

# Park County Land & Water Trust Fund Application

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization name: **Wild Connections**  
2166 Pleasant Place, Colorado Springs, CO 80909  
Organization address:  
Organization phone #: **303.884.7640**

Contact person: **Misi Ballard**  
2166 Pleasant Place, Colorado Springs, CO 80909  
Contact address:  
Contact phone #: **303.884.7640**

Project Name: **Wildcat Canyon Metal Removal Project**

Project Schedule:

- Start **8/17/2020**
- Project Milestones including:
  - Planning & Investigation **6/30/2020**
  - Design **7/30/2020**
  - Bid/Procurement **6/30/2020**
  - Construct **8/15/2020**
  - Intermittent Funding Request Milestone(s)  
• **N.A.**
  - 
  - Intermittent Project Update Report Milestone(s)  
• **N.A.**
  -
- Finish **8/28/2020**
- Final Funding Request **8/28/2020**
- Final Report & Presentation **10/30/2020**
- 11-Month Review **7/28/2021**

Provide a brief description of the project scope and nature.

Prior to fully implementing the 2004 Hayman Travel Plan, the USFS South Park Ranger District will remove outdated metal installations in Wildcat Canyon, including three large metal signs (approx. 10'x10'), and approx. 400 posts & associated cable. The signs pre-date the Hayman Fire and are no longer valid. The removal of these metal objects is the important first step in fully implementing the Hayman Travel Plan, and restoring Wildcat Canyon to its outstanding natural state, recognized as Wild & Scenic River designation quality habitat.

What is the need for the project?

Motorized travel is prohibited within Wildcat Canyon pursuant to the 2004 Hayman Travel Plan. Since first implementing that plan, motorized recreationists have continuously ignored and vandalized FS-installed gates, fencing and signage. This illegal travel is causing damaging erosion on extremely steep canyon hillsides and siltation into the S. Platte River, which negatively impacts area wildlife, fisheries, the area's Wild & Scenic River Outstanding Resource Values and Denver's major water source.

How does the project align with the voter approved use of funds?

The removal of all metal objects within Wildcat Canyon is the important first step in restoring this outstanding geologic and primitive recreation area to its spectacular natural state. This work will ensure that Wildcat Canyon preserves its unique Outstanding Resource Values that qualify this section of South Park's main water resource for Wild & Scenic River designation, will protect its "Colorado Wild Trout Water" designation, along with its identified Wildlife, Scenic and Geologic values.

Please describe the return on investment of Land & Water Trust Funds.

This work is necessary to prepare for the planned full implementation of the Hayman Travel Plan which will restore Wildcat Canyon to its natural conditions for the enjoyment of today's Park County residents and future generations. Final implementation of the plan will provide outstanding backcountry experiences for the public, healthy habitat and water resources for area wildlife, fisheries and human primitive recreation and will protect this spectacular section of South Park's main water resource from damaging erosion, siltation, bank destruction and pollution.



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Please list and provide supporting documents (as attachments) including photos, drawings and maps.

Photos of large metal signs and of post and cable fencing  
South Platte Enhancement Board (SPEB) map and description of Section C of the S. Platte River  
Aerial photo of Wildcat Canyon (SPEB)

Who is the Property Owner & do they approve of it, they approved it, or when is approval anticipated?

Wildcat Canyon is located on Pike/San Isabel National Forest lands and is within the USFS South Park Ranger District boundaries. The USFS manages these lands for the public. Denver Water, via the South Platte Enhancement Board, manages the waters within Wildcat Canyon. Wild Connections (applicant) has worked for many years to protect and preserve Wildcat Canyon and is partnering with USFS South Park Ranger District to accomplish this necessary first step to final implementation of the Hayman Travel Plan.

Provide documentation of the entity that owns or will own the asset, including water rights, for this project.

USFS Pike/San Isabel National Forest manages these public lands.

Accessibility to the public (provisions for the disabled, location, hours, etc.):

Wildcat Canyon is located on USFS S. Park Ranger District lands. The 2004 Hayman Travel Plan closed 12 miles within the canyon to motorized travel, but human-powered recreation is allowed. Remote backcountry hiking, fishing, hunting, cross-country skiing, mt. biking, and wildlife watching are permitted. There are no designated campgrounds, picnic areas or other facilities in the Wildcat Canyon area.

How will the LWTF contribution be recognized during the project (i.e. Thank You Park County Voters banner/signage) and at the completion of the project (i.e. Dedication/Contribution Plaque)?

The LWTF banner will be borrowed by the applicant so that photos of work being done and after can be obtained and shared with the public. Final recognition in the form of a plaque recognizing LWTF's contribution will come after full implementation of the Travel Plan.

Has this entity had previous funds awarded, and if so, is there a final report on file per page 3 criteria?

Wild Connections (applicant) received funding from LWTF for the 2016 Selkirk Restoration Project. The Final Report was submitted to LWTF on Jan. 8, 2017 and is noted on the LWTF website listing of Finished Projects, Habitat Restoration.

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### BUDGET

#### Budget Overview:

Land & Water Trust Fund Request	\$ 35,000.00
Applicant/Partner cash match	\$ 3,500.00
Cash total (grant request plus applicant cash match)	\$ 38,500.00
Value of in-kind services (provide documentation)	\$ 5,180.00
Project Total Budget	\$ 43,680.00
Applicant Cash Match Percent of Total Cash	10.00%

If the project was developed using Tasks or Phases, please categorize the budget on the following page by Task or Phase. Rows may be added as needed to each budget category. If more than one partner is contributing to the budget, you may add columns for each or use a total for the chart and list each partner's contribution separately under the budget narrative.

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### EXPENSES INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SHEET

Description	LWTF Request	Applicant Cash	Applicant In-Kind	Partners Cash	Partners In-Kind	Total
Consultants and/or Contractors						
(b)(4)						
	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,880.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 43,680.00



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### NARRATIVE

Without repeating information provided elsewhere, please describe any additional information regarding each expense and related income source. Please attach any additional back up documentation that has not been already provided.

#### Consultants and/or Contractors:

The majority of the work involved will be performed by a subcontractor with equipment and experience to remove heavy metal signs, post, and cable. Removed metal post and metal cable will be recycled for future use if possible. Cement will be buried on site. Contractor will move metal signs, post, and cable to trail head. Removing metal from trail head for recycling and disposal may be done by a different contractor.

#### Equipment Rental or Purchase:

The majority of equipment will be provided by the contractor. Wire spooler may be rented if needed to allow cable to be recycled.

#### Materials, Supplies and Fees:

Materials and supplies will be provided by contractor. Wild Connections' liability insurance covers site visits and guided hike. Wild Connections is requesting the cost of one month of liability insurance.

#### Property Acquisition:

Not applicable

#### Mileage (Prefer applicant and partners provide cash & in-kind):

Mileage estimated at IRS 57.5 cents per mile. Includes: 4 site visits by Wild Connections (WC) Staff, 4 site visits by USFS staff, 2 site visits by WC volunteers, 2 trips by WC Staff plus 2 trips each by 2 WC volunteers to scout and lead guided hike for public. WC Staff mileage paid by Applicant Cash. Volunteer mileage in Kind.

#### Administrative Expenses (Prefer applicant and partners provide cash & in-kind):

Grant management and reporting 40 hours by WC staff (Applicant Cash) and 10 hour by WC volunteers (in-kind at \$25/hour). Project coordination (project design and subcontractor management) 40 hours by WC staff (requested from LWTF because this is essential to the project success), 40 hours by WC Volunteers (in-kind), and 40 hours by USFS staff.

#### Other:

The metal removal portion of the project will not include an opportunity for volunteer involvement. WC will involved our volunteers and supporters in the project by sharing information and providing a guided hike after the project is complete. If COVID-19 restrictions preclude a guided hike, a suitable virtual experience will be substituted.

Site visits, scouting visit for guided hike, and guiding hike as described under mileage will take 6 days of WC staff time (requested from LWTF) and 6 days of WC volunteer time (in-kind).

Outreach and publicity includes sharing information about the project and the guided hike through social media, email, and printed publications. The cost includes 18 hours of WC staff time (requested from LWTF), and \$850 for publication design, printing, and mailing costs (\$600 requested from LWTF, \$250 Applicant Cash).

Wild Connections is in the process of securing another conservation organization as a partner for this project. Exact details of that partner's cash and in-kind contributions are being worked out. Wild Connections will cover the entire cash match if a partner cannot be found.

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## CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, certify that:

- 1) I have been authorized by the organization named in this application to administer the Trust Fund Grant, if awarded;
- 2) To the best of my knowledge, all information contained in this application is true and accurate;
- 3) The Land and Water Trust Fund's investment will be recognized during the project (i.e. Thank You Park County Voters banner/signage) and at the completion of the project (i.e. Dedication/Contribution Plaque) as agreed upon;
- 4) A final report, as an electronic document, will be furnished to the Land and Water Trust Fund Board, including lessons learned on the project, to be prepared and submitted to Park County for publication on its web site;
- 5) Report and presentation will be presented within 90 days of the scheduled finish date and an 11 Month Review as stated above for the project described herein; and
- 6) All required reporting forms will be furnished in a timely manner to be considered for future funding.

### Representing (Applicant Organization):

Wild Connections

### Contact Person (typed or printed):

Misi N. Ballard

### Contact Person (signature):

*Misi N. Ballard*

Dated: April 6, 2020