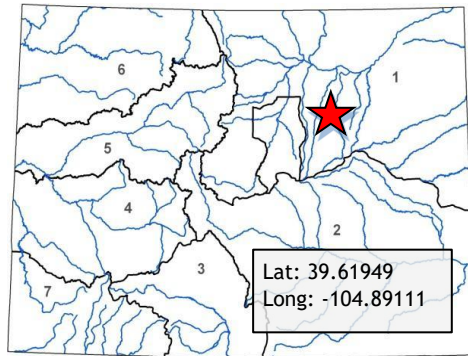




South Platte Regional Opportunities Water Group: Outreach Phase (Project Management) South Metro Water Supply Authority March 2023 Board Meeting

Water Plan Grant Application



L O C A T I O N

County/Counties: Denver, Arapaho, Douglas & Park
Drainage Basin: Metro and South Platte

D E T A I L S

Total Project Cost:	\$187,887.50
Water Plan Grant Request:	\$120,407.50
Recommended Amount:	\$120,407.50
Other CWCB Funding:	\$0
Other Funding Amount:	\$50,610
Applicant Match:	\$16,870
Project Type:	Study
Project Category:	Water Storage and Supply
Measurable Results: 2,500,000 Coloradans impacted by increased storage and new supplies.	

The South Metro Water Supply Authority has requested Water Plan Grant funding for the South Platte Opportunities Water Group (SPROWG) to conduct more extensive outreach among stakeholders such as water providers and water managers to build a committed coalition of partners who are willing to pursue and invest in the SPROWG Concept. Through this outreach, the Concept will be refined into a detailed vision for further planning purposes in subsequent development steps for the SPROWG Concept. The SPROWG Concept offers a regional, basin-wide approach to meet a variety of future water needs in the South Platte Basin. It contemplates new storage, exchanges, and potential pipelines to meet a significant amount of future municipal water demand as well as agricultural demand while providing environmental/recreational benefits. A SPROWG Task Force of over 100 stakeholders was used to introduce and educate water users on the Concept. Task Force members included environmental and recreational interest, agricultural producers and ranchers, and water providers and conservancy districts.

SPROWG meets the Colorado Water Plan Goals through forming a collaborative, regional effort between several water users in the South Platte basin to develop new water storage and sources of supply. The multipurpose concept is a focus in the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan to meet future South Platte Basin demands. The SPROWG Feasibility Study (2020) advanced modeling, conducted education and outreach, explored organization governance structures, and further refined concept elements.

The Colorado Water Plan grant request is 64% of the total project cost with the remainder coming from equal contributions of cash match (\$13,120) and in-kind match (\$3,750) from the applicant, City of Aurora, Denver Water and the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District.

Funding Recommendation: Staff recommends Board approval of \$120,407 to the South Metro Water Supply Authority for the South Platte Regional Opportunities Water Group: Outreach Phase (Project Management).



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	South Metro Water Supply Authority
Name of Water Project	South Platte Regional Opportunities Water Group (SPROWG) - Outreach Phase (Project Management)
Grant Request Amount	\$120,407.50
Primary Category	\$120,407.50
<i>Water Storage & Supply</i>	
Total Applicant Match	\$16,870.00
<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>	\$13,120.00
<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>	\$3,750.00
Total Other Sources of Funding	\$50,610.00
<i>Denver Water</i>	\$13,120.00
<i>Northern Water</i>	\$13,120.00
<i>Denver Water</i>	\$3,750.00
<i>Aurora Water</i>	\$3,750.00
<i>Northern Water</i>	\$3,750.00
<i>So Metro Water Supply Authority</i>	
<i>So Metro Water Supply Authority</i>	
<i>Aurora Water</i>	\$13,120.00
Total Project Cost	\$187,887.50

Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee: South Metro Water Supply Authority	
Mailing Address: 8400 East Prentice Avenue, Ste 315 Greenwood Village CO 80111	
FEIN: 611,497,221	
Organization Contact: Lisa Darling	
Position/Title: Executive Director	Email: lisadarling@southmetrowater.org
Phone: 7202165158	
Organization Contact - Alternate: Erik Jorgensen	
Position/Title:	Email: erikjorgensen@southmetrowater.org
Phone: 720-934-7391	
Grant Management Contact: Lisa Darling	
Position/Title: Executive Director	Email: lisadarling@southmetrowater.org
Phone: 7202165158	
Grant Management Contact - Alternate: Angie Grunder	
Position/Title:	Email: angiegrunder@southmetrowater.org
Phone: (720) 338-0977	

Description of Grantee/Applicant

No description provided

Type of Eligible Entity

- ☒ Public (Government)
- ☐ Public (District)
- ☐ Public (Municipality)
- ☐ Ditch Company
- ☐ Private Incorporated
- ☐ Private Individual, Partnership, or Sole Proprietor
- ☐ Non-governmental Organization
- ☐ Covered Entity
- ☐ Other

Category of Water Project

- ☐ Agricultural Projects
Developing communications materials that specifically work with and educate the agricultural community on headwater restoration, identifying the state of the science of this type of work to assist agricultural users among others.
- ☐ Conservation & Land Use Planning
Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning.
- ☐ Engagement & Innovation Activities
Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website.
- ☐ Watershed Restoration & Recreation
Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation.
- ☒ Water Storage & Supply
Projects that facilitate the development of additional storage, artificial aquifer recharge, and dredging existing reservoirs to restore the reservoirs' full decreed capacity and Multi-beneficial projects and those projects identified in basin implementation plans to address the water supply and demand gap.

Location of Water Project

Latitude	39.619490
Longitude	-104.891110
Lat Long Flag	Default/Proponent headquarters: If the location cannot be defined with flags above, use location of project proponent headquarters
Water Source	Legally available reuse water supplies, free river (unappropriated flow), (Agricultural) Alternative Transfer Methods (ATM) and excess Recharge Credits.
Basins	Metro; South Platte
Counties	Adams; Morgan; Arapahoe; Logan; Denver; Douglas; Larimer; Weld
Districts	2-South Platte: Denver Gage to Greeley; 1-South Platte: Greeley to Balzac; 64-South Platte: Balzac to Stateline

Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type	Municipal
Type of Water Project	Planning

Scheduled Start Date - Design

1/1/2023

Scheduled Start Date - Construction

Description

The South Platte Regional Opportunities Water Group (SPROWG) Concept offers a regional, basin-wide approach to meet a variety of future water needs in the South Platte Basin. The SPROWG Concept contemplates new storage, exchanges, and potential pipelines to meet a significant amount of future municipal water demand as well as agricultural demand while providing environmental/recreational benefits. A SPROWG Task Force of over 100 stakeholders was used to introduce and educate water users on the Concept. Task Force members included environmental and recreational interest, agricultural producers and ranchers, and water providers and conservancy districts. The multipurpose Concept was a focus in both the 2015 and 2022 (updated) South Platte Basin Implementation Plans (SPBIP) to meet future South Platte Basin demands and can be found in both editions of the SPBIP.

The purpose of this specific effort is to conduct more extensive outreach among stakeholders and to build a committed coalition of partners who are willing to pursue and invest in the SPROWG Concept. Through this outreach, the Concept will be refined into a detailed vision for further planning purposes in subsequent development steps for the SPROWG Concept.

Measurable Results

0	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive
	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
0	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)
	Efficiency Savings (dollars/year)
	Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year)
	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)
	Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms or water sharing agreement (acre-feet)
2,500,000	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning
2,500,000	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity
Other	
While the SPROWG concept has defined storage, supply, agricultural, environmental and recreational infrastructure and benefits, the critical first step is outreach and identification of interested project proponents.	

Water Project Justification

The South Platte Regional Opportunities Water Group, or "SPROWG" meets the following Colorado Water Plan Goals:

Water Supply Management, including reuse, conservation, completion of planned projects and development of alternative ag transfers (ATM)(6.3, 2015)

In addition, this project will address the following critical goals (10.3): Supply-Demand Gap: Moving forward a basin priority project; Conservation: Integrated water resource planning; Agriculture: Maintain agricultural viability, Facilitate Alternative Management Transfer Methods, Support agricultural Efficiency; Storage: Promote Additional Storage and Infrastructure.

The SPROWG Concept is identified as an IPP (Identified Projects and Processes) in the Metro/SP Basin Implementation Plan (2020-SP-103)

Related Studies

SPROWG was identified as an IPP in both the 2015 and draft 2022 CO Water Plans, and in the Metro/South Platte Basin Implementation Plans for both.

South Platte Storage Study (2017) identified potential storage locations utilized in the SPROWG concept. The SPROWG Feasibility Study (2020) advanced modeling, conducted education and outreach, explored organization governance structures and further refined concept elements.

Taxpayer Bill of Rights

None known.