OPEN LANDS ADVISORY BOARD (OLAB)
Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 18, 2015
5:00- 8:00 PM
City of Loveland Chilson Senior Center • Cherry Room • 700 E 4th St., Loveland CO

The mission of the Larimer County Open Lands Program is to preserve and protect significant open space, natural areas, wildlife habitat, and develop parks and trails for present and future generations. These open lands provide opportunities for leisure, human renewal and protection of our natural and cultural resources.

Members Present	
Paul Alaback	Town of Berthoud
Mary Banken	At-large
Jason Brothers	At-large
Suzan Fritchel	At-large
Pete Kelly	At-large
David Marvin	At-large
Ward Nelson	Town of Estes Park
Carl Sorrentino	At-large

Staff Present
Gary Buffington, Natural Resources Director
Kerri Rollins, Open Lands Program Manager
Charlie Johnson, Senior Land Agent
Alex Castina, Land Agent
Meegan Flenniken, Resource Program Manager
Sandy Werkmeister, Department Specialist
Zac Wiebe, Fund Development/Special Projects

Members Absent	
Nancy Wallace	Planning Commission
Hugh McKean	City of Loveland
Gerry Horak	City of Fort Collins
Trudy Haines	At-large

1. CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS /
   Suzan Fritchel called the meeting to order.
2. PUBLIC COMMENT – None
3. AGENDA REVIEW – No changes
4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES
   Motion by Carl Sorrentino and second by Ward Nelson to approve the October 22, 2015 meeting minutes as submitted in this month's packet. Motion carried unanimously.
5. INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS
   a. Ten bison were released as part of the Laramie Foothills Bison Conservation Herd at Red Mountain Open Space/Soapstone Prairie Natural Area to the excitement of about 400 spectators November 1. The board discussed the popularity of the event, encouraging staff to use it as a spring board to talk about the value of conserving land (for many animals), scheduling tour events, etc. Meegan reported we are helping CSU with soliciting donors by providing tours to them. The groups have been diverse and coming from as far away as New York so far.
   b. Joel Wykoff, LCDNR trails supervisor, retired on October 30th after working 21 years for Larimer County, 15 of those as the trails supervisor under Meegan. During his tenure as the trails supervisor, Joel helped lay out and construct over 50 miles of new trails on our open space and parklands and led the charge on maintaining the over 83 miles of trail in our current system. Happy Trails Joel! Our new trails supervisor, Joel Schwab, has worked as LCDNR Trails Technician II for 4 years and comes to LC with over 8 years of professional trails experience.
   c. Zac is working on a grant application to Overland Mountain Bike Club to help fund trail construction at Devil's Backbone Open Space
   d. Small Grants site visits are completed. A full report will follow later.
   e. A site visit to Fossil Creek is planned for 12/15 330-430 to walk the site and continue discussions about a potential future office and nature center building. We will be joined by the Fort Collins Land Conservation Board and Fort Collins staff. Please RSVP with Sandy.

f. Jeffrey helped organize the Northern Bike and Ped Conference. It was the second annual conference - a success with over 140 people in attendance. The Governor and Shailen Bhatt, CDOT Director, addressed the audience and expressed support for more trails and pedestrian infrastructure. A walking audit was conducted around the University of Northern Colorado campus and the economic and health benefits of an active lifestyle were highlighted. Jeffrey represents our department on the NOCO Bike and Ped Collaborative and helped orchestrate this second annual conference!

g. Our annual department calendar is complete and with the printer. Expect one in the mail soon.

h. Plans for the 20th anniversary celebration continue to progress. Staff finalized the 20th anniversary T-shirt – calling Horsetooth Mountain "our warm-up gig."

i. The joint application between us, Fort Collins, Loveland and Wellington for the GOCO Inspire Initiative was funded! We will receive $50,000 for an 18-month planning effort to determine how best to connect kids to nature. It is expected to kickoff Spring of 2016, with a report back to the Board the following year.

j. School field trips are in full swing and will wrap up mid-November.

k. Zach Schierl hosted two astrophotography workshops at Devil's Backbone with full attendance (and waiting lists) and an article in the Reporter-Herald. Having a seasonal who is an expert is astronomy and geology is a real asset.

l. Chris and Travis and company working on funding/grant opportunities for CPR training equipment purchases

m. We have acquired the fore mentioned CPR training equipment.

n. Open Space Operations District Reports – comments were "great photos!"

o. Sales Tax Report from prior month

6. DISCUSSION & UPDATES

a. Small Grants for Community Partnering presentation & committee recommendation. Zac first recognized the Small Grants committee – Mary Banken, Dave Marvin and Carl Sorrentino. For this grant cycle we received 12 applications, 7 of which are repeat applicants. The distribution across the county is good. For the first time, the committee is recommending every application for a grand total of $20,748.00. Zac presented details of each project (presentation attached), explaining the contingency attached to two of them. There was active discussion among the Board around each project, and particularly regarding the pond weeds project. Paul Alaback wanted assurance that they are obtaining expert advice regarding their ongoing work on this problematic lake. Zac responded that a consultant they hired provided a statement regarding this latest remedy – that keeping these particular weeds out should be sustainable.

b. Mary brought up the idea of reviewing the amount of the grants and there was agreement from several. There was a suggestion to tie it in with the 20th anniversary. Zac confirmed that we are planning to revamp the program in 2016.

7. ACTION ITEMS

a. Motion by Carl Sorrentino and second by Ward Nelson to approve the Small Grants for Community Partnering committee recommendations to fund each applicant for a grand total of $20,748. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Charlie Johnson presented the 188 acre Luxor LLC/Beierwaltes property in southwest Loveland that the City of Loveland has under contract. It is a really strong project, meeting ALL of the conservation values. It is a 3 million dollar project. Staff recommendation is to partner with Loveland at $375,000. Loveland will be applying for a GOCO grant and if they receive that, we will serve as the conservation easement on the property. Motion by Paul Alaback with second by Mary Banken to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners contributing $375,000 toward the purchase of the Luxor LLC/Beierwaltes property by the City of Loveland and holding any conservation easements required by GOCO. Motion carried unanimously.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4)(a) for discussion regarding the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal, or other property interest the Board moved into Executive Session at 9:35 p.m.

9. ADJOURN – The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Small Grants for Community Partnering

LARIMER COUNTY
COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE
Natural Resources

SGCP committee

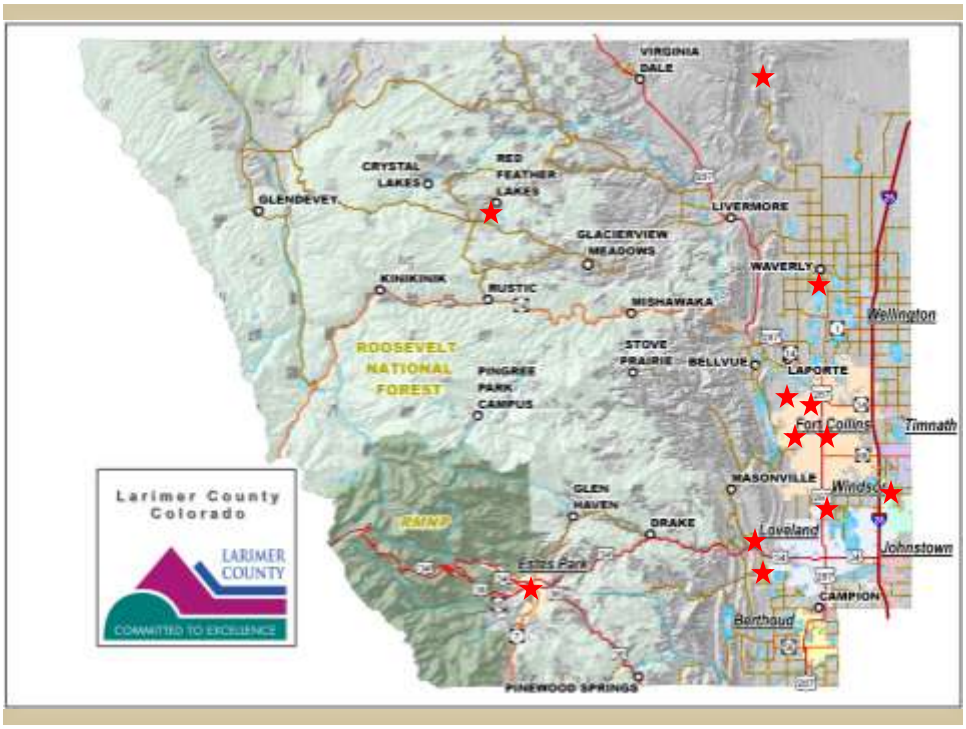
- Mary Banken
- Dave Marvin
- Carl Sorrentino

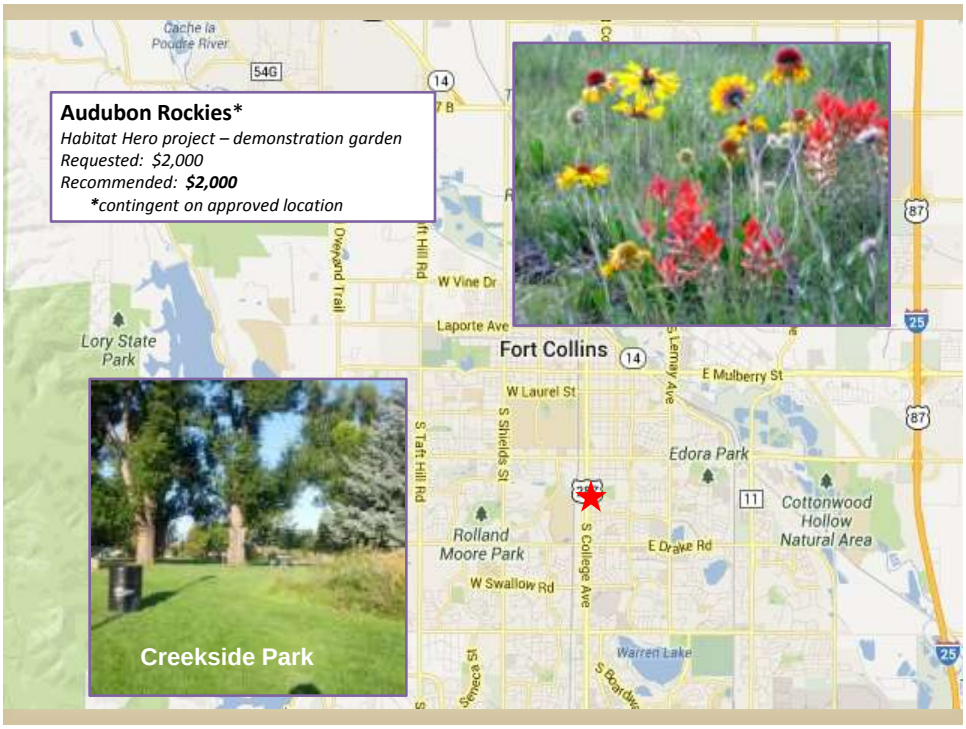
2016 Project Recommendations

Small Grants for Community Partnering 2016 Projects

Applications received	*12**
Total amount requested	*$20,748*
Recommended projects	*12*
Funding recommended	***$20,748***

** 7 previous applicants*





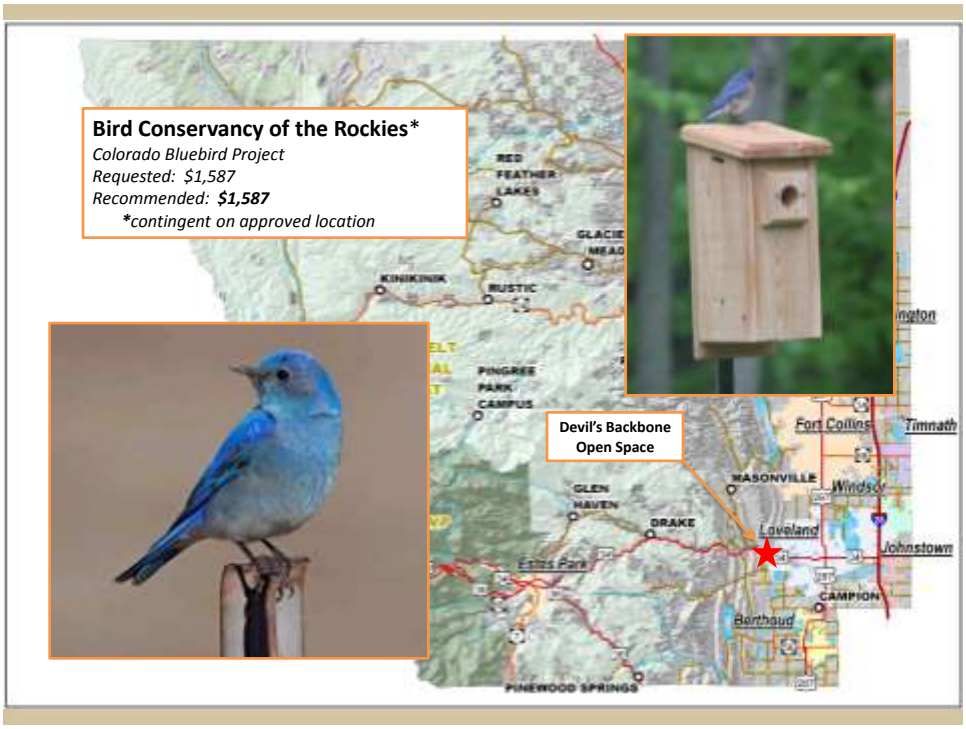
Audubon Rockies*

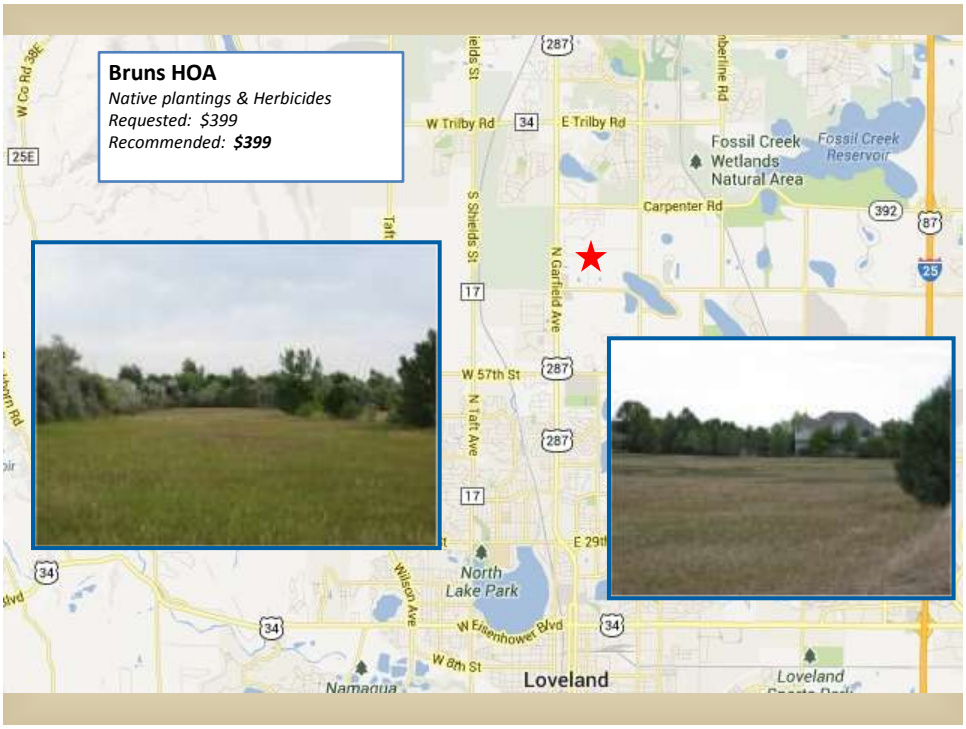
Habitat Hero project – demonstration garden

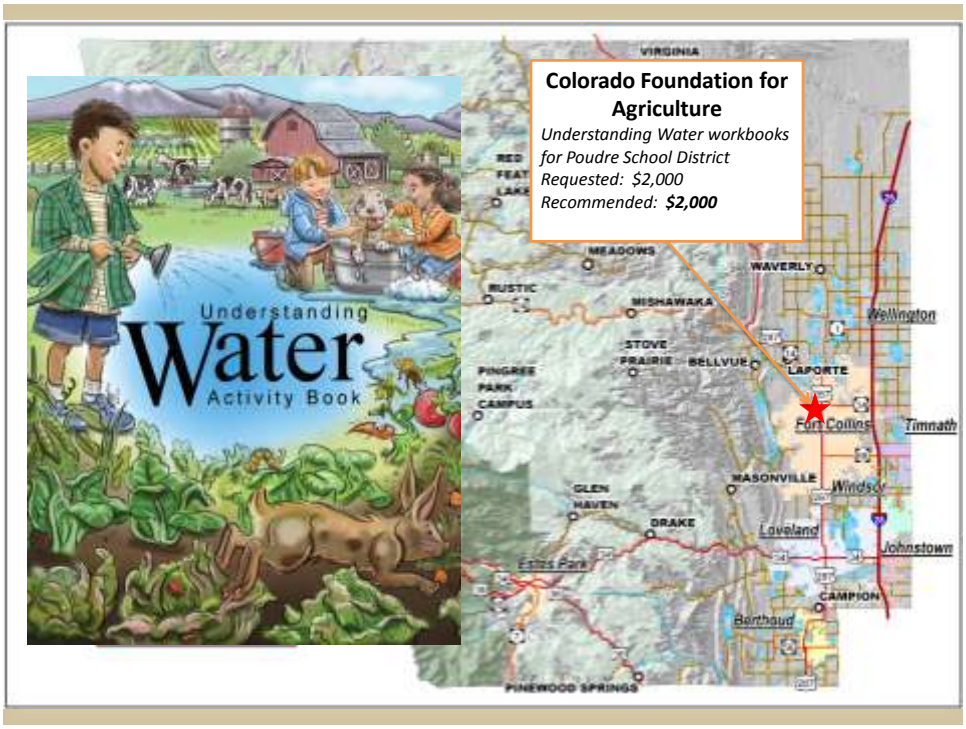
Requested: $2,000

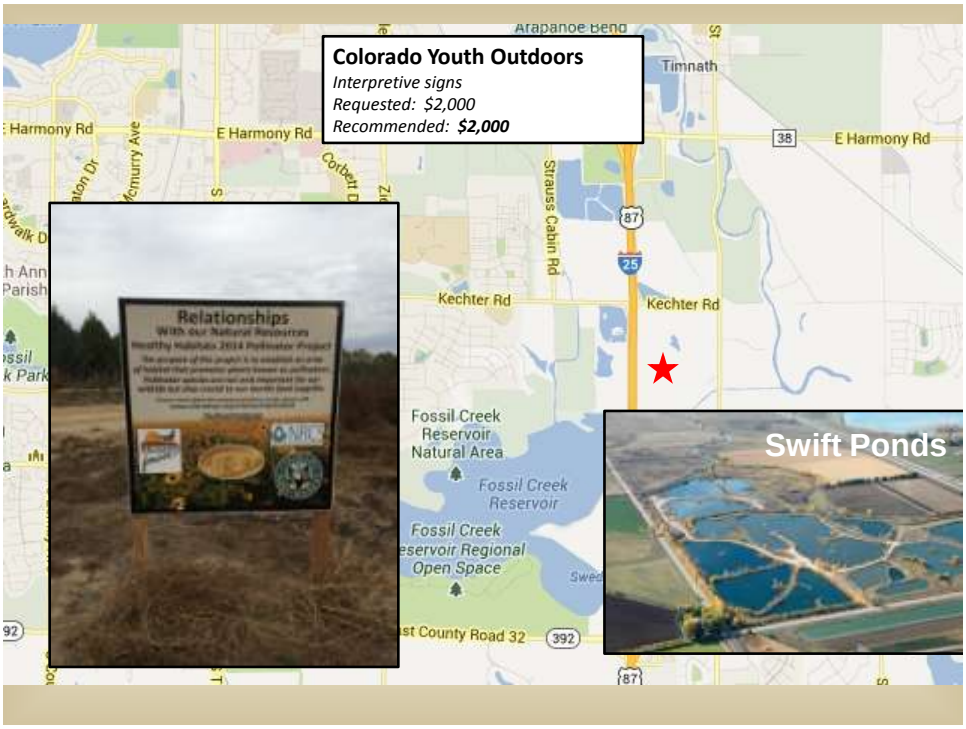
Recommended: ***$2,000***

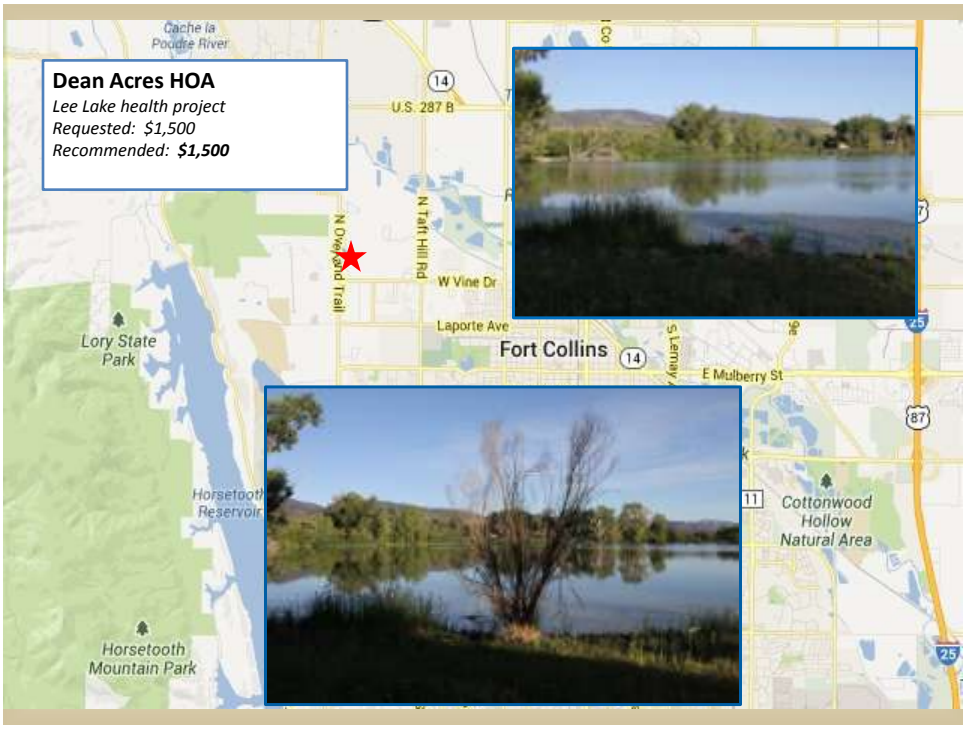
**contingent on approved location*


Bird Conservancy of the Rockies*
Colorado Bluebird Project
Requested: $1,587
Recommended: $1,587
*contingent on approved location
Devil's Backbone Open Space
RED FEATHER LAKES
KINIKINIK
RUSTIC
PINGREE PARK CAMPUS
GLEN HAVEN
DRAKE
Estes Park
MASONVILLE
Fort Collins
Timnath
Windsor
Loveland
Johnstown
CAMPION
Berthoud
PINEWOOD SPRINGS

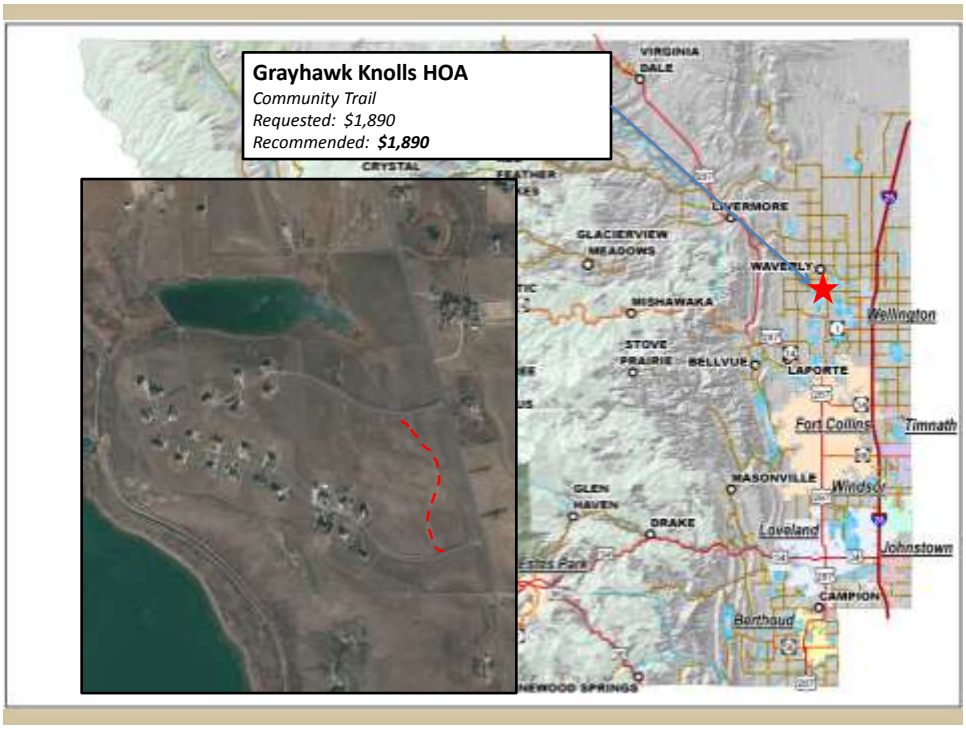

Bruns HOA
Native plantings & Herbicides
Requested: $399
Recommended: $399
W Trilby Rd
E Trilby Rd
Fossil Creek Wetlands Natural Area
Fossil Creek Reservoir
Carpenter Rd
S Shields St
N Garfield Ave
W 57th St
N Taft Ave
North Lake Park
W Eisenhower Blvd
W 8th St
Loveland

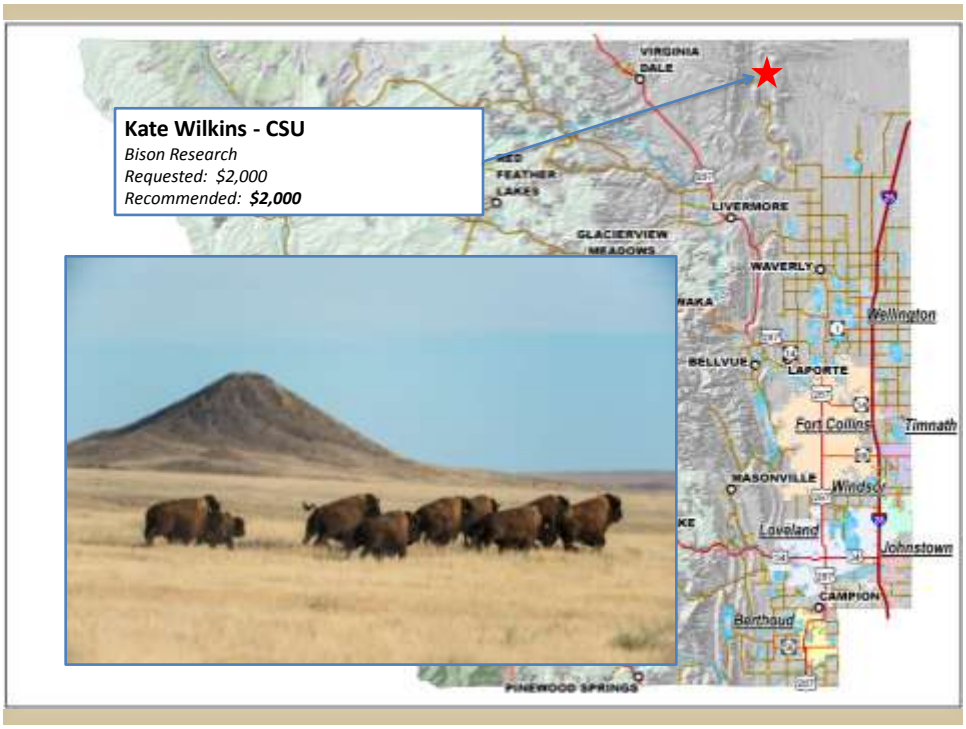

Understanding
Water
Activity Book
Colorado Foundation for Agriculture
Understanding Water workbooks for Poudre School District
Requested: $2,000
Recommended: $2,000
VIRGINIA
MEADOWS
WAVERLY
RUSTIC
MISHAWAKA
Wellington
STOVE PRAIRIE
BELLVUE
LAPORTE
PINGREE PARK CAMPUS
Fort Collins
Timnath
MASONVILLE
Windsor
GLEN HAVEN
DRAKE
Loveland
Johnstown
Estes Park
CAMPION
Berthoud
PINEWOOD SPRINGS

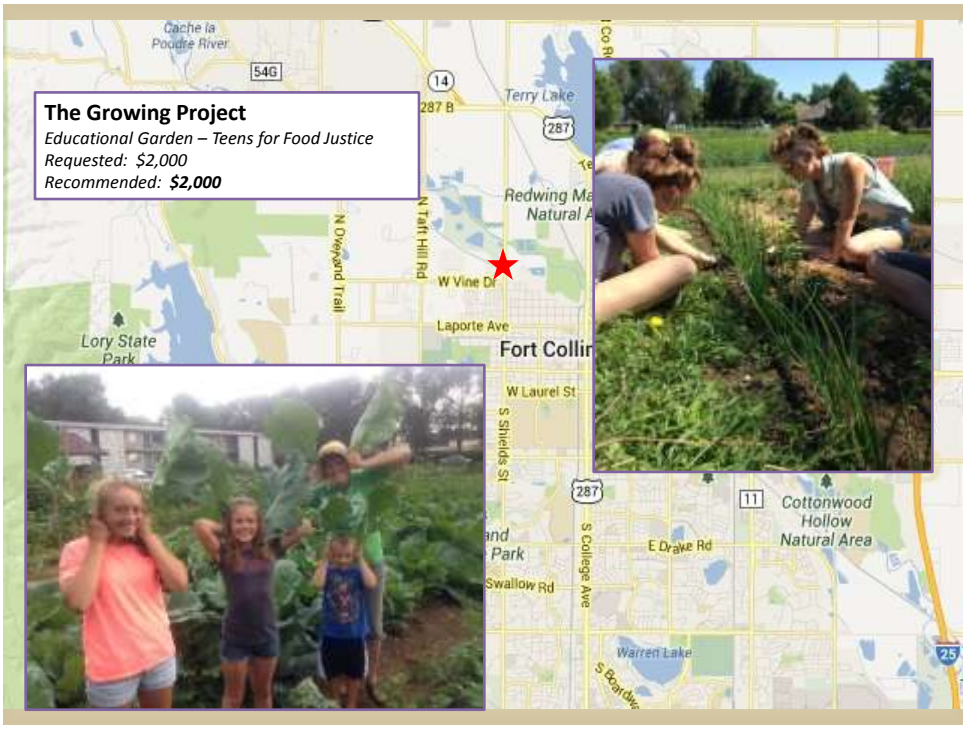

Colorado Youth Outdoors
Interpretive signs
Requested: $2,000
Recommended: $2,000
Arapahoe Bend
Timnath
Harmony Rd
E Harmony Rd
E Harmony Rd
Strauss Cabin Rd
Kechter Rd
Kechter Rd
Fossil Creek Reservoir Natural Area
Fossil Creek Reservoir
Fossil Creek Reservoir Regional Open Space
Relationships
Swift Ponds


Dean Acres HOA
Lee Lake health project
Requested: $1,500
Recommended: $1,500
Cache la Poudre River
U.S. 287 B
N Overland Trail
N Taft Hill Rd
W Vine Dr
Laporte Ave
Fort Collins
S Lemay
E Mulberry St
Lory State Park
Horsetooth Reservoir
Horsetooth Mountain Park
Cottonwood Hollow Natural Area

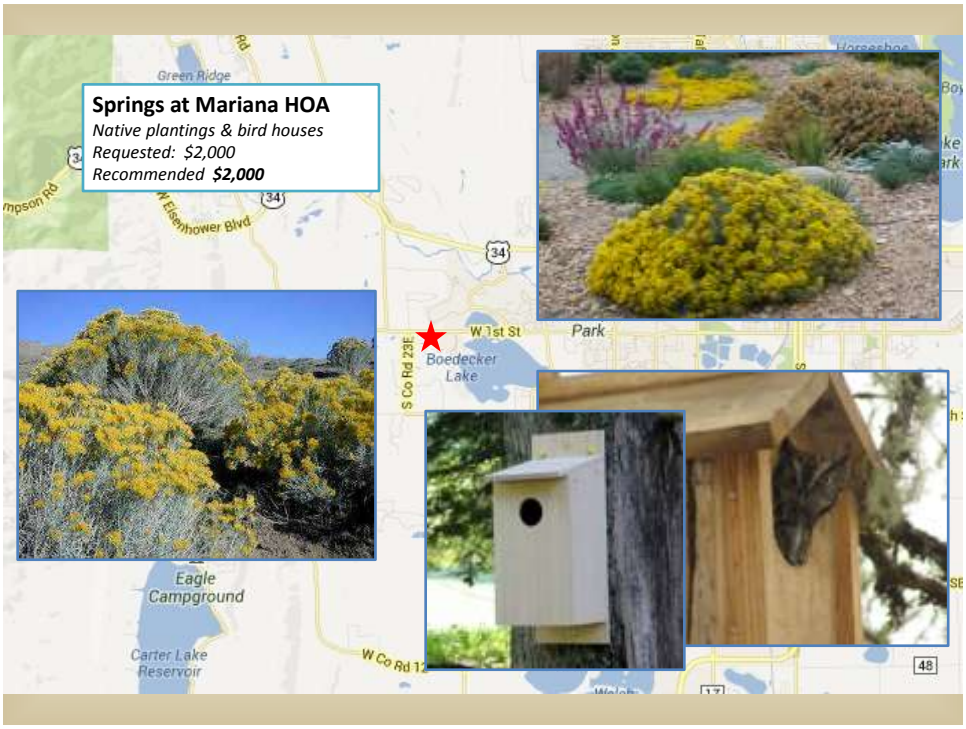
Estes Valley Community Garden
Irrigation system
Requested: $1,372
Recommended: $,1372
VIRGINIA DALE
CRYSTAL LAKES
RED FEATHER
GLENDEVET
KINIKINIK
ROOSEVELT NATIONAL FOREST
HAVEN
DRAKE
Loveland
Johnstown
Estes Park
CAMPION
Berthoud
PINEWOOD SPRINGS

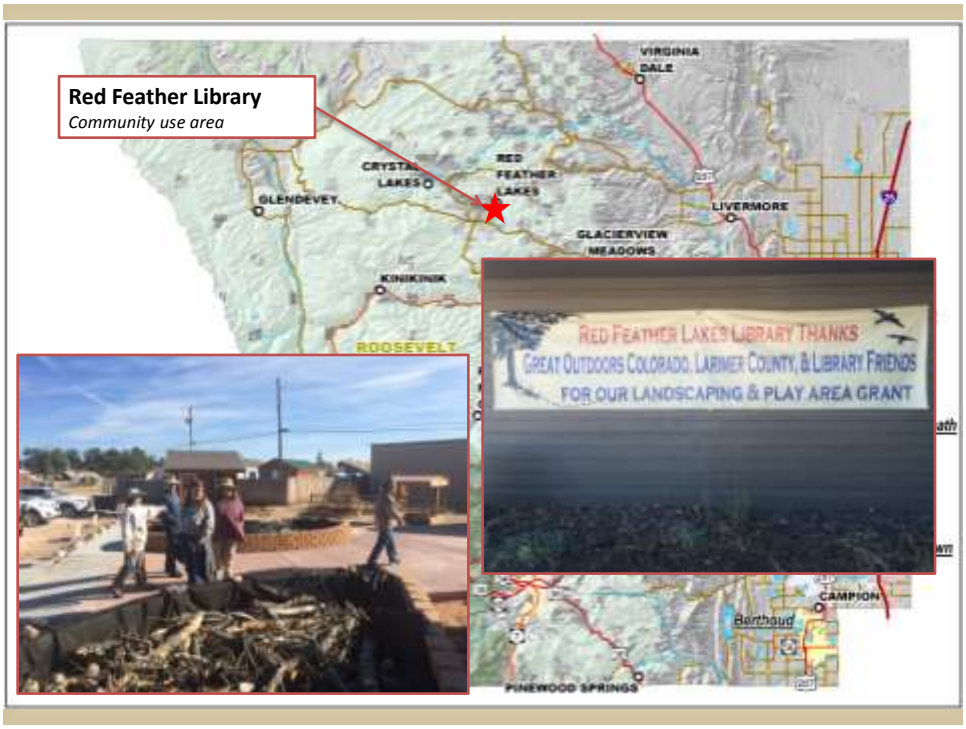

Grayhawk Knolls HOA
Community Trail
Requested: $1,890
Recommended: $1,890
VIRGINIA DALE
CRYSTAL
LIVERMORE
GLACIERVIEW MEADOWS
WAVERLY
MISHAWAKA
Wellington
STOVE PRAIRIE
BELLVUE
LAPORTE
Fort Collins
Timnath
MASONVILLE
Windsor
GLEN HAVEN
DRAKE
Loveland
Johnstown
CAMPION
Berthoud


Kate Wilkins - CSU
Bison Research
Requested: $2,000
Recommended: $2,000
VIRGINIA DALE
RED FEATHER LAKES
LIVERMORE
GLACIERVIEW MEADOWS
WAVERLY
Wellington
BELLVUE
LAPORTE
Fort Collins
Timnath
MASONVILLE
Windsor
Loveland
Johnstown
CAMPION
Berthoud
PINEWOOD SPRINGS


The Growing Project
Educational Garden – Teens for Food Justice
Requested: $2,000
Recommended: $2,000
Cache la Poudre River
54G
14
287 B
Terry Lake
287
Redwing Ma
Natural A
N Taft Hill Rd
N Overland Trail
W Vine Dr
Laporte Ave
Lory State Park
Fort Collin
W Laurel St
S Shields St
287
11
Cottonwood Hollow Natural Area
E Drake Rd
S College Ave
Swallow Rd
Warren Lake
25

Soaring Eagle Ecology Center
Observatory
Requested: $2,000
Recommended: $2,000
VIRGINIA DALE
CRYSTAL LAKES
RED FEATHER LAKES
GLENDEVET
LIVERMORE
GLACIERVIEW MEADOWS
KINIKINIK
Berthoud
PINEWOOD SPRINGS


Springs at Mariana HOA
Native plantings & bird houses
Requested: $2,000
Recommended $2,000
Green Ridge
W Eisenhower Blvd
W 1st St
Boedecker Lake
Park
S Co Rd 23E
Eagle Campground
Carter Lake Reservoir
W Co Rd 1
34
48


Red Feather Library
Community use area
VIRGINIA DALE
CRYSTAL LAKES
RED FEATHER LAKES
GLENDEVET
LIVERMORE
GLACIERVIEW MEADOWS
KINIKINIK
ROOSEVELT
RED FEATHER LAKES LIBRARY THANKS
GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO, LARIMER COUNTY, & LIBRARY FRIENDS
FOR OUR LANDSCAPING & PLAY AREA GRANT
CAMPION
Berthoud
PINEWOOD SPRINGS