

# Technical Assistance and Capacity Building for Riparian Habitat Restoration

## RiversEdge West – 765 Final Report

Includes invoices from May 1 – June 30, 2019



Workshop participants discussing best practices and management of wetland and riparian properties along the Colorado and Gunnison Rivers

Prepared for:  
Colorado Water Conservation Board  
Attn: Chris Sturm

June 30, 2019

Tamarisk Coalition (dba RiversEdge West)  
Contract # POGG1 PDAA 201800000765

Grant Amount: \$84,725

Prepared by Rusty Lloyd and Shannon Wadas, RiversEdge West



## Background:

RiversEdge West (REW, formerly Tamarisk Coalition) was funded to complete the following four tasks with \$84,725.00 in funding from contract POGG1 PDAA 201800000765.

- **Task 1: Private Lands Riparian Habitat Improvements**
  - Increase Farm Bill funding used for riparian restoration within Colorado
  - Improve practices and management of riparian systems on private lands
  - Pilot a collaborative partnership position between, federal, state and NGOs which benefit Colorado rivers and streams
- **Task 2: Public Lands Riparian Habitat Improvements**
  - Further the goals of the Desert Rivers Collaborative through control of noxious and invasive weeds along the Colorado River Corridor in Mesa County
- **Task 3: Technical Assistance and Capacity Building for Riparian Restoration**
  - Disseminate best practices and information on riparian restoration to on the ground practitioners
  - Increase the overall knowledge and capabilities of riparian restoration within the State of Colorado
  - Increase the capacity of four watershed stakeholder groups in Colorado
- **Task 4: Stream Management & Flood Recovery Lesson Sharing**
  - Build the capacity of watershed practitioners working in the state of Colorado and improve efficiency and effectiveness of restoration projects through targeted peer-to-peer learning opportunities. Specifically, XWN will support the Arkansas Basin's ability to work collaboratively to design appropriate stream management plans for their communities and advance lessons learned from flood-affected watershed cohorts to their peers in other watersheds.
  - To increase grassroots communication channels between Basins by growing the number of Colorado watershed practitioners engaged with XWN, particularly in rural watersheds.

A synopsis of work completed during the contract period (3/7/2018-6/30/2019) is provided for each task below. Match for the grant contracting period is outlined in each task as described below.

Invoices and/or timesheet reporting for tasks 1, 2, 3, and 4 are provided in Appendix A. A summary of expenses is provided below.

Task	Description		Hours/Details	Cost
1	Private Lands Riparian Habitat Improvements	REW staff time		\$00
		REW expenses	Travel/Per Diem/Training	\$13.58
Task 1 Subtotal:				\$13.58
2	Public Lands Riparian Habitat Improvements	REW staff time	NA	\$0
		REW expenses	Travel/Per Diem/Training	\$30.09
Task 2 Subtotal:				\$30.09
3	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building for Riparian Restoration	REW staff time	146.50 hours	\$6804.80
		REW expenses	NA	\$0.00
Task 3 Subtotal:				\$ 6804.80
4	Stream Management & Flood Recovery Lesson Sharing	REW staff time	105 hours	\$5339.50
		REW expenses	Travel/Per Diem/Training	\$941.12
Task 4 Subtotal:				\$6280.62
Total:				\$ 13,129.09

## Tasks

### Task 1: Private Lands Riparian Habitat Improvements

#### The Private Lands Biologist Position:

##### *Bridging the Gap*

The NRCS/REW Private Lands Biologist (PLB) position, filled by Sarah Wilson, bridges an important gap for both RiversEdge West and NRCS. REW has become highly effective at working on large scale projects among government agencies and organizations managing public lands. However, private lands are an integral part in the riparian restoration process in order to have healthy, contiguous riverside habitat. Critical riparian land in western Colorado are held privately, the need to connect and involve landowners in REW's restoration work is necessary in working towards landscape scale riverside improvements. The PLB position also provides a critical capacity piece to REW's operations, especially since private landowner communities are more difficult to outreach and organize and it can be difficult to effectively administer funds for restoration to so many individuals.

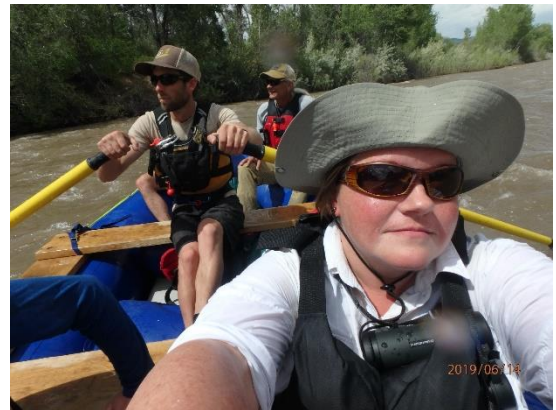
NRCS on the other hand has operated government cost share and incentive programs for landowners since the 1930s. These programs are targeted for agricultural producers facing degradation of their lands, difficult markets, and high cost inputs. NRCS programs focus on conservation and stewardship as a tool for long term productivity on agricultural lands. 'Helping people help the land' is the motto. Over the years, NRCS has suffered from a problem of increasing funds for dissemination combined with workforce attrition. As a result, NRCS focuses on maintaining their contract workload rather than education, outreach and marketing their programs. The PLB position therefore provides a win-win for both organizations. This position provides boots on the ground for both organizations, interfacing with

private landowners on REW's behalf while also educating these landowners on the programs available to them through NRCS.

In a short amount of time, the PLB has effectively contacted over 50 landowners. Sixteen of those landowners of over 1,817 acres received assistance on a range of topics including irrigation water management, habitat, noxious weed management, adaptive land management, and more. This success occurred even in light of unique challenges that came up in partnering with a federal agency, including staff turnover, a demanding certification process, and lack of local training opportunities.

### *Training*

Since the hire date of November 5, 2018, the PLB has completed all self-directed training assignments provided by NRCS, attended workshops & field days and shadowed and assisted NRCS personnel. The PLB will be certified to do surveys for Yellow-billed Cuckoo (YBC), a federally listed threatened distinct population segment upon a final requirement of eight hours of field experience. The surveys are required for Endangered Species Act compliance on riparian projects in suitable habitat, encompassing much of the mid to southern parts of the Western Slope. As such, this certification will be extremely helpful to REW's operations as a majority of the active restoration sites require YBC surveys and there is often no one available to provide them.



The Yellow-Billed Cuckoo Safari floated a section of the North Fork of the Gunnison River to see the best habitat for the YBC in Colorado. The float trip wrapped up a two-day training to certify personnel to survey for the federally listed species.

The PLB is projected to complete the NRCS Conservation Planning certification by the spring of 2020, almost two years ahead of NRCS employee requirements. This will allow the PLB to conduct conservation planning independently, instead of at the discretion of local area NRCS planners. This in turn will lead to more riparian focused projects that interconnect with REW's current restoration work.

### *Projects and Technical Tools*

The PLB was directly involved with multiple NRCS projects across the Western Slope and played an integral role in getting federal funds obligated. Projects included:

- Water quantity and quality improvements to irrigation infrastructure and education about irrigation water management in Mesa County.
- Salinity control projects involving irrigation infrastructure and education about irrigation water management in Delta County.
- High Tunnel cropping systems using organic cover crops for fumigant weed control.
- Engineered ponds for sediment control.

These projects address agricultural practices seen along riparian areas across the Western Slope including irrigated annual cropping, irrigated hayland, irrigated pasture, orchards, pond creation, etc. These projects, while not all were directly riparian, played a fundamental role in the PLB obtaining the

required, on the ground training and experience which will allow for the success of future riparian projects with agricultural producers.

The listed projects resulted in \$151,476.00 of obligated federal funds scheduled to hit the ground in the next two years. While there were quite a few irrigation projects funded, there is currently momentum within NRCS to see more funding go towards wildlife projects. The PLB will be instrumental in addressing the lack of project diversity while working in sync with the overall mission of REW and the need for improved wildlife habitat.

Another tool provided by NRCS is Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) where a conservation plan with engineering is provided to a landowner regardless of fund eligibility. The plan addresses all resource concerns they want to act on in a 2 to 3-year period. Ideally this can translate to contracting if the landowner is eligible for funds. If they are not, the documentation can be used to acquire grant funding. The PLB has 3 of these projects in the works, spanning 60 acres including:

- A riparian project along Plateau Creek on the Grand Mesa in Mesa County
- A wetland project on the mainstem of the Colorado River in the Loma CO, in Mesa County
- An upland project on a drainage to the Gunnison River in the Hotchkiss CO, in Delta County

Landowners receiving CTA from the PLB are also being offered a place on a list maintained by REW. This list provides a way for REW staff to search for private lands in their project area where landowners are interested in being included on larger landscape-level projects. The PLB developed this tool to help capture private lands that slip through the cracks at NRCS for grant funded projects in the future.

Lastly, the PLB has been working with REW's Outreach and Marketing Coordinator to recreate a valuable and compact brochure summary of tools and resources for landowners all over the Western Slope. The brochure will feature organization contacts, links to resource calculators, and links to planning tools. The PLB continues to develop the Private Lands page on REW's website, and is taking on the project of revamping the resource center to be more intuitive and useful for private landowners.

### *Outreach*

The PLB has attended three conservation district board meetings, two NRCS work group meetings, and more than five other formal board-led stakeholder meetings. The PLB also developed a presentation on Grazing Management in Riparian Areas with information and feedback from partners including NRCS experts, CSU Extension Range Specialist Retta Bruegger, and Partner Wildlife Biologist Kristina Cline with Bird Conservancy of the Rockies. The PLB will be presenting this information at a landowner workshop coming up in August 2019 in Pagosa Springs, CO.

### *Metrics Summary*

- Leveraged \$151,476 in federal funding to on the ground projects
- Provided technical assistance to 4 distinct projects related to agricultural practices along riparian areas
- Conservation Technical Assistance to 3 riparian focused projects on the Western Slope
- Conservation planning, technical assistance and guidance on 1,817 total acres of private land

Metrics	Obligated Funds	Matching Funding (Position)	Acres
Actual	\$151,476	\$35,339	1,817.0
Target	\$100,000	\$25,000	500.0
Percent of Goal	151%	141%	363%

### *Lessons Learned*

Starting a new position from scratch is a challenging endeavor, especially when partnering with a large federal bureaucracy with an exceptionally long timeline for training. NRCS's expectation for new hires to be able to certify as a planner and work independently is three years; the PLB is working toward completing this in just over one year. This is a hefty goal, but more feasible due to the shared expectations of NRCS and REW. This allows for a stronger push to see the partner position get to a point of being able to work independently to represent both organizations effectively.

In order for the PLB to assist on contracts and projects a lot of cooperation from federal employees is required and building those relationships takes time. Another avenue for streamlining on the ground training is utilizing other organizations that have had partnership positions for many years (e.g. Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Bird Conservancy of the Rockies, Trout Unlimited). They have people within the organization that can provide some training and guidance to accelerate continuity and direct involvement with projects. Lastly, communication and clear expectations are of the upmost importance. REW and the assigned NRCS supervisor for the PLB have engaged in monthly meetings with the PLB to facilitate effective communication and provide joint approval for PLB activities. This has been instrumental in trying to attain more efficiency and strategically targeting successful projects.

Moving forward, REW is committed to seeing the PLB receive continued funding as the outcomes thus far have been extremely beneficial. A connection was made between REW and NRCS, leading to a greater understanding of each other's roles in riparian restoration on private lands. This in turn has paved a path towards working more efficiently under a federal, bureaucratic system in order to reach more landowners and get more federal funding on the ground. REW has secured funding for the PLB through the end of 2020 and is already working on a funding plan for 2021 and beyond.



Soils training with NRCS Soil Scientist Cathy O'Neill at Stagecoach Reservoir

### *Matching Funds*

REW leveraged a total of \$33,888.75 in cash match: \$19,587.50 from NRCS and \$14,301.25 from the Walton Family Foundation. NRCS also contributed in-kind match totaling \$1,450.



## Task 2: Public Lands Riparian Habitat Improvements

A highly experienced, two-person strike team crew completed 12 weeks of invasive weed control work in the Desert Rivers Collaborative focus area over the fall and winter of 2018. The crew was employed through the Western Colorado Conservation Corps, were certified in herbicide application and chainsaw use, and utilized much of their past experience from working on projects with the Dolores River Restoration Partnership.

Work included 1) high priority secondary weed spraying, 2) tamarisk and Russian olive regrowth treatment, and 3) initial removal of invasive woody phreatophytes in limited locations. Restoration work occurred on properties across the Grand Valley, including sites managed by Mesa County, Grand Valley Audubon Society, Colorado Parks & Wildlife, and the US Bureau of Reclamation. In total, 140 acres were treated, as described below:

- **Mesa County** (*paid for by Mesa County*)
  - Indian Wash: 0.6 acres
    - Initial Russian olive, tamarisk, and Siberian elm removal
  - 29 Road Gravel Pit: 0.6 acres
    - Initial Russian olive and tamarisk removal
- **Grand Valley Audubon Society**
  - 1.3 acres
    - Knapweed spraying
- **Colorado Parks & Wildlife**
  - Horsethief State Wildlife Area: 4.0 acres
    - Retreatment Russian olive and tamarisk
  - Skippers Island: 38.0 acres
    - Retreatment Russian olive and tamarisk
  - Connected Lakes: 9.0 acres
    - Retreatment Russian olive and tamarisk
  - 34 Road: 0.3 acres
    - Initial Russian olive and tamarisk removal
- **US Bureau of Reclamation**
  - Colorado River Wildlife Area: 16.5 acres
    - Retreatment Russian olive and tamarisk
  - DeBeque Wildlife Area: 27.3 acres
    - Retreatment Russian olive and tamarisk
  - Grand Junction Wildlife Area: 22.0 acres
    - Initial and retreatment of Russian olive, tamarisk, and tree-of-heaven
  - Cameo: 20.0 acres
    - Tamarisk retreatment

This project was overall, very successful due to the fact that it was easy to work with the WCCC to manage the two employees. WCCC took care of general oversight and payroll, and they provided a truck and all necessary equipment for the crew. Second, land managers across the Grand Valley provided guidance on where to treat invasives on their sites, and they provided herbicide, use of additional equipment (such as ATVs), and general project oversight. Most land managers also provided staff time to assist with spraying.

Without the use of this crew, most of these sites would have gone untreated, resulting in larger problems come spring. The crew's work on recently burned areas was especially critical given the timing of last summer's wildfires in riparian areas. The crew was able to quickly spray resprouts using minimal herbicide. Had retreatment waited until spring, these same areas would have been more costly and labor intensive to spray.



### ***Matching Funds***

REW provided cash match, totaling \$2,890.45, to support the crew. Mesa County also provided cash match, totaling \$1,991, to hire the crew for extra project work on their property. Total cash match was \$4,881.45.

In-kind contributions were provided by CPW (\$335 in wages, \$250 in herbicide); BOR (\$667.84 in herbicide); and Mesa County (\$430 in wages), totaling: \$1,682.84.

### **Task 3: Technical Assistance and Capacity Building for Riparian Restoration**

Four workshops were completed across Colorado during the grant period. The South Platte Workshop was most recently executed utilizing funds in Task 3 and Task 4 in order to enhance the technical expertise of practitioners, while utilizing the successful XWN model to capitalize on peer to peer learning. This workshop is explained in more detail in Task 4 below.

During the March – October 2018 reporting period, three workshops, and two associated field days, were supported with funding from CWCB. The Colorado River Basin Workshop, titled Wetland Ecology and Management, with an Emphasis on Waterfowl, was held in Grand Junction, Colorado September 25-27, 2018. The workshop was attended by 23 wetland and riparian specialists from across the West, including Colorado, Utah, Oregon, Wyoming, and North Dakota. Several participants from the Desert Rivers Collaborative (DRC) were in attendance, including two Colorado Parks & Wildlife and two Bureau of Reclamation staff members that actively manage wetland and riparian properties along the Colorado and Gunnison rivers. The workshop provided excellent networking opportunities for property managers looking to improve their management techniques and several participants discussed future partnership opportunities.



The White River Basin Workshop was held in Meeker, Colorado on September 20, 2018. The workshop was attended by 47 riparian land owners and managers from Rio Blanco, Garfield, Routt, and Mesa counties. Subject matter for the workshop was handled by addressing local, specific and tangible issues at the outset, then providing funding and technical resources that could be applied to watershed health issues, and lastly introducing regional issues and less-tangible concepts such as restoration site prioritization and stakeholder group development.

Local land and water managers were invited to provide local updates on local resource issues, such as the proliferation of algae in the White River, the status of protected fishes in the White River, and assessments of water management planning efforts by local agencies.

An informal field site tour was conducted on the following day, during which attendees saw several locations and features of the White River riparian corridor between Meeker and Rangely, Colorado. Rich discussions were held about the importance of conserving White River riparian resources, and plans were made to follow up on those discussions.



This spring, REW staff met with leadership and constituents from the White River and Douglas Creek Conservation Districts (CD's) to discuss early stages and provide technical guidance that will inform an Integrated Watershed Management Plan (IWMP) for the Lower White River in Rio Blanco County, Colorado. It is the CD's desire to lead a process that explores a process in meeting the agricultural, recreational, environmental, and municipal water needs along the Lower White River. Specifically, REW assisted in this initial conversation to incorporate riparian health (riparian vegetation) components into a possible IWMP process, which includes condition assessments and data, diversity, habitat and invasive plant impacts. Staff also spent time informing the CD's of a new grant REW received from the Bureau of Reclamation that might inform their IWMP exercise.

In early 2019 REW received a Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase 1 grant under the Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART program to create a Watershed Partnership along the White River in Colorado and Utah. REW utilized funding from CWCB to initiate conversations of integrating some of the technical components of the two planning processes such as prescriptions to improve riparian health, vegetation stratification and mapping, and aquatic habitat considerations for native fish.

Lastly, John Leary is REW's new Restoration Coordinator for the White River Partnership as of June 2019. He has already spent time in the watershed and has met with multiple stakeholders, including a private landowner who previously worked with REW staff for technical guidance regarding restoration work on



Restoration site at 4M Ranch in Meeker

her property at 4M Ranch. The landowner received partial funding from a CPW Habitat Partnership Program grant and contributed the remaining cost to hire a crew from Western Colorado Conservation Corps to do tamarisk removal and treatment on 30.5 acres (cost of \$15,400). An additional match of \$132 came from Rio Blanco Weed and Pest for the purchase of herbicide (cost of \$264).

The Purgatoire Watershed Weed Management Collaborative (PWWMC) Workshop Series was held on April 26<sup>th</sup> and June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018. There were 30 people in attendance for the *Got Weeds?* April session with an even mix of landowners and land managers. Topics were centered around a theme of land management, with a focus on restoring lands infested by noxious weeds. Twenty-six people attended the June workshop which was a field session. Participants were taught how to identify noxious weeds, conduct noxious weed treatments, and conduct activities for restoration (grazing management, soil testing, seeding methods).

In regard to capacity building, during the grant period, staff spent time applying for multiple grants including the Laura Jane Musser Fund (requested \$28,555), which would have amplified potential funding from the Great Outdoors Colorado Stewardship Impact grant (requested \$331,512) to further support the Desert Rivers Collaborative (DRC) and stewardship initiatives in the Grand Valley. Staff also worked on a proposal for the Wildlife Conservation Society Climate Adaptation Grant (requested \$173,730) with a focus on fire adaptation and mitigation within the DRC.

While we were not successful in any of the aforementioned grants, we were successful in leveraging funding from additional sources for five separate partnerships to continue supporting current and increased capacity, planning, and ongoing riparian restoration work including monitoring and maintenance. The specific partnerships and associated funding sources are listed below.

- Desert Rivers Collaborative: \$20,000 from Xcel Energy, \$5,000 from Alpine Bank, \$2,500 from Chevron, \$18,700 from REW's Restore Our Rivers Campaign  
**Total = \$46,200**
- Dolores River Restoration Partnership: \$94,000 from the Bureau of Land Management, \$4,900 from Colorado Collaboration Award, \$18,700 from REW's Restore Our Rivers Campaign  
**Total = \$117,000**

- Middle Colorado River Watershed Council: \$15,000 from the Walton Family Foundation, \$37,400 from REW's Restore Our Rivers Campaign  
**Total = \$52,400**
- Purgatoire Watershed Weed Management Collaborative: \$20,000 from the Colorado Department of Agriculture, \$37,400 from REW's Restore Our Rivers Campaign  
**Total = \$57,400**
- \*White River Partnership: \$43,629 from the Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART, \$7,500 from the George S. and Dolores Eccles Foundation, \$15,664 from 4M Ranch/ CPW/ Rio Blanco Weed and Pest  
**Total = \$66,793**  
\*Note: The White River was not one of the partnerships listed under the Task 3 deliverable to raise support for, however the White River Workshop contributed to further collaboration and ties into significant funds that were recently received.

A total of \$339,793 was leveraged throughout the 2018/2019 grant cycle to foster the on-going success, growth, and restoration initiatives of multiple partnerships across Colorado.

### Matching Funds

A total of \$25,682.27 was received in matching funds to support Task 3. NRCS contributed \$15,450.12 and the Walton Family Foundation contributed \$10,232.15

### Task 4: Stream Management & Flood Recovery Lesson Sharing

The final deliverable discussed earlier under Task 3 of this grant was to hold the second workshop in our series focused on the Front Range communities affected by the 2013 floods, targeting the coalitions formed within the various sub-watersheds. The first workshop was focused on the Arkansas River basin and in developing new partners there while the second one focused on the South Platte River basin. As discussed in Task 3, the South Platte workshop was combined with a Task 4 workshop in order to foster peer to peer learning under the Cross-Watershed Network (XWN) model.

As per our guidance, we developed an online survey for this workshop and sent it to each of the eight watershed coalitions to determine desired subject matter for the final workshop. Based on responses we sought out appropriate speakers and established and executed an event date of June 20, 2019.

We were able to partner with the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies to assist in venue designation and speaker participation. The event was held in Fort Collins at the Colorado Youth Outdoors facility and partner funding for the venue was provided by Colorado Trout Unlimited. Guided by our survey answers and working with our partners, we were able to build a uniquely diverse agenda (attached) which covered a wide array of restoration topics including holistic watershed management, invasive vegetation control, mine reclamation and water quality, biological control, and beaver dam analogs.

All of the feedback from the participants was positive, with one professor from CSU who attended suggesting that we develop a webinar from all of the attending presenters. We have developed a

[workshop-specific page](#) on our website to house all of the presentations and materials provided to attendees. A summary of the workshop, including a link to all of the presentations posted on our website, will be published in our July RiversEdge West newsletter, with a readership of more than 3,000.

In addition to the workshop, we were asked by one of the surveyed watershed coalitions, that was not able to attend, to meet with them while staff were in the area. So, we met with the Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG) to learn about their adaptive management plan and monitoring program. We were also able to share with them our experiences with watershed partnerships that have been doing similar things for more than a decade. We have already continued to share information with them and expect to develop a stronger network of experience-sharing moving forward. This opportunity to connect with LWOG would not have happened without the planning and outreach associated with this final workshop.

Across the span of the grant we were able to introduce an entirely new audience within the two target basins to the concept of peer-to-peer sharing within the context of the Cross-Watershed Network. Engaging these new partners on the Front Range will increase the awareness amongst restoration practitioners in that region of the opportunities afforded by participation in the Network.

## RiversEdge West & Cross-Watershed Network Restoration Workshop

Fort Collins, Colorado  
Colorado Youth Outdoors  
4927 County Rd 36, Fort Collins, CO 80528  
June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019

8:30-9:00 – Registration *(coffee and light breakfast)*

9:00-9:30 – Workshop Purpose, Logistics, & Introductions – Ben Bloodworth, *RiversEdge West*

9:30-10:00 – RiversEdge West & Cross-Watershed Network – Ben Bloodworth

10:00-10:30 – Holistic Land Management - Sylvia Hickenlooper, *Longmont NRCS*

10:30-11:00 – Networking Break

11:00-12:00 – (Noxious) Weed ID and Control – Tina Booton, *Weld County Weed Division*

12:00-12:15 – Q&A Session

12:15-1:00 – Lunch *(catered by Firehouse Subs)*

1:00-1:30 – Biocontrol Options for Weed Management – Kristi Gladem, *Colorado Department of Agriculture*

1:30-2:15 – Abandoned Mines Across Colorado and TU's Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Program -  
Lauren Duncan, *Trout Unlimited*

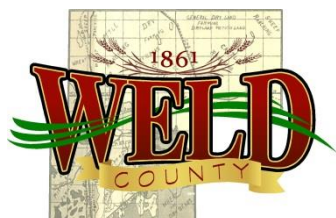
2:15-2:45 – Networking Break

2:45-3:30 – Use of Beaver Dam Analogs in River Restoration – Jessica Doran, *EcoMetrics*

3:30-3:50 – Revegetation for Restoration – Sylvia Hickenlooper, *Longmont NRCS*

3:50-4:10 – Restoration Funding Opportunities for Private Lands – Cindy Einspahr, *Brighton NRCS*

4:10-4:15 – Closing and Final Q & A – Ben Bloodworth





Regarding the second workshop under Task 4, it was XWN initial intention to host a stream management planning workshop on the Lower Arkansas to promote the development of stream management planning efforts. Working with partners in the Lower Arkansas, it quickly became apparent that the ag-heavy water user community on the Lower Arkansas has very tightly allocated water and had not been identified as a high priority area by other regional non-profits representing recreational and environmental communities.

Instead, other efforts in the region were focusing their support on supporting existing SMP efforts to help ensure strong Stream Management Planning (SMP) success stories reach completion and provide a strong foundation for other SMPs to learn from. As such, XWN partnered with River Network to capture and distribute lessons learned between existing SMP efforts through multiple workshops.

On December 8, 2018, the River Network held a training for project leads working on the Blue River Stream Management Plan, with logistical planning support from XWN. This workshop highlighted lessons-learned from stream management plans across the state to help the early phase Blue River group to assemble a locally-appropriate stakeholder group to be sure that all partners are at the table from the onset. Seth Mason of Lotic Hydrological was also invited to explain the Colorado Basin Integrated Water Management Planning Framework (compiled for the Colorado Basin Roundtable) and introduce data visualization and modeling tools that will simplify the Blue River's assessment process.



On October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 XWN and River Network hosted a lesson-sharing workshop in Avon, CO for 29 SMP leads from across the state. At the workshop, practitioners received updates from CWCB on the state perspectives of what constituted a SMP and how that has evolved over time, resources for identifying scoping methodologies, and they were introduced to an upcoming Resource Library that showcases effective strategies for conducting an SMP process in Colorado. Case studies also were shared directly related to key challenges identified by participants in a series of surveys and interviews with SMP leads. These challenges included involving producers in collaborative efforts, designing outcome-driven stakeholder processes, and approaches to project phasing.

Workshop participants were invited to have their opinions heard through a World Café solution-brainstorming session to address each of the identified challenges. The workshop also provided a critical venue for SMP leads to share their greatest challenges and concerns with the State as they prepare to submit the next round of Watershed Restoration Grants to CWCB.



### *Matching Funds*

River Network provided \$14,000 in cash match towards the SMP collaborative workshops and the Walton Family Foundation provided \$6,041.60 for a total cash match of \$20,041.60. In kind match was provided by Ameri Corps VISTA totaling \$17,480.

### *Matching Funds Summary for Tasks 1 - 4*

Task	Description	CWCB Funds	Projected Cash Match	Projected In Kind Match	Actual Cash Match	Actual In Kind Match	Total Match
1	Private Lands Partnership Position	\$25,280	\$27,990	N/A	\$33,888.75	\$1,450	\$35,338.75
2	Public Lands along Colorado River - Mesa County	\$16,975	\$5,595	N/A	\$4,881.45	\$1,682.84	\$6,564.29
3	Technical Assistance/Practitioner Workshops	\$25,580	\$19,540	N/A	\$25,682.27	N/A	\$25,682.27
4	XWN Colorado Workshops and Targeted Outreach Strategy	\$16,890	\$16,265	\$17,480	\$20,041.60	\$17,480	\$37,521.60
Totals		\$84, 725	\$69,390	\$17, 480	\$84, 494.07	\$20,612.80	\$105,106.91

## Appendix A: Invoices and timesheet reporting

### RiversEdge West Timesheets and Expenses - all tasks

#### Job, Project and Person Summary with Comments



Date Range: 5/1/2019 - 6/30/2019

Grant con Job	Project	Employee	Date	Comment	Hours	Amount
Colorado Water Conservation Board 2018-765						
	<b>CWCB 2018-765-02</b>	<b>CWCB765 Public Lands</b>				
	016	General Partnership Support				
		Shannon Wadas			0.50	\$27.50
		5/8/2019	Check in on task for grant reporting		0.50	\$27.50
		CWCB765 Public Lands Subtotal				0.50 \$27.50
	<b>CWCB 2018-765-03</b>	<b>CWCB765 Tech Asst &amp; Capacity Bldg</b>				
	009	Dolores River Restoration Partnership				
		Rica Fulton			8.00	\$259.44
		5/28/2019	Email Gabe, Nikki w/ bullfrogs; go over partnership lists		3.00	\$97.29
		5/30/2019	DRRP Core Team planning		1.00	\$32.43
		6/4/2019	DRRP Birds/hydro connection		2.00	\$64.86
		6/11/2019	Reading Dolores River Riparian Action Plan		1.00	\$32.43
		6/18/2019	DR_RAP plan research		1.00	\$32.43
	013	Desert Rivers Collaborative				
		Ben Bloodworth			46.50	\$2,093.67
		5/22/2019	YBC habitat research		7.00	\$350.00
		5/23/2019	YBC habitat research		3.00	\$150.00
		5/24/2019	YBC habitat research; chat w/ Matt		1.00	\$50.00
		5/28/2019	YBC review of Matt's lit and chat w/ Shannon		1.00	\$50.00
		6/3/2019	cuckoo follow-up review, article from Matt		1.00	\$50.00
		Rica Fulton			19.00	\$616.17
		5/21/2019	Overview funding meeting regarding DRC funding		2.50	\$81.08
		5/22/2019	Invoice for GWWUA - communications with Mark Harris		1.00	\$32.43
		5/23/2019	Work plan & action items; DRC Email in Neon		2.50	\$81.08
		5/28/2019	Emailing partners introduction/schedule site visits		1.50	\$48.65
		5/29/2019	Geodatabase Training w/ Ben		1.50	\$48.65
		5/30/2019	DRC Project Familiarization; Implementation Plan		3.00	\$97.29
		6/3/2019	DRC Project resources needs		1.00	\$32.43
		6/5/2019	Prepping for meeting, Indian Wash Site Visit with Carrie Gadorf and Chris Spears		3.00	\$97.29
		6/6/2019	DRC follow up emails, agenda for 6/11 meeting; DRC Implementation spreadsheet creation		3.00	\$97.29
		Shannon Wadas			20.50	\$1,127.50
		5/6/2019	Transition considerations for DRC		1.00	\$55.00
		5/9/2019	Strike team discussion with David, updated grant summary form/checked invoices		1.00	\$55.00
		5/15/2019	Orientation meeting with Rica, check in meeting with Ben on USFWS annual meeting next week		2.00	\$110.00
		5/16/2019	To do list for Rica regarding DRC, check in with Ben regarding YBC considerations and possible training for staff		2.00	\$110.00

## Job, Project and Person Summary with Comments



Date Range: 5/1/2019 - 6/30/2019

Grant conJob	Project	Employee	Date	Comment	Hours	Amount
<b>Colorado Water Conservation Board 2018-765</b>						
			5/23/2019	DRC overview with Rica	1.50	\$82.50
			5/31/2019	Scheduling check in for meetings with DRC partners and Rica	2.00	\$110.00
			6/3/2019	Rica and I met with Jeff at WCCC. Discussed communication plan, future projects, invoicing. Debrief with Rica- action items	2.00	\$110.00
			6/5/2019	Indian wash, DRC partners discussion with Rica	2.00	\$110.00
			6/6/2019	Check in with Rica on DRC involvement	1.50	\$82.50
			6/7/2019	Partner emails	0.50	\$27.50
			6/11/2019	Strike team meeting/planning with BLM, WCCC	1.50	\$82.50
			6/12/2019	Xcel grant contract set up	1.00	\$55.00
			6/20/2019	Planning for DRC partnership meeting with Rica and Cara, Xcel 2019 grant set up, overview with staff	2.50	\$137.50
	015	Sustainable Funding			<b>31.00</b>	<b>\$1,649.00</b>
		Ben Bloodworth			2.00	\$100.00
			6/18/2019	OR meeting set-up	1.00	\$50.00
			6/19/2019	OR Show; chats w/ potential funders and Conservation Alliance connections	1.00	\$50.00
		Kristen Jespersen			23.00	\$1,219.00
			5/9/2019	research funding for and put together funding plan for Yampa Fund	5.00	\$265.00
			5/13/2019	climate messaging document edits, WFF scope of work discussion and edits, foundation research and outreach	6.00	\$318.00
			5/14/2019	Climate messaging edits	2.00	\$106.00
			5/15/2019	Climate messaging call and document edits	2.00	\$106.00
			5/16/2019	Review and analyze grant scopes and budgets - develop action plan for DRC	4.00	\$212.00
			5/20/2019	DRC budget review	1.00	\$53.00
			5/21/2019	Colorado partnership budget coordination and review with Rica and Shannon	3.00	\$159.00
		Shannon Wadas			6.00	\$330.00
			5/1/2019	2018 Xcel grant close out	1.50	\$82.50
			5/7/2019	Climate messaging review for Kristen	1.00	\$55.00
			5/8/2019	Meeting with Senator Bennet's office on Colorado Adapt playbook and possible REW submission	1.50	\$82.50
			5/15/2019	Climate messaging discussion, call with Kristen to talk through fundraising gaps with DRC- follow up items with staff transition	2.00	\$110.00
	016	General Partnership Support			<b>49.50</b>	<b>\$2,220.53</b>
		Cara Kukuraitis			3.50	\$140.00
			6/10/2019	insectary tour	3.50	\$140.00
		John Leary			3.50	\$113.51
			6/10/2019	Palisade Insectary tour	3.50	\$113.51
		Rica Fulton			17.50	\$567.53

## Job, Project and Person Summary with Comments



Date Range: 5/1/2019 - 6/30/2019

Grant con Job	Project	Employee	Date	Comment	Hours	Amount
<b>Colorado Water Conservation Board 2018-765</b>						
			5/21/2019	Overview of funding for DRRP; familiarizing myself with MOU/Action Plan; DRC funding	3.50	\$113.51
			5/22/2019	Funding & grant on-boarding work	2.00	\$64.86
			5/23/2019	Work plan & action items; DRRP Email in Neon	2.50	\$81.08
			6/10/2019	Insectary Tour/Travel	4.00	\$129.72
			6/13/2019	Successful Collaboration Write-up	4.00	\$129.72
			6/17/2019	DWCD updates, familiarization with stakeholders 2019	1.50	\$48.65
		Rusty Lloyd			3.50	\$217.00
			5/13/2019	CWCB review grant and meeting on collaborative sites with CU and CMU in the valley	2.00	\$124.00
			5/20/2019	Meet with Sarah on Bittles	0.50	\$31.00
			5/23/2019	Middle Colorado	1.00	\$62.00
		Shannon Wadas			21.50	\$1,182.50
			5/1/2019	Started quarterly report	1.00	\$55.00
			5/6/2019	Third quarter invoice/report	2.50	\$137.50
			5/7/2019	Third quarter invoice/report	4.00	\$220.00
			5/8/2019	Third quarter invoice/report	3.00	\$165.00
			5/13/2019	Grant book review	1.00	\$55.00
			5/20/2019	Debrief with Rica on meeting- Annual meeting with USFWS- talked through current planned work, YBC considerations, desired maps moving forward.	3.50	\$192.50
			5/21/2019	Check in with Kristen on how to support Rica in DRC/DRRP tracking, partnership requirements	1.00	\$55.00
			5/22/2019	Training with Rica on upcoming priorities with DRC. Set up meeting with Pete Firmin	2.00	\$110.00
			6/10/2019	Insectary tour	3.50	\$192.50
	017	General Technical Assistance			<b>9.50</b>	<b>\$515.08</b>
		Rica Fulton			2.50	\$81.08
			5/20/2019	Meeting with FWS regarding Cuckoo habitat and future partnerships.	2.50	\$81.08
		Rusty Lloyd			7.00	\$434.00
			6/6/2019	Two rivers wildfire council	2.50	\$155.00
			6/10/2019	Trip to palisade for biocontrol	3.50	\$217.00
			6/11/2019	Insectary follow up	1.00	\$62.00
	019	Outreach Presentations & Events			<b>2.00</b>	<b>\$80.00</b>
		Cara Kukuraitis			2.00	\$80.00
			5/28/2019	prep for krex interview abt grant	0.50	\$20.00
			5/29/2019	krex interview about grant award	1.50	\$60.00
				<i>CWCB765 Tech Asst &amp; Capacity Bldg Subtotal</i>	<i>146.50</i>	<i>\$6,817.72</i>
<b>CWCB 2018-765-04</b>	<b>CWCB765 Stream Mgmt</b>					
008	Cross-Watershed Network				<b>105.00</b>	<b>\$5,339.50</b>
	Ben Bloodworth				93.00	\$4,650.00

## Job, Project and Person Summary with Comments



Date Range: 5/1/2019 - 6/30/2019

Grant con Job	Project	Employee	Date	Comment	Hours	Amount
Colorado Water Conservation Board 2018-765						
			5/2/2019	Front Range workshop prep	1.00	\$50.00
			5/6/2019	CWCB Front Range workshop prep	2.00	\$100.00
			5/7/2019	CWCB Front Range workshop prep	1.00	\$50.00
			5/15/2019	Front Range workshop planning	1.00	\$50.00
			5/16/2019	Ft Collins workshop	1.00	\$50.00
			5/20/2019	Ft Collins speaker nail-down and venue planning	2.00	\$100.00
			5/21/2019	Work w/ Kelsea on workshop	1.00	\$50.00
			5/22/2019	Ft Collins speaker nail-down and venue planning; Neon registration site set-up	5.00	\$250.00
			5/23/2019	Ft Collins speaker nail-down and venue planning	4.00	\$200.00
			5/28/2019	Ft Collins speakers and agenda development; catering	2.00	\$100.00
			5/29/2019	Ft Collins speakers and agenda development; catering	4.00	\$200.00
			5/30/2019	Ft Collins speakers and agenda development; catering	4.00	\$200.00
			6/3/2019	Registration site/Neon update	1.00	\$50.00
			6/4/2019	Ft Collins agenda work, emails, registration push	2.00	\$100.00
			6/5/2019	Ft Collins agenda work, emails, registration push	1.00	\$50.00
			6/6/2019	Ft Collins agenda work, emails, registration push	1.00	\$50.00
			6/11/2019	Ft Collins workshop	1.00	\$50.00
			6/13/2019	Ft Collins workshop	1.00	\$50.00
			6/17/2019	Ft Collins workshop emails and travel	5.00	\$250.00
			6/18/2019	Travel to Niwot and meeting with Left Hand Creek Watershed Coalition	3.00	\$150.00
			6/19/2019	Ft Collins workshop prep, powerpoint, printing, emails	5.00	\$250.00
			6/20/2019	Ft Collins workshop final logistics and event	10.00	\$500.00
			6/21/2019	Ft Collins workshop travel	5.00	\$250.00
			6/24/2019	Follow-up with presentations and emails	6.00	\$300.00
			6/25/2019	Creation of workshop web page and upload of all presentations	8.00	\$400.00
			6/26/2019	Creation of workshop web page and upload of all presentations	8.00	\$400.00
			6/27/2019	Creation of workshop web page and upload of all presentations	8.00	\$400.00
		Cara Kukuraitis			2.00	\$80.00
			5/23/2019	making event flyer, web page, facebook, linked in and mass email post	2.00	\$80.00
		Rusty Lloyd			8.50	\$527.00
			5/1/2019	White River SMP, and Meeting w/ Callie H.	6.00	\$372.00
			5/2/2019	White Follow up	1.00	\$62.00
			5/6/2019	White River SMP follow up	1.00	\$62.00
			5/7/2019	Coor with White on SMP	0.50	\$31.00



## Job, Project and Person Summary with Comments



Date Range: 5/1/2019 - 6/30/2019

<i>Grant con Job</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Employee</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comment</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Colorado Water Conservation Board 2018-765						
		Shannon Wadas			1.50	\$82.50
			5/21/2019	Overview of funding for DRC with Kristen and Rica	1.00	\$55.00
			5/22/2019	Discussion with Ben about South Platte workshop- considerations for agenda	0.50	\$27.50
				<i>CWCB765 Stream Mgmt Subtotal</i>	<i>105.00</i>	<i>\$5,339.50</i>
				<b>Colorado Water Conservation Board 2018-765 Subtotal</b>	<b>252.00</b>	<b>\$12,184.72</b>
				<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>252.00</b>	<b>\$12,184.72</b>



## Job and Person Summary with Expense Detail



Date Range: 5/1/2019 - 6/30/2019

<i>Grant contract</i>	<i>Person</i>	<i>Expense Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Mileage</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>Colorado Water Conservation Board 2018-765</b>						
<b>01 CWCB765 Private Lands</b>						
	<b>Rusty Lloyd</b>					<b>\$13.34</b>
	6844 Mileage				23.00	\$13.34
			5/13/2019	Mileage DRC, Tech Assistance for Redlands site	23.00	\$13.34
<b>CWCB765 Private Lands Subtotal</b>						<b>\$13.34</b>
<b>02 CWCB765 Public Lands</b>						
	<b>Shannon Wadas</b>					<b>\$29.41</b>
	6830 Telephone					\$25.00
			5/30/2019	Cell phone use for DRC		\$25.00
	6844 Mileage				7.60	\$4.41
			5/23/2019	Drive to Octopus Coffee to meet with Sarah	7.60	\$4.41
<b>CWCB765 Public Lands Subtotal</b>						<b>\$29.41</b>
<b>04 CWCB765 Stream Mgmt</b>						
	<b>Ben Bloodworth</b>					<b>\$825.95</b>
	6250 Education Events					\$227.17
			6/19/2019	Supplies for Ft Collins workshop.		\$22.79
			6/20/2019	Coffee for Ft Collins workshop		\$38.31
			6/20/2019	Donuts for workshop		\$14.09
			6/20/2019	Catering for Ft Collins wkshp		\$151.98
	6842 Per Diem					\$212.50
			6/18/2019	Per diem for Ft Collins workshop		\$136.50
			6/19/2019	Per diem for day in Denver at OR show		\$76.00
	6844 Mileage				666.00	\$386.28
			6/18/2019	Mileage to Left Hand Fork Water District for meet	74.00	\$42.92
			6/20/2019	Mileage to Ft Collins workshop	592.00	\$343.36
	<b>Rusty Lloyd</b>					<b>\$107.88</b>
	6844 Mileage				186.00	\$107.88
			5/1/2019	Mileage RT from GJ to Rangely	186.00	\$107.88
<b>CWCB765 Stream Mgmt Subtotal</b>						<b>\$933.83</b>
<b>Colorado Water Conservation Board 2018-765 Subtotal</b>						<b>\$976.58</b>

## *Job and Person Summary with Expense Detail*



Date Range: 5/1/2019 - 6/30/2019

<i>Grant contract</i>	<i>Person</i>	<i>Expense Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Mileage</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>Job</i>						
<i>Grand Total</i>						<i>\$976.58</i>