

**COLORADO**Colorado Water  
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

## Colorado Water Conservation Board

**Water Plan****Water Project Summary**

Name of Applicant	Arkansas River Watershed Collaborative
Name of Water Project	Lower Arkansas Watershed Planning Initiative – Phase 1
Grant Request Amount	<b>\$362,801.00</b>
Primary Category	\$362,801.00
<i>Engagement &amp; Innovation Activities</i>	
Total Applicant Match	<b>\$0.00</b>
<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>	
<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>	
Total Other Sources of Funding	<b>\$124,176.00</b>
<i>Arkansas Groundwater and Reservoir Association</i>	\$5,000.00
<i>Ducks Unlimited</i>	\$10,000.00
<i>Aurora Water</i>	\$10,000.00
<i>Colorado Springs Utilities</i>	\$10,000.00
<i>Colorado Canal</i>	\$5,000.00
<i>Amity Canal</i>	\$5,000.00
<i>Pueblo West</i>	\$5,000.00
<i>Ducks Unlimited</i>	\$33,000.00
<i>Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District</i>	\$5,000.00
<i>Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District</i>	\$5,000.00
<i>Pueblo Water</i>	\$5,000.00
<i>Institute for Resilient Infrastructure Systems</i>	\$26,176.00
Total Project Cost	<b>\$486,977.00</b>

**Applicant & Grantee Information**

Name of Grantee: Arkansas River Watershed Collaborative

Mailing Address: PO Box 726 Lake George CO 80827

Organization Contact: Jonathan Paklaian

Position/Title:

Phone: (719) 510-6373

Email: jonathan@arkcollaborative.org

Organization Contact - Alternate: Yates McConnell

Position/Title:

Phone: 719-510-6373

Email: yates@arkcollaborative.org

Grant Management Contact: Jonathan Paklaian

Position/Title:  
Phone: (719) 510-6373

Email: jonathan@arkcollaborative.org

Grant Management Contact - Alternate: Jonathan Paklaian

Position/Title:  
Phone: (719) 510-6373

Email: jonathan@arkcollaborative.org

### Description of Grantee/Applicant

OUR MISSION IS TO SERVE COLORADO'S ARKANSAS RIVER BASIN COMMUNITIES BY ADDRESSING LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED WATERSHED ISSUES FOR ECONOMIC, ECOLOGICAL & SOCIAL BENEFIT.

ARWC is the nonprofit organization for the Arkansas Basin Roundtable, and Roundtable members serve as our Board of Directors. In 2017, ARWC became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and hired its first Executive Director and staff in early 2019. The Collaborative covers all 23,000 square miles of the Arkansas River Basin, reaching from Leadville to the Colorado-Kansas border. Our work includes forest health and wildfire fuels mitigation, post-fire and flood recovery, stream management planning, water quality, stream restoration, collaborative development and stakeholder engagement.

### 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	38.129800
Longitude	-103.867900
Lat Long Flag	Stream location: Coordinates based on general location on stream
Water Source	
Basins	Arkansas
Counties	Bent; Crowley; Pueblo; Otero
Districts	14-Arkansas: Portland to Fowler; 17-Arkansas: Fowler to Las Animas

### Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type

Type of Water Project Planning

Scheduled Start Date - Design 1/1/2026

Scheduled Start Date - Construction

Description

Arkansas River Watershed Collaborative (ARWC), in partnership with members of the Ag-Muni Subcommittee of the Arkansas Basin Roundtable (Roundtable), and Ducks Unlimited (DU), propose to launch a regional watershed planning effort for the Arkansas River corridor between Pueblo Reservoir and the John Martin Reservoir.

This Phase 1 initiative includes 1) hiring a dedicated Lower Arkansas Watershed Coordinator (Coordinator) to build stakeholder capacity and community trust and 2) completing a baseline inventory of river conditions. Outcomes will include stronger local partnerships, a shared understanding of ecological and infrastructure stressors, and defined priorities for future project development and funding. This project directly supports Colorado's Water Plan goals around integrated water management, healthy watersheds, and community resilience.

### 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

Development of a high-level current conditions inventory of the Arkansas River between Pueblo and John Martin Reservoirs

### Water Project Justification

This project supports the Colorado Water Plan (CWP) by integrating a number of CWP strategies into the lower reaches of the Arkansas River. This Phase 1 project will develop the resources to plan and implement projects

supporting robust agriculture and a thriving watershed. An inventory of the current conditions of the river corridor will allow future projects by ARWC and other organizations to address needs directly. Building capacity in this region will encourage collaboration among local stakeholders to tackle problems together. In addition, this project will directly address the following Arkansas Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan goals:

- Agricultural Goal 1: Support projects within and outside the Basin that will help meet the Arkansas Basin Agriculture water supply gap, maintain existing supplies, better manage vulnerable supplies, and maximize utilization of water users' entitlements.
- Agricultural Goal 2: Sustain a productive agricultural economy in the Basin that sustains viable rural, agricultural based communities.
- Environment/Recreation Goal 4: Maintain or improve aquatic, riparian, and avian habitat (including wetlands) that would support environmental features and recreational opportunities.
- Watershed health Goal 2: Improve water quality as it relates to the environment and/or recreation.

#### Related Studies

No Related Studies provided

#### Taxpayer Bill of Rights

No Tax Bill of Rights provided