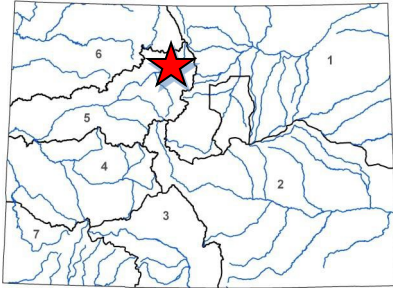




Grand County Stream Management Plan Update - Phase 2 Learning By Doing, Inc

Water Plan Grant Application

Lat: 40.07271
Long: -106.09748



LOCATION

County: Grand
Drainage Basin: Colorado

Grand County Learning By Doing (LBD), a collaborative effort of local, state, federal, and nonprofit water stakeholders, is seeking funding for project coordination to assist in its efforts to preserve, and where possible, improve the aquatic environment at the headwaters of the Colorado River in the face of transmountain diversions, drought, and climate change.

LBD is a unique partnership of East and West Slope water stakeholders committed to restoring and protecting ecological processes in the collaborative effort area, which includes the Fraser, Williams Fork, and Colorado River basins to the confluence with the Blue River. To do so, LBD engages in an extensive network of activities.

The Grand County Stream Management Plan (GC SMP), created in 2010, was the first of its kind in Colorado. Since its creation, the GC SMP has provided the framework for maintaining a healthy stream system in Grand County, Colorado, through the protection and enhancement of aquatic habitats, the protection of local water uses, and the continued flexibility for future water operations. After 13 years, it is time to update the GC SMP. The update will better reflect current stream conditions and reexamine technical aspects of the SMP. LBD is undertaking the GC SMP Update in two phases:

Phase 1 (in progress, expected 2024 completion): Comprehensive watershed assessment and stakeholder outreach program creation.

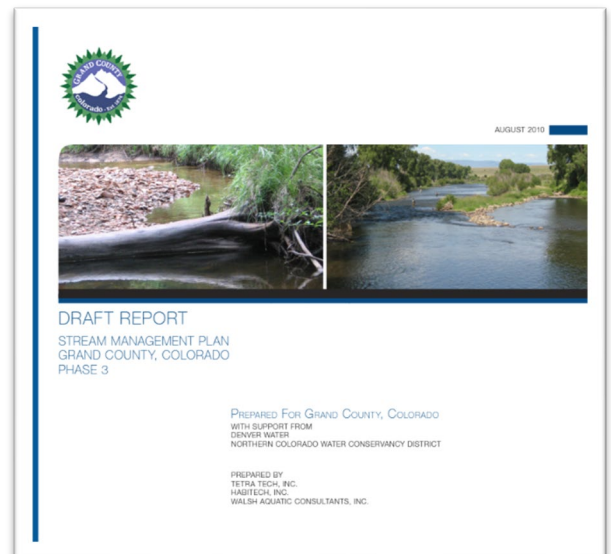
Phase 2: With public input, develop and publish the updated GC SMP as an interactive website with a story map showing current conditions, priority areas, and future restoration projects.

LBD is seeking funding to implement Phase 2. The updated SMP (Phase 2) will prioritize areas of concern by utilizing the comprehensive watershed assessment completed in Phase 1 of the GC SMP Update. By developing the GC SMP Update as a website rather than a document, the plan will be interactive with story maps, data summary visualizations, and restoration project lists will be live, updatable, and, overall, more accessible to the public. LBD will contract with Peak Facilitation to lead the stakeholder program and will hire a technical consultant to develop the website.

Funding Recommendation: Staff recommends Board approval of \$352,052.00 to Learning By Doing Inc. for the Grand County Stream Management Plan Phase 2 project through Watershed Health and Recreation category.

DETAILS

Total Project Cost:	\$469,428.00
Water Plan Grant Request:	\$352,052.00
Recommended Amount:	\$352,052.00
Other CWCB Funding:	\$0.00
Other Funding Amount:	\$56,228.00
Applicant Match:	\$61,148.00
Project Type:	Planning
Project Category:	Watershed Health & Recreation
Measurable Result:	Completed Grand County SMP with stakeholder identified projects



**COLORADO**Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan**Water Project Summary**

Name of Applicant	Learning By Doing, Inc
Name of Water Project	Grand County Stream Management Plan Update – Phase 2
Grant Request Amount	\$352,052.00
Primary Category	\$352,052.00
<i>Watershed Health & Recreation</i>	
Total Applicant Match	\$0.00
<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>	
<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>	
Total Other Sources of Funding	\$117,376.00
<i>LBD Inc.</i>	\$11,548.00
<i>LBD Inc.</i>	\$49,600.00
<i>Windy Gap Environmental Fund- applying in Fall 2023</i>	\$56,228.00
Total Project Cost	\$469,428.00

Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee: Learning By Doing, Inc
Mailing Address: PO Box 38 Hot Sulphur Springs CO 80451
FEIN: 301,176,284

Organization Contact: Anna Drexler-Dreis
Position/Title: Project Coordinator Email: gclearningbydoing@gmail.com
Phone: 970-531-1171

Organization Contact - Alternate: Kayli Foulk
Position/Title: Grant Manager Email: kfoulk@co.grand.co.us
Phone: (970) 725-3750

Grant Management Contact: Anna Drexler-Dreis
Position/Title: Project Coordinator Email: gclearningbydoing@gmail.com
Phone: 970-531-1171

Grant Management Contact - Alternate: Kayli Foulk
Position/Title: Grant Manager Email: kfoulk@co.grand.co.us
Phone: (970) 725-3750

Description of Grantee/Applicant

No description provided

Type of Eligible Entity

- ☐ Public (Government)
- ☐ 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.
- ☒ 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 40.072720
 Longitude -106.097480
 Lat Long Flag Default/Proponent headquarters: If the location cannot be defined with flags above, use location of project proponent headquarters
 Water Source The Fraser, Williams Fork, and the Colorado River basins and their tributaries in Grand County, Colorado.
 Basins Colorado
 Counties Grand
 Districts 51-Upper Colorado/Fraser Rivers

Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type Environmental
 Type of Water Project Planning
 Scheduled Start Date - Design 1/1/2024
 Scheduled Start Date - Construction
 Description
 The Grand County Stream Management Plan (GC SMP) provides the framework for maintaining a healthy stream system in Grand County, Colorado, through the protection and enhancement of aquatic habitat while at the same time protecting local water uses and retaining flexibility for future water operations. It was created in

2010 and was the first SMP in Colorado. It identifies and ranks opportunities for stream restoration and provides recommendations on monitoring sites and parameters based on years of data collection and analysis. Changes have occurred throughout Grand County since the inception of the GC SMP in 2010, warranting a reexamination of the technical aspects of the SMP to reflect current conditions better.

LBD is updating the GC SMP in two phases. Phase 1, nearly complete, includes a comprehensive analysis of existing data and the design of a stakeholder outreach and engagement program. Phase 2 will be the actual update to the GC SMP with creation of a website. Stakeholders determined that rather than a traditional formal document, the SMP should be an interactive, web-based resource allowing for broader stakeholder access and engagement and, as necessary, updates to the project list and data.

This grant application is for Phase 2.

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)
528,000	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)
	Length of Pipe, Canal Built or Improved (linear feet)
	Efficiency Savings (dollars/year)
	Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year)
	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
2,000,000	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity
Other	
No additional measurable results provided	

Water Project Justification

The Grand County Stream Management Plan (GC SMP) Update supports the State Water Plan and the Colorado Basin Implementation Plan (BIP).

State Water Plan:

The State Water Plan recognizes the importance of stream management plans in assessing and addressing stream health concerns and mitigating future risks. Therefore, the State Water Plan strongly supports the drafting of stream management plans throughout the state. The GC SMP Update meets the State Water Plan's description of SMPs (p 49) as it will rely on biological, hydrological, and geomorphological data to assess water quality, flows, and physical conditions.

Additionally, the GC SMP Update supports the Thriving Watersheds Partner Actions in the Meeting Future Water Needs section, which states that stream management plans "are collaborative efforts that can identify projects and needed flows for stream rehabilitation that consider all of the benefits that a stream provides to local users." (p 205)

Finally, there is alignment between the State Water Plan, which states that "successful watershed management requires coordinated planning across political boundaries and organizations" (p 158), and LBD's collaborative

approach to updating the GC SMP, which engages stakeholders with differing perspectives and priorities associated with water use. Learning By Doing (LBD) is a collaboration of Western Slope and Front Range water interests, including Grand County, Middle Park Water Conservancy District, Colorado River Water Conservation District, Denver Water, and Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District. LBD partners have been working with Peak Facilitation Group to engage citizens and stakeholders in a professional outreach process to gather feedback for the GC SMP Update. The updated GC SMP will work with these diverse groups to develop a plan to support improvements to stream health for aquatic habitat in Grand County by providing a list of necessary projects and serving as a road map for identifying future projects.

Colorado Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) Update:

The Colorado BIP recognizes the need to update the GC SMP and cites that the update is “documented in the Projects Database for the 2015 BIP and 2022 BIP Update” (p 83). The GC SMP Update is a 2015 and 2021 BIP Tier 1 (Legacy) project using the name “Stream Management Plan Update” (project number 01564 in the 2021 BIP and as CO-2015-0221 in the 2015 BIP).

Stream management plans, in general, are listed in the BIP as a strategy for supporting “watershed data/knowledge gap assessment and information gathering efforts in the basin” (p 173), which is a goal in the Colorado Basin Roundtable’s Public Education & Participation, and Outreach (PEPO) Education Action Plan.

Related Studies

The original GC SMP, drafted in 2010, is the most relevant related study. It is complementary and has supported the goals and interests of CWCB for the past 13 years. The 2010 GC SMP is available online here: <https://www.co.grand.co.us/1389/Water-Reports>

Taxpayer Bill of Rights

There are no known TABOR issues relevant to the GC SMP Update.