



WATER EFFICIENCY GRANT FUND

FISCAL YEAR 2020-21

ANNUAL REPORT



COLORADO

**Colorado Water
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

OVERVIEW

The Water Efficiency Grant Program (WEGP), created in 2005 under HB05-1254 and expanded in 2007 through SB07-008, is administered by the Colorado Water Conservation Board's Office of Water Conservation & Drought Planning (OWCDP) within the Water Supply Planning Section. This grant program provided financial assistance to communities, water providers, and eligible entities statewide for water efficiency and implementation, as well as drought planning and implementation projects. Since 2005, more than \$6.6M has been awarded through this grant program.

For Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the CWCB awarded over \$99,961 to five projects. In May 2021, the CWCB Board approved staff recommendation to move the Water Efficiency Grant Program under the Water Plan Grant program. Starting July 1, 2021, Water Efficiency and Drought Management Plans will be awarded through the Water Plan Conservation & Land Use Planning category. All Public Education & Outreach projects will be awarded through the Water Plan Engagement & Innovation category.

WATER EFFICIENCY PLANNING PROJECTS

A goal of the CWCB is to provide technical and financial support and assistance to water providers, state, and local governmental entities to develop or update Water Efficiency Plans. Across Colorado, water entities of all sizes turn to the CWCB for assistance with local water efficiency planning efforts.

For Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the CWCB awarded three water efficiency planning grants to the following entities:

Entity	Grant Amount	Basin
City of Englewood	\$20,000	South Platte/Metro
Tri County Water Conservancy District	\$19,961	Gunnison
Town of Hudson	\$20,000	South Platte

WATER EFFICIENCY IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS

Due to Severance Tax revenue uncertainty, for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the CWCB did not award an implementation grant. Interested parties were encouraged to apply for a Water Plan Conservation & Land Use Planning grant.

DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROJECTS

Drought is one of the most destructive of all natural hazards, yet often the least planned for by local governments. Drought adversely affects nearly all sectors of Colorado's economy; however, improved drought management can reduce these impacts.

By developing Drought Management Plans, communities are working to appropriately address and reduce existing and potential drought related impacts. These Plans can help to preserve essential public services and minimize the effects of a water supply emergency on public health and safety, the local economy, environmental resources and quality of life.

During FY 2020-2021, two grants were awarded.

ENTITY	GRANT AMOUNT	BASIN
Deutsche Domestic Water Company	\$20,000	Gunnison
Town of Windsor	\$20,000	South Platte

DROUGHT MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS

Due to Severance Tax revenue uncertainty, for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the CWCB did not award an implementation grant. Interested parties were encouraged to apply for a Water Plan Conservation & Land Use Planning grant.

PUBLIC EDUCATION & OUTREACH PROJECTS

Due to Severance Tax revenue uncertainty, for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the CWCB did not award an implementation grant. Interested parties were encouraged to apply for a Water Plan Engagement & Innovation grant.

Office of Water Conservation and Drought Planning

Water Supply Planning Section

The CWCB's Office of Water Conservation and Drought Planning is housed within the Water Supply Planning Section and was created to promote water conservation and drought mitigation planning and implementation by: acting as a repository for related information; providing technical assistance; providing financial assistance; and providing evaluation of plans to address water needs and prepare for water related emergencies.

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