



Water Supply Reserve Account

Overview and Accomplishments July 2006 through June 2009

Background

The 2006 legislature passed Senate Bill 06-179, which established the Water Supply Reserve Account (Account) to help citizens identify and meet their critical water supply and management needs. Monies from the Account may be used to:

- ✓ Identify human, environmental, or recreation water needs (also commonly referred to as "Needs Assessments")
- ✓ Evaluate available water supplies in the river basin
- ✓ Build projects or identify methods to meet the water supply needs of the river basin

The authorizing legislation provides funds for a broad range of eligible activities including: construction of infrastructure (storage, pipelines, river improvements, etc.), feasibility studies, studies of human and environmental needs, and technical assistance for permitting or environmental compliance.

Overview

The Account is administered by the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCBC) in collaboration with the Interbasin Compact Commission (IBCC) and the 9 Basin Roundtables established under House Bill 05-1177. Requests for funding begin at the Basin Roundtables. If approved by the Roundtables, the funding request is then submitted to the CWCBC. To date, all funding requests have been for grants. However, a large number of project sponsors have provided matching funds and/or leveraged other monies.

Monies from the Account are distributed according to the Criteria and Guidelines, which were jointly developed by the CWCBC and IBCC in collaboration with the Basin Roundtables. The Criteria and Guidelines are reviewed annually in October to determine if changes to the operation of the Account are needed.

Program Highlights

- ◆ Almost \$20,000,000 Granted for over 100 Projects Across Colorado
- ◆ Projects Recommended by Local Basin water Roundtables on a Consensus Basis with Final Approval by the CWCBC

Accomplishments

Water Supply Reserve Account projects have been approved across the entire state. The WSRA Criteria and Guidelines split the Account into Basin and Statewide Funds. Each Basin Account has received \$1,000,000.

Figure 1 shows the amount approved from each Basin Account (totaling \$7,089,281).

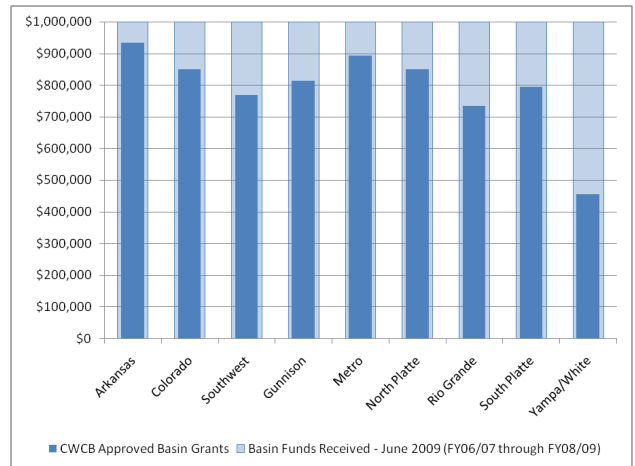


Figure 1. Basin Fund Distribution Approved per Basin

To date, the Statewide Account has received \$14,000,000 with \$12,885,378 in approved grants, leaving a balance of \$1,114,622. The distribution of WSRA funds from the Statewide Account per basin is shown in Figure 2.

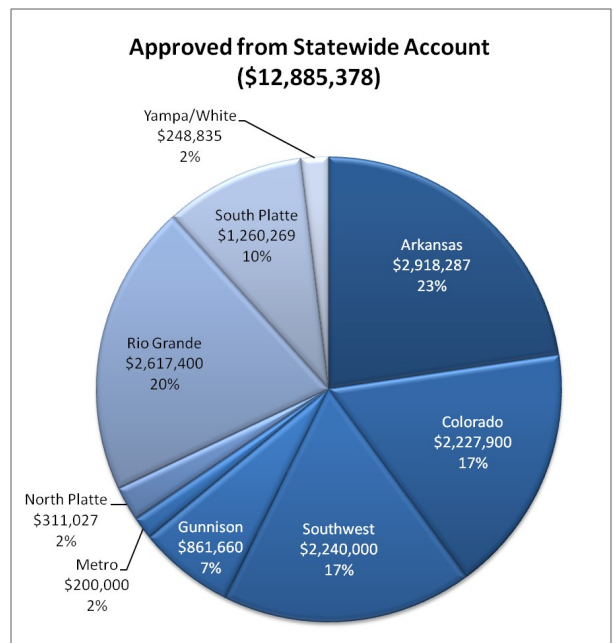


Figure 2. Statewide Fund Distribution Approved per Basin



Projects funded from the Account have addressed both consumptive and nonconsumptive needs with a number of multipurpose projects addressing both (shown in Figure 3).

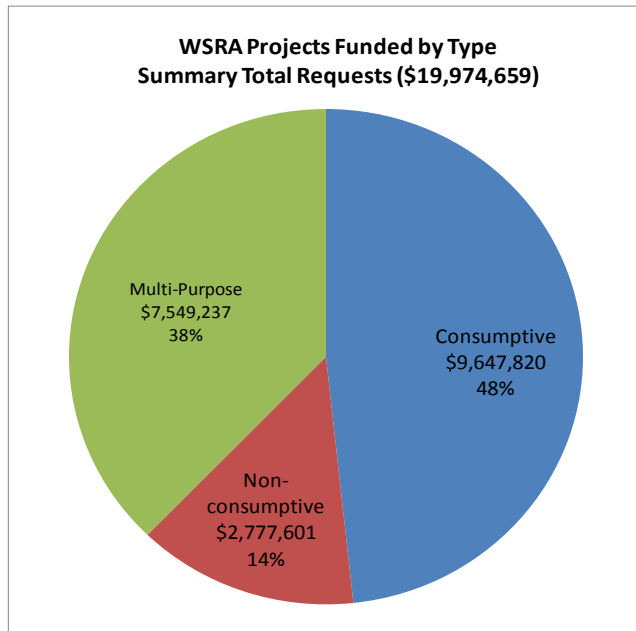


Figure 3. Projects Funded by Type

Sustaining Mineral Severance Tax Funding – Vital for Ongoing Success

Colorado has at least \$3,000,000,000 in funding needs for water supply and water management projects. The mineral severance tax fund was established to help local communities offset the impacts of extracting nonrenewable resources. The distribution formula for severance tax emphasizes water supply in order to provide a renewable resource – *water* – to help offset the impact from extractive natural resource development. The WSRA furthers this objective by helping to provide an adequate water supply.

Recent Legislation and the Future of the WSRA

In 2009, the Water Supply Reserve Account Program was reauthorized in perpetuity by SB 09-106. It is authorized to receive up to \$10,000,000 per year from the Severance Tax Trust Fund, subject to available funding. To ensure consistency with other CWCB programs SB 09-106 also requires conservation plans from “covered entities” prior to receiving WSRA funds.

Grants from the Account have also provided the means to conduct study/design work and project implementation. Figures 4, 5 and 6 show how the Account has supported both study/design and implementation aspects of water projects and methods.

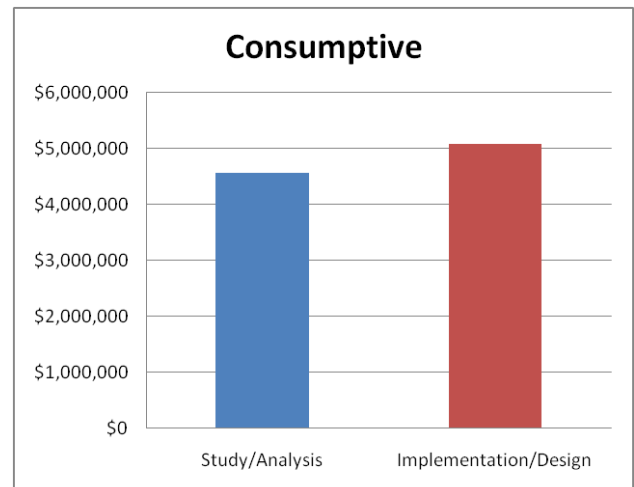


Figure 4. Total Funds for Consumptive Use Projects for Study/Analysis vs. Implementation/Design

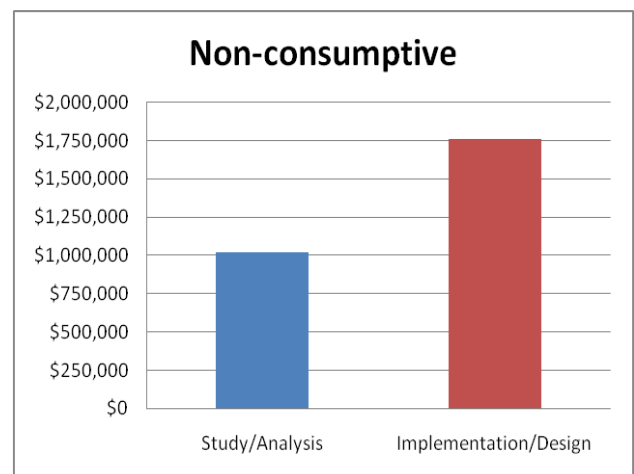


Figure 5. Total Funds for Nonconsumptive Use Projects for Study/Analysis vs. Implementation/Design

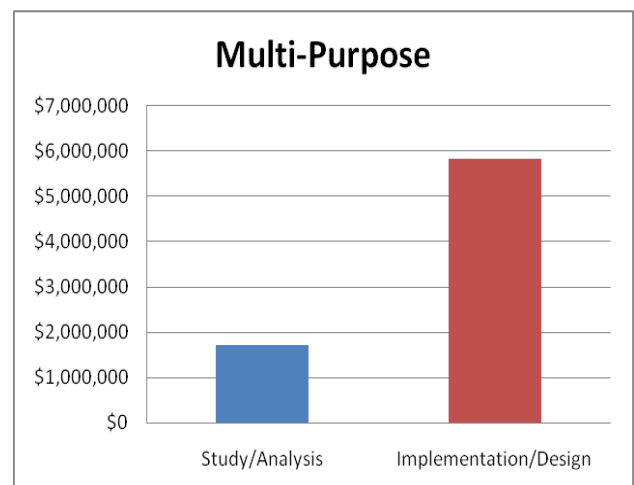


Figure 6. Total Funds for Multi-Purpose Projects that Address both Consumptive and Nonconsumptives for Study/Analysis vs. Implementation/Design

Observations

The Water Supply Reserve Account Program has been a tremendous success. The Account has funded a mix of consumptive and nonconsumptive water projects and promoted multi-purpose projects throughout the State. The Account has funded projects that help Colorado meet its water

supply needs with funding that was not available until the passage of the legislation.

The annual review of the Criteria and Guidelines allows for program adjustments. Adjustments to the Criteria and Guidelines have allowed the WSR to adapt to the changing needs of Colorado's water community.



WSRA Fund Appropriation and Receipts

June 2009

Fiscal Year	Legislative Appropriation	Actual Funds Received		
		Total	Statewide Account	Basin Account
2006/2007	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$5,500,000	\$4,500,000
2007/2008	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$4,200,000	\$1,800,000
2008/2009	\$10,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$4,300,000	\$2,700,000
TOTAL	\$26,000,000	\$23,000,000	\$14,000,000	\$9,000,000

Note: The WSR is a Severance Tax "Tier II" program with 40% of funds distributed July 1, 30% on January 1, and 30% on April 1. In FY 2008/2009 the final 30% installment of \$3,000,000 was not received due to the State's budgetary shortfall.

Approved Water Supply Reserve Account Applications by the CWC Board

Name of Water Activity	Basin Account	Statewide Account	Total
Arkansas Basin Total	\$932,756	\$2,918,287	\$3,851,043
Arkansas Valley Conduit		\$200,000	\$200,000
Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District: Tamarisk Project		\$50,000	\$50,000
Upper Black Squirrel Creek Aquifer Recharge Investigation	\$45,200		\$45,200
Ground Water Conference	\$24,721		\$24,721
Fountain Creek Vision Task Force	\$75,000		\$75,000
Round Mountain Water & Sanitation District Water System Improvements Project	\$120,000		\$120,000
Rotational Land Fallowing-Water Leasing Program -Lower Arkansas Super Ditch Company	\$150,000		\$150,000
Upper Big Sandy Water Balance	\$45,000		\$45,000
Model Transfers- Agriculture to Urban, Arkansas Basin	\$23,860		\$23,860
Arkansas Headwaters Diversion Structure Improvement Project		\$57,955	\$57,955
City of Las Animas Water System Improvements	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$300,000
Colorado State Parks Zebra Mussel Response		\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Geospatial decision support system for integrated water mgmt	\$100,000	\$500,000	\$600,000
Telemetry data collection platforms at six reservoirs plus flow control equipment and gauging at six reservoir outlet channels & nine streams w/in the upper Ark River basin	\$75,000	\$210,332	\$285,332
Demonstration of membrane zero liquid discharge process for drinking water systems	\$25,000	\$700,000	\$725,000
John Martin Wetlands and Neenoshe Reservoir Nonconsumptive Needs Quantification	\$148,975		\$148,975



Approved Water Supply Reserve Account Applications by the CWCB Board

Name of Water Activity	Basin Account	Statewide Account	Total
Colorado Basin Total	\$850,171	\$2,227,900	\$3,078,071
Energy Development Water Needs Assessment (300,000 Joint Application see Yampa)		\$150,000	\$150,000
Enlargement of Eagle Park Reservoir		\$250,000	\$250,000
Roaring Fork Watershed Assessment	\$40,000		\$40,000
Upper Colorado Endangered Fish Recovery Alternatives Analysis (10,825)		\$200,000	\$200,000
Vail Ditch Project		\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
Bull Creek Reservoir No. 5 Spillway Adequacy Analysis	\$50,000		\$50,000
Missouri Heights	\$25,000		\$25,000
Grand County Stream flow Management Plan	\$100,000		\$100,000
Old Dillon Reservoir	\$100,000		\$100,000
Fraser Sedimentation Basin	\$60,000	\$127,900	\$187,900
Roaring Fork Watershed Assessment -Phase 2	\$40,000		\$40,000
Feasibility and design assessment of off-channel reservoir sites in the Crystal River water shed	\$40,000		\$40,000
Battlement Reservoir #3 Dam reconstruction to enhance recreational & environmental opportunities	\$80,000		\$80,000
Colorado Basin Nonconsumptive Needs Quantification	\$315,171		\$315,171
Southwest Basin Total	\$767,735	\$2,240,000	\$3,007,735
Dry Gulch Reservoir/San Juan Reservoir Land Acquisition		\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Goodman Point: Pipeline Environmental Assessment	\$7,700		\$7,700
Goodman Point Phase 2	\$20,000	\$240,000	\$260,000
Jackson Gulch Reservoir Expansion Project	\$61,735		\$61,735
Bauer Lakes Water Co. Dam Outlet Structure Upgrade	\$40,000		\$40,000
La Plata West Rural Water Supply System	\$100,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,100,000
Town of Sawpit – Engineering/Planning for Domestic Water System; Southwest Basin	\$25,000		\$25,000
MVIC Summit Irrigation Company feasibility study	\$39,300		\$39,300
Happy Scenes Water System Upgrades	\$50,000		\$50,000
La Plata Archuleta WD: Water System Master Planning	\$100,000		\$100,000
Molas Lake Ditch Rehabilitation and Diversion Structures	\$95,000		\$95,000
Lower Blanco River Restoration Project	\$100,000		\$100,000
Florida Mesa Canal Companies: Ditch Loss, Hydropower, and Monitoring Improvement Program	\$100,000		\$100,000
Red Mesa Dam Incremental Damage Analysis (IDA) and Emergency Action Plan (EAP)	\$29,000		\$29,000
Gunnison Basin Total	\$813,125	\$861,660	\$1,674,785
Lake San Cristobal Controlled Outlet Structure	\$35,000		\$35,000
Safety and Serviceability Needs Inventory for Reservoirs in the Leroux Creek Drainage Basin	\$60,000		\$60,000
Orchard City Water Reservoir Project (Task 1-3)	\$60,000		\$60,000
Orchard City Water Reservoir Project (Remaining Tasks)		\$380,000	\$380,000
Off-System Raw Water Storage Project 7 Water Authority/Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association	\$56,700		\$56,700
Paonia-Feldman Diversion Reconstruction; North Fork of the Gunnison River (Part 1 and 2)	\$48,000	\$62,700	\$110,700
Sedimentation Management Study For Paonia Reservoir - North Fork of the Gunnison	\$79,000	\$230,000	\$309,000
Overland Reservoir Dam Expansion/Restoration		\$68,000	\$68,000
Phase II Engineering for Lake San Cristobal Outlet Modification	\$75,265		\$75,265
Lake San Cristobal Outlet Structure Modification--Phase III		\$120,960	\$120,960
Ridgway Ditch and Lake Otonawanda Improvement Project	\$109,500		\$109,500
Juniata Reservoir Spillway Modification	\$97,000		\$97,000
Ag Water Needs Assessment and Water Supply Analysis	\$120,560		\$120,560
Hartland Diversion Dam Fish Passage Feasibility Study	\$22,100		\$22,100
City of Ouray: Development of Augmentation Supplies	\$50,000		\$50,000

Approved Water Supply Reserve Account Applications by the CWCBB Board

Name of Water Activity	Basin Account	Statewide Account	Total
Metro Basin Total	\$893,146	\$200,000	\$1,093,146
Chatfield Reallocation EIS/FR (South Platte BRT contributing \$27,000)	\$103,000		\$103,000
Zero Liquid Discharge Pilot Study	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000
Parker Water and San. And Colo. State University Joint Project on the Rural/Urban Farm Model	\$150,000		\$150,000
Upper Mountain Counties Water Needs Assessment	\$43,587		\$43,587
Solicitation of Stakeholder Input through a South Platte Edition of Headwaters	\$16,019		\$16,019
South Metro Water Supply Authority - Regional Aquifer Supply Assessment	\$100,540		\$100,540
South Platte River Recreation and Habitat Feasibility Study	\$150,000		\$150,000
Demonstration of membrane zero liquid discharge process for drinking water systems (\$50,000 Metro Basin Fund Contribution)	\$50,000		\$50,000
Lost Creek Aquifer Recharge and Storage Study	\$80,000		\$80,000
North Platte Basin Total	\$849,715	\$311,027	\$1,160,741
New Pioneer Ditch Diversion Reconstruction Project	\$116,000		\$116,000
Town of Walden Water Supply Improvement Project	\$385,000		\$385,000
Effects of Mtn pine beetle and forest mgmt on water quantity, quality, and forest recovery N.P. and Upper CO River basins	\$212,306	\$164,618	\$376,923
Identification and assessment of important wetlands in N.P. River watershed	\$86,000	\$96,000	\$182,000
Monitoring the effects of weather conditions on the evapotranspiration in N.P. river basin	\$50,409	\$50,409	\$100,818
Rio Grande Basin Total	\$734,950	\$2,617,400	\$3,352,350
Alamosa River In-stream Flow Project	\$64,500		\$64,500
Preliminary Design Multi-use Rio Grande Reservoir Rehabilitation and Enlargement		\$288,000	\$288,000
Rio Grande Basin Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program	\$36,750		\$36,750
Alamosa River Watershed Restoration Project		\$104,000	\$104,000
Romero-Guadalupe Channel Rectification Project	\$83,700		\$83,700
Rio Grande Initiative	\$200,000	\$1,300,000	\$1,500,000
Santa Maria and Continental Reservoirs: Rehabilitation and Multiple Use Studies	\$50,000	\$141,700	\$191,700
2008 Rio Grande Riparian Stabilization Project	\$35,000	\$250,000	\$285,000
Platoro Reservoir Restoration	\$50,000	\$200,000	\$250,000
Conejos River and North Branch Diversion and Stabilization	\$50,000	\$333,700	\$383,700
Rio Grande Reservoir Multi-Use Rehabilitation: Refinement and Enhancement of Reservoir Reoperation and Optimization Model	\$100,000		\$100,000
El Codo Ditch Diversion and Rehabilitation	\$65,000		\$65,000





Approved Water Supply Reserve Account Applications by the CWCB Board

Name of Water Activity	Basin Account	Statewide Account	Total
South Platte Basin Total	\$793,111	\$1,260,269	\$2,053,380
Chatfield Reallocation EIS/FR (Metro BRT contributing \$103,000)	\$27,000		\$27,000
Clear Creek Water Banking/High Altitude Storage	\$52,000		\$52,000
Ovid Reservoir Comprehensive Feasibility Study	\$176,000		\$176,000
Lower South Platte Wetland Initiative Phase I South Platte River, CO		\$278,476	\$278,476
Stage Discharge Data Loggers and Telemetry	\$48,800		\$48,800
Upper Mountain Counties Water Needs Assessment	\$130,763		\$130,763
Weld County School Dist RE1 Wetland Partnership	\$42,110		\$42,110
Solicitation of Stakeholder Input through a South Platte Edition of Headwaters	\$16,019		\$16,019
S.P. Water protection and restoration		\$825,552	\$825,552
Arickaree River Well retirement program, Republican River basin, CO.	\$19,984	\$79,936	\$99,920
Halligan Seaman Water Mgmt project share vision planning model	\$25,435	\$76,305	\$101,740
Demonstration of membrane zero liquid discharge process for drinking water systems (\$50,000 Metro Basin Fund Contribution)	\$25,000		\$25,000
Lost Creek Aquifer Recharge and Storage Study	\$80,000		\$80,000
Central South Platte Wetland Partnership	\$150,000		\$150,000
Yampa Basin Total	\$454,572	\$248,835	\$703,407
Energy Development Water Needs Assessment (300,000 Joint Application see Colorado)		\$150,000	\$150,000
Morrison Creek Reservoir Feasibility Study	\$49,500		\$49,500
Agricultural Water Needs Assessment	\$201,410		\$201,410
Common Data Repository	\$106,600		\$106,600
Sparks Reservoir	\$16,000		\$16,000
Town of Yampa Water Facilities Plan and storage tank up-grades	\$61,062		\$61,062
Sandwash basin coalbed methane production depletive effects on water resources	\$20,000	\$98,835	\$118,835

Further information regarding the Interbasin Compact Process accomplishments and support provided to the basin roundtables to further their basinwide needs assessments can be found at:
<http://ibcc.state.co.us>.

For more information, please contact:

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