



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Headwaters Alliance
Name of Water Project	North Creede Stream Stability and Flood Mitigation
Grant Request Amount	\$830,130.00
Primary Category	\$830,130.00
<i>Watershed Health & Recreation</i>	
Total Applicant Match	\$20,000.00
<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>	\$17,500.00
<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>	\$2,500.00
Total Other Sources of Funding	\$2,438,431.00
<i>WaterSMART Environmental Water Resources Program</i>	\$2,400,489.00
<i>Trout Unlimited</i>	\$17,942.00
<i>City of Creede</i>	\$20,000.00
Total Project Cost	\$3,288,561.00

Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee: Headwaters Alliance
Mailing Address: PO Box 518 Creede CO 81130

Organization Contact: Heather Greenwolf
Position/Title: Executive Director Email: executivedirector@headwatersalliance.org
Phone: (719) 588-2417

Organization Contact - Alternate: Randy McClure
Position/Title: President, Headwaters Alliance Board of Directors Email: hardrockenterprises@gmail.com
Phone: 970-317-5355

Grant Management Contact: Heather Greenwolf
Position/Title: Executive Director Email: executivedirector@headwatersalliance.org
Phone: (719) 588-2417

Grant Management Contact - Alternate: Randy McClure
Position/Title: President, Headwaters Alliance Board of Directors Email: hardrockenterprises@gmail.com
Phone: 970-317-5355

Description of Grantee/Applicant

Sole community-driven watershed organization in Mineral County, CO attending to legacy mining impacts in Willow Creek, the vital water quality and quantity issues at the mountain headwater of the Rio Grande, and providing high-quality stewardship education and information to our community - young and old, local and visitors in service to a climate resilient future.

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	37.864113
Longitude	-106.925432
Lat Long Flag	Precise coordinates: Project coordinates are readily definable and precisely define the location of the project
Water Source	Willow Creek, tributary in the Rio Grande Basin, Creede, Mineral County, CO
Basins	Rio Grande
Counties	Mineral
Districts	20-Rio Grande

Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type	Environmental
Type of Water Project	Design & Construction

Scheduled Start Date - Design

Scheduled Start Date - Construction 1/1/2025

Description

Headwaters Alliance (HWA), in Creede, Colorado submits this Watershed Health and Recreation application, titled North Creede Stream Stability and Flood Mitigation (NoCr project). The NoCr project will bring the completed 60% design for stream stability and flood mitigation, by WaterVation, PLLC to construction.

Stream restoration will address the nexus of multiple infrastructure needs while offering significant improvement to watershed health, aquatic and riparian habitat, floodplain connectivity, with keen attention to climate resilience, particularly as it relates to flood and drought. This project aligns with all three of the Colorado Water Plans primary action areas: Vibrant Communities, Thriving Watersheds, and Resilient Planning. The NoCr Project will build ecological resilience to climate impacts in several ways. It will meet or exceed 100-year flood levels. Increased vegetation and a connected floodplain will establish a critical firebreak between the steep upper watershed and the City, and potentially allow for increased storage of shallow groundwater that is then released during low flow conditions (Brissette, 2019).

This project is included in the Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan, Vol 2, Appendix A: Future Rio Grande Basin Project (Rio Grande Basin Roundtable (RGBRT), 2022) as project RG-2020-005; and aligns with RGBRT goals of supporting (1)“healthy watersheds that provide critical ecosystem services, are resilient to disturbances, and benefit from ongoing efforts to protect water sources, improve water quality, enhance aquatic, riparian, wetland and upland habitat, and maintain connected ecosystems” and (2)“vibrant and resilient agriculture, recreation, municipal, and industrial economics that support thriving communities.”

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)
3,300	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

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Related Studies

This project was identified and prioritized in the following planning documents: Comprehensive Willow Creek Planning Project (HWA, 2020-2022); Visualizing the Future of Willow Creek Watershed, Creede CO (HWA & Skeo, 2021), Willow Creek Inventory (HWA 2021); Flood Mitigation Infrastructure Management Plan (City of Creede, 2022); and Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan, Vol 2, Appendix A: Future Rio Grande Basin Project (Rio Grande Basin Roundtable, 2022).

A complete list of references that were used in the development of this project is attached.

Taxpayer Bill of Rights

To the best of our knowledge there are no TABOR issues affecting our application.