

North Front Range Water Quality Planning Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Denver, Colorado, June 21, 2023 – <u>Colorado Watershed Assembly</u> announces the <u>North Front Range</u> <u>Water Quality Planning Association</u> as one of 10 Colorado organizations to receive a <u>Colorado Healthy</u> <u>Rivers Fund grant</u> in 2023.

The Section 208 Region 2 Nonpoint Source Watershed Plan will receive \$20,000 from the Colorado Healthy Rivers Fund. This initiative aims to develop a comprehensive Watershed Plan that will meet the criteria of the Environmental Protection Agency process referred to as the 9-Element Nonpoint Source (NPS) Plan, specifically focusing on the "Section 208 Region 2" area encompassing Larimer and Weld counties in Colorado. Led by the North Front Range Water Quality Planning Association, this project will involve extensive collaboration and input from regional stakeholders. The primary objective is to address the potential water quality impacts in the targeted areas before they occur, aligning with the region's growth planning efforts. The NPS Plan will concentrate on key watersheds, namely Cache la Poudre, Middle South Platte, St. Vrain Creek, and the Big and Little Thompson. With a specific focus on areas experiencing growth within Larimer and Weld Counties, the plan will identify priority actions and projects to improve water quality.

The <u>Colorado Healthy Rivers Fund</u> grant program awards annual grants through a competitive application and review process. These funds support projects that contribute to cleaner water, healthier wildlife habitat, improved recreation, and vibrant local economies throughout the State of Colorado.

The program was established by the Colorado Watershed Assembly in cooperation with Colorado Water Conservation Board and the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission. The Colorado Water Conservation Board is the state executive branch agency responsible for state water policy and planning. The Colorado Water Quality Control Commission is the administrative agency responsible for developing specific state water quality policies in a manner that implements the broader policies set forth by the General Assembly in the Colorado Water Quality Control Act. The Colorado Watershed Assembly is a 501(c)(3) Colorado organization that supports collaborative efforts to protect and improve land, water, and other natural resources by providing the network to connect a diversity of interests with Colorado's watershed groups and other decision makers. To learn more about the Colorado Watershed Assembly, visit <u>coloradowater.org</u>.

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