

Watershed Health Toolkit and Planning Guide Boulder County

Water Plan Grant Application

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DETAILS						
Total Project Cost:	\$123,198.30					
Water Plan Grant Request:	\$61,500.00					
Recommended amount:	\$0.00					
Other CWCB Funding:	\$0					
Other Funding Amount:	\$0					
Applicant Match:	\$61,698.30					
<pre>Project Type(s): Study, IPP</pre>						
Project Category(Categories): Study						
<i>Measurable Result:</i> Watershed health toolkit and planning guide						

March 2021 Board Meeting

Boulder County seeks to promote healthy watersheds and safe, sustainable water resources that can be resilient under changing population, land use, and disruptions such as wildfires and changing climate conditions. The proposed project's goals are to: 1) promote healthy watersheds by improving shared knowledge and coordination across watershed stakeholders, and 2) inform future local planning efforts related to watershed health through the use of the best available science, policy, and planning information.



This work will assemble available information from ongoing efforts that are working to define the meaning of healthy watersheds within Boulder County, and identify opportunities for partnerships amongst stakeholders to use this foundational work to most effectively protect and enhance the environment, recreation, agriculture, and human health of the Boulder County region.

The proposed project will take the science produced by existing local efforts as well as relevant regional policy

planning information and lay the foundation for integrating it at a practical level into local governments' land use planning tools and activities. The project will also help strengthen linkages between local government planning, programming, and resource allocation. Finally, this project will serve as a model for other counties in Colorado facing similar watershed management and planning challenges.

The application ranking among the review committee members did not favor a funding recommendation. A great deal of planning funds from various stakeholders, including the CWCB, is contributing to watershed health planning and stakeholder outreach in Boulder County. There are existing master plans for St. Vrain Creek, Left Hand Creek, Boulder Creek, and Coal Creek. There is a Stream Management Plan for St. Vrain Creek. There are also adaptive management planning efforts taking place for St. Vrain Creek and Left Hand Creek, along with forest health initiatives for most watersheds in the county. The CWCB has been or is a significant funding partner in all of these efforts. Boulder County is an active participant in the stakeholder process for the planning efforts described above, and may be able to leverage current meetings to identify existing information and coordinate with stakeholders. CWCB staff can help facilitate this as well.