

Exhibit A

Statement Of Work	
Date:	5/6/2024
Name of Grantee:	River Network
Name of Water Project:	West Plum Creek Stream Management Plan-Phase II
Water Project Overview: <p>West Plum Creek is the last relatively unaltered transition zone stream in the South Platte Basin and is perhaps the best example of a nearly intact fish assemblage along Colorado's Front Range. It is home to important plains fish species including Northern Redbelly Dace (State Endangered), Common Shiner (State Threatened), and Iowa Darter (Species of Special Concern), as well as the Northern Leopard Frog (Species of Special Concern) and the Preble's meadow jumping mouse (Federally Threatened Species). West Plum Creek has long been identified as an important conservation priority; as early as 1996 the Colorado Natural Heritage Program identified "an extraordinary number of rare or imperiled species, demonstrating that this (West Plum Creek) macrosite represents a significant proportion of Douglas County's biological diversity." Land along the creek corridor is predominantly privately owned and consists of rural ranchettes and small-acreage agriculture.</p> <p>The Grantee and partners: Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW), US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Douglas County's Division of Open Space and Natural Resources, Chatfield Watershed Authority, and others embarked on a Stream Management Plan (SMP) in 2021 to assess native fish habitat, improve water quality, and better understand hydrology and opportunities in water management with the water users. A Water Plan Grant funded Phase 1 of the West Plum Creek stream management plan. Phase 1 focused on stream condition assessment and characterization, development of objectives to reduce risk to native fish populations, identification of priority projects for fish passage, and landowner engagement. The Grantee, along with its partners, will complete Phase 1 and construction of demonstration projects.</p>	
Project Objectives: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Synthesize data and information about creek characteristics, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Fish habitat quality Fish populations and locations Fish passage barriers Hydrology: existing peak/base flows, dry-up points, longitudinal connectivity, lateral connectivity to the floodplain, on- and off-channel ponds, and threats to the hydrologic regime Riparian corridor quality and stream bank conditions Establish trust with stakeholders to advance towards conservation actions that improve ecosystem health and build local capacity to coordinate stakeholder outreach and future implementation efforts. Identify opportunities to improve stream conditions for native fish spawning/life cycles in terms of longitudinal connectivity, stream flow and velocity, substrate, cover, water depth, etc. Improve water quality in the creek and its contributions to Chatfield Reservoir (especially N, P, sediment) Improve riparian habitat quality, including floodplain connectivity and reduction in noxious weeds Provide a "roadmap" to guide long-term management of the stream corridor through the study area Create a replicable model for other area tributaries, including East Plum Creek 	

Tasks
Task 1 – Synthesis, Opportunities, and Constraints
<p>Description of Task:</p> <p>The Grantee, along with its partners, will build on data collection and analyses completed in Phase 1 to synthesize the results of the stream health assessment that relate to existing and potential future conditions, and identify discrete potential opportunities and constraints to the objectives of addressing degraded stream health. Data gaps will also be identified, and additional data will be collected such as mapping and assessing the condition of riparian corridor vegetation (a data gap that was identified in Phase 1), surveying previously inaccessible crossings and diversions, opportunistic aquatic habitat quality assessments in previously inaccessible sub-reaches, and periodic flow and transducer data collection.</p>
<p>Method/Procedure:</p> <p>The Grantee will synthesize and interpret stream health assessment data and results to define existing and future conditions that characterize the capacity of the creek to support the native fishery and the community both now and in the future. The synthesis will identify the primary stressors, drivers, and greatest risks to protecting and restoring physical and ecological conditions. This task will also address data gaps identified during Phase 1, including mapping and assessing the vegetation in the riparian corridor.</p> <p>The Grantee will utilize the assembled data from the stream health assessment to develop opportunities and potential methods and alternatives to improve and protect the identified degraded physical and ecological functions relative to native fish populations, as well as agricultural and community values. Partners will also identify temporal, geographical, legal, or administrative constraints and opportunities that may limit or assist in the ability to meet objectives.</p> <p>The Grantee will also conduct periodic flow measurements, transducer downloads, and STIC/temperature logger downloads, as well as opportunistic crossing and diversion surveys and aquatic habitat assessments as additional landowners grant access.</p>
<p>Deliverable:</p> <p>The Grantee will provide CWCB Staff with a summary narrative that includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A narrative of gaps in data and information where baseline or follow-up monitoring is needed to define projects. • Maps of watershed-wide and site-specific strategies, opportunities, methods, and alternatives to protect and improve the ecological conditions, and agricultural and community values in each of the stream reaches, with an understanding of limitations, constraints, and opportunities. • Maps of riparian vegetation types and conditions along all stream corridors in the study area. • Crossings and diversions survey data in the Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership (SARP) Western Aquatic Barrier Inventory. • A narrative of flow and temperature data such as stage-discharge rating curves, continuous temperature data, etc.

Tasks
Task 2 – Landowner and Water User Engagement and Coalition Capacity Building
Description of Task:
<p>The upper West Plum Creek watershed consists of US Forest Service or Douglas County's Division of Open Space and Natural Resources property, and the entire lower watershed is privately-owned land. Tract size ranges from 35 acres to large ranches greater than 1,000 acres, and many properties are held in conservation easement. In addition, there are water supply and water treatment facilities within the project area that influence creek flows and water quality both today and in the future. This task will be split into three parts: landowner outreach and engagement, water user needs assessment, and watershed coalition building.</p> <p>The goal of the landowner outreach and engagement will be to: 1) better understand the critical issues and priorities of additional private landowners in the project area, 2) create two-way communications between the resource management agencies (primarily Douglas County, Colorado Parks & Wildlife and Chatfield Watershed Authority) and landowners in the project area to help all parties appreciate the conservation value of the creek, and 3) identify and prioritize the opportunities that exist to improve native fish habitat that also meet landowner needs.</p> <p>Phase 1 progress was made through conversations with the water commissioner(s), exploratory water user research using the Division of Water Resources' HydroBase database, and interviews with landowners who hold water rights. However, additional outreach and engagement is needed in Phase 2 to understand water user needs for West Plum Creek. The goal of the water user engagement and needs assessment in Phase 2 is to: 1) summarize existing water use and infrastructure that influences flow and water quality in the project area (agricultural and municipal supplies), 2) summarize any future plans for infrastructure expansion or development of conditional rights, or change of use in water rights, and how they may influence flows in the project area, and 3) identify and prioritize the opportunities that exist to improve native fish habitat and water quality that also meet water right owner needs.</p> <p>A key challenge identified in Phase 1 was the lack of a local organization or watershed partnership that could step up to coordinate and implement tasks and projects that will be outlined in the final SMP for West Plum Creek. Phase 2 will address this need by conducting broader watershed stakeholder outreach. The goal of broader watershed stakeholder outreach is to: 1) better understand local interest in and capacity for implementing the SMP, 2) initiate better coordination among local stakeholders regarding West Plum Creek, and 3) identify funding opportunities for a SMP coordinator.</p>

Method/Procedure:

Subtask 2.1: Landowner Outreach & Events

- The Grantee will publish quarterly newsletters aimed at sharing project updates and events with interested landowners.
- The Grantee will plan and host at least two in-person events that help connect landowners to their watershed, the SMP, and broader stakeholders. These events will provide a venue for two-way communication between landowners and the project team. At least one event will be used to share findings from the Stream Health Assessment.
- The Grantee and project team members will present on the project at local meetings and write articles for local information sources such as the Douglas County News Press, Sedalia View, and Douglas County Conservation District newsletter.

Subtask 2.2: Water User Engagement and Needs Assessment

- The Grantee will conduct interviews with all water users (as possible) to share SHA findings and understand water user needs and concerns and identify projects.
- The Grantee will coordinate with Chatfield Watershed Authority Technical Advisory Committee to identify and conduct interviews with major municipal water suppliers or wastewater facilities in the project area.
- The Grantee staff will compile and summarize existing information on water user and future plans and their possible influence on native fish habitat into a summary report.

Subtask 2.3: Watershed Coalition Capacity Building

- The Grantee will conduct interviews and focus groups with stakeholders to understand local/regional interest in working together to implement the West Plum Creek SMP. Potential interviewees may include but are not limited to: Douglas Land Conservancy, the Coalition for the Upper South Platte, and The Watershed Center. Interview results will inform how to proceed but may include formation of a watershed partnership/group, outlining of group agreements and roles, selection of an existing organization to serve as the “backbone” organization and implement the SMP, or identifying another path to ensure successful implementation of the SMP.
- The Grantee will identify funding opportunities for a coordinator to help implement the tasks and projects in the final SMP.
- A representative and diverse coalition of community partners is identified to work to ensure the stream management planning process is completed in an open, inclusive manner with clear, actionable goals to protect and improve prioritized ecological, agricultural, and community values.
- The Grantee will coordinate a memorandum of understanding and or an agreement that describes the anticipated structure of a watershed partnership/group such as actionable goals, interested parties, roles, responsibilities, meeting schedule, and decision making structure.

Deliverable:

The Grantee will provide CWCB Staff with:

- A narrative that summarizes landowner outreach and events.
- A narrative that summarizes existing water use and infrastructure in the project area (both agricultural and municipal supplies); future plans for infrastructure expansion or development of conditional rights, or change of use in water rights and how they may influence flows in the project area; and matrix prioritizing opportunities to improve native fish habitat and also meet water right owner needs.
- A narrative that summarizes watershed coalition capacity building outcomes.

Tasks
Task 3 – Project Identification and Prioritization
Description of Task:
The Grantee, CPW, and other partners will utilize community feedback, landowner and water user engagement, and data from Phase 1 and Task 1 to develop a list of discrete projects within the study reaches. The Grantee will identify and prioritize voluntary, multi-benefits projects and actions that will meet collective needs and values and protect or enhance West Plum Creek and its tributaries.
Method/Procedure:
The Grantee, CPW, and other partners will work with the landowners, water users, and environmental interests to identify the location and types of restoration and preservation opportunities within the study reaches. The partners will determine the types of multi-benefit projects that could improve physical and ecological conditions, such as instream structure upgrades, headgate automation, fish passage construction, low-tech nature based solutions, riparian revegetation/restoration, invasive species treatments, beaver coexistence strategies, grazing management strategies, floodplain connectivity, flood attenuation, and aquatic habitat protection. The same group will develop a framework for prioritization (qualitative or other method) and do the prioritization ranking. Landowner willingness will be a key criterion. As part of the project identification and prioritization process, The Grantee and CPW will leverage the fish passage prioritization framework and prioritized project list completed in Phase 1.
Deliverable:
<p>The Grantee will provide CWCB Staff with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A narrative that identifies an array of actions, strategies, and projects that could be taken to mitigate the high priority issues and stressors, and the level of feasibility and effectiveness of each. • An inventory and narrative description of the types and potential locations of agriculture infrastructure, aquatic habitat, riparian vegetation, and fish passage projects in the study reaches. • A prioritized list of projects with spatial and temporal considerations.

Tasks
Task 4 – Stream Management Plan Development
Description of Task:
The Grantee and partners will generate a draft and final stream management plan that summarizes the data and information assembled in Tasks 1, 2, and 3 including projects, prioritization outcomes, and implementation scenarios.
Method/Procedure:

The Grantee and partners will summarize the outcomes from Tasks 1, 2, and 3 into a draft stream management plan. The plan will integrate all previous maps, graphics, memoranda, and technical information. The plan will additionally include identification of high-priority management recommendations and corresponding discussions for implementation of each. The project partners will utilize the stream health assessment data and prioritized projects to define short- and long-term implementation strategies. The Grantee will finalize the stream management plan following review by stakeholders and agencies.

Deliverable:

The Grantee will provide CWCB Staff with:

- Technical report with appendices
- Information and maps from the report that are incorporated into the West Plum Creek SMP website
- Executive summary written for a broad audience
- The draft SMP for the ability to comment, review and approve
- The final SMP

Tasks

Task 5 – Project Coordination

Description of Task:

The Grantee will coordinate the project's day to day activities, including ensuring timely and accurate completion of the Scope of Work tasks, facilitating regular meetings of the Advisory Committee, and keeping the lines of communication open amongst all involved.

The Grantee will administer the project's contracts and finances. This includes completing contracts with the CWCB, project partners, and contractors; managing invoices, budgets, and reimbursement requests; and completing reports.

Method/Procedure:

- All appropriate contracts, external and internal reports, and project activities completed within planned period and anticipated costs
- Regular meetings of an Advisory Committee made up of CPW, Chatfield Watershed Authority, Douglas County's Division of Open Space and Natural Resources, USFWS, and Douglas County Conservation District.

Deliverable:

The Grantee will provide CWCB Staff with:

- Advisory Committee agendas and minutes linked in 6-month and final reports to CWCB.

Budget and Schedule

This Statement of Work is accompanied by a combined Budget and Schedule that reflects the tasks identified in the Statement of Work.

Task No.	Task Description	Estimated Task Start Date	Estimated Task End Date	Grant Funding	Match Funding	Total
1	Synthesis, Opportunities, and Constraints	7/1/2024	6/1/2029	\$51,102.50	\$17,000.00	\$68,102.50
2	Land & Water User Engagement	7/1/2024	6/1/2029	\$25,518.82	\$18,500.00	\$44,018.82
3	Project Identification and Prioritization	7/1/2024	6/1/2029	\$20,177.50	\$9,550.00	\$29,727.50
4	Stream Management Plan Development	2/1/2025	6/1/2029	\$34,393.00	\$8,207.00	\$42,600.00
5	Project Coordination	7/1/2024	6/1/2029	\$28,519.18	\$0.00	\$28,519.18
Total				\$159,711.00	\$53,257.00	\$212,968.00

Reporting Requirements

Progress Reports: The grantee shall provide the CWCB a progress report every six months, beginning from the date of issuance of the grant agreement. 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 grant agreement 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 grant agreement 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 grant agreement must be provided to the CWCB as part of the project documentation.

Performance Measures

Performance measures for this grant agreement 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 grant agreement 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 per Exhibit A. 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 grant agreement.