



Short-Term Projects
2026-2027 Grant Cycle
FINALIST Project Worksheet

Please complete this worksheet and the questions found at the bottom of this page and send to Sam Kilpack at samantha@cwc.utah.gov no later than **April 1, 2026.**

For project criteria, visit cwc.utah.gov.

Name of project:	<i>Advocacy and Education Program</i>
Funding questions: 1. What is the estimated total cost of the project? 2. How much are you requesting from the CWC? 3. How much funding are you or your organization committing to the project? 4. How much funding are you requesting from others?	 1. \$67,000 2. \$15,000 3. Utah Wildlife Federation allocates \$30,000 from our budget to support our Advocacy and Education Program, which focuses on community outreach and education, as well as the Kids for Conservation Photo Camp. 4. An additional \$20,000 in grants and foundation support has been secured, further strengthening and expanding our conservation efforts.
Please list your (non-funding) community partners for this project, including in-kind support, if any:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Pictureline — \$2,000 in-kind equipment rental● Hogle Zoo — Event partner● Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR)● Utah Department of Natural Resources (DNR)● Utah Backcountry Hunters & Anglers● Berryman Institute● The Nature Conservancy● Utah Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Please list your potential funding partners for this project, if any, including the amount of funding requested from each, and whether the funding has been secured:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Wildlife Federation — \$5,000, gifted • Eccles Foundation — \$5,000, pending • Crocker Catalyst Foundation — \$10,000, pending • Lawrence T. and Janet T. Dee Foundation— \$15,000, pending
I have carefully reviewed this application for accuracy and completeness. I understand that late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.	YES

Use the space below to answer the following questions. *Please be as detailed as possible.*

1. Provide an outline, broken out by category, of how you plan to use the funds. Categories may include, but are not limited to: materials, labor, marketing/promotional materials, and transportation/fuel.

The Advocacy and Education Program operates on a total annual budget of \$67,000, supporting hands-on conservation education, community outreach, and the Kids for Conservation Photo Camp. Revenue comes primarily from charitable contributions totaling \$66,000, including support from family foundations, national conservation foundations, and individual donors, along with \$1,000 in event income.

Program funding prioritizes boots-on-the-ground conservation education and youth engagement. A significant portion of the budget supports staff time dedicated to organizing community programs, coordinating volunteers, leading educational events, and managing the Kids for Conservation Photo Camp. These personnel resources ensure that conservation professionals and educators can work directly with youth and community members in outdoor learning environments.

Funds also support direct program costs for the Kids for Conservation Photo Camp, including honorariums for instructors and conservation photographers, event logistics, educational materials, and supplies that allow students to participate in hands-on wildlife photography and conservation storytelling. These experiences connect young people with nature while building skills in observation, photography, and environmental stewardship.

Additional expenses support outreach and program delivery, including travel to program locations, promotional materials to engage participants, and essential operational costs such as insurance, printing, and technology. These resources enable

the organization to bring conservation education directly into communities and outdoor spaces across the state.

Together, these investments support practical, field-based conservation education, helping young people and community members build lasting connections to wildlife, public lands, and conservation action.

Advocacy and Education Program Budget

Revenue

Charitable Contributions

- Family Foundations — \$15,000
- Granting Foundations (National Wildlife Federation and Pew) — \$49,000
- Individual Donors — \$2,000

Total Charitable Contributions: \$66,000

Event Income

- Event Tickets and Donations — \$1,000

Total Event Income: \$1,000

Total Revenue: \$67,000

Expenditures

Administration and Professional Services

- Accounting/Bookkeeping — \$2,000
- Professional Services — \$10,000

Outreach and Program Support

- Advertising & Promotion — \$250
- Events — \$500
- Honorariums & Stipends — \$1,000

Operations

- Insurance — \$1,500
- License & Membership Fees — \$500
- Office Supplies & Expenses — \$500
- Shipping & Postage — \$500
- Printing & Publications — \$500

Technology

- Software, Subscriptions & Technology — \$7,000

Travel

- Travel — \$1,000
- Mileage Reimbursement/Gas — \$500

Personnel

- Wages — \$40,000
- Administrative & Tax Costs — \$500
- Administrative Fee — \$400
- Workers Compensation — \$250

Total Wages: \$41,150

Total Expenditures: \$67,000

2. Provide a detailed timeline for your project. Be sure to include the anticipated start date, all important steps and milestones, and anticipated end date.

The Utah Wildlife Federation (UWF) respectfully requests \$15,000 from the Central Wasatch Commission to advance hands-on wildlife education, community engagement, and youth conservation leadership through our Advocacy and Education Program. This project focuses on building public understanding of the connections between wildlife, water, transportation, and recreation in the Central Wasatch and Great Salt Lake Landscape, critical areas for Utah's ecological health and economic vitality.

UWF's approach emphasizes boots-on-the-ground education, field-based learning, and inclusive outreach. A central component is the Kids for Conservation Photo Camp, which introduces youth to Utah's water-dependent ecosystems through hands-on exploration, photography, and storytelling. Complementing this, our public education and Community Ambassador program intentionally engages audiences and landscapes often underrepresented in Central Wasatch planning processes. By training ambassadors and facilitating workshops and community listening sessions, UWF connects new participants to regional conservation, transportation, and recreation issues, ensuring that diverse voices inform and support long-term planning and wildlife stewardship.

The following timeline details the project's key phases, milestones, and activities throughout the calendar year 2026, illustrating how UWF will integrate youth education, public outreach, and ambassador engagement to strengthen conservation knowledge and participation across the region.

Project Period: January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

January – March 2026: Program Planning and Partnership Development

- Develop curriculum and educational materials linking wildlife conservation, water stewardship, recreation impacts, and transportation planning in the Central Wasatch.
- Identify and secure instructors, conservation professionals, and guest speakers for the Kids for Conservation Photo Camp and public workshops.
- Establish partnerships with schools, youth organizations, rural communities, and recreation groups to recruit participants and broaden program reach.
- Begin planning Community Ambassador programs, identifying potential volunteers and partners to help communicate conservation messages within their communities.

April – May 2026: Outreach, Logistics, and Program Preparation

- Finalize Kids for Conservation Photo Camp logistics, including field locations, transportation, equipment, and participant registration.

- Conduct outreach campaigns to reach new audiences, including hunters, anglers, rural communities, and families who may not traditionally participate in Central Wasatch planning.
- Develop visual tools, storytelling frameworks, and interactive resources for workshops, public presentations, and Community Ambassador trainings.
- Train instructors and program staff to integrate hands-on conservation education with practical messaging about wildlife connectivity, watershed health, and recreation stewardship.

June 2026: Kids for Conservation Photo Camp Implementation

- Host four Wednesday evening sessions (June 3, 10, 17, 24; 5:30–9:30 p.m.) focused on field-based learning and wildlife photography.
- Teach youth about rivers, wetlands, and landscapes connected to the Central Wasatch and Great Salt Lake ecosystems, emphasizing water conservation, habitat protection, recreation impacts, and civic engagement.
- Guide participants in photography and storytelling exercises to document conservation experiences, reinforcing environmental literacy and empowering them to share these lessons with their communities.

July – September 2026: Public Education and Community Engagement

- Conduct interactive workshops, community listening sessions, and presentations connecting wildlife, water, and transportation planning.
- Engage new audiences who may not have participated in Central Wasatch Commission processes, including rural communities, hunters, anglers, and wildlife advocates.
- Introduce participants to the broader National Conservation and Recreation Area (NCRA) vision, helping them understand how local decisions impact regional ecosystems and transportation systems.
- Youth participants from the photo camp share their conservation stories and photography with families, neighbors, and community groups to extend program impact.

October – November 2026: Community Ambassador Training and Resource Deployment

- Train Community Ambassadors to communicate conservation messages and support local engagement efforts. Training includes use of visual resources, storytelling tools, and interactive exercises that help others understand wildlife connectivity, watershed protection, and transportation safety.
- Ambassadors share knowledge in their own communities through local events, outdoor groups, and networks.

- Develop and distribute online advocacy resources, maps, and educational materials to support ongoing public engagement and strengthen connections between Central Wasatch planning, regional transportation, and statewide conservation priorities.

December 2026: Evaluation, Reporting, and Knowledge Sharing

- Assess program outcomes, including participation, engagement, and feedback from youth participants, ambassadors, and community partners.
- Document lessons learned and best practices for connecting new audiences to Central Wasatch planning and conservation.
- Prepare a final report summarizing the impact of youth education, public outreach, and ambassador engagement on wildlife conservation, recreation access, and community understanding of watershed and transportation issues.

3. Is there anything else you'd like us to know about your project?

The Utah Wildlife Federation (UWF) is a new partner to the Central Wasatch Commission, bringing fresh perspectives, networks, and expertise to community engagement and conservation education in the region. While the CWC has traditionally engaged backcountry recreationists and high-use canyon stakeholders, UWF works with youth, hunters, anglers, rural communities, and wildlife advocates who care deeply about the Central Wasatch, but are not always represented in formal planning processes. This partnership allows the CWC to reach audiences and landscapes that have previously been untapped, creating new opportunities to build understanding and support for regional conservation and recreation planning.

This grant focuses on youth education through the Kids for Conservation Photo Camp, giving young people hands-on experiences with Utah's water-dependent ecosystems, wildlife habitats, and connected landscapes. Beyond the camp, UWF's educational efforts provide context about the National Conservation and Recreation Area (NCRA) vision, helping participants understand how local decisions in the Central Wasatch connect to broader regional conservation, wildlife connectivity, and transportation planning.

By combining field-based learning, storytelling, and civic engagement, UWF ensures that the next generation of Utahns, and the broader public they influence, are informed, inspired, and empowered to participate in conservation decisions. This project not only educates youth but also creates lasting pathways for community members and emerging leaders to engage with the CWC and NCRA initiatives, amplifying the long-term impact of regional planning efforts.