



COLORADO

**Colorado Water
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

Yampa/White/Green - River Forest Restoration
Project & Temperature Mitigation Project
POGG1 2019-2847

April 18, 2019

City of Steamboat Springs
Attn: Kelly Romero-Heaney, WR Manager
P.O. Box 775088
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

Dear Grantee:

We are pleased to inform you that the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) has approved your grant request for funding pursuant to the WSRF & Watershed Restoration Grant Programs. This letter authorizes you to proceed with the River Froest Restoration Project & Temperature Mitigation Project ("Project") in accordance with the terms of this Grant Award Letter.

Attached to this letter are the terms and conditions of your Grant. Please review these terms and conditions, as they are requirements of this Grant to which you, City of Steamboat Springs, agree by accepting the Grant Funds.

The WSRF Criteria & Guidelines can be located on our website for additional information. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the project, please contact Chris Sturm, Project Manager at 303-866-3441 or at Chris.Sturm@state.co.us. Please send the grant correspondence, invoices, etc. directly to Chris.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

//s//

Doriann Vigil

Program Assistant II

O 303-866-3441 ext. 3250

1313 Sherman Street, Rm. 719, Denver, CO 80203

Dori.vigil@state.co.us / cwcb.state.co.com





STATE OF COLORADO
Department of Natural Resources

Page 1 of 2

ORDER		*****IMPORTANT*****				
Number:	POGG1,PDAA,201900002847	The order number and line number must appear on all invoices, packing slips, cartons, and correspondence.				
Date:	4/18/19	BILL TO				
Description:	PDAA 2500 WSRF/WS RESTORE YAMPA FOREST RESTORE & MIT IN YW	COLORADO WATER BOARD CONSERVATION 1313 SHERMAN STREET, ROOM 718 DENVER, CO 80203				
Effective Date:	04/18/19	SHIP TO				
Expiration Date:	12/01/21	COLORADO WATER BOARD CONSERVATION 1313 SHERMAN STREET, ROOM 718 DENVER, CO 80203				
BUYER		SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS				
Buyer:		Delivery/Install Date: -				
Email:		FOB: FOB Dest, Freight Allowed				
VENDOR						
CITY OF STEAMBOAT SPRINGS PO BOX 775088 STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO 80477-5088						
Contact:	.					
Phone:	.					
VENDOR INSTRUCTIONS						
EXTENDED DESCRIPTION						
Line Item	Commodity/Item Code	UOM	QTY	Unit Cost	Total Cost	MSDS Req.
1	G1000		0	0.00	\$25,000.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Description: PDAA 2500 WSRF- YAMPA FOREST RESTORE & MIT IN YW						
Service From: 04/18/19		Service To: 12/01/21				
Line Item	Commodity/Item Code	UOM	QTY	Unit Cost	Total Cost	MSDS Req.
2	G1000		0	0.00	\$50,000.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Description: PDAA 2500 WS GRANT RESTORE YAMPA FOREST RESTORE & MIT IN YW						
Service From: 04/18/19		Service To: 12/01/21				
TERMS AND CONDITIONS						
https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/osc/small-dollar-grant-award-terms-conditions						



STATE OF COLORADO
Department of Natural Resources

Page 2 of 2

DOCUMENT TOTAL = \$75,000.00

EXHIBIT A - SCOPE OF WORK

GRANTEE AND FISCAL AGENT – City of Steamboat Springs

PRIMARY CONTACT - Kelly Romero-Heaney

ADDRESS - P.O. Box 775088, Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

PHONE - 970-871-8205

PROJECT NAME - Yampa River Riparian Restoration Project

GRANT AMOUNT

\$50,000 – CWCB: Colorado Watershed Restoration Program

\$25,000 – Yampa/White/Green BRT – Water Supply Reserve Fund

\$75,000 – TOTAL

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Provide a brief description of the project. (Please limit to half a page)

The 2018 Yampa River Health Assessment and Streamflow Management Plan (aka *The Stream Management Plan*) found that the riparian forest is degraded on the reach of the Yampa River above the Chuck Lewis State Wildlife Area, through town and to the Wastewater Treatment Plant and that improving the quality of the vegetation, particularly the shading canopy cover, will lead to improvements in stream temperature and water quality on the Yampa River. By restoring the river forest, this 3-year project that was identified as a top priority action item in the Stream Management Plan, will also help to improve aquatic and terrestrial habitat and to stabilize the river channel thus making it more resilient to floods, droughts, or human impacts. The City intends to partner with the Yampa Valley Sustainability Council's (YVSC) ReTree program to restore the riparian forest through strategic plantings of willows, alders, cottonwoods and other native river plant species on Public Open Space parcels and other prioritized locations. This project will connect community members, especially youth, to the river through this locally established volunteer tree-planting program. The Watershed Restoration Grant funds will be used to design and prioritize restoration projects, to secure an adequate supply of trees and plants that are purchased and/or harvested locally, to construct a seasonal riparian plant nursery if deemed necessary, to coordinate plantings on the prioritized areas, and to protect plants by installing temporary barriers and irrigation systems where identified in the design phase.

OBJECTIVES

List the objectives of the project. Please include objectives for all aspects of the project whether funded by the CWCB or not

1. Maintain or improve natural river form and processes*
2. Maintain or improve riparian vegetation extent and condition*
3. Maintain compliance with State stream temperature standards*

4. Establish and implement a long-term program for riparian vegetation restoration, protection, monitoring and stewardship
5. Foster a culture of shared stewardship of the Yampa River among community members, especially youth

*Objectives identified in the Stream Management Plan

TASKS

Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format. Detailed descriptions are only required for CWCB funded tasks. Other tasks should be identified but do not require details beyond a brief description.

TASK 1 – Convene a Project Team

Description of Task

A Project Team will form that refines objectives and that engages throughout the life of the program. The City will engage YVSC to serve as the Project Manager by developing and overseeing the riparian restoration program and by coordinating volunteers

Method/Procedure

The Project Team will include, the City's Water Resources Manager, the City's Parks & Recreation Open Space Supervisor, YVSC, Colorado Parks & Wildlife (CPW), Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS). Other Project Team members may be identified as a component of this task. The Project Team will meet to refine the objectives. The City will incorporate these objectives into a Scope of Work for the Project Manager.

Deliverable

N/A

TASK 2 – Develop and implement a short-term plan for current riparian vegetation protection and planting

Description of Task

With the publication of the Stream Management Plan, a new focus has emerged for tree planting along the Yampa - to reduce water temperatures and improve water quality by increasing shade along the river. Therefore, moving forward, riparian forest restoration and protection will focus on native shade trees in areas where there are no mature cottonwoods (*Populus angustifolia*) and/or the growth of cottonwood seedlings has been impacted by beaver activity. The short-term implementation plan will outline planting and protection methods and timeline for the next three years (2019 -2021) in the Chuck Lewis State Wildlife Area (SWA) and on City property near Rotary Park and Walton Creek (Map 1). The target for tree planting and protection are outlined in Objective 5.3 of the *Yampa River Health Assessment and Streamflow Management Plan*: maintain or improve riparian

vegetation extent and condition greater than or equal to 20% of mapped riparian area with woody vegetation cover by reach for Chuck Lewis and Rotary Park.

Method/Procedure

Riparian forest restoration is an iterative process of site preparation, planting, long-term care, protection, and monitoring and evaluation. The project team will work with stakeholders to inventory current vegetation and identify specific planting locations, based on need, access and future river or wetland restoration projects. The project team will prepare an implementation plan, outlining the general approach for the planting, maintenance, protection and monitoring of the seedling trees. Before each planting season, the team will also prepare a project plan with detailed instructions for each site specific planting location. After each season, the team will evaluate the monitoring data and modify the following year's project plan accordingly as needed.

Deliverable

A short-term implementation plan outlining planting and protection activities for Chuck Lewis, Walton Creek, and Rotary Park and annual project plans and progress reports on Objective 5.3

TASK 3 – Develop a long-term plan for riparian forest restoration

Description of Task

Improving water quality and reducing water temperatures through riparian forest restoration is a long-term goal that will require active oversight of seedling planting and care as well as continual coordination and communication between stakeholder groups. Using monitoring results from the initial plantings and input from stakeholders and resource managers, the project team will develop a long-term implementation plan that defines and outlines the process to achieve the long-term targets for future conditions (Objective 5.3 of the *Yampa River Health Assessment and Streamflow Management Plan*).

Method/Procedure

To begin the process of long-term planning, the project team will convene resource managers and stakeholders to develop a long-range forecast of construction and restoration work to be conducted along the full reach of the Yampa River, described in the *Yampa River Health Assessment and Streamflow Management Plan*, over the next 10 years. With this input and the initial short-term planting results, the project team will prepare an implementation plan that includes a schedule for restoration, milestones to meet vegetation cover extent outlined in Objective 5.3, and contingencies, if these milestones are not met. The long-term implementation plan will also include suggestions to engage private landowners upstream of Chuck Lewis in riparian restoration and identify funding mechanisms for planning, implementation, long-term monitoring and oversight on public and private lands.

Deliverable

Long-term plan with 10-year schedule of restoration work, milestones to meet vegetation cover objectives, recommendations for engaging private landowners and funding mechanisms for long-term implementation.

TASK 4 – Develop a procurement plan for riparian vegetation materials

Description of Task

One important factor for ensuring effective riparian forest restoration is tree species and source. Past plantings at Chuck Lewis SWA have used riparian species procured from the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) nursery (some of which have been grown from local desired plant cuttings the previous year) and staged at the CPW seasonal nursery with success. The project team will work with CSFS nursery staff and CPW to secure both seedlings and use of a seasonal nursery for short-term implementation and will develop a procurement plan to ensure an adequate stock of seedlings for the length of the restoration program.

Method/Procedure

The project team will develop both a short term (1-3 year) and long term (10+) procurement plan for vegetation materials. Currently the team purchases seedlings from the CSFS nursery, some of which is stock from other locations around the state. It would be preferable to use only seedling stock from the Yampa Valley. The project team will negotiate a contract with CSFS to purchase nursery stock for planting in the next 1-2 years and Yampa Valley stock for the duration of the project. For the seasonal care of the seedlings, the team will work with CPW on an agreement for the use or purchase of their seasonal nursery or will evaluate alternatives for the construction of a seasonal nursery. Finally, the team will prepare a standard operating procedure (SOP) for the harvest and care of the seedling stock to ensure consistent and long-term success of the program.

Deliverable

A contract with the CSFS nursery; either an agreement with CPW for the use of their seasonal nursery or options for construction of a seasonal nursery; and an SOP for harvest and care of Yampa Valley seedling stock.

TASK 5 – Coordinate volunteer groups and educate about river health

Description of Task

Engaging community members in riparian forest restoration is not only important for the tree planting and care efforts, but it is also a way to connect people to their environment and raise awareness about river health. The project team will recruit volunteers for the planting, care, monitoring, and protection of the trees. They will also coordinate with other local nonprofits and resource managers to educate these volunteers and other community

members about river health and environmental stewardship.

Method/Procedure

The project team will recruit individuals, businesses, community groups and schools as volunteers to harvest, maintain, plant, and care for the seedlings. The team will organize and oversee the volunteers' work and use these events to educate the volunteers about the purpose of this work. To create additional educational opportunities, the project team will develop educational material and coordinate with nonprofits, resource managers, and other local partners to participate at other appropriate community events.

Deliverable

Educational material to be shared with volunteers and community event participants, annual schedule for volunteer opportunities and tabling events

REPORTING AND FINAL DELIVERABLE

Reporting: The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of the executed contract. The progress report shall describe the completion or partial completion 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.

Final Deliverable: At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a final report that summarizes the project and documents how the project was completed. This report may contain photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs.

YAMPA RIVER FOREST RESTORATION & TEMPERATURE MITIGATION PROJECT

Budget & Timeline Table

Task	Description	Target Start Date	Target Completion Date	CWCB Funds CO Watershed Restoration Prog.	CWCB Funds WSRF Basin	Other Funding Cash	Other Funding In-Kind	Total
1	Convene a Project Team	4/15/2019	5/1/2019	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2	Develop and Implement a short-term plan for current riparian vegetation protection and planning	4/18/2019	12/1/2019	\$13,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$85,000.00	\$0.00	\$110,000.00
3	Develop and implement long-term plan for riparian forest restoration	10/31/2019	12/1/2020		\$13,000.00		\$0.00	\$13,000.00
4	Develop and execute a procurement plan for riparian vegetation materials	5/1/2019	12/1/2021	\$25,000.00			\$0.00	\$25,000.00
5	Coordinate volunteer groups and educate youth about river health	5/1/2019	12/1/2021	\$12,000.00		\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$27,000.00
	TOTALS			\$50,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$100,000.00		\$175,000.00