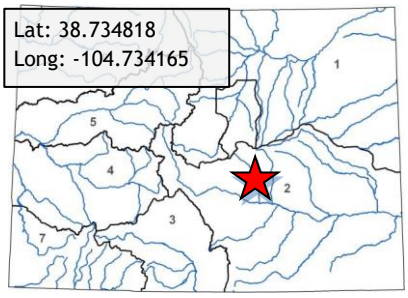
COLORADO
Colorado Water Conservation Board
Department of Natural Resources

Southmoor Drive Channel and Floodplain Restoration
Fountain Creek Watershed Flood Control and Greenway District
March 2023 Board Meeting

Water Plan Grant Application



LOCATION
Counties: El Paso, Pueblo
Drainage Basin: Arkansas

DETAILS	
Total Project Cost:	$3,639,022
Water Plan Grant Request:	$700,000
Recommended amount:	$700,000
Other CWCB Funding:	$0
Other Funding Amount:	$600,000
Applicant Match:	$2,339,022
Project Type(s):	Construction
Project Category:	Watershed Health and Recreation
Measurable Result:	1,500 LF of Stream Restored/Protected, 4 acres of Habitat Restored/Preserved and 55,088 tons/year of sediment contribution removed from the Fountain Crk Watershed

Project Overview: This application is focused on designing and constructing a restoration solution for a highly degraded 45-foot high cutbank along Fountain Creek. This erosion is actively undercutting Southmoor Drive, resulting in the closure of the road in 2020 and limiting an underserved community's access to retail and services. Further, this bank contributes 55,088 tons of sediment to the Fountain Creek system annually and, as the channel has cut into and eroded the subject bank, the channel has become hydraulically disconnected from the floodplain and overbanks. This project focuses on designing and implementing a natural-channel solution to mitigate the erosion of the subject bank, provide slope stability along this segment of Fountain Creek, and reconnect the channel/floodplain complex to promote riparian vegetation and streambank habitat.

The goals of this project are directly aligned with those of the Thriving Watersheds focus area in the 2023 Water Plan. Through stabilizing an actively degrading section of Fountain Creek, reducing sediment contributions from the eroding bank, enhancing and restoring riparian and floodplain habitat, and reducing downstream sediment contributions this project will have a positive impact on the watershed.

Further, this bank area has been identified and assessed in two watershed studies, the Fountain Creek Floodplain Management Opportunities Study and the Fountain Creek Corridor Watershed Assessment of River Stability and Sediment Supply Report where it was identified as a priority area for restoration.

Funding Recommendation: This project is recommended for full funding of $700,000.

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Water Plan

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Fountain Creek Watershed Flood Control and Greenway District
Name of Water Project	Southmoor Drive Channel and Floodplain Restoration
Grant Request Amount	**$700,000.00**
Primary Category	$700,000.00
Watershed Health & Recreation	
Total Applicant Match	**$2,339,022.00**
Applicant Cash Match	$2,339,022.00
Applicant In-Kind Match	$0.00
Total Other Sources of Funding	**$600,000.00**
City of Fountain	$600,000.00
Total Project Cost	**$3,639,022.00**

Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee: Fountain Creek Watershed Flood Control and Greenway District
Mailing Address: PO Box 26373 Colorado Springs CO 80936
FEIN: 98,016,008

Organization Contact: Allison Schuch
Position/Title:
Phone: 719-650-7474
Email: fountainckdist@gmail.com

Organization Contact - Alternate: Tamara Estes
Position/Title: Board President, Fountain Creek Watershed District
Phone: 719-244-4747
Email: tjestes@fountaincolorado.org

Grant Management Contact: Allison Schuch
Position/Title:
Phone: 719-650-7474
Email: fountainckdist@gmail.com

Grant Management Contact - Alternate: Tamara Estes
Position/Title: Board President, Fountain Creek Watershed District
Phone: 719-244-4747
Email: tjestes@fountaincolorado.org

Description of Grantee/Applicant

Authority - Water authority or water and wastewater authority

Type of Eligible Entity

☐ Public (Government)

- [x] Public (District)
- [ ] Public (Municipality)
- [ ] Ditch Company
- [ ] Private Incorporated
- [ ] Private Individual, Partnership, or Sole Proprietor
- [ ] Non-governmental Organization
- [ ] Covered Entity
- [ ] Other

Category of Water Project

- [ ] Agricultural Projects
  Developing communications materials that specifically work with and educate the agricultural community on headwater restoration, identifying the state of the science of this type of work to assist agricultural users among others.
- [ ] Conservation & Land Use Planning
  Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning.
- [ ] Engagement & Innovation Activities
  Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website.
- [x] Watershed Restoration & Recreation
  Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation.
- [ ] Water Storage & Supply
  Projects that facilitate the development of additional storage, artificial aquifer recharge, and dredging existing reservoirs to restore the reservoirs' full decreed capacity and Multi-beneficial projects and those projects identified in basin implementation plans to address the water supply and demand gap.

Location of Water Project

Latitude	38.734818
Longitude	-104.734165
Lat Long Flag	Precise coordinates: Project coordinates are readily definable and precisely define the location of the project
Water Source	Fountain Creek
Basins	Arkansas
Counties	Pueblo; El Paso
Districts	10-Fountain Creek

Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type	Municipal
Type of Water Project	Construction / Implementation
Scheduled Start Date - Design	3/31/2023
Scheduled Start Date - Construction	9/1/2024

Description

The District is proposing the Southmoor Drive Channel Stabilization and Floodplain Restoration project (Project) to reduce erosion along Southmoor Drive in Fountain, Colorado, provide slope stability along this segment of Fountain Creek, and reconnect the channel/floodplain complex to promote riparian vegetation and streambank habitat.

This Project focuses on a 45-foot high cutbank along Fountain Creek which is actively eroding and undercutting

Southmoor Drive, resulting in the closure of the road in 2020 This road closure has limited an underserved community's access to retail and services. The bank contributes 55,088 tons of sediment to the Fountain Creek (Watershed Assessment of River Stability and Sediment Supply 2017) system annually, making it the second highest sediment contributing bank in the Fountain Creek system. As the channel has cut into and eroded the subject bank, the channel has become hydraulically disconnected from adjacent floodplain and overbanks.
This bank has been identified and assessed in two watershed studies, linked in the Grant Details section of this application, Floodplain Management Opportunities (FMO) and the Watershed Assessment of River Stability and Sediment Supply (WARSSS) report.
The District will pursue a natural channel design approach to restoration within the Project area to provide floodplain reconnection, riparian habitat restoration, and in-channel stability.

Measurable Results

	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive
	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
1,500	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)
	Efficiency Savings (dollars/year)
	Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year)
4	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)
	Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms or water sharing agreement (acre-feet)
	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning
	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity
Other	

Removes 55,088 tons/year of sediment contribution to the Fountain Creek watershed.

Water Project Justification

Fountain Creek is a major contributing watershed to the Arkansas Basin. It drains waters from Monument, Palmer Lake, part of Woodland Park, Fountain, Green Mountain Falls, Pueblo, and Colorado Springs to the confluence with the Arkansas River in Pueblo. The Southmoor Drive project supports the goals of the water plan, by supporting "a strong environment that includes healthy watersheds, rivers and streams, and wildlife" (CWP, 2015 Pg. 1-6). Project work will stabilize an actively degrading section of Fountain Creek, reducing sediment contributions from the eroding bank, enhancing and restoring riparian and floodplain habitat, and reducing downstream sediment contributions. This project directly addresses identified basin challenges in the Arkansas Basin, primarily the impacts of flooding in the Fountain Creek watershed (CWP, 2015 Pg. 3-4). Through construction of this project the Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control & Greenway District (District) aims to address sediment contributions to Fountain Creek. Sediment is noted to be "the most concerning non-point source pollutant" (CWP, 2015 Pg 7-4). This project provides the opportunity to reduce the sediment load in Fountain Creek by 55,088 tons/year.

Related Studies

Fountain Creek Corridor Watershed Assessment of River Stability & Sediment Supply Report (2017)
Fountain Creek Corridor Floodplain Management Opportunities Study, 2019
Link: https://www.fountain-crk.org/resources-reports/studies-reports/

Taxpayer Bill of Rights
None.