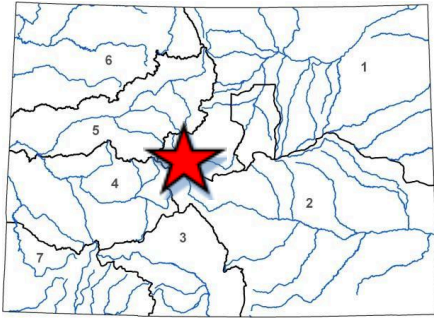




Water Plan Grant Program



LOCATION	
Counties:	Statewide
Basins:	Statewide

DETAILS	
Total Project Cost:	\$61,147.00
Water Plan Grant Request:	\$ 31,387.00
Recommended Amount:	\$0.00
Match Commitment:	\$29,760.00
Grant to Match Ratio	51/49
Project Type:	Capacity Building
Primary Project Category:	Conservation and Land Use Planning
Measurable Result: 13,000 Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning	

The Department of Personnel and Administration, specifically the Colorado Office of Sustainability, is seeking a Colorado Water Plan grant to support the State of Colorado Irrigation Audit Training project. This Water Plan Grant request focuses on the first two phases of a proposed three-phase project intended to reduce water consumption across state-owned irrigated properties.

In Phase 1 of the proposed project, the applicant would provide Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper (QWEL) training for state-employed landscape professionals who maintain state-owned irrigated landscapes. This phase focuses on equipping personnel with the necessary skills to manage water resources efficiently and sustainably.

In Phase 2 of the proposed project, the applicant would conduct comprehensive irrigation audits on five of the largest state-owned irrigated properties. The goal of these audits is to identify specific areas for improvement and develop a data-driven strategy for future water savings. The target locations for these audits are: State Capitol/Capitol Complex, the Department of Human Services Mental Health Facility in Pueblo, the Arkansas Valley Correctional Facility, the Sterling Correctional Facility and the Department of Personnel and Administration building at 1881 Pierce.

Based on the findings and recommendations from the Phase 2 audits, the applicant intends to develop a budget and strategy for implementing necessary irrigation system upgrades and changes. This subsequent phase will be a direct result of the data gathered, ensuring a targeted and effective approach to maximizing water efficiency.

Application materials highlight that this project contributes to the goals of the Colorado Water Plan by addressing the efficiency of state-owned irrigation systems; thereby promoting resilient planning and vibrant communities. The project also aligns with goals mentioned in the South Platte River Implementation Plan, which states that improving municipal and industrial water use efficiency will remain a key element of water resource management. Finally, this project aligns with the Arkansas River Basin Implementation Plan's goal to "support regional efforts for cost-effective solutions to local water supply gaps".

Funding Recommendation:

Staff does not recommend that the Department of Personnel and Administration be awarded a Water Plan Grant for State of Colorado Irrigation Audit Training because the application materials and budget did not adequately demonstrate project readiness and feasibility.