



Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Supply Reserve Fund - Statewide & Basin

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Aurora, City of	
Name of Water Project	Inaugural Airborne Snow Observatories Surveys in the Upper South Platte Basin	
Basin Account Request Subtotal		\$120,167.50
Statewide Request Amount		\$294,168.00
Statewide Project Category		Drought Resiliency
Applicant Cash Match		\$304,500.00
Applicant In-Kind Match		\$43,000.00
Basin Requests		
<i>Metro</i>		\$120,167.50
Sources of Funding		

Grant Details

Statewide Project Category Justification
Accurate measurement of snowpack and remaining runoff during key times will provide municipalities with information to make better decisions. If municipalities can make more informed decisions around drought declaration, watering restrictions, and other

Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee: Aurora, City of
Mailing Address: 15151 East Alameda Parkway, Ste. 3600 Aurora CO 80012
Matt Ashley, Water Resources Specialist, 417-496-2012
Organization Contact: Luz Lopez
Position/Title: Grants Coordinator
Phone: mtashley@auroragov.org
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Organization Contact - Alternate: Matt Ashley
Position/Title: Email: mtashley@auroragov.org
Phone:

Grant Management Contact: Luz Lopez
Position/Title: Grants Coordinator
Phone: Email: lalopez@auroragov.org

Description of Grantee/Applicant

Aurora Water is the water, sewer, and stormwater service provider for the City of Aurora.

Location of Water Project	
Latitude	39.151866
Longitude	-106.176896
Lat Long Flag	Precise coordinates: Project coordinates are readily definable and precisely define the location of the project
Water Source	South Platte
Basins	South Platte
Counties	Park
Districts	

Water Project Overview	
Major Water Use Type	Municipal
Type of Water Project	Study
Scheduled Start Date - Design	4/1/2025
Scheduled Start Date - Construction	
Description	<p>To Improve basin-wide snow measurements, advance streamflow forecasting, and link emerging snow measurement technology with complex water operations, we propose to contract with ASO, Inc. to conduct one year of ASO snow surveys in two adjacent basins—the Upper South Platte Basin and Upper Blue River Basin—and to integrate the ASO snow measurement data with at least three streamflow forecasting models. In 2025, we will conduct two ASO snow surveys in the Upper South Platte Basin and two ASO snow surveys in the Blue River Basin (total of four ASO surveys in 2025). The project funds would go towards funding ASO surveys, associated iSnobal snowpack modeling, and associated WRF-Hydro streamflow forecasting. Denver Water, Aurora Water, and others will integrate the ASO data and forecasts into operational water management decisions. For the forecasting, ASO Inc. will produce ASO-assimilated WRF-Hydro streamflow forecasts, the Colorado Basin River Forecast Center (CBRFC) will produce experimental ASO-integrated streamflow forecasts, and Denver Water will produce ASO-integrated streamflow forecasts. The project will utilize a decision framework to evaluate how the ASO measurements and forecasts impacted real-time decisions. This project will support the Colorado Airborne Snow Measurement (CASM) program, which has formed to expand ASO access throughout Colorado.</p>

Measurable Results

New Storage Created (acre-feet)
New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive
Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
New Storage Created (acre-feet)
Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)
Length of Pipe, Canal Built or Improved (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)
Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning
Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity

Other

No additional measurable results provided