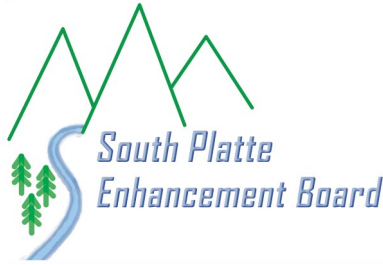


South Platte Enhancement Board 2016 Annual Report



Our Story

The history of our story emanates from Denver Water receiving a right-of-way in 1931 from the Secretary of the Interior allowing for the possible construction of a 345,000 acre-foot reservoir, named Two Forks Reservoir, at

the confluence of the South Platte River and its North Fork located at South Platte, CO. In 1968, the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (W&SRA) was passed to protect wild rivers and scenic rivers from development that would substantially change their wild and/or scenic nature. All rivers were directed to be studied for determination of any eligibility to be so protected.

By the 1980's, Denver Water and other Denver suburban entities were actively studying the possible construction of the Two Forks Reservoir. In 1984, studies were being conducted by the U.S.D.A. Forest Service (USFS) that concluded portions of the South Platte River were indeed eligible for protection under the W&SRA. Ultimately, the Two Forks Reservoir project was stopped by a veto from the EPA in 1991.

The W&SRA driven studies about the South Platte River continued until in 1995 local interests requested that the USFS consider a local alternative to wild and scenic designation in recognition that the river not only has key environmental values, but it also is, and will forever remain, the key conduit for development of water supplies for the Front Range of Colorado. The potential conflict would have been that wild and scenic designation did not allow for future changes to be made to the river, e.g., flow alterations, stream bank protections or other projects, while Colorado's future population and economic development required flexibility on the river's future use in providing water supplies.

Taking all studies and local concerns into consideration, the USFS encouraged the development of a local alternative to the W&SRA designation that would achieve maintenance and possible enhancement of the identified river values. The precedent-setting, cooperative process for the development of a local alternative, known as the South Platte Protection Plan (SPPP), took from 1996 to 2004. In June 2004, the USFS issued a Record of Decision that halted the W&SRA process' "suitability decision" and allowed the local alternative, the SPPP, to be implemented with the goal of maintaining, and possibly enhancing, the Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs) identified for the rivers.

The initial meeting of the South Platte Enhancement Board (SPEB), as the key overseer of the implementation for the SPPP, was on October 21, 2004. Since that time, SPEB has held monthly meetings, adopted by-laws, collected and managed the endowment fund, created a grant issuing process, distributed grants for multiple projects and otherwise demonstrated prudent due diligence implementing the SPPP.



To learn more about SPEB, visit www.southplatte.org.

SPEB grants making an impact in the South Platte River basin

2016 Successes

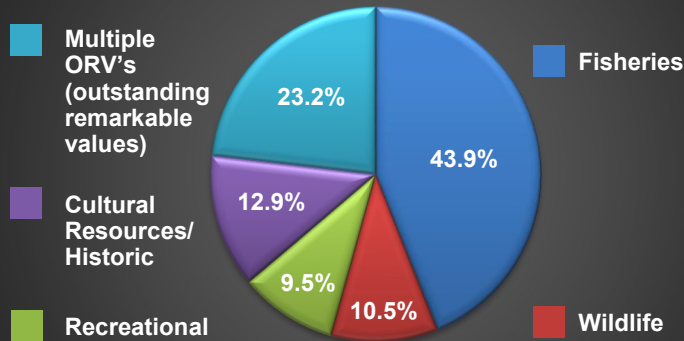
- CUSP Baseline Monitoring project of the Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV) on each of the six stream segments continues, despite challenges of a very big streamflow year.
- Pine-Elk Creek Improvement Association SPEB grant for purchase of a parcel of land for the purpose of developing into a Pine Grove History Park containing a historic D, SP & P narrow gauge railroad bed.
- Grant to the US Forest Service to study the Pawnee Montane Skipper population genetics.
- Continuing data evaluation for each river segment, including South Platte Protection Plan's Annual Operations Meeting.

Grant Money Awarded by Year

25 total grants awarded, totaling \$467,900



Use of Grant Money



2017 Applications

Accepting requests up to \$40,000

SPEB is accepting grant applications for projects and initiatives that protect or enhance ORV's (outstanding remarkable values) along sections of the South Platte River and its North Fork. Grants can range up to \$40,000 per project. Applications are due June 14, 2017. For more information, visit www.southplatte.org.

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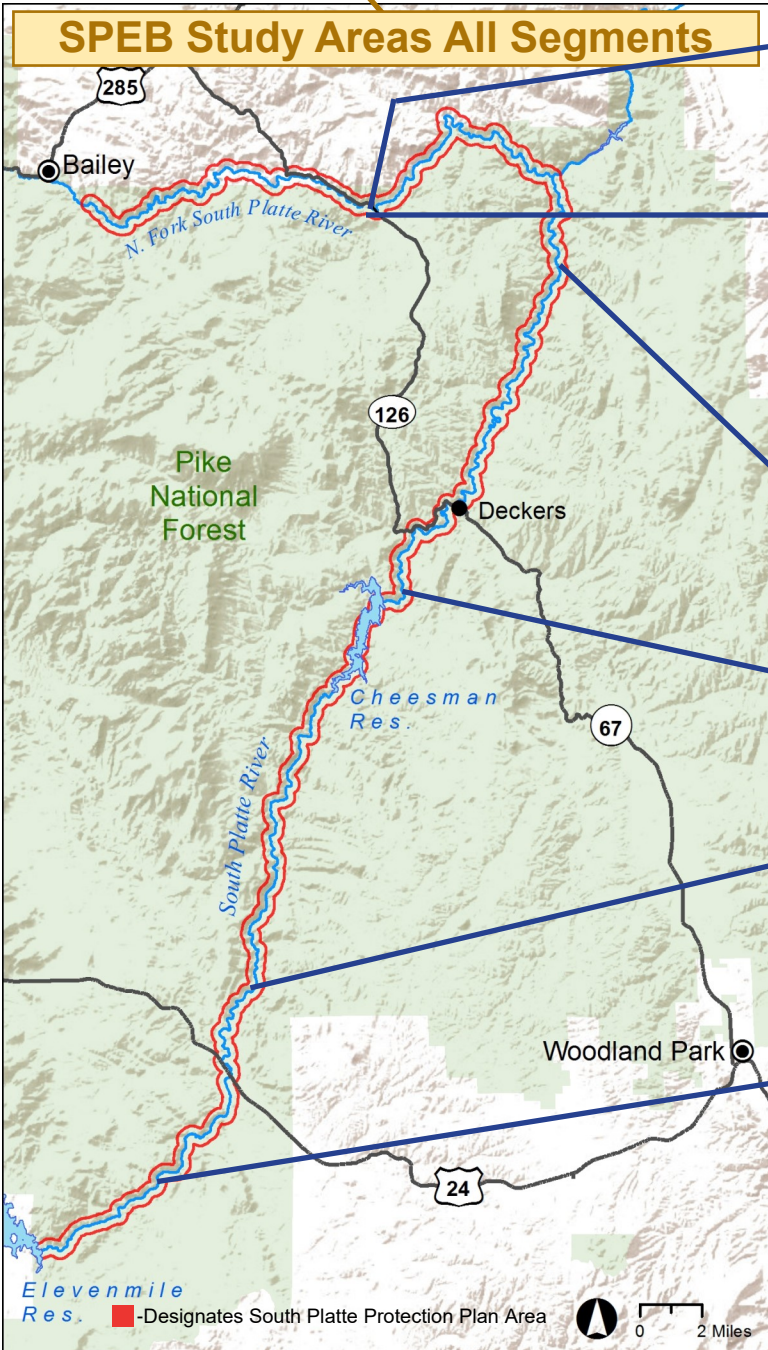
Colorado



Grants along the South Platte

All segment baseline study of Outstandingly Remarkable Value conditions (supporting the South Platte Protection Plan) by CUSP 2014

SPEB Study Areas All Segments



- Preservation Inc. emergency repairs of historic Blue Jay Inn (2007)
- Buffalo Creek Recreation Area non-motorized trails and trail bridge construction and parking lot property acquisition and improvement construction with the Colorado Trailblazers and BPIA (2008, 2010, 2013, 2015)
- Five projects on Sugar Creek, Pine Creek, and Horse Creek to study sediment problems and implement innovative solutions. (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2015)
- Trout Unlimited constructed a section of the Upper Cheesman Canyon Trail. The project extended the Gill Trail 3.5 miles. (2009)
- The Coalition for the Upper South Platte restored more than 3 miles of South Platte River and repaired riparian habitat near Happy Meadows Campground. (2007)
- The Road to Rivers project, by the Coalition for the Upper South Platte, studies sedimentation problems along Eleven Mile Canyon Road. (2012)

To learn more about SPEB, visit www.southplatte.org.

P.O. Box 40940 | Denver, CO 80204



SPEB 2016 Officers and Directors

Dan Drucker, President, Center of Colo. WCD, Park County

Nancy York, Vice President/
President Elect, Jefferson County

Christina Burri, Treasurer,
Denver Water

Allison Plute, Secretary, Colorado Springs Utilities, At-Large

Theresa Conley, Conservation Colorado, Environmental

Rich Edwards, CSFS, Timber or Silviculture Industry

Jim Idema, Grants Chair, Private Property Owner

Kyle Hamilton, CH2M Hill, At-Large

Andy Hough, Douglas County

Dennis Larratt, Motorized Recreation Users

Mike McHugh, Aurora Water, Suburban Water Provider

Rick McLoud, Centennial Water & Sanitation District, Suburban Water Provider

David Nickum, Trout Unlimited, Environmental

Jeff Spohn, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Environmental

Mark Spurgeon, Colorado Trailblazers, Non-Motorized Recreation

Tony Warnock, Lost Valley Ranch, Grazing Industry

Scott Winkleman, Water Recreation Users

Thank you to donors of the \$1 million endowment fund

- Arapahoe County Water & Wastewater Authority
- Castle Pines North Metro District
- Centennial Water & Sanitation District
- City of Aurora
- City of Englewood
- City of Thornton
- Colorado Springs Utilities
- Cottonwood Water & Sanitation District
- East Cherry Creek Valley Water & Sanitation District
- Denver Water
- Douglas County
- Inverness Water & Sanitation District
- Jefferson County
- Meridian Metro District
- Parker Water & Sanitation District
- Pinery Water & Wastewater District
- Roxborough Park Metropolitan District
- Stonegate Village Metropolitan District
- Town of Castle Rock