



**COLORADO**

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

**Colorado Water Conservation Board**

**Water Plan**

**Water Project Summary**

Name of Applicant	Environmental Learning for Kids	
Name of Water Project	ELK Outdoor and Water Education Programs	
Grant Request Amount		<b>\$100,000.00</b>
Primary Category		\$100,000.00
	<i>Watershed Health &amp; Recreation</i>	
Total Applicant Match		<b>\$0.00</b>
	<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>	\$0.00
	<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>	\$0.00
Total Other Sources of Funding		<b>\$40,000.00</b>
	<i>Great Outdoors Colorado</i>	\$10,000.00
	<i>Mile High United Way</i>	\$10,000.00
	<i>National Park Foundation</i>	\$20,000.00
Total Project Cost		<b>\$140,000.00</b>

**Applicant & Grantee Information**

Name of Grantee: Environmental Learning for Kids  
Mailing Address: 12680 Albrook Dr Denver CO 80239  
FEIN: 841,436,605

Organization Contact: Kim Weiss  
Position/Title: Email: kweiss@elkkids.org  
Phone: 303-895-0946

**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	39.782301
Longitude	-104.846134
Lat Long Flag	Other: Coordinates based on other boundaries or locations
Water Source	South Platte
Basins	Colorado; South Platte; Gunnison
Counties	Arapahoe; Adams; Mesa; Denver
Districts	2-South Platte: Denver Gage to Greeley

### Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type	Education
Type of Water Project	Education
Scheduled Start Date - Design	2/15/2024
Scheduled Start Date - Construction	8/15/2024

#### Description

ELK's water-focused education series encompasses diverse experiences to deepen youths' understanding of environmental issues and foster stewardship. The 6-week curriculum at a local charter school will delve into the complexities of South Platte River pollution, engaging students in critical discussions and awareness-building activities. The rafting trip along the Colorado River in Grand Junction, CO, offers a hands-on learning exploration of river ecosystems, emphasizing the importance of water conservation.

The camping trip at State Forest State Park combines outdoor immersion with a stewardship project, allowing participants to contribute directly to environmental preservation. This holistic experience instills a sense of responsibility for nature. The final stewardship activity at Barr Lake State Park Appreciation Day provides an opportunity for youth to actively participate in park maintenance and conservation efforts, fostering a sense of pride and connection to local water resources. Through these multifaceted water activities, weELK aims to cultivate environmental awareness, hands-on learning, and a lifelong commitment to protecting our precious water ecosystems.

### Measurable Results

0	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
0	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive

0	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
0	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
0	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)
0.00	Length of Pipe, Canal Built or Improved (linear feet)
\$0	Efficiency Savings (dollars/year)
0	Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year)
0	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)
0	Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms or water sharing agreement (acre-feet)
0	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning
6,000	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity
Other	
No additional measurable results provided	

### Water Project Justification

Environmental Learning for Kids (ELK) water-related activities for Denver youth education programs strongly align with the guiding principles and goals outlined in the Colorado Water Plan and the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan in the following ways:

**Promoting Diversity in Water-Related Fields:** Our programs introduce historically underrepresented youth to water-related fields through hands-on experiential learning. Which aligns with the Water Equity Task Force's goal of promoting diversity in career pathways in water-related fields.

**Community Engagement and Collaboration:** We actively involve communities, including underrepresented voices, in water discussions. Through partnerships with schools and community organizations, We foster collaboration, new voices, and greater community engagement, addressing the Water Equity Task Force's principles.

**Expanding Grant Opportunities to New Audiences:** Our programs would represent a newly funded organization for CWCB and would help forge a partnership where CWCB could help influence the next generation of diverse environmental stewards. Historically, these voices haven't been a part of water related fields.

**Increasing Access to Recreational Opportunities:** Our water-focused curriculum and activities, including rafting trips and camping, contribute to the Thriving Watersheds initiative's goal of increasing access to recreational opportunities. We emphasize safe and inclusive access to water-based recreation, aligning with the initiative's emphasis on balancing access with habitat protection. Our youth and families pay no costs for all activities they participate in. We cover all transportation, gear, healthy food, and activity costs.

**Educating Citizens and Inclusive Participation:** Our educational programs align with the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan's goal of educating all citizens, including historically underrepresented groups, about the South Platte River. By fostering inclusive participation in roundtable activities, we contribute to the plan's recommendations for equity and inclusion.

In summary, our water-related activities effectively address the core principles and goals of the Colorado Water

Plan and the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan, promoting diversity, community engagement, expanded opportunities, increased access, and inclusive participation in water-related initiatives.

#### Related Studies

N/A

#### Taxpayer Bill of Rights

ELK does not have any TABOR issues or restrictions.