

WATER FOR AGRICULTURE

What is the impact of the Chatfield Storage Reallocation Project on Adams, Morgan and Weld county farms?

- Chatfield Storage Reallocation Project makes use of an existing water storage facility thus avoiding the cost of a new reservoir.
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined that Chatfield Reservoir can accommodate an additional 20,600-acre feet of water storage without limiting its usefulness as a flood control structure.
- The water will primarily originate from snowmelt and stormwater runoff within the South Platte River Basin.
- The water will be captured and stored in Chatfield Reservoir in wet years, then released when it is most needed downstream. Without new water storage projects like Chatfield Storage Reallocation Project, much of the spring runoff travels downstream and flows out of state.
- It will help cities and special districts meet agricultural and municipal drinking water needs both above and below Chatfield.
- It will provide opportunities for environmental and recreational enhancements along the nearly 50-mile South Platte River corridor stream segment from Chatfield Reservoir through the Denver metro area to below the Adams County-Weld County line.
- Releases from storage in Chatfield for use by Central Colorado Water Conservancy District (CCWCD) will typically be left in the river for augmentation purposes, saving energy costs by operating a gravity flow reservoir system.
- CCWCD is the only agricultural stakeholder in the Chatfield Storage Reallocation Project. CCWCD subdistricts supply augmentation water to more than 1000 irrigation wells over a surface area of more than 360,000 acres of land in Adams, Morgan and Weld counties.
- This rare opportunity enjoys broad support from municipal, agricultural and environmental interests.

