Colorado Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program Sponsored by the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Colorado Emergency Watershed Protection Program

Watershed Recovery Projects

The Colorado Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program provides funding to implement emergency recovery projects to address hazards to life and property in watersheds impaired by the 2013 Colorado flood events.

The EWP Program provides financial and technical assistance to local project sponsors to implement projects – on public and private property - to reduce erosion, protect stream banks, and more.

Rather than protecting individual sites, EWP funds are used to enhance overall watershed recovery and resiliency by restoring stream function and reestablishing connections between stream reaches and their associated floodplains, to better protect homes, businesses and infrastructure.

Quick Summary

- Purpose: Implement emergency recovery measures to protect life and property in watersheds impaired by a natural disaster
- Funding: \$63.2 mil. total/ \$47.4 mil. Federal over 3 years
- > **Projects:** 74 designated as eligible
- State Sponsor: Colorado Water Conservation Board
- Local Sponsors: Counties, cities/towns, watershed coalitions, others
- Timeline: January 1, 2018 technical assistance agreement ends.

Colorado EWP Program Vision

To implement watershed recovery projects that reduce risk to life and property, enhance riparian ecosystems, and generate long-term stream system resilience through a collaborative, watershed-based approach that incorporates the needs of diverse stakeholders

Watershed Coalitions

In most of the flood-affected areas, watershed coalitions are charged with coordinating the identification, prioritization, and implementation of EWP projects.

Coalitions work to restore healthy and resilient watersheds through the collaboration of diverse stakeholders, including private landowners, governments, and nonprofit organizations.

Watershed coalitions assisted in selecting EWP project areas consistent with the highest priorities established in their watershed master plans.

EWP Allocations by County

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County	Amount	Watershed Coalitions
Boulder	\$28,777,927	 Fourmile Watershed Coalition Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group Saint Vrain Creek Coalition
Larimer	\$28,497,557	 Big Thompson Watershed Coalition Little Thompson Watershed Restoration Coalition Estes Valley Watershed Coalition
El Paso	\$3,713,468	 El Paso County Regional Watershed Collaborative
Weld	\$1,243,955	• Middle South Platte River Alliance
Jefferson	\$900,063	 Coal Creek Canyon Watershed Partnership
Morgan	\$111,119	



The NRCS and CWCB have partnered through a Technical Assistance agreement to implement the EWP Program, Phase II-2013 Colorado Flood Recovery

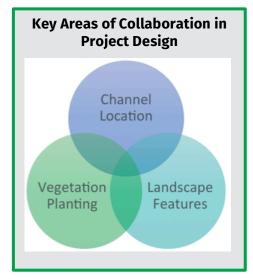
Colorado Emergency Watershed Protection Program

Benefits to Landowners and Communities

Every project funded through the Colorado EWP Program must be approved through a formal design review process.

- Safety Projects are designed to reduce risk to life-safety, property, and critical infrastructure from future flooding and erosion.
- Holistic Approach Projects are designed to consider the whole stream system and to minimize impacts to downstream properties, as well as address reach-wide water and sediment management issues.
- Stream and Habitat Health Projects improve ecological health of the stream corridor through reestablishment of native plants and in-stream habitat for fish and aquatic life.
- Shared Costs Projects are funded through federal, state, and local sponsors, without capital cost to landowners.

Program Timeline and Milestones



CWCB contracts Resilient Watershed Partners to assist with program management and technical assistance	Reports for highest priority projects	Watershed coalitions and communities submit highest priority projects based on master plans	CWCB and NRCS sign a Technical Assistance agreement
December 2015	November 2015	July 2015	July 2015
September 2016	January 2017	January 2018	•
30% designs complete	Final design and construction documents complete	Construction complete	

Learn More

Visit the Colorado EWP Program website at <u>www.coloradoewp.com</u> for more information and an interactive map of the EWP watershed recovery projects.

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