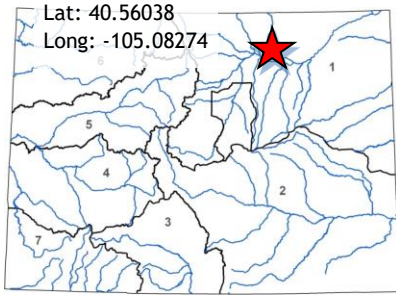




**Water Plan Grant Application**



L O C A T I O N	
County/Countries:	Weld, Larimer
Drainage Basin:	South Platte

D E T A I L S	
Total Project Cost:	\$241,000
Water Plan Grant Request:	\$125,000
Other CWCB Funding:	\$0
Other Funding Amount:	\$0
Applicant Match:	\$116,000
Project Type(s):	Study
Project Category (Categories):	Agriculture
Measurable Result:	105,000 LF of stream restored or protected; 300,000 Coloradans impacted by incorporating water savings actions into land use planning and engagement activity

This grant award will fund stakeholder engagement and the development of Best Management Practices for implementing a nutrient trading project.

The Cache la Poudre, like other river basins in Colorado, is subject to regulatory limits on nutrients—primarily nitrogen and phosphorus—in the water courses. These limits are met by ensuring that each individual source of nutrients in the basin maintain a level below the basin-wide limit. The primary sources of the nutrient loading are wastewater treatment plants and agricultural fields.

This project intends to develop a process by which agricultural producers could lower their nutrient loading so that one or more city wastewater treatment plants could raise their own nutrient loading and still maintain the basin-wide limits. It is likely that the agricultural producers could achieve reductions more economically than the cities who would compensate the producers.

This process of “nutrient trading” is allowed for by the policies of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, but has not been implemented in Colorado. It would provide an opportunity for municipalities and agricultural producers within the basin to collaborate and create flexibility for both as well.

The application for this grant was submitted with statements of support from representatives of the City of Greeley, the City of Fort Collins, and Ducks Unlimited.

**Funding Recommendation:**

Staff recommends Board approval of \$38,645 to the Fort Collins Conservation District for the Cache la Poudre Nutrient Trading Project. This award corresponds to Tasks 1, 2 and 3 in the Grant Application.

