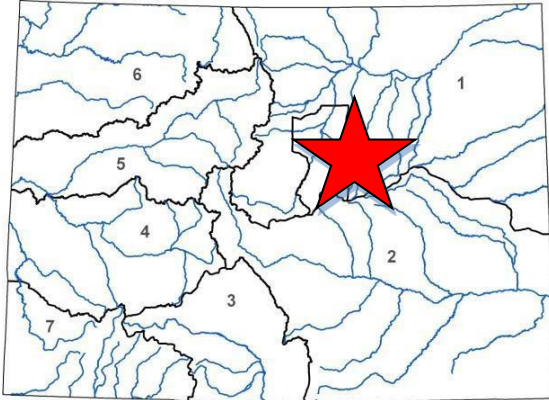




## Youth Summit for the South Platte River, with Agency-Youth Engagement Lincoln Hills Cares

September 2023 Board Meeting

### Water Plan Grant Application



L O C A T I O N	
<b>Counties:</b>	Adams; Denver; Jefferson
<b>Drainage Basin:</b>	South Platte

D E T A I L S	
<i>Total Project Cost:</i>	\$225,000
<i>Water Plan Grant Request:</i>	\$150,000
<i>Recommended amount:</i>	\$0
<i>Other CWCB Funding:</i>	\$0
<i>Other Funding Amount:</i>	\$0
<i>Applicant Match:</i>	\$75,000
<i>Project Type:</i>	Engagement
<i>Project Category:</i>	Engagement & Innovation Activities
<i>Measurable Results:</i>	600ft of stream restored or protected; 2 acres restored or preserved habitat;

Lincoln Hills Cares' mission is to develop the next generation of young leaders through outdoor education and recreation, cultural history exploration and workforce advancement. Their programs *"empower youth who may not otherwise have the opportunity due to economic, social or family circumstances"*. The goals of this project are to connect youth with the problems, opportunities, communities, and professionals associated with improving the South Platte River.

Lincoln Hills Cares is seeking funding to, first, compose a diverse River Team of youth and professionals that will learn about the South Platte River and culturally sensitive STEM and project-based learning opportunities related to the river. In this task, the Team is preparing to develop river activities ("tasks") and a River Summit for youth and their communities. Next, the applicant plans to develop and test 10 hands-on river restoration activities for youth and communities. Last, they will plan a pilot South Platte River Youth Summit. Partners include DSST Public Schools, El Labritorio, Denver Parks and Recreation, and Colorado State University Spur.

The CWCB Board has awarded two previous Water Plan Grants for this effort totaling \$135,427 and one Healthy Rivers fund grant for \$20,000. The CWCB Board awarded the two Water Plan Grants in November 2019 and March 2022.

**Funding Recommendation:** Staff is not recommending funding to Lincoln Hills Cares for this project. The applicant included several restoration measurable results, but the Review Committee was unclear how the applicant would meet those metrics in the scope of work. The current proposed scope as written also did not differentiate from what has been previously funded by the Board. Staff has discussed these issues with the applicant and is open to receiving a new and different proposal in a future grant cycle. The applicant has communicated to Staff that this project can and will occur without CWCB funding.



**COLORADO**

Colorado Water  
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

## Colorado Water Conservation Board

# Water Plan

### Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Lincoln Hills Cares
Name of Water Project	Youth Summit for the South Platte River, with Agency-Youth Engagement
Grant Request Amount	<b>\$150,000.00</b>
Primary Category	\$150,000.00
<i>Engagement &amp; Innovation Activities</i>	
Total Applicant Match	<b>\$75,000.00</b>
<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>	\$75,000.00
<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>	\$0.00
Total Other Sources of Funding	<b>\$0.00</b>
Total Project Cost	<b>\$225,000.00</b>

### Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee: Lincoln Hills Cares  
Mailing Address: 2530 North Washington Street, Suite 100 Denver CO 80205  
FEIN: 814,552,726

Organization Contact: Shane Wright  
Position/Title: Email: shane@lhcares.org  
Phone: (303) 815-7613

Organization Contact - Alternate: Shane Wright  
Position/Title: Email: shane@lhcares.org  
Phone: (303) 815-7613

Grant Management Contact: Shane Wright  
Position/Title: Email: shane@lhcares.org  
Phone: (303) 815-7613

Grant Management Contact - Alternate: Shane Wright  
Position/Title: Email: shane@lhcares.org  
Phone: (303) 815-7613

### 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	39.783500
Longitude	104.973600
Lat Long Flag	Precise coordinates: Project coordinates are readily definable and precisely define the location of the project
Water Source	South Platte River, Segments 14 and 15
Basins	South Platte
Counties	Adams; Denver; Jefferson
Districts	2-South Platte: Denver Gage to Greeley

### Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type	Education
Type of Water Project	Education
Scheduled Start Date - Design	10/1/2023
Scheduled Start Date - Construction	
Description	This project aims strategically to “enhance Colorado’s water communication, outreach, education, and public engagement efforts” by engaging youth and agencies in co-creating South Platte River restoration and monitoring activities and presenting those activities at a River Summit to reach an even larger audience. This process results in culturally sensitive STEM and leadership experiences for youth and an enhanced youth/community perspective for agency representatives.

### 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)  
600 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)  
2 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  
6,000 Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity  
Other  
No additional measurable results provided

### Water Project Justification

This project proposal responds to specific South Platte and Metro Basin goals of the Colorado Water plan (p. 122): to protect and enhance environmental attributes, protect and enhance recreational attributes, and broaden South Platte communications, outreach, and education programs. The project increases the prospect of enhancing the river's environmental attributes by enlisting youth and their communities to work on behalf of the river and environmental quality, including land uses that impact the river. It introduces the river and its diverse recreation potential to stakeholders who may be largely unaware of the South Platte or negatively predisposed toward it. In hands-on, STEM-oriented project based learning and action, the project presents an innovative approach to education, one that holds a lot of promise to build strong ties between youth and the South Platte River.

### Related Studies

2021: "Our River, Our Voices, Our Future: A Youth-to-Youth Guide to a Healthier South Platte River," South Platte River Advisory Youth (SPRAY) Council. <https://tinyurl.com/SPRAYPlan>  
2022: SPRAY Projects website: <https://tinyurl.com/SPRAYprojects>

### Taxpayer Bill of Rights

None