

Exhibit A

SCOPE OF WORK

Project Title: Soapstone Prairie Northern Leopard Frog Wetland Restoration Project (Wetlands Program Project #W25742)

Vendor: City of Fort Collins, Natural Areas Department (FCNAD)

Sites: This project is located at Soapstone Prairie Natural Area in northern Larimer County within the HUC 8 Cache la Poudre River watershed. The project site is 19 miles north of Wellington, CO and is owned entirely by the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department.

Project Location Coordinates:

Latitude 40.977033N

Longitude 105.046531W

Summary: The project objective is to restore wetland and riparian habitat at Brannigan Springs in Soapstone Prairie Natural Area to support the expansion of the Tier 1 Northern Leopard Frog (NLF), a species in steep decline statewide. Our project will achieve this objective using the following techniques:

- Creating seven NLF pools using post-assisted cottonwood ramp structures.
- Restoring wetland vegetation via grazing exclosure and native willow planting.
- Conducting stream health assessments post-construction to understand system response to restoration and potential for NLF presence.

Objectives and Narrative: The goal of this project is to restore the Brannigan Springs watershed to support the population expansion of the NLF. The decline of the NLF throughout the Cache la Poudre watershed, coupled with impacts from 150 years of grazing at this site led to the need for this project. In 2021, the project was identified as a priority by CPW Aquatic Biologists, as well as the Wetland Ecology team at the Colorado Natural Heritage Program, and in FCNAD's recently released Soapstone Prairie Management Plan.

The wetland and stream system at Brannigan Springs is one of the best reference examples of a high-quality, biodiverse, groundwater fed wetland. Hydrologically, it is distinguished by headwaters formed from a complex of hillslope springs that sheet flow and collect at the bottom of the slopes to form a small stream that flows approximately 1.5 miles before going subsurface. Grazing has reduced plant species structure and changed the geomorphology of the stream. However, the wetland and riparian zone's potential for full recovery is enormous given the 77 plant species, 43 butterfly species, and deep pockets of ancient organic soil horizons.

The outcome and marker of success for this project will be the presence of 147 acres of the highest quality, reference condition wetland, riparian, and adjacent uplands in Northern Colorado with documented potential habitat for NLFs.

The project objective is to restore wetland and riparian habitat at Brannigan Springs in Soapstone Prairie Natural Area to support the expansion of the Tier 1 Northern Leopard Frog (NLF), a species in steep decline statewide. The three goals of this project are:

- ✓ Creating seven NLF pools using post-assisted cottonwood ramp structures (PACRS). (Completed 2024)
- ✓ Restoring wetland vegetation via grazing exclosure and native willow planting. (Completed 2024)
- Conducting stream health assessments post-construction to understand system response to restoration and potential for NLF presence. (Planned for Summer 2025)

The design and construction of this project were completed by the City and its partners in Fall 2024. The City hosted a volunteer willow planting and installed a cattle exclosure to allow the site to recover from overgrazing. The design leverages seven post-assisted cottonwood ramp structures (PACRS) to create pools for NLF breeding habitat. The original goal was to create pool depths more than three feet in depth for overwintering. The design was revised after the

team discovered the PACRS needed to achieve these depths would have too big of a footprint (more than 50 feet wide) and had potential to dry up lower stream reaches. The restoration design and construction were completed in Fall 2024 with smaller PACRS. Surprisingly, these were able to achieve 24–30-inch pool depths at two of the PACRS, and 12–20-inch depths at the other five structures.

CPW funding of \$25,500 will facilitate the post-construction phase of this project. This phase will include creating an as-built plan set of construction drawings showing the final elevations of the PACRS in the stream channel, and at least one year of post-construction wetland and riparian health assessments using FACWET and/or the EPA Wetland Assessment methodology, and the CPW NLF Habitat Scorecard.

Deliverables: The deliverables for this project are:

- 1) Seven NLF pools constructed using post-assisted cottonwood ramp structures.
- 2) Cattle exclosure installed.
- 3) 1,000 willow stakes planted.
- 4) As-built plan set complete with survey elevations.
- 5) At least one year of post-construction wetland/riparian health assessments using various assessment tools, including the CPW NLF Habitat Scorecard.
- 6) 43 acres of additional wetland and riparian habitat and 122 acres of uplands restored or enhanced.

Timeframe: The project must be completed and fully invoiced by June 30, 2027.

Anticipated Project Timelines/Milestones:

Date	Milestone	Status
2023	Cattle exclosure installed.	Complete (match funds)
Summer 2024	100% design completed.	Complete (match funds)
Summer 2024	USACE permit secured.	Complete (match funds)
Fall 2024	1000 <i>Salix boothii</i> stakes planted.	Complete (match funds)
Fall 2024	7 post-assisted cottonwood ramp structures installed.	Complete (match funds)
May-Aug 2025	As-built plan set complete with survey elevations.	Upcoming (CPW funds)
May-Aug 2025	First year of wetland and riparian health assessments.	Upcoming (CPW funds)
May-Aug 2026	Second year of wetland and riparian health assessments, as needed.	Upcoming (CPW funds)
Sep 2026 – Jun 2027	Final project documentation and reporting.	Upcoming (CPW funds)

Exhibit B

Budget:

Activity/expense description	CPW Wetlands Grant \$	Partner Name	Calculation	Partner Cash Match \$	Partner In-kind Match \$	Total \$ for activity
Producing as-built plan set	\$10,500.00	CEC Environmental Consulting	Principal Engineer \$210/hr x 50			
Post-construction wetland monitoring	\$15,000.00	Environmental Consultant	Principal Ecologist @ \$200/hr x 75 hrs			
Restoration Design		Headway and CEC Environmental		\$53,752.48		
Restoration Construction of Post-Assisted Cottonwood Ramp Structures		AloTerra		\$145,054.60		
Project Management and Ecological Design		City of FC Sr. Planner/Restoration Project Manager	(15% time for 4.5 months at \$57.72/hr) & (15% time for 4.5 months at \$59.88/hr)		\$12,701.00	
Wildlife Ecology Design and Materials Sourcing		City of FC Wildlife Ecologist	(35% time for 4.5 months at \$51.21/hr) & (35% time for 4.5 months at \$53.13/hr)		\$26,294.00	
City Agricultural Technician II		City of FC Ag Tech II	(8 hrs @ \$42/hr)		\$336.00	
City FTE Technicians		City of FC Ecological Stewardship Technicians	(2 technicians for 119 hours - \$30.81/hr and \$37.48/hr) salary + fringe		\$7,922.00	
Subtotal requested from CPW	\$25,500.00					
Subtotal cash match provided by City of Fort Collins	\$198,807.08					
Subtotal in-kind match provided by City of Fort Collins	\$47,253.00					
Total Project Cost	\$271,560.08					

Terms of Payment: The total cost may not exceed \$25,500. Project costs are reimbursed after the work is completed and documented. Invoices should be submitted initially to the CPW Project Sponsor, who will forward them to the Wetlands Program Coordinator for payment. Frequent invoicing is discouraged. Quarterly invoicing is encouraged concurrent with progress reporting (see below - September 30, December 31, March 31, June 30), and other invoicing arrangements may be made in advance at the discretion of the Wetlands Program Coordinator.

*****All work performed within a state fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) must be invoiced on or before June 30 each year of the project (this requirement applies to multiple-year agreements).*****

Invoices should include the following information:

- Date of invoice.
- Invoice number.
- Contract, purchase order, or task order number.
- Wetlands Program project number.
- Details and dates of specific project costs and activities to be reimbursed.
- Total invoice amount.
- Payment instructions and vendor contact information.
- Subcontractor/vendor invoices, if applicable.

Reporting Requirements: Progress reports are due at the end of each calendar quarter (March 31, June 30, September 30, December 31) through project completion. Vendor will submit a project update to the CPW Wetlands Program Coordinator and the CPW Project Sponsor. This update should include:

- Specific details of project accomplishments during the reporting period.
- Total project accomplishments to date.
- Expected project completion date.
- Financial status of project – CPW and partner funds authorized, spent, available, etc.
- Any changes in project scope, problems and recommended solutions.

Upon project completion and before the final invoice will be paid, a final project report must be submitted. This report should include:

- Project title.
- Date of final project completion.
- A narrative summary of the project (≤ 250 words), suitable for use in accomplishment reports.
- How the final project results differed (if so) from the proposed project (costs, scope of work, etc.).
- Detailed financial contributions (cash and in-kind) from each partner and funding source.
- Habitat evaluation scores for any CPW Wetlands Priority Species proposed to be benefitted by the projects, using the available CPW habitat scorecards (<http://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/WetlandsPrioritySpecies.aspx>). These should be presented in table format showing (1) pre-restoration scores; and (2) anticipated (i.e., target) post-restoration scores.
- Digital maps showing final project boundaries, wetland boundaries, and other water features. Lat/long (decimal degrees) coordinates will be provided for the central point for each tract of land within the project.
- Digital project photographs; video submissions also are encouraged.

CPW will provide templates for progress and final reports, and habitat scorecards.

Permission to Work on Non-Vendor Owned Lands: The vendor is responsible for obtaining written permission from all landowners on whose land that they intend to conduct work. The vendor shall be responsible for providing CPW with a copy of this permission if requested during the term of the project.

CPW Contacts:

Wetlands Program Coordinator:

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Project Sponsor:

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