

Enhancing Recovery and Resiliency in Grand Lake Trout Unlimited

September 2025 Board Meeting

Water Plan Grant Program



LOCATION	
County:	Grand
Basin:	Colorado

DETAILS	
Total Project Cost:	\$107,500.00
Water Plan Grant Request:	\$67,500.00
Recommended Amount:	\$0.00
Match Commitment:	\$40,000.00
Grant to Match Ratio:	63/37
Project Type:	Design / Engineering
Primary Project Category:	Watershed Health & Recreation
Measurable Result:	5,000 LF stream bank restoration

Trout Unlimited (TU) is seeking Colorado Water Plan grant funding to support "Enhancing instream habitat and aiding wildfire recovery and resiliency in the lower North Inlet watershed and Grand Lake."

This project would survey and collect baseline physical, chemical, and biological data to inform and design in-stream and wetland restoration and enhancement projects. The project proponents identified developing two primary project types: low-tech process-based restoration projects to enhance flood plain connection, water quality, and aquatic habitat, and natural channel construction projects to remove and reconfigure instream barriers intended to restore fish movement and natural stream processes.

The project seeks to advance the Colorado Water Plan by improving watershed health and resilience at a critical location just upstream of Grand Lake. The watershed the project is located in has been identified in a (draft) Wildfire Ready Action Plan as susceptible to post-fire hazards including damage to life and property, and water infrastructure. Grand Lake is classified by the Colorado Water Quality Control Division as containing Outstanding Waters, including ecologically important aquatic life. The project seeks to align with the Water Plan Grant criteria by promoting watershed health, environmental health, and recreation.

Grant dollars would be used for baseline data collection and survey, design for low-tech process-based restoration and natural channel processes, project material acquisition, and project management.

This project is supported by Northern Water.

Funding Recommendation:

Staff does not recommend Trout Unlimited - National be awarded a Water Plan Grant for "Enhancing instream habitat and aiding wildfire recovery and resiliency in the lower North Inlet watershed and Grand Lake project" because it did not adequately meet the grant criteria for the watershed health category. Specifically, the applicant did not demonstrate that the project need was identified through a stakeholder-led planning process.