



Project Description

The Sanford Canal Company was incorporated in 1892 as a "Colorado Water Company" and later became a Mutual Ditch Company in 1912. Its diversion is located on the Conejos River just below the confluence with the San Antonio River and has a service area covering approximately 3,000 irrigated acres. The purpose of this Project was to address the need for a well-designed diversion structure that will reduce maintenance, improve water management efficiencies, and allow for the accurate control of compact-entitled waters. The core of the Sanford Canal diversion structure had been washed away over time, contributing to decades of limited diversion to irrigators and potential over payment to the Compact. This Project removed and replaced the diversion and headgate structures and installed automated headgates and four gauging stations.

This Project is one of three projects collectively known as the Conejos River System Confluence Management Project, managed by the Conejos Water Conservancy District. The District has taken a proactive "whole river" system approach to water management and over the past few years have improved the efficiency and stability of many diversions, developed real-time water management data, and studied the effects on return flows from irrigated areas from groundwater withdrawals. The Confluence Management Project extended this whole river strategy to the Confluence, specifically to the Sanford Canal, Ephraim Ditch, and East Bend Ditch.

P R O J E C T D A T A		
<i>Sponsor:</i> Sanford Canal Company	<i>County:</i> Conejos	<i>Water Source:</i> Conejos River
<i>Type of Loan:</i> Ditch Rehabilitation		<i>Board Approval Date:</i> May 2014
<i>Terms of Loan:</i> \$101,000 at 1.75% for 30 years		
<i>Design Engineer:</i> Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)		
<i>Contractor:</i> Natural Progression Homes, LLC		
<i>Project Elements:</i> Diversion Dam (core), sluice gate, headgates, automation, 4 gauging stations		