

URBAN WATERS FEDERAL PARTNERSHIP		GOALS							NARRATIVE		
Project Activity Report -Denver		Indicate which, if any, goals of the Urban Waters Federal Partnership are supported by the activity listed							Please provide a brief description of how the activity supports the Urban Waters Federal Partnership, and how the Partnership has contributed to the success of the activity		
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Activity		Promotes clean urban waters	Reconnecting people to their waterways	Promoting water conservation	Using urban water systems as a way to promote economic revitalization and prosperity	Encouraging community improvements through active partnerships	Being open and honest, and listening to communities	Focusing on measuring results and evaluation to fuel future success	Please describe how this activity supports the goals of the Urban Waters Federal Partnership	Please describe how the Partnership has contributed to the success of this activity	Please describe how this activity involves or serves economically distressed communities, if applicable
1	USDA urban forestry land restoration projects that support green jobs.	X	X			X				US Forest Service S&PF provided \$114,000 to State of Colorado to support green jobs for restoration, to be implemented beginning in spring 2012. Six proposals were submitted for consideration of Denver Urban Waters Federal Partnership funding. Over \$182,000 was requested by the six applicants. Projects submitted by the following organizations have been selected for funding: Bluff Lake Nature Center; Denver Parks & Recreation; Institute for Environmental Solutions; South Suburban Parks & Recreation.	
2	Ambassador					X	X			US Forest Service S&PF provided funding to staff an Urban Waters Ambassador to support Denver Urban Waters Pilot for 2 years. Primary partner is Colorado State University - Forest Service, which will hire and manage the Ambassador with input from EPA.	
3	Initial field implementation of Hayman Restoration Project (11/11 in Upper South Platte	X								The partnership has highlighted this headwaters restoration project and new partners have been brought to this project in the last 12 months.	
4	Childrens Forest Corridor project for the urban working group of America's Great Outdoors	X	X							USFS \$47,000 provided by USFS for environmental education literacy. EPA's providing funding for green infrastructure design work for Johnson-Habitat Park	
5	EPA Urban Waters Small Grants	X	X			X				2 of the 4 small grants are projects that support the pilot. EPA is funding and managing these projects.	
6	UWFP partners participated in World Water Monitoring Day (9/2011) on the South Platte River	X	X			X				Federal partners from EPA, USFS, USGS interacted with 5th graders, in an event sponsored by CH2MHill to teach them about water quality monitoring, sampling macroinvertebrates, water conservation, and forest to faucet concepts. An article was published in National Water Quality Monitoring Council's newsletter on the UWFP and WWMD ( <a href="http://acwi.gov/monitoring/newletter/national_monitoring_news_fall2011.pdf">http://acwi.gov/monitoring/newletter/national_monitoring_news_fall2011.pdf</a> ). Also 2012 participation. Not just partners, CH2MHill is a lead and the partnership supports them in making this project successful	
7	Water 2012	X	X			X			Colorado Water 2012 is an unprecedented statewide celebration of water. It aims to make resources, events, and activities available across the state all year long. The	Many of the UWFP partners are actively involved in Water 2012. USFS prepared and distributed Water 2012 calendars and water bottles. Members attend meetings and serve on	
8	Creating visibility, credibility, enthusiasm, and increased collaboration for a large and diverse partnership				X	X			Expanding and opening up communications within the existing social network has helped project partners identify, pursue and secure funding opportunities	Fed to Fed Organizational meetings were held in June and July 2011 and conference calls in November and March. The first Federal Partners and stakeholder meeting with state, local and NGO partners was held in December 2011. Project prioritization was a key objective for the meeting. Next meeting is April 12 with the primary objective to discuss the ambassador.	

Urban Waters Youth  
Development Green Jobs  
Pilot, (River Rangers) Denver

9

X

X

Work with EPA HQ, under contract with Skeo Solutions, and Buirgy Consulting to develop and urban waters green jobs pilot where at risk youth learn to sample, analyze, and map water quality, complete green jobs internships, and apply environmental education certification. Other partners include, The Greenway Foundation, Earth Force, and Colorado Watershed Assembly River Watch. The partnership plans to launch its training program in FY2012. The project is expected to be complete in FY2013. The Greenway Foundation of Denver plans to provide a permanent home for this program. Internships have been confirmed with The Nature Conservancy, and USFS. Possible internships with Denver Water and the Denver Zoo. Water quality samples are collected at 2 locations on the first Wednesday of the month, to align with other South Platte sampling. Analysis is completed by EPA Region 8 laboratory and River Watch. Sampling training provided by EPA and River Watch. Two River Ranger staff had a table at the Colorado Environmental Film Festival.

10

X

X

GWUSA hosted a preliminary presentation and discussion of both the report and pathway at their National Conference in Denver, CO in September 2011. These discussions generated interest across the GWUSA network in urban water restoration and in engaging youth in related environmental learning and careers. The Urban Waters team held early discussions with GWUSA to discuss the "Pathways to Jobs" product and agreed on intended audiences and an overall approach.

11

X

X

EPA monitoring for personal care products, pharmaceuticals, and pesticides is occurring in conjunction with the City and County of Denver and Aurora. E Coli is also being monitored on Westerly Creek. EPA's Region 8 lab is one of the few labs in the country to analyze for emerging contaminants. ATSDR will help evaluate the emerging contaminant data.

12

X

X

X

X

X

Improve water quality, habitat, and access.

EPA Region 8 plans to work with The Greenway Foundation, City and County of Denver, and other stakeholders to locate funding and implement the top 5 River Vision Implementation Plan Projects. These projects include: Grant Frontier/Overland Regional Park (Southern Platte Valley), Vanderbilt and Johnson-Habitat Parks, Sun Valley Riverfront Park, Confluence Park-Shoemaker Plaza, and Art Bridge. The Greenway Foundation/Denver applying to Great Outdoors Colorado for \$8m grant + \$8M match. EPA is providing various resources for the South Platte River including \$188,605 in a contract to support green infrastructure/river design work for the Johnson-Habitat Park along the river. And \$73,895 in a contract to support design at Weir Gulch at Sun Valley. Possible future support from USACE.

The South Platte River is an industrial corridor with only 3 neighborhoods with direct access to the river. One of those is Sun Valley which is a Denver Housing Authority affordable housing complex. Because of the industrial character, many of the neighborhoods are EJ neighborhoods.

13

X

X

X

X

X

Plan for redevelopment of catalytic potential brownfields sites along the South Platte River in Denver. EPA assisted in getting additional support for effort from the Colorado Brownfields Foundation and the NPS Rivers and Trails Conservation Program. An additional \$75,000 in hometown funding will be added to the \$175,000 grant.

Urban Waters Best Practices  
Report/ Learning-to-Earning  
Pathway

Monitoring-South Platte River,  
Sand Creek, Westerly Creek

River Vision Coordination  
Committee-Support the  
restoration of the South Platte  
River, Denver, Colorado

South Platte Brownfields Area-  
Wide Planning Grant:

14	Targeted Brownfields Assessment for Westerly Creek at Stapleton: The City of Aurora was awarded a Brownfields area wide opening grant for \$115,000. This encompasses part of Westerly Creek.		x			x				Using EPA START contractor UOS, Region 8 plans to conduct targeted brownfields assessments of portions of Westerly Creek at Stapleton. The Region will also use visual surveys and soil borings to assess the site for asbestos. Data will be used to assess additional cleanup needs before a portion of the creek is realigned and a park is constructed. Done on behalf of the Sandcreek Regional Greenway and the Park Creek Metro district. Portion that belongs to Park Creek metro district is complete with no adverse findings. Other partners were City and County of Denver and Forest City Development.
15	Westerly Creek Stream Restoration Design		x				x		x	Stream restoration design for park in immigrant affordable housing community. Youth and community involvement. Utilizing EPA OBLR and EJ funds in contract with SRA and subcontracts to Wenk and Associates and Vision Land. Use green infrastructure approaches to improve water quality. Improve access, safety, and water quality. This effort hopes to improve access, safety, and water quality. March 17 community meeting with youth multi voting on design elements and uses and other design work. Partners are Trust for Public Lands, City and County of Denver Parks and Rec Department, Urban Drainage and Flood Control District, and Earth Force.
16	Protect our Urban River Environment (PURE) trash monitoring protocols			x			x			The Greenway Foundation is kicking off a big project to assess, monitor and clean up trash from the South Platte river on 4/21 (the first of 3 events). Trash survey design and technical assistance and many crew leads staffed by EPA. This project is funded through EPA's 319 nonpoint source grant to the state and is a part of our broader Urban Waters web of collaborative and complementary, multi-agency activities focused on the South Platte. There will be 3 trash survey days (4/21, 7/21 and 9/29) and some 120 volunteers and coordinators will be involved along with an expected 600 volunteers to do trash cleanup in between survey areas. Greenway Foundation, Denver Environmental Health, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Metro Wastewater Reclamation, Urban Drainage and Flood Control District and Confluence Kayaks are all involved. PURE received the grant for \$50,000 with \$33,333 match.
17	Bear Creek Watershed Plan, Denver, Jefferson and Arapahoe Counties		x				x		x	EPA Region 8 will work with Groundwork Denver on a Section 319 grant to create a watershed plan for Bear Creek. This plan will assist the community in addressing E Coli water quality issues along with nitrogen, phosphorus, sedimentation, metals, pesticides, oil and grease, and habitat impacts. Other partners are the state, National Park Service, City and County of Denver, Colorado Watershed Assembly, City of Sheridan, DU environmental Law Clinic, urban Drainage and Flood Control District, and Colorado State University.
18	EPA Region 8 LID/GI website		x						x	EPA is creating a low-impact development/green infrastructure website for EPA Region 8 with examples from all 6 states. Examples provided and reviewed by multiple
19	Curtis Basin Regional Stormwater Planning									This is a followup to an EPA funded stormwater/green infrastructure design charette more than a year ago as part of the Partnership for Sustainable Communities. Partners include Denver Housing Authority, City and County of Denver, Auraria Campus, Regional Transportation District, CO Department of Transportation, and EPA. A successful stormwater/GI charette and followup meeting was held and an RFP drafted. Additional modeling still to be done. The report was published and posted on OBLR website.

20	Implementing Source Water Protection MOU between USFS Region 2 and CDPHE	X				X					
21	Rocky Mountain Watersheds Partnership Strengthening Colorado's Water and Forest Education	X									Implementing 2010 MOU between USFS Region 2 and Denver Water. MOU with Aurora water recently signed.
22	Connections: Classroom mini-grants through Project Learning Tree	X	X								
23	USGS NAWQA Program	X									Ongoing studies of the South Platte River. Data collection (stream gage and water quality) throughout River basin and tributaries.
24	Mapping Green Infrastructure.		X		X		X				USGS water quality sampling and stormwater sampling for Urban Drainage and Flood Control District. TPL mapped GI in a the Denver Metro area (7-county region), mapping conservation levels along rivers and streams and looking at trail connectivity, and EJ. The information will be used to plan for green spaces for communities without access. EPA participated in the process and applied for Healthy Watersheds funding.
25	Groundwork Denver healthy living.		X								Groundwork Denver worked with residents of the Globeville and Valverde neighborhoods to improve access to the South Platte River Trail.
26	Waters Sense partnership with Delta faucet.				X						Delta donated Water Sense faucets to low income housing in Thornton, installation donated. Project coordinated through Region 8 Water Sense program.
27	Aurora Brownfields area-wide planning grant	X	X		X		X		X		EPA Brownfields area-wide planning grant to Aurora to plan along Montview Blvd corridor and Westerly Creek.
28	Enforcement inspections	X									EPA water enforcement inspections in urban areas.
29	Emergency response to petroleum seepage in Sand Creek.	X									EPA's emergency response program responded to petroleum seepage into Sand Creek.
30	Urban Water proposal to Mayor Hancock	X	X		X		X				EPA Regional Administrator met with Denver Mayor's transition team. EPA made a proposal of how to partner with Denver on issues related to the S Platte. Hometown Funding of \$350,000 was directed towards some of the activities.
31	EPA Green Infrastructure Initiative	X							X		Denver is EPA Region 8's Green Infrastructure Initiative community. Partners include Denver Housing Authority, City and County of Denver, The Greenway Foundation, and Urban Drainage and Flood Control District.
32	America's Great Outdoors Rocky Mountain Greenway		X						X		DOI initiative to connect the Rocky Mountain Arsenal and Rocky Flats wildlife refuges and to Rocky Mountain National Park along the S Platte River and tributaries.
33	Forest to Faucets mapping	X							X		USFS interactive maps that demonstrate the crucial roles forests play in sustaining watersheds and protecting drinking water.
34	National Forest Foundation's Treasured Landscapes	X							X		Dave Rosgen restoration of a section of Trail Creek in the Upper S Platte watershed.
35	Project mapping										Unfunded need.
36	Systems mapping										Unfunded. Identified as a need from the entire partnership.
37	Website										Unfunded need.
38	Source Water Protection Workshop										Unfunded need. Workshop to start the process of creating a source water protection plan and a watershed plan.