



Last Updated: November 2018

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant Application

Instructions

To receive funding for a Water Plan Grant, applicant must demonstrate how the project, activity, or process (collectively referred to as “project”) funded by the CWCB will help meet the measurable objectives and critical actions in the Water Plan. Grant guidelines are available on the CWCB website.

If you have questions, please contact CWCB at (303) 866-3441 or email the following staff to assist you with applications in the following areas:

Water Storage Projects Conservation, Land Use Planning Engagement & Innovation Activities Agricultural Projects Environmental & Recreation Projects	Anna.Mauss@state.co.us Kevin.Reidy@state.co.us Ben.Wade@state.co.us Alexander.Funk@state.co.us Chris.Sturm@state.co.us
--	--

FINAL SUBMISSION: Submit all application materials in one email to waterplan.grants@state.co.us in the original file formats [Application (word); Statement of Work (word); Budget/Schedule (excel)]. Please do not combine documents. In the subject line, please include the funding category and name of the project.

Water Project Summary	
Name of Applicant	Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group
Name of Water Project	Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery
CWP Grant Request Amount	\$ 42,500
Other Funding Sources -- Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety	\$ 9,950
Other Funding Sources -- In-Kind (from Volunteers, Other Participating Watershed Coalitions, and Vendors)	\$ 16,000
Other Funding Sources _____	\$
Applicant Funding Contribution -- (From Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group Stewardship Partners and Donors)	\$ 24,550
Total Project Cost	\$ 93,000



Last Updated: November 2018

Applicant & Grantee Information	
Name of Grantee(s)	Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group
Mailing Address	P.O. Box 1074, Niwot, CO 80544-0210
FEIN	20-1248361
Organization Contact	Jessie Olson
Position/Title	Executive Director
Email	jolson@lwog.org
Phone	(303) 746-7937
Grant Management Contact	Same as Organization Contact above
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)	Same as Organization Contact above
Mailing Address	
Position/Title	
Email	
Phone	
Description of Grantee/Applicant	
Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).	
<p>Since 2005, Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group, a nonprofit organization based in Boulder County, has been working to protect and restore Left Hand Creek Watershed for future generations. We were founded as a watershed protection group to monitor local mine clean-up activities. Since 2016, we secured over ten million dollars to implement twenty flood recovery restoration projects. Today, we strive to carry out our mission under four programs: Watershed Science, Stewardship, Restoration, and Outreach and Education. To increase our impact, all projects implemented under these programs are developed to be scalable and repeatable to other Colorado watersheds.</p>	



Last Updated: November 2018

Type of Eligible Entity (check one)	
	Public (Government): Municipalities, enterprises, counties, and State of Colorado agencies. Federal agencies are encouraged to work with local entities. Federal agencies are eligible, but only if they can make a compelling case for why a local partner cannot be the grant recipient.
	Public (Districts): Authorities, Title 32/special districts (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises.
	Private Incorporated: Mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations.
	Private Individuals, Partnerships, and Sole Proprietors: Private parties may be eligible for funding.
X	Non-governmental organizations (NGO): Organization that is not part of the government and is non-profit in nature.
	Covered Entity: As defined in Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes .

Type of Water Project (check all that apply)	
	Study
	Construction
	Identified Projects and Processes (IPP)
X	Other

Category of Water Project (check the primary category that applies and include relevant tasks)	
	Water Storage - Projects that facilitate the development of additional storage, artificial aquifer recharge, and dredging existing reservoirs to restore the reservoirs' full decreed capacity and Multi-beneficial projects and those projects identified in basin implementation plans to address the water supply and demand gap.. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
	Conservation and Land Use Planning - Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
X	Engagement & Innovation - Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task 1 - Pre-Event Coordination and Outreach • Task 2 - Water Quality Detection Team • Task 3 - Weed Control Rapid Response Team • Task 4 - Front Range Watershed Days Event • Task 5 - Data Analysis, Report Development, and Re-Engagement
	Agricultural - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>



Last Updated: November 2018

Environmental & Recreation - Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>	
Other	Explain:

Location of Water Project	
Please provide the general county and coordinates of the proposed project below in decimal degrees . The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable.	
County/Countries	Boulder County
Latitude	40° 7' 47" N
Longitude	105° 16' 52" W

Water Project Overview
<p>Please provide a summary of the proposed water project (200 words or less). Include a description of the project and what the CWP Grant funding will be used for specifically (e.g., studies, permitting process, construction). Provide a description of the water supply source to be utilized or the water body affected by the project, where applicable. Include details such as acres under irrigation, types of crops irrigated, number of residential and commercial taps, length of ditch improvements, length of pipe installed, and area of habitat improvements, where applicable. If this project addresses multiple purposes or spans multiple basins, please explain.</p> <p>The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit A, a detailed Statement of Work, Budget, Other Funding Sources/Amounts and Schedule.</p>
<p>This project aims to engage Front Range communities in learning about watershed health and recovery through participation in a regional Watershed Days event. Part-community engagement event and part-scientific endeavor, the event will help raise awareness about watershed resiliency in Colorado, help people connect to Front Range water issues, and generate region-scale scientific data about the health and recovery of our watersheds. The event will involve a focused period (one day to one week) of intensive data collection at flood-impacted areas within at least four watersheds (Left Hand, Saint Vrain, Fourmile, and Big Thompson), with potential for other watersheds to be added. CWP funding will be used to plan, coordinate, and execute the event, as well as analyze and report event findings and re-engage participants in sharing results.</p> <p>Participants will include volunteers from diverse demographics (e.g. business, agriculture, recreation, environment, K-8, research, etc.) with a focus on connecting and engaging new audiences. Data related to key watershed functions will be collected within an adaptive management framework. The outcome of this project will be a unique and publically available collection of holistic watershed health data collected regionally, and engagement by new and diverse water users in watershed issues at a regional scale.</p>

Measurable Results



Last Updated: November 2018

To catalog measurable results achieved with the CWP Grant funds, please provide any of the following values as applicable:	
	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive
	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)
	Efficiency Savings (indicate acre-feet/year OR dollars/year)
	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)
	Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms
	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning
350-400	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity
	Other Explain:

Water Project Justification	
<p>Provide a description of how this water project supports the goals of Colorado's Water Plan, the most recent Statewide Water Supply Initiative, and the applicable Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan and Education Action Plan. The Applicant is required to reference specific needs, goals, themes, or Identified Projects and Processes (IPPs), including citations (e.g. document, chapters, sections, or page numbers).</p> <p>The proposed water project shall be evaluated based upon how well the proposal conforms to Colorado's Water Plan Framework for State of Colorado Support for a Water Project (CWP, Section 9.4, pp. 9-43 to 9-44;)</p> <p>This project supports goals within Colorado's Water Plan, Statewide Water Supply Initiative, South Platte Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan, and South Platte Roundtable Basin Education Action Plan related to public outreach, engagement, and education, as well as promoting health and adaptive management of water resources. Below we summarize goals achieved in each plan.</p> <p><u>Colorado's Water Plan</u> <i>Section 6.2 (Measurable Outcomes for South Platte, pg. 6-50).</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Protect, Maintain, and Improve Conditions of Streams, Lakes, Wetlands, and Riparian Areas..." 2. "Develop tools and methodologies to adequately assess what is needed to protect, maintain or improve conditions of aquatic, riparian, and wetland habitat throughout the basin. <p>Our project will meet these goals by leveraging region-scale, community-based assessment of watershed health and recovery. Data collected will include biological and physical measurements related to key watershed functions including flow regime, stream form and function, sediment regime, and ecological community. Sample watershed health parameters that may be measured include presence of water, channel geometry, floodplain connectivity, vegetation, invasive plant presence, water quality, water levels, species diversity, channel or bank stability, temperature, etc. Also, our "bioblitz" approach (see research and evidence question in supplemental application) will adapt a new methodology for rapid and resourceful community-based assessment of aquatic, riparian, and wetland habitat throughout the basin.</p>	



Last Updated: November 2018

Section 6.6 (pg. 6-157) Goals:

1. *“Support development of multipurpose projects and methods that benefit environmental and recreational water needs as well as water needs for communities or agriculture.”*
2. *“Understand, protect, maintain, and improve conditions of streams, lakes, wetlands, and riparian areas to promote self-sustaining fisheries and functional riparian and wetland habitat to promote long-term sustainability and resiliency.”*
3. *“Maintain watershed health by protecting or restoring watersheds that could affect critical infrastructure and/or environmental and recreational areas.”*

The four watersheds committed to participating in Front Range Watershed Days (Left Hand, Big Thompson, Fourmile, and St. Vrain Creek Watersheds) include immense economic, recreational, agricultural, and ecological resources. In addition, all of these watersheds are recovering from the 2013 floods and have recently undergone millions of dollars in flood restoration projects, including extensive riparian restoration efforts. By combining community education and engagement with scientific monitoring and assessment of watershed health and recovery, our Watershed Days project is well aligned with goals in Section 6.6. As stated above, event participants will assess key parameters to protect, maintain, and improve watershed health in these watersheds. Additionally, as stated in previous questions, this project will work closely with agricultural communities to help fill identified knowledge gaps about the interrelatedness between watershed health and agriculture. Overall data collected will help inform what is needed to protect watershed health for long-term sustainability and resiliency, and will help raise public awareness about holistic watershed issues.

Section 7.1 (pg. 7-10) Actions:

1. *“Monitor projects to ensure that objectives are met and maintained.”*
2. *“Conduct adaptive management as necessary.”*
3. *“Coordinate statewide watershed-coalition and partnership plans, projects, monitoring, and adaptive management strategies.”*

Our project will directly contribute to actions in Section 7.1 by using our existing [adaptive management framework](#) for data collection efforts during the event. The adaptive management framework was developed specifically for monitoring and assessing the trajectory of watershed recovery following the 2013 floods to ensure that watershed health objectives are being met and maintained. Further, by partnering directly with three other watershed coalitions, and including new partnership recruitment and development within the project scope, we will contribute to coordinating region-wide partnerships and shared methodologies for community-based adaptive management among multiple watersheds.

Section 9.5 (pg. 9-53) Goals:

1. *“Colorado’s Water Plan provides technical and financial assistance for high-quality, balanced, and grassroots water education and outreach efforts that inform Coloradans about the issues so that they may engage in determining Colorado’s water future.”*

Our watershed coalition-led, participatory science-based approach for water education and outreach is well aligned with the grassroots water education and outreach efforts described in this goal.

Statewide Water Supply Initiative

Section 8 Recommendation (pg. 8-1):

1. *“Support meeting Colorado’s non-consumptive water needs by working with Colorado’s water stakeholders to help: (1) Protect or enhance environmental and recreational values that benefit local and statewide economies; and (2) Encourage multi-purpose projects that benefit both water users and native species.”*



Last Updated: November 2018

This project will meet these recommendations by (1) implementing region-scale adaptive management for watershed health and recovery, including native species, (2) using a participatory science-based approach for maximizing learning, and (2) enhancing community values related to watershed health through an event aimed to celebrate watersheds and recovery using science and engagement. This project will also provide opportunities to connect event participants with professional scientists and decision-makers in the community to promote discussion and information sharing.

South Platte Basin Implementation Plan

1. *S.5.5 Protect and enhance environmental and recreation attributes. Recommendation: Fill existing data gaps regarding protection of environmental and recreational attributes in order to better understand the adequacy of existing and future protections.*
2. *S.5.9 Facilitate effective South Platte communications and outreach programs that complement the state's overall program. Recommendation: Design and implement an intensive education, participation and outreach program designed to generate a lasting baseline of public awareness and support.*

Our project meets these goals through implementation of region-scale participatory learning activities that engage, educate, and inform event participants about building watershed health and resilience through adaptive management using sound science. As described above, adaptive management includes assessment and protection of key watershed health parameters. Our approach, which adapts the “bioblitz” approach (see research and evidence question in supplemental application) for watersheds, is especially well aligned with S.5.9 because it involves development and implementation of a new program for intensive education, participation, and outreach that will directly impact public awareness and support. This approach can also be directly used to fill data gaps described in S.5.5, in a cost effective way.

South Platte Basin Implementation Education Action Plan

1. *Overall goals of the Education and Outreach Committee of the South Platte Basin Roundtable include a focus on educating and engaging the public, decision-makers and elected officials on the scope and purpose of the BIP and the State Water Plan, with an overarching theme of focusing on solutions-oriented water supply planning.*

This project will help achieve this goal by empowering the public with scientific understanding of watershed issues through participatory learning and engagement. By participating in data collection, diverse water users from multiple demographics will gain an improved understanding of watershed health, watershed recovery, adaptive management, and Colorado’s water challenges. Concurrently, the collaborative and celebratory/social nature of the event will enable these participants to learn and socialize together. Overall, by working together to collect data and see the resulting scientific outcomes, groups will learn from each other and participate in productive dialogue for the overall benefit and forward-progress of our basin.

Related Studies

Please provide a list of any related studies, including if the water project is complementary to or assists in the implementation of other CWCB programs.



Last Updated: November 2018

This project builds upon Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group's completed and ongoing restoration, adaptive management, and community science work throughout Left Hand Creek Watershed, summarized below:

1. Since 2016, Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group has been designing and implementing flood recovery restoration projects at twenty sites along Left Hand Creek Watershed. Ten projects are complete, and the rest are on-going (design is complete, construction will start in spring 2019). These projects are designed to reduce future flood risks and restore the ecological health of the watershed. Funding for these projects was awarded through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program and the Colorado DOLA Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR).
2. In 2018 Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group started a new adaptive restoration project to assess the effectiveness of various restoration approaches in achieving desired goals using hypothesis-based testing. Various restoration features were set up as experiments, with particular focus on a unique stage zero restoration project site. Funding for this project was awarded through the Colorado DOLA CDBG-DR. Moving into 2019, Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group will continue experiments and data collection with funding recently awarded through a 2019 CWCB Watershed Restoration Grant.
3. In 2018 Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group completed the development of our [adaptive management plan](#) for monitoring and assessing watershed health and recovery using key watershed functions. We developed data collection protocols and began implementing the plan at more than 25 locations within our watershed. Data analysis and reporting is currently ongoing and will be provided in a "State of the Watershed" report. The plan and protocols were shared widely and are being modified and implemented by other watershed coalitions and entities. Funding was awarded through a 2018 CWCB Watershed Restoration Grant and the Colorado DOLA CDBG-DR, as well as through our partners and donors.
4. In 2018 Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group began development of a Community Science Project which aims to engage our community in watershed stewardship through citizen science using tools/platforms for collection, management, and sharing of data. As part of this project we are engaging diverse stakeholders through outreach and interviews to help understand their unique interests, concerns, and priorities regarding Colorado water issues. These stakeholders include individuals and groups from business, agriculture, environmental, recreational, creek-side property owner, university, and K-8 demographics, among others. This project also involves a partnership with Colorado State University-based CitSci.org to develop user-friendly tools to collect and share community science data. Currently we are developing a mobile application and database to make participation convenient and accessible for diverse audiences. Funding for this project was awarded through the 2018 CWCB Water Plan Grant, the Gates Family Foundation, and the Colorado CDBG-DR.

The four efforts described above are related and complimentary to Front Range Watershed Days because they provide the foundation for both the science and community engagement aspects of this project. Fundamentally, this project requires (1) participatory learning by diverse community members and (2) tested protocols that can be used by community members to assess key watershed functions. Together these components of Front Range Watershed Days will help enhance Colorado's water communication, outreach, education, and public engagement efforts, as described in the Colorado Water Plan, in a unique and holistic way.

Using lessons and tools developed through our restoration projects (see 1 above), our adaptive restoration approach (see 2 above), our ongoing adaptive management efforts (see 3 above), and our community science project (see 4 above), we will refine data collection protocols appropriate for this event, in an adaptive management and watershed education context. Using the relationships and stakeholder analysis developed through our community science project (see 4 above) we will recruit more the 350 diverse participants who are both familiar and new to Colorado water issues,



Last Updated: November 2018

and will tailor the event and our recruitment strategies to ensure that we address their unique interests, concerns, and priorities regarding Colorado water issues. Overall, Front Range Watershed Days will build upon these complete and coming efforts by applying them on a bigger and broader scale to include multiple watersheds participating together in this unique, Colorado-water-focused, science-based, community education and engagement event.

In addition, this project builds upon restoration, stewardship, and community engagement work in St. Vrain, Big Thompson, and Fourmile watersheds which implemented numerous flood recovery river restoration projects following the 2013 floods.

Previous CWCB Grants, Loans or Other Funding

List all previous or current CWCB grants (including WSRF) awarded to both the Applicant and Grantee. Include: 1) Applicant name; 2) Water activity name; 3) Approving RT(s); 4) CWCB board meeting date; 5) Contract number or purchase order; 6) Percentage of other CWCB funding for your overall project.

Previous:

Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group
 Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Assistance Phase II - 2013, Colorado Flood Recovery Project: Plains Reaches: N 41st Street, Haystack, N 63rd Street, N 73rd Street, and N 81st Street
 CTPDAA2017-1652
 CWCB awarded 12.5% of total project funding

Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group
 Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Assistance Phase II - 2013, Colorado Flood Recovery Project: Foothills Reaches: Upper Left Hand/Streamcrest/Ranch
 CTPDAA2017-1635
 CWCB awarded 12.5% of total project funding

Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group
 PDAA5000 grant fundraising support for watershed
 POGG1 PDAA 201700000843
 CWCB awarded 10% of total capacity funding

Current:

Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group
 Project: Building a Legacy in Left Hand Creek Watershed
 CWCB January 2018 Board Meeting
 CTGG1 PDAA 2019*00202
 CWCB awarded 30% of total project funding

Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group
 Project: Stewardship through Community Science
 CWCB May 2018 Board Meeting
 POGG1,PDAA,201900000060
 CWCB awarded 25% of total project funding

Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group
 Project: Fish Passage and Education on Left Hand Creek



Last Updated: November 2018

CWCB September 2018 Board Meeting
 POGG1,PDAA,201900002468
 State CWCB awarded 32% of total project funding and SPBRT awarded 32%

Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group
 Project: Science, Stewardship, and Restoration on Left Hand Creek
 CWCB January 2019 Board Meeting
 CWCB awarded 10% of total project funding.

Taxpayer Bill of Rights

The Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) may limit the amount of grant money an entity can receive. Please describe any relevant TABOR issues that may affect your application.

Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group is a non-profit organization, therefore TABOR issues will not impact our application.

Submittal Checklist

X	I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the Standard Contract .
Exhibit A	
X	Statement of Work ⁽¹⁾
X	Budget & Schedule ⁽¹⁾
	Engineer's statement of probable cost (projects over \$100,000)
	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ⁽¹⁾
Exhibit C	
	Map (if applicable) ⁽¹⁾
	Photos/Drawings/Reports
X	Letters of Support (Optional)
	Certificate of Insurance (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.) ⁽²⁾
	Certificate of Good Standing with Colorado Secretary of State ⁽²⁾
	W-9 ⁽²⁾
	Independent Contractor Form ⁽²⁾ (If applicant is individual, not company/organization)
Engagement & Innovation Grant Applicants ONLY	
X	Engagement & Innovation Supplemental Application ⁽¹⁾

Last Updated: November 2018

(1) Required with application.

(2) Required for contracting. While optional at the time of this application, submission can expedite contracting upon CWCB Board approval.

Last Updated: November 2018

ENGAGEMENT & INNOVATION GRANT FUND SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION

Introduction & Purpose

Colorado’s Water Plan calls for an outreach, education, public engagement, and innovation grant fund in Chapter 9.5.

The overall goal of the Engagement & Innovation Grant Fund is to enhance Colorado’s water communication, outreach, education, and public engagement efforts; advance Colorado’s water supply planning process; and support a statewide water innovation ecosystem.

The grant fund aims to engage the public to promote well-informed community discourse regarding balanced water solutions statewide. The grant fund aims to support water innovation in Colorado. The grant fund prioritizes measuring and evaluating the success of programs, projects, and initiatives. The grant fund prioritizes efforts designed using research, data, and best practices. The grant fund prioritizes a commitment to collaboration and community engagement. The grant fund will support local and statewide efforts.

The grant fund is divided into two tracks: engagement and innovation. The Engagement Track supports education, outreach, communication, and public participation efforts related to water. The Innovation Track supports efforts that advance the water innovation ecosystem in Colorado.

Application Questions

*The grant fund request is referred to as “project” in this application.

Overview (answer for both tracks)
In a few sentences, what is the overall goal of this project? How does it achieve the stated purpose of this grant fund (above)?
The overall goal of this project is to engage Front Range communities in participatory learning about watershed health and recovery through involvement in a regional “Front Range Watershed Days” event. This project will advance the stated purpose of the Engagement & Innovation Grant Fund by providing a way to raise awareness about watershed management and protection in Colorado while fostering public input, engagement, and education through direct involvement in data collection and information sharing. Additionally, region-scale data collected during the event will be rooted in sound science and adaptive management, which are necessary for quantifying change and making evidence-based decisions about the management and protection of dynamic watersheds.
Who is/are the target audience(s)? How will you reach them? How will you involve the community?
Our target audience includes diverse community members throughout at least four Front Range Watersheds, with the potential to add additional watersheds during the project. Many of these groups and individuals are already engaged in Colorado water issues through with their local watershed coalitions, or through Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group’s Community Science Project. These include environmental and recreation groups, university and K-8 students, and creek-side property owners, and others. We reach these audiences through our mailing lists, websites, social media, phone calls, community meetings, and one-on-one meetings. For the purpose of the event we will leverage our relationships with these groups and individuals to recruit them to participate in the event and lead event activities where appropriate.
A key aspect of this project is to engage new and diverse audiences who have not previously engaged in Colorado water issues. We plan to leverage the scale of this event to garner media attention to



Last Updated: November 2018

Overview (answer for both tracks)

attract these new audiences. At the conclusion of the event we plan to hold a celebration to close out event activities which will include music, games, prizes, food, and education provided by volunteers and sponsors. We anticipate that this celebratory and social aspect of Front Range Watershed Days will help recruit new audiences. Below is a subset of key new audiences that we plan to recruit and a summarized recruitment strategy for each audience.

- **Businesses** - Many businesses choose Colorado for our sunshine and beautiful mountains, and strive to be good corporate citizens and good neighbors. We will recruit these businesses by providing an opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to the local environment and community through participation in a region-scale, community based, water-focused event. Some businesses may contribute by donating their professional expertise to lead data collection efforts or hosting educational booths.
- **Agricultural Users** - The complexity and interrelatedness between watershed health and agriculture is a widely acknowledged knowledge gap in our community. Preparation for this event will include targeted outreach to agricultural users, ditch companies, and groups with a community and agriculture focus. Based on our existing outreach efforts we know that agricultural users will welcome the opportunity to help close knowledge gaps by engaging in this type of event.
- **K-8 Students and Teachers** - To recruit new K-8 participants we plan to reach out to schools directly using social media, connecting with after-school clubs, and advertising this as an opportunity to obtain volunteer hours. Social media and opportunities for volunteer hours are two primary motivators identified by high school students in the region. We will also ensure that this event is as accessible as possible within public school schedules, recognizing that these students may be unable to participate during the school week. For example, one motivation to make this a multi-day event is to allow a portion of the event to occur during the weekend. This will enable students from public school students to participate.
- **Individuals** - Our approach for recruiting new individuals who may be unfamiliar with Colorado water issues is to (1) go where they are, (2) make it work for them, and (3) meet one-on-one. A large part of the planning effort for this project will involve going to venues such as places of worship, public libraries, community centers, meet-ups, and other places where people spend their time to connect with people who may not be engaging in their watersheds.

Overall, both project timeline and regional scale of the event are tailored for maximum engagement. We recognize that reaching a diverse and new audience will take time and planning, and have accounted for the time required for outreach and one-on-one recruitment in the project timeline. Similarly, we recognize that people who may not generally engage in water issues day-to-day may be more likely to engage in a one- (or multi-) day event with media coverage, music, food, and celebration - in addition to the data-collection and participatory learning.

Describe how the project is collaborative or engages a diverse group of stakeholders. Who are the partners in the project? Do you have other funding partners or sources?

While Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group is leading this project, we are working collaboratively with four watershed groups - Big Thompson Watershed Coalition, Fourmile Creek Coalition, and St. Vrain Creek Coalition to leverage relationships and community resources. Each of these coalitions are community-based with strong stakeholder representation on their board of directors and strong relationships with property owners throughout their respective watersheds. For example, Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group has more than ten entities represented on our Board and worked with more than 100 private landowners to complete restoration projects since 2016. Each of the other watershed coalitions has a similar stakeholder and property owner relationships. This collaborative approach among coalitions enables us to make this a region-scale event that will entice the most excitement and participation in our community.



Last Updated: November 2018

Overview (answer for both tracks)
<p>Additionally, as part of the planning and recruitment effort, we plan to engage other groups in helping sponsor and plan the event. As described in the target audience question above, we anticipate that the scale and social aspect of this event will bring in new participants and particularly business may be interested in sponsoring aspects of the event to demonstrate good corporate citizenship and contribute to the local and environmental economy.</p> <p>Our current funding sources include Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group’s Stewardship Partners and Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, as well as in-kind contributions from other coalitions. Stewardship Partners includes corporate partners and donors who have contributed to our Stewardship Program to support events like this that foster community participation in watershed stewardship and community science.</p>
<p>Describe how you plan to measure and evaluate the success and impact of the project?</p>
<p>Success will be evaluated through (1) count of total participants and (2) assessment of changes in participant attitudes and knowledge about watershed issues before and after the event. Our goal is to have at least 350 participants. To measure changes in participant attitude and knowledge, we will survey participants before and after participation in the event to assess what they learned and how their perspectives changes after participating in the event.</p>
<p>What research, evidence, and data support your project?</p>
<p>Front Range Watershed Days is a watershed-specific adaption of a common rapid-field assessment conservation practice termed “bioblitz.” The concept of a bioblitz, which has been around for centuries and was coined by the USNPS in 1996, involves a rapid field survey effort in which volunteers document as many particular measurements as possible in a defined location during a defined period (Parker et al., 2018). Bioblitzes are well documented to help achieve educational and public-engagement goals (Laforest et al. 2013, Ballard et al. 2017). Today, bioblitzes are increasingly being used as a cost-effective way to help fill data-collection gaps in ecological data by both researchers and practitioners (Regan et Al., 2005, Ballard et al. 2017). Data gaps are generally commonplace in ecological data due to the dynamic nature of ecosystems. Similarly, researchers and practitioners are generally limited by time and resources required for robust ecological data collection. Bioblitzes provide a resourceful way to rapidly generate ecological data with the added benefit of community education and engagement. A recent review of the bioblitz approach in conservation found that bioblitzes help directly inform on-the-ground conservation and decision-making, and foster collaboration and communication among diverse audiences and entities (Parker et al., 2018). These demonstrated benefits are well aligned to Water Plan goals related to outreach, education, engagement, and developing methodologies to adequately (and cost-effectively) assess our riparian, wetland, and aquatic ecosystems. Therefore, for the purpose of this project, we are adapting the well-tested bioblitz approach to meet the needs and interests of flood recovery and watershed resilience in our region. We are also leveraging our partnerships with land managers and university partners to ensure that this endeavor contributes to their goals and missions.</p> <p>Ballard HL, Robinson LD, Young AN, Pauly GB, Higgins LM, Johnson RF, Tweddle JC. 2017. Contributions to conservation outcomes by natural history museum-led citizen science: Examining evidence and next steps. <i>Biological Conservation</i> 208:87-97.</p> <p>Laforest BJ, Winegardner AK, Zaheer OA, Jeffery NW, Boyle EE, Adamowicz SJ. 2013. Insights into biodiversity sampling strategies for freshwater microinvertebrate faunas through bioblitz campaigns and DNA barcoding. <i>BMC Ecology</i> 13:13</p> <p>Parker, SS, Pauly, GB, Moore, J, Fraga, NS, Knapp, JJ, Principe, Z, Brown, BV, Randall, JM, Cohen, BS, Wake, TA. 2018. Adapting the bioblitz to meet conservation needs. <i>Conservation Biology</i> 32(5): 1007-1019</p> <p>Regan HM, Ben-Haim Y, Langford B, Wilson WG, Lundberg P, Andelman SJ, Burgman MA. 2005. Robust decision-making under severe uncertainty for conservation management. <i>Ecological Applications</i> 15:1471-1477</p>



Last Updated: November 2018

Overview (answer for both tracks)
Describe potential short- and long-term challenges with this project.
<p>A key challenge will be the logistics associated with planning such a large event with a regional spatial scale and a large number of participants. To overcome this challenge, we have started early planning with our Board of Directors and formed a subcommittee to begin the planning process in mid-January 2019, prior to receiving funding, in order to maximize the time available to plan. We will also leverage the relationships and coordination expertise of four watershed coalitions who have implemented more than 40 flood recovery restoration projects on more than 350 private properties and across multiple jurisdictional boundaries throughout four watershed following the 2013 floods.</p> <p>Participant recruitment will be another key challenge associated with this project, as well as a key measure of success. As described above, our approach is to involve participants in event preparation and planning by (1) leveraging existing relationships and communication channels (e.g. social media), (2) going to where the potential participants are/spend their time, (3) making it work for them, and (3) meeting one-on-one. This recruitment strategy is particularly effective because it involves the target audience directly in event preparation and planning. In our previous projects we have noted that this approach results in a feeling of buy-in and empowerment among participants because feel as they are part of the event itself rather than just a participant.</p> <p>Lastly, we anticipate reaching new audiences will be a key challenge. Typically, there these audiences are not yet engaged due to a particular reason; Perhaps lack of time, lack of interest, or lack of awareness. We anticipate that the focused timeframe (short duration), media involvement in advertisement, and celebratory/social nature of the event will all help overcome this challenge.</p>

Please fill out the applicable questions for either the Engagement Track or Innovation Track, unless your project contains elements in both tracks. If a question does not relate to your project, just leave it blank. Please answer each question that relates to your project. Please reference the relevant documents and use chapters and page numbers (Colorado’s Water Plan, Basin Implementation Plan, PEPO Education Action Plan, etc.).

Engagement Track
Describe how the project achieves the education, outreach, and public engagement measurable objective set forth in Colorado’s Water Plan to “significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues statewide by 2020, as determined by water awareness surveys.”
Section V (pg. 1) of the water awareness surveys identified seven key awareness topics from the Northeast Region. Among these key topics, knowledge of Colorado water use and awareness of water issues; water related concerns; and need for more information and more trusted sources will all be addressed by this project. This project will help achieve an improved level of public awareness in these three key areas by providing an opportunity for participatory learning by our community members. Similarly, the social and celebratory nature of this event will provide an opportunity for diverse participants (e.g. scientists, professionals, land managers, public officials, naturalists, businesses, agriculture, K-8, universities, recreationalists, environmentalists, etc.) to engage in conversation about their concerns, needs, priorities, and unique circumstances, and ultimately learn from each other and from experts.
Describe how the project achieves the other measurable objectives and critical goals and actions laid out in Colorado’s Water Plan around the supply and demand gap; conservation; land use; agriculture; storage; watershed health, environment, and recreation; funding; and additional.



Last Updated: November 2018

Colorado's Water Plan

Section 6.2 (Measurable Outcomes for South Platte, pg. 6-50).

3. *"Protect, Maintain, and Improve Conditions of Streams, Lakes, Wetlands, and Riparian Areas..."*
4. *"Develop tools and methodologies to adequately assess what is needed to protect, maintain or improve conditions of aquatic, riparian, and wetland habitat throughout the basin."*

Our project will meet these goals by leveraging region-scale, community-based assessment of watershed health and recovery. Data collected will include biological and physical measurements related to key watershed functions including flow regime, stream form and function, sediment regime, and ecological community. Sample watershed health parameters that may be measured include presence of water, channel geometry, floodplain connectivity, vegetation, invasive plant presence, water quality, water levels, species diversity, channel or bank stability, temperature, etc. Also, our "blioblitz" approach (see research and evidence question in supplemental application) will adapt a new methodology for rapid and resourceful community-based assessment of aquatic, riparian, and wetland habitat throughout the basin.

Section 6.6 (pg. 6-157) Goals:

4. *"Support development of multipurpose projects and methods that benefit environmental and recreational water needs as well as water needs for communities or agriculture."*
5. *"Understand, protect, maintain, and improve conditions of streams, lakes, wetlands, and riparian areas to promote self-sustaining fisheries and functional riparian and wetland habitat to promote long-term sustainability and resiliency."*
6. *"Maintain watershed health by protecting or restoring watersheds that could affect critical infrastructure and/or environmental and recreational areas."*

The four watersheds committed to participating in Front Range Watershed Days (Left Hand, Big Thompson, Fourmile, and St. Vrain Creek Watersheds) include immense economic, recreational, agricultural, and ecological resources. In addition, all of these watersheds are recovering from the 2013 floods and have recently undergone millions of dollars in flood restoration projects, including extensive riparian restoration efforts. By combining community education and engagement with scientific monitoring and assessment of watershed health and recovery, our Watershed Days project is well aligned with goals in Section 6.6. As stated above, event participants will assess key parameters to assess watershed health and recovery. Additionally, as stated in previous questions, this project will work closely with agricultural communities to help fill identified knowledge gaps about the interrelatedness between watershed health and agriculture. Overall data collected will help inform what is needed to protect watershed health for long-term sustainability and resiliency, and will help raise public awareness about holistic watershed issues.

Section 7.1 (pg. 7-10) Actions:

4. *"Monitor projects to ensure that objectives are met and maintained."*
5. *"Conduct adaptive management as necessary."*
6. *"Coordinate statewide watershed-coalition and partnership plans, projects, monitoring, and adaptive management strategies."*

Our project will directly contribute to actions in Section 7.1 by using our existing [adaptive management framework](#) for data collection efforts during the event. The adaptive management framework was developed specifically for monitoring and assessing the trajectory of watershed recovery following the 2013 floods to ensure that watershed health objectives are being met and maintained. Further, by partnering directly with three other watershed coalitions, and including new partnership recruitment and development within the project scope, we will contribute to coordinating region-wide partnerships and shared methodologies for community-based adaptive management among multiple watersheds.



Last Updated: November 2018

Section 9.5 (pg. 9-53) Goals:

2. *“Colorado’s Water Plan provides technical and financial assistance for high-quality, balanced, and grassroots water education and outreach efforts that inform Coloradans about the issues so that they may engage in determining Colorado’s water future.”*

Our watershed coalition-led, participatory science-based approach for water education and outreach is well aligned with the grassroots water education and outreach efforts described in this goal.

Describe how the project achieves the education, outreach, and public engagement goals set forth in the applicable Basin Implementation Plan(s).

South Platte Basin Implementation Plan

1. *S.5.5 Protect and enhance environmental and recreation attributes. Recommendation: Fill existing data gaps regarding protection of environmental and recreational attributes in order to better understand the adequacy of existing and future protections.*
2. *S.5.9 Facilitate effective South Platte communications and outreach programs that complement the state’s overall program. Recommendation: Design and implement an intensive education, participation and outreach program designed to generate a lasting baseline of public awareness and support.*

Our project meets these goals through implementation of region-scale participatory learning activities that engage, educate, and inform event participants about building watershed health and resilience through adaptive management using sound science. As described above, adaptive management includes assessment and protection of key watershed health parameters. Our approach, which adapts the “bioblitz” approach (see research and evidence question in supplemental application) for watersheds, is especially well aligned with S.5.9 because it involves development and implementation of a new program for intensive education, participation, and outreach that will directly impact public awareness and support. This approach can also be directly used to fill data gaps described in S.5.5, in a cost effective way.

Describe how the project achieves the basin roundtable’s PEPO Education Action Plans.

South Platte Basin Implementation Education Action Plan

1. *Overall goals of the Education and Outreach Committee of the South Platte Basin Roundtable include a focus on educating and engaging the public, decision-makers and elected officials on the scope and purpose of the BIP and the State Water Plan, with an overarching theme of focusing on solutions-oriented water supply planning.*

This project will help achieve this goal by empowering the public with scientific understanding of watershed issues through participatory learning and engagement. By participating in data collection, diverse water users from multiple demographics will gain an improved understanding of watershed health, watershed recovery, adaptive management, and Colorado’s water challenges. Concurrently, the collaborative and celebratory/social nature of the event will enable these participants to learn and socialize together. Overall, by working together to collect data and see the resulting scientific outcomes, groups will learn from each other and participate in productive dialogue for the overall benefit and forward-progress of our basin.



Last Updated: November 2018

Innovation Track
Describe how the project enhances water innovation efforts and supports a water innovation ecosystem in Colorado.
Describe how the project engages/leverages Colorado's innovation community to help solve our state's water challenges.
Describe how the project helps advance or develop a solution to a water need identified through TAP-IN and other water innovation challenges. What is the problem/need/challenge?
Describe how this project impacts current or emerging trends; technologies; clusters, sectors, or groups in water innovation.



Last Updated: November 2018

Colorado Water Conservation Board
Water Plan Grant - Exhibit A

Statement Of Work	
Date:	2/1/2018
Name of Grantee:	Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group
Name of Water Project:	Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery
Funding Source:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group Partners
Water Project Overview:	
<p>This project aims to engage Front Range communities in learning about watershed health and resiliency through participation in a regional Watershed Days event. Part-community engagement event and part-scientific endeavor, the event will help raise awareness about watershed resiliency in Colorado, help people connect to Front Range water issues, and generate region-scale scientific data about the health and recovery of our watersheds. The event will involve a focused period (one day to one week) of intensive data collection at flood-impacted areas within at least four watersheds (Left Hand Creek, Saint Vrain Creek, Fourmile, and Big Thompson), with potential for other watersheds to be added. CWP funding will be used to plan, coordinate, and execute the event, as well as analyze and report event findings and re-engage participants in sharing results.</p> <p>Participants will include volunteers, students, naturalists, resource managers, scientists, professionals, and others with a focus on connecting and engaging new audiences. Data related to key watershed functions will be collected within an adaptive management framework. The outcome of this project will be a unique and publically available collection of holistic watershed health data collected regionally, and engagement by new and diverse water users in watershed issues at a regional scale.</p>	
Project Objectives:	
<p>Objective 1. Host a region-scale event focused on community-based, holistic, rapid-field assessment of watershed health and recovery following the 2013 floods using an adaptive management approach for monitoring and assessment.</p> <p>Objective 2. Recruit at least 350 event participants and sponsors, including new audiences that have not previously engaged in Colorado watershed issues.</p> <p>Objective 3. Develop trained detection and response teams focused on watershed hazards and weed control who can participate in trainings prior to the event, participate in event activities, and leverage skills to continue detection and response beyond the event.</p> <p>Objective 4. Re-engage participants after the completion of the event to help them understand what was learned so that they can share this knowledge with others and help build the legacy of this community-based approach for assessing watershed health and recovery.</p>	



Last Updated: November 2018

Tasks
<p>Task 1 – Pre-Event Coordination and Outreach</p>
<p>Description of Task:</p>
<p>The purpose of this task is complete all pre-event planning based on the following subtasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.1 Planning - Outreach: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This includes recruitment of participants and sponsors, identification of any potential additional watersheds to be included, outreach and engagement campaign development and implementation, garnering media coverage, development of flyers, handouts, and educational materials. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop an Event Planning Committee that will meet regularly to coordinate all planning activities. Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group has already formed this Board Member Committee, recognizing the need to begin the planning process as early as possible to ensure a successful event. ▪ Tested outreach methods include mailing campaigns, social media, phone calls, one-on-one meetings, presentations, and leveraging existing relationships. ▪ Specific approaches for reaching new audiences include (1) go where they are, (2) make it work for them, and (3) meet one-on-one. For example, utilize venues such as places of worship, public libraries, community centers, meet-ups, and other places where people spend their time to connect with people who may not be engaging in their watersheds. ▪ Targeted demographics include scientists, professionals, land managers, public officials, naturalists, businesses, farmers, ranchers, K-8 teachers and students, universities, recreationalists, environmentalists, elected officials, philanthropists, creek-side property owners, among others. ▪ Develop a pre-event celebration-focused outreach campaign to help build momentum, excitement, and interest among potential participants and the community about celebrating our watersheds. • 1.2 Planning - Data Collection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Selection of sites within four or more watersheds, tailoring of existing adaptive management and community science protocols for the event, modifying protocol data collection sheets and mobile application forms as needed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Refine protocols based on Left Hand Watershed Oversight Group’s existing adaptive management framework and protocols. ▪ Develop surveys to assess changes in participant attitude about and understanding of watershed health and resiliency in Colorado. • 1.3 Planning - Closeout Celebration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hosting of closeout celebration and soliciting sponsors and volunteers for music, food, activities, prizes, and educational booths. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Garner media coverage to assist with event advertisement. • 1.4 Planning - Logistics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Acquiring of permits and permissions, safety considerations, transportation and parking, and any other tasks identified during the event planning processes as necessary for a successful event. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consider access issues, potentially on privately owned properties. ▪ Consider safety concerns related to having community members within watersheds and potentially on privately owned properties. ▪ Consider transportation and parking issues.
<p>Method/Procedure:</p>



Last Updated: November 2018

Tasks
Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group staff will work together with a contracted event coordinator to lead implementation of all subtasks described above. We will also partner with Big Thompson Watershed, Fourmile Creek, and St. Vrain Creek coalitions, and will distribute tasks as needed and appropriate. We will leverage the Event Planning Committee to help with task completion. We will hire a graphic designer, if needed, to create visually compelling event materials. We will also hire transportation (van, bus, etc.), if needed, to assist with transporting event participants to sites.
Deliverable:
A Front Range Watershed Days Event Plan with all event details, including planning and preparation information, outreach and recruitment approaches, participant surveys, draft event itinerary, protocols, and lessons learned.

Tasks
Task 2 – Water Quality Detection Team
Description of Task:
<p>The purpose of this task is to develop and implement procedures for community members and landowners to be able to recognize and respond to watershed hazards from impacted areas (e.g. changes in water quality resulting from mine remediation activities at the Captain Jack Superfund Site). This task is separate from the event planning included in Task 1 because it requires specific training and preparation for participants prior to the event and will result in a specifically trained “detection team” at the event that will be trained in collecting this type of data beyond the event as well. While the focus of this effort will be on Left Hand Creek Watershed, this approach will be developed so that it is scalable and repeatable for other watersheds that are interested and can be included in other watershed during the event. Specific subtasks include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.1 Recruit Participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This will involve recruiting participants who have specialized interest in watershed hazard detection, as well as interest in participating before, during, and beyond the event. ○ Utilize similar recruitment approaches as described in Task 1, with particular focus on creek-side property owners who may be able to respond fastest to hazards. • 1.2 Develop Procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Leverage Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group’s existing water quality monitoring efforts and Community Science program to develop specialized protocols for the water quality detection team. ○ Focus on water quality monitoring methods, and/or monitoring of water quality indicators (such as monitoring benthic macro invertebrates and fish). • 1.3 Train Participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Host one to two training workshops for participants before the event. ○ Utilize Left Hand Water District’s labs to test water quality samples as appropriate. • 1.4 Continued Coordination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As appropriate, incorporate response teams in event activities. ○ To ensure the long-term effectiveness of this team and their expertise, Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group staff will stay engaged with the team by maintaining communications, hosting meetings, providing check-in opportunities, and responding to detected issues.
Method/Procedure:
Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group staff will lead implementation of all subtasks described above. We will work in partnership with Big Thompson Watershed, Fourmile Creek, and St. Vrain Creek



Last Updated: November 2018

Tasks
coalitions, as appropriate, to extend this detection team training to all watersheds and incorporate activities in the Watershed Days event, as well as before/after the event.
Deliverable:
Report of procedures and summary of collected data and documented responses (when applicable). All procedures developed will also be included in the Event Plan (Task 1 Deliverable).

Tasks
Task 3 – Weed Control Rapid Response Team
Description of Task:
<p>The purpose of this task is to develop and implement procedures for community members and creek-side property owners to be trained to detect and respond to target weed species (e.g. myrtle spurge, spotted knapweed, Dame’s rocket, and teasel) in the watershed. This task is separate from the event planning included in Task 1 because it requires specific training and preparation for participants prior to the event and will result in a specifically trained “response team” at the event that will be trained in collecting this type of data beyond the event as well. While the focus of this effort will be on Left Hand Creek Watershed, this approach will be developed so that it is scalable and repeatable for other watersheds that are interested and can be included in other watershed during the event. Specific subtasks include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.1 Recruit Participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This will involve recruiting participants who have specialized interest in identifying and properly managing target weed species in the watershed, as well as interest in participating before, during, and beyond the event. ○ Utilize similar recruitment approaches as described in Task 1, with particular focus on creek-side property owners who may be able to respond fastest to weed issues. • 1.2 Develop Procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Leverage Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group’s existing Community Science program to develop specialized protocols for weed control, including mapping and removal. • 1.3 Train Participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Host one to two training workshops for participants before the event. • 1.4 Continued Coordination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As appropriate, complete weed removal efforts (via hand pulling) during the Watershed Days event and mapping activities prior to the event. ○ To ensure the long-term effectiveness of this team and their expertise, Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group staff will stay engaged with the team by maintaining communications, hosting weed mapping and removal opportunities beyond the Watershed Days event, providing check-in opportunities, and responding to issues.
Method/Procedure:
Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group staff will lead implementation of all subtasks described above. We will work in partnership with Big Thompson Watershed, Fourmile Creek, and St. Vrain Creek coalitions, as appropriate, to extend this response team training to all watersheds and incorporate activities in the Watershed Days event, as well as before/after the event.



Last Updated: November 2018

Deliverable:
Weed map, report of procedures, and summary of collected data including quantified weed control actions (e.g. acres removed). All procedures developed will also be included in the Event Plan (Task 1 Deliverable).

Tasks
Task 4 – Front Range Watershed Days Event
Description of Task:
The purpose of this task is to coordinate and implement all day-of-event activities across at least four watersheds. Specific subtasks include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.1 Host event <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Oversee and lead implantation of all event activities based on planning efforts and detection/response teams developed in Tasks 1-3. ○ Implement Front Range Watershed Days Event Plan (Task 1 deliverable).
Method/Procedure:
Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group staff will work together with assistance from a contracted event coordinator to lead event hosting efforts by implementing Event Plan developed under Task 1 with support and assistance from other watershed coalitions (Big Thompson, Fourmile, and St. Vrain) and the Event Planning Committee, as well as from volunteers and sponsors.
Deliverable:
Event Summary Report including participant logs, participant surveys, event photos, and data collection sheets.

Tasks
Task 5 – Data Analysis, Report Development, and Re-Engagement
Description of Task:
The purpose of this task is to process and analyze all of the data collected during the event and report results back to the community and participants in an illustrative and compelling format. Part of this task involves re-engaging participants so that gain a complete understanding about how the data they collected was used and what it tells us about watershed health and recovery. This will help participants educate others such as peers, coworkers, families, clients, and neighbors, and will help spread the word and raise awareness. Specific subtasks include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.1 Data Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Manage, process, geo-tag, and analyze all data collected and upload into an online database and map, making the information accessible to everyone. • 1.2 Report Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop and distribute report and educational materials summarizing scientific findings, lessons learned, and next steps. ○ Work with graphic designer to make the report and educational materials illustrative and visually compelling to ensure that the public will be interested and excited to read and share the report. • 1.3 Re-Engage and Educate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Re-engage event participants by sharing and reviewing the report with them, and helping them understand findings and educate others in their communities.



Last Updated: November 2018

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Re-engage media in helping to share event results with the community. ○ Distribute the report widely via social media outlets and mailing lists, and present at conferences, meetings, other community events, etc.
Method/Procedure:
<p>Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group will lead all data analysis efforts, leveraging our experience with data analysis through our adaptive management and adaptive restoration projects (see complementary projects question). Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group will then hire a graphic designer to translate scientific results from the event into a visually compelling report. To do this, we will leverage our prior experience working with graphic designers to translate technical information to non-technical audiences. Examples include our watershed conceptual model (through our adaptive management project) and Regional Stewardship and Recovery Handbook. Lastly, we will lead efforts to re-engage participants by reaching out, attending meetings, and providing short presentation to help them understand and be empowered to share report results. We will also partner with other watershed coalitions (Big Thompson, Fourmile, and St. Vrain) in sharing results and re-engaging.</p>
Deliverable:
<p>Illustrative and visually compelling final report summarizing the regional state of Front Range watershed health and recovery including scientific findings, lessons learned, and next steps.</p>

Repeat for Task 3, Task 4, Task 5, etc.

Budget and Schedule
<p>This Statement of Work shall be accompanied by a combined Budget and Schedule that reflects the Tasks identified in the Statement of Work and shall be submitted to CWCB in excel format.</p>

Reporting Requirements
<p>Progress Reports: The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of issuance of a purchase order, or the execution of a contract. The progress report shall describe the status of the tasks identified in the statement of work, including a description of any major issues that have occurred and any corrective action taken to address these issues.</p>
<p>Final Report: At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a Final Report on the applicant's letterhead that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarizes the project and how the project was completed. • Describes any obstacles encountered, and how these obstacles were overcome. • Confirms that all matching commitments have been fulfilled. • Includes photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs. <p>The CWCB will pay out the last 10% of the budget when the Final Report is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the Final Report has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the purchase order or grant will be closed without any further payment.</p>



Last Updated: November 2018

Payment

Payment will be made based on actual expenditures and must include invoices for all work completed. The request for payment must include a description of the work accomplished by task, an estimate of the percent completion for individual tasks and the entire Project in relation to the percentage of budget spent, identification of any major issues, and proposed or implemented corrective actions.

Costs incurred prior to the effective date of this contract are not reimbursable. The last 10% of the entire grant will be paid out when the final deliverable has been received. All products, data and information developed as a result of this contract must be provided to CWCB in hard copy and electronic format as part of the project documentation.

Performance Measures

Performance measures for this contract shall include the following:

(a) Performance standards and evaluation: Grantee will produce detailed deliverables for each task as specified. Grantee shall maintain receipts for all project expenses and documentation of the minimum in-kind contributions (if applicable) per the budget in Exhibit B. Per Water Plan Grant Guidelines, the CWCB will pay out the last 10% of the budget when the Final Report is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the Final Report has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the purchase order or grant will be closed without any further payment.

(b) Accountability: Per Water Plan Grant Guidelines full documentation of project progress must be submitted with each invoice for reimbursement. Grantee must confirm that all grant conditions have been complied with on each invoice. In addition, per Water Plan Grant Guidelines, Progress Reports must be submitted at least once every 6 months. A Final Report must be submitted and approved before final project payment.

(c) Monitoring Requirements: Grantee is responsible for ongoing monitoring of project progress per Exhibit A. Progress shall be detailed in each invoice and in each Progress Report, as detailed above. Additional inspections or field consultations will be arranged as may be necessary.

(d) Noncompliance Resolution: Payment will be withheld if grantee is not current on all grant conditions. Flagrant disregard for grant conditions will result in a stop work order and cancellation of the Grant Agreement.



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

**Water Plan Grant - Exhibit B
Budget and Schedule**

Date: 2/1/2019

Name of Applicant: Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group

Name of Water Project: Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery

Task No.	Task Description	Start Date	End Date	Grant Funding Request	Match Funding (Including Cash and In-Kind)	Total
1	Pre-Event Coordination and Outreach	7/1/2019	10/1/2020	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$18,000.00
2	Water Quality Detection Team	7/1/2019	7/1/2021	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$14,000.00
3	Weed Control Rapid Response Team	7/1/2019	7/1/2021	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$15,000.00
4	Front Range Watershed Days Event	7/1/2020	10/1/2020	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 19,000.00	\$30,000.00
5	Data Analysis, Report Development, and Re-Engagement	10/1/2020	7/1/2021	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$16,000.00
Total				\$42,500	\$50,500	\$93,000.00



2/25/19

To:
Ben Wade
Project Manager
Water Supply Planning
Via email

Re: Water Plan Grant Match Confirmation

Dear Mr. Wade:

The Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG) is writing to provide an update on our match funding related to our CWCB Water Plan Grant application. As noted in the application, we have two sources of cash match funding, which totals \$34,500. We also have noted \$16,000 in in-kind match. In summary:

- Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety provides approx. \$5,000 on an annual basis for water quality monitoring in Left Hand, which we have noted as match for water quality monitoring portion of our Water Plan Grant proposal (Task 2). We will pass along a letter from them committing this funding once available.
- We raise money under our Stewardship Partners Program each year from corporate and individual donors and currently have a balance of \$68,659 in this account. We anticipate using \$24,550 in cash match toward this project.
- Total cash match for the grant includes \$34,500, which exceeds the cash match requirements for the grant.
- In-Kind values are estimated at \$16,000 and include anticipated volunteer hours for the event and planning leading up to the event. Event volunteer hours were calculated by estimating 145 participants over the multi-day event, volunteering 4 hours each, at volunteer billing rate of \$24.69. Planning and outreach volunteer hours were estimated at approximately 70 hours of volunteer time for all the volunteer board members participating on the planning committee.
- With anticipated in-kind value included, the project exceeds the match requirements for the grant by \$8,000.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you need any additional information.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Olson'.

Jessica J. Olson
Executive Director
[Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group | LWOG](#)
6800 Nimbus Road, Longmont CO 80503 (office)
P.O. Box 1074, Niwot, CO 80544-0210 (mailing)
303.530.4200 (office) | 303.746.7937 (cell)
jolson@lwog.org | www.lwog.org



January 31, 2019

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Support for the Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group CWCB Water Plan grant application for Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery

Dear Selection Committee,

On behalf of the Left Hand Water District, I am writing in support of the grant application submitted by the Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG) for the CWCB - Colorado Water Plan Grant application being submitted entitled "**Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery.**" We see the completion of this project as being a giant step forward for our community to recognize that LWOG is far more than a vehicle to address the issues related to the 2013 flood, but more importantly, a community asset for the entire Front Range in building a committed network of watershed stewards.

By extending our organization's reach in soliciting more community participation, understanding, and buy-in, LWOG aims to build upon existing successes to engage, educate, and empower other community members in scientific discovery, monitoring, conservation, and socio-ecological resilience. This purpose is well aligned with the Colorado Water Plan's objective to "significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues."

Left Hand Water District Board of Directors believes that LWOG has done an amazing job bringing various stakeholders to the table and developing successful projects that are aligned with the goals of the CWCB and the citizens of Colorado and hopes that the CWCB recognizes this as well. We respectfully request that CWCB put a high priority on the proposed grant application and look forward to our continued relationship with both the CWCB and LWOG in protecting this important resource.

Best Regards,

Left Hand Water District
Christopher Smith, PE
General Manager



PUBLIC WORKS & NATURAL RESOURCES
ENGINEERING SERVICES

(303) 651-8330 | LONGMONTCOLORADO.GOV

January 29, 2019
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Support for the Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group CWCB Water Plan grant application for Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery

Dear Selection Committee,

The City of Longmont is in support of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB), Colorado Water Plan Grant application submitted by Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG), entitled "**Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery.**" Completion of this project is vital to our community as we work to improve the watershed health, recover from the 2013 flood, and build a committed network of watershed stewards.

The proposed project under consideration with CWCB aims to engage Front Range communities in learning about watershed health and resiliency through participation in a regional Watershed Days event. Part-community engagement event and part-scientific endeavor, the event will involve a focused period (one day to one week) of intensive data collection at flood-impacted areas within multiple Front Range Watersheds. While the focus of this plan is on Front Range Watersheds, the project has regional transferability and could be applied and modified as needed by other Colorado watersheds.

The City of Longmont believes that community participation, understanding, and buy-in are critical drivers for watershed resiliency. This collaborative project aims to build upon existing work to engage, educate, and empower our community members in scientific discovery, monitoring, conservation, and socio-ecological resilience. This purpose is well aligned with the Colorado Water Plan's objective to "significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues."

We feel that LWOG has done a good job bringing the appropriate partners to the table and developing a proposal that will result in implementation of a successful project that is well aligned with the goals of the CWCB and the stakeholders. By completing this project, LWOG will increase its effectiveness in improving the watershed health, engaging the community in watershed issues, and contributing to implementation of the water plan.

We urge you to put a high priority on this proposed project, and look forward to working with LWOG to build resiliency into Front Range watersheds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James E. Angstadt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "J".

Jim Angstadt, PE
Director of Engineering Services
City of Longmont



ST. VRAIN AND LEFT HAND WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
9595 Nelson Road, Suite 203 • Longmont, CO 80501 • 303-772-4060 • www.svlhwcd.org

January 28, 2019

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Support for the Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group CWCB Water Plan grant application for Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery

Dear Selection Committee,

On behalf of the St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District, I am pleased to write in support of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Colorado Water Plan Grant application being submitted by Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG), entitled "**Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery.**" Completion of this project is vital to our community as we work to improve the watershed health, recover from the 2013 flood, and build a committed network of watershed stewards.

The proposed project under consideration with CWCB serves as a critical pivot point from flood recovery to watershed resilience by spearheading a regional "Watershed Days" event. Part-community engagement event and part-scientific endeavor, the event will involve a focused period (one day to one week) of intensive data collection at flood-impacted areas within multiple Front Range Watersheds. While the focus of this plan is on Front Range Watersheds. This purpose is well aligned with the Colorado Water Plan's objective to "significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues." Further, the project has regional transferability and could be applied and modified as needed by other Colorado watersheds.

I trust you will agree this proposal aligns with Colorado's Water Plan and with its scalability can serve as a foundation for similar efforts statewide. For these reasons I believe this is an excellent project to fund with the limited resources available to CWCB.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sean T. Cronin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Sean T. Cronin
Executive Director

January 25, 2019
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Support for the Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group CWCB Water Plan grant application for Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery

Dear Selection Committee,

The Big Thompson Watershed Coalition is pleased to write in support of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Colorado Water Plan Grant application being submitted by Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG), entitled “**Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery.**” Completion of this project is vital to our community as we work to improve the watershed health, recover from the 2013 flood, and build a committed network of watershed stewards.

The proposed project under consideration with CWCB aims to engage Front Range communities in learning about watershed health and resiliency through participation in a regional Watershed Days event. Part-community engagement event and part-scientific endeavor, the event will involve a focused period (one day to one week) of intensive data collection at flood-impacted areas within multiple Front Range Watersheds. While the focus of this plan is on Front Range Watersheds, the project has regional transferability and could be applied and modified as needed by other Colorado watersheds.

We believe that community participation, understanding, and buy-in are critical drivers for watershed resiliency in multiple Front Range watershed. This collaborative project aims to build upon existing work to engage, educate, and empower our community members in scientific discovery, monitoring, conservation, and socio-ecological resilience. This purpose is well aligned with the Colorado Water Plan’s objective to “significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues.”

We feel that LWOG has done a good job bringing the appropriate partners to the table and developing a proposal that will result in implementation of a successful project that is well aligned with the goals of the CWCB and the stakeholders. By completing this project, LWOG and partnering Coalitions like ours in the Big Thompson, will increase its effectiveness in improving the watershed health, engaging the community in watershed issues, and contributing to implementing the water plan.

We urge you to put a high priority on this proposed project, and look forward to working with LWOG to build resiliency into Front Range watersheds.

Sincerely,



Shayna Jones, BTWC Director



Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

January 31, 2019

RE: Letter of Support for the Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group CWCB Water Plan grant application for Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery

Dear Selection Committee,

The Fourmile Watershed Coalition is pleased to write in support of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Colorado Water Plan Grant application being submitted by Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG), entitled "**Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery.**" Completion of this project is vital to our community as we work to improve the watershed health, recover from the 2013 flood, and build a committed network of watershed stewards.

The proposed project under consideration with CWCB aims to engage Front Range communities in learning about watershed health and resiliency through participation in a regional Watershed Days event. Part-community engagement event and part-scientific endeavor, the event will involve a focused period (one day to one week) of intensive data collection at flood-impacted areas within multiple Front Range Watersheds. While the focus of this plan is on Front Range Watersheds, the project has regional transferability and could be applied and modified as needed by other Colorado watersheds.

We believe that community participation, understanding, and buy-in are critical drivers for watershed resiliency. This collaborative project aims to build upon existing work to engage, educate, and empower our community members in scientific discovery, monitoring, conservation, and socio-ecological resilience. This purpose is well aligned with the Colorado Water Plan's objective to "significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues."

We feel that LWOG has done a good job bringing the appropriate partners to the table and developing a proposal that will result in implementation of a successful project that is well aligned with the goals of the CWCB and the stakeholders. By completing this project, LWOG will increase its effectiveness in improving the watershed health, engaging the community in watershed issues, and contributing to implementing the water plan. We urge you to put a high priority on this proposed project, and look forward to working with LWOG to build resiliency into Front Range watersheds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maya MacHamer".

Maya MacHamer
Fourmile Watershed Coordinator



January 28, 2019

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Support for the Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group CWCB Water Plan grant application for Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery

Dear Selection Committee,

The Saint Vrain Creek Coalition (SVCC) is pleased to write in support of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Colorado Water Plan Grant application being submitted by Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG), entitled "**Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery.**" Completion of this project is vital to our community as we work to improve the watershed health, recover from the 2013 flood, and build a committed network of watershed stewards.

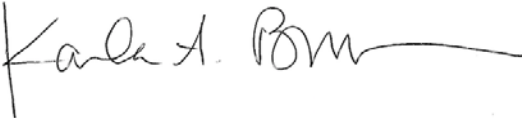
The proposed project under consideration with CWCB aims to engage Front Range communities in learning about watershed health and resiliency through participation in a regional Watershed Days event. Part-community engagement event and part-scientific endeavor, the event will involve a focused period (one day to one week) of intensive data collection at flood-impacted areas within multiple Front Range Watersheds. While the focus of this plan is on Front Range Watersheds, the project has regional transferability and could be applied and modified as needed by other Colorado watersheds.

We believe that community participation, understanding, and buy-in are critical drivers for watershed resiliency. This collaborative project aims to build upon existing work to engage, educate, and empower our community members in scientific discovery, monitoring, conservation, and socio-ecological resilience. This purpose is well aligned with the Colorado Water Plan's objective to "significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues."

We feel that LWOG has done a good job bringing the appropriate partners to the table and developing a proposal that will result in implementation of a successful project that is well aligned with the goals of the CWCB and the stakeholders. By completing this project, LWOG will increase its effectiveness in improving the watershed health, engaging the community in watershed issues, and contributing to implementing the water plan.

We urge you to put a high priority on this proposed project, and look forward to working with LWOG to build resiliency into Front Range watersheds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karla A. Brown" followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Karla A. Brown
SVCC Board President

January 31st 2019
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Support for the Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group CWCB Water Plan grant application for Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery

Dear Selection Committee,

The Boulder Flycasters are pleased to write in support of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Colorado Water Plan Grant application being submitted by Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG), entitled “**Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery.**” Completion of this project is vital to our community as we work to improve the watershed health, recover from the 2013 flood, and build a committed network of watershed stewards.

The proposed project under consideration with CWCB aims to engage Front Range communities in learning about watershed health and resiliency through participation in a regional Watershed Days event. Part-community engagement event and part-scientific endeavor, the event will involve a focused period (one day to one week) of intensive data collection at flood-impacted areas within multiple Front Range Watersheds. While the focus of this plan is on Front Range Watersheds, the project has regional transferability and could be applied and modified as needed by other Colorado watersheds.

The Boulder Flycasters believe that community participation, understanding, and buy-in are critical drivers for watershed resiliency. This collaborative project aims to build upon existing work to engage, educate, and empower our community members in scientific discovery, monitoring, conservation, and socio-ecological resilience. This purpose is well aligned with the Colorado Water Plan’s objective to “significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues.”

We feel that LWOG has done a good job bringing the appropriate partners to the table and developing a proposal that will result in implementation of a successful project that is well aligned with the goals of the CWCB and the stakeholders. By completing this project, LWOG will increase its effectiveness in improving the watershed health, engaging the community in watershed issues, and contributing to implementing the water plan.

We urge you to put a high priority on this proposed project, and look forward to working with LWOG to build resiliency into Front Range watersheds.

Sincerely,
Boulder Flycasters



January 24, 2019

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Support for the Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group CWCB Water Plan grant application for Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery

Dear Selection Committee,

The Town of Jamestown is pleased to write in support of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Colorado Water Plan Grant application being submitted by Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG), entitled "**Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery.**" Completion of this project is vital to our community as we work to improve the watershed health, recover from the 2013 flood, and build a committed network of watershed stewards.


The proposed project under consideration with CWCB will engage Front Range communities in learning about watershed health and resiliency through participation in a regional Watershed Days event. Part-community engagement event and part-scientific endeavor, the event will involve a focused period (one day to one week) of intensive data collection at flood-impacted areas within multiple Front Range Watersheds. While the focus of this plan is on Front Range Watersheds, the project has regional transferability and could be applied and modified as needed by other Colorado watersheds.

I believe that community participation, understanding, and buy-in are critical drivers for watershed resiliency. This collaborative project will build upon existing work to engage, educate, and empower Jamestown community members in scientific discovery, monitoring, conservation, and socio-ecological resilience. This purpose is well aligned with the Colorado Water Plan's objective to "significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues."

I feel that LWOG has done an outstanding job bringing the appropriate partners to the table and developing a proposal that will result in a successful project that is well aligned with the goals of the CWCB and the stakeholders. By completing this project, LWOG will increase its effectiveness in improving the watershed health, engaging the community in watershed issues, and contributing to implementing the water plan. As stakeholders, our community and especial our young people will have an opportunity to benefit directly from the project.

We urge you to put a high priority on this proposed project, and look forward to working with LWOG to build resiliency into Front Range watersheds.

Sincerely,


Kenneth Lenarcic,
Mayor

January 28, 2019
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Support for the Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group CWCB Water Plan grant application for Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery

Dear Selection Committee,

I pleased to write in support of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Colorado Water Plan Grant application being submitted by Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG), entitled **“Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery.”** Completion of this project is vital to our community as we work to improve the watershed health, recover from the 2013 flood, and build a committed network of watershed stewards.

The proposed project under consideration with CWCB aims to engage Front Range communities in learning about watershed health and resiliency through participation in a regional Watershed Days event. Part-community engagement event and part-scientific endeavor, the event will involve a focused period (one day to one week) of intensive data collection at flood-impacted areas within multiple Front Range Watersheds. While the focus of this plan is on Front Range Watersheds, the project has regional transferability and could be applied and modified as needed by other Colorado watersheds.

I believe that community participation, understanding, and buy-in are critical drivers for watershed resiliency. This collaborative project aims to build upon existing work to engage, educate, and empower our community members in scientific discovery, monitoring, conservation, and socio-ecological resilience. This purpose is well aligned with the Colorado Water Plan’s objective to “significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues.”

We feel that LWOG has done a good job bringing the appropriate partners to the table and developing a proposal that will result in implementation of a successful project that is well aligned with the goals of the CWCB and the stakeholders. By completing this project, LWOG will increase its effectiveness in improving the watershed health, engaging the community in watershed issues, and contributing to implementing the water plan.

We urge you to put a high priority on this proposed project, and look forward to working with LWOG to build resiliency into Front Range watersheds.

Sincerely,
Chuck Oppermann
7194 Strath Street, Longmont, CO 80503

1-25-2019
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Support for the Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group CWCB Water Plan grant application for Watershed Days: A Community based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery

Dear Selection Committee,

I am pleased to write in support of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Colorado Water Plan Grant application being submitted by Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG), entitled **"Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery."** Completion of this project will help to build upon existing work to engage, educate, and empower Front Range communities in learning about watershed health and resiliency through participation in a regional Watershed Days event. Part-community engagement event and part-scientific endeavor, the event will involve a focused assessment of watershed health and resiliency across Front Range Watersheds. While the focus of this plan is on Front Range Watersheds, the project has regional transferability and could be applied and modified as needed by other Colorado watersheds.

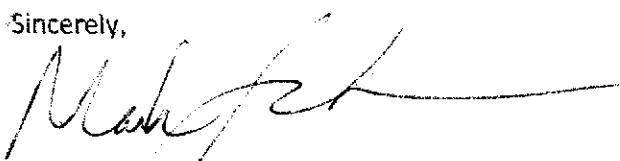
The proposed project under consideration with CWCB aims to engage Front Range communities in learning about watershed health and resiliency through participation in a regional Watershed Days event. Part-community engagement event and part-scientific endeavor, the event will involve a focused assessment of watershed health and resiliency across Front Range Watersheds. While the focus of this plan is on Front Range Watersheds, the project has regional transferability and could be applied and modified as needed by other Colorado watersheds.

I believe that community participation, understanding, and buy-in are critical drivers for watershed resiliency. This collaborative project aims to build upon existing work to engage, educate, and empower Front Range communities in learning about watershed health and resiliency through participation in a regional Watershed Days event. Part-community engagement event and part-scientific endeavor, the event will involve a focused assessment of watershed health and resiliency across Front Range Watersheds. While the focus of this plan is on Front Range Watersheds, the project has regional transferability and could be applied and modified as needed by other Colorado watersheds.

We feel that LWOG has done a good job bringing the appropriate partners to the table and developing a proposal that will result in implementation of a successful project that is well aligned with the goals of the CWCB and the stakeholders. By completing this project, LWOG will help to build upon existing work to engage, educate, and empower Front Range communities in learning about watershed health and resiliency through participation in a regional Watershed Days event. Part-community engagement event and part-scientific endeavor, the event will involve a focused assessment of watershed health and resiliency across Front Range Watersheds. While the focus of this plan is on Front Range Watersheds, the project has regional transferability and could be applied and modified as needed by other Colorado watersheds.

We urge you to put a high priority on this proposed project, and look forward to working with LWOG to build resiliency into Front Range watersheds.

Sincerely,


MARK Schneeweman

January 28, 2019
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Support for the Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group CWCB Water Plan grant application for Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery

Dear Selection Committee,

I am pleased to write in support of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Colorado Water Plan Grant application being submitted by Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG), entitled **“Watershed Days: A Community Based Assessment of Front Range Watershed Recovery.”** Completion of this project is vital to our community as we work to improve the watershed health, recover from the 2013 flood, and build a committed network of watershed stewards.

The proposed project under consideration with CWCB aims to engage Front Range communities in learning about watershed health and resiliency through participation in a regional Watershed Days event. Part-community engagement event and part-scientific endeavor, the event will involve a focused period (one day to one week) of intensive data collection at flood-impacted areas within multiple Front Range Watersheds. While the focus of this plan is on Front Range Watersheds, the project has regional transferability and could be applied and modified as needed by other Colorado watersheds.

I believe that community participation, understanding, and buy-in are critical drivers for watershed resiliency. This collaborative project aims to build upon existing work to engage, educate, and empower our community members in scientific discovery, monitoring, conservation, and socio-ecological resilience. This purpose is well aligned with the Colorado Water Plan’s objective to “significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues.”

I feel that LWOG has done a good job bringing the appropriate partners to the table and developing a proposal that will result in implementation of a successful project that is well aligned with the goals of the CWCB and the stakeholders. By completing this project, LWOG will increase its effectiveness in improving the watershed health, engaging the community in watershed issues, and contributing to implementing the water plan.

I urge you to put a high priority on this proposed project, and look forward to working with LWOG to build resiliency into Front Range watersheds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cheryl". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.