



## 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@cw.utah.gov](mailto:samantha@cw.utah.gov) no later than **April 1, 2026**.

For project criteria, visit [cw.utah.gov](http://cw.utah.gov).

Name of project:	Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter: East Canyon Creek Restoration Phase 2
Funding questions: 1. What is the estimated total cost of the project? 2. How much are you requesting from the CWC? 3. How much <b>funding</b> are you or your organization committing to the project? 4. How much <b>funding</b> are you requesting from others?	1.\$8,000 2.\$8,000 3. Due to Utah State University sponsored program policy, matching funds cannot be listed. 4.
Please list your (non-funding) community partners for this project, including in-kind support, if any:	East Canyon Creek Watershed Committee, TreeUtah, Grow the Flow
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:	N/a
I have carefully reviewed this application for accuracy and completeness. I understand that late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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.
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.
3. Is there anything else you'd like us to know about your project?

## 1. Budget: Requested Funding

Amount	Description
\$5,000	Contracting of Utah Conservation Corps (UCC) for one week to remove the last sections of old smooth wire fencing in disrepair on the banks of East Canyon Creek
\$500	One-week dumpster rental to dispose of removed fencing
\$2,500	Purchase and delivery of native trees and shrubs in large (10-15 gallon) container pots to plant in areas of removed fencing on East Canyon Creek
<b>\$8,000</b>	<b>Total</b>

Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter has the resources necessary to provide shovels, gloves, wire cutters, waders, and other hand tools, as well as staff knowledge and expertise to complete this project including management of contractors, recruitment and leading of volunteers, ordering of trees, and site prep and disposal of waste. **Due to USU Sponsored Program policies, match of any kind cannot be listed on this grant application.**

- 2. Project Timeline: June 1, 2026-October 31, 2026.** The project will start as environmental conditions permit after June 1, 2026. Environmental conditions in the work area, on the banks of East Canyon Creek, could include ground nesting birds and high, unsafe water levels that need to be accounted for when starting the project. Contracting with Utah Conservation Corps to complete fence removal work will occur over a one-week period between June 1 and September 1, 2026. Purchase and delivery of woody shrubs and trees to the planting site will occur after September 15, 2026 and be planted by October 31, 2026. Fall planting of native trees is most effective to reduce summer heat and water stress.
- 3. This project seeks to continue work previously funded by the CWC. In 2025, \$5,000 was awarded from the CWC to remove exclusionary fencing, of which 2/3 was successfully removed. Swaner is requesting funding to finish the removal of fencing and restore the area.**

Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter, an Extension site of Utah State University, seeks funding for phase two of multi-faceted restoration project on East Canyon Creek in the Snyderville Basin. Restoration work is ongoing, as part of 30+ years of Swaner Preserve's management of the area, and many partners working on East Canyon Creek as a whole. East Canyon Creek and its tributaries, including more than 4 miles that run through the protected Swaner Preserve property, provide vital habitat for the area's rich biodiversity. The Preserve provides habitat to over 170 species of birds and over 40 species of wildlife. Multiple Utah species of greatest conservation need, such as Pilose crayfish (*Pacifastacus gambelii*) and Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus plexippus*) can be found on the property as well as Smooth greensnake, Bonneville cutthroat trout, and fireflies. This stream reach was added to the 303(d) list of impaired waters in 1992 for not meeting its beneficial use of supporting cold-water aquatic fishes. A TMDL, or Total Maximum Daily Load,

which is a regulatory, science-based calculation defining the maximum amount of a pollutant a waterbody can receive while meeting water quality standards was created in 2000, outlining water quality and quantity issues such as erosion, stormwater runoff, and declining stream flows leading to increased levels of phosphorus and critically low levels of dissolved oxygen. The impacts of these impairments affect more than fish and wildlife alone. Downstream effects include impacts to a vibrant recreation community, agricultural users, and domestic use as water from the stream joins the Weber River and eventually the Great Salt Lake. Public trails overlook to project site, where thousands of users hike and bike every year.

The proposed East Canyon Creek Restoration Project will improve stream-side habitat and restore safe wildlife movement along a significant section (approximately 15 acres) of upper East Canyon Creek that is encompassed by the Swaner Preserve. This will be accomplished by removing a large quantity of old collapsing fencing which currently presents a safety hazard to wildlife and volunteers and is complicating restoration efforts. Approximately 2/3 of the fencing was removed in 2025 and can be completed through this proposed project. The fencing was originally installed in large swaths around areas of planted trees to prevent herbivory, and is of smooth wire and t-post construction. If fence removal is completed and time remains with the UCC crew, crew and Swaner staff will remove noxious weeds such as musk thistle and dyer's woad in the project area.

This request will fund container trees and shrubs that will provide stream shading, reduce streambank erosion, and provide wildlife habitat in areas that fencing has been removed. Volunteers will be enlisted for planting, providing a rewarding educational opportunity to give back to the community. Larger diameter trees will be prioritized as they are more effectively established. Species could include: Coyote Willow (*Salix exigua*), Peachleaf Willow (*Salix amygdaloides*), Yellow Willow (*Salix lutea*), Red Osier Dogwood (*Cornus sericea*), Wood's Rose (*Rosa woodsii*), Golden Currant (*Ribes aureum*), Narrowleaf Cottonwood (*Populus angustifolia*) Chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*), River birch (*Betula occidentalis*). After plantings, single stem trees will be individually wrapped with fencing to prevent herbivory and watered and monitored regularly by Swaner staff. TreeUtah and Grow the Flow have both coordinated with Swaner to bring additional volunteers, supplies, and trees for a fall planting date.



Above: Map of proposed project area.