



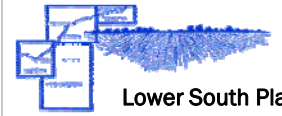
Doug
Robotham

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

South Platte Regional Opportunities Water Group (SPROWG) Feasibility Study

South Platte Regional Water Development Concept (SPRWDC) Feasibility Study

May 30 and May 31, 2019






Lower South Platte Water
Conservancy District



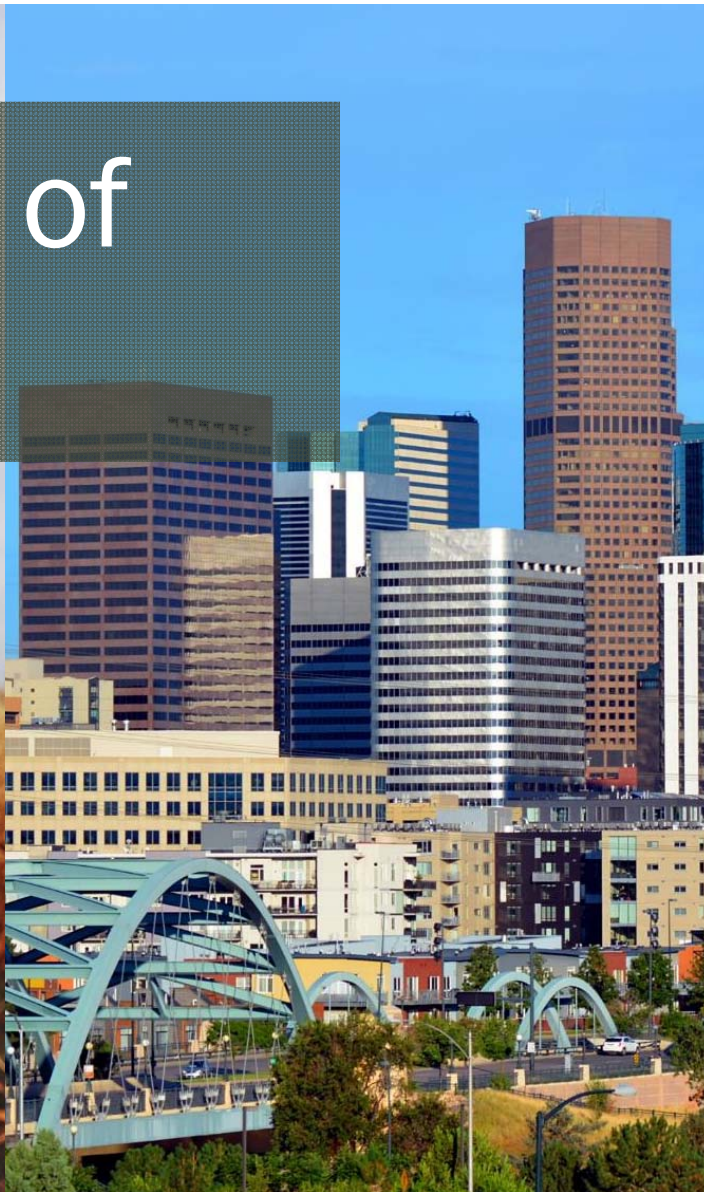
Meeting Agenda

- Introductions and Purpose of the Meeting
- Overview of SPROWG
- Guiding Principles
- Description of Feasibility Study and Project Outreach
- Description of Information Request

Purpose of the Meeting

-  Provide information about SPROWG and the current study
-  Describe an upcoming request for information
-  Gauge initial interest in SPROWG

Overview of SPROWG





South Platte Basin Implementation Plan (SPBIP) described the original “Conceptual Future In-Basin Multipurpose Project” in Section 4.6.2



South Platte Regional Opportunities Working Group (SPROWG) advanced the SPBIP concept and developed the initial regional water project

South Platte BIP Phase 2

Dec 2013 – April 2015

June 2015 – May 2018

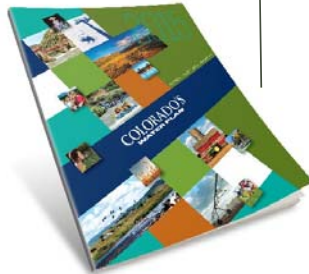
Date TBD

May 2013 – Nov 2015

Jan 2017 – Dec 2017

June 2018 – Oct 2018

Mar 2019 – Mar 2020



Colorado's Water Plan voiced the need for storage and collaborative projects



South Platte Storage Study (SPSS) identified potential South Platte River storage projects



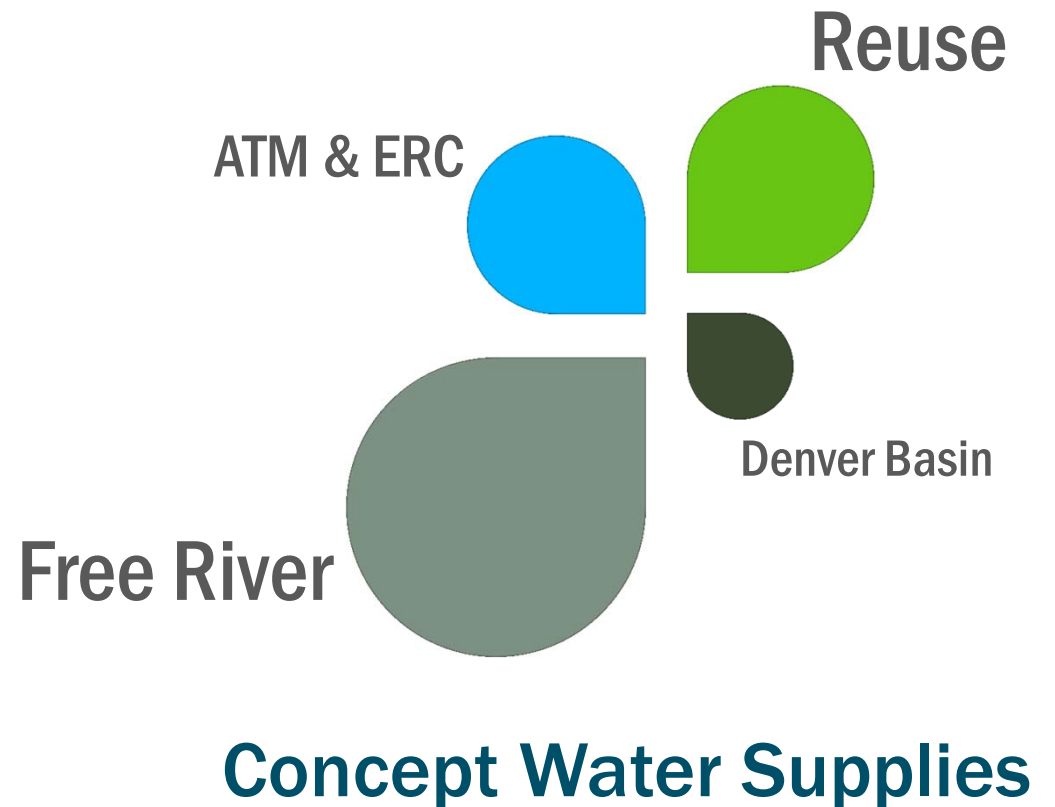
SPROWG Task Force developed scope of study and grant application for feasibility study



SPROWG Feasibility Study will conduct outreach, explore organizational alternatives, and refine the concept

Initial Concept Evaluation

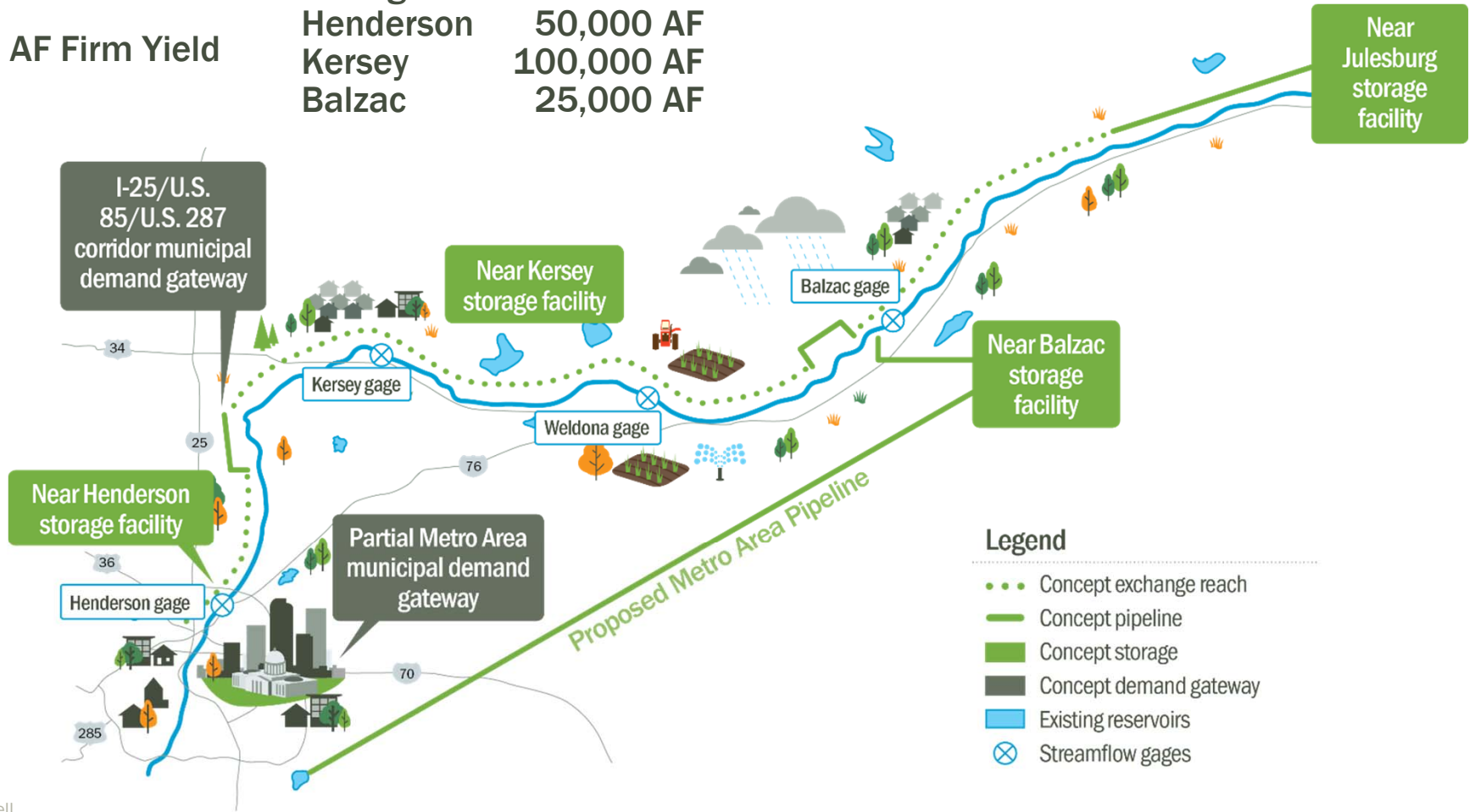
- Initially performed high-level analyses with reservoirs operating independently
- Gradually incorporated components to maximize use of water supplies:
 - Conjunctive reservoir operations
 - Additional infrastructure
 - Enhanced exchange capacity



Initial concept evaluation results:

50,000 AF Firm Yield

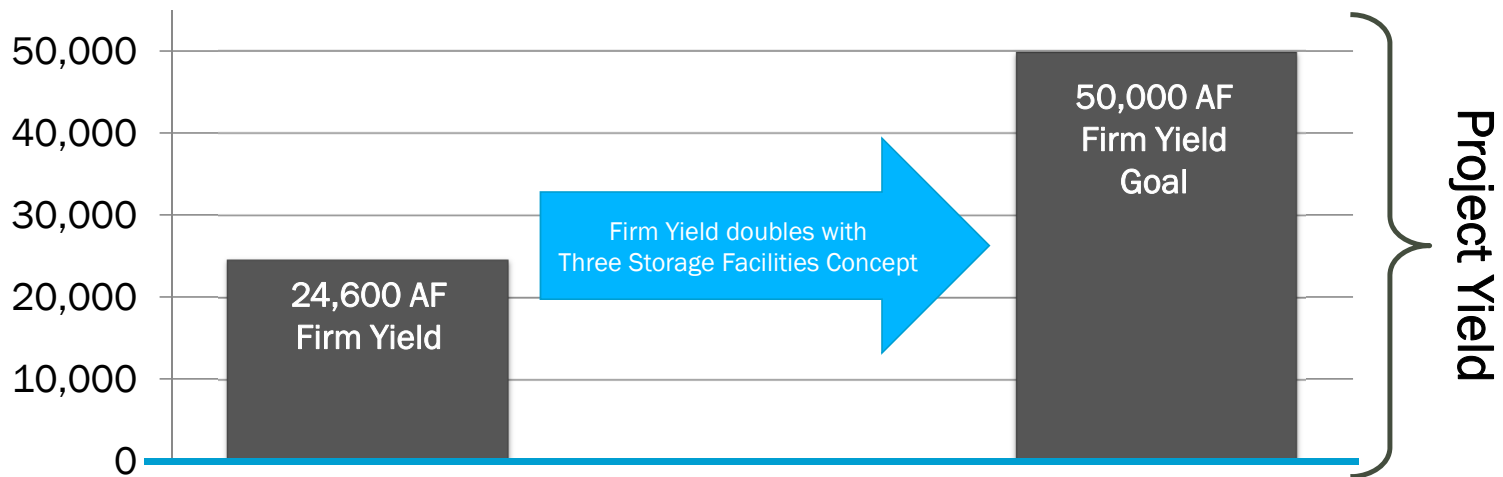
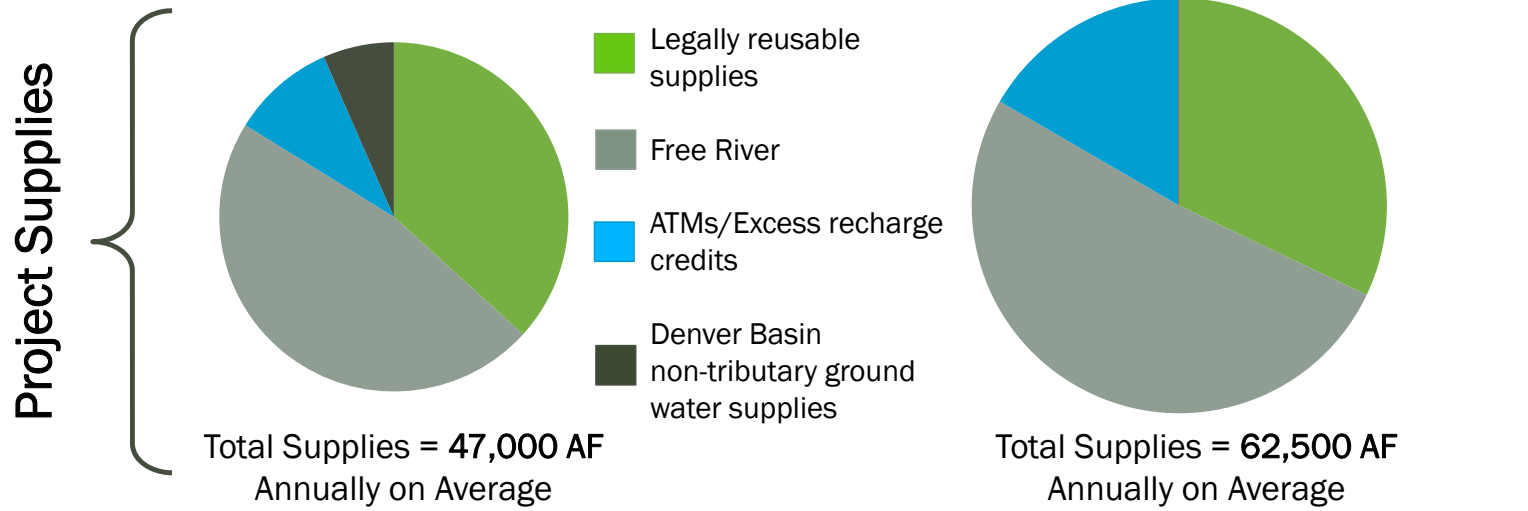
Storage:	
Henderson	50,000 AF
Kersey	100,000 AF
Balzac	25,000 AF



- Legend**
- Concept exchange reach
 - Concept pipeline
 - Concept storage
 - Concept demand gateway
 - Existing reservoirs
 - ⊗ Streamflow gages

Single Storage Facility Concept

Three Storage Facilities Concept



While communities in the South Platte River Basin continue to make great strides in meeting future water demands through aggressive conservation measures, a need remains for additional supplies.

Project Urgency and Necessity

- Basin population expected to grow to around **6 million** by the year **2050**
- Projected **M&I water supply gap by 2050 is 365,000 acre-feet annually**
 - 65% of the statewide gap
 - Largest gap of the basins in the state
- Water also needed for **agriculture** and for **environment and recreation**
- Projected water **needs exceed water supplies**, even with increased conservation
- **Water is periodically available** for future use
 - Almost 300,000 acre-feet per year has been available in recent years
- **SPROWG is not an alternative for existing or planned projects.**

SPROWG is studying ways to meet future needs by strategically managing our existing supplies

Potential Benefits

- A **regional approach** to share costs, infrastructure, and supplies
- Concept would use **multiple sources of supply** and **operationally-linked infrastructure** to maximize benefit.
- Provide at least **50,000 acre-feet of water annually** to meet future M&I needs and **additional supply** to meet agricultural needs.
- Strategies being explored to **further environmental and recreational goals** and **improve water quality**.
- Infrastructure to **enhance ATM feasibility** and reduce buy and dry
- Potentially **150,000 acre-feet of new storage**

The SPROWG feasibility study is the next step in evaluating solutions to meet the gap

Study Components

- Stakeholders include **agricultural, municipal/industrial, environmental and recreational** interests
- Builds on **previous studies**
- Will evaluate **ways to fund, administer, and operate** a new project
- **Will seek feedback** from stakeholders and refine the concept
- **Multiple ways to collaborate** and participate
 - Task Force
 - Survey participation
 - Outreach meetings

Guiding Principles



Principles describing what SPROWG *IS*

The Guiding Principles describe the framework for developing the SPROWG concept. The Principles may be modified as the project progresses.

Guiding Principles are not presented in any specific order or priority and are paraphrased. See handout for full text.

1. SPROWG will advance the goals of the **South Platte/Metro Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) and Colorado's Water Plan**.
2. SPROWG intends to provide at least **50,000 acre-feet of yield** to meet part of the projected municipal and industrial water supply project gap in the South Platte basin. **A significant portion of this yield is targeted for smaller but rapidly growing communities between Denver and Greeley and also larger communities in the Denver Metro area and northern Colorado.** The project will also explore providing supplies to smaller communities east of Greeley.
3. SPROWG intends to meet a **portion of the agricultural gap**.
4. SPROWG will identify and incorporate **strategies to address environmental and recreational needs**.

Principles describing what SPROWG *IS*

The Guiding Principles describe the framework for developing the SPROWG concept. The Principles may be modified as the project progresses.

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5. SPROWG intends to **enhance the ability to conduct alternative water transfers**, thus reducing the need for traditional buy-and-dry transfers.
6. SPROWG will utilize different **sources of water** available in the South Platte basin and manage them conjunctively to achieve an overall reliable yield beyond what an individual source could produce.
7. SPROWG is intended to help water supply organizations and water users **maximize the use of in-basin supplies**.
8. SPROWG intends to improve integration of **water quality** and quantity planning and management activities.

Principles describing what SPROWG *IS NOT*

9. SPROWG is **not** intended to be **a substitute for existing or planned projects**.
10. SPROWG is **not** intended to be used to deliver water developed from the **permanent dry up of irrigated lands** in the South Platte basin.
11. SPROWG is **not** intended to **store supplies** from an existing or new **transmountain diversion project** (though it will provide a means to utilize unused reusable return flows from transmountain diversions).

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Guiding Principles are not presented in any specific order or priority and are paraphrased. See handout for full text.

Project Approach and Schedule



Project Approach, Schedule, and Assignments

- Task 1: Concept Refinement



- Subtask 1.1: Organizational Framework/Institutional Structure



- Subtask 1.2: Municipal and Industrial Demands



- Subtask 1.3: Agricultural Demands and Supplies



- Subtask 1.4: Environmental and Recreational Demands



- Subtask 1.5: SPROWG Refinement and Modeling

- Task 2: Infrastructure Issues






- Subtask 2.1: Water Treatment Strategies






- Subtask 2.2: Updated Cost Estimates

Project Approach, Schedule, and Assignments

- Task 3: Communication and Reporting

-  Stantec  – Subtask 3.1: Outreach and Education
-  – Subtask 3.2: Final Report

- Task 4: Project Coordination and Management

-   – Subtask 4.1: Task Force
-  – Subtask 4.2: Project Management

Stakeholder Involvement

- **Task Force**

- Stay informed
- Provide succinct feedback
- Talk to Advisory Committee members

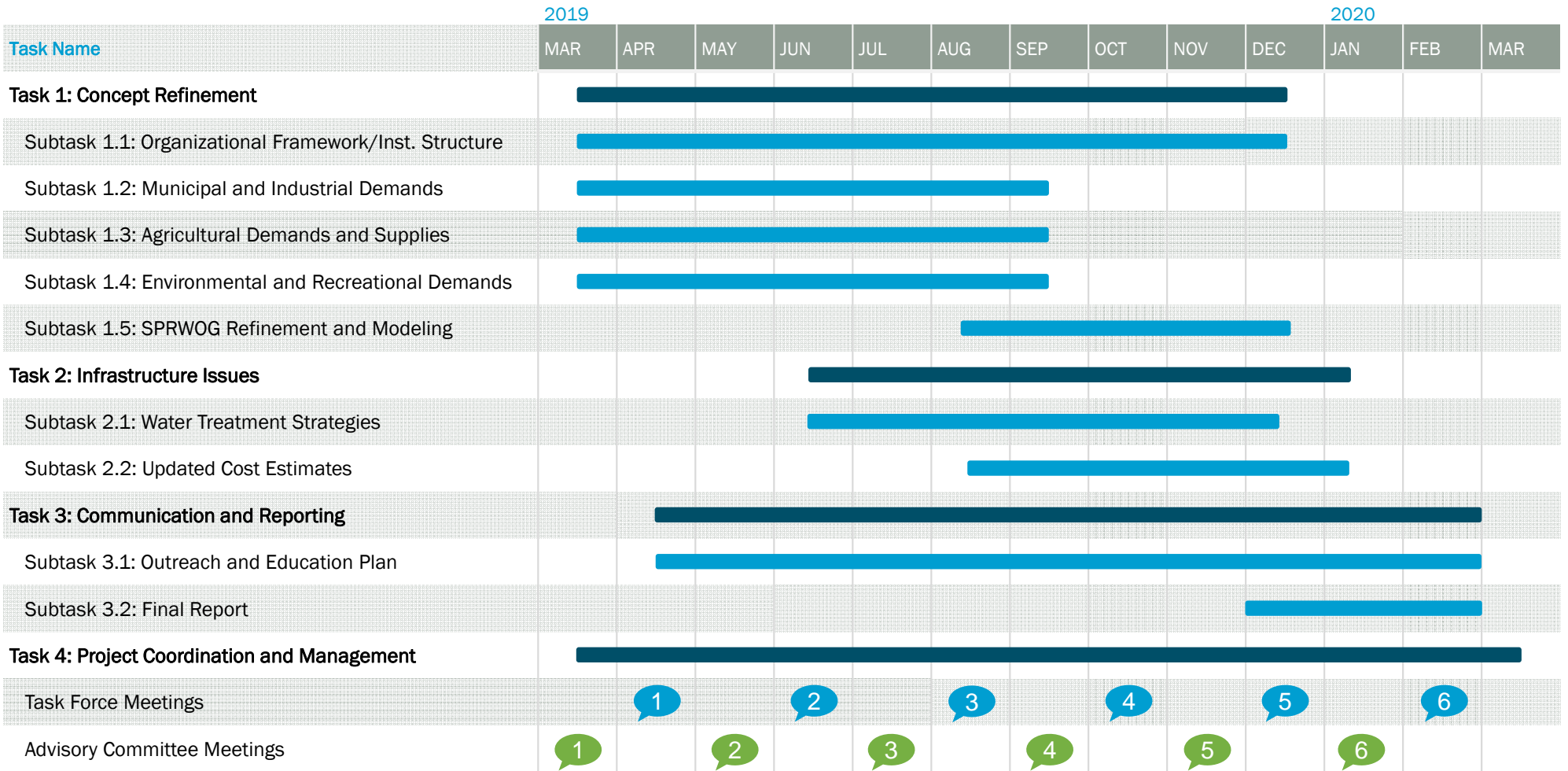
- **Advisory Committee**

- Provide direct guidance to consulting team
- Participate in outreach meetings

- **Work Groups**

- Guidance and assistance on outreach
- Provide feedback on work products





Task Force meeting schedule and proposed topics

Meeting Number	Proposed Date	Proposed Topics
1	April 3, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project kickoff • Planning for outreach with potential partners
2	June 13, 2019 (1pm – 3pm, Aurora Municipal Center)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of organizational alternatives • Report on initial outreach activities with potential partners
3	August 13, 2019 (before SPBRT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of findings from outreach activities • Description of potential project refinements
4	October 10, 2019 (before Metro BRT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results of modeling project refinements • Description of treatment strategies
5	December 10, 2019 (before SPBRT) May be rescheduled if December meeting is not held	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of cost estimate refinements • Description of outreach and education plan
6	February 13, 2020 (before Metro BRT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of draft-final report and discussion of Task Force comments (a draft report will be circulated to the Task Force in advance of this meeting)

Project Outreach



Municipal Outreach



Municipal Outreach

- The M&I outreach list currently includes:
 - 71 water providers
 - 10 industrial entities
- M&I entities by region:
 - 24 Denver Metro entities
 - 25 entities along the I-25/US 85/US 287 corridor
 - 7 entities in the Lower South Platte region
 - 13 entities in the Middle South Platte region
 - Other entities that have a wide reach (like the Colorado Rural Water Association)
- Work Group members will be assisting with outreach

Agricultural Outreach



**Summarize Existing
Information on
Agricultural Needs**



**Meet with Agricultural
Stakeholders to
Identify Needs and
Opportunities**



**Refine Concept
Based on Input**

Agricultural Outreach

- Outreach will take place via three meetings with agricultural water users
- Meetings will be held with entities in:
 - District 2 (Denver to Kersey)
 - Including tributaries (Districts 3, 4, 5, and 6)
 - District 1 (Kersey to Balzac)
 - District 64 (Balzac to state line)
- Each meeting will include 7 to 10 agricultural water users from each District
- Survey of agricultural water users to be distributed after meetings

Environmental/Recreational Outreach



**Identify E&R
Attributes Likely to
Benefit**




**Meet with E&R
Stakeholders to
Identify Needs and
Opportunities**



**Identify Alignments
Between E&R Needs
and Regional
Strategies**

Environmental and Recreational Outreach

- Outreach will take place via three meetings with environmental and recreational representatives
- Outreach will build on work completed in support of non-consumptive needs analysis in SP BIP
- Each meeting will include 7 to 12 representatives of various environmental/recreational organizations, state/federal agencies, etc.
- Survey of environmental and recreational representatives to be distributed after meetings



Information Request (Survey of Potential Project Participants)

M&I Survey Overview

- Survey to collect specific information from potential project participants related to key project considerations.
- Information to be used to develop specific projects designed to meet those needs.
- PDF version of survey questions will be made available. Recommend reviewing the survey questions prior to completing survey.



Key Assumptions

- SPROWG will satisfy demands that are anticipated beyond those to be met by existing supplies and identified projects and processes (IPPs).
- SPROWG could involve a combination of storage, conveyance, exchanges, and treatment infrastructure located primarily downstream (northeast) of Denver.
- SPROWG would involve construction and operation of new infrastructure but could also use existing facilities.
- SPROWG could be operated to meet M&I, agricultural, environmental, and recreational needs.
- SPROWG water supply could come from a combination of sources including unappropriated surface water, water derived from alternative transfers, excess recharge credits, reusable supplies, and groundwater from the Denver Basin.

What to expect

- You will be asked to include your name and the name of the organization you represent
 - *Results provided in response to this survey will be aggregated and the identity of respondents will not be made public*
 - *Question at end of the survey asks if individual responses can be used in a final project report*
- Responding to the survey may require input from others in your organization
 - Prior to responding, review survey questions and compile information
 - OR ask others in your organization to reply to the survey (number of survey responses per organization not limited)
- Survey to be sent out via email **next week**
- Estimated time to complete: ~30 minutes

Structural Organization Questions

Goal of Questions: Solicit input on criteria for a new organization that would eventually lead the project development, implementation, and management of a regional collaborative water project.

Topics Covered:

- Ranking of importance of organizational structure characteristics
 - i.e., Tax status, How revenue is generated, Type of governing board, Membership, Staffing
- Type of organizational structure your organization would be willing to support
- Preference for types of governing board
- Preference for how capital could be raised
- Preference for how operating expenses could be collected
- Preference for how organization is staffed
- Preference for ownership of assets
- Preference for distribution of profits

Communication Questions

Goal of Questions: To gauge the public's awareness of water issues in the South Platte Basin and preferences for communication of information.

Topics Covered:

- Types on water related issues that your rate payers/customers are concerned with
- Rate payer/customer awareness of water supply gap
- Rate payer/customer level of acceptance for new storage and infrastructure
- Primary method for communication with rate payers/customers
- Willingness to help communicate results of the SPROWG study

Water Supply Gap Questions

Goal of Questions: Understand the timing, location, and amount of water supply needs of potential project participants.

Topics Covered:

- Does your organization have a water supply gap beyond current projects and IPPs
- Amount of water supply gap at build out
- Estimated year when additional supplies need to be on-line and available for use
- Estimated year that build out will occur

Water Use Questions

Goal of Questions: Understand how your organization would use supplies made available through a regional water project

Topics Covered:

- Anticipated primary use for additional supplies
 - i.e., blending supply, firm yield, drought year supply, drought recovery, augmentation
- Preference for quality of water
- Availability of conditional or new water rights that could be developed using regional storage, conveyance, and/or treatment between Brighton and Julesburg
- Availability of unused reusable supplies that could be stored, conveyed, and/or treated in a regional project

General Project Questions

Topics Covered:

- Does your organization agree with the Guiding Principles?
- Organization's interest in participating in ATMs
- Willingness of your organization to participate in SPROWG and a future regional water storage project
- Do you authorize SPROWG to include your individual responses in a final report?

How to Get Involved



Multiple Ways to Be Involved that Fit Your Needs

- Complete the Online Survey
 - To be distributed before the end of next week.
- Express your Organizations willingness to participate in a potential regional water supply project

There is no financial or other obligations associated with participating in the project at this time. Financial and participatory obligations will arise at some point in the future if the SPROWG concept moves forward and your organization chooses to continue participation.
- Stay informed through project updates distributed via email
 - Include your email address on the Meeting Evaluation Form
- Participate on the Task Force
 - Currently 71 members
 - Indicate interest on Meeting Evaluation Form
- Reach out to an Advisory Committee Member or a member of the Project Team

**Please Complete the
Indication of Interest and
Meeting Evaluation Form!**

Advisory Committee Members

Last Name	First Name	Organization
Belanger	Laura	Western Resources Advocates
Cronin	Sean	SVLHWCD
Darling	Lisa	SMWSA
Davenport	Casey	Colorado Watershed Association
Frank	Joe	LSPWCD
Gerk	Bruce	South Platte Basin Roundtable
Hall	Jim	Northern Water
Jewell	Dawn	Aurora Water
Kopytkovskiy	Marina	Parker Water and Sanitation District
Parachini	Dick	Interested Citizen
Peters	Bob	Denver Water
Sobieski	Kara	WWG
Varra	Garrett	SP BRT/Varra Companies
Yahn	Jim	North Sterling Irrigation



Thank you. Questions?

Contact Information:

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