

Northern Colorado Water Alliance

ABOUT THE ALLIANCE

The Northern Colorado Water Alliance (NoCO WA) is a collaborative forum for representatives of water providers in the northern Colorado Front Range region. The forum is used to discuss, learn about, and take action on not only the water-focused *issues* affecting the region's communities but also each organization's *approach* to addressing these challenges. Members recognize that there are mutual interests across water providers in the region and that a collaborative approach is needed to achieve the group's goal of successfully protecting water.

Water providers in the region face a series of risks and challenges that prompted the formation of the Alliance. These include communication-focused challenges, such as siloed water knowledge and complex regional systems, as well as governance challenges, such as tensions between different types of water users. Challenges also include those beyond members' direct control, such as concerning hydrological conditions, users' increasing demand for water, and economic conditions increasing the cost of infrastructure projects. Municipal members also face the risk of rising water costs' impacts on the cost of development, which may impede their housing affordability goals. This underscores another challenge: different types of water providers' varying levels of involvement in local land use planning/control. Recent purchases of water rights from entities outside of the region present another risk to protecting the region's water supplies.

Because the Alliance itself is not a decision-making body, takeaways from discussions are intended to inspire member organizations to adopt new approaches and techniques to mitigate the water-related risks and challenges affecting the region as a whole or individual communities within it.

The mission of the Northern Colorado Water Alliance:

Collaborating and educating for the protection of water resources and systems to ensure a resilient future for the northern Colorado Front Range.

MEMBERSHIP

The Alliance is convened by the **Community Foundation of Northern Colorado** and has 17 diverse member organizations, including the following local municipalities, water districts, counties, and other special districts:

Municipalities:

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| → Berthoud, Town of | → Greeley, City of | → Severance, Town of |
| → Eaton, Town of | → Johnstown, Town of | → Timnath, Town of |
| → Evans, City of | → Loveland, City of | → Wellington, Town of |
| → Fort Collins, City of | → Milliken, Town of | → Windsor, Town of |

Water Districts:

- North Weld County WD
- Little Thompson WD

Other Special Districts:

- Platte River Power Authority
- Northern Water

Counties:

- Larimer County