



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Colorado Springs Utilities
Name of Water Project	El Paso County Regional Indirect Potable Reuse Project
Grant Request Amount	\$250,000.00
Primary Category	\$250,000.00
<i>Water Storage & Supply</i>	
Total Applicant Match	\$100,000.00
<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>	\$57,500.00
<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>	\$42,500.00
Total Other Sources of Funding	\$0.00
<i>Colorado Springs Utilities</i>	
<i>Colorado Springs Utilities</i>	
<i>Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority</i>	
<i>Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority</i>	
Total Project Cost	\$350,000.00

Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee: Colorado Springs Utilities
Mailing Address: 2855 Mesa Road
MC 1300 Colorado Springs CO 80904
FEIN: 846,000,574

Organization Contact: Jenny Bishop
Position/Title: Project Engineer, IV
Phone: 719-668-8575
Email: jbishop@csu.org

Description of Grantee/Applicant

Municipal water provider serving Colorado Springs.

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	38.713613
Longitude	-104.720964
Lat Long Flag	Ditch diversion structure location: Coordinates based on ditch's diversion structure
Water Source	Denver Basin groundwater return flows, agricultural water that has been converted to municipal use, and trans-basin return flows.
Basins	Arkansas
Counties	El Paso
Districts	10-Fountain Creek

Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type	Municipal
Type of Water Project	Planning
Scheduled Start Date - Design	6/10/2024
Scheduled Start Date - Construction	
Description	<p>The IPR Project would maximize the efficient use and reuse of existing water supplies. Locally available water supplies include water converted from agricultural and irrigational use to municipal use on several ditches in the county, including the Fountain Mutual Irrigation Company and Chilcott Ditch. Reusable water supplies include Denver Basin groundwater supplies, consumptive reuse from Arkansas Basin supplies, and transmountain water, among others.</p> <p>Money from the CWP grant funding would be used to leverage the work already done by project participants to complete a 15% design of the IPR Project. Project participants would use the Chilcott Ditch infrastructure to divert water supplies off Fountain Creek and deliver to the proposed Williams Creek Reservoir, which has been permitted for 25,000 acre-feet of storage. Existing Southern Delivery System (SDS) infrastructure would then be used to pump the water to Bailey Water Treatment Plant.</p> <p>The initial design of the project is for an annual average of 15 mgd (about 23 cfs) to be diverted (approximately 10,000 acre-feet of water) and would be used to diversify water service for more than half a million people.</p>

Ideally, the project could be scaled up over time to treat additional return flows generated by increasing population.

Measurable Results

- 25,000 New Storage Created (acre-feet)
- New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive
- Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
- 25,000 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

The project would allow existing Denver Basin groundwater to be reused within El Paso County, fully use locally available water supplies that have been converted from irrigation to municipal use, and allow for some reduction in transit losses for some water supplies that is currently exchanged from the mouth of Fountain Creek up to Pueblo Reservoir. The amount of water efficiencies realized has not been calculated yet as it will depend on the ultimate sizing of the project.

Water Project Justification

The IPR Project meets Storage Goals S1 and S3 in the January 2022 Arkansas Basin Implementation Plan by developing approximately 25,000 acre-feet of local storage that would promote a flexible way to store consumable water from the Arkansas Basin and water imported from other basins for multiple water providers in El Paso County.

The IPR Project also meets Arkansas BIP goals M1, M2, and M3 by partially bridging the municipal supply gap anticipated in El Paso County, better manage Denver Basin groundwater supplies, and maximizing the use and reuse of multiple water suppliers' water rights. By leveraging existing and planned infrastructure and infrastructure improvements, the IPR Project would support a regional effort to build partnerships with multiple participants and maximize a scale of efficiency that could not be realized by smaller water districts with only a few thousand customers. Fully reusing Denver Basin groundwater will allow regional water providers to reduce pumping of Denver Basin groundwater and prolong the useful life of their wells.

The IPR Project addresses similar goals that are included in the 2023 Colorado Water Plan. It supports Vibrant Communities and Resilient Planning by including thoughtfully planned, locally available storage to help meet growth and future uncertainty by storing supplies needed for reliable and safe drinking water. The IPR Project maximizes the efficient use and reuse of legally available water supplies for multiple participants and therefore meets the Meeting Future Water Needs goal of optimizing investments in infrastructure and increasing efficiency. By being downstream of the majority of wastewater treatment plant outfalls in El Paso County, the IPR Project supports Wise Water Use by diverting reusable return flows that are legally and physically available for use in El Paso County. The IPR Project leverages integrated planning by collaborating with both PPRWA participants and

Utilities to leverage existing infrastructure and projects to benefit multiple participants in the Pikes Peak Region. Resiliency will be improved by providing redundancy and diversifying water supplies and water supply systems for multiple participants.

Related Studies

1. Forsgren Associates Inc., April 2022, Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority: Regional Reuse Study.
2. Black & Veatch, April 2004, Southern Delivery System Terminal Storage and Exchange Reservoir Site Analysis Study for Colorado Springs Utilities.
3. CH2M Hill, July 16, 2009, Southern Delivery System Williams Creek Reservoir Exchange Conveyance Alternative - Chilcotte Ditch, Technical Memorandum 6-H.1B.2.
4. Merrick & Company, Authorized November 16, 2023 – Conceptual Evaluation of Bailey WTP for Treatment in the Loop Water System

Taxpayer Bill of Rights

The TABOR Amendment excludes from its provisions enterprises. Enterprises, defined as government-owned businesses authorized to issue revenue bonds and receiving less than 10 percent of their annual revenue in grants from all state and local governments c