



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Plant Select	
Name of Water Project	Water-wise Digital Plant Procurement Platform	
Grant Request Amount		\$90,000.00
Primary Category		\$90,000.00
<i>Conservation & Land Use Planning</i>		
Total Applicant Match		\$25,000.00
<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>		\$25,000.00
<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>		\$0.00
Total Other Sources of Funding		\$5,000.00
<i>Allan Taylor Family</i>		\$5,000.00
Total Project Cost		\$120,000.00

Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee: Plant Select	
Mailing Address: 1173 Campus Delivery Fort Collins CO 80523-1173	
Organization Contact: Ross Shrigley	
Position/Title: Exectutive Director	Email: ross.shrigley@plantselect.org
Phone: (970) 481-3429	
Grant Management Contact: Ross Shrigley	
Position/Title: Exectutive Director	Email: ross.shrigley@plantselect.org
Phone: (970) 481-3429	

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 40.565602
Longitude -105.085107
Lat Long Flag
Water Source
Basins Statewide
Counties
Districts

Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type Agricultural
Type of Water Project Planning
Scheduled Start Date - Design 3/3/2025
Scheduled Start Date - Construction 1/1/2026

Description
The Colorado horticultural supply chain suffers critical water-wasting inefficiency due to an estimated 9% inventory shrinkage, primarily in woody stock requiring multi-year irrigation. This waste stems from the misalignment between independent growers, who plan production 3–5 years in advance, and municipalities operating on restrictive annual budget cycles.

The Water Conservation Plant Procurement Platform is the solution. It utilizes a transparent, digital procurement platform powered by Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) for tamper-proof, 5-year plant traceability. The platform connects public entities (municipalities, counties, State agencies) with licensed growers via an advanced bidding system.

This system enables buyers to contract-grow the exact volume of verified, genetically proven, climate-ready plants required for long-term urban conservation. This is crucial as provenance verification secures drought-tolerant stock adapted to urban heat stress. The software's primary function is to create a more efficient wholesale supply chain, eliminate inventory waste, and actively preserve Colorado's water supply.

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

Water Project Justification

This project, "Water Conservation Plant Procurement Platform," reduces overall future water needs through cost-effective water efficiency measures.

The Colorado horticultural supply chain suffers from a critical water-wasting inefficiency due to an estimated 9% inventory shrinkage, primarily in woody stock that requires multi-year irrigation. This waste stems from the misalignment between independent growers, who plan production 3–5 years in advance, and municipalities operating on restrictive annual budget cycles. This procurement platform prioritizes water efficiency planning, conservation, and long-term drought management by utilizing Distributed Ledger Technology and smart contracts that enhance supply chain efficiency between municipalities and growers.

Related Studies

All retail and wholesale nurseries discard plants every year because plants are a perishable product. The following 2009 study appears to be consistent with the findings of Plant Select growers. Plant Select Survey Reducing Crop Shrinkage- <https://www.greenhousegrower.com/production/plant-culture/reducing-crop-shrinkage/> Some of our nurseries state that discarding 5% of sellable product each year is acceptable. More statistics and information were presented at the CO Waterwise Conference. That 20-minute presentation link is <https://vimeo.com/1121276587?fl=ip&fe=ec>

Taxpayer Bill of Rights

No Tax Bill of Rights provided