



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

CWCB Soliciting Water Conservation Proposals for Pilot Program

The Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) is soliciting proposals for temporary, voluntary, and compensated conservation of Colorado River water. The CWCB is participating in proactive planning activities that address drought conditions in the Colorado River Basin in order to maintain critical water elevations in Lake Powell.

Four major municipalities that rely on Colorado River water and the Bureau of Reclamation are providing funding for pilot projects to test whether voluntary, compensated conservation measures can be an effective part of drought contingency measures. The Upper Colorado River Commission (UCRC) is implementing this Pilot Program, and additional drought contingency planning efforts, in the Upper Colorado River Basin. The UCRC represents the Upper Colorado Basin States of Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, and New Mexico.

Through the Pilot Program, water users in the Upper Basin (municipal, industrial, and agricultural) will be monetarily compensated for voluntary actions that temporarily reduce consumptive use of Colorado River System water. These pilot projects could include temporary fallowing or deficit irrigation of agricultural crops, reuse of industrial water, recycling of municipal supplies to reduce consumptive use, reductions in municipal landscape irrigation or indoor use, and other methods that would result in additional water conservation for the Colorado River System.

The UCRC has released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for 2017 pilot projects. This is the third round of proposals that the UCRC and the funding entities will consider. Approximately \$1.8 million is available for one-year projects in the Upper Colorado River Basin in 2017. Interested parties are encouraged to review the RFP, selection criteria, and application at <http://cwcb.state.co.us>. The UCRC hopes to see projects proceed that have not been carried out previously in the program, as well as in regions that have not previously participated. Applications are due by November 30, 2016.

For information or assistance, please contact Carlee Brown at 303-866-3441, Extension 3220 or Michelle Garrison at 303-866-3441, Extension 3213.

