

Contact Information:

Colorado Watershed Assembly
Diane Kielty, info@coloradowater.org

Central Colorado Conservancy Receives Grant for Watershed Improvement Actions

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Denver, Colorado, October 23, 2018 – Colorado Watershed Assembly (CWA) announces the Central Colorado Conservancy as one of seven Colorado organizations to receive Colorado Healthy Rivers Fund (CHRF) grant money for the 2018 grant cycle. These funds will support on-the-ground projects that contribute to cleaner water, healthier wildlife habitat, improved recreation and vibrant local economies throughout the State of Colorado.

Central Colorado Conservancy will receive \$14,750 for their Badger Creek Restoration Pilot Project. Over the years, the Badger Creek Watershed has experienced degradation from previous and current land uses. Periods of intense grazing pressure created rapid damage to both the uplands and riparian areas. Changes to Badger Creek impact the Arkansas River, including water infrastructure, water supply, fisheries, recreation and ecological services. The Badger Creek Watershed Partnership was formed to help restore the health of the watershed using a collaborative model of working with private landowners, public land managers and watershed professionals. Based on the existing work, the partnership proposed a pilot project on just under a mile of Badger Creek to install 30 sod plugs, plant 2,500 willows and other riparian species and to minimize or eliminate cattle access to this section of the creek. The project will generate important lessons in these techniques and act as an evaluation tool for future projects.

Casey Davenport, Executive Director of the Colorado Watershed Assembly expressed, “This project demonstrates the values promoted by the **Healthy Rivers Fund**, to work collaboratively with diverse public and private interests in communities throughout Colorado so we can all share the benefits of healthy streams, landscapes and people. Sharing ‘lessons learned’ is crucial to effective collaboration. Congratulations to the **Central Colorado Conservancy and the Badger Creek Watershed**

Partnership, trusted partners in the upper Arkansas basin.” You can help support this fund by buying a ticket and joining CWA at the [Colorado Healthy Rivers Fund Hoorah!](#) on Wednesday, November 7th from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at the Skylark Lounge in Denver or you can donate directly to the fund at [HRF Donation](#).

The Colorado Healthy Rivers Fund grant program awards annual grants through a competitive application and review process. The program was established jointly by the Colorado Water Conservation Board and the Water Quality Control Commission, in cooperation with the Colorado Watershed Assembly. The Colorado Water Conservation Board is the state executive branch agency responsible for state water policy and planning. The 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 corporation 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 <http://www.coloradowater.org/>.