and Engineering Fees | $10,000 | | |
| 5. Other Architectural and Engineering Fees | $6,000 | | |
| 6. Project inspection Fees | $18,432 | | |
| 7. Site Work | $10,000 | | |
| 8. Demolition and Removal | $3,000 | | |
| 9. Construction | $60,000 | | |
| 10. Equipment | $65,989 | | |
| 11. Miscellaneous | $20,000 | | |
| 12. SUBTOTAL | $193,421 | | |
| 13. Contingencies | $19,342 | | |
| 14. TOTAL COSTS | $212,763 | $99,998 | $112,765 |
| COST SHARE PERCENTAGE | | 47% | 53% |

*Budget Narrative*

### Administrative and Legal Expenses
At time of application, it is assumed no legal expenses will be required.

### Land, Structures, Right-of-Way, etc.
The project is within an existing District easement and no land acquisitions are anticipated. Therefore, the line item was removed from the budget.

### Relocation Expenses and Payments
At time of application, it is assumed no relocation expenses will be required.

### Architectural and Engineering Fees
RH2 Engineering, Inc. (RH2) is the District's on-call District Engineer. Design contract will be provided for review to the District and mutually negotiated. Engineering design will be underway before potential funding and this budget will be used to complete 100 percent plans.

### Other Architectural and Engineering Fees
Construction engineering support will be provided by RH2.

### Project Inspection Fees
District Manager (Carl Hayes) will oversee staffing on the project, design review of services, review of construction issues, meet with staff and engineer to monitor progress of the project on a weekly basis. District Assistant Manager (Tyler Chamberlain) will oversee the contractor daily, with morning check-ins, also will assist in identifying service locations and sizing during design, ordering meters, meter set-up and logging once installed, troubleshooting and closeout of the project. The District Operator will assist with equipment operation as needed, will oversee contractor inspection and installation of meters daily.

### Site Work
Each meter location will require site work to prepare the existing delivery for meter integration. This work will be done by the District's Operator in conjunction with the Contractor.

### Demolition and Removal
The District intends to limit demolition and removal but existing conditions of all 100 deliveries are unknown at the time of application and demolition may be required.

### Equipment

The District plans to purchase the meters and necessary meter equipment directly from supplier to reduce overall costs and markup on the project. All other construction equipment is placed in the construction costs. Industry equivalents will be allowed in the case of supply constraints. Any supplies needed for the consulting/construction groups will be covered within the scope of work for the given contract.

### Construction

The District will be bidding out the construction for the proposed project. In addition, the District plans to assist contractors with excavation and backfill at each site, using District equipment to complete these tasks. The District plans to procure most of the larger infrastructure items themselves, with contractors hired to install materials.

### Miscellaneous

This line item was used as a placeholder for any unforeseen costs and help address the environmental and cultural compliance that may be required from the Reclamation.

### Indirect Charges

Includes the mandatory 10 percent de minimis rate of modified total direct costs.

### Total Costs

The total cost for the proposed project is estimated at $212,763.

## Section 4: Environmental And Cultural Resources Compliance

*Question 1*: *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.*

The outlined project will facilitate the incorporation of meters into pre-existing water conveyance facilities. The project's extent does not involve the complete construction overhaul of deliveries but rather a minor delivery facility upgrade (more typical of a maintenance project). Typically, during the installation of meters, excavation is required to accommodate a pre-cast concrete box. These operations will avoid the disturbance of surrounding aquatic medium as construction will take place outside of the irrigation season (the Black Canyon Main Canal will be empty).

*Question 2*: *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?*

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)**

- The Slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*), Bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*), and Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) are listed species managed by the USFWS near the Black Canyon Main Canal but are not within the proposed project footprint.

**National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)**

- No ESA listed species managed by NMFS have habitat near the Black Canyon Canal, and proposed project footprint. The nearest NMFS designated critical habitat and presence of listed species occurs in the Boise National Forest.

The proposed project will install meters along existing irrigation turnouts present on the Black Canyon Main Canal. No ESA-listed species or habitats are anticipated or known to be present along this Canal. Thus, this project is not anticipated to adversely impact ESA-listed species or designated critical habitats.

*Question 3*: *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.*

No, the proposed project boundaries do not affect wetlands and/or other surface waters covered under the CWA jurisdiction as "Waters of the United States." Therefore, no impacts will transpire, and no mitigation will be required.

*Question 4*: *When was the water delivery system constructed?*

The construction of the Black Canyon Main Canal was completed in 1940.

*Question 5*: *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.*

No, the proposed project does not result in any modifications to headgates, canals, or flumes. However, the project does directly alter individual deliveries such as small siphons, valves, and pumps. The extent of the alterations would be to adapt these features to record flow measurements; the project does not entail the installation of new deliveries.

*Question 6*: *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.*

Yes, the Black Canyon Main Canal is referred to as historic property; therefore, it has been listed as eligible on the National Register of Historic Places. However, metering deliveries does not affect the historic property and serves as existing facility upgrades.

*Question 7*: *Are there any known archeological sites in the proposed project area?*

No, the District is unaware of any archaeological sites within the proposed project area at the time of this proposal submission.

*Question 8*: *Will the proposed project have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations?*

No, the proposed project will not adversely affect low income or minority populations.

*Question 9*: *Will the proposed project limit access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts on tribal lands?*

No, the proposed project does not limit access or result in other impacts to the five federally recognized tribal lands located in the State of Idaho.

*Question 10*: *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, the proposed project will not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area.

## Section 5: 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.*

There are no known permits required for this project.

## Section 6: Overlap Or Duplication Of Effort Statement

*Applicants must provide a statement that addresses if there is any overlap between the proposed project and any other active or anticipated proposals or projects in terms of activities, costs, or commitment of key personnel. If any overlap exists, applicants must provide a description of the overlap in their application for review.*

There is no overlap associated with this proposed project and any other proposals for metering canal deliveries along the Black Canyon Main Canal.

## Section 7: Conflict Of Interest Disclosure Statement

*Applicants should state in the application if any actual or potential conflict of interest exists at the time of submission. Submission of a conflict-of-interest disclosure or certification statement is mandatory prior to issue of an award.*

No actual or potential conflicts of interest exist at the time of this proposal submission.

## Section 8: Uniform Audit Reporting Statement

*All U.S. states, local governments, federally recognized Indian Tribal governments, and non-profit organizations expending $750,000 USD or more in Federal award funds in the applicant's fiscal year must submit a Single Audit report for that year through the Federal Audit Clearinghouse's Internet Data Entry System.*

Black Canyon Irrigation District acknowledges the requirement for a Single Audit should the project expenditures exceed $750,000 in federal award funds.

## Section 9: Certification Regarding Lobbying

*Applicants requesting more than $100,000 in Federal Funding must certify to the statements in 43 CFR18, Appendix Q. If this application request more than $100,000 in Federal Funds, the authorized official's signature on the appropriate SF-424 form also represents the applicant's certification of the statements in 43 CFR18, Appendix A.*

The applicant will not be requesting more than $100,000 in Federal funding.

## Section 10: Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (if Applicable)

*If applicable, a fully completed and signed SF-LLL: Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form is required if the applicant has made or agreed to make payment to any lobbying entity for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with a covered Federal action. This form cannot be submitted by a contractor or other entity on behalf of an applicant.*

Not applicable to this project.

## Section 11: Letters of Support

*You should include any letters from interested stakeholders supporting the proposed project.*

Letters are attached in **Appendix A**.

Letters of Support were written on behalf of the District at the time of the WaterSMART Applied Science Grant application for the Black Canyon Main Canal Metering Project. Rather than having these entities resubmit a letter of support for the same project, these letters have been reused for the WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grant.

Supporting organizations include:

- Family Farm Alliance
- Idaho Farm Bureau Federation
- Idaho Water Users Association
- Payette County Commissioners
- Treasure Valley Water Users Association
- Water District 63
- Water District 65

# Appendix A

Family Farm ALLIANCE®
PROTECTING WATER FOR WESTERN IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE

September 11, 2023

Ms. Avra Morgan
Bureau of Reclamation
Water Resources and Planning Office
PO Box 25007, MC 86-63000
Denver, CO 80225-0007

**RE: Letter of Support for the FY2023 WaterSMART Applied Science Grant Application: Black Canyon Main Canal Metering Project**

Dear Ms. Morgan:

On behalf of the Family Farm Alliance (Alliance), I am writing this letter to express support for the grant application submitted by the Black Canyon Irrigation District (District), as referenced above. The Alliance is a grassroots organization of family farmers, ranchers, irrigation districts, and allied industries in 16 Western states. The Alliance is focused on one mission: to ensure the availability of reliable, affordable irrigation water supplies to Western farmers and ranchers. We are also committed to the fundamental proposition that Western irrigated agriculture must be preserved and protected for a host of economic, sociological, environmental, and national security reasons – many of which are often overlooked in the context of other national policy decisions.

At the Alliance, we recognize the significant value in the District's pursuit of water management improvements. The commitment exhibited by the District to continuously integrate advancing technology into their water management system is indeed commendable and demonstrates their forward-thinking approach. The allocation of the requested funds to enhance water measurement accuracy will empower the District with critical data essential for informed decision-making and the optimal allocation of resources. This advancement in accuracy will inevitably contribute to the identification of areas for improvement and the implementation of measures to effectively improve water management.

The Alliance fully endorses the FY 2023 Applied Science Grant funding application by the District. This project, designed to elevate water allocation management, aligns seamlessly with our long-standing policy of promoting efficient and sustainable utilization of Western water supplies.

Should you have any queries or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 541-892-6244 or dan@familyfarmalliance.org.

Sincerely,

Dan Keppen
Executive Director

**Idaho Farm Bureau Federation**
500 West Washington Street
Boise, Idaho 83702
(208) 342-2688

September 7, 2023

Bureau of Reclamation
Water Resources and Planning Office
PO Box 25007, MC 86-63000
Denver, CO 80225-0007

**RE: Letter of Support for the FY2023 WaterSMART Applied Science Grant Application: Black Canyon Main Canal Metering Project**

Ms. Morgan:

On behalf of the membership of the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation, with particular interest of our members who are served by the Black Canyon Irrigation District (District), I write this letter to express our support for their grant application. As an agricultural trade organization, with farm and ranch members in the District's service territory, the Farm Bureau recognizes the significant value in the District's pursuit of water management improvements that align with the universal goal of responsible water stewardship.

The commitment exhibited by the District to continuously integrate advancing technology into their water management system is indeed commendable and demonstrates their forward-thinking approach. The allocation of the requested funds to enhance water measurement accuracy will empower the District with critical data essential for informed decision-making and the optimal allocation of resources. This advancement in accuracy will inevitably contribute to the identification of areas for improvement and the implementation of measures to effectively mitigate water wastage.

The Idaho Farm Bureau Federation fully endorses the FY 2023 Applied Science Grant funding application by the Black Canyon Irrigation District. This project, designed to elevate water allocation management, aligns seamlessly with the Farm Bureau's goal of efficient and sustainable utilization of water supplies.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Braden Jensen in our Boise office at 208-333-7089 or bjensen@idahofb.org. Thank you for considering this letter of support, and we look forward to seeing the positive impacts of this project on the irrigation district.

Sincerely,

Bryan Searle, President
Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

IDAHO WATER USERS ASSOCIATION
101 S. Capitol Blvd. STE 305 Boise, ID 83702
P: 208-344-6690 E: iwua@iwua.org W: iwua.org

September 7, 2023

Bureau of Reclamation
Water Resources and Planning Office
PO Box 25007, MC 86-63000
Denver, CO 80225-0007

**RE: Letter of Support for the FY2023 WaterSMART Applied Science Grant Application: Black Canyon Main Canal Metering Project**

Dear Ms. Morgan:

On behalf of the Idaho Water Users Association (IWUA), I write in support of the above-referenced grant application submitted by Black Canyon Irrigation District (District). The District has been a long-standing member of IWUA and we appreciate the District's pursuit of water management improvements. This project aligns perfectly with our membership's overall goal of responsible water stewardship.

We appreciate the District's efforts to continuously integrate advancing technology into their water management system. These grant funds will allow them to improve water measurement accuracy, gather more water-use data and, ultimately, optimize the management of the District's water supplies. As an association, we urge all of our members to be proactive in improving their water management – the District is leading the charge with this project.

IWUA supports the District's FY 2023 Applied Science Grant funding application, and we urge you to select this project for grant funding. Feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or desire further information. I can be reached via email at paul@iwua.org.

Sincerely,

Paul Arington
IWUA Executive Director & General Counsel

OFFICE OF
**The Board of Payette County Commissioners**

DISTRICT 1 ANNE-MARIE KELSO, CHAIR
DISTRICT 2 JENNIFER F. RIEBE
DISTRICT 3 KEN BISHOP

1130 3RD AVENUE N., RM 104
PAYETTE, IDAHO 83661-2473
PHONE (208) 642-6000

September 18, 2023

Bureau of Reclamation
Water Resources and Planning Office
PO Box 25007, MC 86-63000
Denver, CO 80225-0007

To Ms. Avra Morgan:

We are writing in support of Black Canyon Irrigation District's application for the FY 2023 WaterSMART Applied Science Grant for the Main Canal Metering Project.

Agriculture is at the heart of Payette County's economy and character. Fundamental to that agricultural success is access to abundant and reliable water. Black Canyon Irrigation District is one of the critical suppliers of this resource to farmers in our area.

In order to fully understand where water can be conserved, it first must be measured. The WaterSMART grant will improve the District's ability to monitor flow and will provide data essential for informed decision-making. The advancement in accuracy will inevitably contribute to the identification of areas for improvement, and the implementation of measures to effectively mitigate water wastage.

We appreciate Black Canyon Irrigation District's continued efforts to improve efficiency and stewardship of water for the long-term viability of our farming community. To that end, we fully endorse their FY2023 Applied Science Grant funding application.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
The Board of Payette County Commissioners

Anne-Marie Kelso, Chair  Jennifer Riebe, Commissioner  Ken Bishop, Commissioner

Cc: File

Treasure Valley WATER USERS ASSOCIATION
BOISE RIVER BASIN
55 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 100 / Meridian, ID 83642
PH 208.888.0988 / FX 208.888.4586

Bureau of Reclamation
Water Resources and Planning Office
PO Box 25007, MC 86-63000
Denver, CO 80225-0007

**RE: Letter of Support for the FY2023 Water SMART Applied Science Grant Application: Black Canyon Main Canal Metering Project**

Dear Ms. Morgan:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Treasure Valley Water Users Association to express the organization's full support for the grant application submitted by the Black Canyon Irrigation District (District), as referenced above. The Treasure Valley Water Users Association recognizes the significant value in Black Canyon Irrigation District's pursuit of water management improvements that align with the universal goal of responsible water stewardship.

The commitment exhibited by Black Canyon Irrigation District to continuously integrate advancing technology into their water management system is commendable and demonstrates their forward-thinking approach. The allocation of the requested funds to enhance water measurement accuracy will empower the District with critical data essential for informed decision-making and the optimal allocation of resources. This advancement in accuracy will inevitably contribute to the identification of areas for improvement and the implementation of measures to effectively mitigate water wastage.

Black Canyon Irrigation District has played a vital role in the collaboration that takes place among Treasure Valley water delivery entities. This collaboration has resulted in a mutual benefit for their respective water users, and the project that they are requesting grant funding for will be no exception. The District's project, designed to elevate water allocation management, aligns seamlessly with the Treasure Valley Water Users Association's goal of effective and responsible utilization of water resources.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to reach out to me at roger@amgidaho.com. Thank you for taking the time to consider this letter of support, and we eagerly anticipate observing the beneficial effects of this initiative on responsible water management practices.

Sincerely,

Roger Batt, Executive Director

September, 6th 2023

Bureau of Reclamation
Water Resources and Planning Office
PO Box 25007, MC 86-63000
Denver, CO 80225-0007

**RE: Letter of Support for the FY2023 WaterSMART Applied Science Grant Application: Black Canyon Main Canal Metering Project**

Dear Ms. Morgan:

I am writing this letter to express my support for the grant application submitted by the Black Canyon Irrigation District (District), as referenced above. As Water District 63, delivers water to Black Canyon Irrigation. Water District 63 also tracks Black Canyons irrigation usage for the purposes of the State of Idaho, we recognize the significant value in the District's pursuit of water management improvements that align with the universal goal of responsible water stewardship.

The commitment exhibited by the District to continuously integrate advancing technology into their water management system is indeed commendable and demonstrates their forward-thinking approach. The allocation of the requested funds to enhance water measurement accuracy will empower the District with critical data essential for informed decision-making and the optimal allocation of resources. This advancement in accuracy will inevitably contribute to the identification of areas for improvement and the implementation of measures to effectively mitigate water wastage.

Water District 63 fully endorses the FY 2023 Applied Science Grant funding application by the Black Canyon Irrigation District. This project, designed to elevate water allocation management, aligns seamlessly with Water District 63 goal of efficient and sustainable utilization of water supplies.

Should you have any queries or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 208-908-5482 or mike@wd63.org. Thank you for considering this letter of support, and we look forward to witnessing the positive impacts of this endeavor on responsible water management practices.

Sincerely,

Mike Meyers
Water District 63
Watermaster

September 05, 2023

Bureau of Reclamation
Water Resources and Planning Office
PO Box 25007, MC 86-63000
Denver, CO 80225-0007

**RE: Letter of Support for the FY2023 WaterSMART Applied Science Grant Application: Black Canyon Main Canal Metering Project**

Dear Ms. Morgan:

I am writing this letter to express my support for the grant application submitted by the Black Canyon Irrigation District (District), as referenced above. As Water District 65, with a direct connection to the District, we recognize the significant value in the District's pursuit of water management improvements that align with the universal goal of responsible water stewardship.

The commitment exhibited by the District to continuously integrate advancing technology into their water management system is indeed commendable and demonstrates their forward-thinking approach. The allocation of the requested funds to enhance water measurement accuracy will empower the District with critical data essential for informed decision-making and the optimal allocation of resources. This advancement in accuracy will inevitably contribute to the identification of areas for improvement and the implementation of measures to effectively mitigate water wastage.

Water District 65 fully endorses the FY 2023 Applied Science Grant funding application by the Black Canyon Irrigation District. This project, designed to elevate water allocation management, aligns seamlessly with Water District 65 goal of efficient and sustainable utilization of water supplies.

Should you have any queries or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 208-642-4465 or neil.waterdistrict65@gmail.com Thank you for considering this letter of support, and we look forward to witnessing the positive impacts of this endeavor on responsible water management practices.

Sincerely,

Neil Shippy
Water District 65
Watermaster