Exhibit A

Statement Of Work	
Date:	**June 30 2023**
Name of Grantee:	**National Forest Foundation**
Name of Water Project:	**California Park Mesic Meadow Restoration**
Water Project Overview:	

The National Forest Foundation (NFF), in partnership with the Yampa Valley Sustainability Council (YVSC) and the U.S. Forest Service's Hahn's Peak/Bear's Ears Ranger District of the Routt National Forest (USFS), are conducting low-tech process-based restoration (LTPBR) in California Park located in the Upper Yampa River Basin. Called the California Park Mesic Meadow Restoration Project (project), the work focuses on the implementation of LTPBR structures that influence and improve water quality and watershed health in the California Park mesic ecosystem, and by extension, the Yampa River and Colorado River Basins with LTPBR treatments.

LTPBR treatments are simple, structural additions to riverscapes that mimic natural processes to recover the ecological functions of riparian and wetland ecosystems. LTPBR treatments, such as Zeedykes and Zuni Bowls, are cost-effective, non-intrusive approaches to stream restoration that can influence a suite of hydraulic and hydrologic processes to achieve a range of common restoration goals. Recent research shows LTPBR approaches can also create "emerald refuges" in arid lands which protect forests when wildfires burn with high intensity across western landscapes. LTPBR can thus be one key component of efforts to create forest resiliency across large landscapes, complementing more traditional forest restoration approaches.

The project will restore three miles of ephemeral streams and incised channels annually to increase 11 acres of mesic meadows and critical riparian habitat. The NFF and our project partners respectfully request $49,749 from the Colorado Water Plan Grant to conduct this much-needed restoration work.

The NFF will implement site construction of the Low-Tech Process Based Restoration (LTPBR) structures of the Zeedykes and Zuni Bowls in four phases.

Phase 1: Rock Staging – RMYC, under the direction of YVSC and USFS personnel, will begin by sorting rock (rip-rap) according to size and delivering rock to each individual restoration site.

- Phase 2: Structure Construction – RMYC, alongside professionals from YVSC, NFF, and USFS, will construct in-stream rock structures to arrest erosion, restore floodplain connectivity, and enhance streambed health.

- Phase 3: Structure Revisions – RMYC, under the direction of YVSC and USFS personnel, will revise or repair structures implemented in past seasons (2022 and 2023) to ensure structure function and integrity.

- Phase 4: Monitoring - The NFF and YVSC will regularly monitor project sites for three-years post implementation and maintain the data in a database (see Task 3). NFF is also aware of and actively engaged in CWCB's upcoming efforts to monitor LTPBR sites across Colorado and will continue to work with CWCB to determine how this project may benefit the CWCB monitoring efforts.

Project Objectives:
The NFF has set the following restoration project objectives to serve as guidelines for the project. They are as follows: 1: Increase wet meadow water storage capacity by reconnecting streams to their floodplains and thereby recharging groundwater; 2: Improve water quality by trapping and dispersing sediment within wet meadows, thereby reducing downstream impacts to reservoirs and other infrastructure; 3: Enable carbon sequestration by re-establishing wetland carbon sinks; 4: Educate youth corps members and community volunteers on the importance of wetland and riparian restoration; 5: Enhance wildlife habitat for a variety of species, including the Greater sage grouse, Sharp-tailed grouse, Sandhill cranes, Boreal toads, Northern Leopard frogs, and elk.

Tasks
Task 1 – Project and Site Preparation
Description of Task:
The NFF and project partners will coordinate to prepare scouted sites for LTPBR restoration.
Method/Procedure:
The NFF, in conjunction with YVSC and USFS personnel, will begin by contracting the organizations and individuals needed to complete the following scope of work. All required approvals and permits for the project are either already in place or currently being completed. The USFS is currently conducting an Environmental Assessment of the greater California Park area for programmatic approval of stream restoration activities under NEPA. Similarly, the needed Army Corp of Engineers permit is in place for the summer of 2023 and the NFF will work with YVSC and the USFS to renew the permit for the summer of 2024. Additionally, the site design for the 2023-2024 field seasons is already largely completed. YVSC (with ongoing support from NFF) has contracted Shawn Conner of BIO-Logic Inc. to assess priority stream reaches within California Park and design appropriate restoration measures (see attachments). To begin preparing sites for restoration activities, the NFF will assist in contracting materials and supplies, such as the delivery of rock material from a local quarry and the rental of small, supporting machines (such as a small bobcat). The NFF will also assist YVSC in coordinating volunteers and paid personnel to implement the project, such as the coordination of Rocky Mountain Youth Corp Volunteers and others.
Deliverable(s):
Scheduling and coordinating of Youth Corp in early 2024. Appropriate permits and approvals secured no later than May 1, 2024. Delivery of rock and material to site in June 2024. Youth Corp and volunteers sort and stage rock for use at specific sites in preparation for restoration activities.

Tasks
Task 2 – Low-Tech Process-Based Restoration of Degraded Streams
Description of Task:
Restore identified degraded stream reaches using LTPBR techniques.
Method/Procedure:
To address the incised channels within wet meadows, we will use process based low-tech restoration techniques, called Zeedyk structures, which are rock structures placed strategically within channels that trap sediment during water runoff events. The structures are separated into two categories: grade-control structures (e.g., one rock dams, rock sedge plugs), which are designed to capture sediment within the channel and thereby raise the water table; and head-cut control structures (e.g., Zuni bowls, rock rundowns), which stop channel incision from degrading further into undisturbed areas. Log and fabric step fall structures may also be used to restore larger head cuts and prevent additional downcutting.
Deliverable:
All identified sites of erosion and degraded streambed health addressed. A minimum of three miles of stream treated in each field season for the lifetime of the project. A minimum of 11 acres of surrounding riparian area rewetted by stream restoration activities in each field season.

Tasks
Task 3 – Project Monitoring
Description of Task:
The primary goal of this project is to increase the amount of wet meadow associated with ephemeral streams. This can be measured by observing the extent of riparian and wetland vegetation regeneration within the targeted wet meadows. If channel incisions within the ephemeral streams have been successfully repaired, and the streams are reconnected to their floodplain, then an increase in riparian vegetation is expected. Monitoring and recording changes in vegetation is a simple and cost-effective method for determining success because an increase in riparian plant cover indicates that: (i) soil moisture has increased and the groundwater has been recharged; (ii) foraging habitat for wildlife is increased; (iii) sediment is likely being dispersed through sheet flow across the riparian floodplain and additional sediment is no longer being carried downstream in the incised channel; and (iv) wetland areal extent is increasing and can sequester additional carbon.
Method/Procedure:

Photo Points

Photo points, marked with GPS coordinates for consistency, will be utilized at optimal vantage points on the restored reaches to capture change in vegetation on an annual basis. The first image for each photo point will be taken prior to treatment and additional photos will be taken in subsequent years at approximately the same time. Images will be compared to demonstrate an increase in riparian vegetation, which are greener than surrounding rangeland vegetation as a result of elevated soil moisture levels.

Transect Lines

To detect more evidential changes to riparian vegetation, on-the-ground vegetation monitoring will be conducted using simple transect lines. Plot centers will be randomly selected grade-control structures along the reaches, with transect lines spanning the estimated historical floodplain on either side of the ephemeral stream (up to 20 meters depending on the size of the potential floodplain). The point-intercept technique will be used to sample plant species occurring along the transect lines. Vegetation monitoring will be conducted before treatment and up to five years following initial restoration. Annual analysis for each transect will show whether riparian vegetation has increased and by how much.

Deliverable:

Ongoing maintenance of a database containing pre- and post-treatment data (qualitative and quantitative) in partnership with YVSC. Written reports detailing the observed progress of the site annually. Grant reports to CWCB utilize baseline and post-treatment data.

Tasks

Task 4- Project Administration

Description of Task:

Administrative support provided by NFF and Yampa Valley Sustainability Council to manage project.

Method/Procedure:

NFF will ensure project Tasks and Deliverables are met.

Deliverable:

Project Oversight
Six Month and annual reporting
CWCB invoicing, grant tracking, and close out

Budget and Schedule

This Budget and Schedule reflects the tasks identified in the Statement of Work.

Task No.	Task Description	Expected Task Start Date	Expected Task End Date	Grant Funding	Match Funding	Details	Total

1	Project and Site Preparation					
	9.30.2023	12.31.2024	$8,500.00	$26,000.00	Cash-match from NFF	$34,500.00
2	LTPBR of Degraded Streams					
	7.01.2024	9.01.2024	$20,760.00	$16,000.00		$36,760.00
3	Monitoring					
	6.01.2024	7.31.2024	$3,000.00	$2,000.00	Cash-match from NFF	$5,000.00
4	Project Administration					
	1.01.2024	12.31.2025	$17,489.00	$6,800.00	In-kind match from NFF	$24,289.00
	Total		$49,749.00	$50,800.00		$100,549.00

Reporting Requirements

Progress Reports: The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of issuance of a purchase order. The progress report shall describe the status 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 Report: At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a final report on the applicant's letterhead that:

- Summarizes the project and how the project was completed.
- Describes any obstacles encountered, and how these obstacles were overcome.
- Confirms that all matching commitments have been fulfilled.
- Includes photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs.

The CWCB will pay out the last 10% of the budget when the final report is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the final report has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the purchase order will be closed without any further payment.

Payment

Payment will be made based on actual expenditures and must include invoices for all work completed. The request for payment must include a description of the work accomplished by task, an estimate of the percent completion for individual tasks and the entire project in relation to the percentage of budget spent, identification of any major issues, and proposed or implemented corrective actions.

Costs incurred prior to the effective date of this purchase order are not reimbursable. The last 10% of the entire grant will be paid out when the final deliverable has been received. All products, data and information developed as a result of this purchase order must be provided as part of the project documentation.

Performance Measures

Performance measures for this purchase order shall include the following:

(a) Performance standards and evaluation: Grantee will produce detailed deliverables for each task as specified. Grantee shall maintain receipts for all project expenses and documentation of the minimum in-kind contributions (if applicable) per the budget. Per Grant Guidelines, the CWCB will pay out the last 10% of the budget when the final report is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the final report has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the purchase order will be closed without any further payment.

(b) Accountability: Per Grant Guidelines full documentation of project progress must be submitted with each invoice for reimbursement. Grantee must confirm that all grant conditions have been complied with on each invoice. In addition, per Grant Guidelines, progress reports must be submitted at least once every 6 months. A final report must be submitted and approved before final project payment.

(c) Monitoring Requirements: Grantee is responsible for ongoing monitoring of project progress. Progress shall be detailed in each invoice and in each progress report, as detailed above. Additional inspections or field consultations will be arranged as may be necessary.

(d) Noncompliance Resolution: Payment will be withheld if grantee is not current on all grant conditions. Flagrant disregard for grant conditions will result in a stop work order and cancellation of the purchase order.