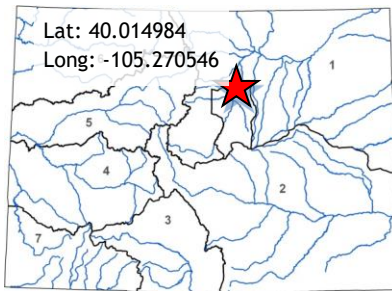




## Water Plan Grant Application



L O C A T I O N
County/Countries: Boulder
Drainage Basin: South Platte

D E T A I L S	
Total Project Cost:	\$80,760
Water Plan Grant Request:	\$40,380
Recommended Amount:	\$40,380
Other CWCB Funding:	\$8,900
Other Funding Amount:	\$5,000
Applicant Match:	\$26,480
Project Type(s): Other - Education & Outreach	
Project Category(Categories): Engagement & Innovation	
Measurable Results: 500 acres of Preserved Habitat; ~3,000 Coloradoans Impacted by Engagement Activity	

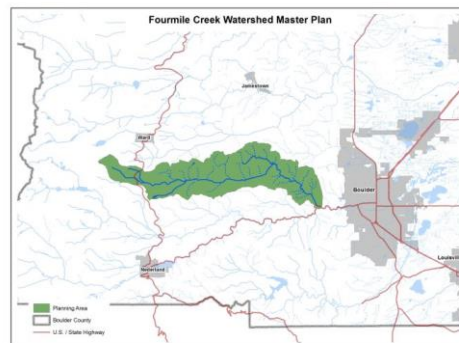
The applicant, Fourmile Watershed Coalition (FWC), was created in response to the 2013 flood event. For the last four years, the Coalition has been working on stream restoration, mine reclamation and water quality projects within the Fourmile Watershed. The focus of the coalition has now transitioned to forest health and wildfire mitigation.

FWC has requested funding to support education and outreach efforts to 3,000 private landowners throughout Boulder County related to forest health and wildfire mitigation. The goal of FWC includes, increasing the pace and scale of forest health and wildfire mitigation projects in order to better protect communities and natural resources. They believe education and outreach are the foundational components of making this program successful. These efforts will improve public understanding related to watershed and forest health, the connection between upland forests and water quality and quantity, and will assist in enrolling private landowners in fire mitigation programs to preserve approximately 500 acres.

FWC believes the education and outreach meets the goals of the Water Plan by maintaining long term improvements for their watersheds and by working to create a conservation ethic for those who live within the watershed. FWC has stated they have built successful relationships with local, federal and other state agencies that will help to support outreach and continued engagement of private landowners.

FWC has presented their proposal before the South Platte Basin Roundtable and have received a letter of support.

Funding Recommendation: Staff is recommending approval the full request of \$40,380 from the Engagement and Innovation category.





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## Colorado Water Conservation Board

### Water Plan Grant Application

#### Instructions

To receive funding for a Water Plan Grant, applicant must demonstrate how the project, activity, or process (collectively referred to as “project”) funded by the CWCB will help meet the measurable objectives and critical actions in the Water Plan. Grant guidelines are available on the CWCB website.

If you have questions, please contact CWCB at (303) 866-3441 or email the following staff to assist you with applications in the following areas:

Water Storage Projects  
Conservation, Land Use Planning  
Engagement & Innovation Activities  
Agricultural Projects  
Environmental & Recreation  
Projects

Anna.Mauss@state.co.us  
Kevin.Reidy@state.co.us  
Ben.Wade@state.co.us  
Alexander.Funk@state.co.us  
Chris.Sturm@state.co.us

**FINAL SUBMISSION:** Submit all application materials in one email to

**[waterplan.grants@state.co.us](mailto:waterplan.grants@state.co.us)**

in the original file formats [Application (word); Statement of Work (word); Budget/Schedule (excel)]. Please do not combine documents. In the subject line, please include the funding category and name of the project.

#### Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Fourmile Watershed Coalition	
Name of Water Project	Boulder County Forest Collaborative Education and Outreach	
CWP Grant Request Amount		\$40,380
Other Funding Sources <u>CWCB</u>		\$8,900
Other Funding Sources <u>Four Mile Fire District</u>		\$5,000
Other Funding Sources _____		\$
Applicant Funding Contribution		\$26,480
Total Project Cost		\$80,760



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Applicant & Grantee Information
Name of Grantee(s)- Four Mile Fire Protection District
Mailing Address- 1740 Fourmile Canyon Drive, Boulder CO 80302
FEIN- 84-098-1141
Organization Contact- Bret Gibson
Position/Title- Fire Chief
Email- <a href="mailto:chiefbret@gmail.com">chiefbret@gmail.com</a>
Phone- 303-449-3333
Grant Management Contact- Maya MacHamer
Position/Title- Watershed Coordinator
Email- <a href="mailto:fourmilewatershed@gmail.com">fourmilewatershed@gmail.com</a>
Phone- 303-817-2261
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)- Fourmile Watershed Coalition
Mailing Address- 1740 Fourmile Canyon Drive, Boulder CO 80302
Position/Title- Maya MacHamer, Watershed Coordinator
Email- <a href="mailto:fourmilewatershed@gmail.com">fourmilewatershed@gmail.com</a>
Phone- 303-817-2261
Description of Grantee/Applicant
Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).
The Fourmile Watershed Coalition (FWC) grew out of the recovery effort for the 2013 flood event. For the last four years the Coalition has been working on stream restoration, mine reclamation and water quality projects within the Fourmile Watershed. The FWC works closely with its fiscal agent, the Four Mile Fire Protection District, and other stakeholder agencies and public and private landowners. As the coalition transitions out of flood recovery there is a new emphasis on forest health and wildfire mitigation.



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Type of Eligible Entity (check one)	
	<b>Public (Government):</b> Municipalities, enterprises, counties, and State of Colorado agencies. Federal agencies are encouraged to work with local entities. Federal agencies are eligible, but only if they can make a compelling case for why a local partner cannot be the grant recipient.
X	<b>Public (Districts):</b> Authorities, Title 32/special districts (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises.
	<b>Private Incorporated:</b> Mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations.
	<b>Private Individuals, Partnerships, and Sole Proprietors:</b> Private parties may be eligible for funding.
	<b>Non-governmental organizations (NGO):</b> Organization that is not part of the government and is non-profit in nature.
	<b>Covered Entity:</b> As defined in <a href="#">Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes</a> .

Type of Water Project (check all that apply)	
	Study
	Construction
	Identified Projects and Processes (IPP)
X	Other- Education and Outreach

Category of Water Project (check the primary category that applies and include relevant tasks)	
	Water Storage - 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.. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
	Conservation and Land Use Planning - Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
X	Engagement & Innovation - Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i> 1) <i>Survey &amp; Metrics</i> , 2) <i>Fireside Series</i> , 3) <i>Landowner Outreach</i> 4) <i>Network Mapping</i> , 5) <i>Outreach Material Development</i>
	Agricultural - Projects that provide technical assistance and improve agricultural efficiency. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i>
	Environmental & Recreation - Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation. <i>Applicable Exhibit A Task(s):</i> 1) <i>Survey and Metrics Development</i> 2) <i>Educational Program Development (Fireside Series)</i> 3) <i>Landowner Outreach</i>



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	4) <i>Network Mapping</i> 5) <i>Outreach Material Development</i>	
	Other	Explain:

### Location of Water Project

Please provide the general county and coordinates of the proposed project below in **decimal degrees**. The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable.

County/Countries	Boulder County
Latitude	40.014984
Longitude	-105.270546

### Water Project Overview

Please provide a summary of the proposed water project (200 words or less). Include a description of the project and what the CWP Grant funding will be used for specifically (e.g., studies, permitting process, construction). Provide a description of the water supply source to be utilized or the water body affected by the project, where applicable. Include details such as acres under irrigation, types of crops irrigated, number of residential and commercial taps, length of ditch improvements, length of pipe installed, and area of habitat improvements, where applicable. If this project addresses multiple purposes or spans multiple basins, please explain.

The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit A, a detailed Statement of Work, Budget, Other Funding Sources/Amounts and Schedule.

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The funding requested for this project is to support education and outreach efforts throughout Boulder County related forest health and wildfire mitigation. The FWC, in partnership with the Four Mile Fire Protection District has spearheaded the development of a Boulder County Forest Collaborative. The goals of this group include increasing the pace and scale of forest health and wildfire mitigation projects in order to better protect communities and valuable natural resources. Education and outreach are foundational components of making this program successful. These efforts will improve public understanding related to watershed and forest health and the connection between upland forests and water quality and quantity. These efforts will assist in enrolling private landowners in fire mitigation programs.

Measurable Results		
To catalog measurable results achieved with the CWP Grant funds, please provide any of the following values as applicable:		
	New Storage Created (acre-feet)	
	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive	
	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)	
	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)	
	Efficiency Savings (indicate acre-feet/year OR dollars/year)	
500 acres (enrolled in mitigation projects)	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)	
	Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms	
	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning	
~3,000	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity	
	Other	Explain:

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## Water Project Justification

Provide a description of how this water project supports the goals of [Colorado's Water Plan](#), the most recent [Statewide Water Supply Initiative](#), and the applicable Roundtable [Basin Implementation Plan](#) and [Education Action Plan](#). The Applicant is required to reference specific needs, goals, themes, or Identified Projects and Processes (IPPs), including citations (e.g. document, chapters, sections, or page numbers).

The proposed water project shall be evaluated based upon how well the proposal conforms to Colorado's Water Plan Framework for State of Colorado Support for a Water Project (CWP, Section 9.4, pp. 9-43 to 9-44;)

Chapter 7 of the Colorado Water Plan states that, "watershed health is a measure of ecosystem structure and function," and refers to the importance of headwater streams to downstream water users. Education and outreach assist in long term improvements of watershed health and work to create a conservation ethic in those who live and recreate within the watershed. 7-4 states that "sediment is the most concerning non-point source pollutant our forested lands contribute." Forested watersheds are overly dense due to 100 years of fire suppression. This increases wildfire risk and severe fire behavior. Post-fire sediment yields cause significant impacts to drinking water quality and infrastructure for many years after a fire. Education and outreach opportunities created by this project will work to decrease the likelihood of severe wildfire in certain communities.

The Basin Implementation Plans outline *long-term goals and strategies for cultivating a supportive and engaged citizenry*. Some of these include:

- 1) Work closely with organizations that specialize in the facilitation of public education and outreach programs in order to leverage existing resources within each basin and increase overall impact (9-59 #6).
  - a. The FWC has been successfully facilitating public and engagement outreach for four years, often in contentious environments with competing priorities. This project will leverage the skills of the FWC and other partner organizations and combine resources to reach the maximum number of landowners.
  - b. This project will leverage the forestry and wildfire knowledge of fire districts, CSFS and NRCS foresters and the landowner relationships of local organizations. This will maximize outreach opportunities, understanding of forest and watershed health and increase acres treated for fuel reduction.
  - c. This project will work with partners to combine and leverage funding sources to assist private landowners and fire districts with treating more acres.
- 2) Enhance coordination and financial support that enable watershed groups and other grassroots organizations to effectively engage the public and increase participation (9-59 #7).
  - a. Funding this project will support the Basin's goal of supporting watershed groups by allowing flood recovery efforts to re-focus on forest health projects. FWC has a strong foundation of working with local community members and agencies and can seamlessly transfer this effort into educational programming for forests and wildfire.
  - b. Through discussions of forests and fire FWC will work to educate landowners on watershed function and the connection between forests and water quality and quantity issues.
- 3) Establish metrics to evaluate the success and effectiveness of statewide and basin-level communication and education programs, and modify strategies as needed (9-59 #9).





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- a. FWC supports data driven evaluations and quantifying the success of programs. For this reason, the project begins with a robust survey to establish baseline metrics for ongoing program evaluation.

The Colorado Water Plan states that, “existing programs need to improve coordination to maximize their effectiveness. Collaboration creates new opportunities for water education, outreach, and public engagement activities.” (9-57)

- The Boulder County Forest Collaborative is a growing group of diverse stakeholders committed to addressing forest and wildfire issues through collaborative planning, joining resources and leveraging expertise and funding to benefit the larger community and watershed. Education and outreach are one strategy for increasing collaboration and creating opportunities for watershed education.
- The Forest Collaborative will work to amplify the work of many organizations. Education and outreach will be completed with CSFS and NRCS to assist their staff with local relationships. Education and outreach completed by FWC will also fill a capacity gap, as needed, for local fire districts who are primarily volunteer agencies.

The Water Plan lists topics that CWCB would like to be included in statewide education and outreach strategies (9-59). Many of these are encompassed in FWC’s outreach strategies such as:

- Colorado’s water challenges, solutions, and the need to be adaptable to changing conditions.
  - This project will focus on forest management and wildfire risk reduction as one solution for protecting Colorado’s water resources.
  - FWC is committed to outreach efforts that use recent science to describe ideal forest conditions, thinning prescriptions and candid discussions about why prescribed fire is a management tool that should be used in a changing climate.
- The connection between climate change and water.
  - FWC is in a unique position to directly engage landowners about extreme weather and resulting cascading disasters. The Fourmile Watershed has experienced wildfire, debris flows and flooding in the past nine years and can easily communicate how flood and fire mitigation efforts can prevent long term damage and the ways in which water is affected by natural disasters.
- Water quality (“use a watershed approach for outreach and community engagement”).
  - This project opens the opportunity for discourse surrounding the connection between healthy forests and clean water as well as impacts to water quality from burned watersheds.

The ***Statewide Water Supply Initiative*** executive summary highlights multiple areas supported by this project:

- Colorado has a growing population which has drastic impacts on water supply demands. Increasing populations in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) also increase incidences of human caused wildfire. This further imperils clean water supplies for thousands of downstream users. Educating landowners and recreators about wildfire risk and empowering them to take actions to prevent wildfire is a critical strategy in protecting forested watersheds. Healthy forests replenish groundwater supplies and support non-consumptive which are critical components of Colorado’s economy.
- Collaboration is a critical component of addressing water quality and quantity issues. Collaboration is a direct result of successful education and outreach in many forms.





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- Costs related to water supply infrastructure are high and increasing. Wildfire and post-fire sediment yields have significant impacts on water supply infrastructure from dredging dams to exposed pipes, damaged intakes and increased water treatment costs. Preventing extreme wildfire is the best way to mitigate sediment related costs.
- Promoting education and stewardship of water resources is a critical component of “supporting the quality of life and economic prosperity of all Coloradoan’s.”

### Related Studies

Please provide a list of any related studies, including if the water project is complementary to or assists in the implementation of other CWCB programs.



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[Saint Vrain Wildfire/Watershed Assessment](#) (2010)

- This assessment was designed to identify and prioritize watersheds based on their hazards of generating flooding, debris flows and increased sediment yields following wildfire that could have impacts on water supplies.

Source Water Protection Plans: City of Boulder (2017), Town of Nederland (2014), Pine Brook Water District (2014), Lefthand Water District (2010).

- Many of the Source Water Protection Plans highlight wildfire as one of the greatest potential sources of drinking water contamination.

Thirteen [Community Wildfire Protection Plans](#) (CWPP) including Boulder County, The City of Boulder and multiple fire districts.

- Boulder County's many CWPPs highlight wildfire risk, map critical infrastructure and prioritize projects for distinct areas. Education and outreach are critical components of the larger Boulder County CWPP and highlight their importance in implementing fuels reduction projects to decrease wildfire risk.

[Saint Vrain Watershed Plan](#) (2015)

- The Watershed Plan provides helpful background on geology, soils, hydrology and other watershed characteristics that impact water supply, watershed health and water quality.

### Previous CWCB Grants, Loans or Other Funding

List all previous or current CWCB grants (including WSRF) awarded to both the Applicant and Grantee. Include: 1) Applicant name; 2) Water activity name; 3) Approving RT(s); 4) CWCB board meeting date; 5) Contract number or purchase order; 6) Percentage of other CWCB funding for your overall project.

- 1) Fourmile Watershed Coalition/Fire District
- 2) EWP Stream Restoration Projects, Monitoring and Adaptive Management.
- 3) South Platte Basin RT
- 4)?
- 5) Projects and contract numbers include:
  - Ingram Gulch- EWP match (CTGG1 2018\*661), EWP TA design: (POGG PDAA 201700000775).
  - Wall Street- EWP match (CTGG1 12017\*1819 CMS#101032)
  - Fire Station Pond- EWP match (POGG1 PDAA 201700000935(SB-179))
  - Monitoring and Adaptive Management (PDAA, 201900002117).
  - Northern Front Range Forestry Network (awarded, no contract yet).
- 6) 12% CWCB match for EWP, 50% match for Monitoring and Forestry Network.

### Taxpayer Bill of Rights

The Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) may limit the amount of grant money an entity can receive. Please describe any relevant TABOR issues that may affect your application.

In 2011 the Four Mile Fire Protection District's voters exempted the District from TABOR's revenue and spending limits, and the annual revenue limits imposed by Section 29-1-301 of the Colorado Revised Statutes.

The 2016 Financial Audit completed by John Cutler & Associates for the Four Mile Fire Protection District records the following statement: "The District has established and emergency reserve, representing 3% of fiscal year spending (excluding debt service), as required by TABOR. TABOR is complex and subject to judicial interpretation. The District believes it is in compliance with the requirements of TABOR".



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Submittal Checklist	
X	I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the <a href="#">Standard Contract</a> .
Exhibit A	
X	Statement of Work <sup>(1)</sup>
X	Budget & Schedule <sup>(1)</sup>
N/A	Engineer's statement of probable cost (projects over \$100,000)
X	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Commitments <sup>(1)</sup>
Exhibit C	
N/A	Map (if applicable) <sup>(1)</sup>
N/A	Photos/Drawings/Reports
X	Letters of Support (Optional)
X	Certificate of Insurance (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.) <sup>(2)</sup>
N/A	Certificate of Good Standing with Colorado Secretary of State <sup>(2)</sup>
X	W-9 <sup>(2)</sup>
N/A	Independent Contractor Form <sup>(2)</sup> (If applicant is individual, not company/organization)
Engagement & Innovation Grant Applicants ONLY	
X	Engagement & Innovation Supplemental Application <sup>(1)</sup>

(1) Required with application.

(2) Required for contracting. While optional at the time of this application, submission can expedite contracting upon CWCB Board approval.

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## ENGAGEMENT & INNOVATION GRANT FUND SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION

### Introduction & Purpose

Colorado’s Water Plan calls for an outreach, education, public engagement, and innovation grant fund in Chapter 9.5.

The overall goal of the Engagement & Innovation Grant Fund is to enhance Colorado’s water communication, outreach, education, and public engagement efforts; advance Colorado’s water supply planning process; and support a statewide water innovation ecosystem.

The grant fund aims to engage the public to promote well-informed community discourse regarding balanced water solutions statewide. The grant fund aims to support water innovation in Colorado. The grant fund prioritizes measuring and evaluating the success of programs, projects, and initiatives. The grant fund prioritizes efforts designed using research, data, and best practices. The grant fund prioritizes a commitment to collaboration and community engagement. The grant fund will support local and statewide efforts.

The grant fund is divided into two tracks: engagement and innovation. The Engagement Track supports education, outreach, communication, and public participation efforts related to water. The Innovation Track supports efforts that advance the water innovation ecosystem in Colorado.

### Application Questions

\*The grant fund request is referred to as “project” in this application.

Overview (answer for both tracks)
In a few sentences, what is the overall goal of this project? How does it achieve the stated purpose of this grant fund (above)?
The overall goal of the project is to increase public education and outreach in Boulder County related to forest health and wildfire risk reduction. Increased education and outreach will assist landowners in becoming more informed about forest ecology, watershed health and water quality and wildfire risk. Outreach efforts will be used to enroll private landowners in a variety of funding programs to perform wildfire mitigation on their land (NRCS EQIP, CSFS Ag tax, local fire district grant programs). This project achieves the purposes of the grant fund by creating conversation and a science-based understanding about how forested watersheds affect water quality and water quantity, wildfire risk and methods to reduce risk and protect valuable resources. Effectiveness of the program will be measured by a robust pre and post project survey, as well as quantifying how many landowners are engaged, how many are enrolled in mitigation programs and how many acres are scheduled for fuels treatment.
Who is/are the target audience(s)? How will you reach them? How will you involve the community?
The target audience is private landowners in the mountain areas of western Boulder County. Landowners will be engaged individually and on community or neighborhood levels. High risk areas will be identified in CWPPs or other planning documents. Larger parcels of land or groups of properties will be targeted first for outreach. As site visits and Forest Management Plans are completed, in depth conversations will evolve about forest ecology and fire protection. Hard copy educational materials will be left with landowners. On a community level FWC staff will present at town meetings, board meetings and HOA meetings. Efforts will be made to monitor social media for related events and then get that information sent out through list serves of agencies participating in the Forest Collaborative



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Overview (answer for both tracks)
to reach the maximum amount of people. A ‘Fireside Series’ of educational seminars, field trips, film screenings, etc. will be instated to gather communities for learning and conversation.
Describe how the project is collaborative or engages a diverse group of stakeholders. Who are the partners in the project? Do you have other funding partners or sources?
<p>Education and outreach efforts are part of a larger Boulder County effort to increase the pace and scale of forest restoration and wildfire mitigation projects. Current partners in this effort include the Colorado State Forest Service, The Natural Resource Conservation Service and Longmont Conservation District, Boulder County Wildfire Partners and Parks and Open Space, The City of Boulder, Boulder Office of Emergency Management and Sherriff’s Office, six fire districts and two watershed coalitions. The project intends upon expanding partnerships. Each of the fire districts and watershed coalitions are supported by a diverse group of private landowners.</p> <p>Funding partners include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CWCB Watershed Restoration Fund- \$8,900.</li><li>• One Tree Planted donated seedlings for experiential education Earth Day tree planting- \$7,000.</li><li>• DOLA 50% CDBG-DR Capacity funds through June 2019 -\$1,930 (Mar-June 2019).</li><li>• Four Mile Fire Protection District- \$5,000.</li><li>• In-kind survey development and analysis from Patricia Champ, Research Economist with the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute.</li><li>• In-kind outreach and technical support from CSFS and NRCS staff.</li></ul>
Describe how you plan to measure and evaluate the success and impact of the project?
<p>Measuring outcomes associated with human behavioral change and perceptions is always difficult. One of the tasks associated with this project is to perform a pre-project survey to an adequate sample of Boulder County residents in order to develop baseline metrics related to people’s understanding of forest health (diversity, density, species and soils, hydrology, carbon and water quality). The survey will inquire about wildfire risk perception and the understanding of various forest treatment strategies like mechanical thinning and prescribed burning, as well as knowledge of available resources to address forest health and wildfire mitigation issues on their land.</p> <p>The development of the survey and analysis of results will be assisted by a Patricia Champ, an Environmental Economist at the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute. A survey will be completed at the end of the project to measure change in knowledge, perception and actions taken.</p>
What research, evidence, and data support your project?
<p>There is a significant body of evidence that shows that community based, collaborative outreach and planning can create communities more resilient to wildfire. As communities become better adapted to living with fire an effect can be extrapolated toward the protection of water resources. A deeper understanding of watershed function will help private landowners better steward these resources.</p> <p>The Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network has a group of partners (Nature Conservancy, US Forest Service and agencies in the Department of the Interior among others) under the acronym PREFACT- Promoting Ecosystem Resiliency and Fire Adapted Communities Together. These partners, <i>“work together to increase the capacity and social capital needed to make ecosystems and communities more resilient to wildfire. PERFACT supports effective learning networks, as well as</i></p>



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Overview (answer for both tracks)

*training, capacity-building and targeted collaborative projects on the ground.”* This model of collaborative planning and jointly implementing projects, coupled with education and outreach has proven to be very effective. The Fire Adapted Learning Network reports that 40 states have engaged 1500 partners and leveraged nearly 80 million dollars in restoration of forests and grasslands. Additionally, the Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TREX) was developed and is successfully engaging in cooperative prescribed burns to provide experiential training and local capacity for fire management.

Sarah McCaffery, in her 2015 article published in Current Forestry Reports, discusses the importance of social interactions and place attachment in shaping attitudes toward wildfire and preparedness. Her evaluation of wildfire in the US and Australia implicates the need to take local knowledge and context into account, *and* the importance of financial support. She states that, *“efforts that facilitate development of relationships, within communities and between community members and fire personnel, can contribute to increased preparedness at the individual and community level by facilitating information exchange and helping to build a sense of community.”*

In the article, *Wildfire Preparedness, Community Cohesion and Social-Ecological Systems*, Tim Prior and Christine Erikson demonstrate that, *“social cohesion, particularly community characteristics like ‘sense of community’ and ‘collective problem solving’, are community-based resources that support both the adoption of mechanical preparations, and the development of cognitive abilities and capacities that reduce vulnerability and enhance resilience to wildfire.”*

The Nature Conservancy conducted a study in California to examine whether forest restoration projects affected water supply. Their analysis suggests that, *“if the current scale of forest restoration is increased three-fold, there could be up to a 6 percent increase in the mean annual streamflow for individual watersheds.”* More research should be conducted in this area to draw fire and water practitioners closer together in restoration efforts.

1. McCaffrey, S. Curr Forestry Rep (2015) 1: 81.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s40725-015-0015-7>
2. Prior, T. Global Environmental Change (2013) 23:6  
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0959378013001684?via%3Dihub>
3. Podolak, K., D. Edelson, S. Kruse, B. Aylward, M. Zimring, and N. Wobbrock. 2015. Estimating the Water Supply Benefits from Forest Restoration in the Northern Sierra Nevada. An unpublished report of The Nature Conservancy prepared with Ecosystem Economics. San Francisco, CA.

Describe potential short- and long-term challenges with this project.

One potential short-term challenges would be acquiring enough survey participants for a meaningful sample size. This can be overcome through increased time spent directly engaging county residents to take the survey. Long-term challenges may include getting the amount of people desired to attend educational events. It is not expected that long-term challenges will include public resistance to one-on-one site visits or direct personal outreach. However, getting landowners to take the next step and take action on their land to mitigate for wildfire may be challenging. FWC will strive to overcome this by minimizing cost to landowners by acquiring grants for neighborhood size projects, easing logistical and bureaucratic challenges through administrative assistance and project management and stressing the science-based attributes of what a healthy forest looks like.



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### Overview (answer for both tracks)

FWC and partner agencies live in the communities they will be working in. This means that valuing individual and community relationships is a high priority. Even if there are differing views on science or methods of forest management all efforts will be made to retain and improve relationships. When relationships are prioritized knowledge transfer and learning happens even through conflict.

Please fill out the applicable questions for either the Engagement Track or Innovation Track, unless your project contains elements in both tracks. If a question does not relate to your project, just leave it blank. Please answer each question that relates to your project. Please reference the relevant documents and use chapters and page numbers (Colorado's Water Plan, Basin Implementation Plan, PEPO Education Action Plan, etc.).

### Engagement Track

Describe how the project achieves the education, outreach, and public engagement measurable objective set forth in Colorado's Water Plan to "significantly improve the level of public awareness and engagement regarding water issues statewide by 2020, as determined by water awareness surveys."

Focusing directly on education and outreach is the best way to effect public awareness and measure changes in human behavior and understanding. This project accomplishes this by working specifically to improve public awareness about forest health, wildfire issues and their relation to Colorado water issues. It is only possible to understand what a healthy forest is by engaging in a deeper conversation about what a watershed is, what are watershed functions and how forests, soils and streams are related to one another. Through outreach this process of learning will occur.

Boulder Creek has not yet completed a Stream Management Plan (SWP), one of the measurable results included in the Water Plan's Critical Action Plan (10-7). The timing of this project is well positioned to build an understanding of water issues and create relationships that can increase future engagement in SWP planning.

The Water Plan and the SPBIP (S.3.6 & 1-28) both highlight the need to "*protect and enhance river-based environments and recreational opportunities that support local and statewide economies and are important for the enjoyment of current and future generations of Coloradans (WP 10-12).*" The mountain areas in Boulder County are highly valued for recreational activities and are a critical component of the local economy. Using education and outreach to prevent wildfire and increase knowledge about forest and watershed health is the best way to preserve these forested watersheds. Mobilizing the public through the recreational community is extremely effective in Boulder County.

The SPBIP provides a recommendation to, "*design and implement an intensive education, participation and outreach program designed to generate a lasting baseline of public awareness and support (S.5.9).*" This project will assist the SPBRT in accomplishing this goal and the Water Plan goal of increasing public awareness through targeted outreach and educational programs.

Strategic preparedness, response and resilience to climate change and natural disasters is identified in the Colorado Water Plan (10-14) and Colorado Resiliency Framework as a critical action. This project works to address this from the community perspective as well as through on-the-ground projects. In Chapter 7 The Water Plan identifies watershed coalitions as productive organizations to create stakeholder driven watershed protection projects. The development of forest health partnerships (7-7) has demonstrated the ability to effectively leverage funds, impact forest health and water supply and engage the public in conversation and action.





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Describe how the project achieves the other measurable objectives and critical goals and actions laid out in Colorado's Water Plan around the supply and demand gap; conservation; land use; agriculture; storage; watershed health, environment, and recreation; funding; and additional.

Chapter 7 of the Colorado Water Plan states that, "watershed health is a measure of ecosystem structure and function," and refers to the importance of headwater streams to downstream water users. Education and outreach assist in long term improvements of watershed health and work to create a conservation ethic in those who live and recreate within the watershed. 7-4 states that "sediment is the most concerning non-point source pollutant our forested lands contribute." Forested watersheds are overly dense due to 100 years of fire suppression. This increases wildfire risk and severe fire behavior. Post-fire sediment yields cause significant impacts to drinking water quality and infrastructure for many years after a fire. Education and outreach opportunities created by this project will work to decrease the likelihood of severe wildfire in certain communities.

The Colorado Water Plan's Critical Action Plan addresses both watershed health and environment and education and outreach goals. This project is multi-objective and will support several areas within the Critical Action Plan.

Describe how the project achieves the education, outreach, and public engagement goals set forth in the applicable Basin Implementation Plan(s).

Section 4.1.3 in the SPBIP lists suggested *Education, Participation and Outreach* activities for 2015 and beyond. These include leveraging existing Basin resources like watershed coalitions, leveraging state efforts like the Wildfire/Watershed Assessment Group and establishing success metrics as this project will do with baseline surveying. Specific watershed protection projects are that can be affected by public engagement goals include:

**4.2.1.1- 4.1.1.3. Wildfire Mitigation and Treatment, Insect and Disease and Climate Change awareness.** This project directly engages the public on these issues through education and outreach and will provide recommendations for direct actions that can be taken.

**4.2.3 #6 Water Quality.** The degradation of forested watersheds can result in increased wildfire and non-point source pollution having profound impacts on water quality. Preventing severe wildfire is the best way to minimize severe post-fire sediment issues.

**4.5.2.3 Stewardship.** This section specifically lists protecting streams and riparian areas. The protection of these areas is interdependent with healthy forests. A deeper understanding of the value of riparian areas and how the public can be involved in stewarding these areas will be developed with greater understanding of watershed health. Forest treatment projects are stewardship projects that will be implemented as a result of the outreach contained in this project.

**4.6.3 Environmental and Recreational Impacts and Benefits from Multi-Purpose Projects.** FWC has implemented several multi-purpose stream restoration projects that incorporate fish habitat, water quality improvements and asset protection. This project is multi-purpose by:

- Protecting environmental and recreational resources through engagement and stewardship.
- Engaging local communities in issues that affect them, namely watershed and forest health and wildfire risk.
- Engaging local agencies in greater collaborative planning to leverage funding resources and expertise.
- Connecting the public to available resources and assisting them in converting knowledge to action.
- Protecting headwater streams and water quality by addressing upland forest issues.
- Developing knowledge about watershed issues to prepare communities for further public engagement in Stream Management Planning.



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- Decreasing wildfire risk and increasing forest health.

The SPBIP EAP recommends designing and implementing an intensive education, participation and outreach program designed to generate a lasting baseline of public awareness and support. This project proposes to accomplish these goals.

Describe how the project achieves the basin roundtable's PEPO Education Action Plans.

The South Platte EAP is focused on educating and engaging the public within the basin about water issues in a collaborative, dialogue-oriented fashion that will lead to solutions-oriented actions related to Colorado's water supply issues. This project will support this goal by focusing on integrating concepts listed below. This focus will "generate a lasting baseline of public awareness and support".

- Increasing partnerships and awareness of SPBRT values through FWC's agency partners.
- Include recreational and environmental interest groups in educational opportunities.
- Provide survey data to support measurable results.
- Develop education and engagement opportunities that are similar to tasks and objectives listed in the Education Action Plan.
- Provide outreach and education that are directly related to solutions-based actions such as forest restoration and wildfire mitigation.
- Create a foundation of watershed knowledge that enables the public to better participate in future local and statewide land use and water planning efforts.

#### Innovation Track

Describe how the project enhances water innovation efforts and supports a water innovation ecosystem in Colorado.

Describe how the project engages/leverages Colorado's innovation community to help solve our state's water challenges.

Describe how the project helps advance or develop a solution to a water need identified through TAP-IN and other water innovation challenges. What is the problem/need/challenge?

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Innovation Track
Describe how this project impacts current or emerging trends; technologies; clusters, sectors, or groups in water innovation.



Last Updated: November 2018

Colorado Water Conservation Board
Water Plan Grant - Exhibit A

Statement Of Work	
<b>Date:</b>	January, 30 2019
<b>Name of Grantee:</b>	Fourmile Watershed Coalition/Fire Protection District
<b>Name of Water Project:</b>	Boulder County Forest Collaborative
<b>Funding Source:</b>	Colorado Water Plan Grant Fund
<b>Water Project Overview:</b> Boulder County Forest Collaborative Education and Outreach	
<p>The Boulder County Forest Collaborative is a newly developed group of forest health, watershed and wildfire practitioners who have joined together to complete collaborative planning and implementation of forest restoration and wildfire mitigation programs. This approach is being initiated to accomplish the goal of increasing the pace and scale of wildfire risk reduction projects. A hotter and drier climate in the West is creating more extreme fire behavior and increasing damages to communities and watersheds. One way to address these changes is through collaborative working groups.</p> <p>In order to create more projects on private lands a robust education and outreach program is required to engage the public and transform knowledge into action. This education and outreach project will focus on leveraging existing engagement opportunities, outreach at the community level and on a one-to-one basis. There will be a strong focus on creating baseline metrics and measuring outcomes throughout the project. While this specific project focuses on education and outreach, the Forest Collaborative goal is to translate this into many acres of fuel treatment and wildfire mitigation.</p>	
<b>Project Objectives:</b>	
<p><b>Objective 1-</b> Increase public understanding of watershed health and function and the connection between upland forests and water quality and quantity.</p> <p><b>Objective 2-</b> Develop baseline metrics for evaluation. Baseline metrics will help to better understand a community and individual perspectives related to forest health and ecology, forest management tools and wildfire risk. Surveying will be completed pre-project and repeated at the end of the project to assess whether learning has occurred, if that learning has translated into action and in what ways behaviors or perspectives have been altered. Pre-project surveying will help to focus education efforts on specific areas which will create action or behavioral change.</p> <p><b>Objective 3-</b> Increase private landowner participation in forest restoration and wildfire mitigation programs. It is anticipated that through increased and targeted outreach and education programs more private landowners will become more aware and motivated to better manage the forested lands they own.</p>	

Last Updated: November 2018

**Objective 4-** Create community level forest restoration projects. Climate change is altering the typical ways that wildfire mitigation has previously occurred. Emphasis needs to be on larger scale projects that create landscape continuity in order to protect water sources from severe wildfire.

TASKS
<b>Task 1 – Survey and Baseline Metrics</b>
Description of Task:
<p>The purpose of this task is to develop baseline evaluation metrics and better understand the views and behaviors of the communities within which the Forest Collaborative is working. To do so, FWC will work with Patricia Champ of the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute (CFRI) to develop a pre and post project survey and analyze the results. Patricia Champ is an environmental economist with CFRI and also works with the WiRe Center. The WiRe Center completed two studies in 2007 and 2010: Understanding Change. Wildfire in Boulder County, Colorado and Understanding Wildfire in Boulder County, Colorado. Ms. Champ’s prior work in Boulder County and knowledge of developing and implementing surveys will assist in acquiring meaningful information that will allow usable metrics to be developed.</p> <p><i>Sub-task 1.1-</i> Work with Patricia Champ to develop survey questions and focus areas for survey implementation.</p> <p><i>Sub-task 1.2-</i> Conduct the survey.</p> <p><i>Sub-task 1.3-</i> Analyze survey results and develop metrics for program evaluation.</p> <p><i>Sub-task 1.4-</i> Reform the survey for post-project implementation.</p> <p><i>Sub-task 1.5-</i> Conduct post-project surveying.</p> <p><i>Sub-task 1.6-</i> Conduct the second survey</p> <p><i>Sub-task 1.7-</i> Prepare survey results, final report and program evaluation.</p>
Method/Procedure:



Last Updated: November 2018

TASKS
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Develop a survey.</li><li>2) Implement the survey assuring an adequate sample size. This can be done with focus communities or throughout western boulder county.</li><li>3) Work with Patricia Champ to analyze results.</li><li>4) Re-implement the survey post project.</li></ol>
Deliverable: Survey questions, results and metrics.

<b>Task 2 – “Fireside Series” – Quarterly Seminars</b>
Description of Task: <p>The Fireside Series will be a quarterly public event to engage the community in various aspects of forest health and wildfire. The purpose of the quarterly seminars is to provide engaging and insightful information to citizens and reach a broad segment of the population. In order to specifically engage mountain residents these events may be held in Nederland or other mountain venues. It is anticipated that this will increase attendance by the target population.</p> <p><i>Sub-task 2.1-</i> Host a quarterly Fireside Series that may include panel discussions, film screenings, scientific presentations, seminars, site visits/field trips, demonstrations or other engaging educational opportunities.</p> <p><i>Sub-task 2.2-</i> Coordinate these events with other agencies like the University of Colorado, Boulder County Wildfire Partners or other educational entities. This will maximize outreach efforts and create streamlined messaging.</p> <p><i>Sub-task 2.3-</i> Video presentations and make available on agency websites.</p>
Method/Procedure: <p>In order to create an engaging and worthwhile Fireside Series research will occur to remain abreast of pertinent topics at a local, state and national level. Effort will made to host insightful speakers, films or material that is both entertaining and educational.</p> <p>Experience has shown that many mountain residents are more likely to attend a public event when it is structured as a community gathering or open house rather than a public meeting. To create this environment effort will be made to schedule events at times and locations that are convenient for the target audience, include food and drinks and allow time for socializing and community building.</p> <p>Presentations will be videoed and posted on agency websites and social media to reach a larger portion of the population and to create a local reference library.</p>

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Deliverable: Deliverables will include recorded presentations and a report containing data on how many people attended, from which communities and other pertinent information.

### Task 3– Landowner Outreach

#### Description of Task:

This task is intended to engage private landowners in educational opportunities and, through education and engagement, motivate them to enroll in various wildfire mitigation programs. Through conversations and site-visits with FWC staff and/or foresters, dialogue will occur that promotes a greater understanding of watershed and forest health and function and specific actions that can be taken to steward forested lands.

*Sub-task 3.1:* Reach out to landowners, build relationships, connect them resources and educational opportunities.

*Sub-task 3.2:* Use conversation or site-visits as a stepping stone to further engage residents in dialogue about watershed and forest health and steer them toward other resources (Fireside Series, resource library, technical experts/foresters).

*Sub-task 3.3:* Work with Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) Staff and Natural Resource Conservation Service staff to engage private landowners, jointly conduct site-visits and enroll them in various mitigation programs. Assist CSFS in reaching their goal of 100 new Forest Management Plans this year.

*Sub-task 3.4:* Present at community and board meetings.

#### Method/Procedure:

##### Methods include:

- 1) Review the Community Wildfire Protection Plans and Saint Vrain Watershed/Wildfire Assessment to develop target areas for outreach.
- 2) Use the County Assessor's website to locate larger or otherwise strategic parcels of land and ownership. Attention will be given to neighboring land to evaluate if there are opportunities for joint projects on private land or projects that can be completed on adjacent public lands.
- 3) Outreach will include educational materials, photos and program applications that can be left with landowners to browse through for more details and education (see Task 3).
- 4) Contact town boards, fire boards, NGOs and neighborhood associations to speak at their meetings or events.
- 5) Collect and record data

#### Deliverable:





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Deliverable will include a report with data collected. Data may include:

- 1) How many landowners were contacted?
- 2) How many site visits were conducted?
- 3) How many people have enrolled in mitigation programs?
- 4) What is the level of involvement by community?

#### Task 4- Network Mapping

##### Description of Task:

The purpose of this task is to become more familiar with the composition of the existing agency and landowner networks. Multiple methods will be used to broaden the network of landowners engaged in educational events, access and awareness of watershed and forest health events and enrolling in fire mitigation programs. Social Network Mapping is used by organizations to gather information about different organizations to help make more informed decisions. Social Network Mapping can help organizations in gathering information and launching successful campaigns. The success of a strategy or a campaign can be gauged from the balanced or unbalanced nature of social networks. Similarly, a more suitable route to enable success can also be determined to improve the chances of success for a strategy by evaluating the ties between different organizations within the network.

*Sub-task 4.1-* Conduct Network Mapping to further understand existing networks and identify gaps.

*Sub-task 4.2 -* Once network gaps are better understood work to create partnerships with other identified agencies or sectors. These may include water districts, water coalitions, non-profits and other governmental agencies.

*Sub task 4.3 -* Focus landowner outreach in areas where networks are minimal to develop and grow relationships in those areas.

*Sub-task 3.4-* Monitor social media to re-advertise pertinent events to Forest Collaborative networks. This will amplify other work that is being accomplished, as well as inform a broader network of local citizens of events at the University of Colorado, the Nature Conservancy, Boulder County and other agencies that host educational events.

##### Method/Procedure:



Last Updated: November 2018

- 1) Monitor social media, emails and websites for relevant forest or wildfire events to and re-advertise to Forest Collaborative networks.
- 2) Research Forest Collaborative individual networks and formally map those networks.
- 3) Present the network map to the Forest Collaborative.
- 4) Analyze network gaps.
- 5) Work to establish networks in identified gap areas.

Deliverable: Network Map

#### **Task 5– Develop Outreach Material**

##### **Description of Task:**

Develop a folder of pertinent educational material that can be left with every landowner that is visited by staff from local fire districts, watershed coalitions, NRCS and conservation district staff as they provide outreach for mitigation projects. The purpose of this task is to leave landowners with more educational material than can be discussed at a single site visit and resources for further personal education and investigation.

*Sub-task 5.1-* Research existing educational material from Wildfire Partners, Fire Adapted Communities, the Fire Learning Network and the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute. These materials will be adapted to best represent local needs.

*Sub-task 5.2-* Package specific outreach material, before and after photos of forest restoration areas, mitigation program information and applications into a convenient folder for distribution.

*Sub-task 5.3-* Develop a Forest Health Collaborative page on the watershed coalition website with a robust collection of educational material and links to other resources.

##### **Method/Procedure:**

- 1) Review existing educational and outreach material.
- 2) Collect pertinent material and applications and package for distribution.
- 3) Distribute to other partners conducting outreach.
- 4) Create web page.

Deliverable: Outreach material that can be used in other communities or projects.

Last Updated: November 2018

### Budget and Schedule

This Statement of Work shall be accompanied by a combined Budget and Schedule that reflects the Tasks identified in the Statement of Work and shall be submitted to CWCB in excel format.

### 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, or the execution of a contract. 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 or grant 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 contract 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 contract must be provided to CWCB in hard copy and electronic format as part of the project documentation.

### Performance Measures

Performance measures for this contract 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 in Exhibit B. Per Water Plan 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 or grant will be closed without any further payment.

(b) Accountability: Per Water Plan Grant Guidelines full documentation of project progress must be submitted with each invoice for reimbursement. Grantee must confirm that all grant conditions have been

Last Updated: November 2018

### Performance Measures

complied with on each invoice. In addition, per Water Plan 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.



**COLORADO**

Colorado Water  
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

## Colorado Water Conservation Board

### Water Plan Grant - Exhibit B

### Budget and Schedule

**Prepared Date: January 30, 2019**

**Name of Applicant: Fourmile Watershed Coalition**

**Name of Water Project: Boulder County Forest Collaborative Education and Outreach**

**Project Start Date: May 1, 2019**

**Project End Date: May 1, 2020**

Task No.	Task Description	Task Start Date	Task End Date	Grant Funding Request	Match Funding	Total
1	Survey	1-May	1-Apr-19	10,000	10,000	\$20,000
2	Fireside Series	1- July	1-April 2019	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$16,000
3	Landowner Outreach	1-June	1-April 2019	\$16,380	\$16,380	\$32,760
4	Network Mapping	1-July	1-Aug 2019	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$6,000
5	Outreach Material	1-May	1-Aug 2019	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$6,000
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$40,380</b>	<b>\$40,380</b>	<b>\$80,760</b>

Garrett Varra, Chair  
South Platte Basin Roundtable  
Tuesday February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
1313 Sherman Street, Suite 721  
Denver, CO 80203

**RE: Letter of Support for Fourmile Watershed Coalition Grant Application: "Boulder County Forest Collaborative Education and Outreach".**

Dear Selection Committee:

The South Platte Basin Round Table supports the efforts of the Fourmile Watershed Coalition and other partners seeking funding for education and outreach efforts associated with the Boulder County Forest Collaborative.

The Fourmile Watershed Coalition's project aspires to increase the pace and scale of forest health projects through multiple methods of education and outreach. This project is important as fire behavior becomes more extreme in the west and poses real threats to water quality, and water storage and delivery infrastructure. The Coalition is well-placed as a stakeholder-driven community organization to interface with private landowners and local agencies in order to increase watershed health awareness and stewardship. The Coalition has demonstrated through flood recovery efforts that they have the skill and relationships to effectively manage grants and implement multi-objective projects with significant community impacts.

This project supports education and outreach priorities of the South Platte Basin Round Table by establishing metrics, encouraging stewardship, engaging local agencies in greater collaborative planning and converting public knowledge into action. This project provides an avenue to increase public engagement in water issues through learning about and engaging in forest health issues.

The South Platte Basin Round Table is supportive of the Coalition's efforts to focus time and energy on increase education and wildfire mitigation projects. Please strongly consider this funding request as it would greatly benefit our communities and the Roundtable's mission.

Sincerely,



Garrett Varra



January 31, 2019

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
1313 Sherman St., Room 718  
Denver, CO 80203



Boulder Field Office  
5625 Ute Highway  
Longmont, CO 80503  
303-823-5774

**RE: Letter of Support for the Fourmile Watershed Coalition's Water Plan Grant Fund application for Forest Health Education and Outreach**

Dear Selection Committee,

The Colorado State Forest Services is writing in support of the Fourmile Watershed Coalition's Colorado Water Plan Grant application for **Forest Health Education and Outreach** in Boulder County. Education and outreach are critical components of forest restoration and wildfire mitigation projects completed on private land.

Colorado State Forest Service and Natural Resource Conservation Service staff have been working with the coalition to develop a collaborative forest group in Boulder County. This group of fire districts, and other local governments will work together to plan mutually beneficial fuels treatment projects that leverage funding and other resources. This type of collaboration is needed to increase protection of communities, critical infrastructure and drinking water sources from wildfire. Education and outreach are the foundation of making this a successful program.

The Fourmile Watershed Coalition has demonstrated that they are capable of building strong relationships, acquiring funding and managing large scale projects. These skills will be invaluable moving forward with the forest collaborative. The education and outreach effort by coalition staff will work to educate private landowners about forest ecology, watershed health, wildfire risk, funding resources and existing programs available to complete projects on their land.

Forests are critical components of healthy watersheds and have a significant effect on water quantity and water quality. Local groups working to protect these resources while mobilizing the public to do the same will have an immense effect on preserving these natural resources.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Hel", is placed below the word "Sincerely,".

Forester

Colorado State Forest Service - Boulder Field Office





## Land Use

Courthouse Annex • 2045 13th Street • Boulder, Colorado 80302 • Tel: 303.441.3930  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 471 • Boulder, Colorado 80306 • [www.bouldercounty.org](http://www.bouldercounty.org)

January 25, 2019

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
1313 Sherman St., Room 718  
Denver, CO 80203

### **RE: Letter of Support for the Fourmile Watershed Coalition's Water Plan Grant Fund application for Forest Health Education and Outreach**

Dear Selection Committee,

This letter demonstrates our support of the Fourmile Watershed Coalition's Colorado Water Plan Grant application for **Forest Health Education and Outreach** in Boulder County. This project is part of a larger collective effort to increase the pace and scale of forest restoration and wildfire mitigation projects in Boulder County.

The education and outreach effort by coalition staff will work to educate private landowners about forest ecology, wildfire risk, funding resources and existing programs available to complete projects on their land. This effort will specifically focus on creating a community level impact by encouraging neighboring landowners to participate in programs in order to create landscape continuity with forest restoration projects. This will promote community level risk awareness, adaptability and protection from wildfire. Additionally, forest health education will increase public awareness about watershed health issues and encourage community members to protect natural resources.

Over the past four years of flood recovery the Fourmile Watershed Coalition has demonstrated an ability to bring together diverse stakeholders and engage private landowners to participate in critical natural resource projects that have community level effects. Increased education and outreach through a non-governmental agency will compliment other existing efforts and reach a different sector of the population. This project, in conjunction with other collaborative planning efforts, will help to address the severe wildfire risk in western Boulder County.

Thank you for your consideration of this funding request.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
Elise Jones  
193511B0BE6A470...

Elise Jones  
Chair, Board of County Commissioners  
01/31/2019

**Deb Gardner** County Commissioner

**Elise Jones** County Commissioner

**Matt Jones** County Commissioner



January 30, 2019

**RE: Letter of Support for Fourmile Watershed Coalition Grant Application: “Boulder County Forest Collaborative Education and Outreach”.**

Dear Selection Committee:

The Boulder County Fire Fighters Association (BCFFA) supports the efforts of the Fourmile Watershed Coalition and other partners seeking funding for education and outreach efforts associated with the Boulder County Forest Collaborative.

The BCFFA and its partner agencies have a heightened awareness of the ways in which changing weather patterns are influencing fire behavior and putting our communities and watersheds at an increased risk of severe wildfire. It is imperative that efforts are made to engage public and private landowners to be proactive in managing forested lands. The watershed coalitions efforts, in partnership with ongoing efforts of Boulder County fire protection districts is one method to increasing forest management projects within the county.

The BCFFA represents a collaboration of mountain fire chiefs from western Boulder County and the Boulder County Cooperators are the training arm of the organization. Together we have a joint mission to provide safe and effective all-hazard training and a forum for the open discussion of emergency response. As such, education, outreach and collaboration are large components of what we do. Focusing these efforts on wildfire mitigation efforts runs parallel to the work we are doing and allows a nexus for ongoing partnership.

The BCFFA fully support the Coalition’s efforts to focus energy and time on forest health, education and wildfire mitigation and looks forward to working together to address these issues. Please strongly consider this funding request as it would greatly benefit our communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Bret Gibson'.

Bret Gibson  
President



Boulder County Fire Fighters Association  
501(c)(3) Non-Profit EIN 84-1287461



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Colorado Water Plan Grant Fund Selection Committee

**From:** Maya MacHamer, Watershed Coordinator

**Date:** January 30, 2019

**Re:** Letter of Commitment and description of match funds

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The Fourmile Watershed Coalition will present this project to the South Platte Basin Round Table at their February meeting. At that time, they will decide whether or not to submit a letter of support for the project.

The purpose of this memorandum is to outline secured and pending grant match sources. The Fourmile Watershed Coalition (FWC) currently has one full time employee and one part time employee. 50% staff capacity is paid through a CDBG-DR Capacity grant through DOLA. This grant expires on June 30, 2019. A portion of the initial survey could be developed and tested with focus groups during this time to maximize funds.

FWC was recently awarded a Colorado Watershed Restoration Grant from CWCB to support the development of a forestry network and implementation plan. \$8,900 was received specifically for outreach and education associated with that project. The Colorado Water Plan Grant Fund is a potential match source to leverage those funds.

An application has been submitted to the AIM Partnership for staff capacity to support facilitating the Boulder County Forest Collaborative and conducting landowner outreach. Those funds would be awarded prior to May 2019 if received.

FWC has done multiple forest restoration projects with One Tree Planted. One Tree Planted donates seedlings, pays for volunteer oversight, assists in recruiting volunteers and managing an Earth Day planting event in a burn scar. Last year's event planted 5,000 seedlings and had over 200 volunteers. The dollar value of these in-kind volunteer and material donations was over \$25,000. Costs included as match are for seedling costs and a cash donation offered to the coalition for hosting projects.

The Four Mile Fire Protection District allocated \$5,000 toward watershed coalition forest projects at their January board meeting. The coalition will dedicate these funds toward Colorado Water Plan match funds.

Multiple Fourmile Canyon landowners have donated unrestricted funds to the watershed coalition. Additional funds to be used as match are still pending.



Patricia Champ from the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute will be consulting on the development, implementation and analysis of the survey. It is unclear how much time will be required so her in-kind donation was estimated at the low end.

Source	Pending or Secured	Cash or In-Kind	Time Frame	Amount
DOLA CDBG-DR Capacity funds	Secured – 50% staff time	cash	Through June 30, 2019	15 hrs/week for May & June 2019= \$1,930
CWCB CWRP	Awarded	cash	Through 2021	\$ 8,900
One Tree Planted	Secured	In-kind materials (5K), cash (2K)	2019	\$ 7,000
AIM Partnership	Pending	cash	Through 3/2020	\$ 10,000
Private Donations	Pending	cash	unrestricted	\$ 5,000
CFRI consulting	Secured	In-kind consulting	unrestricted	\$ 500
Four Mile Fire Protection District	Secured	cash	unrestricted	\$5,000
Fourmile Watershed Coalition	Secured	cash	unrestricted	\$2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 40,380</b>

#### Survey Cost Estimates (from and email):

West Region Wildfire Council estimates they need ~\$6000 for printing and mailing a survey to a sample of 1000 potential respondents, plus approximately 200 hours staff time for a two-mailing survey (including e.g. developing the mailing lists, getting quotes, affixing stamps and assembling mailings, and opening surveys and data tracking).

- Ideally, a survey should be field-tested through a series of focus groups of 8-10 people before being implemented more broadly. If your organization has the capacity to do these in-house, that can keep costs down, but related costs include staff time, and typically an incentive and food is provided to participants (eg \$50/person gift cards + food costs). I'd estimate doing 2 different focus groups as a good idea.

- You also should have budget for data entry of responses, which a super ballpark estimate is \$1000-2000.



All told, a rough estimate of ~\$10,000 should cover the nuts and bolts of implementing a survey to 1000 potential respondents, not including your staff time. But note, also, that response rates can range anywhere from 10-50%, and often toward the low end, so you might want a larger sample than 1000 respondents.

January 24, 2018

**Maya MacHamer, Watershed Coordinator**  
**Fourmile Watershed Coalition**  
**1740 Fourmile Canyon Drive**  
**Boulder, CO 80302**

Dear Fourmile Watershed Coalition:

We are pleased to inform you that the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) has approved your application, **Northern Front Range Forestry Network**, for funding pursuant to the Colorado Watershed Restoration Program (CWRP) in the amount of \$68,900. Please contact me to schedule a time to discuss the contracting process and additional needs.

General additional needs include:

- Stream Management Plan grantees must demonstrate that the planning effort put as much or more emphasis on environmental and recreational water uses as it does on other water uses.
- All CWRP funding awards are contingent upon applicant's ability to secure match funding.
- All grantees should adhere to their organizational procurement policies when hiring contractors and consultants. CWCB recommends that State procurement policies be used as a guide if an organization does not have procurement policies.
- Grantees should adequately address CWCB staff comments to scopes of work, engineering designs, and applications. This may result in changes. Comments are forthcoming.

The CWRP Grant Program Guidance can be located on our website for additional information.

Sincerely,  
**Vivian Pinelli**  
Administrative Assistant II