

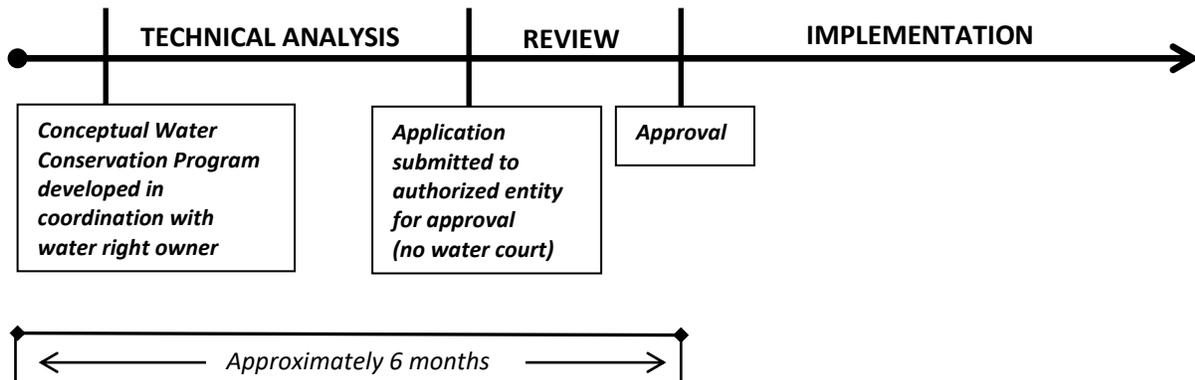


COLORADO WATER TRUST

2020 REQUEST FOR WATER PROCESS FLOW RESTORATION TRANSACTION OPTIONS

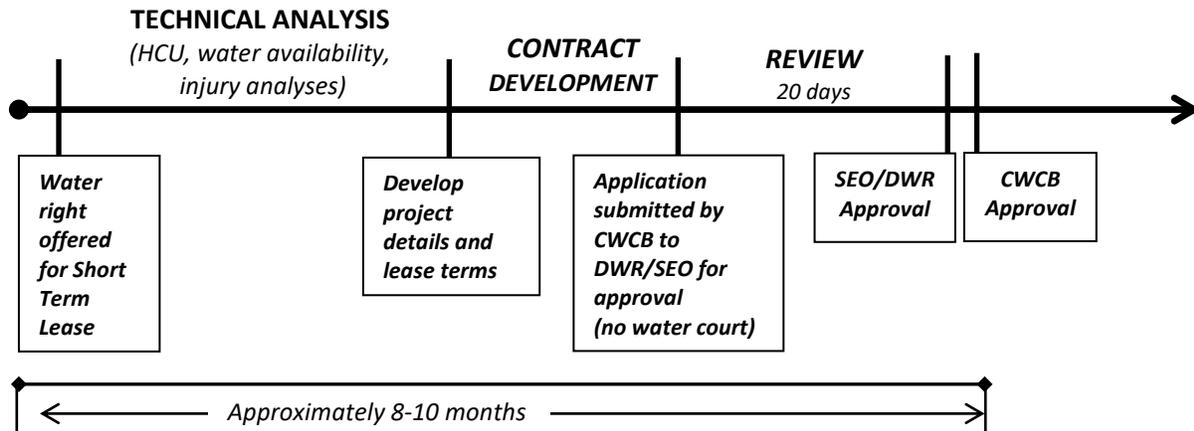
- 1. WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM** – Section 37-92-305(c), CRS (2019) – Voluntary reduction in use or voluntary non-use of water right for 5 years in any consecutive 10-year period. Requires an estimate of the amount of water to be conserved by the project. No Water Court or Division of Water Resources approval required; Water Conservation Programs may be approved by water providers, state agencies and other entities as authorized by the statute. Water Conservation Programs can provide for full season or split-season flow restoration use. Provides great flexibility and protections for the water right owner, but not administrable for instream flow protection. This tool may be used in all water divisions except for Water Division 7. Compensation may be provided based on identified stream flow benefits.

Estimated Project Timeline for Water Conservation Programs



- 2. Temporary Instream Flow Lease (Short Term Lease)** – Section 37-83-105(2)(a), CRS (2019) – Allows instream flow use for up to 3 years in a 10-year period, for a maximum of 120 days in a calendar year. Can only be used on streams where there is an existing instream flow water right that is water short. Requires a reasonable estimate of computed Historical Consumptive Use and no injury to other water rights. Provides protections against abandonment and diminishment of the water right. Temporary leases can provide for full season or split-season instream flow use. Leases must be approved by State and Division Engineers, accepted by CWCB Director and confirmed by CWCB Board. (No water court application required). When implemented, water can be protected by CWCB for instream flow use under the priority of the leased water right. Temporary Instream Flow Leases are non-renewable. If requested, compensation can be provided for leased water.

Estimated Project Timeline for Temporary/Short Term Leases



3. **Long Term Instream Flow Lease** – Section 37-92-102(3), CRS (2019) – Lease of water rights to CWCB for instream flow use for at least 10 years. Long term leases can provide for full season or split-season instream flow use. Requires historical consumptive use analysis and terms to prevent injury to other water users. Long term leases of water require approval by both the CWCB (2-meeting process) and Water Court. Once approved, water can be administered and protected for instream flow use under the priority of the leased water right. If requested, compensation can be provided for leased water.

4. **Water Right Purchase or Donation** – Section 37-92-102(3), CRS (2019) – A water right purchase or donation permanently changes the water right to include instream flow use by the CWCB. Permanent changes can provide for full season or split-season irrigation and instream flow use. Requires historical consumptive use analysis and terms to prevent injury to other water users. As with Long Term Leases of water, a permanent change of the water right requires approval by both the CWCB (2-meeting process) and Water Court. Once approved, water can be administered and protected for instream flow use under the priority of the acquired water right.

Estimated Project Timeline for Long Term Leases and Permanent Transfers

