



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed
Name of Water Project	Project-01881 Phase 2- Engaging Stakeholders & Communities in the Poudre
Grant Request Amount	\$68,880.00
Primary Category	\$68,880.00
<i>Engagement & Innovation Activities</i>	
Total Applicant Match	\$42,320.00
<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>	\$42,320.00
<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>	
Total Other Sources of Funding	\$42,320.00
<i>CDPHE- SEP</i>	\$20,000.00
<i>City of Greeley Natural Areas</i>	\$8,640.00
<i>USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station</i>	\$13,680.00
Total Project Cost	\$153,520.00

Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee: Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed
Mailing Address: 320 E Vine Drive, Ste 317 Fort Collins CO 80524
FEIN: 462,850,042

Organization Contact: Hally Strevey
Position/Title: Executive Director
Phone: 9702225754

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Organization Contact - Alternate: Megan Heath
Position/Title:
Phone: (970) 222-5754

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Description of Grantee/Applicant

No description provided

Type of Eligible Entity

- ☐ Public (Government)
- ☐ Public (District)
- ☐ Public (Municipality)
- ☐ Ditch Company
- ☐ Private Incorporated
- ☐ Private Individual, Partnership, or Sole Proprietor
- ☒ Non-governmental Organization
- ☐ Covered Entity

☐ Other

Category of Water Project

- ☐ Agricultural Projects
Developing communications materials that specifically work with and educate the agricultural community on headwater restoration, identifying the state of the science of this type of work to assist agricultural users among others.
- ☐ Conservation & Land Use Planning
Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning.
- ☒ Engagement & Innovation Activities
Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website.
- ☐ Watershed Restoration & Recreation
Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation.
- ☐ Water Storage & Supply
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.

Location of Water Project

Latitude	40.596500
Longitude	105.072000
Lat Long Flag	Other: Coordinates based on other boundaries or locations
Water Source	Cache la Poudre River
Basins	South Platte
Counties	Weld; Larimer
Districts	3-Cache La Poudre River

Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type	Education
Subcategory	
Scheduled Start Date - Design	4/1/2022
Scheduled Start Date - Construction	12/30/2024
Description	<p>This project is the second phase of our Engaging Stakeholders & Communities in the Poudre through Citizen Science, Collaboration & Outreach that was awarded in 2019/2020. Phase 2 will build upon tasks from the first phase through three goals: expand our citizen science program to collect post-Cameron Peak Fire data; engage landowners, ditch boards, and lower Poudre community around watershed health and river resiliency to increase momentum for priority projects; enable CPRW to maintain our role in Cameron Peak Fire (CPF) recovery efforts.</p> <p>To achieve these goals, we will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Recruit 5-10 additional CitSci volunteers to meet increased data collection needs2. Work with 3-5 landowners and 2-4 ditch boards in priority project areas as identified in our Lower Poudre Resiliency Master Plan to maintain current momentum and create buy-in for future river resiliency projects.3. Develop unique outreach opportunities including Poudre River Mural Project in the lower watershed to engage and empower the community to share their diverse stories about the river and its significance to their lives.

4. Engage our lower and upper Poudre stakeholders to maintain momentum in collaborative decision making around river resiliency projects in the lower watershed, and post-fire/forest resiliency work in the upper watershed.

Measurable Results

New Storage Created (acre-feet)
 New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive
 Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
 New Storage Created (acre-feet)
 Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)
 Efficiency Savings (dollars/year)
 Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year)
 Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)
 Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms or water sharing agreement (acre-feet)
 Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning
 150,000 Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity

Water Project Justification

Our proposal supports many of the goals articulated in Colorado's Water Plan, the Statewide Water Supply Initiative, the South Platte Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan, and the South Platte Roundtable Basin Education Action Plan. Specifically, our proposal will contribute measurable outcomes to those goals that relate to public outreach, engagement, and education and those related to protecting the health, stewardship, and resiliency of water resources.

Colorado Water Plan Alignment:

Section 6.2 (pg 15): "Colorado's Water Plan uses a grassroots approach to formulate projects and methods that avoid some of the undesirable outcomes of the supply-demand gaps. The plan addresses the gaps from multiple perspectives—such as water storage, reuse, recycling, integrated water management, restoration, and conservation."

This section acknowledges the goals and measurable outcomes of the Basin Implementation Plans, including:

- Meet Colorado's environmental and recreational water needs.
- Meet Colorado's water quality management needs.
- Protect and restore watershed health.
- Continue participation, education, outreach, and communication.

Our existing collaborative lower and upper Poudre stakeholder groups address multiple perspective as they include municipal utilities, federal, state, and regional natural resources agencies, community groups, researchers, non-profits and members of the public.

In early 2020, both our upper and lower Poudre stakeholder groups met less frequently due to the COVID-19 pandemic. After the Cameron Peak Fire (CPF) ignited in August 2020, our upper Poudre stakeholder group shifted to assist with the emergency response. CPRW began coordinating with multiple partners including the Forest Service, Larimer County, NRCS, CWCB, local water providers, non-profits, the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition, and other state agencies to coordinate and inform each other on on-going needs and actions. This effort is now referred to as the Larimer Recovery Collaborative and has created an organizational structure, with multiple interacting sub-committees that meet regularly to plan and prioritize actions. The steering committee meets monthly to get reports from each of 8 sub committees. CPRW coordinates the watershed recovery

sub-committee, which meets in between the steering committee meetings.

In 2022, we will continue to lead the CPF watershed recovery sub-committee but intend to re-connect our original upper and lower Poudre steering committees. After a year where we had to shift many of our efforts to address the CPF and associated post-fire restoration needs, we will be refocusing to maintain the momentum of other programs in the lower and upper watershed. The Phase 2 project will allow us to keep our stakeholders working together on critical next steps for planning water quality monitoring & forest restoration work to protect water quality, and engaging landowners and ditch boards around our river resiliency and fish passage projects along the river corridor east of I-25.

Our phase 1 project enabled our involvement in groups like the Poudre Runs Through It and the Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse Site Conservation Team. Phase 2 will continue to facilitate our participation in these groups. Our participation ensures that the environmental needs are included in these collaborative dialogues about water resource and infrastructure planning & ensure that our citizen science data is also incorporated into basin wide water resources planning where relevant. This will help meet the goals outlined in Section 6.2, which identifies the South Platte Goals and Measurable Outcomes (pg. 25) that recommend projects "take into consideration environmental and recreational attributes when considering storage and other infrastructure projects and methods."

Section 6.6 Goals (pg 157): "Understand, protect, maintain, and improve conditions of streams, lakes, wetlands, and riparian areas to promote self-sustaining fisheries and functional riparian and wetland habitat to promote long-term sustainability and resiliency".

In the wake of the CPF and the post-fire impacts the watershed experienced during the 2021 monsoon season, it is ideal timing to continue directly engaging the community about the critical connection between forest health and water quality, as well as increasing the resilience of the river and watershed. Our outreach program will continue to directly address this Section 6.6 goal.

Since late 2017, we have used our Lower Poudre Resiliency Master Plan to help identify priority reaches of the river corridor for design/implementation to increase river resiliency. The Master Plan identifies threats to critical infrastructure including the Poudre River Trail, roads/bridges, state & local parks etc. During Phase 2, we will continue to hold conversations and build relationships with local landowners, ditch boards, community leaders, and the public with the goal of increasing river resiliency. We are currently working with three landowners in our "Reach 13" priority areas to complete the design of a river resiliency project. In addition, we are in the early planning phases with two ditch boards on the Poudre to incorporate fish passage into their diversion structures. This project will provide the necessary support for us to continue these important conversations which will also directly address the Section 6.6 objective to "Maintain watershed health by protecting or restoring watersheds that could affect critical infrastructure and/or environmental and recreational areas".

One of our main outreach projects continues to be coordinating the annual Poudre RiverFest, that celebrates the River, educates the public and directly supports restoration projects. Through engaging interactive booths & workshops, participants can learn about the ecology of the river, watershed health, the history of water law and current water law issues, river safety, and opportunities to help restore and protect the Poudre. This event directly supports all aspects of Section 6.6 goals. The festival tracks attendance and distributes post event surveys to capture participant experiences. In 2018 and 2019, we had in-person participation between 1,000-3,000 people. Due to the pandemic, the festival went virtual in 2020 and we adapted a hybrid version in 2021 with a smaller in-person celebration at the end of summer (attendance of ~400 people). Over the next 1-3 years, CPRW will also be leading Poudre RiverFest volunteers to assist with our CPF reforestation efforts.

For Phase 2, we plan to create several unique education and outreach events/projects. One of our planned projects is to create a Poudre River mural in the lower watershed. We have recently partnered with the University of Northern Colorado's Art Department, local Weld County School districts, and the City of Greeley Business District to plan a collaborative mural project to share the perspectives and experiences of the community. The overall goal of the mural project is to tell the story of the lower Poudre community by connecting to their history and values around the river through art. Our aim is that the Poudre River mural will help cultivate partnerships, increase collaboration and bring the community together around one common theme - the Poudre River and its importance to our region.

Section 6.2 also identifies the South Platte Goals and Measurable Outcomes (pg 25) that recommend projects that "monitor, protect and improve watershed water quality and identify and document progress and improvements".

In 2022, our citizen science program is expanding to meet the increased monitoring needs following the CPF. We will engage our stakeholders, local upper watershed residents and community members to volunteer as citizen scientists, aligning directly with the South Platte Section 6.2 goal. With our partners at the RMRS and CSU, we will build communication tools to communicate our monitoring results to track our progress towards increasing the resiliency of the watershed.

Chapter 6 recognizes that the Cache la Poudre River is the only river in Colorado that is designated as a Wild and Scenic River (Pg 166 Wild and Scenic Rivers). Our monitoring work includes multiple sites in the Wild & Scenic corridor, providing a unique opportunity for community members to learn about this highly valued section of our river. Several drainages to the Wild & Scenic corridor were severely burned in the CPF and are the focus of restoration work like aerial mulching and post-fire BMPs to protect water quality. Our citizen science monitoring program will help track impacts from the fire and progress following post-fire restoration.

Section 7.1 Watershed Health & Management Goal to "[Promote] watershed health and [support] the development of watershed coalitions and watershed master plans that address the needs of a diverse set of local stakeholders through identified actions such as:

- Identify watersheds that are critical to water supply.
- Monitor projects to ensure that objectives are met and maintained.
- Conduct adaptive management as necessary.
- Coordinate statewide watershed-coalition and partnership plans, projects, monitoring, and adaptive management strategies.

Our stakeholder-driven collaborative identified the sub-watersheds are critical to water supply as a part of our Upper Poudre Resiliency Master Plan that was completed in 2016. However, after the CPF some of our priority watersheds have changed due to post-fire impacts to water quality and supply. With the Cameron Peak Recovery Collaborative partners (including the cities of Fort Collins and Greeley, Larimer County, US Forest Service, etc.), we worked to develop the Watershed Hazards, Treatments and Targeting Prioritization plan with JW Associates. This plan identifies zones of concern, post-fire watershed hazards and potential treatments to minimize impacts. CPRW and our partners are using this plan as the basis for targeting small watersheds for post-fire treatment.

By continuing to convene our stakeholder group and the CPF recovery collaborative, we will be able to further our work on collaboratively monitoring, planning, and assessing conditions in our basin and in the burn area. Our citizen science water quality monitoring program will help monitor post-fire projects and speak to adaptive management in our watershed.

This chapter specifically articulates that “successful watershed management necessitates collaborative discussions on managing forests to benefit water supply...And that watershed health largely focuses on forest-health concerns (Section 7.1 pg 7). Our work in the Upper Poudre is driven by restoring and protecting forested headwaters to protect our water supplies, communities, and river ecosystems. We will continue to work with our stakeholders to further this goal. Our project will also help residents understand these critical watershed connections by engaging them directly in citizen science monitoring in the headwaters, and the impacts from severe wildfire on water quality. This work will support adaptive management of CPRW’s work in the basin and other agencies (Forest Service) adaptive management needs. We will also provide learning opportunities at outreach events such as the Poudre RiverFest, panel discussions, and other forums specific to the Poudre and Front Range watersheds.

Similarly, this work also aligns with the State Water Supply Initiative Section 8 Recommendation (pg. 8-1): 1. “Support meeting Colorado’s non-consumptive water needs by working with Colorado’s water stakeholders to help: (1) Protect or enhance environmental and recreational values that benefit local and statewide economies; and (2) Encourage multipurpose projects that benefit both water users and native species.

Section 7.3 Goals “Colorado’s Water Plan promotes waters that fully support their classified uses by 2050 through strategies designed to meet Colorado’s current and future consumptive, recreational, and environmental water needs. These strategies incorporate the protection and restoration of water quality as a key objective”.

Our Citizen Science Program continues to be focused on water quality monitoring. After the CPF, our program has expanded to include three objectives: 1) develop a baseline data set of water quality in high priority reaches (based on CPRW’s Resiliency Plan); 2) collect water quality data to measure the impact of prescribed fire, an increasingly important forest management tool, on our waterways; and 3) monitor the impacts from the CPF and track outcomes from post-fire restoration. This program will provide critical data to help the public better understand the link between forest health, rivers and water quality. It will also provide support to our partners at the USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station and City of Fort Collins Utilities by expanding our capacity to collect critical post-fire water quality data.

Finally, the data collected through our program will help state water managers and stakeholders monitor current water quality conditions and evaluate the status of surface-water quality in the CLP headwaters to assess whether water bodies are meeting regulatory standards and provide additional data for evaluating baseline conditions into the future.

Section 7.3 D 1. Stakeholder and Public Outreach (pg 33) “Stakeholder and public outreach is critical to meeting the water quality and -quantity integration goal. 1. Use a watershed approach for outreach and community engagement around water quality, ways to protect water quality, and solutions to water quality issues”.

AND

Section 9.5 Outreach, education, and public engagement (pg 1) “Colorado’s Water Plan provides technical and financial assistance for high-quality, balanced, and grassroots water education and outreach efforts that inform Coloradans about issues so that they may engage in determining Colorado’s water future”.

With Phase 2 funding from the Colorado Water Plan, CPRW can continue to act as the organizing chair of the Poudre RiverFest, giving CPRW & our partners a strategic opportunity to increase residents’ opportunities to learn about the varied water resource and watershed issues in a fun, meaningful, and engaging way. Our outreach program also includes developing community meetings/tours/events to increase people’s understanding of these issues and to create communication tools (videos, website, StoryMap, etc) to support these outcomes. We will also be targeting specific landowners in the lower watershed that own property in our priority reaches

from the Lower Poudre Master Plan.

The South Platte BIP defines facilitating “effective South Platte communications and outreach programs that complement the State’s overall program” as one of the 11 Key Plan Elements. In Chapter 4, Projects & Methods, section 4.1 Education, Participation, and Outreach includes the following Suggested Activities (4.1.3 pg 193) ‘Develop Messages’ and ‘Develop and Maintain Basin-Specific Outreach Tools and Approaches’. As part of this Phase 2 funding, we will continue to refine key watershed and river resiliency messages, especially as we aim to secure buy-in from key landowners for future resiliency projects. We will create specific data visualization tools, factsheets, blogs and other products to educate landowners and community members on what river resiliency means. We plan to organize field trips with landowners to the River Bluffs project on Larimer County Open Space land that is a showcase for river restoration on the Poudre.

The Poudre River Mural project will also provide a unique opportunity to facilitate communication and outreach about the river by engaging a wide range of the local community including K-12 schools, municipalities, and the Art Department at UNC. We aim to involve these stakeholders in the entire planning, design and creation of the mural. The mural will provide an opportunity for the community to share their stories and history around the river and express what is important to them about the watershed through art.

Our proposed activities are all in line with activities and outreach tools described in the South Platte BIP Table 4-3 (pg 192), Engagement Tools and Intended Audiences.

Additionally, our proposed activities all support the following other SP BIP goals through education and outreach:

1. S.5.5 Protect and enhance environmental and recreation attributes. Recommendation: Fill existing data gaps regarding protection of environmental and recreational attributes in order to better understand the adequacy of existing and future protections.
2. S.5.9 Facilitate effective South Platte communications and outreach programs that complement the state’s overall program. Recommendation: Design and implement an intensive education, participation and outreach program designed to generate a lasting baseline of public awareness and support.

Our citizen science data will help fill data gaps regarding environmental attributes and post-fire impacts to contribute to a data set that will be communicated to the public through our reports, presentations, and future web portal.

The South Platte Basin Roundtable Education Action Plan includes “II. Educational Priorities & Implementation: Overall goals of the Education and Outreach Committee of the South Platte Basin Roundtable include a focus on educating and engaging the public, decision-makers and elected officials on the scope and purpose of the BIP and the State Water Plan, with an over-arching theme of focusing on solutions-oriented water supply planning”.

By engaging residents directly in the development of high-quality water data, we will empower volunteers by facilitating their direct participation in watershed science. Our citizen science volunteers gain hands-on knowledge of the Poudre’s water resources, the connection between healthy forests, fires, and water quality, and how restoring our headwaters protects downstream water users. Our program will continue to provide a venue for the community to learn more about the impacts from the CPF and outcomes from post-fire restoration through our reporting of the data, trends and outcomes. This information is available through our newsletter, website, blogs and social media.

It will also be uploaded into statewide water quality databases for use by decision makers on baseline conditions

in our basin to help track outcomes from both forest mitigation work (like prescribed fire) versus high severity wildfire like Cameron Peak.

Related Studies

Upper Poudre Watershed Resiliency Plan, December 2016. Prepared for CPRW by JW Associates, 119 pgs.

Lower Poudre River Recovery & Resilience Master Plan, January 2017. Prepared for CPRW by Lynker Associates. 139 pgs.

State of the Poudre River Assessment City of Fort Collins, 2017. 125 pgs

City of Fort Collins Source Water Protection Plan. 60 pgs.

City of Fort Collins. Upper Cache la Poudre (UCLP) Collaborative Water Quality Monitoring Program. Standard Operating Procedures

Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report, 2018. Colorado Water Quality Control Board, Department of Public Health & Environment. 519 pgs

Cache la Poudre River Watershed- Based Plan, April 2020. Prepared for CPRW by LRE Water, Inc. 131 pgs.

State of the Upper Poudre, May 2020. Prepared for CPRW by Stillwater Sciences.

Watershed Hazards, Treatments and Targeting Prioritization, 2021. Prepared for City of Greeley by JW Associates.

Taxpayer Bill of Rights

As a non-profit entity, we are not affected by TABOR.

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: (1) Summarizes the project and how the project was completed. (2) Describes any obstacles encountered, and how these obstacles were overcome. (3) Confirms that all matching commitments have been fulfilled. (4) 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 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 the Budget & Schedule 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 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.

Last Updated: May 2021

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)?
<p>The overall goal of the Phase 2 project is to engage and educate stakeholders and the community about water resources and watershed health in the Cache la Poudre watershed. To achieve this goal, we will continue to convene our lower and upper Poudre stakeholder groups along with the Cameron Peak Fire (CPF) Recovery Collaborative, coordinate outreach activities like the Poudre RiverFest, empower the lower Poudre community to participate in the Poudre River mural project and to engage residents to participate in CPRW's Citizen Science Water Quality Monitoring program.</p> <p>Our stakeholder teams are diverse and collaborative (they represent 8-10 stakeholder categories). To meet the planning needs of the watershed we have both an upper and lower watershed stakeholder group and, following the CPF, we lead a sub-committee of the Larimer Recovery Collaborative. With these stakeholders, we work on watershed resiliency planning and implementation, the River Health Assessment Framework, monitoring needs, and CPF post-fire restoration planning and implementation.</p> <p>By participating in outreach events like the Poudre RiverFest, we are able to engage the local community on all facets of the river from watershed health to water law. Our Poudre River mural project will provide a unique opportunity to engage the diverse communities in the lower Poudre watershed including Weld County school districts, University of Northern Colorado students, City of Greeley and local residents and businesses. The mural will be placed in an accessible, highly</p>



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visible location that also connects the art to the river corridor. Once complete, this mural will provide an inspirational space to bring the Poudre communities together around the river.

Finally, our citizen science water quality monitoring program has, and will continue to, provide an opportunity for volunteers and the community to learn about the critical connection between forest health and water quality, especially following the devastating impacts to the river following the CPF. Over the next few years, this program will continue to support the efforts of our partners at the USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station and City of Fort Collins by collecting defensible, science-driven data to track impacts from CPF and outcomes from post-fire restoration.

Who is/are the target audience(s)? How will you reach them? How will you involve the community?

Our target audience for our Phase 2 efforts are residents in mountain communities, especially those impacted by the CPF, lower Poudre landowners (east of I-25 to the confluence) that are directly adjacent to the river, K-12 Weld County Schools, UNC students and faculty, local Weld County businesses, and the communities that rely on the Poudre for municipal, industrial or agricultural water supplies.

Our communications, outreach and marketing efforts target a range of audiences within Northern Colorado region. At the broadest scale, we reach the community and residents across the watershed through both digital and physical means. We send a monthly e-newsletter to ~1,000 subscribers and regularly update our website with new content. We also regularly share content on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter to a combined audience of ~2,500.

Our target audience in these efforts are residents in mountain communities, communities adjacent to the river, and communities that rely on the Poudre for municipal, industrial, or agricultural water supply.

Similarly, the annual Poudre RiverFest attempts to reach a broad range of people who live in the area and desire to learn more about the river. To date, we have had participation ranging from 1,500 – 3,000 per year. In 2020 and 2021 the Poudre RiverFest was held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We hope to hold the 2022 event in person and will expand our outreach efforts to encourage the Poudre communities in Weld County to participate in the event.

Our Citizen Science Program targets any local community member interested in learning more about the science behind watershed health with available time to help collect data. We have broadly advertised that program and have a wide range of participants across the watershed. In 2022, we aim to engage 10-15 additional volunteers to actively participate in the program.

Some of our other outreach work has more specific or targeted audiences. We are actively working to engage landowners in the lower watershed to both maintain momentum on existing projects and to secure buy-in and support for future resiliency projects. For this type of outreach, we find hosting educational tours and site visits to existing project locations is most effective. We will continue to target landowners in our priority areas in both the upper and lower watershed. This includes landowners with property adjacent to the river east of I-25, and people who live in mountain communities near and/or in the CPF burn area or close to our forest health projects.



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As part of our outreach work, we also host tours for downstream beneficiaries – local water-dependent businesses, elected officials, interested residents, and the recreational community. As a part of this project, we will continue to host these important tours to educate the community about river resiliency.

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?

As a watershed coalition whose mission includes collaboration, we engage our stakeholders in everything we do. Our upper Poudre stakeholder team has met regularly since 2015 with a gap between 2020-2021 due to COVID-19 and the Cameron Peak Fire. This team includes representatives from the US Forest Service, the Colorado State Forest Service, water utilities, local conservation districts, CSU researchers and local non-profits. These meetings are advertised publicly and open to the general community. We aim to re-engage our upper Poudre stakeholder group in early 2022 and will continue to lead the CPF Recovery Collaborative as long as necessary.

Similarly, for our work in the lower Poudre, we collaborate with natural resource experts, local county and municipal representatives, UNC and CPW. We continue to engage other non-profits, agriculture, and other key community members to participate in this group. We have also started to engage local Weld County school districts, the Art Department at UNC, the Poudre Learning Center, local Weld County businesses and the City of Greeley's Cultural Affairs Division to plan our Poudre River Mural project.

For our citizen science project, we work closely with scientists from the USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station and with water quality experts from the City of Fort Collins and Colorado State University.

We have secured funding to help support our Citizen Science Program through the USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station. Additionally, we have funding from the City of Greeley Natural Areas from their contribution to our "Reach 13" design project, and Wildlands Restoration Volunteers through their CDPHE Supplemental Environmental Projects program to support our outreach and river resiliency design work in the Lower Poudre. The City of Greeley has also pledged support for the Poudre River mural project, and we are seeking other grants to help fund the mural. Several local businesses in Weld County have also expressed their interest in helping to fund the mural project.

Describe how you plan to measure and evaluate the success and impact of the project?

We will measure success through multiple means:

For our citizen science program, we track volunteer participation (volunteer hours and dates of sampling). RMRS evaluates the volunteer data collected to ensure it meets quality control standards and analyzes it for trends. Success for our Citizen Science Program is measured by



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volunteer engagement, including number of returning volunteers, and if our new volunteer sign ups meet our data collection needs. Additionally, we measure success based on whether the data meets quality control standards and if our partners can use the data for their own management needs. Over the past few years, this program has proved valuable to our partners across the watershed. We now have baseline data in tributaries across the watershed that can be used as a foundation for adaptive management. Following the CPF, this program will provide the critical capacity to collect additional water quality data to aid our partners at RMRS and the City of Fort Collins.

For the Poudre RiverFest we distribute surveys at the end of the event to gather data on the participants experiences. Since 2018, we have used digital marketing tools to track how people interact with our messaging. For certain outreach events, we will send brief surveys to gather feedback either before or after the event. We plan to conduct similar surveys around the Poudre River mural project to track the impact of the mural.

Finally, we always track participation in our stakeholder and community meetings via sign-in sheets. We also record our virtual meetings and have attendees enter their information in the chat box.

What research, evidence, and data support your project?

For our citizen science program, we rely on research, evidence, and data in two different ways. Evidence in the scientific literature that has highlighted the value and quality of the volunteer data, as well as best practices for ensuring that quality. For example, Kosmala, M et al 2016 noted in "Assessing data quality in citizen science" (Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment. Vol 14, issue 10, pgs 551-560) that "[w]hile scientists are often skeptical of the ability of unpaid volunteers to produce accurate datasets, a growing body of publications clearly shows that diverse types of citizen-science projects can produce data with accuracy equal to or surpassing that of professionals. Successful projects rely on a suite of methods to boost data accuracy and account for bias, including iterative project development, volunteer training and testing, expert validation, replication across volunteers, and statistical modeling of systematic error". CPRW has already incorporated this type of evidence-based recommendations into our program development.

We have a yearly volunteer training program to ensure the volunteers know how to properly collect data, we have provided them with ready-made kits with substantial information to guide them while in the field, and we have a QA/QC protocol. Experts at the RMRS validate samples and we also include replication and field duplicates as one of our QA/QC measures. We are actively working with researchers from the RMRS to conduct statistical analyses on our data from 2019-2021.

We also have access to the water quality dataset collected by the local water utilities in the watershed. Thus, we will have a reputable dataset against which we can compare our data to better understand whether the ranges of data our volunteers collect fall within expected values for this river. We also adapted the City of Fort Collins Utilities and RMRS standard operating procedures (SoP) for our own SoPs and QA/QC. See below for additional research that supports this project.



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Additionally, for our general outreach in the headwaters, we have worked with expert social science researchers from Rocky Mountain Research Station who study the best practices for communicating with private landowners regarding critical watershed/forest issues. We have also found that leveraging multiple types of communication to the mountain and lower watershed communities is the most impactful. We often use both direct mail and digital marketing campaigns to share important information across the watershed.

In 2021, researchers at Colorado State University and the USFS RMFS conducted a study to explore residents' understanding of the Cameron Peak Fire, their attitudes about the fire, perceptions about post-fire recovery and future forest, fire and watershed management. The results have not yet been published, but they should provide valuable dataset on the community's perspectives before, during and after the fire and how their perspectives may have changed about watershed and forestry management. As applicable, we will work with the CSU researchers and their data to inform our messaging and outreach methods.

As part of our broader community outreach, including the Poudre River mural project, we will continue to use existing expert best practices as a foundation for our approaches to educate our audiences about relevant water issues to the Poudre. For example, the University of Madison-Wisconsin's National Extension Water Outreach Education program has extensive guidance on Best Education Practices for water education

(<https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/wateroutreach/water-outreach-education/what-are-beps/essential-beps/>) that includes best practices for engaging communities around water issues and will inform how we shape our community outreach efforts.

Public art such as collaborative murals also offer opportunities to bind a community together by telling their shared story. In fact, a study conducted by Knight and Gallup between 2009-2011, surveyed 43,000 people in 26 communities across the country. In the survey, they asked "What attached people to the place where they live?" They found that social offerings and aesthetics like art bind people to place more than education or jobs do.

Citizen Science Research

Bonney, R. 2014. *Next Steps for Citizen Science*. Science 28, Vol. 343, Issue 6178, pp. 1436-1437

Hunter, J. et al. 2013. *Assessing the quality and trustworthiness of citizen science data*. 13 September 2012. Volume 25, Issue 4, Pages 454-466

Swanson, A. et al. A generalized approach for producing, quantifying, and validating citizen science data from wildlife images *

Sheppard S. & Terveen. L. *Quality is a verb: the operationalization of data quality in a citizen science community*. Proceeding WikiSym '11 Proceedings of the 7th International Symposium on Wikis and Open Collaboration Pages 29-38

Silvertown, J. *A new dawn for citizen science*. Trends in Ecology and Evolution. Volume 24, Issue 9, September 2009, Pages 467-471



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Social Science Research

Knight Foundation. 2021. <https://knightfoundation.org/speeches/art-binds-people-to-place-and-to-each-other/>

McCaffrey, Sarah M.; Kooistra, Chad. 2021. Exploring Residents' Understanding of the 2020 Cameron Peak Fire and Management Approaches.

McCaffrey, Sarah M.; Olsen, Christine S. 2012. Research perspectives on the public and fire management: a synthesis of current social science on eight essential questions.

McCaffrey, Sarah M.; Stidham, Melanie; Toman, Eric; Shindler, Bruce. 2011. Outreach programs, peer pressure, and common sense: What motivates homeowners to mitigate wildfire risk.

Steelman, Toddi A.; McCaffrey, Sarah M.; Velez, Anne-Lise Knox; Briefel, Jason Alexander. 2015. What information do people use, trust, and find useful during a disaster Evidence from five large wildfires.

McCaffrey, Sarah. 2009. Crucial factors influencing public acceptance of fuels treatments.

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

Our short-term challenge is keeping three landowners and two ditch boards engaged in the design process of one of our river resiliency projects in the lower watershed. So far, the three landowners and ditch boards are amenable to both projects and some of the ideas behind river resiliency, but there is still a need meet with them regularly. We aim to organize site visits with the landowners to the River Bluffs restoration project on Larimer County Open Space to show firsthand what a resilient river project can look like. We will also organize 1-2 site visits with Poudre ditch boards to our Godfrey Diversion Fish Passage project on the Middle South Platte River. We have found with previous site visits to the Godfrey that we were able to break down barriers and misconceptions to what a fish passage project means for a ditch company.

Our second short-to-medium term challenge continues to be data management and visualization for our Citizen Science Program. The water quality samples are analyzed in the RMRS lab, and the data is currently held by the RMRS. Our intent is to broadly share this data through our website, on applicable databases and at conferences, presentations, etc. The data set is very large and is combined with RMRS data. The intent is to ensure this data is accessible for a variety of users from public agencies to researchers and the public. The long-term challenge for our Citizen Science Program continues to be sustaining the program financially. As we expand the program and collect more data, it will require continuous financial support from CPRW.

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.).



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Engagement Track
<p>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."</p>
<p>Our Phase 2 proposal will contribute to the State meeting this objective in multiple ways. First, we aim to increase the public's awareness of key water issues of interest to the Water Plan - watershed health, river restoration & resiliency, forest health & how it protects water supply, and the importance of non-consumptive uses in our basin. Through our participation in the Poudre RiverFest and other Poudre River groups, we will incorporate opportunities for the community to learn about the ecology/restoration, current water use, recreation, and history of the Poudre River. Our Poudre River mural project will also help to increase the engagement and awareness of the river and watershed and the diverse perspectives and values of the river to the lower watershed communities. For each of these tasks, we will continue to use surveys to document participation and awareness of the relevant water issues.</p> <p>Furthermore, by engaging landowners and ditch boards in our priority areas of the lower Poudre, we will increase awareness of water issues for key stakeholders and the community as a whole through targeted outreach around these projects.</p> <p>Finally, our Citizen Science Program provides a direct, hands-on opportunity for residents to learn about key water quality, watershed, and river health issues. Every year we survey our volunteers to assess their experiences & motivations for participation. We use these results to make adjustments, ensuring the program continues to be useful and meaningful to volunteers.</p>
<p>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.</p>
<p>Our Phase 2 project aligns with the following goals/actions/themes from the Colorado Water Plan:</p> <p>Section 6.2 (pg 15): "Colorado's Water Plan uses a grassroots approach to formulate projects and methods that avoid some of the undesirable outcomes of the supply-demand gaps. The plan addresses the gaps from multiple perspectives—such as water storage, reuse, recycling, integrated water management, restoration, and conservation."</p> <p>By design, our existing collaborative stakeholder groups bring in multiple perspectives as they include municipal utilities, federal, state, and regional natural resources agencies, community groups, non-profits and members of the public.</p> <p>In early 2020, both our upper and lower Poudre stakeholder groups met less frequently due to the COVID-19 pandemic. After the Cameron Peak Fire (CPF) ignited in August 2020, our upper Poudre stakeholder group shifted to assist with the emergency response. CPRW began coordinating with multiple partners including the Forest Service, Larimer County, NRCS, CWCB, local water providers, non-profits, the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition, and other state agencies to coordinate and inform each other on on-going needs and actions. This effort is now referred to as the Larimer Recovery Collaborative and has created an organizational structure,</p>



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with multiple interacting sub-committees that meet regularly to plan and prioritize actions. The steering committee meets monthly to get reports from each of 8 sub committees. CPRW coordinates the watershed recovery sub-committee, which meets in between the steering committee meetings.

In 2022, we will continue to lead the CPF watershed recovery sub-committee but intend to re-engage our original upper and lower Poudre steering committees. After a year where we had to shift many of our efforts to address the restoration needs following the CPF, we intend to refocus attention to our other priority projects. The Phase 2 project will allow us to keep our stakeholders working together on critical next steps for our River Health Assessment, planning for water quality monitoring & forest restoration to protect water quality, and river resiliency projects along the river corridor east of I-25.

Our 2017 Lower Poudre River Resiliency Plan included threats to critical infrastructure in its multi-metric evaluation. By building community conversations around river resiliency in the lower Poudre, our project will therefore directly address the Section 6.6 objective to “Maintain watershed health by protecting or restoring watersheds that could affect critical infrastructure and/or environmental and recreational areas.”

By continuing to facilitate our participation in groups like Poudre Runs Through It, the Preble’s Jumping Mouse Site Conservation Team, and Poudre River Monitoring and Data Sharing working group, we can help ensure that environmental and recreational needs are included in these collaborative dialogues & ensure that our citizen science data is incorporated into basin-wide water resource planning, especially following the Cameron Peak Fire. This would help meet the goals outlined in Section 6.2 also identifies the South Platte Goals and Measurable Outcomes (pg 25) that recommend projects “take into consideration environmental and recreational attributes when considering storage and other infrastructure projects and methods”.

Section 6.6 Goals: “Understand, protect, maintain, and improve conditions of streams, lakes, wetlands, and riparian areas to promote self-sustaining fisheries and functional riparian and wetland habitat to promote long-term sustainability and resiliency”.

During the Phase 2 project, we will continue to educate and engage community members about the critical connection between forest health and water supply protection, as well as the vital importance of increasing river resiliency and restoration, directly addressing the Section 6.6 goal. The post-fire impacts our watershed experienced this year emphasized this connection, and it is on the forefront of the minds for many in Northern Colorado. This only makes our outreach program more relevant to our stakeholders and community members.

One of our main outreach projects is coordinating the annual Poudre RiverFest, which seeks to celebrate the river, educate citizens, and fund restoration work. Through engaging interactive booths, participants get to learn about the ecology of the river, watershed health, the role the Poudre plays in water law, safety while recreating on the river, and opportunities to help restore and protect the Poudre. This event directly supports all aspects of Section 6.6 goals. The festival tracks attendance and has started using post event surveys to better capture participants experiences. So far we’ve had participation between 1,000 – 3,000 people per year and we have set a target to increase participation from the lower watershed communities in Weld County in 2022. Due to the pandemic, the festival went virtual in 2020 and we adapted a hybrid version in



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2021 with a smaller in-person celebration in August (attendance of ~400 people). Over the next 1-3 years, CPRW will be leading Poudre RiverFest funding and volunteers to assist with our CPF reforestation efforts.

For Phase 2, we plan to create several unique education and outreach events/projects. One of our planned projects is to create a Poudre River mural in the lower watershed. We have recently partnered with the University of Northern Colorado's Art Department, local Weld County School districts, and the City of Greeley Business District to plan a collaborative mural project to share the perspectives and experiences of the community. The overall goal of the mural project is to tell the story of the lower Poudre community by connecting to their history and values around the river through art. Our aim is that the Poudre River Mural will help cultivate partnerships, increase collaboration and understanding of key issues around the river.

Section 6.2 also identifies the South Platte Goals and Measurable Outcomes (pg 25) that recommend projects that “monitor, protect and improve watershed water quality and identify and document progress and improvements”.

By engaging stakeholders, residents, and other community members in our citizen science monitoring project, our Phase 2 project will align directly with this goal. We will continue to build tools to document & communicate our monitoring results to track impacts from the CPF, post-fire restoration, and other forest resilience work in the watershed. Our purpose for building the program is to track progress towards increasing resiliency in our watershed.

Importantly, Chapter 6 recognizes that the Cache la Poudre River is the only river in Colorado that is currently designated as a Wild and Scenic River (Pg 166 Wild and Scenic Rivers). Our monitoring work includes multiple sites in the Wild & Scenic corridor, providing a unique opportunity for community members to learn about this much valued section of our river, while helping to build a dataset to help protect it. Several drainages to the Wild & Scenic corridor were severely burned in the CPF and are the focus of restoration work like aerial mulching and post-fire BMPs to protect water quality. Our citizen science monitoring program will help track impacts from the fire and progress following post-fire restoration.

Section 7.1 Watershed Health & Management Goal to “[Promote] watershed health and [support] the development of watershed coalitions and watershed master plans that address the needs of a diverse set of local stakeholders. through identified actions such as:

- Identify watersheds that are critical to water supply.
- Monitor projects to ensure that objectives are met and maintained.
- Conduct adaptive management as necessary.
- Coordinate statewide watershed-coalition and partnership plans, projects, monitoring, and adaptive management strategies.

Our stakeholder-driven collaborative identified that sub-watersheds are critical to water supply as a part of our 2016 Upper Poudre Resiliency Master Plan. However, after the CPF some of our priority watersheds have changed due to post-fire impacts to water quality and supply. With the Cameron Peak Recovery Collaborative partners (including Cities of Fort Collins and Greeley, Larimer County, US Forest Service etc.), we worked to develop the *Watershed Hazards, Treatments and Targeting Prioritization* plan with JW Associates. This plan identifies zones of



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concern, post-fire watershed hazards and potential treatments to minimize impacts. CPRW and our partners are using this plan as the basis for targeting small watersheds for post-fire treatment.

By continuing to convene our stakeholder group and the CPF recovery collaborative, we will be able to further our work on collaboratively monitoring, planning, and assessing conditions in our basin and in the burn area. Our Citizen Science Water Quality Monitoring Program will help monitor post-fire projects and speak to adaptive management in our watershed.

In addition, we have been working with landowners and our steering committee to develop a concept level design of our “Reach 13” project that was identified as a priority in our Lower Poudre Master Plan. As we move the design forward to eventual implementation, we will track outcomes on river resiliency and implement adaptive management strategies as needed.

This chapter specifically articulates that “successful watershed management necessitates collaborative discussions on managing forests to benefit water supply...And that watershed health largely focuses on forest-health concerns (Section 7.1 pg 7). Our work in the Upper Poudre is driven by restoring and protecting forested headwaters to protect our water supplies, communities, and river ecosystems. We will continue to work with our stakeholders to further this goal. Our project will also help residents understand these critical watershed connections by engaging them directly in citizen science monitoring in the headwaters, and the impacts from severe wildfire on water quality. This work will support adaptive management of CPRW’s work in the basin and other agencies (Forest Service) adaptive management needs. We will also provide learning opportunities at outreach events such as the Poudre RiverFest, panel discussions, and other conferences or forums specific to the Poudre and Front Range watersheds.

Section 7.3 Goal: “Colorado’s Water Plan promotes waters that fully support their classified uses by 2050 through strategies designed to meet Colorado’s current and future consumptive, recreational, and environmental water needs. These strategies incorporate the protection and restoration of water quality as a key objective”.

Our Citizen Science Monitoring program continues to focus on water quality monitoring. After the CPF, our program has expanded to include three main objectives: 1) develop a baseline data set of water quality in high priority reaches (based on CPRW’s Resiliency Plan); 2) collect water quality data to measure the impact of prescribed fire, an increasingly important forest management tool, on our waterways and; 3) monitor the impacts from the CPF and track outcomes from post-fire restoration. This program will provide critical data to help the public better understand the link between forest health, rivers and water quality. It will also help state water managers and stakeholders monitor current water quality conditions and evaluate the status of surface-water quality in the CLP headwaters. This will help assess whether water bodies are meeting regulatory standards and provide additional data for evaluating baseline conditions into the future.

Section 7.3 D 1. Stakeholder and Public Outreach (pg 33) “Stakeholder and public outreach is critical to meeting the water quality and -quantity integration goal. 1. Use a watershed approach for outreach and community engagement around water quality, ways to protect water quality, and solutions to water quality issues”.

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Section 9.5 Outreach, education, and public engagement (pg 1) “Colorado’s Water Plan provides technical and financial assistance for high-quality, balanced, and grassroots water education and outreach efforts that inform Coloradans about issues so that they may engage in determining Colorado’s water future”.

With Phase 2 funding from the Colorado Water Plan, CPRW can continue to act as the organizing chair for the Poudre RiverFest, giving CPRW & our partners a strategic opportunity to increase residents’ opportunities to learn about the varied water resource and watershed issues in a fun, meaningful, and engaging way. Our outreach program also includes developing community meetings/tours/events to increase people’s understanding of these issues and to create communication tools (videos, blogs, etc.) to support these outcomes. We will cultivate relationships with landowners in the lower watershed that own property in our priority reaches from the Lower Poudre Master Plan. This funding will also enable us to maintain momentum with landowners and ditch boards on our two lower Poudre design projects for fish passage and river resiliency.

The South Platte BIP defines facilitating “effective South Platte communications and outreach programs that complement the State’s overall program” as one of the 11 Key Plan Elements. In Chapter 4, Projects & Methods, section 4.1 Education, Participation, and Outreach includes the following Suggested Activities (4.1.3 pg 193) ‘Develop Messages’ and ‘Develop and Maintain Basin-Specific Outreach Tools and Approaches’. As part of this Phase 2 funding, we will continue to refine key watershed and river resiliency messages, especially as we aim to secure buy-in from key landowners for future resiliency projects. We will create specific data visualization tools, factsheets, blogs and other products to educate landowners and community members on what river resiliency means. We plan to organize field trips with key landowners to the River Bluffs project on Larimer County Open Space property that is a showcase for river restoration on the Poudre. In addition, CPRW will take prospective ditch boards to our Godfrey Diversion Fish Passage project on the Middle South Platte River to help

The Poudre River mural project will also provide a unique opportunity to facilitate communication and outreach about the river by engaging a wide range of the local community including K-12 schools, municipalities, and the Art Department at UNC. We aim to involve these stakeholders in the entire planning, design and creation of the mural. The mural will share the identities of the community around the river and values in the Poudre watershed.

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

The South Platte BIP defines facilitating “effective South Platte communications and outreach programs that complement the State’s overall program” as one of the 11 Key Plan Elements. In Chapter 4, Projects & Methods, section 4.1 Education, Participation, and Outreach includes the following Suggested Activities (4.1.3 pg 193) ‘Develop Messages’ and ‘Develop and Maintain Basin-Specific Outreach Tools and Approaches’.

As part of our work, we will develop and continue to refine key watershed and river resiliency messages through our upper and lower Poudre messaging documents. We intend to use our messaging documents to communicate with key landowners in our priority areas across the watershed. For the upper watershed, we will work with communities impacted by both the CPF,



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and those in areas at risk for severe wildfire. For the lower watershed, we will continue to engage landowners in our Reach 13 project area to increase their awareness of river resiliency and will connect with other landowners in priority areas with the end goal of securing buy-in for future river restoration projects. Our messaging always carries the same theme- increasing the resiliency of the river and watershed.

Our proposed activities are all in line with activities and outreach tools described in the South Platte BIP Table 4-3 (pg 192), Engagement Tools and Intended Audiences.

Additionally, our proposed activities all support the following other SP BIP goals through education and outreach:

1. S.5.5 Protect and enhance environmental and recreation attributes. Recommendation: Fill existing data gaps regarding protection of environmental and recreational attributes in order to better understand the adequacy of existing and future protections.

AND

2. S.5.9 Facilitate effective South Platte communications and outreach programs that complement the state's overall program. Recommendation: Design and implement an intensive education, participation and outreach program designed to generate a lasting baseline of public awareness and support.

Our citizen science data will continue to help fill data gaps and track impacts from the CPF and post-fire restoration work. We will share the data through our website, reports, social media, and future database/web portal.

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

The South Platte Basin Roundtable Education Action Plan includes "II. Educational Priorities & Implementation: Overall goals of the Education and Outreach Committee of the South Platte Basin Roundtable include a focus on educating and engaging the public, decision-makers and elected officials on the scope and purpose of the BIP and the State Water Plan, with an overarching theme of focusing on solutions-oriented water supply planning".

Our project achieves this goal through multiple ways. We will continue to engage our volunteers and Poudre watershed residents through our citizen science program. Our volunteers will gain hands on knowledge of the Poudre watershed, the connection between how severe wildfires impact water quality and how forest management can protect our water resources. This information will continue to be available through our newsletter, website/blog and social media. It will also be uploaded into statewide water quality databases for use by decision makers on baseline conditions in our basin.

Our project also helps to achieve the roundtable's Education Action Plans through the Poudre RiverFest and our proposed mural project that will help engage the public around water resources and watershed issues.



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



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Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant - Exhibit A

Statement Of Work

Date:	November 30, 2021
Name of Grantee:	Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed
Name of Water Project:	Phase 2- Engaging Stakeholders & Communities in the Poudre Through Citizen Science, Collaboration and Outreach
Funding Source:	U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station; CDPHE SEP funding; City of Greeley Natural Areas
Water Project Overview:	
<p>This project is the second phase of our Engaging Stakeholders & Communities in the Poudre through Citizen Science, Collaboration & Outreach that was awarded in 2019 and in 2020. Phase 2 will build upon tasks from the first phase through three major goals: engaging landowners, ditch boards, and lower Poudre community around watershed health and river resiliency to increase and maintain momentum around identified priority projects; enabling CPRW to maintain our role in Cameron Peak Fire (CPF) recovery efforts; and expanding our Citizen Science Water Quality Monitoring Program to collect post-fire data in the CPF burn scar.</p> <p>CPRW has successfully built two different stakeholder groups that have regularly met over the past 5 years. The Phase 2 project will allow us to continue convening our lower and upper Poudre stakeholder groups along with the Cameron Peak Fire (CPF) Recovery Collaborative, coordinate outreach activities like the Poudre RiverFest, empower the lower Poudre community to participate in the Poudre mural project and to engage residents in CPRW's Citizen Science Water Quality Monitoring Program.</p> <p>Our stakeholder teams are diverse and collaborative (they represent 8-10 stakeholder categories). To meet the planning needs of the watershed we have both an upper and lower watershed stakeholder group and following the CPF we lead a sub-set of the water providers collaborative which reports back to the larger recovery group. With these stakeholders, we work on watershed resiliency planning and implementation, monitoring needs, and CPF post-fire restoration planning and implementation.</p> <p>We have also been working closely with three landowners at our priority "Reach 13" project site over the past year to develop a 30% concept design to increase river resiliency. These landowners have diverse interests from gravel mining to housing development so working collaboratively with them to create win-win solutions is critical. This project will ensure that we are able to incorporate river resiliency with the needs of a working river.</p> <p>By participating in outreach events like the Poudre RiverFest, we can engage the local community on all facets of the river from watershed health to water law. Our Poudre River mural project will</p>	



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provide a unique opportunity to engage the diverse communities in the lower Poudre watershed including Weld County school districts, University of Northern Colorado, City of Greeley and local residents and businesses. The mural will be placed in a strategic location to benefit the community while connecting it to the river. Once complete, this mural will provide a space to bring the Poudre communities together around the river and watershed.

Finally, our Citizen Science Water Quality Monitoring Program will continue to provide an opportunity for volunteers and the community to learn about the critical connection between forest health and water quality, especially following the devastating impacts to the river following the CPF. Over the next few years, this program will continue to support the efforts of our partners at the USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station and City of Fort Collins by collecting defensible, science-driven data to track impacts from CPF and outcomes from post-fire restoration.

Project Objectives:

To achieve these three goals, we propose the following measurable objectives:

1. Expand our citizen science water quality monitoring program by adding 5-10 new volunteers and adding new sites to collect post-fire data to track impacts from the CPF while monitoring post-fire restoration outcomes.
2. Work with 3-5 landowners and 2-4 ditch boards in our current preliminary design projects and in new priority project areas as identified in our *Lower Poudre Resiliency Master Plan* to secure buy-in for river resiliency projects.
3. Develop unique outreach opportunities including a Poudre River Mural Project in the lower watershed to engage and empower the community to share their diverse stories about the river and its significance.
4. Engage our lower and upper Poudre stakeholders to maintain momentum in collaborative decision making around river resiliency projects in the lower watershed, and post-fire/forest resiliency work in the upper watershed. To achieve this, we will coordinate monthly CPF collaborative meetings, convene monthly/bi-monthly meetings with key landowners and ditch boards, organize site visits to the River Bluffs restoration project and the Godfrey Fish Passage project, and coordinate the lower Poudre steering committee.



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Tasks
Task 1 – Empower and Engage the CLP community through CPRW’s Citizen Science Water Quality Monitoring Program
Description of Task:
<p>CPRW will expand our citizen science water quality monitoring program to help track impacts from the Cameron Peak Fire to water quality, and the outcomes from our post-fire restoration projects.</p> <p>For the next few years of the program, we will be focusing on data monitoring around the following objectives: 1) continue to collect baseline data set of water quality in high priority reaches (based on CPRW’s Resiliency Plan); 2) collect water quality data to measure the impact of prescribed fire, an increasingly important forest management tool, on our waterways; and 3) monitor the impacts from the CPF and track outcomes from post-fire restoration. This program will provide critical data to help the people better understand the link between forest health, rivers and water quality.</p> <p>Sub-Task 1: Engage volunteers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recruit new volunteers to help with increased data collection needs following the CPF• Train 10 – 15 volunteers per year & engage returning volunteers• Each year, deploy volunteers to sampling 1x a month from May-November to collect basic water with hand-held probes and collect grab samples for lab analysis on nutrients, turbidity, and other key water chemistry indicators <p>Sub-task 2: Analyze data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work with scientists at Rocky Mountain Research Station to analyze samples• Finalize database for managing data• Analyze data for QA/QC and data trends; revise training protocols & SoPs as necessary <p>Sub-task 3: Assess program and communicate results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create mechanisms to identify volunteers’ motivations for participating and their learning outcomes• Upload data to state-wide databases• Communicate results of data with the public
Method/Procedure:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use social media, e-newsletter, & outreach events to recruit 5-10 new volunteers• Host 1-2 training events (lecture with field training) annually in March and April• Provide field monitoring kit to volunteers with detailed protocols, directions, safety, and monitoring equipment and data sheets• Each year, deploy volunteers to sampling 1x a month from May-November to collect basic water with hand-held probes and collect grab samples for lab analysis on nutrients, turbidity, and other key water chemistry indicators• Annually host thank you event for volunteers to communicate data results with the volunteers and celebrate their commitment; gather feedback from them on their experiences• Work with scientists at Rocky Mountain Research Station to analyze samples• Finalize database for managing data• Analyze data for QA/QC and data trends; revise training protocols & SoPs as necessary



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- Create mechanisms to identify volunteers' motivations for participating and their learning outcomes
- Upload data to state-wide databases
- Communicate results of data with the public through an online database, CPRW website, blog, email newsletter, social media and via conferences/panels
- Create annual report describing data results

Deliverable:

- A well-trained corps of 15-20 citizen scientists with increased awareness of water issues in the Poudre
- Scientifically defensible water quality dataset for the upper Poudre
- Collection of data from the CPF used to track post-fire impacts on water quality and outcomes from post-fire restoration

Task 2- Maintain stakeholder conversations around Cameron Peak Fire recovery, watershed health and river resiliency

Description of Task:

CPRW has successfully managed a multi-stakeholder watershed stakeholder committee for the past seven years. To date our focus has been on post-wildfire recovery, wildfire/forest resiliency planning & implementation to protect rivers and water supplies and developing a River Health Assessment Framework. Our existing collaborative lower and upper Poudre stakeholder groups address multiple perspective as they include municipal utilities, federal, state, and regional natural resources agencies, community groups, researchers, non-profits and members of the public.

In early 2020, both our upper and lower Poudre stakeholder groups met less frequently due to the COVID-19 pandemic. After the Cameron Peak Fire (CPF) ignited in August 2020, our upper Poudre stakeholder group shifted to assist with the emergency response. CPRW began coordinating with multiple partners including the Forest Service, Larimer County, NRCS, CWCB, local water providers, non-profits, the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition, and other state agencies to coordinate and inform each other on on-going needs and actions. This effort is now referred to as the Larimer Recovery Collaborative and has created an organizational structure, with multiple interacting sub-committees that meet regularly to plan and prioritize actions. The steering committee meets monthly to get reports from each of 8 sub committees. CPRW coordinates the watershed recovery sub-committee, which meets in between the steering committee meetings.

In 2022, we will continue to lead the CPF watershed recovery sub-committee but intend to re-connect our original upper and lower Poudre steering committees. After a year where we had to shift many of our efforts to address the CPF and post-fire restoration needs, we will be refocusing to maintain momentum on our other programs in the lower and upper watershed. The Phase 2 project will allow us to keep our stakeholders working together on critical next steps for planning for water quality monitoring & forest restoration to protect water quality, and engaging landowners and ditch boards around our river resiliency and fish passage projects along the river corridor east of I-25.

Sub-task 1: Manage the CPF watershed recover sub-committee



Last Updated: May 2021

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convene the watershed recovery sub-committee each month & report back to the greater Larimer County Recovery Collaborative. • With input from the recovery collaborative, monitor impacts from the fire. • Depending on impacts from 2022 snowmelt runoff & summer monsoons & using data from the recovery prioritization plan, select 2-4 new sites to implement critical post-fire restoration work. <p>Sub-task 2: Sustain CPRW's Upper Poudre Stakeholder Advisory Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to convene and sustain stakeholder team to identify additional high priority forest resiliency and other watershed protection projects • Complete a strategic plan for the group that was postponed in 2020 due to the COVID 19 pandemic and the CPF • Update the group on CPF post-fire restoration progress <p>Sub-task 2: Maintain momentum with CPRW's Lower Poudre Advisory Stakeholder Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite additional representatives from local environmental groups, ag representatives, and/or other water utilities, among others • Organize community meetings/tours/events to gather input from river adjacent communities regarding river restoration design • Select our next river resiliency project to move forward with planning & design
Method/Procedure:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convene 3 -4 stakeholder meetings per year in upper and lower watersheds • Hold monthly CPF recovery meetings & report on outcomes from post-fire restoration • Engage prospective new stakeholders through community meetings, advisory meetings, and tours • Engage river adjacent businesses/industries in river resiliency meetings/tours/workshops
Deliverable:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A collaborative plan & schedule for implementing post-fire restoration projects • Engaged CPRW stakeholders that consider multi-perspectives when developing strategies, restoration projects, or watershed projects • One new river resiliency project selected in collaboration with our lower Poudre steering committee using our resiliency master plan
Task 3 – Increase community awareness and knowledge of the Poudre and its resources/watershed health issues
Description of task:
<p>CPRW will directly engage residents of the Cache La Poudre (CLP) watershed through a variety of outreach and engagement efforts to increase residents understanding and awareness of key watershed and water resource issues that affect the Poudre.</p> <p>Sub-task 1: Increase understanding of local watershed issues & awareness of CPRW's watershed projects among residents.</p>



Last Updated: May 2021

- Organize and host various engagement events (i.e. panel discussions, webinars etc.) to engage residents in watershed issues
- Organize tours of the watershed and CPRW river restoration projects to increase the community's understanding of watershed protection and restoration

Sub-task 2: Work with stakeholders to plan, design and implement the Poudre River mural project

- Convene a steering committee to help plan the project including the University of Northern Colorado Art Department, local Weld County school districts, City of Greeley Business District, local businesses and interested community members
- Secure location for the mural project that benefits the community while connecting the art piece to the river
- Recruit local artists/community members to help design and create the mural
- Secure needed funding to implement the mural in the next 1-2 years
- Create blogs, social media posts, video and a webpage to share information about the mural with the larger community

Sub-task 3: Ensure the success of the annual Poudre RiverFest

- Coordinate collaborative planning team made up of five other partner organizations
- Ensure successful implementation of event logistics
- Shift from the virtual event to in-person event in 2022
- Lead PRF volunteers to help with reforestation efforts in the CPF burn area

Method/Procedure:

Poudre RiverFest

- Attend monthly Poudre RiverFest planning committee meetings
- Work with planning committee to increase & deepen the learning opportunities at the event
- Connect the local business community more closely with the Poudre RiverFest to engage them in learning and supporting a healthy and resilient Poudre River.
- Manage event coordinator and provide oversight of their tasks to ensure milestones are met
- Coordinate day-of logistics with volunteers, planning team, and staff
- Coordinate 1-3 reforestation volunteer planting days (securing location, recruiting volunteers, managing project days)

Poudre River Mural project

- Coordinate bi-monthly meetings with the mural planning committee
- Develop timeline for completion of the mural project
- Conduct general outreach/marketing to share information about the project with the community
- Connect with local businesses, artists and key community members to create the project
- Work with stakeholders including City of Greeley to select an appropriate location for the mural

Deliverables:



Last Updated: May 2021

- Increased awareness and understanding of watershed health issues and values by residents documented by participation in workshops/tours/meetings and survey results from outreach events
- Participation of 1500-3000 residents (including from Weld County) in the Poudre RiverFest annually
- 2 -4 activities/booths/hands-on engagement activities offered each year at the festival to increase resident's awareness of water use & history, river ecology & restoration, and river recreation & safety.
- 1-2 yearly PRF volunteer projects
- Survey results that quantify Poudre RiverFest participants experience and learning at the festival.
- Participation of 1-2 Weld County school districts, UNC Art Department, 1-2 local businesses and 1-2 local artists in the planning of the Poudre Mural project
- Increased awareness of the lower Poudre community's values and history surrounding the Poudre River and watershed
- A completed mural that tells the diverse stories of the lower Poudre community

Task 4 – Maintain momentum with landowners & ditch boards on existing resiliency projects & secure support for future river projects

Description of Task:

Over the past two years, we've cultivated relationships with three landowners along our "Reach 13" project area. The "Reach 13" project was identified in our Lower Poudre Master Plan and selected by our Lower Poudre Steering Committee for our first river resiliency implementation project during Phase 1. The concept planning phase of the project will be complete in December 2021, and we have additional funding for the next design phase. There is a need to continue engaging landowners to share project updates and best available science behind river resiliency and alleviate questions/concerns. The landowners have diverse interests from gravel mining to housing developments along this reach. This project provides a unique opportunity to combine the future development plans in the corridor in a way that best serves the river.

We have also been working closely with the Whitney and BH Eaton ditch boards to develop a 50% design for fish passage on both diversion structures. The Whitney and BH Eaton structures are located within 500 feet of each other on the Poudre in the Town of Windsor. In December 2021, we will have completed the 50% design, but there is great need to continue to engage the ditch boards and keep them up to date on future funding opportunities and project progress.

Finally, to ensure that we are as efficient as possible, we plan to secure support from other landowners or ditch boards in key river reaches for future projects. Given the nature of funding for river restoration projects, we often don't have adequate time to conduct the necessary outreach and engagement with landowners and the community. By securing buy-in from other landowners for future projects, we will be in a better position for implementing new projects.

Sub-task 1: Engage Reach 13 landowners to maintain momentum with the design project

- Meet monthly/bimonthly with landowners depending on project progress



Last Updated: May 2021

- As the design progresses, work with landowners to better understand their development plans to ensure the project aligns with their needs & needs of the river

Sub-task 2: Engage Whitney and BH Eaton Ditch Boards

- Meet bimonthly/monthly with the ditch boards to keep them updated on project progress
- Continue to build and cultivate important relationships with the ditch boards & their stakeholders & answer concerns/questions as they arise

Sub-task 3: Secure buy-in from other key landowners/ditch boards for future projects

- With the lower Poudre steering committee, select 1-2 new priority reaches based on the lower Poudre Master Plan & feasibility to move forward with future implementation.
- Conduct initial outreach to landowners in the newly identified reaches
- Schedule site visits to their property & share initial ideas for projects
- Organize site visits to existing restoration projects like River Bluffs or the Godfrey Diversion project

Method/Procedure:

- With the Lower Poudre steering committee, select 1-2 new priority locations for our next river resiliency project(s)
- Meet regularly with Reach 13 landowners as design moves forward to keep them up to date with best available science, answer questions and alleviate concerns
- Organize 1-3 site visits with Reach 13 landowners to the River Bluffs restoration project site on Larimer County Open Space to provide a showcase of what the Reach 13 project could look like when it is implemented
- Meet regularly with Whitney and BH Eaton ditch boards to continue important conversations around fish passage and their water rights & diversion infrastructure
- Organize 1-2 site visits with Poudre ditch boards to the Godfrey Fish Passage Diversion project on the Middle South Platte River
- Organize 1-2 site visits with identified landowners in priority areas to discuss future resilient river projects

Deliverable:

- Support from landowners for the Reach 13 design & shared vision for future of the reach
- Sustained relationships with Whitney and BH Eaton ditch boards for the potential implementation of the fish passage project
- Support and buy-in from 1-3 new landowners and/or ditch boards in identified priority areas for future resiliency projects

Task 5 – Project/Contract Management

Description of Task:

CPRW staff will ensure that all administrative aspects of the project are managed efficiently and in a timely manner.



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Last Updated: May 2021

Method/Procedure:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintaining accurate documentation of project metrics, timelines & milestones,• Tracking costs and budget• Preparing requests for reimbursements• Completing project reporting
Deliverable: Timely & accurate grant reports and requests for reimbursements
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A well-managed project with accurate reporting metrics



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant - Exhibit C

Budget and Schedule

Prepared Date: 11/29/2021

Name of Applicant: Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed

Name of Water Project: Phase 2- Engaging Stakeholders & Communities in the Poudre

Project Start Date: April 1, 2022

Project End Date: December 30, 2024

Task No.	Task Description	Task Start Date	Task End Date	Grant Funding Request	Match Funding	Total
1	Citizen Science	4/1/2022	11/30/2023	\$3,160	\$13,680	\$16,840
2	Stakeholder Management	4/1/2022	12/1/2024	\$13,190		\$13,190
3	Community Outreach & Engagement	4/1/2022	12/1/2024	\$28,210	\$8,640	\$36,850
4	Work with landowners/ditch boards	4/1/2022	9/30/2024	\$19,920	\$20,000	\$39,920
5	Project/Contract Management	4/1/2021	12/1/2024	\$4,400		\$4,400
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
Total				\$68,880	\$42,320	\$111,200

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan Grant - Detailed Budget Estimate

Fair and Reasonable Estimate

Prepared Date: 11/29/2021
Name of Applicant: Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed
Name of Water Project: Phase 2- Engaging Stakeholders & Communities in the Poudre Through Citizen Science, Collaboration, & Outreach

EXAMPLE A: Study or Project Coordination

Task 1 - Citizen Science										
Sub-task	Item	Hourly Rate	# Hours	Sub-total	Item Cost	Item Quantity	Sub-total	Total	CWCB Funds	Matching Funds
Recruit & train volunteers								\$ 1,360.00	\$1,360	
	CPRW Communications Manager	\$ 34.00	40	\$ 1,360.00				\$ 2,160.00		\$2,160.00
	CPRW Watershed Proj Manager	\$ 36.00	60	\$ 2,160.00						
Manage the CitSci program								\$ 11,520.00		\$11,520
	CPRW Watershed Proj Manager	\$ 36.00	320	\$ 11,520.00						
Communicate results								\$ 1,800.00	\$1,800.00	
	CPRW Communications Manager	\$ 36.00	50	\$ 1,800.00						
Task 2- Stakeholder committee management										
Sub-task	Item	Hourly Rte	# Hours							
Convene CPF recovery collaborative								\$ 1,360.00		
	CPRW Communications Manager	\$34	40	\$ 1,360.00				\$ 1,800.00	\$1,800	
	CPRW Watershed Proj Manager	\$36	50	\$ 1,800.00						
Coordinate lower & upper Poudre steering committees								\$ 8,640.00	\$ 8,640.00	\$ 8,640.00
	CPRW Watershed Proj Manager	\$36	240	\$ 8,640.00				\$ 2,750.00	\$ 2,750.00	
	CPRW Executive Director	\$55	50	\$ 2,750.00						
Task 3- Community outreach & engagement										
Sub-task	Item	Hourly Rte								
Plan & implement Poudre RiverFest & other outreach like Preble's Site Conservation Team								\$ 8,500.00	\$ 8,500.00	\$ -
	CPRW Communications Manager	\$34	250	\$ 8,500.00				\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ -
	CPRW Watershed Proj Manager	\$36	100	\$ 3,600.00				\$ 1,650.00		
	CPRW Executive Director	\$55	30	\$ 1,650.00						
Poudre River Mural Project								\$ 10,200.00	\$ 10,200.00	\$ -
	CPRW Communications Manager	\$34	300	\$ 10,200.00				\$ 2,750.00	\$ 2,750.00	
	CPRW Executive Director	\$55	50	\$ 2,750.00				\$ 2,160.00	\$ 2,160.00	\$ -
	CPRW Watershed Proj Manager	\$36	60	\$ 2,160.00	\$1,000	1.00	\$1,000	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	
	Mural artist									
Task 4- Work with landowners/ditch boards										
Sub-task	Item	Hourly Rte								
Conduct outreach with Reach 13 landowners & Whitney-BH Eaton Ditch boards								\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
	CPRW Watershed Proj Manager	\$36	250	\$ 9,000.00				\$ 3,300.00	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 3,300.00
	CPRW Executive Director	\$55	60	\$ 3,300.00				\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00
	CPRW Communications Manager	\$34	50	\$ 1,700.00						
Sub-task	Item	Hourly Rte								
Secure support from other landowners/ditch boards for future projects										
	CPRW Watershed Proj Manager	\$36	100	\$ 3,600.00				\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$4,000
	CPRW Communications Manager	\$34	50	\$ 1,700.00				\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00	\$2,000
Task 5- Project/Contract Management										
Sub-task	Item	Hourly Rte								
	CPRW Executive Director	\$ 55.00	80	\$ 4,400.00				\$ 4,400.00	\$ 4,400.00	
TOTAL								\$ 84,950.00	\$68,260	\$42,320
Other Direct Costs (see below)									\$620	\$0
OVERALL TOTAL								\$ 84,950.00	\$ 68,880.00	\$42,320

Other Direct Costs

Item:	Mileage	Printing (Color)	Totals
Units:	Miles	No. pages	
Unit Cost:	\$0.56	\$0.15	
Landowner site visits/ meetings		700.00	400
Travel for Poudre Mural project		300.00	
Total Units:		1,000	
Total Cost:	\$560	\$60	\$620



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Rocky Mountain
Research Station

240 West Prospect
Fort Collins, CO
80526-2098

29 November 2021

Dear Hally,

Per our conversation, I fully support contributing match from my watershed research and monitoring program and the associated citizen science water quality monitoring network to your proposed Colorado Water Plan Engagement and Innovation grant. Our initial pilot effort with Citizen Science has demonstrated that we can leverage volunteer efforts to collect valuable water quality information on the headwaters of the Poudre. Since the 2020 fire season, the value of both our baseline data and the local citizen involvement has skyrocketed. This program is a successful vehicle for engaging residents in learning about the watershed and its water issues, while collecting defensible water quality data. As such, it remains entirely appropriate for CPRW to use funds (\$13,680 plus in-kind time from the volunteers) from our current funding agreements as match for your proposal to the Colorado Water Plan Outreach & Education funding program.

All the Best,

Chuck Rhoades, PhD
Research Biogeochemist
US Forest Service
Rocky Mountain Research Station
(970) 498-1250 (Office)
(970) 692-3656 (Cell)
charles.c.rhoades@usda.gov





Heal the Land
Build Community

November 30, 2021

Attn: Ben Wade
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Support for Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed application to the 2021 Colorado Water Plan Engagement and Innovation Grant Program

Dear Mr. Wade,

On behalf of Wildlands Restoration Volunteers (WRV), I am writing to express our support for the grant request submitted by Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed (CPRW) to the Colorado Water Plan Engagement and Innovation program. WRV's mission is to foster a community spirit of shared responsibility for the stewardship and restoration of public, protected, and ecologically significant lands across Colorado and beyond.

WRV is contributing funding to CPRW through our CDPHE Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) grant to advance their design of the "Reach 13" project to increase the resiliency of the lower Poudre River. CPRW will be using \$20,000 of the CDPHE SEP funds to match their application to the Colorado Water Plan Engagement and Innovation funding program to continue to work with the Reach 13 landowners.

Please let me know if you have any questions about our support of CPRW's application to the Colorado Water Plan. I can be reached at katherine@wlrv.org or 303.241.9685.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. Postelli".

Katherine Postelli
Executive Director



**Heal the Land
Build Community**

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

RE: Support for Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed application to the 2021 Colorado Water Plan Engagement and Innovation Grant Program

Mr. Wade -

On behalf of the City of Greeley Natural Areas & Trails division (NAT), I am writing to express our strong support for the grant request submitted by Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed (CPRW) to the Colorado Water Plan Engagement and Innovation program. NAT manages Greeley's public natural areas and trail corridors to provide access to nature to the community, and to restore and protect ecosystem health. We believe CPRW's proposal to continue critical landowner and community outreach benefits the watershed and NAT's efforts to restore the Cache la Poudre River corridor.

NAT has been an active participant on CPRW's Lower Poudre Steering Committee Team and has contributed financially and in-kind to the initial 'Reach 13' concept planning design phase. NAT has committed \$8,640 in matching funds for CPRW's application to the CWP to further the Reach 13 river resiliency design. Funding from the Colorado Water Plan will enable CPRW to continue cultivating these important landowner relationships, which will be essential for the success of the project. Moreover, we are also looking forward to collaborating on the proposed Poudre Mural Project, and believe it will have a multitude of benefits for the community in Greeley and Weld County.

We believe the health and resiliency of the Cache la Poudre River and the vitality of the Weld County community in the future will depend on collaborative and innovative outreach and education efforts. We are committed to continue our strong partnership with CPRW and other stakeholders on this project and recommend full funding of the grant request. Please let us know if you have any questions about our support of CPRW's application to the Colorado Water Plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin", written in a cursive style.

Justin Scharton, Superintendent