



Last Updated: July 2017

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:

Supply and Demand Gap Projects
Water Storage Projects
Conservation, Land Use Planning
Engagement & Innovation Activities
Agricultural Projects
Environmental & Recreation Projects

Gregory.Johnson@state.co.us
Anna.Mauss@state.co.us
Kevin.Reidy@state.co.us
Ben.Wade@state.co.us
Brent.Newman@state.co.us
Linda.Bassi@state.co.us

Applicants interested in submitting an ‘Intent to Apply’ in the future are encouraged to check here ☐ and fill in all sections with the best information available at the time. Exhibits may be excluded.

This “Intent to Apply” will help CWCB prioritize Projects that are not ready for fully completed Water Plan Grant Application due to the initial timeframe and required deadlines.

FINAL SUBMISSION: Submit all application materials 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.

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group	
Name of Water Project	Stewardship through Community Science	
CWP Grant Request Amount		\$36,000.00
Other Funding Sources	Gates Family Foundation	\$42,503.00
Other Funding Sources:	CDBG-DR Planning Grant	\$35,000
Other Funding Sources:	CDBG-DR Capacity Grant	\$10,154.84
Applicant Funding Contribution	(LWOG Partners)	\$8,000
Total Project Cost		\$131,657.84



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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)	
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 (LWOG), a nonprofit organization based in Boulder County, has been working to restore and protect Left Hand Creek Watershed for future generations. LWOG was founded as a watershed protection group to implement local mine clean-up activities. Since 2016, LWOG secured over ten million dollars to implement twenty flood recovery projects. These projects were designed to reduce flood risks, stabilize streambeds and banks, restore the ecological health of the watershed, and improve human health and safety. Today, LWOG strives to carry our mission under four programs: Watershed Science, Stewardship, Restoration, and Outreach and Education</p>



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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 all that apply and include relevant tasks)	
	Supply and Demand Gap - 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>
	Water Storage - Projects that facilitate the development of additional storage, artificial aquifer recharge, and dredging existing reservoirs to restore the reservoirs' full decreed capacity. <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 - Community Science Comprehensive Plan • Task 2 - Community Science Tools • Task 3 - Community Science Implementation
	Agricultural - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
	Environmental & Recreation - Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>



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	Other	Explain:
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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

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.

The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit A, a detailed Statement of Work, Budget, Other Funding Sources/Amounts and Schedule.



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Water Project Overview

This project aims to develop a Community Science Program to engage our community in watershed stewardship through citizen science using tools/platforms for effective collection, management, and sharing of data. While the focus of this plan is on Left Hand Creek Watershed, we intend to develop it with a goal of scalability and repeatability, so that it may be provided as a “toolbox” that can be applied and modified by other Colorado watersheds. CWP funding will be used to hire a consultant team that will collaborate with LWOOG staff to:

1. Design a strategic community science plan that includes approaches for outreach, recruitment, data collection, evaluation, and materials for education, training, and workshops.
2. Develop tools that can be used to collect, store, manage, access, and share data, including mobile applications, data sheets, databases, and online data sharing platforms which will enable knowledge sharing through open access to information. This effort may leverage existing platforms and tools that facilitate custom citizen science project design and data sharing (e.g. citisci.org). Also develop interactive webpage to extend the impact of existing resources.
3. Provide continued oversight, management, training, workshops, and support for community science efforts in order to ensure long-lasting benefits to community.

Measurable Results

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
20,000 water users in Left Hand with potential to provide tools and	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity



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Measurable Results		
extend the reach state-wide.		
	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 stewardship 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 the power of community science to assess key parameters to protect, maintain, and improve watershed health. 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. To collect, manage, and publically share this information we will develop tools and methodologies such as mobile applications, databases, and protocols. These tools will be used to assess what is needed to protect, maintain or improve watershed health.</p> <p><i>Section 6.6 (pg. 6-157) Goals:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">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." <p>Left Hand Creek serves as the primary source of drinking water for 20,000 customers of the Left Hand Water District, as well as a source of irrigation water for farmers and ranchers. Our multipurpose project, which includes strategies for engagement, education, and development of tools, will help ensure continued stewardship in areas of Left Hand Creek which were restored to improve the ecology, health, safety, and quality of life for private landowners. As stated above,</p>



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Water Project Justification

community scientists will assess key parameters to protect, maintain, and improve watershed health in these areas.

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 these actions, by using an adaptive management framework (completed using separate funding) to guide stewardship of completed watershed restoration projects to ensure that objectives are met using a grassroots, watershed-coalition led approach. Further, we will help coordinate statewide watershed coalition partnerships and methodologies by making our strategic community science plan and tools scalable and repeatable where appropriate, and sharing information publically on our website.

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 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."*

This project will meet these recommendations through implementing watershed stewardship using a coalition-led participatory science approach, and sharing of plans, tools, and information to enable other watersheds and interested groups to implement a similar approach. This project will also provide opportunities to connect community scientists 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 activities that engage, educate, and inform community scientists to become watershed stewards using sound science and tested protocols. As described above, stewardship includes assessment and protection of key watershed health parameters. Our approach to community science, which involves development of a strategic community science plan is especially well aligned with S.5.9. Additionally, by developing a webpage



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Water Project Justification

for our existing stewardship and adaptive management resources, we be able to provide these educational resources to a wider and more diverse audience throughout Colorado.

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 water issues through learning by doing. Through participation in community science projects, community members without scientific training/credentials will gain an improved understanding of how science can (or cannot) be used to address relevant Colorado water challenges. In turn, decision-makers and elected officials can receive feedback from informed community scientists to better understand their needs, priorities, and unique circumstances. Overall, by working together to collect data and see the resulting scientific outcomes, groups will learn from each other and participate in collaborative and productive dialogue. Also, by developing a webpage for our existing stewardship and new adaptive management resources, we be able to provide these educational resources to a wider and more diverse audience throughout Colorado.

Finally, while the focus of this goal is water supply planning, the South Platte Education Action Plan has been updated by the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan (SPBIP) which expands the scope of the Education Action Plan beyond water supply planning to include environmental and recreation education.

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.



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Related Studies

This project builds upon LWOG's completed and ongoing restoration and stewardship work throughout Left Hand Creek Watershed, summarized below:

1. Since 2016, LWOG has successfully secured 100% of the funding needed to design and implement restoration projects at twenty sites along Left Hand Creek Watershed. Ten projects are complete, and the rest are on-going. These projects are designed to reduce future flood risks, stabilize the streambed and banks, restore the ecological health of the watershed, and improve the human health and safety for landowners living along Left Hand Creek and its tributaries. Funding for these recently completed 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 November 2017, LWOG completed a [Regional Stream Stewardship & Recovery Handbook](#) funded by CDBG-DR. The purpose of this handbook is to engage our community in stewardship by offering a compelling educational resource using simple flow chart-style tools and workshops. In developing the handbook, LWOG has taken the first step towards demonstrating the value of stewardship practices for a regional network of creek-side landowners through education. While LWOG led this project, it was a collaborative effort with three other watershed coalitions and a consultant team. Creek-side landowners and others interested in stewardship in four Front Range watersheds have responded enthusiastically to this handbook and have begun using it engage in stewardship.
3. In January 2018, LWOG started a new project which includes development of an adaptive management framework and citizen science pilot project. Under this new project funded by CDBG-DR, LWOG is working with a consultant team to frame adaptive management needs and tools for our watershed, and will pilot test this framework using a citizen science approach. The adaptive management framework will include a conceptual model and plan. The model will comprise a visual representation of the channel evolution status in the past, present, and future using a simplified classification of the dominant river styles and incorporate key watershed functions that contribute to watershed resilience. The plan will identify parameters to assess key watershed functions using quantifiable methods that are well suited for dynamic watershed processes. The framework and associated tools will be set up and ready to use by July 2018.
4. In January 2018, LWOG was awarded funding through the CWCB Watershed Restoration Grant Program to use our adaptive management framework (defined in (2) above) to monitor ten recently completed river restoration projects (defined in (1) above) and work with hired consultants and/or volunteers to implement stewardship projects if/when corrective actions are needed. The purpose of this newly funded project is to ensure the long term success of recently restored areas which face on-going maintenance needs and dynamic watershed processes.

The four efforts described above are related and complementary to our Community Science Program because they provide the need, tools, and drivers for our proposed approach. Fundamentally, our need is to ensure the long term success of restoration projects (see 1 above) using adaptive management tools (see 3 above). Currently we have funding to implement adaptive management tools (see 4 above), however through our work completed on the Regional Stream Stewardship & Recovery Handbook (see 2 above) we recognize that community participation, understanding, and buy-in are a critical driver for the long-term success of these projects and watershed resiliency. Therefore, we must develop a robust Community Science Program this is comprehensive, effective, and builds upon lessons from existing citizen sciences efforts worldwide. Using this approach, our Community Science Program will engage, educate, and empower our community members in scientific discovery, monitoring, conservation, and socio-ecological resilience.



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Related Studies

Also, to reach a wider and more diverse audience, this project includes developing a web-version of the handbook and adaptive management framework. It is well understood that tools and technology are providing increasingly more opportunities to collect and share information. By transferring the content of these resources to more user user-friendly, point-and-click interactive format, we will be able to extend their impact to a broader and more diverse audience of readers.

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.

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

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.

As LWOG is a non-profit organization, TABOR issues will not affect our application.



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Submittal Checklist	
✓	I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the Standard Contract .
Exhibit A	
✓	Statement of Work ⁽¹⁾
✓	Budget & Schedule ⁽¹⁾
	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ⁽¹⁾ See budget worksheet for pending match funding. We've been invited to submit funding proposals to Gates Family Foundation and CDBG-DR Planning grant for this proposed project. Letters of commitment/award are expected by March/April.
Exhibit C	
✓	Map (if applicable) ⁽¹⁾
	Photos/Drawings/Reports
✓	Letters of Support (Support letter from Basin Roundtable encouraged) **LWOG has reached out to the South Platte Basin Roundtable and will present this project at the March meeting to request a letter of support.
	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	
✓	Engagement & Innovation Supplemental Application ⁽¹⁾

(1) Required with application.

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

3/15/18

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: Stewardship through Community Science

Dear Selection Committee,

The South Platte Basin Roundtable is pleased to support the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Colorado Water Plan Grant application being submitted by Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG), entitled "**Stewardship through Community Science.**" 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.

Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group recently completed 10 flood recovery restoration projects along Left Hand Creek, led the development of a Regional Stewardship Handbook, and started an adaptive management project to help recover from the 2013 flood. The proposed project under consideration with CWCB aims to develop a comprehensive community science plan to (1) engage our community in watershed stewardship through citizen science activities and (2) develop tools/platforms for effective collection, management, and sharing of collected data. While the focus of this plan is on Left Hand Creek Watershed, 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. LWOG's 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 stakeholders 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 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 Left Hand Creek Watershed.

Sincerely,

Garrett Varra
Chair





ST. VRAIN AND LEFT HAND WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

9595 Nelson Road, Suite 203 • Longmont, CO 80501 • 303-772-4060 • www.svlhwcd.org

January 30, 2018

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

RE: Letter of Support for LWOOG grant application: Stewardship through Community Science

Dear Selection Committee,

On behalf of the St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District (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 (LWOOG), entitled "**Stewardship through Community Science.**" 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.

LWOOG recently completed 10 flood recovery restoration projects along Left Hand Creek, led the development of a Regional Stewardship Handbook, and started an adaptive management project to help recover from the 2013 flood. The proposed project under consideration with CWCB aims to develop a comprehensive community science plan to (1) engage our community in watershed stewardship through citizen science activities and (2) develop tools/platforms for effective collection, management, and sharing of collected data. While the focus of this plan is on Left Hand Creek Watershed, the project has regional transferability and could be applied and modified as needed by other Colorado watersheds.

The District believes that community participation, understanding, and buy-in are critical drivers for watershed resiliency. LWOOG's 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."

The District is very pleased with LWOOG and feels it has done a good job bringing the appropriate stakeholders 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, LWOOG will increase its effectiveness in improving the watershed health and contributing to implementing the water plan.

The District recommends approval for this project and look forward to working with LWOOG to build resiliency into Left Hand Creek Watershed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sean T. Cronin".

Sean T. Cronin
Executive Director



PUBLIC WORKS & NATURAL RESOURCES

ENGINEERING SERVICES

(303) 651-8330 | LONGMONTCOLORADO.GOV

January 29, 2018
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: Stewardship through Community Science

Dear Selection Committee,

Longmont supports the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Colorado Water Plan Grant application being submitted by Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG), entitled **"Stewardship through Community Science."** Completion of this project is helpful to our community because we are downstream of the project area and any work done to improve the watershed's health, recover from the 2013 flood, and build a committed network of watershed stewards upstream of Longmont will reduce the impacts to our community.

Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group recently completed 10 flood recovery restoration projects along Left Hand Creek, led the development of a Regional Stewardship Handbook, and started an adaptive management project to help recover from the 2013 flood. The proposed project under consideration with CWCB aims to develop a comprehensive community science plan to (1) engage our community in watershed stewardship through citizen science activities and (2) develop tools/platforms for effective collection, management, and sharing of collected data. While the focus of this plan is on the Left Hand Creek Watershed, the project has regional transferability and could be applied and modified as needed by other Colorado watersheds.

Longmont believes that community participation, understanding, and buy-in are critical drivers for watershed resiliency. LWOG's project aims to build upon existing work to engage, educate, and empower the Left Hand Creek 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 stakeholders 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 Left Hand Creek's watershed health and will contribute to implementing the water plan.

We urge you to put a high priority on this proposed project, and look forward to working with LWOOG to build resiliency into the Left Hand Creek Watershed upstream of Longmont.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Monica Bortolini". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Monica" and last name "Bortolini" clearly legible.

Monica Bortolini, PE, CFM
Floodplain Administrator
City of Longmont



The James Creek WATERSHED INITIATIVE

P. O. Box 110

Jamestown CO 80455

"Caring for the land and water"

January 25, 2018

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203
Phone: 303-866-3441, ext. 3236

RE: Letter of Support for the Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group CWCB Water Plan grant application: Stewardship through Community Science

Dear Selection Committee,

The James Creek Watershed Initiative 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 **"Stewardship through Community Science."** 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.

Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group recently completed 10 flood recovery restoration projects along Left Hand Creek, led the development of a Regional Stewardship Handbook, and started an adaptive management project to help recover from the 2013 flood. The proposed project under consideration with CWCB aims to develop a comprehensive community science plan to (1) engage our community in watershed stewardship through citizen science activities and (2) develop tools/platforms for effective collection, management, and sharing of collected data. While the focus of this plan is on Left Hand Creek Watershed, the project has regional transferability and could be applied and modified as needed by other Colorado watersheds.

James Creek Watershed Initiative believes that community participation, understanding, and buy-in are critical drivers for watershed resiliency. LWOG's 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 stakeholders 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 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 Left Hand Creek Watershed.

Sincerely,

Colleen Williams, Director
James Creek Watershed Initiative
P. O. Box 110
Jamestown, CO 80455
Phone: 303-449-2621
Email: colleen@jimtown.org



January 31, 2018

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: Stewardship through Community Science

Dear Selection Committee,

The Boulder Flycasters are a Chapter of Trout Unlimited, North America's premier coldwater conservation group, and Colorado Trout Unlimited, a leading conservation group in our state. A 501c3 corporation, the Flycaster's mission is to conserve, protect, and restore coldwater fisheries and their watersheds. We currently have near 1,500 members in the Boulder area and implement our mission with outreach events, youth education, and conservation projects. Boulder Flycasters have been involved in many conservation projects over the years. In the last five years we have implemented major stream and riparian habitat improvements on Middle Boulder Creek, South Boulder Creek, and Jenny Creek in the upper Boulder Creek watershed.

As a result of the devastating flood in September 2013, many streams along the Front Range sustained overwhelming damage. Left Hand Creek is one such waterway that suffered. Much has been accomplished on Left Hand Creek since the flood to restore and repair the flood's damage. The Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG) recently completed twelve flood recovery restoration projects along Left Hand Creek. For the long term success of these projects we fully support LWOG's suggested adaptive management approach. As such the Boulder Flycasters write in support of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Colorado Water Plan Grant application being submitted by Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG), entitled "**Stewardship through Community Science.**" 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.

Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group recently completed 10 flood recovery restoration projects along Left Hand Creek, led the development of a Regional Stewardship Handbook, and started an adaptive management project to help recover from the 2013 flood. LWOG's 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 stakeholders 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 and contributing to implementing the water plan.

We urge CWCB support this project. Monitoring and measuring on Left Hand will build long term stewardship and resiliency and hopefully extend the lifetime of the projects already completed and better connect restoration work throughout the Creek.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert McCormack".

Robert McCormack
President, Boulder Flycasters
PO Box 541
Boulder, CO 80306
cell-201-213-7295
troutrobert@gmail.com
Boulderflycasters.org



1-25-18
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:
Stewardship through Community Science**

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 **"Stewardship through Community Science."** 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.

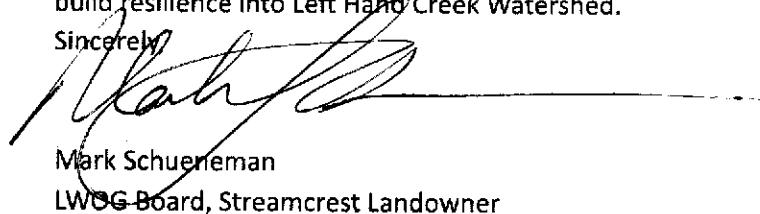
Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group recently completed 10 flood recovery restoration projects along Left Hand Creek, led the development of a Regional Stewardship Handbook, and started an adaptive management project to help recover from the 2013 flood. The proposed project under consideration with CWCB aims to develop a comprehensive community science plan to (1) engage our community in watershed stewardship through citizen science activities and (2) develop tools/platforms for effective collection, management, and sharing of collected data. While the focus of this plan is on Left Hand Creek Watershed, 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. LWOG's 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 stakeholders 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 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 resilience into Left Hand Creek Watershed.

Sincerely,



Mark Schueneman
LWOG Board, Streamcrest Landowner

January 25, 2018
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:
Stewardship through Community Science**

Dear Selection Committee,

I am writing in support of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Colorado Water Plan Grant application as submitted by Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG), entitled "**Stewardship through Community Science**." Through the expanding grass root efforts of our local community we are working to improve the environmental conditions which will with time allow for a full recovery from the 2013 flood. Through citizen fueled science and education, we are, as a neighborhood considerably "more informed" and "hands on" network of watershed stewards. Most importantly, the next generation of stewards are closely watching and learning as well.

LWOG's flood recovery and restoration projects along 10 reaches of Left Hand Creek has ultimately led to the development of our Regional Stewardship Handbook. The adaptive management project has been specifically designed to help us continue our recovery from the 2013 flood. The proposed project under consideration with CWCB aims to develop a comprehensive community science plan to (1) engage our community in watershed stewardship through citizen science activities and (2) develop tools/platforms for effective collection, management, and sharing of collected data. While the focus of this plan is on Left Hand Creek Watershed, 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.

LWOG's 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 the legwork of bringing the appropriate stakeholders 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 and contributing to implementing the water plan.

I fully support and encourage CWCB to consider the proposed project, and look forward to working with LWOOG to build a resilient Left Hand Creek Watershed.

Sincerely,

Rick Kauvar

LWOOG Board member and 35 year LH creekside resident