



Upper Colorado River Commission System Conservation Pilot Program (SCPP) in 2024

CMU Upper Colorado River Water Forum

OCTOBER 30, 2023

SCPP in 2024 Discussion Goals:

1. Provide a summary of Lessons Learned from 2023 Process
2. Review of local benefits of SCPP
3. Identify approaches to improve the 2024
4. Share key features of the 2024 SCPP
5. Next Steps for the program

How to Get More Information about SCPP in 2024

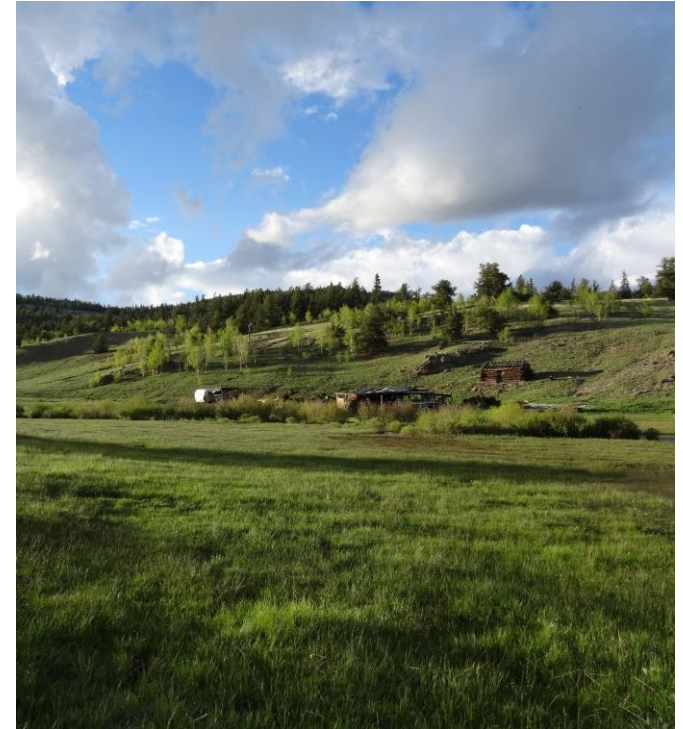
1. Lots of information (documentation, application, FAQ, etc.) on the UCRC SCPP in 2024 webpage next week (<http://www.ucrccommission.com/system-conservation-pilot-program-in-2024/>)
2. Contact UCRC via email at scpp@ucrccommission.com
3. Contact your Upper Division State contact or Wilson Water Group (WWG - UCRC contractor for 2024 SCPP) with questions
 - **Colorado – Amy Ostdiek**
 - New Mexico – Ali Effati
 - Utah – Lily Bosworth
 - Wyoming – Jeff Cowley
 - WWG – Brenna Mefford
4. Targeted Outreach to Tribes and others
5. Additional Outreach by Upper Division States
6. Additional UCRC webinars
 1. November 9, 2023
 2. December 7, 2023

Lessons Learned – Five Themes

1. **Timing** – Start processes in fall (early October)
2. **Pricing** – Provide firm, fixed pricing at the outset (partnership & concurrence from BOR)
3. **Conserved Consumptive Use (CCU)** – Provide clarity and transparency on CCU calculation and the basis of payments
4. **Consistent and Clear Messages** – Persistent and consistent messaging to reduce confusion and mischaracterizations, avoid conflicting statements
5. **Greater Transparency on Approach, Purpose, and Review** – Provide FAQs and map review processes within UDS

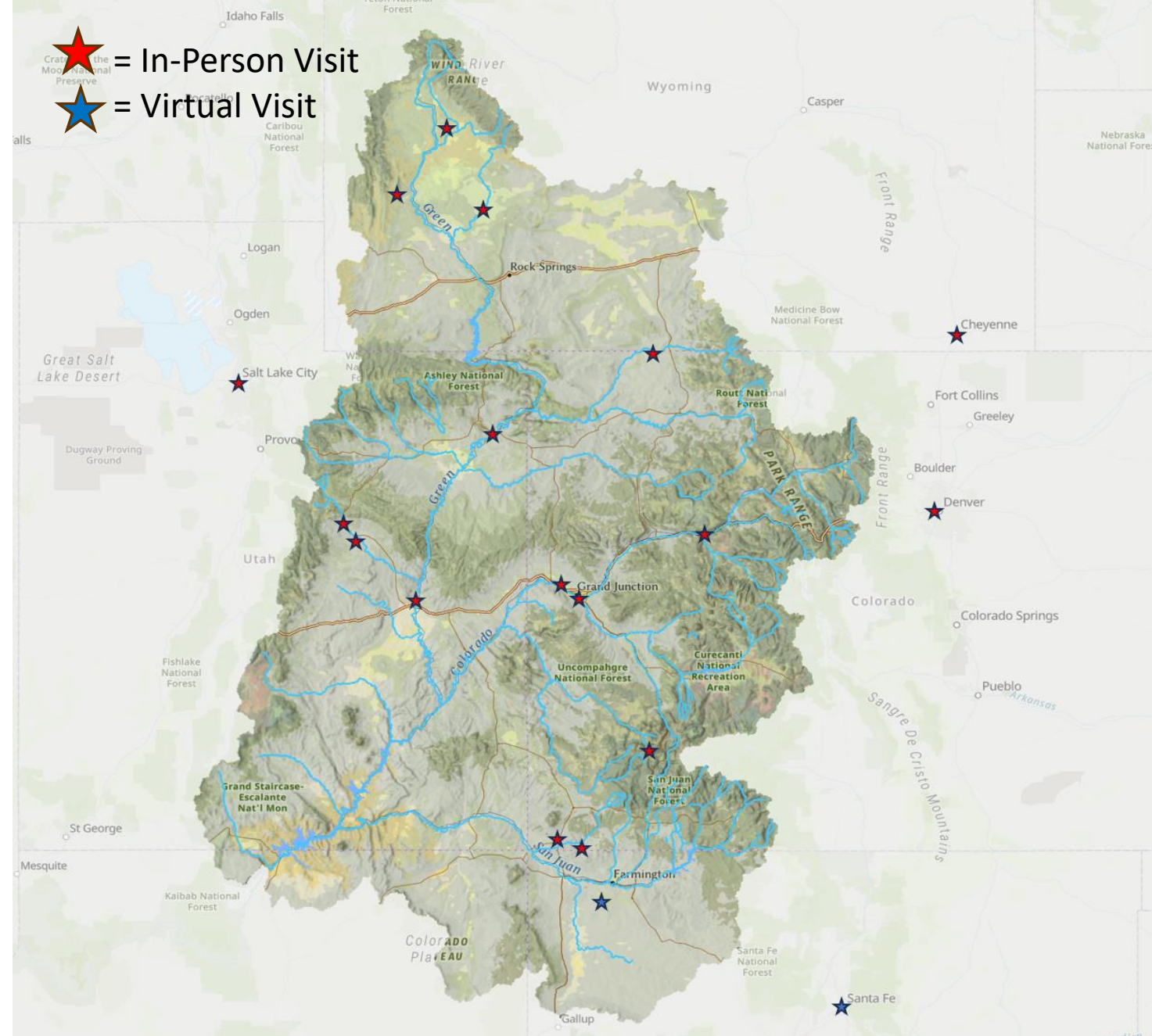
Lessons Learned Report available:

<http://www.ucrcommission.com/system-conservation-pilot-program-in-2024/>



Lessons Learned Partner Engagement

- Met with ~30% of 2023 participants
- Met with some who didn't participate in 2023
- Tribes
- NGOs
- BOR
- States





Messages from SCPP Participants

1. SCPP provides a way to lower risks to try new, innovative strategies and approaches to adapt their production to a drier and uncertain water supply future.
2. Participants seek longer-term programs that provide resiliency through innovation, infrastructure investments, and new water management tools.
3. Participants want to protect vibrant but fragile local economies. They prefer continued production with lower water use over large-scale fallowing.
4. Their water and production are equally valuable. They do not see any of their land or production as “marginal” or “less than” anyone else, locally or across the Basin.

UCRC Commissioners Selected a Narrower Focus for 2024 SCPP

Options Considered for 2024 SCPP

- ~~1. No 2024 SCPP Program~~
- ~~2. Maximize 2024 SCPP – implement recommended SCPP improvements with the goal of maximizing 2024 Conserved Consumptive Use (CCU)~~
3. Narrow 2024 SCPP to projects that implement recommended SCPP Improvements **AND**
 - Inform Demand Management feasibility questions
 - Support Innovation & Local Resiliency resulting in water conservation

2024 SCPP Timeline Overview

10/27/2023 Kick-off Webinar & Application materials available on UCRC website

Follow Up Meetings and targeted outreach

- November UCRC webinar – November 9, 2023
- December UCRC webinar – December 7, 2023
- Upper Division State meetings
- Targeted outreach

12/18/2023 Applications due to UCRC

12/19/2023 – February 2024 Upper Division State review processes and Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) participation

February 2024 - Upper Division States joint review through UCRC

February 2024 - UCRC Special Meeting to consider 2024 Projects

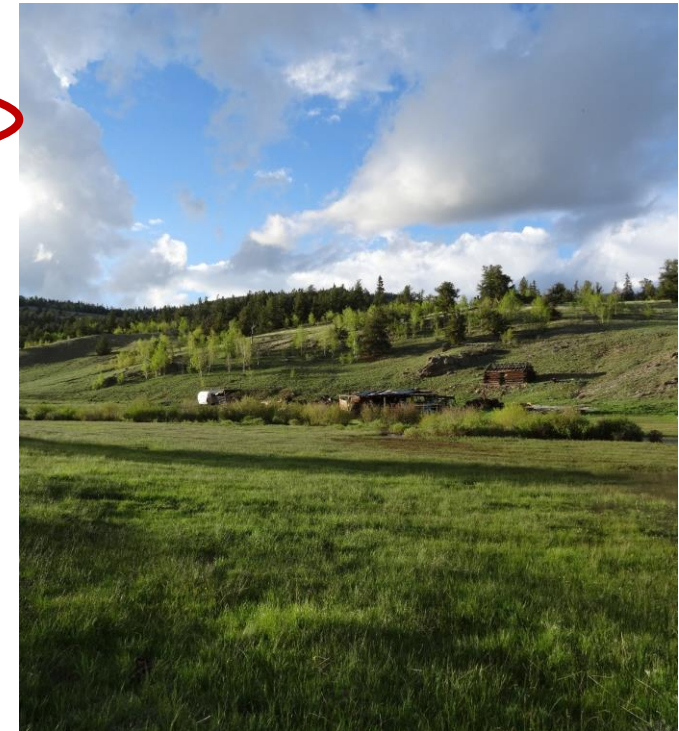
March 2024 - Execute System Conservation Implementation Agreement & Implement Projects

Lessons Learned – Five Themes

1. **Timing** – Start processes in fall (October)
2. **Pricing** – Provide firm, fixed pricing at the outset (partnership & concurrence from Bureau of Reclamation)
3. **Conserved Consumptive Use (CCU)** – Provide clarity and transparency on CCU calculation and the basis of payments
4. **Consistent and Clear Messages** – Persistent and consistent messaging to reduce confusion and mischaracterizations, avoid conflicting statements
5. **Greater Transparency on Approach, Purpose, and Review** – Provide FAQs and map review processes within Upper Division States

Lessons Learned Report available:

<http://www.ucrcommission.com/system-conservation-pilot-program-in-2024/>



2024 Compensation By State and Project Type

State	Project Type	2024 All Project-Type Approaches	2023 USBR Price (\$/af)	2024 SCPP Method (\$/af)
Colorado	Full-Season Fallow	All Crops	\$ 462.00	\$ 509.00
	Split-Season/Crop-Switch	Same as above, * by CCU ac-ft/ac	\$ 200.00	\$ 509.00
	Reservoir Storage	2023 SCPP pricing	\$ -	\$ 150.00
	M&I		\$ -	Case-by-case
New Mexico	Full-Season Fallow	All Crops	\$ 260.00	\$ 300.00
	Split-Season/Crop-Switch	Same as above, * by CCU ac-ft/ac	\$ -	\$ 300.00
	Reservoir Storage	2023 SCPP pricing	\$ -	\$ 150.00
	M&I		\$ -	Case-by-case
Utah	Full-Season Fallow	All Crops	\$ 595.00	\$ 506.00
	Split-Season/Crop-Switch	Same as above, * by CCU ac-ft/ac	\$ 250.00	\$ 506.00
	Reservoir Storage	2023 SCPP pricing	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
	M&I		\$ -	Case-by-case
Wyoming	Full-Season Fallow	All Crops	\$ 513.00	\$ 492.00
	Split-Season/Crop-Switch	Same as above, * by CCU ac-ft/ac	\$ -	\$ 492.00
	Reservoir Storage	2023 SCPP pricing	\$ -	\$ 150.00
	M&I		\$ 163.00	Case-by-case



2024 Application Process Overview

Online application (<http://www.ucrccommission.com/draft-scgp-2024-application-form/>)

- Includes ability to enter Multi-Participant projects

Requires pre-application discussion with Wilson Water Group

- Calculation of Conserved Consumptive Use
- Project description relative to key focus:
 - Informing Demand Management feasibility questions
 - Water Conservation Innovation & Local Drought Resiliency

Important to note:

- Irrigation projects must include a **minimum of 40 acres**
- Information may become subject to public disclosure
- Application can be denied by States, UCRC, or Reclamation for any reason

On-Line Application Overview

2024 System Conservation Pilot Program Application Form

Home / Test Application Form

2024 SCPP Application is open from October 27, 2023 to December 18, 2023


Application Requirements:

- **Before starting the application below, you must contact Wilson Water Group (Contractor for the UCRC) to discuss your project. Please contact us at 303-953-1923 or send an email to scpp@ucrccommission.com regarding your project. Note that partial applications cannot be saved.**
- Irrigation projects must include a minimum of 40 acres.

Please Note:

- The UCRC is not subject to state or federal public records laws. Nevertheless, the UCRC may be required to provide your application to its member states and to the federal government, at which point such information may become subject to public disclosure. Before submitting your application, you should be aware that your application—including your personal identifying information—may become publicly available.
- Applications can be denied by States, UCRC, or Reclamation for any reason.

Applicant Title *

Applicant First Name *

Applicant Last Name *

Organization

Email Address

Phone Number *

On-Line Application Overview


Please select which 2024 SCPP criteria your project meets. 

SCPP Key Criteria 

Describe how your project meets the above selected criteria: 

Please describe whether and/or how your project meet the above critieria selected. If you chose none of the above, please type in N/A. 

Select project type 

Select Your Project Type 

Select the state where your project will be implemented  



THANK YOU FOR SUBMITTING A 2024 SCPP APPLICATION. APPLICANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED IN EARLY 2024 OF PROJECT SELECTION. PLEASE EMAIL ANY QUESTIONS TO SCPP@UCRCOMMISSION.COM



Colorado Review Summary

- CWCB and DWR review of applications.
- Applications meeting minimal requirements and passing fatal flaw review will be shared with parties who sign-up to receive information. They will have an opportunity to comment on applications.
- CWCB Board will have an opportunity to approve SCPP as a state-approved conservation program.



COLORADO

**Colorado Water
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Outreach Summary

Public Outreach

- Outreach to Colorado Basin Roundtables and IBCC
- Webinar for Colorado water users on Monday, November 13
 - Will be recorded for asynchronous viewing

Public Comments on Applications

- Public process for reviewing SCPP applications
 - To join list, email dnr_ColoradoSCPP@state.co.us by 12/18
- Email address for all SCPP inquiries:
 - dnr_ColoradoSCPP@state.co.us



COLORADO

**Colorado Water
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Department of Natural Resources



Next Steps in the Application Process

Review application materials on UCRC webpage

Contact WWG for pre-application discussion

Applications due 12/18/2023

Decisions in February 2024

Execution of agreements and implement projects in March 2024

Contacts & Application Materials

Application materials...

- <http://www.ucrcommission.com/draft-scpp-2024-application-form/>
- Contact WWG for pre-application discussion
- Brenna Mefford or Stephen Foster – 303-953-1923, scpp@ucrcommission.com

Colorado

- Amy Ostdiek - amy.ostdiek@state.co.us

New Mexico

- Ali Effati - Ali.Effati@ose.nm.gov

Utah

- Lily Bosworth - lbosworth@utah.gov

Wyoming

- Jeff Cowley - Jeff.Cowley@wyo.gov

UCRC

- UCRC Staff - scpp@ucrcommission.com

