



**COLORADO**

Colorado Water  
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

**Colorado Water Conservation Board**

**Water Plan**

**Water Project Summary**

Name of Applicant	River Network	
Name of Water Project	West Plum Creek Stream Management Plan, Phase II	
Grant Request Amount		<b>\$159,771.00</b>
Primary Category		\$159,771.00
<i>Watershed Health &amp; Recreation</i>		
Total Applicant Match		<b>\$0.00</b>
<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>		\$0.00
<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>		\$0.00
Total Other Sources of Funding		<b>\$53,257.00</b>
<i>Colorado Parks and Wildlife</i>		\$25,000.00
<i>Chatfield Watershed Authority</i>		\$5,000.00
<i>Chatfield Watershed Authority</i>		\$5,000.00
<i>Douglas County Government</i>		\$8,257.00
<i>Douglas County Government</i>		\$5,000.00
<i>Douglas County Conservation District</i>		\$5,000.00
Total Project Cost		<b>\$213,028.00</b>

**Applicant & Grantee Information**

Name of Grantee: River Network  
Mailing Address: PO Box 21387 Boulder CO 80308  
FEIN: 930,969,979

Organization Contact: Chelsea Silva  
Position/Title: Healthy Rivers Program Associate      Email: csilva@rivernetwork.org  
Phone: 208-577-0256

Organization Contact - Alternate: Brian Murphy  
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Grant Management Contact: Chelsea Silva  
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Phone: 208-577-0256

Grant Management Contact - Alternate: Chelsea Silva  
Position/Title: Healthy Rivers Program Associate      Email: csilva@rivernetwork.org  
Phone: 208-577-0256

**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 40.015000  
Longitude 105.270500  
Lat Long Flag Default/Proponent headquarters: If the location cannot be defined with flags above, use location of project proponent headquarters  
Water Source  
Basins South Platte  
Counties  
Districts

### Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type  
Type of Water Project Planning  
Scheduled Start Date - Design  
Scheduled Start Date - Construction  
Description  
Phase II of the West Plum Creek Stream Management Plan (SMP) will build on the Phase I effort to develop an SMP that identifies and prioritizes projects to address threats to the persistence of Statelisted species in the

watershed. Of primary importance is documenting, identifying, and prioritizing potential projects on private lands and developing designs for a handful of demonstration projects. Phase II will identify and prioritize opportunities in water management, water quality, and river/riparian restoration alongside landowners and water users. River Network and our partners anticipate submitting a subsequent grant application to fund a third phase that will include design and construction of demonstration projects

### 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)
- 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
- 100 Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity

Other

Stream Management Plan for West Plum Creek

### Water Project Justification

The 2023 Colorado Water Plan includes several recommendations that this proposal would support, including: Agency Action 3.6 “Enhance use of Water Plan grant funding for watersheds, environment, and recreation” by coordinating with Colorado Parks and Wildlife to complete a Stream Management Plan for West Plum Creek. Agency Action 3.9 “Create a framework for prioritizing stream health with local stakeholders” by working with stakeholders to initiate and complete watershed plans, and fostering implementation of projects identified in the planning process.

Agency Action 3.10 “Integrate and facilitate access to water-dependent, native species data”, especially by coordinating with endangered and threatened species recovery programs.

Partner Actions for Thriving Watersheds p.205-207, including: Stream management plans that identify projects and needed flows for stream rehabilitation that consider all of the benefits that a stream provides to local users; working with stakeholders prepare fish friendly reconstruction designs for diversion structures; working with local decision makers to prioritize projects by balancing science, funding, risks, and values; building strong, trust-based relationships with communities; engaging local residents with site-specific knowledge and ideas.

### Related Studies

The project area has long been identified as a conservation priority by Colorado Parks and Wildlife (2015 State Wildlife Action Plan, pg. 148) and the Colorado Natural Heritage Program (1996 Natural Heritage Resources of Douglas County and Their Conservation). It is also within the nonpoint source reduction area of the Chatfield Watershed Authority for Total Phosphorus and chlorophylla (2015 Chatfield Watershed Plan).

Data reviewed includes: USGS stream gauge data, CPW R2CROSS data, historical and current CPW fish monitoring data, State of Colorado CDSS data including locations and status of existing and historical instream

structures, Colorado Geological Survey surficial geology maps, NRCS soil maps, historical and current water quality data from various sources (CDPHE, EPA, River Watch, Chatfield Watershed Authority, Colorado School of Mines), benthic macroinvertebrate community data from CDPHE and EPA, LiDAR topography data, digital elevation model and relative elevation model data, active and potential floodplain extent data, National Land Cover Database data, National Wetlands Inventory wetland mapping, and Douglas County riparian Mapping.

In addition, several reports and surveys were reviewed including: 2021 Chatfield watershed modeling of future scenarios including additional development, stream restoration, and wildfire; 2020 Sandstone Ranch botanical survey; 2019 Sandstone Ranch baseline documentation report; 2018 Sandstone Ranch Open Space natural resource inventory and analysis; 2015 Chatfield Watershed Plan; 2016 Master Plan completed for Mile High Flood District; and 2013 Chatfield Reservoir Reallocation Project Mitigation Plan.

In addition, Douglas County Open Space has been actively working as part of the Preble Site Conservation Team to conduct field work and habitat assessments for the Federally Threatened Preble's jumping mouse. The county is actively putting together a nomination package for delisting.

More information about existing data sources, as well as identification of data gaps, is provided in the West Plum Creek Existing Data Summary memorandum (attached).

### **Taxpayer Bill of Rights**

River Network has no TABOR limitations.