



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

• Visitor Services • Open Lands • Weed Management & Forestry
 1800 South County Road 31
 Loveland, CO 80537
 (970) 679-4570/ (970) 679-4574 FAX
 www.larimer.org/naturalresources

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 18, 2014
TO: Open Lands Advisory Board
THRU: Gary Buffington, Director
 Kerri Rollins, Open Lands Program Manager
FROM: Zac Wiebe, Fund Development & Special Projects
RE: Funding request: Preliminary or Final

PROJECT TITLE: Big Thompson Recreation and Conservation Assessment

HISTORY/BACKGROUND:

After the historic flooding of 2013, DNR partnered with the City of Loveland and the newly formed Big Thompson River Restoration Coalition to apply for a Great Outdoors Colorado grant to fund an assessment of the Big Thompson canyon with regards to future conservation and recreation potential. The assessment is intended to identify possible areas for DNR to participate in future conservation and recreation projects and provide an action plan for doing so. The grant was awarded and staff would like to proceed with the assessment.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF CURRENT REQUEST:

With contributions from GOCO, BTRRC and Loveland, Larimer County will need to contribute approximately \$15-20,000 to hire a consultant to complete the plan. The figures below are all estimates, actual costs won't be known until proposals are submitted and a consultant is selected.

ESTIMATED COST & BUDGET BREAKDOWN (All figures are approximate)

GOCO	\$33,000
City of Loveland	\$15,000
Big Thompson River Restoration Coalition	\$10,000 (in-kind)
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$73,000
AMOUNT REQUESTED	\$15-20,000

PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of this plan will determine the potential for added conservation and recreation in the Big Thompson Canyon and the role of DNR in such efforts • This effort will strengthen partnerships within the BTRRC and with the City of Loveland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost

LINKS TO PERTINENT DOCUMENTS & WEBSITES

<http://bigthompsonriver.org/>