



# Technical Memorandum

Prepared for: Lower South Platte Water Conservancy District

Project Title: South Platte Regional Water Development Concept Feasibility Study

**Subject: SPROWG Feasibility Study Outreach**

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## Executive Summary

A primary objective of the South Platte Regional Water Development Concept (SPRWDC) Feasibility Study was to deepen and broaden understanding of the South Platte Regional Opportunities Water Group concept (or SPROWG concept) among a wide range of potential stakeholders including municipal and industrial water users, agricultural water users, and environmental and recreation interests. To meet this objective, the Study including an extensive outreach campaign.

A variety of project stakeholder groups were formed to support the outreach goals of the Study. The Task Force, consisting of 90 individuals representing municipal and agricultural water providers, environment and recreation interest, government employees, and private interests, provided feedback to an Advisory Committee and the consulting team. The Advisory Committee, consisting of 14 members of the Task Force, provided more frequent and direct feedback to the consulting team during the project. Four separate work groups were formed to provide feedback on specific aspect of the Study and the SPROWG concepts; these work groups included Municipal & Industrial Work Group, Agricultural Work Group, Environmental and Recreation Work Group, and Communications Work Group.

Several outreach meetings were held with the project stakeholder groups to educate them about the SPROWG concept, to broaden the understanding of the Study among potential project participants, and to gather information to inform further development of a Regional Concept.

In addition to the formation and regular meetings of the various project stakeholder groups, the Study included a number of project outreach activities.

- At the outset of the Study a set of Guiding Principles was developed that concisely described the overall objectives of the SPROWG concept. Throughout the Study these Guiding Principles were discussed with stakeholder groups and further refined based on input received.
- A series of medial briefings were held to provide an accurate overview of the SPROWG concept and its objective, and to address questions by media representatives.
- And a survey was created to efficiently solicit feedback from a broad array of municipal and industrial water providers/users as well as agricultural water users and environmental and recreation stakeholders. The survey gathered information on opinions regarding governance structure, information on future water needs, thoughts on ATMs, preferences on communication methods, and feedback on the Guiding Principles.

The results of all of these outreach activities informed the forms of governance structures that could be viable for a future SPROWG organization, the configuration and delivery goals for SPROWG infrastructure, water treatment strategies needed to provide supplies of adequate quality, and communication and outreach needs.

## Section 1: Introduction

The South Platte Regional Water Development Concept (SPRWDC) Feasibility Study researched and advanced a future potential water supply strategy currently known as the South Platte Regional Opportunities Water Group concept (or SPROWG concept). The SPROWG concept seeks to meet future municipal and agricultural demands in the South Platte Basin while incorporating strategies to enhance or preserve environmental and recreational assets.

Stakeholder outreach was a significant part of the Study. Outreach was conducted to educate stakeholders and potential future participants about the SPROWG concept and to obtain feedback from stakeholders

regarding their needs as well as collaborate on ways that the SPROWG concept could fulfill stakeholder needs.

This Technical Memorandum describes the stakeholder groups that were engaged, the activities and methodologies used to conduct outreach, and the feedback that was provided by various stakeholder groups. In addition, recommendations for future outreach are provided.

## **Section 2: Project Stakeholder Groups**

A wide variety of stakeholder groups were engaged during the Study for a variety of purposes. Some stakeholder groups were formed to provide guidance to the Study team while others were engaged in a collaborative manner to disseminate information on the Study and to provide feedback on stakeholder needs and preferences. The stakeholder groups are described in this section along with the goals of outreach to the various groups.

### **2.1 Task Force**

The SPROWG Task Force was initially formed in June 2018. It was initially created by the Metro and South Platte Basin Roundtables and consisted of individuals interested in advancing potential future water supply concepts that had been researched in the South Platte Storage Study and a related concept previously proposed in the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan (see the “Conceptual Future In-Basin Multipurpose Project in Section 4.6.2 of the plan). The initial objective of the Task Force was to develop a scope of work for the Study.

Once the Study began, the role of the Task Force shifted to providing general feedback to an Advisory Committee (see description below) and the consulting team. In addition, the Task Force constituted a body of interested stakeholders that could potentially be participants in a future SPROWG water supply project.

The Task Force expanded in size during the Study, as was the case during initial creation of the Task Force, participation on the Task Force was open to any individual interested in participating. At the conclusion of the Study, the Task Force included 90 individuals representing municipal and agricultural water providers, environment and recreation interests, government employees, and private interests. A listing of the Task Force members is included in Attachment A.

#### **2.1.1 Advisory Committee**

The Advisory Committee was a subset of Task Force members who volunteered to provide more frequent and direct feedback to the consulting team during the project. In addition, most of the Advisory Committee served on a committee that selected the consulting team to conduct the Study.

The Advisory Committee had 14 members, and a listing is included in Attachment A.

#### **2.1.2 Work Groups**

Several work groups were formed to provide feedback to the consulting team with respect to specific aspects of the project including municipal and industrial, agricultural, environmental and recreational, and communications-related Study activities. Each of the groups and their respective roles are described below. The members of each work group are included in Attachment A.

##### **Municipal and Industrial Work Group**

The Municipal and Industrial Work Group consisted of 18 individuals and provided feedback to the consulting team on the content of the survey used to gather feedback from potential municipal and industrial participants. In addition, this work group participated in outreach meetings and encouraged

municipal and industrial survey recipients to complete the survey (see description of survey in subsequent sections of this Technical Memorandum).

### **Agricultural Work Group**

The Agricultural Work Group had 15 members and fulfilled a similar role as the Municipal and Industrial Work Group. In addition to providing feedback on the content of the survey to agricultural water users, members of this work group encouraged agricultural water users to participate in outreach meetings and actively participated in the meetings. Some members of this work group participated in the survey and encouraged others to do so.

### **Environmental and Recreation Work Group**

The Environment and Recreation Work Group had 9 members. Members of this work group provided feedback on the content of the survey to environmental and recreational stakeholders and actively participated in outreach meetings. Some members of this work group participated in the survey and encouraged others to do so.

### **Communications Work Group**

The Communications Work Group had 5 members and provided feedback on the Communications and Outreach Plan. In addition, the group provided feedback on key communication messages and some directly participated in press briefings that are described later in this Technical Memorandum.

## **2.2 Targeted Outreach Groups**

Outreach activities were focused on and tailored to three general groups of stakeholders: municipal water providers and industrial water users, agricultural water managers and users, and environmental/recreational water users and advocates. The stakeholder groups and the goals of outreach to each specific group are described below. Sections 3 and 4 of this Technical Memorandum describe specific outreach activities with each group and the results of the outreach.

### **2.2.1 Municipal and Industrial**

The SPROWG concept was created to meet a significant amount of future municipal and industrial water need in the South Platte Basin, and outreach to this group was a primary focus of the Study. The goals of the outreach were threefold:

#### **OUTREACH GOALS**

- **Education:** Educating potential municipal and industrial participants is critical for developing an understanding of how the SPROWG concept could help meet future needs and for garnering support and participation in future concept development.
- **Data acquisition:** The Study sought to refine the SPROWG concept based on the needs of potential participants. Outreach activities included a survey to municipal and industrial users to better understand water needs, preferences on governance structures, and opinions on effective methods of communication.
- **Recruitment:** The SPROWG concept needs to have interested and committed participants if it is to be implemented in the future. A goal of the Study was to begin the participant recruitment process by investigating water needs and educating potential participants.

The project team and Advisory Committee identified 81 municipal and industrial entities (70 municipal and 11 industrial) in the South Platte Basin for outreach activities.

### **2.2.2 Agricultural**

Agricultural water needs in the South Platte Basin are significant, and at the same time, municipal and industrial water providers often acquire senior agricultural water rights to supply cities and industry. The SPROWG concept seeks to meet a portion of agricultural water needs and also provide the infrastructure

and organization for Alternative Water Transfers (ATMs), which help avoid permanent dry-up of irrigated agriculture. With these overall objectives in mind, the goals of outreach to agricultural water users were as follows:

OUTREACH GOALS

- **Education:** Similar to municipal/industrial water users, educating potential agricultural participants on the scope and potential benefits of the SPROWG concept were seen as important objectives of the Study to help facilitate effective collaboration and potential future participation.
- **Data acquisition:** The Study sought to better understand agricultural water needs and refine the SPROWG concept to meet a portion of those needs. Additional goals of agricultural outreach were to obtain feedback on the Guiding Principles and develop a better understanding of opinions, challenges and solutions for implementing an ATM program through the SPROWG concept.
- **Recruitment:** Similar to goals related to municipal and industrial water users, the SPROWG concept needs to have interested and committed agricultural participants if it is to be implemented in the future. A goal of the Study was to garner interest and support from agricultural water users.

The project team and Advisory Committee focused on 36 agricultural water users and managers throughout the South Platte Basin for outreach activities.

### 2.2.3 Environmental and Recreation

Environmental and recreational water needs in the South Platte Basin are important but are sometimes considered during the latter stages of water development projects. In contrast to this, the Study sought to engage environmental and recreational stakeholders early during the concept development stage and create cooperative long-term dialog among project partners related to environmental and recreational opportunities. The objectives of this engagement during the Study were as follows:

OUTREACH GOALS

- **Education:** Before environmental and recreational stakeholders could be engaged productively in helping to shape the SPROWG concept, it was important to educate them on the concept background, objectives, and current thinking with regard to objectives and contemplated infrastructure.
- **Strategy development:** The Study sought to identify and facilitate collaboration on strategies that could be incorporated into the SPROWG concept that would enhance environmental and recreational water uses and needs in the basin.

Invitations were extended to 43 individuals, representing a wide variety of environmental and recreational stakeholder organizations, state agencies, water providers, and water management organizations.

## Section 3: Project Outreach Activities

The stakeholder groups identified in Section 2 were engaged in a variety of ways throughout the Study, and the outreach activities are described in this section. Prior to conducting the outreach activities, however, foundational information describing the SPROWG concept objectives, background, and configuration were developed to ensure that the Study team, Task Force, and Advisory Committee had a common understanding of the SPROWG concept objectives, and that consistent information was being communicated to the wide variety of stakeholders identified for engagement.



### 3.1 Development of Foundational Information

#### Guiding Principles

At the outset of the Study, a set of Guiding Principles were developed that concisely describe the overall objectives of the SPROWG concept. The Guiding Principles consisted of general concepts and objectives that had animated the initial collaboration on SPROWG but had not been consolidated in a written format. A set of Guiding Principles were drafted by the Study team and vetted by the Advisory Committee and Task Force. An abbreviated description of the Guiding Principles is provided below. The full text of the Guiding Principles is included in Attachment B.

| Table 1. Abbreviated Guiding Principles for the SPROWG Concept   |   |
|--|---|
| Principles describing what SPROWG <i>is</i>  | Principles describing what SPROWG <i>is not</i>   |
| 1. SPROWG will advance the goals of the <a href="#">South Platte/Metro Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) and Colorado’s Water Plan</a> , and will be consistent with Colorado water law, interstate compacts/agreements.   | 9. SPROWG is <b>not</b> intended to be a substitute for existing or planned projects.   |
| 2. SPROWG intends to provide at least <a href="#">50,000 acre-feet of yield</a> to meet part of the projected municipal and industrial water supply project gap in the South Platte basin. A <a href="#">significant portion of this yield is targeted for smaller but rapidly growing communities</a> between Denver and Greeley and also larger communities in the Denver Metro area and northern Colorado. The project will also explore providing supplies to smaller communities east of Greeley. | 10. SPROWG is <b>not</b> intended to be used to deliver water developed from the <a href="#">permanent dry up of irrigated lands</a> in the South Platte basin.   |
| 3. SPROWG intends to <a href="#">meet a portion of the agricultural gap</a> .  | 11. SPROWG is <b>not</b> intended to <a href="#">store supplies</a> from an existing or <a href="#">new transmountain diversion project</a> (though it will provide a means to utilize unused reusable return flows from transmountain diversions). |
| 4. SPROWG will identify and <a href="#">incorporate strategies to address environmental and recreational needs</a> .   |   |
| 5. SPROWG intends to <a href="#">enhance the ability to conduct alternative water transfers</a> , thus reducing the need for traditional buy-and-dry transfers   |   |
| 6. SPROWG will <a href="#">utilize different sources of water</a> available in the South Platte basin and manage them conjunctively to achieve an overall reliable yield beyond what an individual source could produce.   |   |
| 7. SPROWG is intended to help water supply organizations and water users <a href="#">maximize the use of in-basin supplies</a> .   |   |
| 8. SPROWG intends to <a href="#">improve integration of water quality</a> and quantity planning and management activities.   |   |

#### Project Fact Sheet

Members of the Advisory Committee and the Study team identified the need to develop a brief description of the SPROWG concept and Guiding Principles that could be distributed to stakeholders during outreach and other water-related meetings. In response, a two-page Fact Sheet was developed that concisely describes the need for the SPROWG concept, its background, contemplated infrastructure, and the Guiding Principles. The Fact Sheet is included in Attachment C. The Fact Sheet is also available for download on the South Platte Basin Roundtable’s website at <https://southplattebasin.com/>.



### South Platte Basin Roundtable Website

The South Platte Basin Roundtable website (<https://southplattebasin.com/>) was updated by members of the Advisory Committee to include information on the SPROWG concept. Information made available on the website includes:

- The Fact Sheet described above.
- A PowerPoint presentation that was used to describe preliminary work in the initial development of the SPROWG concept.
- A PowerPoint presentation used during outreach meetings that describes the SPROWG background, the SPROWG concept, the Guiding Principles, and the Study objectives and activities.
- The project report from the South Platte Storage Study

It is anticipated that the website will be updated with additional information at the conclusion of the Study and during the update of the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan.

## 3.2 Advisory Committee Meetings

Six Advisory Committee meeting were held during the Study. The purposes of the meetings were to seek detailed feedback and guidance from the Advisory Committee on Study results and issues. The meetings were held every other month and during the months when the Task Force did not meet. The Advisory Committee meetings generally consisted of progress reports from the Study team and subsequent discussion and feedback from members of the Advisory Committee. Agendas for each of the Advisory Committee meetings are included in Attachment D.

## 3.3 Task Force Meetings

Six Task Force meetings were conducted during the Study. The purposes of the Task Force meetings were to inform Task Force members about Study progress and findings and to seek general feedback from the Task Force on study findings. Task Force meeting dates and general discussion topics are described in the Table below.

| Table 2. Task Force Meeting Dates and Topics |   |
|--|---|
| Meeting Date                                 | Meeting Topics  |
| April 3, 2019                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project kickoff</li> <li>• Planning for outreach with potential partners</li> </ul>  |
| June 13, 2019                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Description of organizational alternatives</li> <li>• Report on initial outreach activities with potential partners</li> </ul>                                       |
| August 13, 2019                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of findings from outreach activities</li> <li>• Description of potential project refinements</li> </ul>  |
| October 10, 2019                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Results of modeling project refinements</li> <li>• Description of treatment strategies</li> </ul>  |
| December 10, 2019                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of cost estimate refinements</li> <li>• Description of outreach and education plan</li> </ul>  |
| February 13, 2019                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of draft-final report and discussion of Task Force comments (a draft report will be circulated to the Task Force in advance of this meeting)</li> </ul> |

Agendas and presentations from Task Force meetings are included in Attachment E.

## 3.4 Outreach Meetings

Several outreach meetings were held with municipal/industrial, agricultural, and environmental/recreational stakeholders. The objectives of the meetings and a general description of the discussion topics and feedback are provided below.

### 3.4.1 Municipal and Industrial

Two informational meetings were held with municipal and industrial water providers to educate them about the SPROWG concept and the feasibility study and also to introduce and provide context for a survey was sent to municipal and industrial water users (see description of the survey in Section 3.6). Agricultural water users and environment and recreation stakeholders were also invited to the meetings. The informational meetings were held on May 30 and 31, 2019 in the offices of Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District and Aurora Water, respectively. Agendas and the presentation for these meetings are included in Attachment F. The meetings were well-attended with approximately 68 people attended in person or on the phone, with 40 attending the meeting at the office of Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District and 28 attending the meeting at Aurora Water.

#### Summary of Feedback from Municipal/Industrial Outreach Meetings

While the meetings were primarily informational, the participants asked several pertinent questions that sparked discussion and provided feedback on topics such as the Guiding Principles and overall SPROWG concept. A summary of topics discussed during the outreach meetings is provided below:

- **The State Engineer should be consulted:** Several meeting participants asked if the State Engineer was going to weigh in on ATMs and the overall SPROWG concept. State Engineer's Office staff participate in the Task Force and are being informed of the Study and its results. The State Engineer will need to be consulted throughout development of the SPROWG concept.
- **Water from the SPROWG concept should be used as efficiently as possible:** Meeting participants discussed the need for water supplies provided by the SPROWG concept to be used in an efficient manner. Agricultural participants stated that ATMs should be a supply of last resort, and if ATMs are used, the water should be used for critical domestic needs (as opposed to aesthetic needs like sod in roadway medians). Meeting attendees (including agricultural water users, environmental and recreational supporters, and municipal water providers) supported the efficient use of potential supplies derived from the SPROWG concept. Some water providers expressed concerns regarding future potential water conservation standards (were they to be developed in association with SRROWG), because they may not have the authority to enforce standards. Some water providers already use water very efficiently and, while not objecting to conservation goals or standards, expressed the need to thoughtfully consider how conservation goals would be developed and applied.
- **Inclusion of water conservation requirements should be determined early in the process:** Some water providers expressed concern over the potential for inclusion of water conservation requirements late in the SPROWG development. The risk of future and unknown restrictions on the use of water derived from SPROWG could result in the agencies deciding not to participate in a future project. Municipal water providers want to know what they can and cannot do with water derived from SPROWG before they agree to be a project participant.
- **Use of ATMs as a supply mechanism versus traditional "buy and dry":** Participants asked if it was possible to ensure that supplies derived from traditional "buy and dry" practices would not be managed or conveyed via the SPROWG concept. Two of the Guiding Principles focus on this and assert that the project is meant to enable ATMs and it is not intended to be a vehicle for facilitating

“buy and dry” transfers. In addition, these types of considerations should be incorporated into the governance framework.

- **Development of an organizational framework will likely be iterative:** Meeting participants observed that an iterative process may be needed to develop the organizational framework given the diversity of potential partners and the variety of water needs. The iterative nature of the process is a reason why the Study did not recommend a specific governance structure but provided feasible alternatives.
- **Project participation costs and timelines need to be evaluated and provided to potential project participants:** For many water providers, SPROWG is one of several future water supply options being considered. In order to compare SPROWG against the other water supply options, meeting participants identified the need to better understand project costs and project timeline so those costs can be compared to the other options being considered; if the cost to participate in SPROWG is significantly more than the cost of future buy and dry options, or if the project timeline does not meet the water needs of an entity, it will be a challenge to convince water providers they should participate in the project.

### 3.4.2 Agricultural

Three meetings with agricultural water users and managers were held in the South Platte Basin at the dates and locations described below. The three locations were chosen to help minimize travel for the participants.

| Date          | Location    | Office  |
|---------------|-------------|---|
| June 24, 2019 | Fort Morgan | Morgan County Quality Water District          |
| June 26, 2019 | Greeley     | Central Colorado Water Conservancy District   |
| June 28, 2019 | Sterling    | Lower South Platte Water Conservancy District |

The objectives of the meetings were described in Section 2.2.2. Meeting agendas and presentation materials were developed to meet these objectives. The agenda and presentation used for each of the meetings are included in Attachment G. In general, the meetings covered the following topics: introductions, overview of SPROWG, Guiding Principles, agricultural water needs, alternative water transfers, governance framework, and communications needs.

Attendance at the meetings varied, ranging from 8 attendees at the Greeley meeting to 13 at the Sterling meeting. Attendees were primarily agricultural water users but also included members of the Study team and Advisory Committee members.

### Summary of Feedback from Agricultural Outreach Meetings

Detailed notes from each of the meetings is included in Attachment H. A consolidated summary of the discussion topics and feedback at each of the meetings is provided below.

| General Topic      | Feedback   |
|--------------------|--|
| Overview of SPROWG | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many types of storage could be used to manage water supplies in various locations along the South Platte depending on the location of need and supply.</li> </ul> |
| Guiding Principles | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attendees were supportive of the Guiding Principle stating that the concept should not convey or manage supplies derived from buy and dry activities.</li> </ul>  |

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
|                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most of the yield from the SPROWG concept is targeted for municipal water users, and attendees recognized that most of the funding for this would likely come from municipal water providers.</li> <li>• While the concept may be primarily funded by water providers, attendees expressed a need for agricultural water users' interests to be protected.</li> <li>• Attendees stressed the need for yield from the SPROWG concept to be used in an efficient manner and that municipalities make sure they are diligent in adopting and encouraging water conservation measures.</li> </ul>  |
| Agricultural Water Needs    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water supplies for irrigation well augmentation would be beneficial, especially if the supplies could be included in an augmentation plan's projection.</li> <li>• Long term augmentation needs of 35,000 to 40,000 acre-feet per year may develop in the South Platte, most of which could occur downstream of Kersey.</li> <li>• Storage, recharge, and conveyance infrastructure in strategic locations would be useful for tailoring the timing and delivery of augmentation supplies and for providing flexibility.</li> <li>• Direct flow water needs occur in tributaries of the South Platte (in part, driven by the reduction in return flows associated with transfers of C-BT supplies) and, at times, in reaches of the lower South Platte.</li> </ul>   |
| Alternative Water Transfers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ATMs are preferable to traditional buy-and-dry.</li> <li>• Alternative water transfers (ATMs) will need to provide significant economic value to producers, and price adjustment mechanisms will be needed to ensure that adequate compensation is provided based on commodity prices and the market value of water.</li> <li>• ATMs should be used as a drought or drought recovery source of supply rather than a firm supply. In other words, it should be a supply of last resort. Unappropriated supplies should be utilized first.</li> <li>• Producers should have adequate notification of a municipal provider's intent to use ATM water so that the producer can better plan for the cropping year ahead.</li> <li>• Producers are much less likely to enter into an ATM if future agricultural water use is subject to volumetric limitations imposed in a water court decree.</li> <li>• Secondary economic impacts of ATMs should be considered.</li> </ul> |
| Governance Structure        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The selected governance structure should allow for flexibility in how municipalities and agriculture use supplies</li> </ul>   |
| Communications              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural water users generally prefer straightforward communications in a more personal manner outside of the irrigation season.</li> </ul>  |

### 3.4.3 Environmental and Recreation

A total of three meetings were held with environmental and recreational water users and advocates in the South Platte Basin at the dates and locations described below. The locations were chosen to help minimize travel for the participants and maximize participation.

| Date              | Location | Office                                      |
|-------------------|----------|---|
| July 22, 2019     | Greeley  | Central Colorado Water Conservancy District |
| July 23, 2019     | Denver   | Leonard Rice Consulting Water Engineers     |
| November 22, 2019 | Denver   | Leonard Rice Consulting Water Engineers     |

The objectives of the meetings were described in Section 2.2.2. Meeting agendas and presentation materials were developed to meet these objectives. The agenda and presentation used for each of the meetings are included in Attachment I.

In general, the meetings on July 22 and 23, 2019 covered the following topics: introductions, overview of SPROWG, Guiding Principles, recreational water needs, environmental water needs, governance framework, and communications needs. A total of 35 individuals attending the meetings in July, not including members of the consulting team: with 11 individuals attending the meeting in Greeley and 24 in attendance at the meeting in Denver.

In general, the meeting on November 22, 2019 covered the following topics: Overview of SPROWG and Survey highlights, a description of the project alternatives being modeled, and a discussion of environmental and recreation concerns and opportunities associated with the project alternatives. Approximately 18 individuals attended the November 22, 2019 meeting either in person or on the phone. Attendees were primarily environmental and recreational water users and advocates but also included members of the Study team and Advisory Committee members.

### Summary of Feedback from Environmental/Recreation Outreach Meetings

Detailed notes from each of the meetings are included in Attachment J. A consolidated summary of the discussion topics and feedback at each of the meetings is provided below.

| Table 4. Summary of Feedback from Environmental/Recreation Outreach Meetings |   |
|--|---|
| General Topic  | Feedback  |
| Guiding Principles   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attendees were supportive of the Guiding Principle that the future SPROWG project should incorporate strategies to address environmental and recreational needs.</li> <li>Attendees were supportive of the Guiding Principle that SPROWG is not intended to store supplies from an existing or new transmountain diversion project</li> <li>While the concept may be primarily funded by water providers, attendees expressed a need for environmental and recreational water users' to be engaged in the project and for their interests to be protected.</li> <li>Attendees stressed the need for yield from the SPROWG concept to be used in an efficient manner and that municipalities make sure they are diligent in adopting and encouraging water conservation measures.</li> </ul>  |
| Environmental and Recreational Water Needs                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attendees identified the challenge associated with providing specific environmental and recreational opportunities at this phase of the project due to the location and operation specific nature of such opportunities.</li> <li>The selection of where the project is located may impact access by community and could limit recreational opportunities. Project siting should optimize the opportunity for recreation as well as environmental benefit.</li> <li>The Arkansas Voluntary Flow Management program effectively balances the competing needs of environmental and recreational needs on the Arkansas River upstream of Pueblo Reservoir and could be used as a model for development and implementation of a management plan for the South Platte River environmental and recreational needs.</li> <li>To date the discussion around ATMs has focused on leasing water from agriculture for municipal use. Attendees identified an opportunity and desire to use ATMs to benefit environmental or recreational needs.</li> <li>Return flows from agriculture support wetlands and other environmentally beneficial habitat. Concern was expressed about the potential for ATMs to reduce return flows from agriculture, and in turn impacting wetland and environmentally sensitive habitat. Additional work is needed to identify the location of critical habitat and to evaluate potential for impact as a result of ATMs.</li> <li>Attendees discussed the potential for reduction in peak flows and scouring flows, and potential for sediment flow to be impacted by changes to the South Platte River flow regime.</li> <li>Attendee discussed the desire to maintain continuous flow throughout exchange reaches for preservation and enhancement of environmental needs.</li> <li>Regarding the bird/crane tourism industry in Colorado and Nebraska, attendees discussed the need to consider potential impacts, both positive and negative, to the tourism industry as a result of SPROWG.</li> <li>Attendees discussed the environmental and recreational benefits of healthy greenways and river corridors including, but not limited to habitat for waterfowl and aquatic animals; access to recreation opportunities; and water quality improvements.</li> <li>There continues to be increased competition for leases of eastern plain reservoirs for recreation use. Attendees expressed concern that Colorado Parks and Wildlife could get priced out of the market when existing leases come up for renewal. The new reservoirs to be built as part of SPROWG could provide CPW an alternative to long term leases for recreation opportunities on eastern plain reservoirs.</li> <li>Attendees discussed to possibility of SPROWG supporting development of a water trail along the South Platte River from Denver to the Nebraska stateline. A water trail is a designated route along a river designed for people</li> </ul> |

**Table 4. Summary of Feedback from Environmental/Recreation Outreach Meetings**

| General Topic                                      | Feedback  |
|--|---|
| Infrastructure Design and Operation Considerations | <p>using small boats like kayaks or canoes. Water trails can feature access and launch points, environmental or cultural points of interest, and access to significant historical sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attendees discussed the opportunity to improve existing diversion structures in the South Platte River and construct new infrastructure to allow for recreational bypass/ fish passage/ elimination of dry-up points/ and the reestablishment of hydrology and habitat at existing dry-up points.</li> <li>• Attendees discussed the opportunity to incorporate environmental or conservation pools in the design and operation of storage facilities. Types of pools could include: flood and stormwater storage; storage for water supply, environmental flows, irrigation, hydropower, navigation, or recreation; and pools for the accumulation of sediment over time. Such environmental pools are not currently incorporated in the modeling or design of project alternatives but could be incorporated in a later phase of the project.</li> <li>• In response to the concern that increased reuse of reusable supplies by upstream water users may negatively impact downstream water users in terms of amount, quality, and timing, attendees discussed the potential for making releases from downstream reservoirs (i.e., reservoirs near Balzac or Julesburg) to offset the impact to downstream water users.</li> <li>• It was recognized that warm water sloughs, which are largely maintained by return flows from agriculture, serve as important habitat for native small-bodied plains fish. In response to the potential that ATMs may reduce return flows from agriculture, Attendees identified the opportunity to utilize accretions from recharge projects to maintain water in sloughs for plain fish and benefit wetland and wildlife habitat in sloughs.</li> <li>• Related to project alternatives including use of pipelines, concern was expressed about the potential increase in greenhouse gasses as a result of operating pumps.</li> <li>• The construction of new reservoirs with exposed open water surfaces could provide much needed additional habitat for waterfowl. Exposed water in mid April /May and late September/early October is particularly beneficial to migrating waterfowl. To further provide habitat that is beneficial to migrating waterfowl, reservoirs and recharge facilities should be located adjacent to active agricultural fields that contain food and forage for wildlife. The area between Wiggins and Fort Morgan is considered the Golden Triangle for waterfowl use.</li> <li>• Strategies for operating recharge facilities to maximize benefit to waterfowl and the environment include: minimizing standing water between late May to mid-September so to minimize cattail growth, locating facilities near active agriculture and leaving forage in the fields as a food source; and locating facilities to maximize the creation of wetlands as a result of accretions back to the South Platte River or to nearby seeps.</li> <li>• Constructed reservoir should include habitat in the reservoir and along the shores which benefits waterfowl, shore birds, aquatic species, and other wildlife.</li> <li>• Related to greenways and river corridors, attendees discussed the desire to incorporate river corridor enhancements into SPROWG. Potential challenges to greenway and river corridor improvements downstream of the Denver Metro area that were identified included potential for pushback from agricultural water users and a recognition that much of the land downstream of Greeley is privately owned and used for hunting.</li> <li>• Certain segments of the South Platte River, particularly those reaches below wastewater treatment discharge points, experience elevated temperatures in the shoulder months that are too warm for warm water fish. Attendees discussed the possibility/need for operating SPROWG facilities to reduce water temperature instead of increase water temperatures.</li> </ul> |
| Existing Data Needs                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional data and information are needed to determine what river flows are required to support and maintain a healthy greenway/river corridor.</li> <li>• There is a need for a baseline dataset of bird abundance and location which could be used to compare pre- and post-projects conditions.</li> <li>• There is a need for more data related to South Platte River warm water fish species including impact of temperature on warm water fish species.</li> <li>• There is a need for more data related to native South Platte River small-bodied plains fish.</li> <li>• In preparation of upcoming standards on Chlorophyll-a, which are expected in 2022, existing Chlorophyll-a needs to be compiled, data gaps identified, and new data collected in support of development and implementation of future regulations and evaluation of impact of such regulations on the operation and maintenance of existing and new storage facilities.</li> <li>• Water quality impairments in the South Platte River downstream of the Denver Metro area include arsenic, temperature, and e-coli. Additional data collection and analysis is needed to evaluate the extent of impairment and how impairment varies along the extent of the South Platte River to the Nebraska stateline.</li> </ul>   |



| Table 4. Summary of Feedback from Environmental/Recreation Outreach Meetings |   |
|--|---|
| General Topic  | Feedback  |
| Governance Structure   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The selected governance structure should be one capable of implementing best practices in environmental stewardship.</li> <li>Attendees expressed reservation about SPROWG being owned and operated as a for-profit entity.</li> </ul>                                 |
| Communications   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental and Recreational water users appreciate being engaged in project development from the start, and not as an afterthought.</li> <li>Attendees expressed the desire to continue to be informed and engaged in development of the SPROWG concept.</li> </ul> |

In addition to conducting outreach meetings with environmental and recreational water users, the consulting team met with a group of individuals involved in the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (PRRIP). The purpose of the meeting was to better understand how the SPROWG concept fits within PRRIP. A summary of topics discussed during the outreach meetings is provided below:

- Additional project definition is needed before the SPROWG concept is ready for consideration from the permitting perspective:** Given the conceptual nature of the SPROWG concept, the impact of the project cannot be fully evaluated. Additional information needed prior to consideration from the permitting perspective includes but is not limited to: the amount of water involved; the location of project components; details regarding project operation; and the time, location, and amount of project demands of project participants. Additional information will also be needed on the extent to which SPROWG may or may not affect Colorado’s responsibility for mitigating the impacts of new water-related activities in Colorado through the Platte River Recovery Implementation Plan (PRRIP).
- Possibility of federal nexus for SPROWG unknown:** At this point in the planning the potential for SPROWG to trigger a federal nexus is unknown.
- SPWRAP membership may be required for project proponent(s):** If the final project proponent(s) is able to utilize a streamlined Section 7 Endangered Species Act consultation and the template Biological Opinion through its participation in South Platte Water Related Activities Program (SPWRAP) through the PRIPP, the project participants will need to be SPWRAP members.
- SPROWG will comply with Compact requirements:** It is anticipated that SPROWG will comply with requirements of the South Platte River Compact of 1923.

CWCB in collaboration with SPWRAP recently developed an informational brochure that provides additional information about the PRRIP and an overview of How the Program Benefits Colorado’s Water Users, a copy of this brochure is provided in Attachment K.

### 3.5 Press Briefings

In June 2019, the Denver Post published a news article focused on the SPROWG concept. The article was written without involvement of the Advisory Committee or Study team, and it did not accurately reflect the objectives of the SPROWG concept. Subsequently, articles were written by newspapers in Omaha and Lincoln, Nebraska, and the articles were written without the benefit of a complete understanding of the SPROWG concept.

As a result of these articles, members of the Advisory Committee and Study team conducted a series of media briefings to provide an accurate overview of the SPROWG concept and its objectives. In addition, media representatives were provided time to ask questions. Briefings were conducted with the following media outlets.

- The Denver Post
- Omaha World Herald

- Lincoln Journal Star
- Greeley Tribune
- Longmont Times
- Freshwater News

Other media outlets were contacted as well, but they declined the briefing in favor of reviewing the final report.

### 3.6 Survey

A survey was created to efficiently solicit feedback from a broad array of municipal and industrial water providers/users as well as agricultural water users and environmental and recreation stakeholders. The survey gathered information on opinions regarding governance structure, information on future water needs, thoughts on ATMs, preferences on communication methods, and feedback on the Guiding Principles. The survey was deployed via surveymonkey.com.

Two versions of the survey were compiled. One version was sent to municipal and industrial water providers, and it included all of the categories of questions described below. Another version was sent to agricultural water users and environment and recreation stakeholders, and it focused on governance structures, ATMs, communications, and the Guiding Principles. Prior to the surveys being distributed water users were introduced to the survey and the questions that would be asked during outreach meetings. The surveys were sent to individuals representing over 83 municipal and industrial water providers, 35 agricultural water users, and 34 environment and recreation stakeholder entities.

The survey topics and questions were drafted by the Study team. The Advisory Committee and Work Groups reviewed the questions and provided feedback prior to deployment of the survey. Most of the questions in the survey had multiple-choice answers to create uniformity in the responses. However, several questions allowed for open-ended, freeform answers.

The survey was open from June 2019 through early November 2019. Members of respective Work Groups were asked to both complete the survey on behalf of their organizations and encourage their colleagues to complete the survey.

Table 4 summarizes the survey topics and questions.

| Table 4. Summary of Survey Topics and Questions |  |
|---|--|
| Topic   | General Description of Questions   |
| Organizational Framework                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What organizational characteristics are most important to you?</li> <li>• What types of organizations could you support as active or passive participants?</li> <li>• How should governing boards be selected?</li> <li>• How should funds be raised?</li> <li>• Who should own assets?</li> <li>• How should profits (if any) be distributed?</li> </ul> |
| Communications                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What issues most concern your rate payers or customers?</li> <li>• Are your rate payers or customers aware of future water supply gaps, and are they willing to add infrastructure to mitigate gaps?</li> <li>• What are the most effective means of communicating with your rate payers or customers?</li> </ul>   |
| Water Supply Gap*                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does your organization anticipate future water supply gaps? If so, how much water will you need?</li> <li>• When does your organization anticipate that additional supplies will be needed?</li> </ul>  |



|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Water Use*         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How would your organization use water made available through the SPROWG concept?</li> <li>• Would you require treated water, and what level of treatment would be needed?</li> </ul>                                 |
| Reusable Supply*   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does your organization have reusable supplies that could be managed via the SPROWG concept?</li> <li>• If so, how much water is available, and when is it available?</li> </ul>                                      |
| Guiding Principles | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can your organization support the Guiding Principles as stated?</li> </ul>   |
| ATMs               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is your organization willing to participate in ATMs, and if so, how would you use the water?</li> <li>• What are key questions that need to be answered before you could commit to participating in ATMs?</li> </ul> |

*\*Topics included only in the survey sent to municipal and industrial water providers and users*

Individuals were asked to consider the following key assumptions when responding to the surveys:

- SPROWG will satisfy demands that are anticipated beyond those to be met by existing supplies and identified projects and processes (IPPs).
- SPROWG could involve a combination of storage, conveyance, exchanges, and treatment infrastructure located primarily downstream (northeast) of Denver.
- SPROWG would involve the construction and operation of new infrastructure but could also use existing facilities.
- SPROWG could be operated to meet M&I, agricultural, environmental, and recreational needs.
- SPROWG water supply could come from a combination of sources including unappropriated surface water, water derived from alternative transfers, excess recharge credits, reusable supplies, and groundwater from the Denver Basin.

## Section 4: SPROWG Survey Responses

The surveys were open from June 2019 through early November 2019. Members of respective Work Groups were asked to both complete the survey on behalf of their organizations and encourage their colleagues to complete the survey. Respondents were told that the results provided in response to the surveys would be aggregated and that the identity of respondents would not be made public unless that individuals explicitly provided the authority to do so. Information obtained through the surveys was used to inform the modeling and the development of project elements to meet identified needs.

The following section provides a summary of the responses obtained through the three SPROWG water user surveys.

### 4.1 Municipal and Industrial

The SPROWG Municipal & Industrial Water User Survey was sent to individuals representing over 83 municipal and industrial water providers. A total of 31 entities responded to the survey, of which 27 represented municipal water users and 4 represented industrial water users.

The municipal water providers that responded to the survey were generally located within four different planning regions: Denver Metro, NoCo-North (NoCo-N), NoCo-South (NoCo-S), and the Eastern Plains. Of the 27 municipal water providers responding to the M&I survey, 10 were located within the Denver Metro area, 8 were located at the north end of the I-25/US-285/US-85 corridor (NoCo-N), 7 were located at the south end of the I-25/US-285/US-85 corridor (NoCo-S), and 2 were located along the South Platte River downstream of Greeley (Eastern Plains).

For the purpose of informing the modeling of project alternatives, the water supply gap responses and water use responses to the M&I survey were broken down into the various planning regions, and industrial water users was identified as a fifth planning region. As further described in the Modeling Concept Refinement Technical Memo, depending on the concept alternative modeled the demands associated with NoCo-S were assumed delivered at either the Denver Metro Gateway or the NoCo Demand Gateway.

The following section provides a summary of the responses obtained through the SPROWG M&I survey. A copy of the complete survey sent to M&I water users is provided in Attachment L.

#### **4.1.1 Organizational Framework**

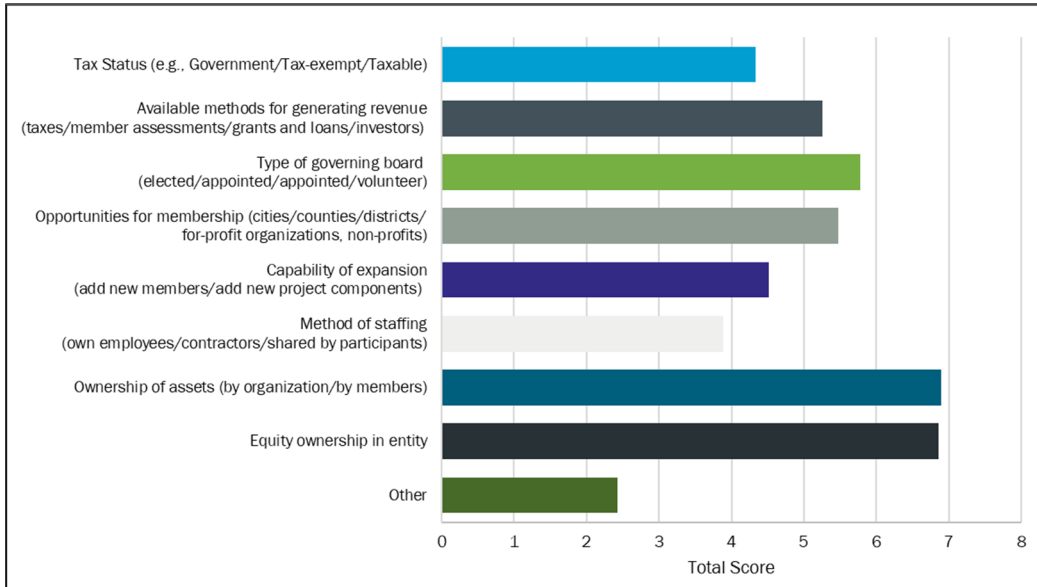
The goal of the organizational framework questions was to solicit input on criteria for a new organization that would eventually lead the project development, implementation, and management of a regional collaborative water project. Responses obtained in response to this portion of the survey were used to inform the identification and analysis of institutional structure as described in the Organizational Framework Technical Memorandums 1 and 2.

Topics covered in the organizational framework portion of the survey included:

- Ranking of the importance of organizational structure characteristics  
i.e., Tax status, How revenue is generated, Type of governing board, Membership, Staffing
- Type of the organizational structure your organization would be willing to support
- Preference for types of governing board
- Preference for how capital could be raised
- Preference for how operating expenses could be collected
- Preference for how the organization is staffed
- Preference for ownership of assets
- Preference for the distribution of profits

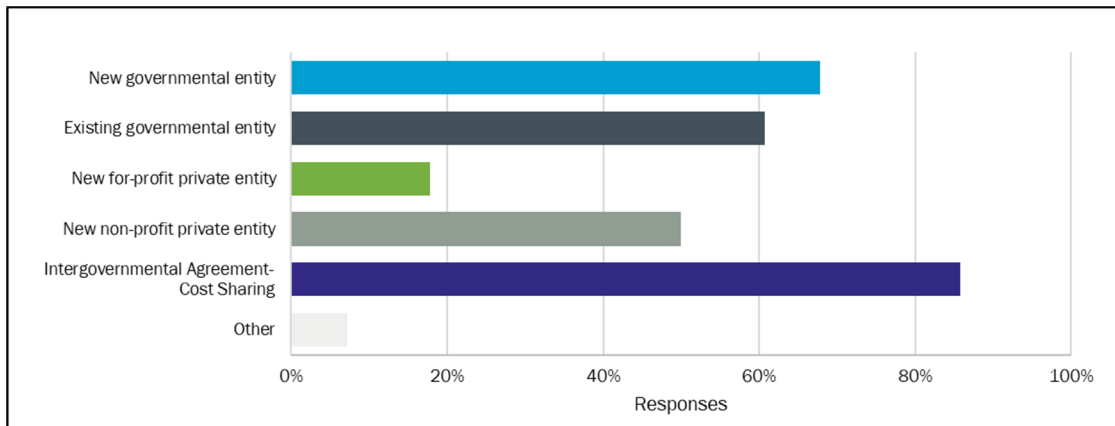
Aggregated responses of all M&I water users that responded to the organizational framework survey questions are provided below.

M&I water users were asked: Rank the following organizational structure characteristics in order of importance to your organization. All survey participants responded to this question. As shown in Figure 1. Rank the following organizational structure characteristics in order of importance to your organization. (1 = most important; 9 = least important)Figure 1, the two most important organizational structure characteristics for M&I water users are ownership of assets by the organization or members, and equity ownership in the entity. In the “other” category, important organizational structure characteristics that were identified by respondents included operating rules and bylaws.



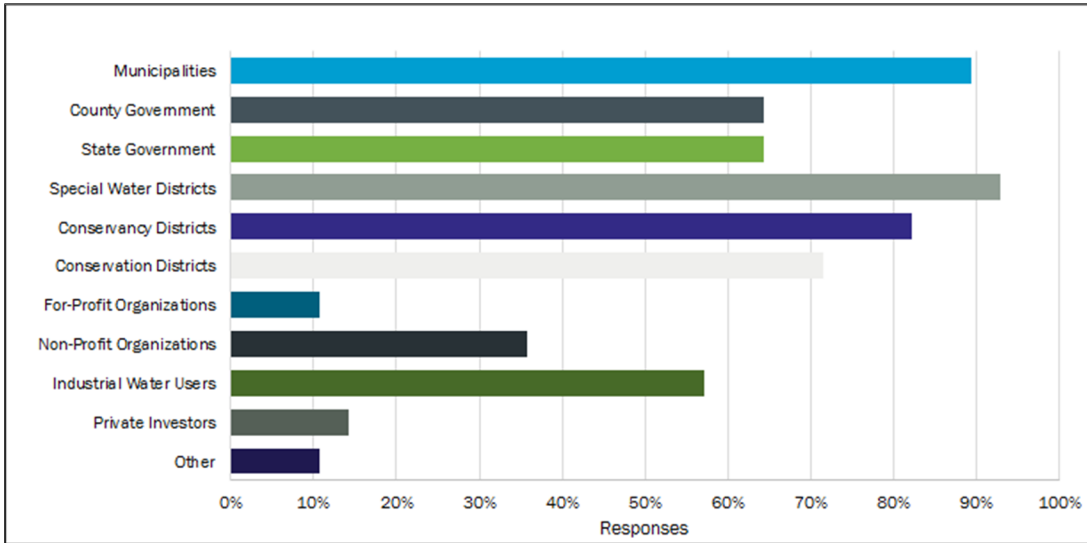
**Figure 1. Rank the following organizational structure characteristics in order of importance to your organization. (1 = most important; 9 = least important)**

M&I water users were asked: What organizational structure would your organization be willing to support? 28 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 2, the top organizational structures that M&I water users would support are intergovernmental agreement - cost sharing, a new governmental entity, and an existing governmental entity. There was limited support for a new for-profit private entity. In the “other” category, additional organizational structures that were identified by respondents included Public Private Partnership owning or controlling a water resource and a Utility Structure which would be regulated by its own Board/ Members.



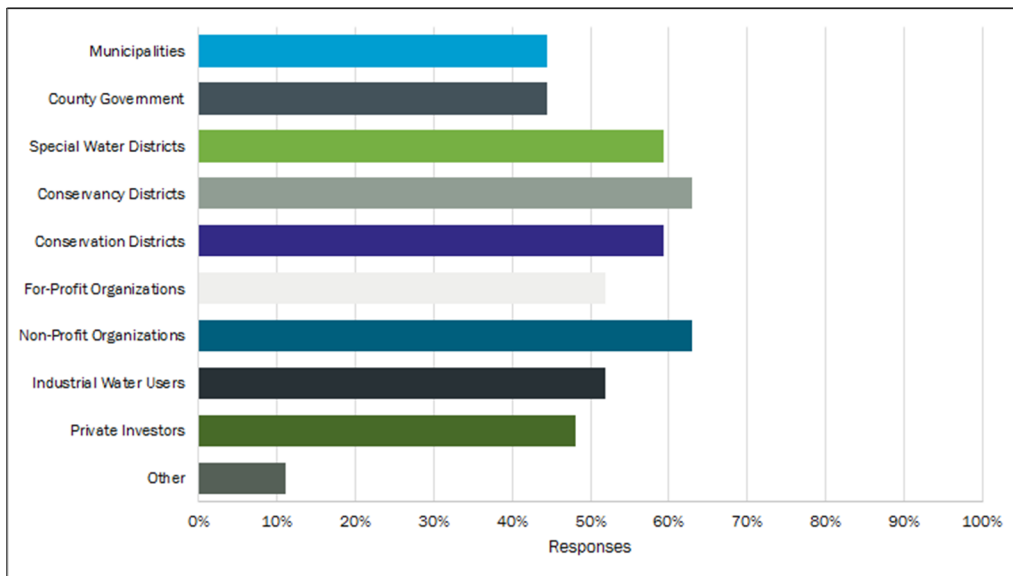
**Figure 2. What organizational structure would your organization be willing to support? (select all that apply)**

M&I water users were asked: Which active/direct participants could your organization support including in an organizational structure? 28 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 3, the top three active/direct participants that M&I water users support including in an organizational structure are special water districts, municipalities, and conservancy districts. Additional comments received in response to this question indicated that particular M&I water users do not support oil and gas participants or participants that do not own water/ serve water, etc. being included in an organizational structure.



**Figure 3. Which active/direct participants could your organization support including in an organizational structure? (select all that apply)**

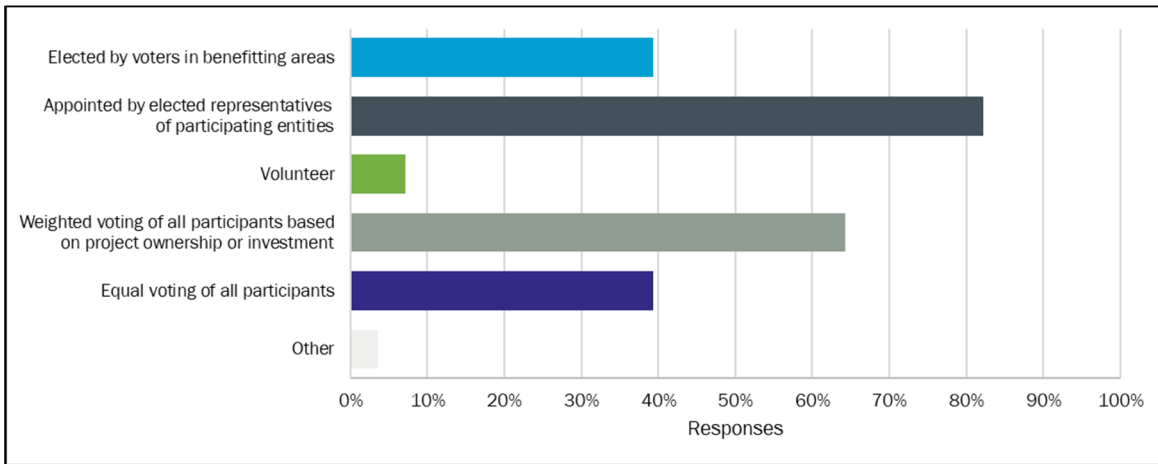
M&I water users were asked: Which passive/indirect participants could your organization support including in an organizational structure? 27 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 4, the top two passive/indirect participants that M&I water users support including in an organizational structure are conservancy districts and non-profit organizations, followed closely behind by special water districts and conservation districts. More than 50% of respondents thought their organizations could support including for-profit organizations and industrial water users in an organizational structure.



**Figure 4. Which passive/indirect participants could your organization support including in an organizational structure? (select all that apply)**

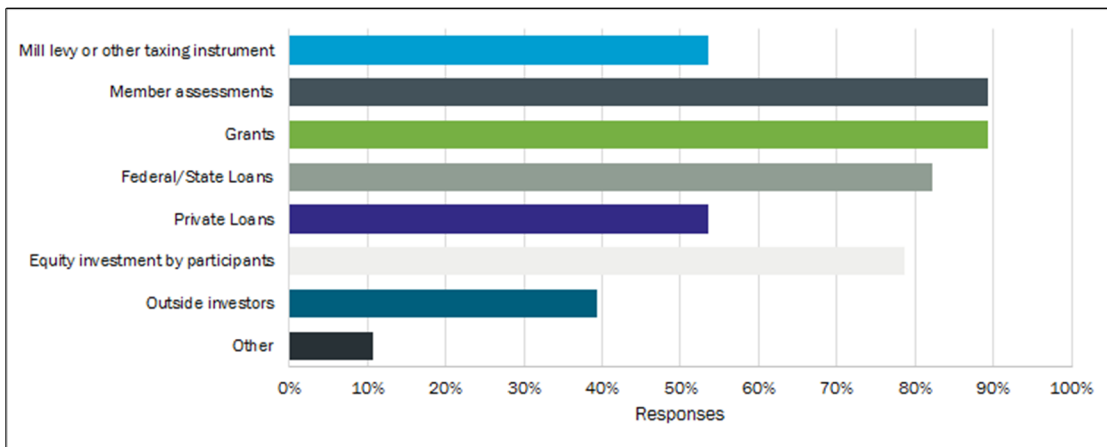
M&I water users were asked: Which type(s) of governing boards could your organization support for an organizational structure? 28 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 5, the top two types of governing boards that M&I water users support for an organizational structure are appointed by elected

representatives or participating entities, and weighted voting of all participants based on project ownership or investment. In the “other” category, an additional type of governing board identified by respondents included appointed or volunteer representatives of participating entities.



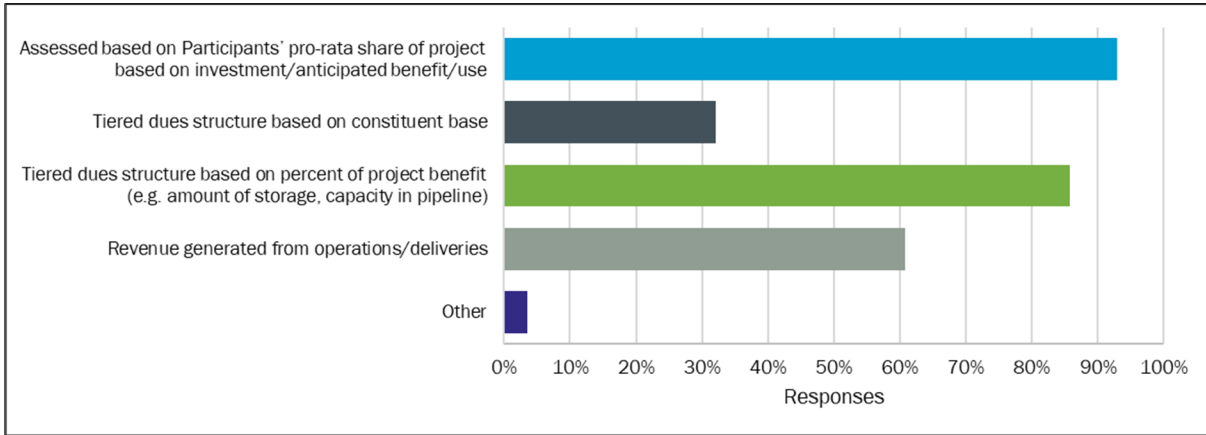
**Figure 5. Which type(s) of governing boards could your organization support for an organizational structure? (select all that apply)**

M&I water users were asked: What options for raising capital could your organization support? 28 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 6, the top two options for raising capital that M&I water users support are member assessments and grants. In the “other” category, additional options for raising capital identified by respondents included fees related to frequency and magnitude of user of facilities, long term private and tax free bonds, and payment of cash in-lieu from developers.



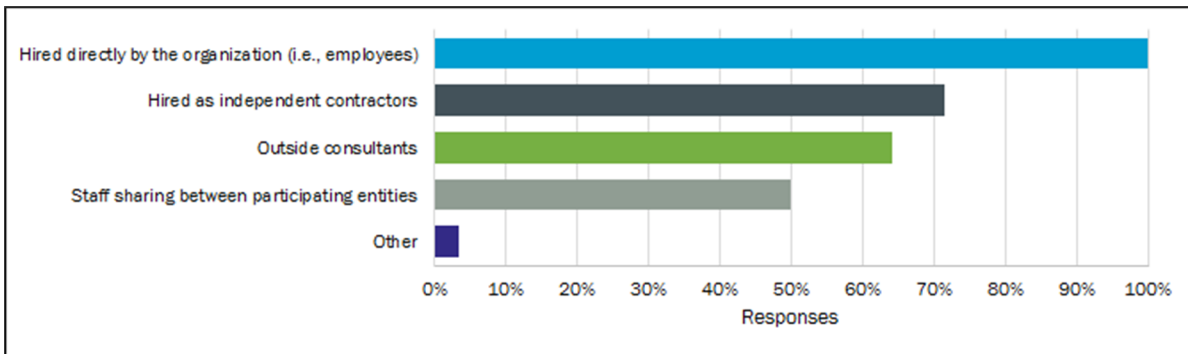
**Figure 6. What options for raising capital could your organization support? (select all that apply)**

M&I water users were asked: What options for collection of operating expenses could your organization support? 28 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 7, the top two options for collection of operating expenses that M&I water users support are assessed based on participants’ pro-rata share of project based on investment/anticipated benefit/use, and a tiered dues structure based on percent of project benefit (e.g. amount of storage, capacity in pipeline). In the “other” category, additional options for collection of operating expenses identified by respondents included rates based on volume of water delivered to end use by project facilities.



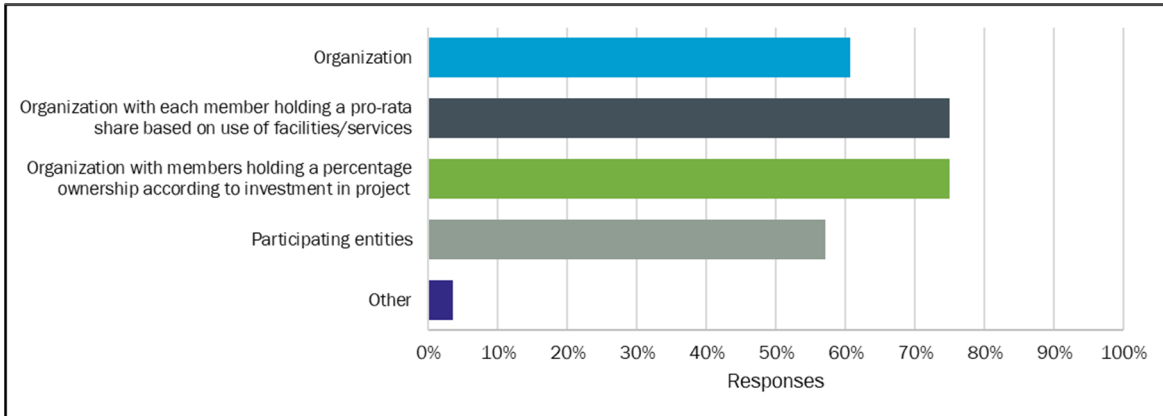
**Figure 7. What options for collection of operating expenses could your organization support? (select all that apply)**

M&I water users were asked: What options for staffing could your organization support? 28 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 8, 100% of respondents supported staff hired directly by the organization (i.e., employees). More than 50% of respondents also supported the hiring of independent contractors and the hiring of outside consultants. One individual responded to the other option, noting they could support all of the above staffing options.



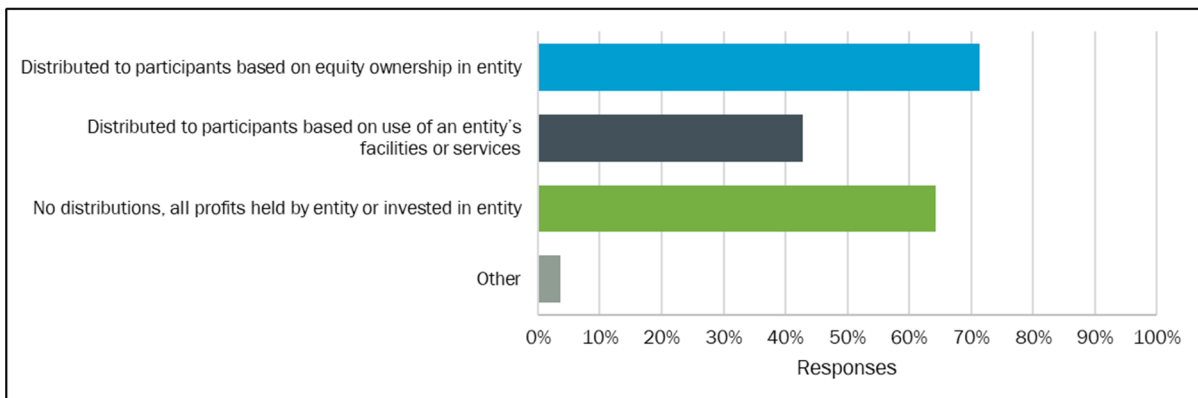
**Figure 8. What options for staffing could your organization support? (select all that apply)**

M&I water users were asked: Who would your organization support holding ownership of assets acquired or built under the organization? 28 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 9, the top two entities that M&I water users support holding ownership of assets acquired or built under the organizations are an organization with each member holding a pro-rata share based on use of facilities/services, and an organization with members holding a percentage ownership according to investment in project. Additional comments received in response to this question suggested regardless of the option selected, buying in and buying out should be based on percentage invested.



**Figure 9. Who would your organization support holding ownership of assets acquired or built under the organization? (select all that apply)**

M&I water users were asked: What option for distribution of potential profits could your organization support? 28 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 10, the top two options for distribution of potential profit that M&I water users support are distributed to participants based on equity ownership in entity and distributed to participants based on use of an entity’s facilities or services. Additional comments received in response to this question suggested regardless of the option selected, no one entity should hold too much money.



**Figure 10. What option for distribution of potential profits could your organization support? (select all that apply)**

M&I water users were asked to provide any additional comments related to organizational structure. Additional comments received by respondents include the following:

- All entities should have an equal vote, not based on percentage invested in the project.
- Our entity has close to its needed supplies for build out, but may be interested in drought supply or drought recovery supply.
- It is difficult to weigh characteristics until more is known about options for an organization and how it will operate.

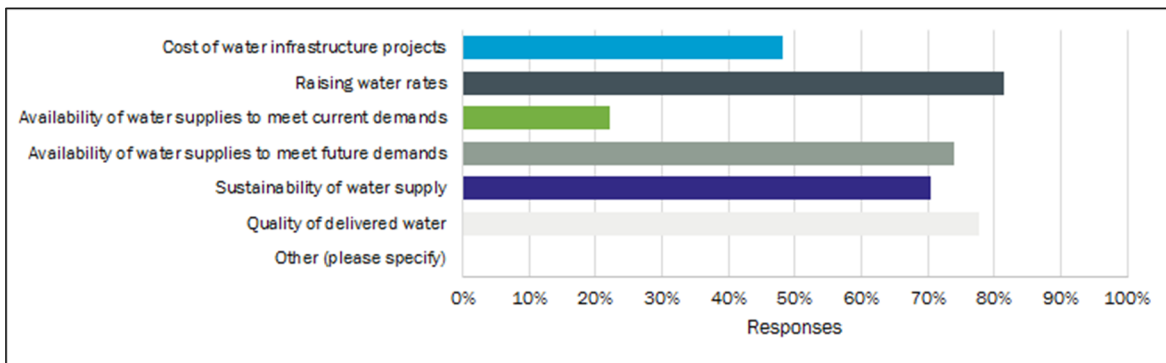
### 4.1.2 Project Communication

The goal of the project communication questions was to gauge the public’s awareness of water issues in the South Platte Basin and preferences for communication of information. Topics covered in the project communication section of the survey included:

- Types on water related issues that your rate payers/customers are concerned with
- Rate payer/customer awareness of the water supply gap
- Rate payer/customer level of acceptance for new storage and infrastructure
- Primary method for communication with rate payers/customers
- Willingness to help communicate results of the SPROWG study

Aggregated responses of all M&I water users that responded to the project communication survey questions are provided below.

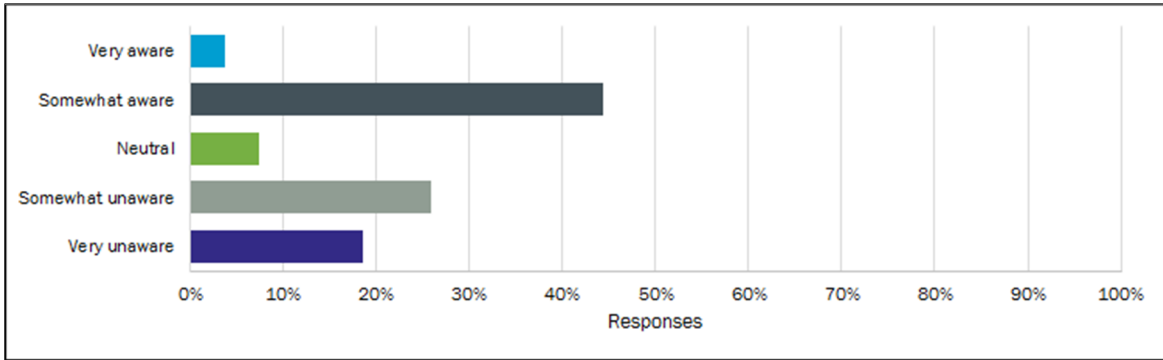
M&I water users were asked: Which of the following water related issues are your rate payers/customers most concerned with? 27 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 11, the top two water related issues that M&I water user’s rate payers/customers are most concerned with are raising water rates, and quality of delivered water. The availability of water supplies to meet future demand and the sustainability of water supply are also issues of concern for a majority of respondents.



**Figure 11. Which of the following water related issues are your rate payers/customers most concerned with? (select all that apply)**

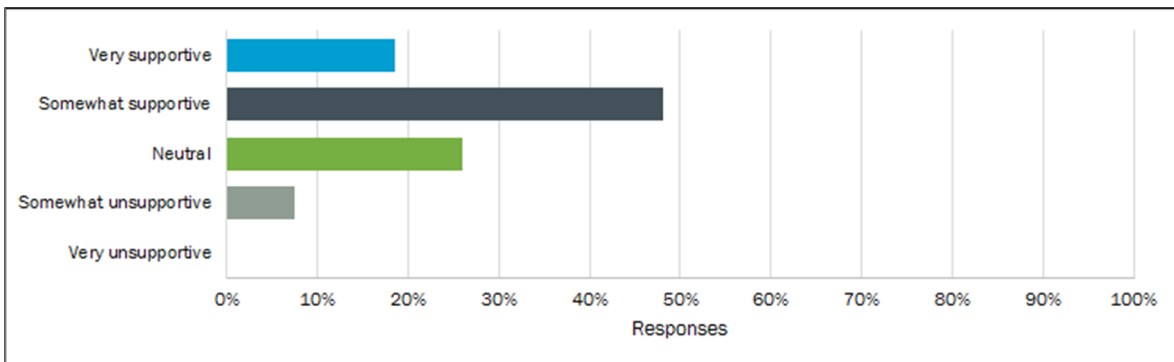
M&I water users were asked: Are your rate payers/customers aware of the projected water supply gap in the South Platte River Basin? 27 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 12, some of M&I water user’s rate payers/customers are somewhat aware of the projected water supply gap in the South Platte River Basin. However, over 50% of respondents indicated that their rate payers/customers are neutral, somewhat unaware, or very unaware.





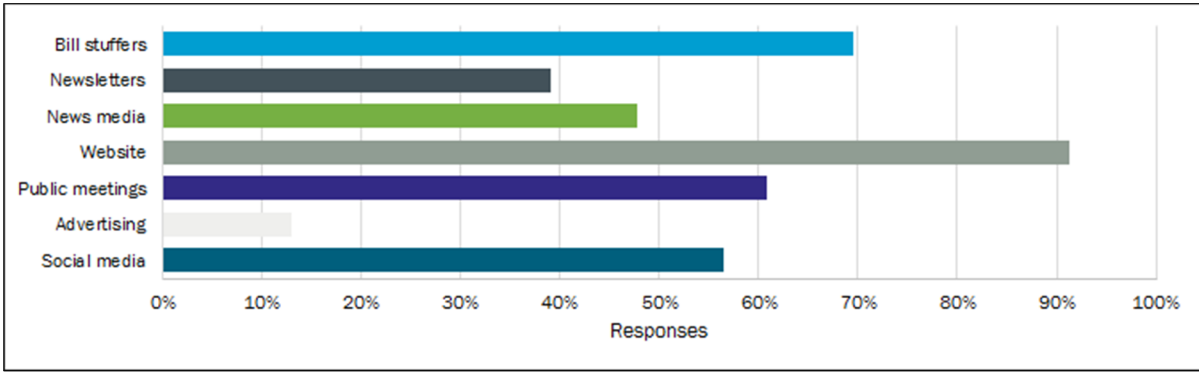
**Figure 12. Are your rate payers/customers aware of the projected water supply gap in the South Platte River Basin?**

M&I water users were asked: How supportive are your rate payers/customers of adding additional storage/reservoirs/infrastructure to help meet future water needs? 27 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 13, over 66% of rate payers/customers are either somewhat supportive or very supportive of adding additional storage or reservoir infrastructure.



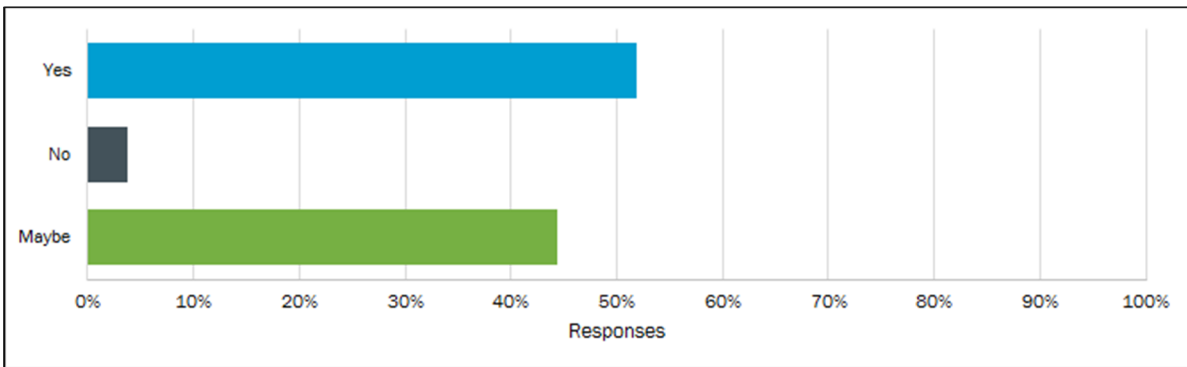
**Figure 13. How supportive are your rate payers/customers of adding additional storage/ reservoirs/infrastructure to help meet future water needs?**

M&I water users were asked: What are the primary ways you communicate with your rate payers/customers about the need for water projects/infrastructure? 23 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 14, the primary ways M&I water users communicate with their rate payers/customers about the need for water projects/infrastructure are through websites, bill stuffers, public meetings, and social media are also used for a majority of respondents.



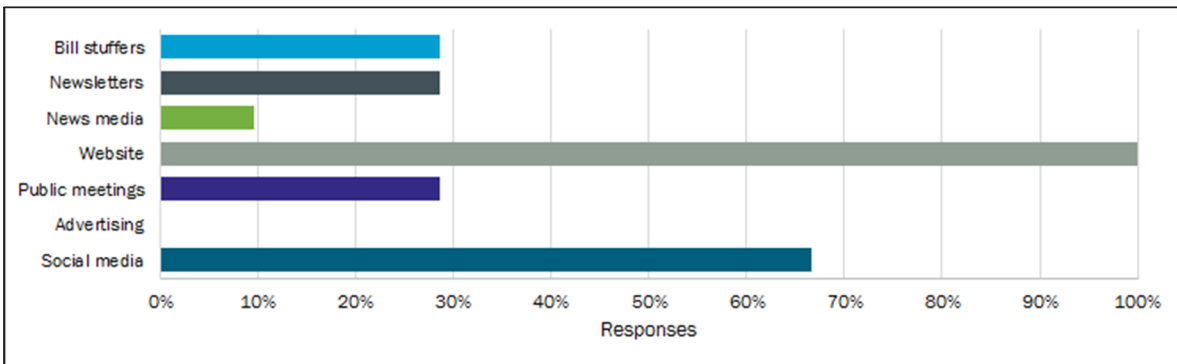
**Figure 14. What are the primary ways you communicate with your rate payers/customers about the need for water projects/infrastructure? (select all that apply)**

M&I water users were asked: Would your organization be willing to help communicate the results of the SPROWG study? 27 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 15, the majority M&I water users are willing to help communicate the results of the SPROWG study.



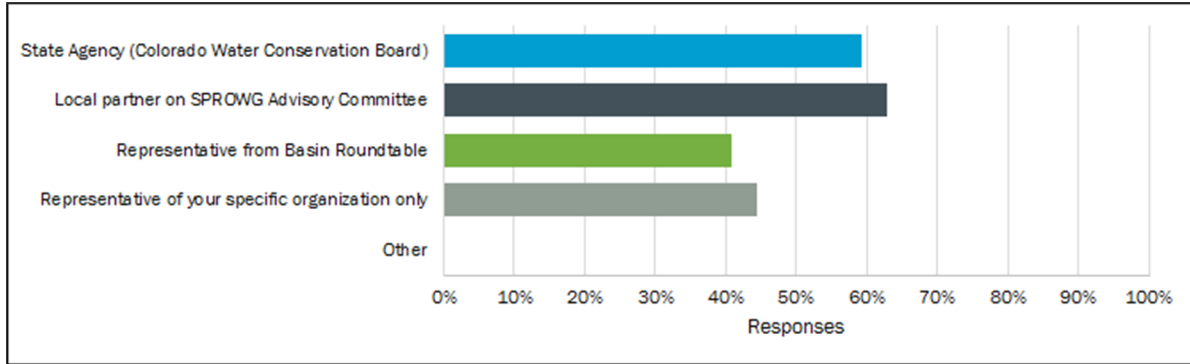
**Figure 15. Would your organization be willing to help communicate the results of the SPROWG study?**

M&I water users were asked: What communications channels would you be willing and able to make available to SPROWG for information sharing? 21 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 16, 100% of respondents would be willing to make information about SPROWG available on their website and over 60% would make information available through social media.



**Figure 16. What communications channels would you be willing and able to make available to SPROWG for information sharing? (select all that apply)**

M&I water users were asked: What entity or individual would you consider a trusted spokesperson about this project for your stakeholder group? 27 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 17, the two primary entities or individuals that M&I water users consider a trusted spokesperson about this project for their stakeholder group are a local partner on SPROWG Advisory Committee, and a State Agency (Colorado Water Conservation Board).



**Figure 17. What entity or individual would you consider a trusted spokesperson about this project for your stakeholder group? (select all that apply)**

M&I water users were asked to provide any additional comments related to project communications. Additional comments received by respondents include the following:

- There is a need for a single entity to lead communication efforts.
- One respondent stated that their entity would probably not communicate much about SPROWG unless they were participating in an actual project.
- Involvement in the communications will be dependent on the costs and outcome. It is difficult to agree to costs to communicate if the end result is negative to our constituents (even though that's not expected!)

### 4.1.3 Water Supply Gap and Water Use

The goal of the water supply gap and water use questions was to understand the timing, location, and amount of water supply needs of potential project participants. Topics covered in the water supply gap portion of the survey included:

- Does your organization have a water supply gap beyond current projects and IPPs
- Amount of water supply gap at build out
- Estimated year when additional supplies need to be on-line and available for use
- Estimated year that build out will occur
- Anticipated primary use for additional supplies (i.e., blending supply, firm yield, drought year supply, drought recovery, augmentation)
- Preference for quality of water
- Availability of conditional or new water rights that could be developed using regional storage, conveyance, and/or treatment between Brighton and Julesburg

For the purpose of analyzing results in response to water supply gap questions and to inform subsequent modeling of concept alternatives, responses to the M&I water supply gap questions were grouped into

planning regions. The five planning regions included: Denver Metro Area, NoCo-North (NoCo-N), NoCo-South (NoCo-S), Eastern Plains, and Industrial Water Users.

M&I water users were asked: Following development of current supplies and supplies projected to be made available through IPPs, does your organization project it will have a water supply gap? 27 responded to this question. As shown in Table 5, just under half of the M&I water users responding to the survey anticipate that their organization will have a water supply gap after current and projected supplies are developed.

**Table 5. Following development of current supplies and supplies projected to be made available through IPPs, does your organization project it will have a water supply gap?**

| Planning Region        | Total Responses | Yes       | No        | Unknown  |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Denver Metro           | 10              | 5         | 3         | 2        |
| NoCo-N                 | 6               | 3         | 2         | 1        |
| NoCo-S                 | 6               | 3         | 2         | 1        |
| Eastern Plains         | 1               | 1         |           |          |
| Industrial Water Users | 4               | 1         | 3         |          |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>27</b>       | <b>13</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>4</b> |

M&I water users were asked: After use of current supplies and supplies projected to be made available through IPPs, how much water supply gap does your organization project at build out? 17 responded to this question. As shown in Table 6, the amount of water supply gap that M&I water users project at buildout after development and use of current and projected supplies ranges from about to 30,000 AF/year to in excess of 170,000 AF/year, for an average annual need of just over 77,000 AF/year.

As part of the Analysis and Technical Update to the Colorado Water Plan completed in 2019 (2019 Colorado Water Plan Technical Update), an analysis of the current and 2050 planning scenario water supply and gap was completed for the South Platte Basin. This analysis focused on determining the municipal and self-supplied industrial (M&SSI) diversion and gap under five different planning scenarios. In the 2019 Colorado Water Plan Technical Update, M&SSI Diversion Demand is defined as the amount of water that needs to be diverted or pumped to meet the full M&SSI demand, and M&SSI Gap is defined as the difference between the amount of water available to meet M&SSI diversion demands and the full M&SSI diversion demand. Whereas prior basin-wide analyses of water supply and gap (i.e. SWSI 2020) considered projected yield of specific identified projects and processes (IPPs), the 2019 Colorado Water Plan Technical Update did not consider project IPP yields, it focused on a basin’s water supply under projected demands and hydrological conditions using current operations and infrastructure.

For the South Platte Basin, not including the Republican River, the 2019 Colorado Water Plan Technical Update found an M&SSI Diversion Demand in 2050 ranging from 250,200 AF/year to 539,000 AF/year, and an M&SSI Gap in 2050 ranging from 136,600 AF/year to 390,600 AF/year. A comparison of the results of the SPROWG M&I survey question about water supply gap to the findings of the 2019 Colorado Water Plan Technical Update shows a M&SSI gap in the South Platte Basin that is much greater than the gap identified by the survey respondents and supports the need for additional project similar to the SPROWG concept.

**Table 6. After use of current supplies and supplies projected to be made available through IPPs, how much water supply gap does your organization project at build out?**

| Planning Region        | Total Responses | Low Estimate (AF/year) | High Estimate (AF/year) | Average Year Estimate (AF/year) |
|------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Denver Metro           | 8               | 19,901                 | 141,086                 | 55,450                          |
| NoCo-N                 | 3               | 4,900                  | 21,900                  | 13,400                          |
| NoCo-S                 | 4               | 4,775                  | 7,686                   | 6,231                           |
| Eastern Plains         | 1               | 1,000                  | 3,500                   | 2,250                           |
| Industrial Water Users | 1               | -                      | -                       | -                               |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>17</b>       | <b>30,576</b>          | <b>174,086</b>          | <b>77,331</b>                   |

M&I water users were asked: Based on the supplies you have available (through existing projects, current and planned conservation measures, and planned IPPs), when does your organization need additional supplies on-line and available for use? 22 responded to this question. As shown in Table 7, the responses to this question were combined with responses to the estimated amount of remaining water supply gap to show the timing, location, and amount of future water demand in the South Platte basin. Additional comments received in response to this question suggested a fair amount of uncertainty regarding the timing and amount of future needs, and the potential for future needs to be significantly different as a result of changes in development pattern, climate change, hydrologic variability, and governance of the Colorado River.

**Table 7. Based on the supplies you have available (through existing projects, current and planned conservation measures, and planned IPPs), when does your organization need additional supplies on-line and available for use and how much is needed?**

| Planning Region         | By 2030      | By 2040       | By 2050       | By 2070       | After 2070    | Total by Region |
|-------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Denver Metro            | 1,000        | 25,000        | 2,000         | 18,050        | 9,400         | 55,450          |
| NoCo-N                  | -            | 5,300         | 1,500         | 6,600         | -             | 13,400          |
| NoCo-S                  | 4,281        | -             | 1,950         | -             | -             | 6,231           |
| Eastern Plains          | -            | -             | 2,250         | -             | -             | 2,250           |
| Industrial Water Users  | -            | -             | -             | -             | -             | -               |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>5,281</b> | <b>30,300</b> | <b>7,700</b>  | <b>24,650</b> | <b>9,400</b>  | <b>77,331</b>   |
| <b>Cumulative Total</b> | <b>5,281</b> | <b>35,581</b> | <b>43,281</b> | <b>67,931</b> | <b>77,731</b> |                 |

M&I water users were asked: In what year does your organization project that build out will occur? 24 responded to this question. As shown in Table 8, the majority of organizations believe that build out will occur by or after 2050. Additional comments received in response to this question suggested a fair amount of uncertainty regarding the timing of build out and recognition that some organizations no longer consider their service areas will ever be built out.

**Table 8. In what year does your organization project build out will occur?**

| Planning Region        | Already Built Out | By 2030  | By 2040  | By 2050  | By 2070  | After 2070 |
|------------------------|-------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Denver Metro           |                   | 2        | 1        | 1        | 3        | 2          |
| NoCo-N                 |                   |          |          | 1        | 2        | 3          |
| NoCo-S                 |                   |          | 1        | 3        | 1        | 1          |
| Eastern Plains         |                   | 1        |          |          |          |            |
| Industrial Water Users | 1                 | 1        |          |          |          |            |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>1</b>          | <b>4</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>5</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>6</b>   |

Industrial water users were specifically asked if there was a time in the future when it would no longer have a demand for water. There was an indication that some industrial water users may no longer have a need for water after development is complete in the region. However, the timing, amount, and location of those sources were not provided.

M&I water users were asked: If your organization received water from a regional project, what would be the intended use? 24 responded to this question. As shown in Table 9, the top intended use for water received from a regional project would be drought year supply. The data from this question suggest that, for M&I water users located upstream of Greeley, water received from a regional project could be used for a wide range of uses. In the “other” category, additional intended uses for water received from a regional project would be supplemental supply during curtailment or demand management on the Colorado River, and aquifer recharge.

**Table 9. If your organization received water from a regional project, what would be the intended use? (Select all that apply)**

| Planning Region        | Blending Supply | Firm Yield | Drought Year Supply | Drought Recovery | Augmentation Water |
|------------------------|-----------------|------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Denver Metro           | 2               | 6          | 8                   | 5                | 3                  |
| NoCo-N                 | 2               | 2          | 4                   | 3                | 2                  |
| NoCo-S                 | 4               | 3          | 5                   | 2                | 2                  |
| Eastern Plains         | 1               |            |                     |                  | 1                  |
| Industrial Water Users | 1               |            |                     |                  | 2                  |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>10</b>       | <b>12</b>  | <b>17</b>           | <b>10</b>        | <b>10</b>          |

M&I water users were asked to identify their organization's preference for the type of water available through a regional project. 25 responded to this question. As shown in Table 10, the preferred type of water for M&I users receiving water through a regional project is untreated, raw water to be treated locally by the end user.

**Table 10. Identify your organization’s preference for the type of water available through a regional project. (Select all that apply)**

| Planning Region        | Untreated, Raw Water to be Treated by End User | Treated Water | Augmentation Supplies | Non-Potable Supply |
|------------------------|--|---------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Denver Metro           | 7  | 4             | 6                     | 4                  |
| NoCo-N                 | 5  | 5             | 2                     | 2                  |
| NoCo-S                 | 5  | 3             | 1                     | 2                  |
| Eastern Plains         | 1  | 1             | 1                     | 1                  |
| Industrial Water Users | 2  |               | 3                     | 1                  |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>20</b>                                      | <b>13</b>     | <b>13</b>             | <b>10</b>          |

M&I water users were asked: If your organization would prefer receiving treated water from a regional project, what level of treated water quality would it need to receive? 20 responded to this question. As shown in Table 11, the majority of M&I water users have a preference for receiving treated water from a regional project that meets the current quality of treated water in their distribution system. Other preferences identified included untreated water.

**Table 11. If your organization would prefer receiving treated water from a regional project, what level of treated water quality would it need to receive?**

| Planning Region        | Meets all primary and secondary drinking water standards | Meets the current quality of my raw water supplies | Meets the current quality of treated water in my distribution system | Other    |
|------------------------|--|--|--|----------|
| Denver Metro           | 1  | 2  | 2  | 2        |
| NoCo-N                 | 1  | 1  | 3  |          |
| NoCo-S                 | 3  |  | 2  |          |
| Eastern Plains         |  |  | 1  |          |
| Industrial Water Users |  | 1  |  | 1        |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>5</b>   | <b>4</b>   | <b>8</b>   | <b>3</b> |

M&I water users were asked: Does your organization currently have (or expect to have in the future) conditional or new water rights that could be developed using regional storage, conveyance, and/or treatment infrastructure between Brighton and Julesburg? 26 responded to this question. As shown in Table 12, the majority of M&I water users do currently have (or expect to have in the future) conditional or new water rights that could be developed using regional storage, conveyance, and/or treatment infrastructure between Brighton and Julesburg.

**Table 12. Does your organization currently have (or expect to have in the future) conditional or new water rights that could be developed using regional storage, conveyance, and/or treatment infrastructure between Brighton and Julesburg?**

| Planning Region        | No        | Yes       |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Denver Metro           | 2         | 7         |
| NoCo-N                 | 5         | 1         |
| NoCo-S                 | 4         | 2         |
| Eastern Plains         |           | 1         |
| Industrial Water Users | 1         | 3         |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>12</b> | <b>14</b> |

#### 4.1.4 Reusable Supply

The goal of the reusable supply questions was to understand the availability of reusable supplies that could be stored, conveyed, and/or treated in a regional project and how organizations would use supplies made

available through a regional water project. As with the results of the water supply gap questions, responses to the reusable supply questions were grouped based on the five planning region so to support and inform subsequent modeling of SPROWG concept alternatives.

M&I water users were asked if their organization currently has (or expect to have in the future) unused reusable supplies that could be stored, conveyed, and/or treated in a regional project and if yes, how much supply. Of the 25 who responded to this question, 17 reported that they did have, now or in the future, unused reusable supplies. Table 13 presents the average year estimate of reusable supply by planning region, with the majority of reusable supply coming from the Denver Metro area. Additional comments received in response to this question suggested a good amount of uncertainty and potential variability in timing of reusable supply, with potential for reusable supply to be greater in wet and normal years, and less in dry years.

| <b>Table 13. Amount of current or future unused reusable supplies that could be stored, conveyed, and/or treated in a regional project</b> |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Planning Region</b>   | <b>Average Year Estimate (AF/year)</b> |
| Denver Metro   | 41,075                                 |
| NoCo-N   | 6,340                                  |
| NoCo-S   | 3,400                                  |
| Eastern Plains   | 650                                    |
| Industrial Water Users   | 9,300                                  |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>60,765</b>                          |

M&I water users were then asked to provide the typical hydrologic conditions and the time of year during which reusable supplies would be available. 17 responded to both questions. Table 14 summarizes the hydrologic conditions during which reusable supplies would be available, by planning region, and Table 15 summarizes the time of year during which reusable supplies would be available, by planning region. The majority of M&I water users with current or future unused reusable supplies expect those supplies to be available year-round in all years or in years with normal hydrologic conditions.

| <b>Table 14. Typical hydrologic conditions during which reusable supplies may be available</b> |                  |                  |                     |                  |
|--|------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| <b>Planning Region</b>   | <b>All Years</b> | <b>Dry Years</b> | <b>Normal Years</b> | <b>Wet Years</b> |
| Denver Metro   | 3                | 1                | 2                   | 1                |
| NoCo-N   | 1                |                  | 3                   |                  |
| NoCo-S   |                  |                  | 1                   | 2                |
| Eastern Plains   | 1                |                  |                     |                  |
| Industrial Water Users   | 2                |                  |                     |                  |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>7</b>         | <b>1</b>         | <b>6</b>            | <b>3</b>         |



| Table 15. Time of year during which reusable supplies may be available |                                     |  |            |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|------------|
| Planning Region  | Irrigation Season (April – October) | Non-Irrigation Season (November – March) | Year Round |
| Denver Metro   | 3                                   | 3  | 1          |
| NoCo-N   | 1                                   |  | 3          |
| NoCo-S   |                                     | 2  | 1          |
| Eastern Plains   |                                     |  | 1          |
| Industrial Water Users   |                                     |  | 2          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>4</b>                            | <b>5</b>                                 | <b>8</b>   |

### 4.1.5 Guiding Principles

M&I water users were asked: Does your organization agree with the Guiding Principles? 25 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 18, over 90% of M&I water users agree with the Guiding Principles. In the comments received in response to this question one water user noted that the guiding principles may be ok for SPROWG participants, but non-SPROWG participants and future projects should not be bound by such principles.

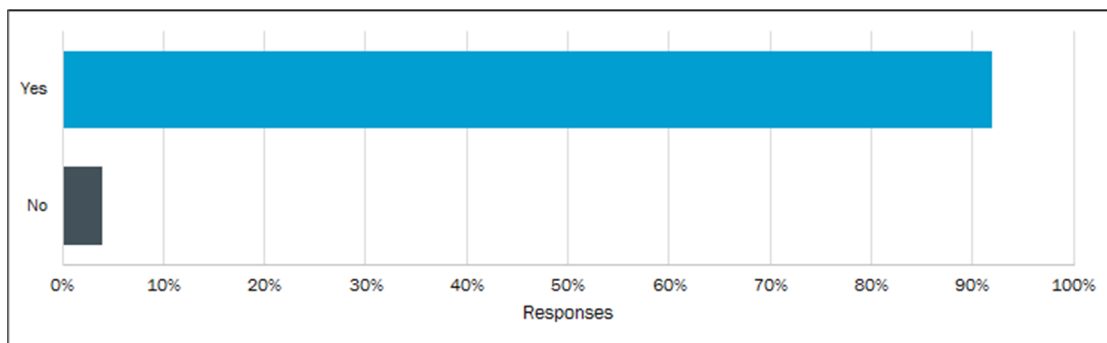
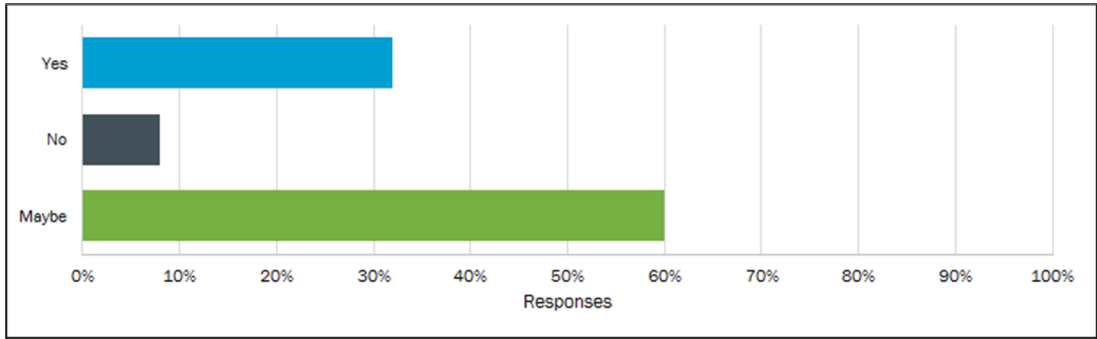


Figure 18. Does your organization agree with the Guiding Principles?

### 4.1.6 Alternative Transfer Methods (ATMs)

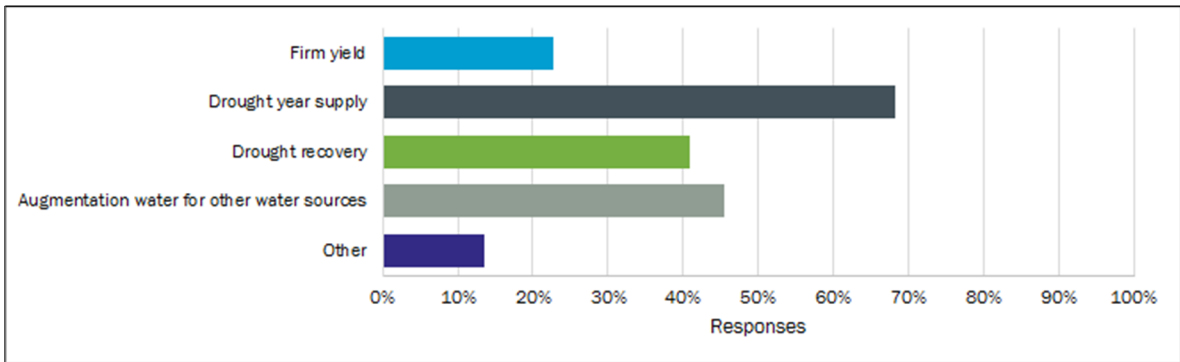
The goal of the ATM questions was to solicit input on willingness of water users to use water derived from an ATM project, opinions on the most important questions that need to be resolved to make ATMs a viable alternative.

M&I water users were asked: Is your organization interested in participating in alternative water transfers also known as alternative transfer mechanisms (ATMs)? 25 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 19, the majority of M&I water users might be interested in participating in ATMs.



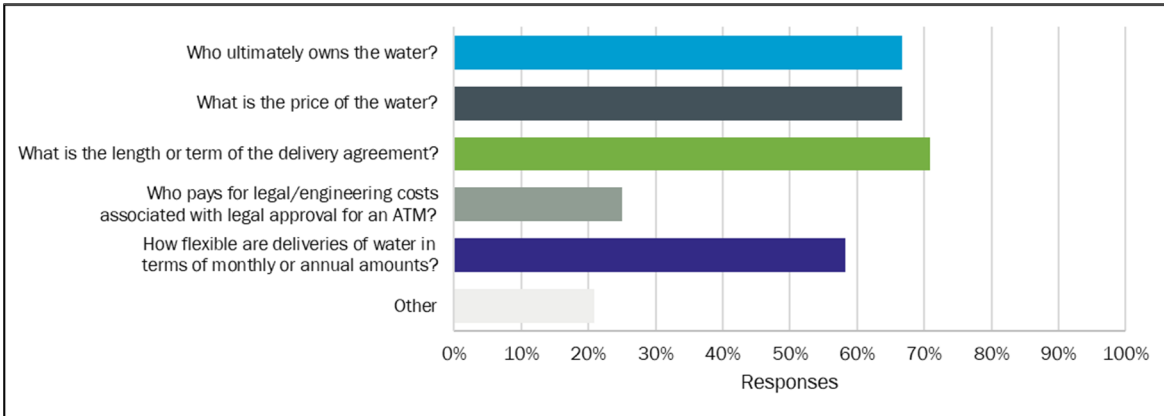
**Figure 19. Is your organization interested in participating in alternative water transfers also known as alternative transfer mechanisms (ATMs)?**

M&I water users were asked: If Yes, how would your organization use water derived from an ATM project? 22 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 20, the most likely use of water derived from an ATM project is for drought year supply. Augmentation water for other water sources and drought recovery are also preferred uses of water derived from ATMs. In the “other” category, additional uses for water derived from an ATM project included as a water supplier under a sharing agreement, during curtailment or demand management of Colorado River supplies, and for aquifer recharge.



**Figure 20. If Yes, how would your organization use water derived from an ATM project?**

M&I water users were asked: In your opinion, what are the most important questions that need to be resolved to make ATMs a viable option for your organization? 24 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 21, the top three questions that M&I users identified as needing to be resolved to make ATMs a viable option for their organizations are what is the length or term of the delivery agreement, ownership, and price of the water? In the “other” category, additional questions and comments identified by respondents that need to be resolved to make ATMs a viable option for their organizations included annual lease costs versus the cost when water is used in years when the ATM is exercised, on ground operations, the mitigation of impacts on farming communities beyond just the farmers receiving money for their water, the need for a simple and certain decree process without endless court battles, and the need for flexibility of decree that would allow water to be considered agricultural use water after use by ATM.

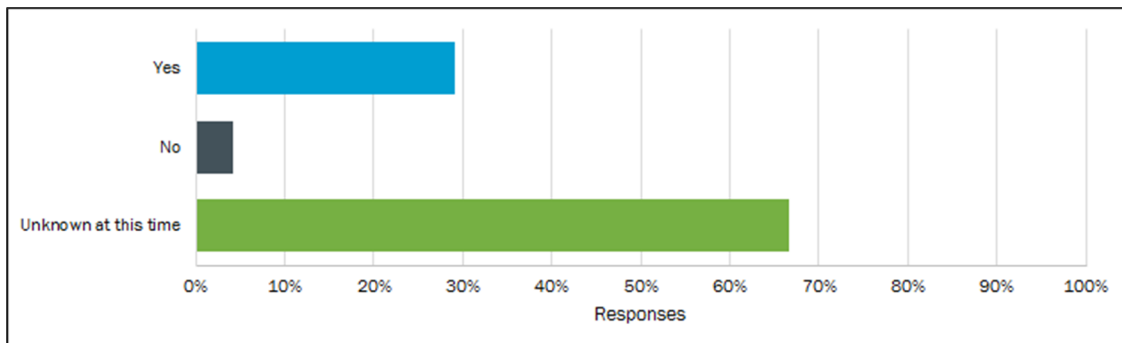


**Figure 21. In your opinion, what are the most important questions that need to be resolved to make ATMs a viable option for your organization?**

#### 4.1.7 Willingness to Participate in SPROWG

At the conclusion of the survey, M&I water users were asked about their willingness to participate in SPROWG and to provide any comments that were not previously addressed in the survey.

In response to the question: Would your organization be willing to participate in the SPROWG project? the majority of M&I water users do not know at this time if their organizations would be willing to participate in the SPROWG project, as shown on Figure 22. Of the 31 entities that responded to the survey, 24 responded to this question.



**Figure 22. Would your organization be willing to participate in the SPROWG project?**

The following is a summary of the comments provided at the end of the survey.

- In the future, it would be helpful to have project representatives visit our council to provide a general overview of this project and to educate our council so that they can gauge interest in future participation.
- Two concerns about the project were raised by an entity: 1) If developed to 50,000 AF, how will this project diminish additional future water availability and the potential for upstream users to develop new water rights. 2) How will this project affect SPWRAP's efforts to retime excess flow during time of "no call" in order to meet Colorado's obligation to the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program?
- Our entity will meet most of its future needs and will most likely not need SPROWG in its future. However, we are still interested in following this project in case circumstances change.

- Project alternatives should include Denver Basin non-tributary aquifer recharge projects in the Arapahoe & Laramie-Fox Hills formations.
- Additional clarity is needed around the potential role of for-profit partners in SPROWG. Is it possible that for-profit partners would re-sell water developed through SPROWG?

## 4.2 Agriculture

The SPROWG Agricultural Water User Survey was sent to individuals representing over 35 agricultural water users including conservations districts, conservancy districts, ditch and reservoir companies, dairies, and organizations representing the interest of agricultural water users in the South Platte Basin and throughout the state of Colorado. A total of 6 entities responded to the survey.

The following section provides a summary of the responses obtained through the SPROWG Agricultural water user survey. A copy of the complete survey sent to agricultural water users is provided in Attachment M.

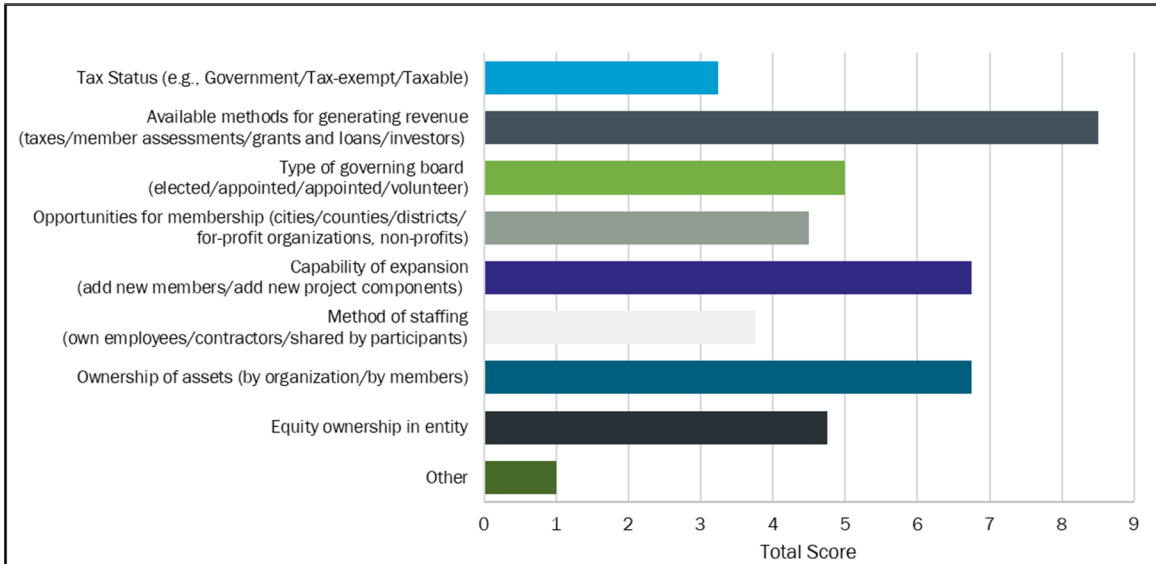
### 4.2.1 Organizational Framework

The goal of the organizational framework questions was to solicit input on criteria for a new organization that would eventually lead the project development, implementation, and management of a regional collaborative water project. Topics covered in the organizational framework portion of the survey included:

- Ranking of the importance of organizational structure characteristics  
i.e., Tax status, How revenue is generated, Type of governing board, Membership, Staffing
- Type of the organizational structure your organization would be willing to support
- Preference for types of governing board
- Preference for how capital could be raised
- Preference for how operating expenses could be collected
- Preference for how the organization is staffed
- Preference for ownership of assets
- Preference for the distribution of profits

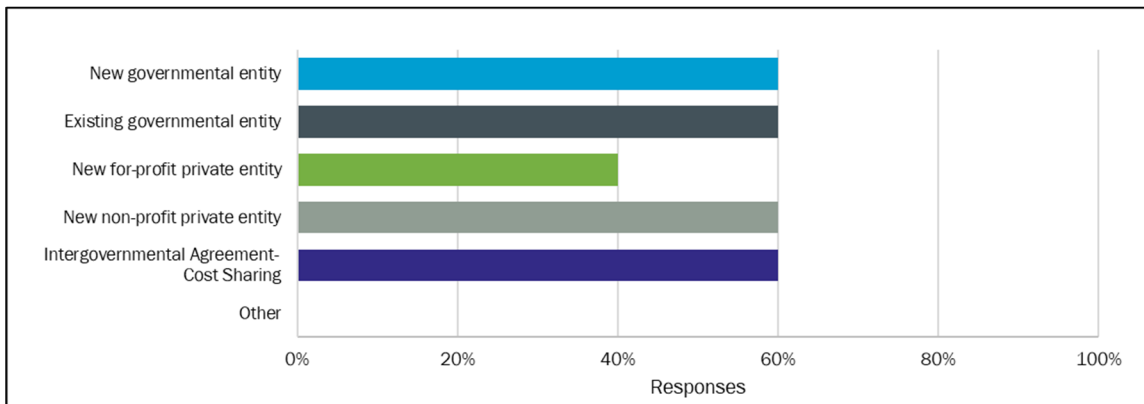
Aggregated responses of all agricultural water users that responded to the organizational framework survey questions are provided below.

Agricultural water users were asked: Rank the following organizational structure characteristics in order of importance to your organization. 4 survey participants responded to this question. As shown in Figure 23, the three most important organizational structure characteristics for agricultural water users are available methods for generating revenue such as taxes, member assessments, grants, and loans/investors, the capability of expansion by adding new members and/or adding new project components, and ownership of assets by the organization or members.



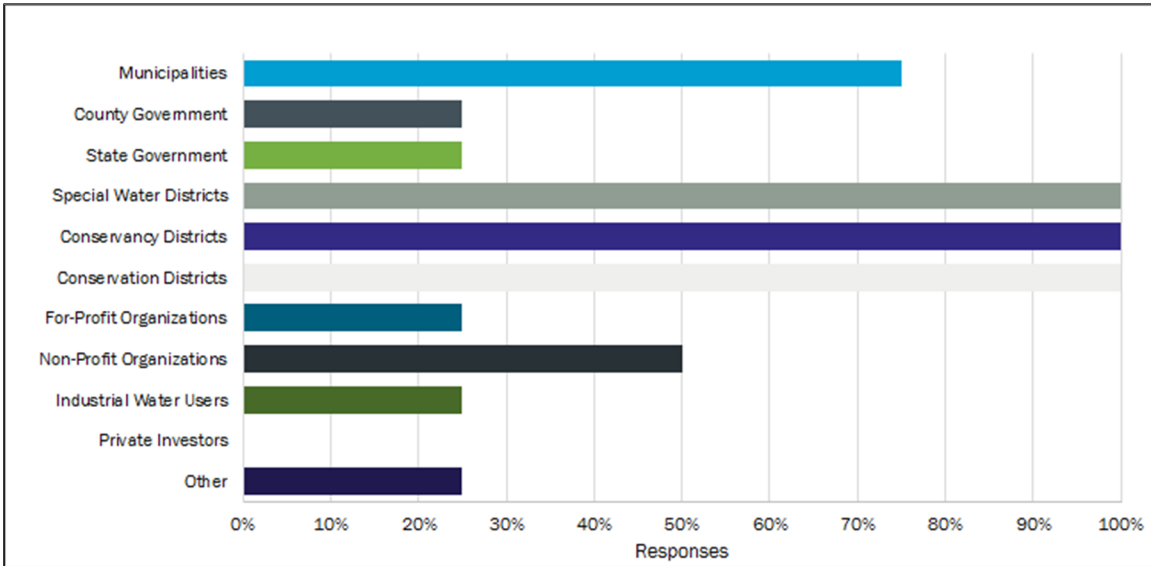
**Figure 23. Rank the following organizational structure characteristics in order of importance to your organization. (1 = most important; 9 = least important)**

Agricultural water users were asked: What organizational structure would your organization be willing to support? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 24, the top organizational structures that agricultural water users would support are a new governmental entity, an existing government entity, a new non-profit entity, and an intergovernmental agreement - cost sharing. There was less support for a new for-profit private entity.



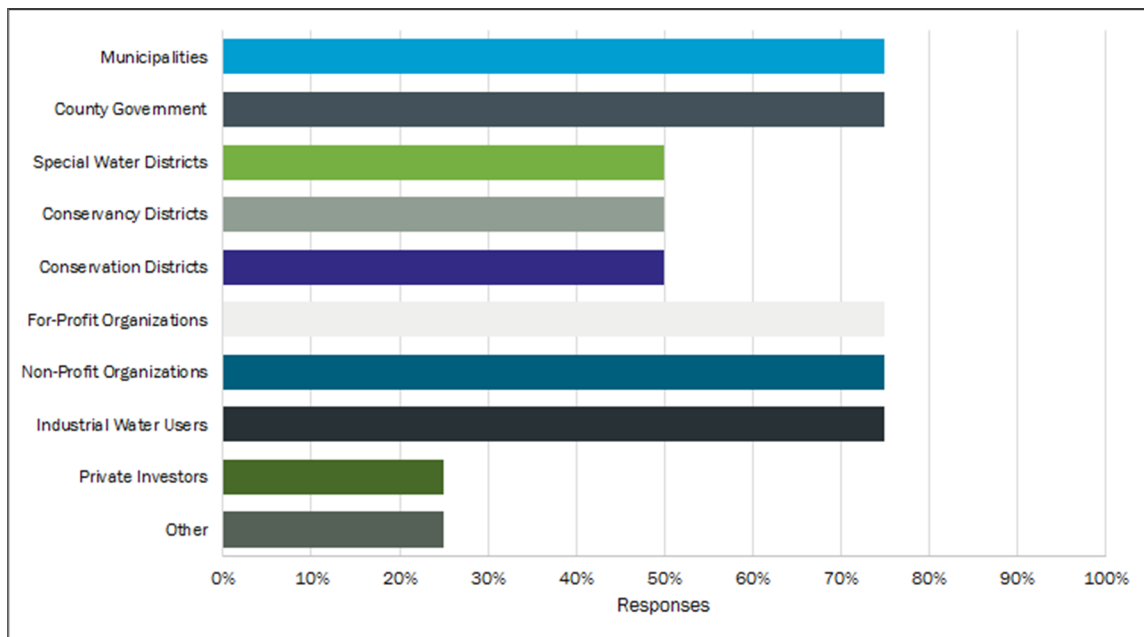
**Figure 24. What organizational structure would your organization be willing to support? (select all that apply)**

Agricultural water users were asked: Which active/direct participants could your organization support including in an organizational structure? 4 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 25, all respondents thought their organizations could support special water districts, conservancy districts, and conservation districts as active/direct participants in an organizational structure. There was no support for including private investors as active/direct participants in an organizational structure. Additional comments received in response to this question indicated that agricultural water users could support ditch and reservoir companies as active/direct project participants.



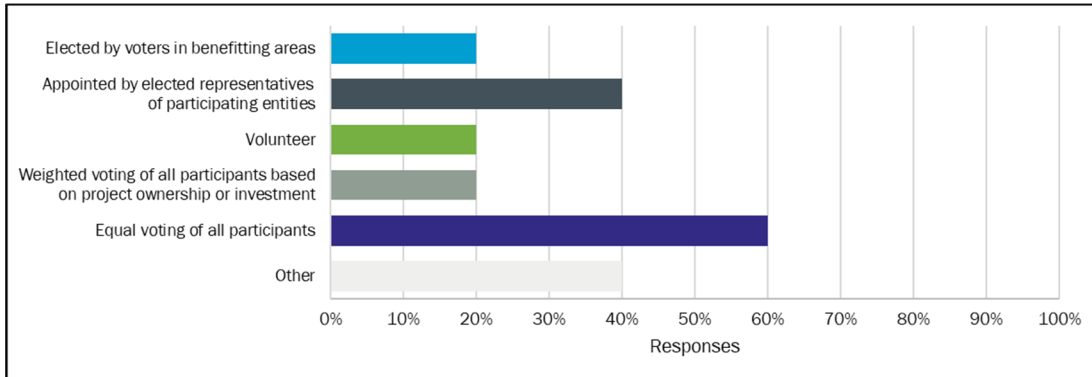
**Figure 25. Which active/direct participants could your organization support including in an organizational structure? (select all that apply)**

Agricultural water users were asked: Which passive/indirect participants could your organization support including in an organizational structure? 4 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 26, the top passive/indirect participants that agricultural water users support including in an organizational structure are municipalities, county governments, for-profit organizations, non-profit organizations, and industrial water users. 50% of respondents thought their organizations could support including special water districts, conservancy districts, and conservation districts in an organizational structure. In the “other” category, agricultural water users identified ditch and reservoir companies and augmentation plans as potential passive/indirect project participants.



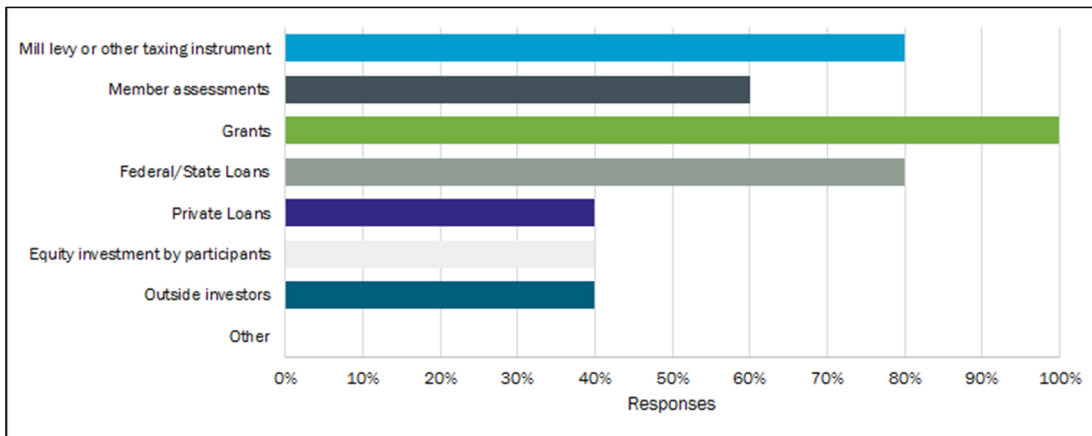
**Figure 26. Which passive/indirect participants could your organization support including in an organizational structure? (select all that apply)**

Agricultural water users were asked: Which type(s) of governing boards could your organization support for an organizational structure? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 27, the top types of governing boards that agricultural water users support for an organizational structure are equal voting of all participants, followed by appointed by elected representatives or participating entities. In the “other” category, additional types of governing boards identified by respondents included district court judge appointed, representation by use, such as agricultural, municipal, and environmental, and weighted voting.



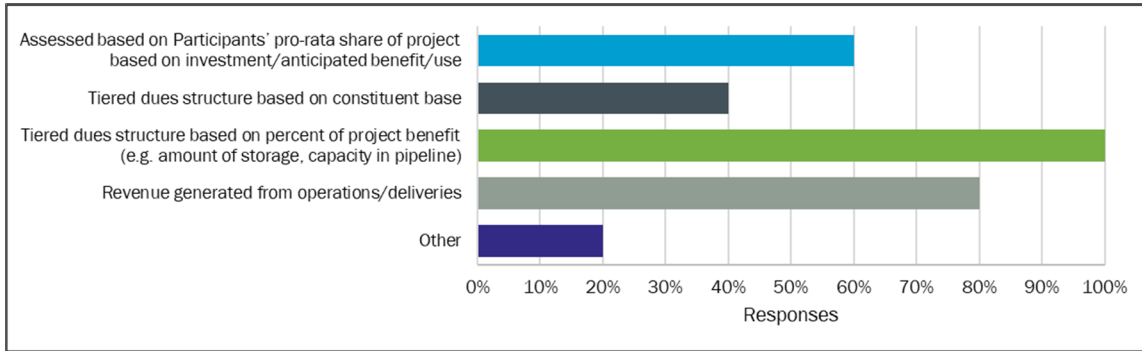
**Figure 27. Which type(s) of governing boards could your organization support for an organizational structure? (select all that apply)**

Agricultural water users were asked: What options for raising capital could your organization support? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 28, the top options for raising capital that agricultural water users support are grants, mill levy or another taxing instrument, and federal or state loans.



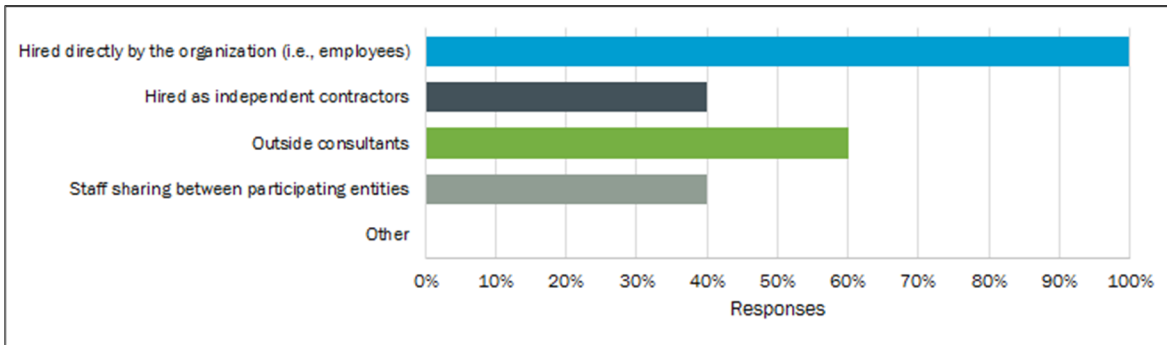
**Figure 28. What options for raising capital could your organization support? (select all that apply)**

Agricultural water users were asked: What options for collection of operating expenses could your organization support? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 29, 100% of agricultural water users responding to the survey support a tiered dues structure based on percent of project benefit (e.g. amount of storage, capacity in pipeline), and 80% support revenue generated from operations and deliveries as a mechanism for collecting operating expenses. In the “other” category, an additional option for collection of operating expenses identified by a respondent included tax based bonding for percent of operating expenses.



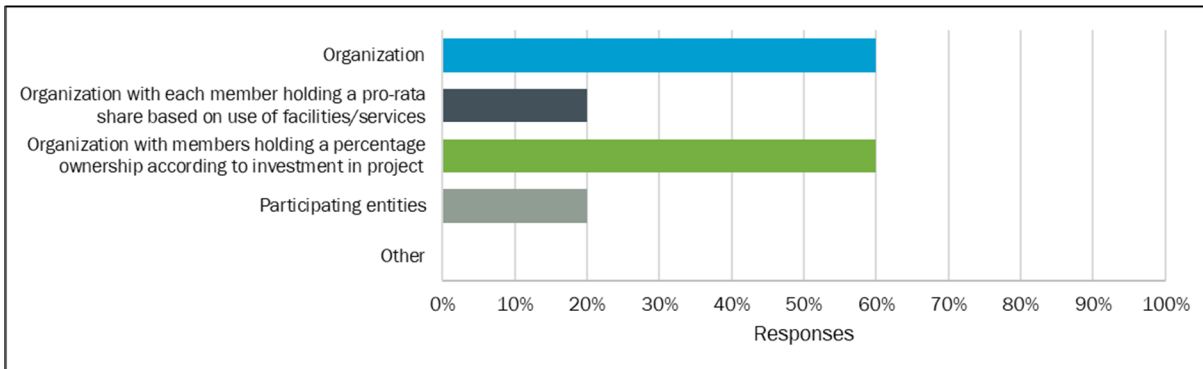
**Figure 29. What options for collection of operating expenses could your organization support? (select all that apply)**

Agricultural water users were asked: What options for staffing could your organization support? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 30, 100% of respondents supported staff hired directly by the organization (i.e., employees). More than 50% of respondents also supported the hiring of outside consultants.



**Figure 30. What options for staffing could your organization support? (select all that apply)**

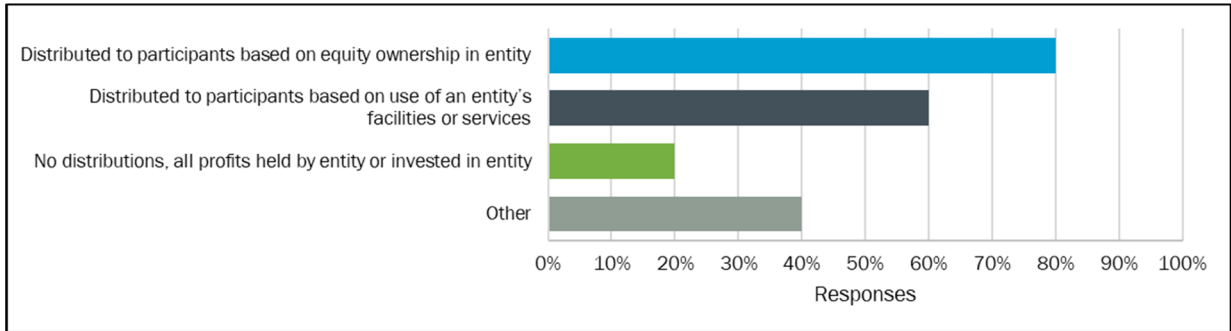
Agricultural water users were asked: Who would your organization support holding ownership of assets acquired or built under the organization? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 31, the top two entities that agricultural water users support holding ownership of assets acquired or built under the organizations are an organization, and an organization with members holding a percentage ownership according to investment in project.



**Figure 31. Who would your organization support holding ownership of assets acquired or built under the organization? (select all that apply)**



Agricultural water users were asked: What option for distribution of potential profits could your organization support? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 32, the top options for distribution of potential profit supported by agricultural water users are distributed to participants based on equity ownership in entity, followed by distributed to participants based on use of an entity’s facilities or services. In the “other” category, additional options for distribution of potential profits included percent of profits retained for administration and operation and maintenance in addition to percentage of profits distributed based on the amount of water supplies contributed, and a healthy reserve fund, funded by profits. It was also noted that there is a limit as to how much an entity should hold, and that any balance should be distributed to members.



**Figure 32. What option for distribution of potential profits could your organization support? (select all that apply)**

Agricultural water users were asked to provide any additional comments related to organizational structure. It was noted by one respondent that water districts have the mechanism to manage the organization, and that municipalities should be at the table as well as agricultural water users.

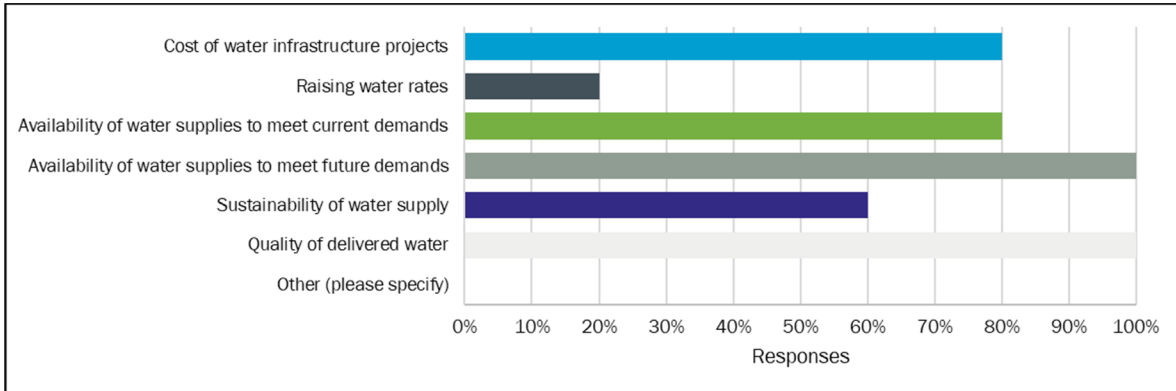
#### 4.2.2 Project Communication

The goal of the project communication questions was to gauge the public’s awareness of water issues in the South Platte Basin and preferences for communication of information. Topics covered in the project communication section of the survey included:

- Types on water related issues that your rate payers/customers are concerned with
- Rate payer/customer awareness of the water supply gap
- Rate payer/customer level of acceptance for new storage and infrastructure
- Primary method for communication with rate payers/customers
- Willingness to help communicate results of the SPROWG study

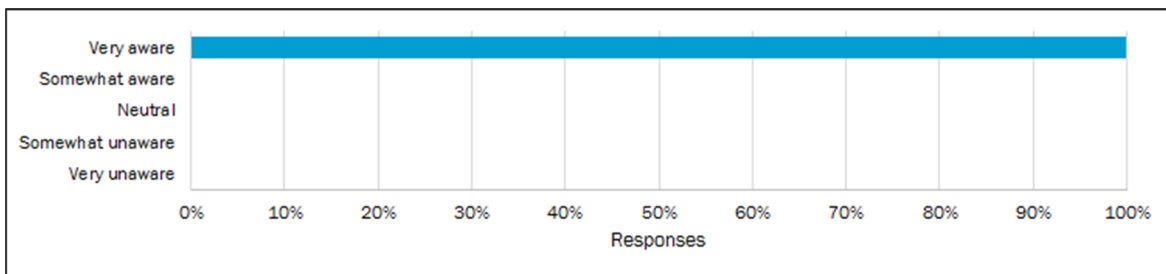
Aggregated responses of all agricultural water users that responded to the project communication survey questions are provided below.

Agricultural water users were asked: Which of the following water related issues most concern your organization? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 33, 100% of agricultural water users identified the availability of water supplies to meet future demands and the quality of delivered water as the highest concern of their organizations. The cost of water infrastructure projects, availability of water supplies to meet current demands, and sustainability of water supply are also issues of concern for most of the respondents.



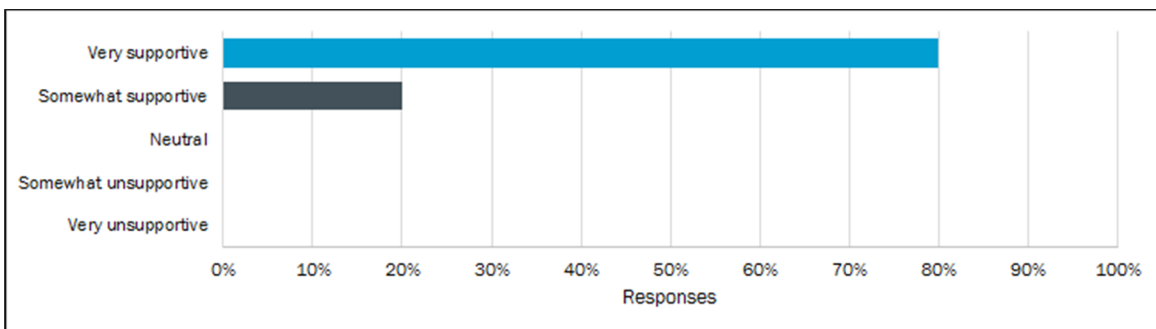
**Figure 33. Which of the following water related issues most concern your organization? (select all that apply)**

Agricultural water users were asked: How aware is your organization of the projected water supply gap in the South Platte River Basin? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 34, 100% of respondents indicated that their organizations are very aware of the projected water supply gap in the South Platte River Basin.



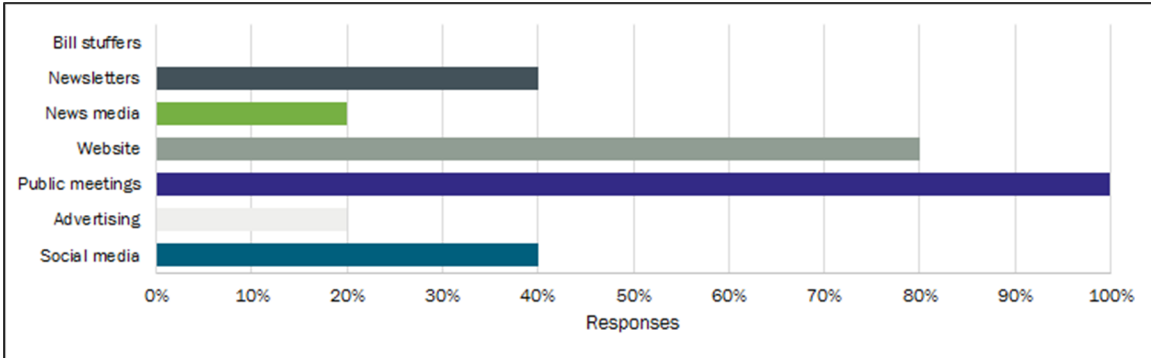
**Figure 34. How aware is your organization of the projected water supply gap in the South Platte River Basin?**

Agricultural water users were asked: How supportive is your organization of adding additional storage/reservoirs/infrastructure to help meet future water needs? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 35, 80% of respondents indicated that their organizations are very supportive of adding additional storage or reservoir infrastructure, and the remaining 20% of respondents are somewhat supportive or adding additional storage or reservoir infrastructure.



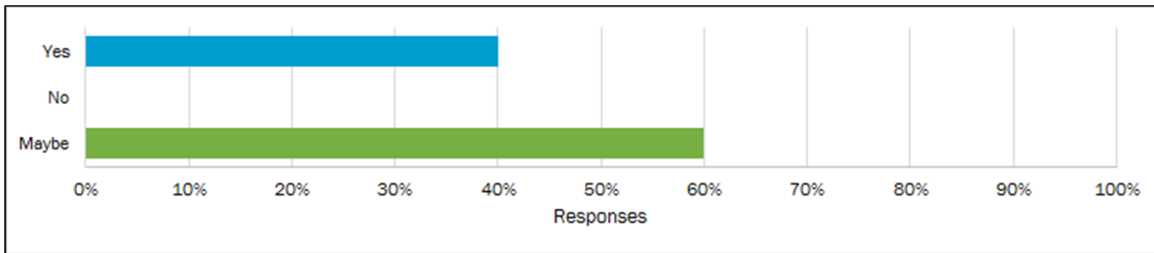
**Figure 35. How supportive is your organization of adding additional storage/reservoirs/infrastructure to help meet future water needs?**

Agricultural water users were asked: What are the primary ways your organization communicates about the need for water projects/infrastructure? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 36, the primary ways agricultural user’s organizations communicate about the need for water projects/infrastructure are through public meetings, followed by information communicated through organization websites.



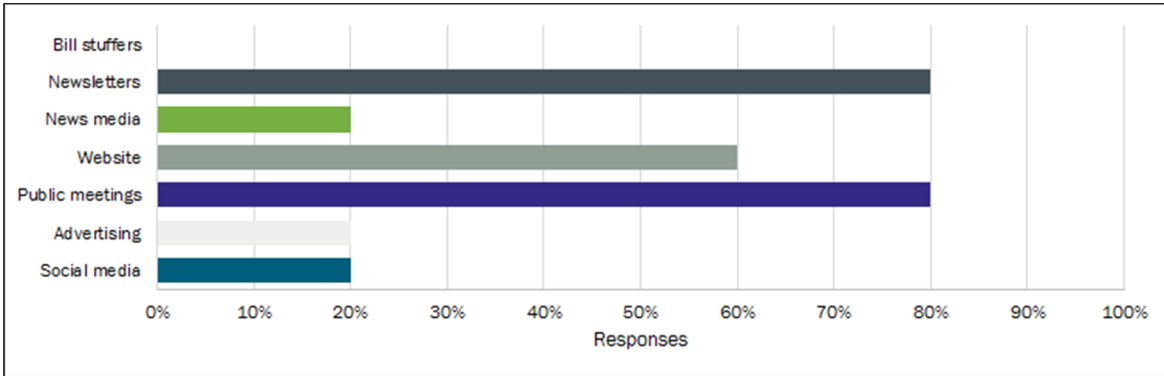
**Figure 36. What are the primary ways your organization communicates about the need for water projects/infrastructure? (select all that apply)**

Agricultural water users were asked: Would your organization be willing to help communicate the results of the SPROWG study? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 37, 60% of agricultural water users might be willing to help communicate the results of the SPROWG study, and 40% are willing to help communicate the results of the SPROWG study.



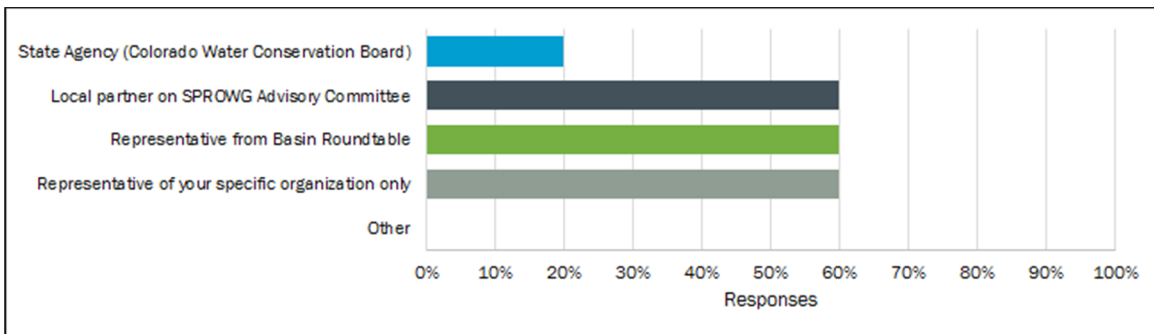
**Figure 37. Would your organization be willing to help communicate the results of the SPROWG study?**

Agricultural water users were asked: What communications channels would you be willing and able to make available to SPROWG for information sharing? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 38 the majority of respondents would be willing to make information about SPROWG available during public meetings, in their newsletters, and on their websites.



**Figure 38. What communications channels would you be willing and able to make available to SPROWG for information sharing? (select all that apply)**

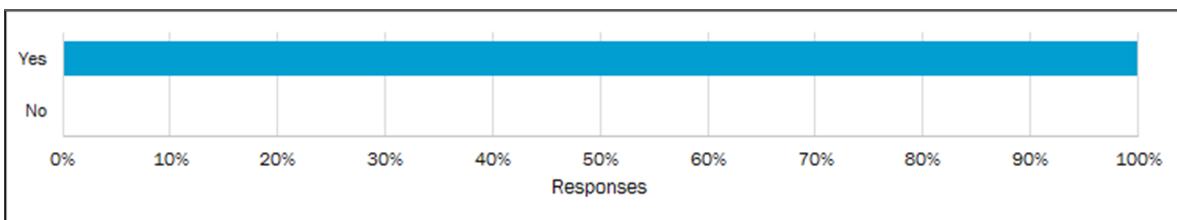
Agricultural water users were asked: What entity or individual would you consider a trusted spokesperson about this project for your stakeholder group? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 39, the three primary entities or individuals that agricultural water users consider trusted spokespersons about this project are a local partner on SPROWG Advisory Committee, a representative from Basin Roundtable, and a representative of their specific organization only.



**Figure 39. What entity or individual would you consider a trusted spokesperson about this project for your stakeholder group? (select all that apply)**

### 4.2.3 Guiding Principles

Agricultural water users were asked: Does your organization agree with the Guiding Principles? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 40, 100% of agricultural water users agree with the Guiding Principles. In the comments received in response to this question one water user noted that while it says the water obtained by buy-and-drys is not intended to be used in this project, it will.

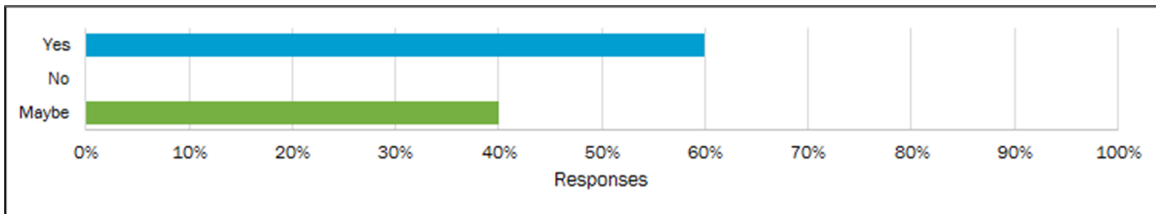


**Figure 40. Does your organization agree with the Guiding Principles?**

### 4.2.4 Alternative Transfer Methods (ATMs)

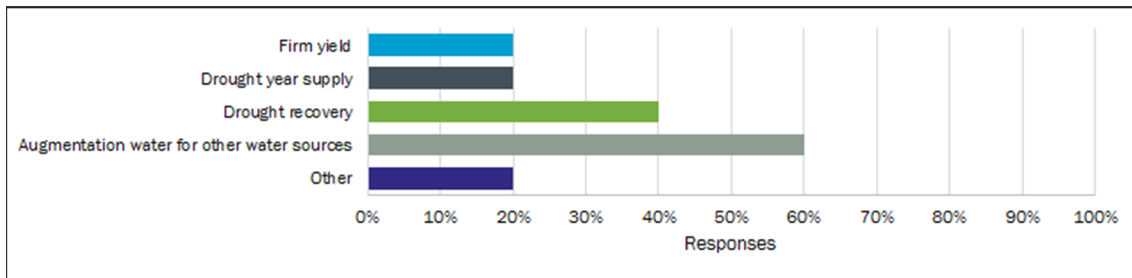
The goal of the ATM questions was to solicit input on willingness of water users to use water derived from an ATM project, and opinions on the most important questions that need to be resolved to make ATMs a viable alternative.

Agricultural water users were asked: Is your organization interested in participating in alternative water transfers also known as alternative transfer mechanisms (ATMs)? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 41, the majority of agricultural water users are interested in participating in ATMs.



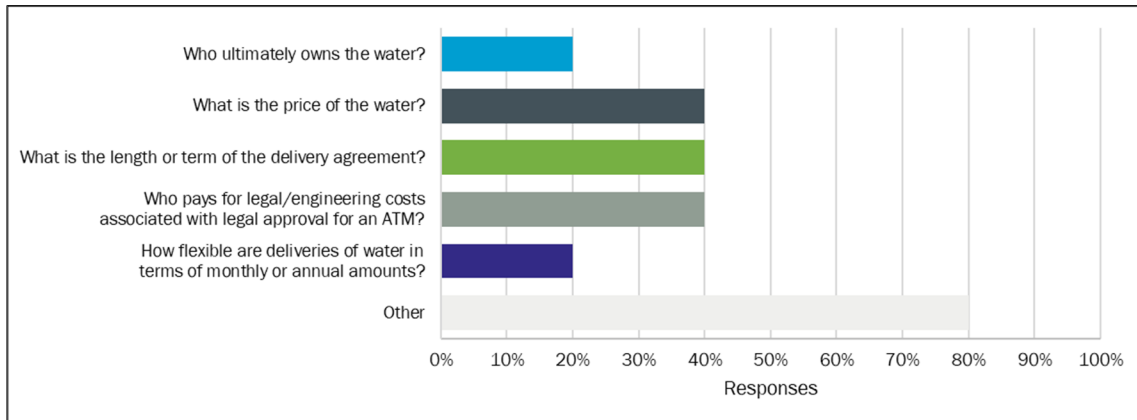
**Figure 41. Is your organization interested in participating in alternative water transfers also known as alternative transfer mechanisms (ATMs)?**

Agricultural water users were asked: If Yes, how would your organization use water derived from an ATM project? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 42, the most likely use of water derived from an ATM project is for augmentation water for other water sources. Drought recovery is also a preferred use of water derived from ATMs.



**Figure 42. If Yes, how would your organization use water derived from an ATM project?**

Agricultural water users were asked: In your opinion, what are the most important questions that need to be resolved to make ATMs a viable option for your organization? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 43, the top three questions that agricultural users identified as needing to be resolved to make ATMs a viable option for their organizations are price of the water, length or term of the delivery agreement, and who pays for legal/engineering costs associated with legal approval for an ATM? In the “other” category, additional questions and comments identified by respondents that need to be resolved to make ATMs a viable option for their organizations included conditions that trigger an ATM, whether or not volumetric limits applied to future irrigation practices when water is not being leased for new M&I use, high risk in water court to both the water right holder and the user when taking delivery via ATM, and the need for flexibility in agreement that allow for future changes.

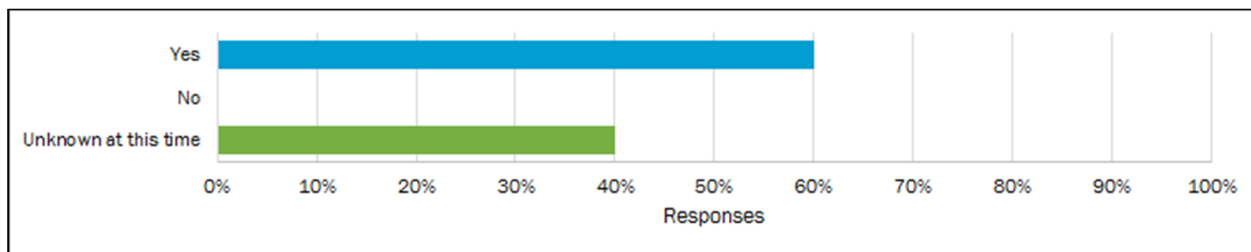


**Figure 43. In your opinion, what are the most important questions that need to be resolved to make ATMs a viable option for your organization?**

### 4.2.5 Willingness to Participate in SPROWG

At the conclusion of the survey, agricultural water users were asked about their willingness to participate in SPROWG and to provide any comments that were not previously addressed in the survey.

In response to the question: Would your organization be willing to participate in the SPROWG project? 60% of respondents identified that their organizations would be willing to participate in the SPROWG project, and the remaining respondents do not know at this time if their organizations would be willing to participate in the SPROWG project, as shown on Figure 44. Of the 6 entities that responded to the survey, 5 responded to this question.



**Figure 44. Would your organization be willing to participate in the SPROWG project?**

No additional comments were provided at the end of the survey.

## 4.3 Environmental and Recreation

The SP'ROWG Environmental and Recreation Stakeholder Survey was sent to individuals representing over 34 environmental or recreation entities including watershed associations, special interest groups, non-profit organizations, state agencies, and federal agencies. A total of 9 entities responded to the survey.

The following section provides a summary of the responses obtained through the SPROWG Environmental and Recreation Stakeholder Survey. A copy of the complete survey sent to environmental and recreation stakeholders is provided in Attachment N.

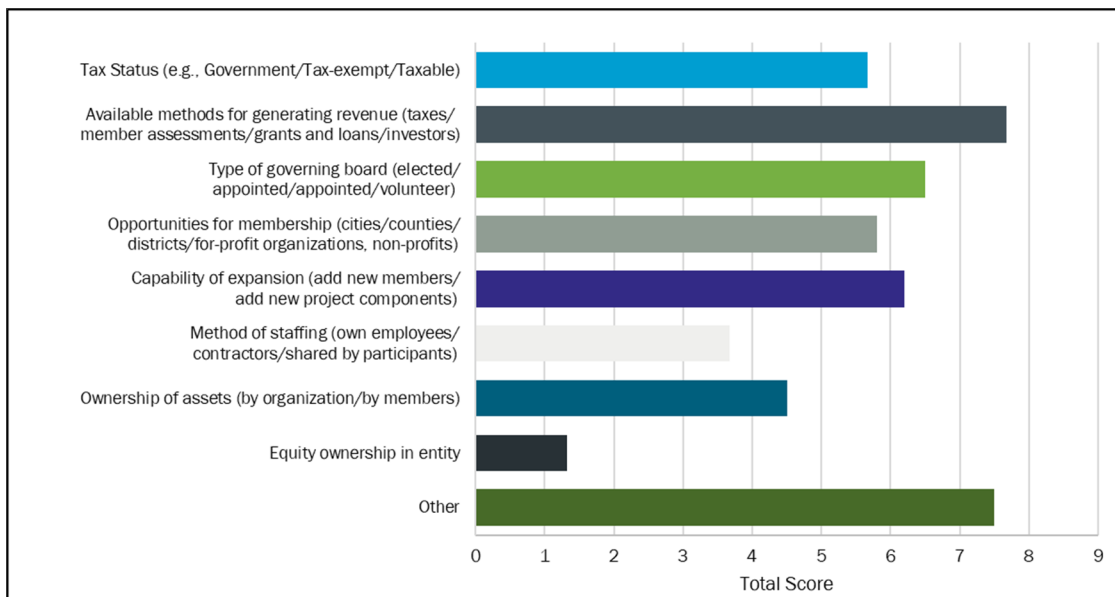
### 4.3.1 Organizational Framework

The goal of the organizational framework questions was to solicit input on criteria for a new organization that would eventually lead the project development, implementation, and management of a regional collaborative water project. Topics covered in the organizational framework portion of the survey included:

- Ranking of the importance of organizational structure characteristics  
i.e., Tax status, How revenue is generated, Type of governing board, Membership, Staffing
- Type of the organizational structure your organization would be willing to support
- Preference for types of governing board
- Preference for how capital could be raised
- Preference for how operating expenses could be collected
- Preference for how the organization is staffed
- Preference for ownership of assets
- Preference for the distribution of profits

Aggregated responses of all environmental and recreation stakeholders that responded to the organizational framework survey questions are provided below.

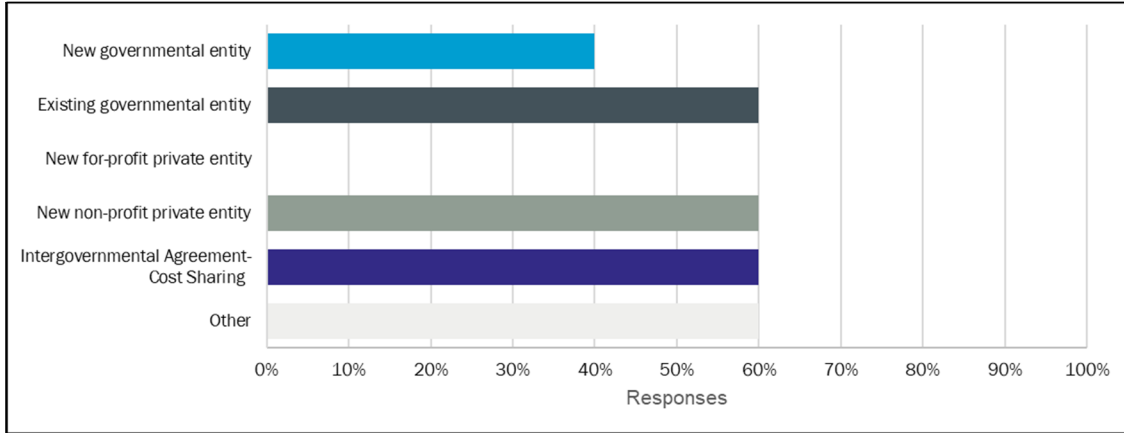
Environmental and recreation stakeholders were asked: Rank the following organizational structure characteristics in order of importance to your organization. 5 survey participants responded to this question. As shown in Figure 45, the most important organizational structure characteristics for environmental and recreation stakeholders are available methods for generating revenue such as taxes, member assessments, grants, and loans/investors, followed by the type of governing board such as elected, appointed, or volunteer, and the capability of expansion by adding new members and/or adding new project components.



**Figure 45. Rank the following organizational structure characteristics in order of importance to your organization. (1 = most important; 9 = least important)**

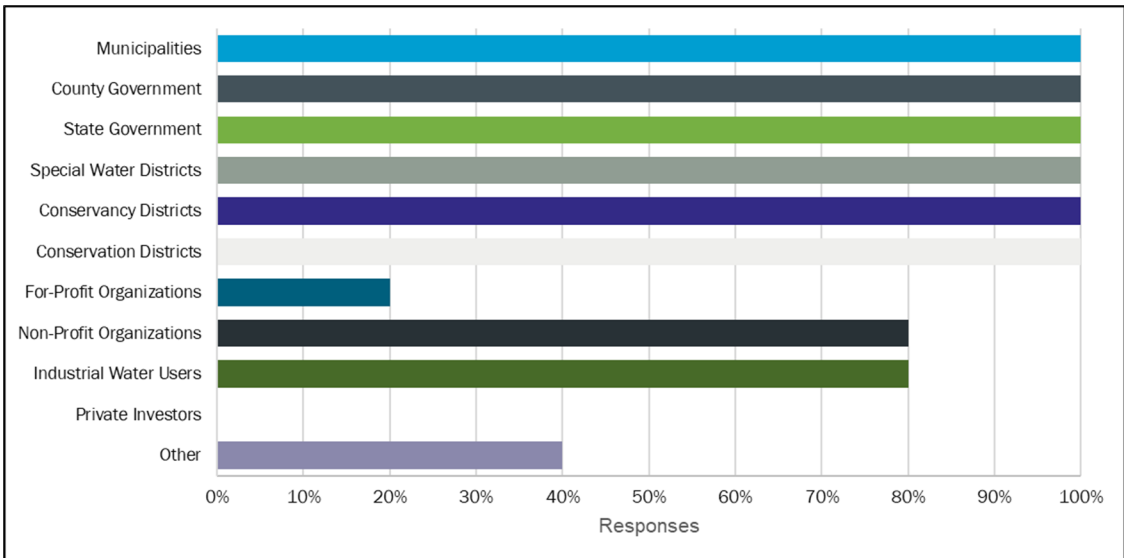
Environmental and recreation stakeholders were asked: What organizational structure would your organization be willing to support? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 46, the top organizational structures that environmental and recreation stakeholders would support are an existing

governmental entity, a new non-profit private entity, and an intergovernmental agreement - cost sharing. There was no support for a new for-profit private entity. In the “other” category, an additional organizational structure identified as their organization being willing to support is an existing non-profit entity. Additional comments received in response to this question indicated that the highest probability for success is with a non-profit entity as the organizational structure.



**Figure 46. What organizational structure would your organization be willing to support? (select all that apply)**

Environmental and recreation stakeholders were asked: Which active/direct participants could your organization support including in an organizational structure? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 47, all respondents thought their organizations could support municipalities, county governments, state governments, special water districts, conservancy districts, and conservation districts as active/direct participants in an organizational structure. There was no support for including private investors as active/direct participants in an organizational structure.

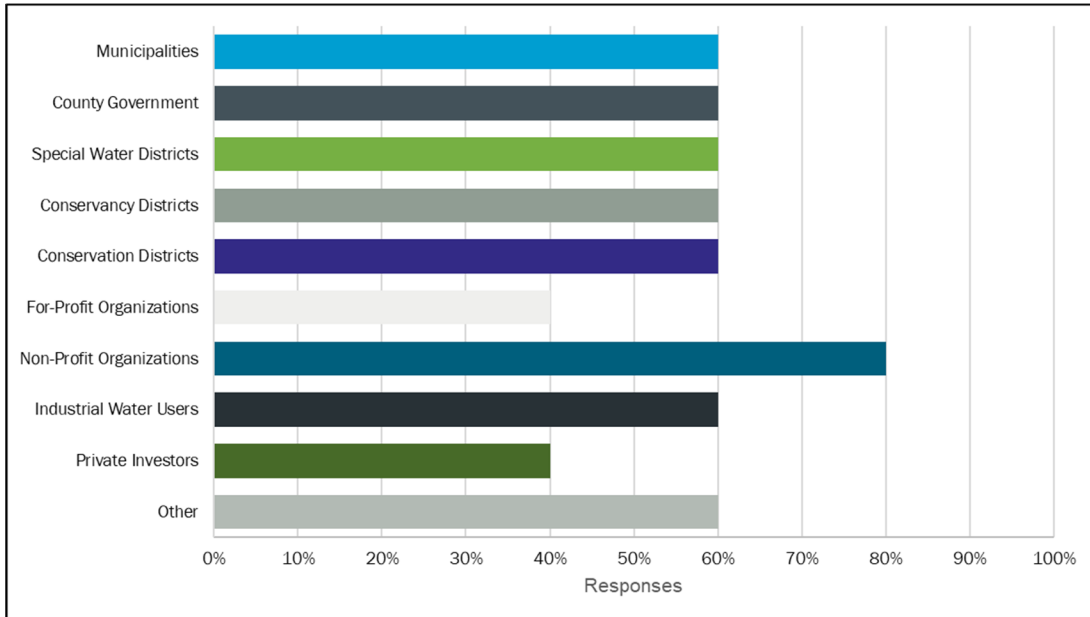


**Figure 47. Which active/direct participants could your organization support including in an organizational structure? (select all that apply)**

Environmental and recreation stakeholders were asked: Which passive/indirect participants could your organization support including in an organizational structure? 5 responded to this question. As shown on

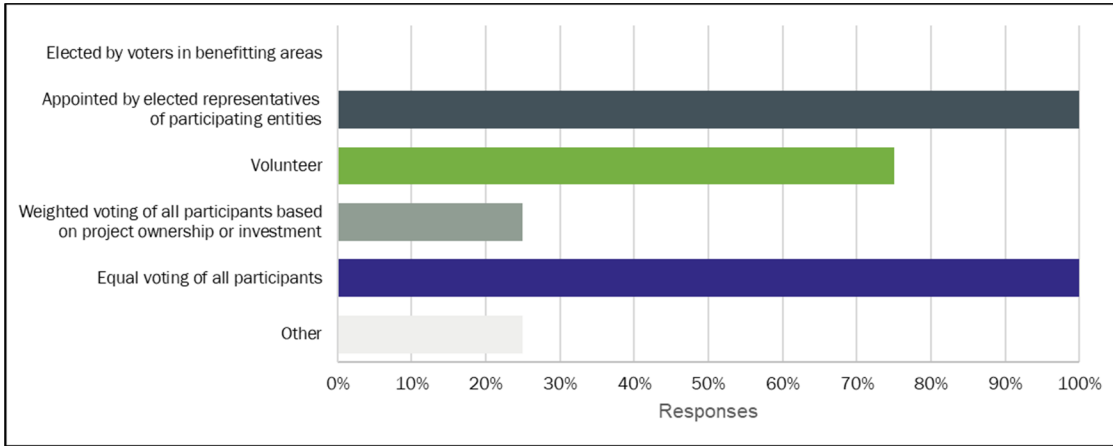


Figure 48, the top passive/indirect participant that environmental and recreation stakeholders support including in an organizational structure are non-profit organizations. Over 50% of respondents thought their organizations could support including municipalities, county governments, special water districts, conservancy districts, conservation districts, and industrial water users in an organizational structure. In the “other” category, additional passive/indirect participants that environmental and recreation stakeholders indicated their organizations might support including in an organizational structure is state government.



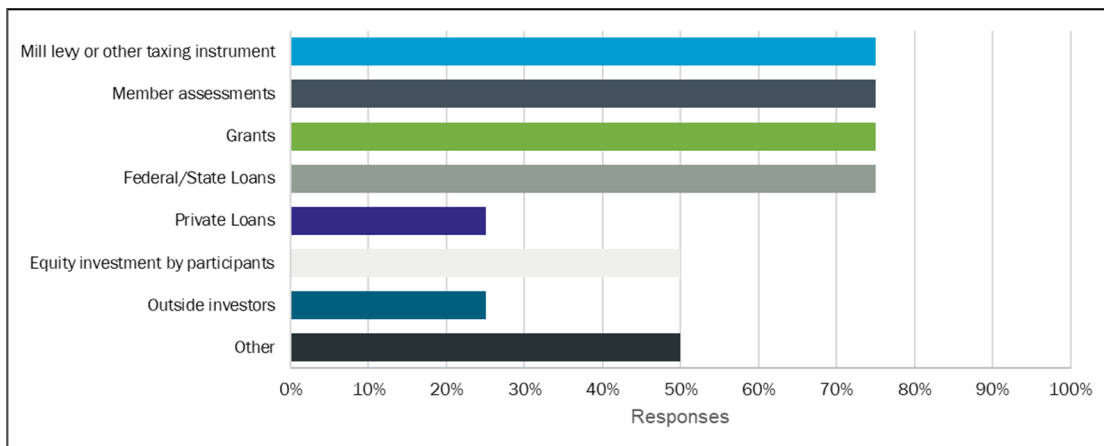
**Figure 48. Which passive/indirect participants could your organization support including in an organizational structure? (select all that apply)**

Environmental and recreation stakeholders were asked: Which type(s) of governing boards could your organization support for an organizational structure? 4 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 49, 100% of respondents indicated that the types of governing board their organizations could support for an organizational structure are equal voting of all participants and appointed by elected representatives or participating stakeholders. None of the responding stakeholders supported election by voters in benefitting areas as a type of governing board their organization could support.



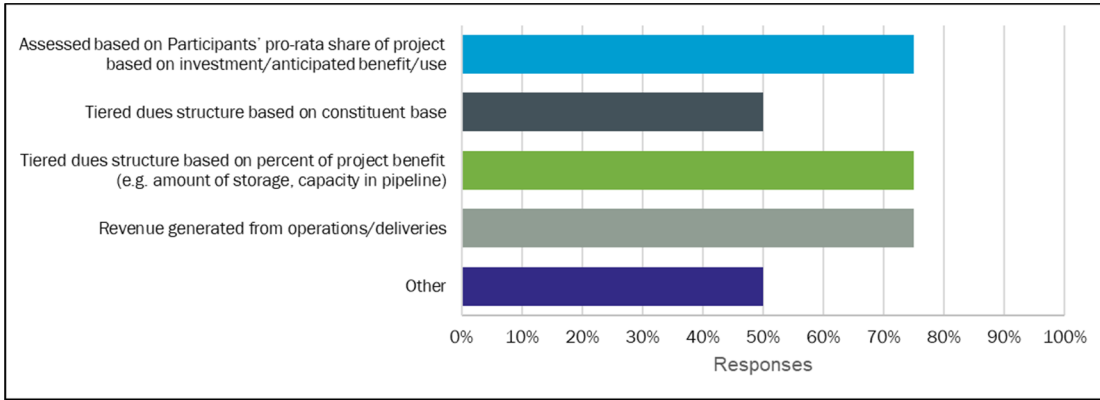
**Figure 49. Which type(s) of governing boards could your organization support for an organizational structure? (select all that apply)**

Environmental and recreation stakeholders were asked: What options for raising capital could your organization support? 4 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 50, the top options for raising capital that environmental and recreation stakeholders support are mill levy or another taxing instrument, member assessments, grants, and federal or state loans. In the “other” category a respondent indicated an additional option for raising capital their organization could support is sales tax or severance taxes.



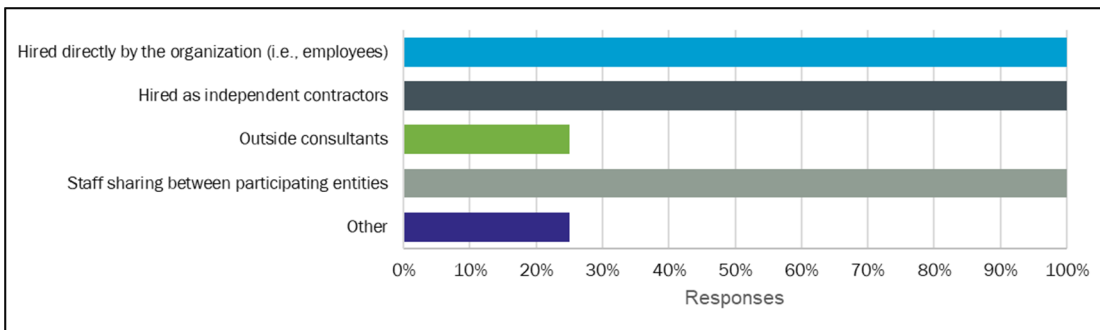
**Figure 50. What options for raising capital could your organization support? (select all that apply)**

Environmental and recreation stakeholders were asked: What options for collection of operating expenses could your organization support? 4 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 51, the top options for collection of operating expenses that environmental and recreation stakeholders support are an assessment based on Participant’s pro-rata share of project based on investment/anticipated benefit/use, tiered dues structure based on percent of project benefit (e.g. amount of storage, capacity in pipeline), and revenue generated from operations and deliveries. In the “other” category, an additional option for collection of operating expenses identified by a respondent included grants.



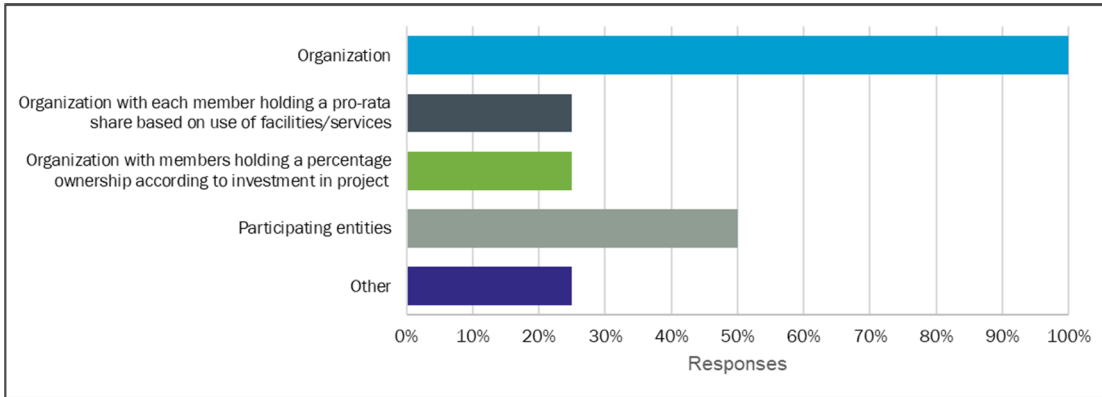
**Figure 51. What options for collection of operating expenses could your organization support? (select all that apply)**

Environmental and recreation stakeholders were asked: What options for staffing could your organization support? 4 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 52, 100% of respondents supported staff hired directly by the organization (i.e., employees), staff hired as independent contractors, and staff sharing between participating entities.



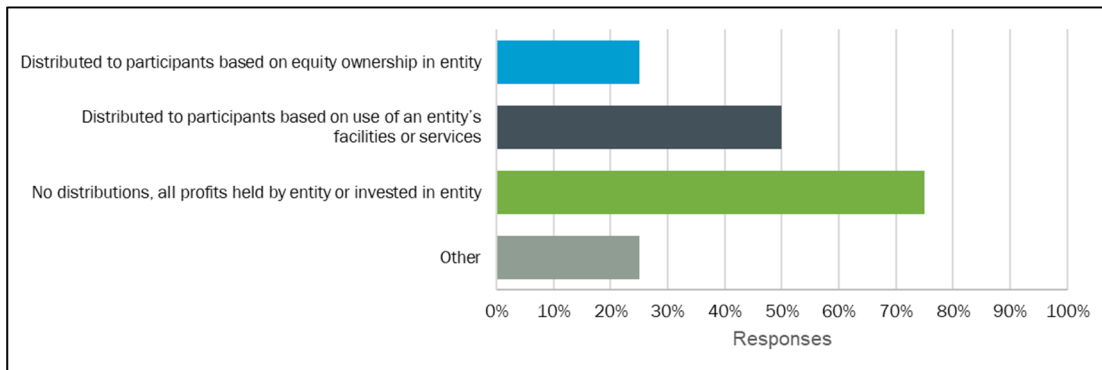
**Figure 52. What options for staffing could your organization support? (select all that apply)**

Environmental and recreation stakeholders were asked: Who would your organization support holding ownership of assets acquired or built under the organization? 4 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 53, 100% of respondents support the organization holding ownership of assets acquired or built under the organization. 50% of respondents also support participating entities holding ownership of assets acquired or built under the organization.



**Figure 53. Who would your organization support holding ownership of assets acquired or built under the organization? (select all that apply)**

Environmental and recreation stakeholders were asked: What option for distribution of potential profits could your organization support? 4 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 54, the top two options for distribution of potential profit that environmental and recreation stakeholders support are no distributions, all profits held by entity or invested in entity, and distributed to participants based on use of entity’s facilities or services. In the “other” category, a respondent indicated they would like to see a heavy emphasis on reinvestment of profits.



**Figure 54. What option for distribution of potential profits could your organization support? (select all that apply)**

Environmental and recreation stakeholders were asked to provide any additional comments related to organizational structure. Additional comments received by respondents include the following:

- Any project should be led by and accountable to the real water users for whom the project is intended to benefit.
- The proposed project is too beneficial to all CO water users for all end uses. The organization structure must be such that it does not favor any specific end use or user. It must also be flexible enough to partner with any level of government, from MOU’s to grants. It must be transparent to the public as public funds are likely to be involved. As such I believe any revenues generated from the project should be reinvested in the project/organization. This very premise negates the ability to have private funding with the intention of generating a return on investment.

### 4.3.2 Project Communication

The goal of the project communication questions was to gauge the public’s awareness of water issues in the South Platte Basin and preferences for communication of information. Topics covered in the project communication section of the survey included:

- Types on water related issues that your rate payers/customers are concerned with
- Rate payer/customer awareness of the water supply gap
- Rate payer/customer level of acceptance for new storage and infrastructure
- Primary method for communication with rate payers/customers
- Willingness to help communicate results of the SPROWG study

Aggregated responses of all environmental and recreation stakeholders that responded to the project communication survey questions are provided below.

Environmental and recreation entities were asked: Which of the following water related issues most concern your organization? 6 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 55, 100% of environmental and recreation entities identified sustainability of water supply as the top concern of their organization. The availability of water supplies to meet future demands is also an issue of concern for a majority of the respondents. In the “other” category, respondents indicated some additional water related issues that most concern their organizations include impacts and/or benefits to fish and wildlife related resources, and the potential impacts and benefits of SPROWG to the natural environment and recreation.

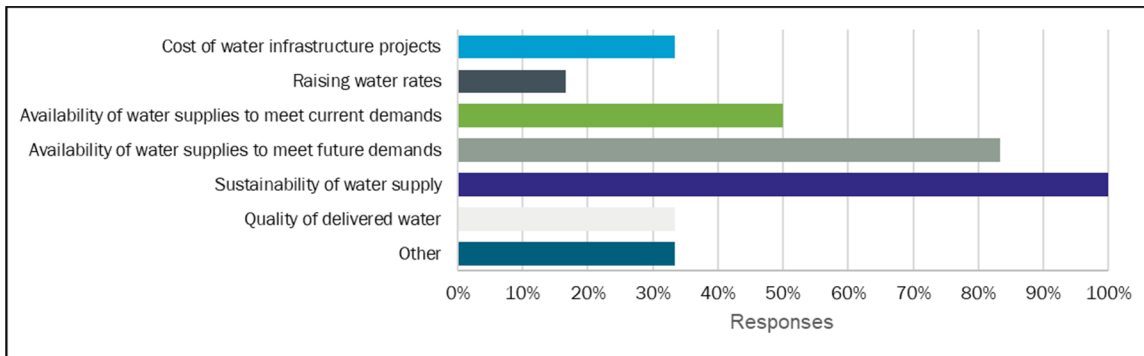


Figure 55. Which of the following water related issues most concern your organization? (select all that apply)

Environmental and recreation entities were asked: How aware is your organization of the projected water supply gap in the South Platte River Basin? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 56, 100% of respondents indicated that their organizations are very aware of the projected water supply gap in the South Platte River Basin.

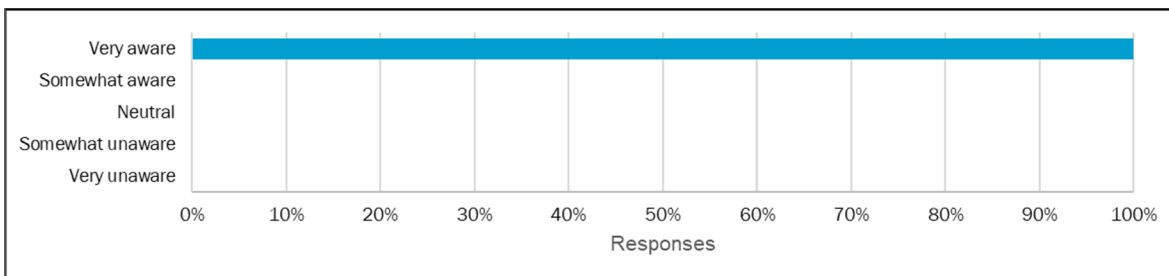
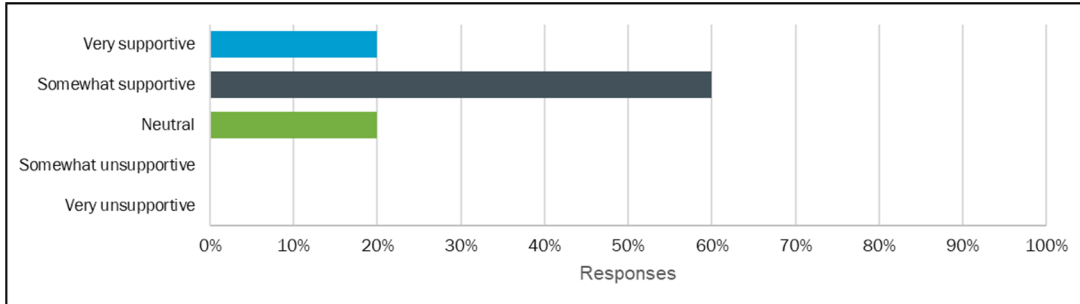


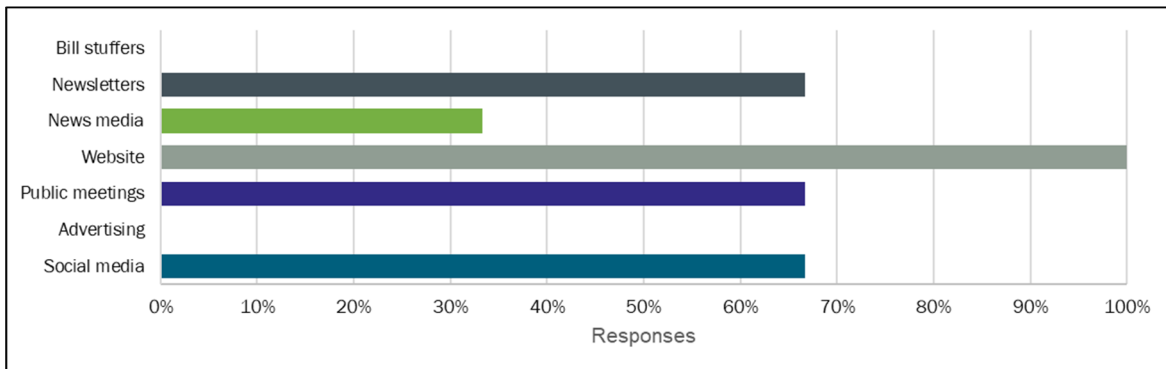
Figure 56. How aware is your organization of the projected water supply gap in the South Platte River Basin?

Environmental and recreation entities were asked: How supportive is your organization of adding additional storage/reservoirs/infrastructure to help meet future water needs? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 57, 60% of respondents indicated that their organizations are somewhat supportive of adding additional storage or reservoir infrastructure, and the remaining 40% of respondents are split between being very supportive and neutral.



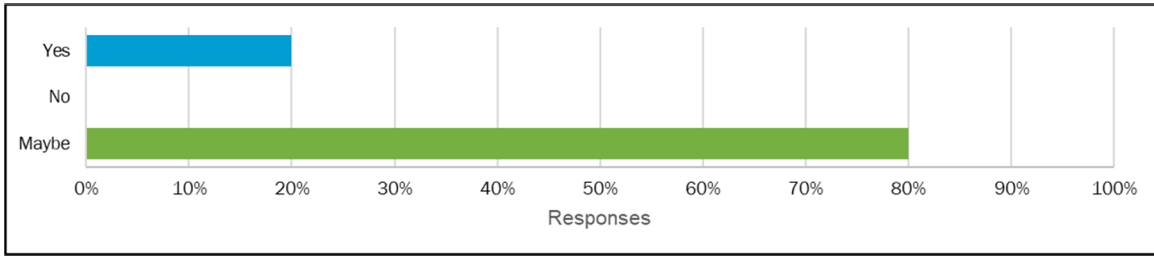
**Figure 57. How supportive is your organization of adding additional storage/reservoirs/infrastructure to help meet future water needs?**

Environmental and recreation entities were asked: What are the primary ways your organization communicates about the need for water projects/infrastructure? 3 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 58, the primary ways environmental and recreation entities communicate about the need for water projects/infrastructure are through websites, and to a lesser degree newsletters, public meetings, and social media.



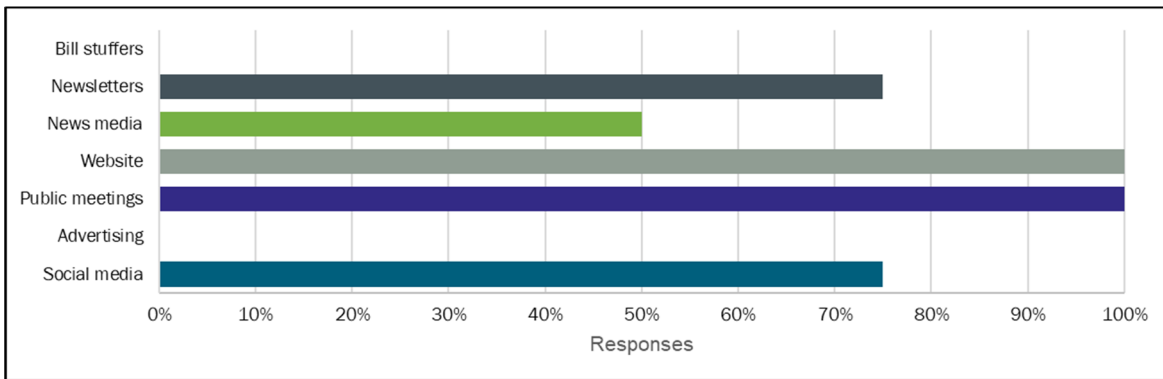
**Figure 58. What are the primary ways your organization communicates about the need for water projects/infrastructure? (select all that apply)**

Environmental and recreation entities were asked: Would your organization be willing to help communicate the results of the SPROWG study? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 59, 80% of environmental and recreation entities might be willing to help communicate the results of the SPROWG study, and 20% are willing to help communicate the results of the SPROWG study.



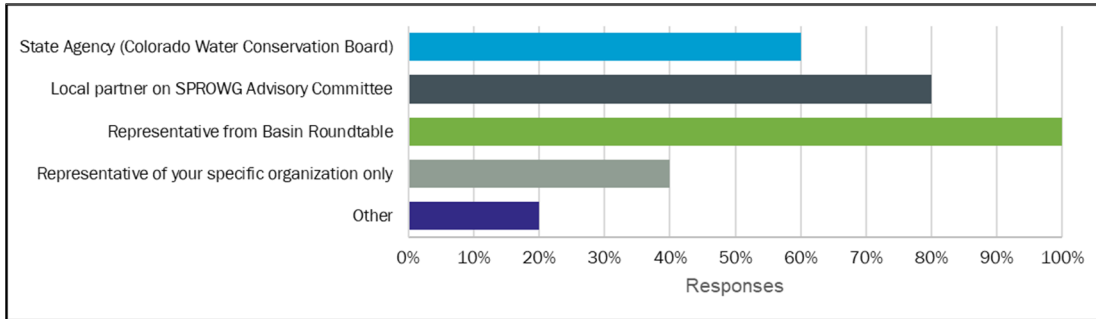
**Figure 59. Would your organization be willing to help communicate the results of the SPROWG study?**

Environmental and recreation entities were asked: What communications channels would you be willing and able to make available to SPROWG for information sharing? 4 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 60, 100% of respondents would be willing to make information about SPROWG available during public meetings and on their websites. One respondent identified the use of respective roundtable education coordinators and CWCB’s Public Education, Participation and Outreach (PEPO) committee as communication channels available for sharing information about SPROWG.



**Figure 60. What communications channels would you be willing and able to make available to SPROWG for information sharing? (select all that apply)**

Environmental and recreation entities were asked: What entity or individual would you consider a trusted spokesperson about this project for your stakeholder group? 5 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 61, 100% of respondents consider a representative from Basin Roundtable as a trusted spokesperson, followed by a local partner on SPROWG Advisory Committee, and a state agency (Colorado Water Conservation Board). In the “other” category, one respondent indicated they would consider a representative from a local water entity not on an advisory committee as a trusted spokesperson about this project for their stakeholder group.

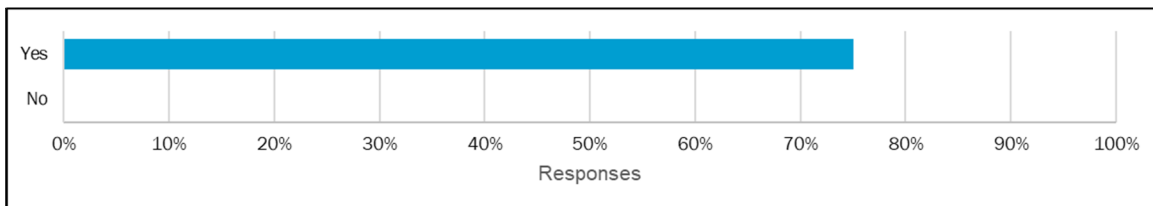


**Figure 61. What entity or individual would you consider a trusted spokesperson about this project for your stakeholder group? (select all that apply)**

### 4.3.3 Guiding Principles

Environmental and recreation entities were asked: Does your organization agree with the Guiding Principles? 4 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 62, 100% of environmental and recreation entities agree with the Guiding Principles. Additional comments received in response to this question include the following:

- We appreciate the inclusion of Guiding Principle 4 regarding addressing environmental and recreational water needs. We also appreciate the Guiding Principles’ emphasis on water reuse, alternative water transfer strategies, and efficient use of local water supplies. The Guiding Principles could be improved by specifically prioritizing the full range of water conservation strategies detailed Chapter 6.3 of Colorado’s Water Plan. Aggressive pursuit of these strategies should also be included in the project’s consideration of future water needs in the SPROWG service area. The Guiding Principles should also more clearly provide for consideration of both alternative configurations of SPROWG, as well as alternatives to SPROWG. In addition, while we understand that this project concept originated at the basin level, the Guiding Principles should prioritize identifying the specific water needs and water users that the project would serve. Until those water needs are identified in detail, it is difficult, if not impossible, to adequately evaluate the merits of the SPROWG concept or to consider potential alternatives.
- Agreement with the Guiding Principles depends on how seriously the group takes the 4th guiding principle, and how it views recreational vs environmental priorities. We are primarily interested in using existing legal and financial tools to create win-win scenarios for the river and users, but that element of helping the river's flow for environmental purposes is necessary for our participation.



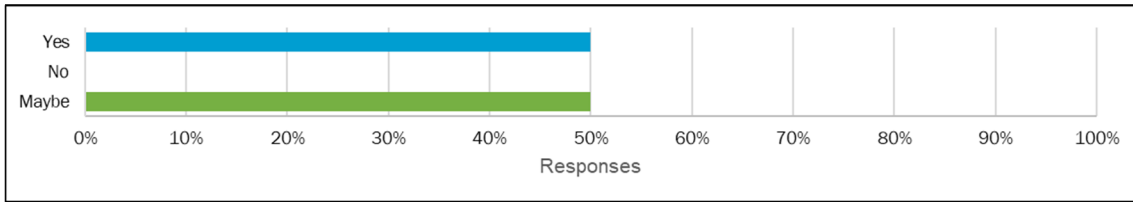
**Figure 62. Does your organization agree with the Guiding Principles?**

### 4.3.4 Alternative Transfer Methods (ATMs)

The goal of the ATM questions was to solicit input on willingness of water users to use water derived from an ATM project, opinions on the most important questions that need to be resolved to make ATMs a viable alternative.

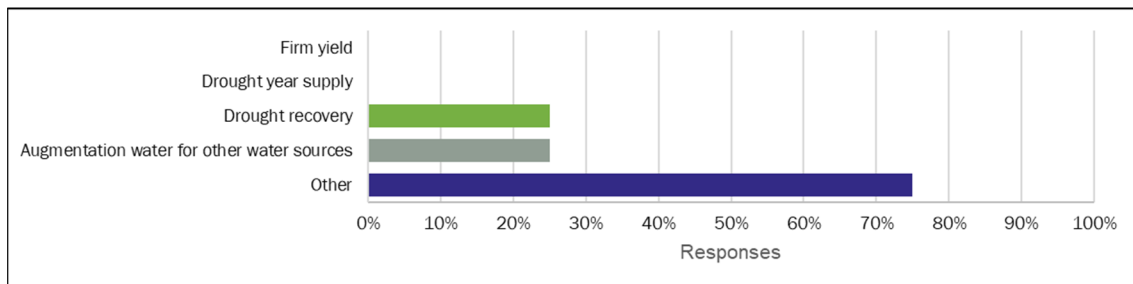


Environmental and recreation entities were asked: Is your organization interested in participating in alternative water transfers also known as alternative transfer mechanisms (ATMs)? 4 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 63, half of the environmental and recreation entities are interested in participating in ATMs, and the other half of the entities might be interested in participating in ATMs.



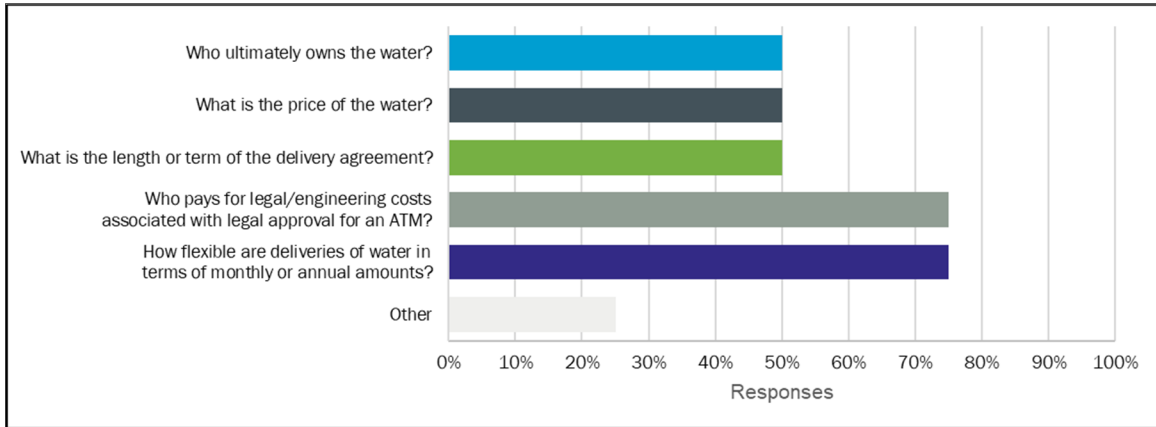
**Figure 63. Is your organization interested in participating in alternative water transfers also known as alternative transfer mechanisms (ATMs)?**

Environmental and recreation entities were asked: If Yes, how would your organization use water derived from an ATM project? 4 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 64, the most likely uses of water derived from an ATM project are drought recovery and augmentation water for other water sources. In the “other” category, respondents indicated additional uses for water derived from an ATM project could be the facilitation of environmental and recreational enhancements on irrigated lands through ATM and flow benefits to the river for ecological health.



**Figure 64. If Yes, how would your organization use water derived from an ATM project?**

Environmental and recreation entities were asked: In your opinion, what are the most important questions that need to be resolved to make ATMs a viable option for your organization? 4 responded to this question. As shown on Figure 65, the top two questions that environmental and recreation entities identified as needing to be resolved to make ATMs a viable option for their organizations are who pays for legal/engineering costs associated with legal approval for a ATM, and the flexibility of deliveries of water in terms of monthly or annual amounts. In the “other” category, an additional question identified by a respondent that needs to be resolved to make ATMs a viable option for their organizations is how much the river, as well as users, benefits from the transaction.

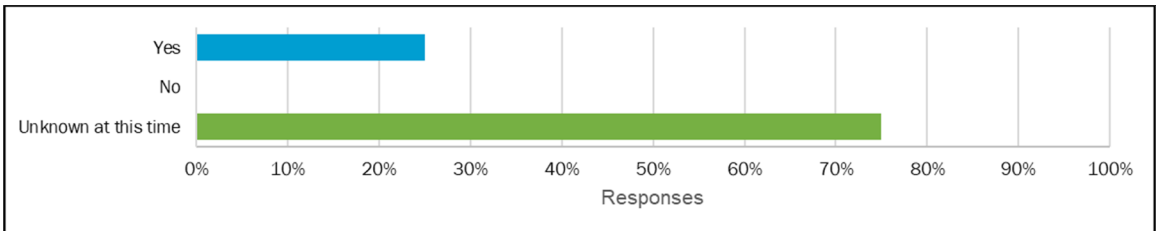


**Figure 65. In your opinion, what are the most important questions that need to be resolved to make ATMs a viable option for your organization?**

### 4.3.5 Willingness to Participate in SPROWG

At the conclusion of the survey, environmental and recreation entities were asked about their willingness to participate in SPROWG and to provide any comments that were not previously addressed in the survey.

In response to the question: Would your organization be willing to participate in the SPROWG project? 75% of respondents identified that they do not know at this time if their organizations would be willing to participate in the SPROWG project, and the remaining respondents identified that their organizations are willing to participate in the SPROWG project, as shown on Figure 66. Of the 9 entities that responded to the survey, 4 responded to this question.



**Figure 66. Would your organization be willing to participate in the SPROWG project?**

The following comment was provided at the end of the survey.

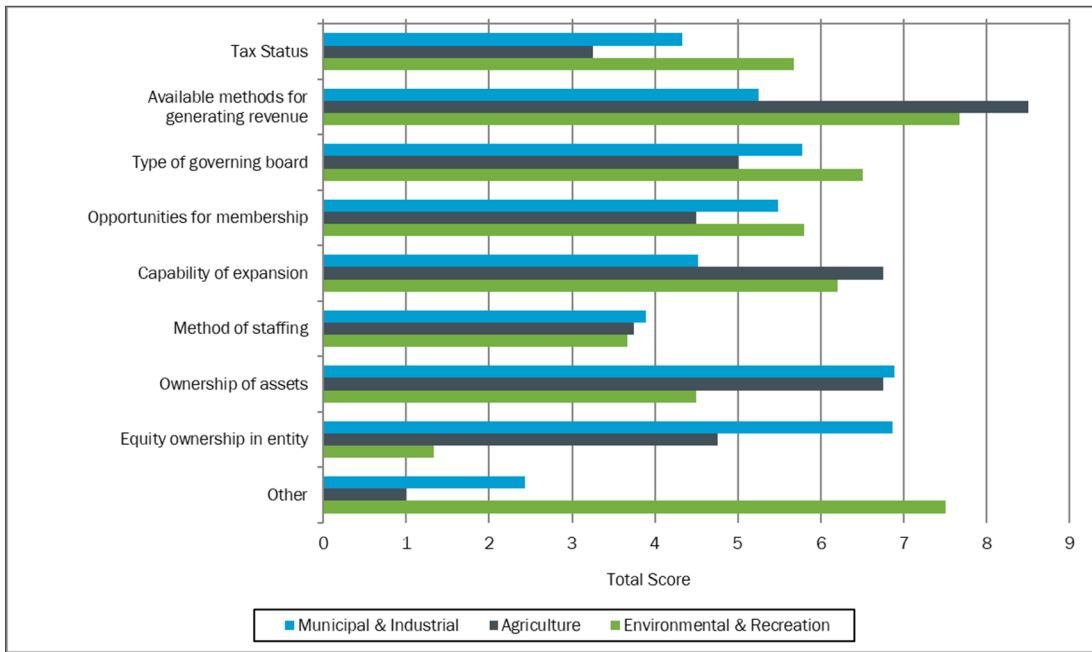
- SPROWG should consider requiring participant partnership agreements to show adoption and implementation of high standards of water conservation efforts prior to additional supplies being provided, using language similar to that used in the WISE partnership under section 4.4.3 Conservation and Reuse. The Authority and Members must comply with the following provisions of the CRCA, Articles I.B.4(c) and I.B.4(d), respectively. (a) Reuse of Water. The Members receiving WISE water must maximize, using best efforts, the reuse or successive use of the reusable water provided to them. (b) Conservation Plan. The Members receiving WISE water must adopt and implement a conservation plan that would achieve results similar or proportionately the same as Denver Water's.

## 4.4 Compiled Survey Responses

This section will compare responses across user groups and focus on how opinions aligned or varied among the three main user groups on particular topics.

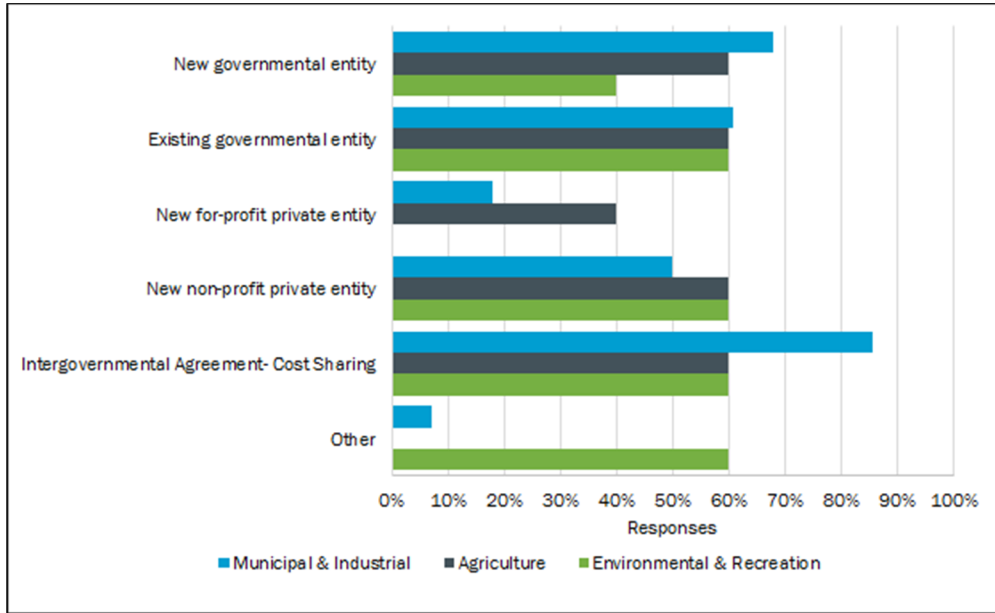
### 4.4.1 Organizational Framework

As shown in **Error! Reference source not found.**, there is limited agreement between the three categories of stakeholders as to the most important characteristics of organizational structure. For M&I stakeholders, the most important characteristics of an organization are ownership of assets and equity ownership in an entity, whereas the available methods for generating revenue is most important for agriculture and environmental and recreation stakeholders.



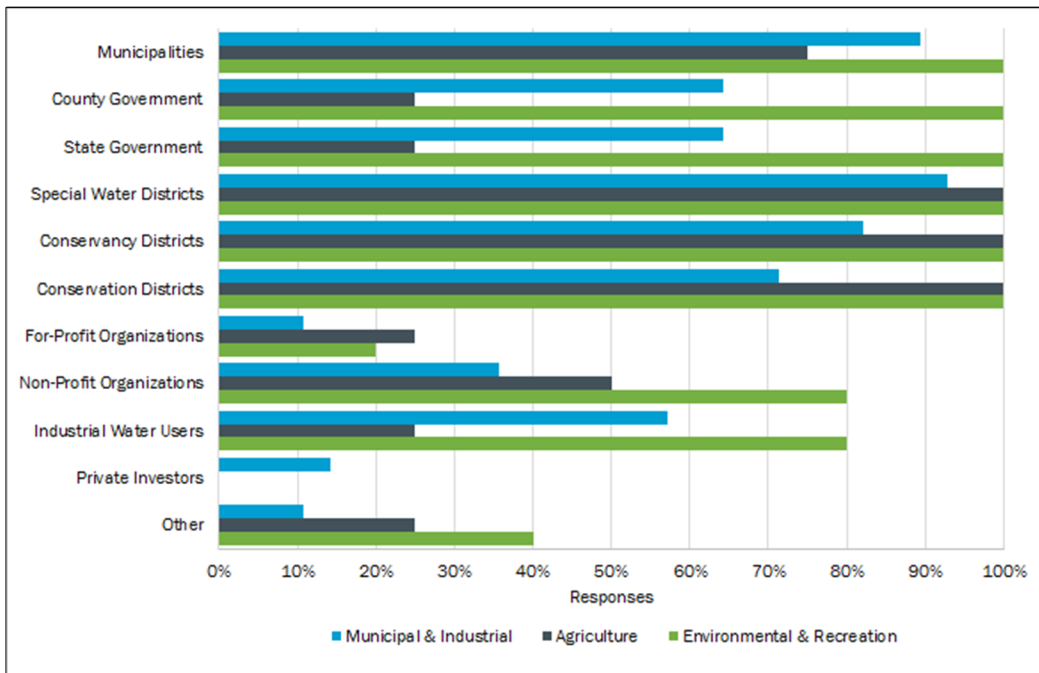
**Figure 67. Ranking of Organizational Structure Characteristics by Stakeholder Category**

A comparison of responses by stakeholder category of support for types of organizational structure, as shown in Figure 68, suggests there is consistent support for existing governmental entities, new non-profit private entities, and intergovernmental agreement/cost sharing organizational structure. All three stakeholder categories exhibited limited support for a new for-profit entity as the future organizational type for SPROWG.



**Figure 68. Support for Type of Organizational Structure by Stakeholder Category**

As shown on Figure 69, there is some agreement between stakeholder categories and their support for type of active/direct participants by stakeholder category. All three stakeholder categories appear to have limited support active/direct participation by private investors and for-profit organizations. Whereas, all three stakeholder categories do appear to support active/direct participation by municipalities, special water districts, and conservancy districts.



**Figure 69. Support for Type of Active/Direct Participants by Stakeholder Category**

### 4.4.2 Project Communication

As shown on Figure 70, all three stakeholder categories are concerned about the availability of water supplies to meet future water demands. Beyond this, there is limited consensus around the most pressing water related issue of concern. On item that is clear, based on a comparison of the three stakeholder categories, is that all of the water related issues identified in the survey are of concern to one group or another. The comparison of survey results by stakeholder category suggests the SPROWG concept may benefit from an education and outreach program that includes information that is tailored to the concerns of unique categories of water users.

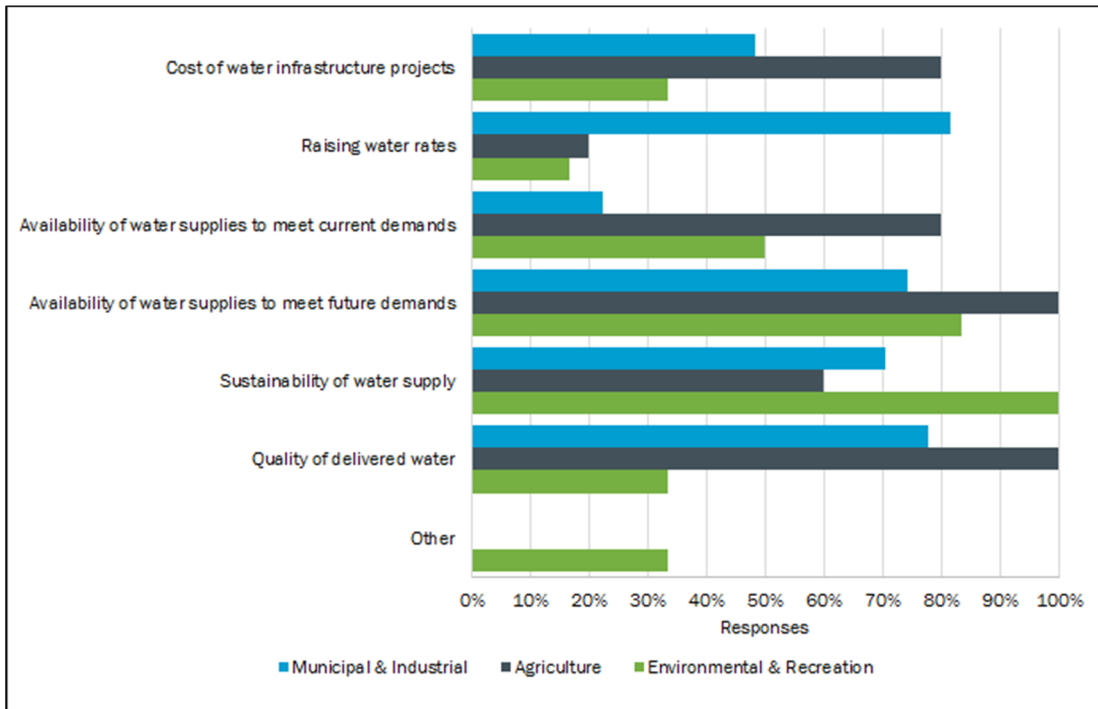
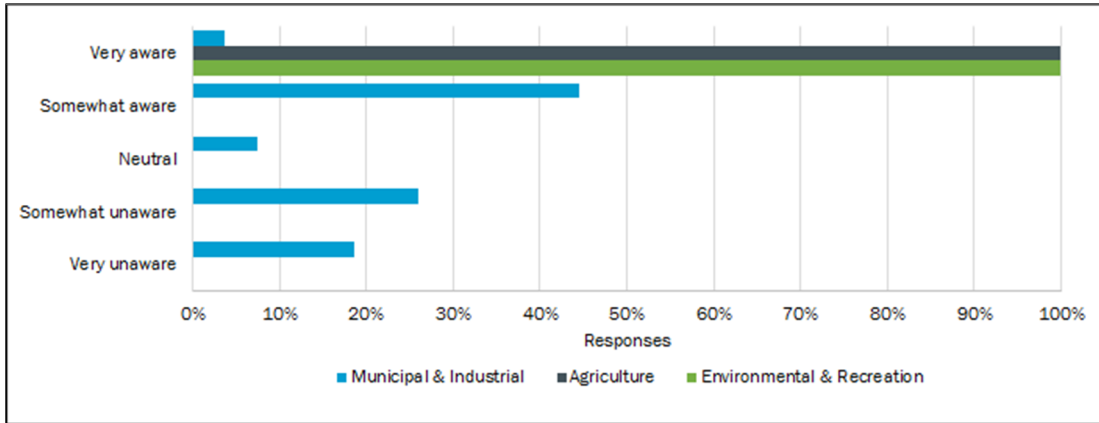


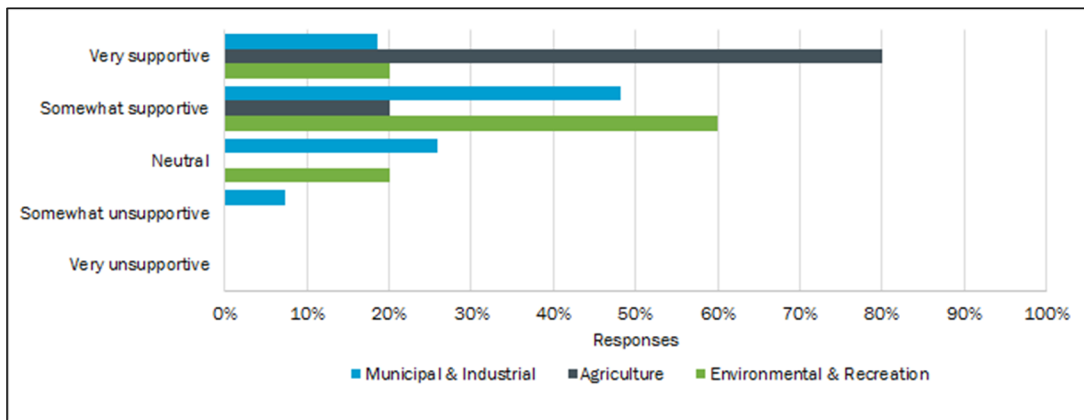
Figure 70. Water Related Issues of Concern by Stakeholder Category

Survey results suggest that agricultural water users and environmental and recreation stakeholder are very aware of the projected water supply gap in the South Platte River Basin, whereas municipal and industrial water users are less aware of the projected shortage, as shown on Figure 71. The response to this question suggests the need for additional education and outreach to municipal and industrial water users focused on the projected water supply gap.



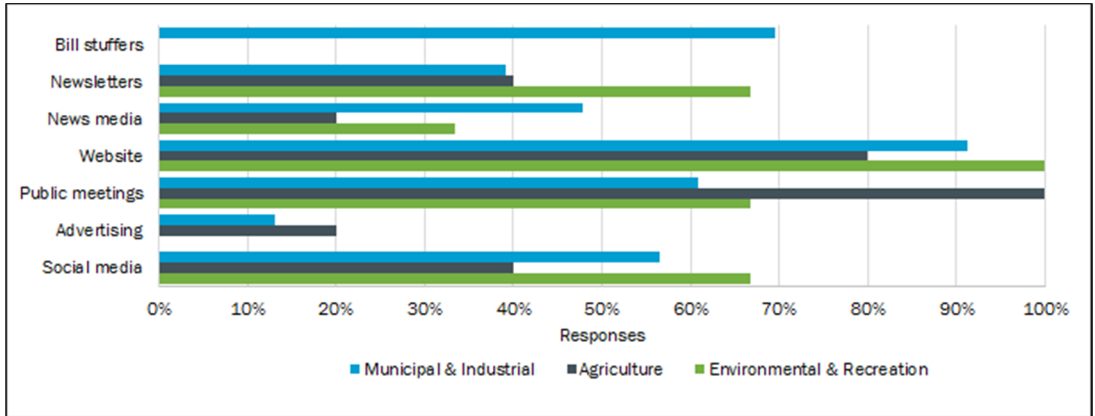
**Figure 71. Awareness of Projected Water Supply Gap in South Platte River Basin by Stakeholder Category**

As shown on Figure 72, there is general support for the addition of storage, reservoirs, and infrastructure to meet future water needs. Of the organizations that replied to the SPROWG surveys, none were flat-out opposed to additional storage.



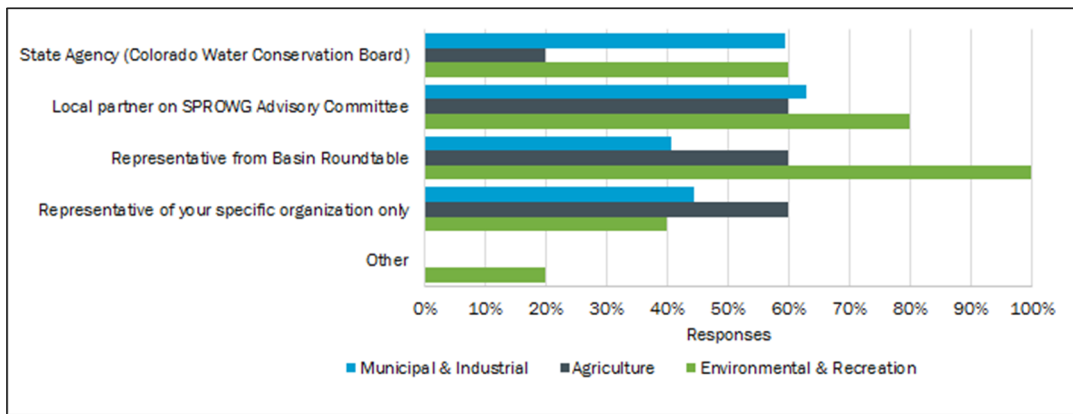
**Figure 72. Level of Support for Adding Additional Storage/Reservoirs/Infrastructure to Meet Future Water Needs by Stakeholder Category**

When survey respondent were asked about the primary means of communication used by their organization, all three stakeholder categories appeared to use websites and public meetings as primary means of communication. As shown on Figure 73, a variety of other communication tools are used and preferred by the different stakeholder categories. These results suggest that the education and outreach plan will need incorporate a wide variety of means of communication to effectively reach all potential project stakeholders.



**Figure 73. Primary Means of Communication by Stakeholder Category**

As shown on Figure 74, the only category of trusted spokesperson which the three stakeholder categories can agree upon is a local partner on SPROWG Advisory Committee; more than 50% of all survey respondents in each of the three stakeholder categories were in support.



**Figure 74. Trusted Spokesperson by Stakeholder Category**

### 4.4.3 Guiding Principles

Throughout the three stakeholder categories, there is overwhelming agreement with the guiding principles, as shown on Figure 75. Only one M&I survey respondent answered no, this response was followed up with a comments in which the survey respondent noted that the guiding principles may be ok for SPROWG participants, but non-SPROWG participants and future projects should not be bound by such principles.

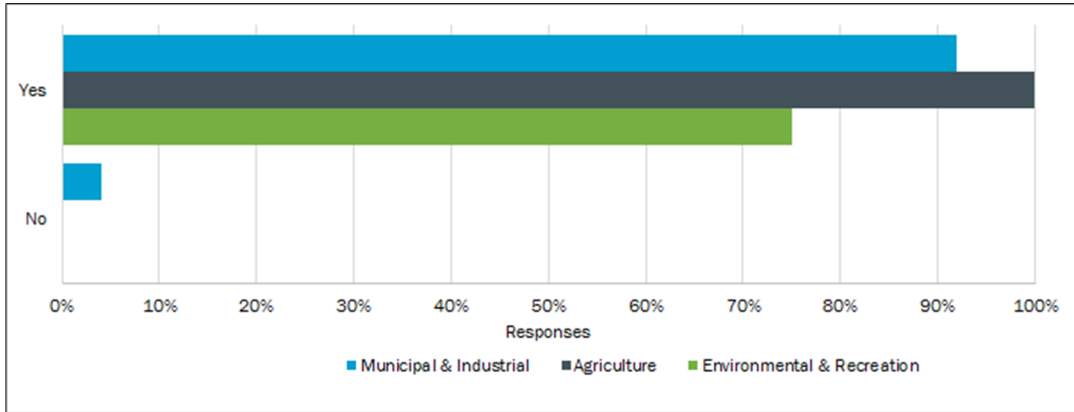


Figure 75. Agreement with Guiding Principles by Stakeholder Category

#### 4.4.4 Alternative Transfer Methods (ATMs)

Throughout the three stakeholder categories, survey respondents are interested or may be interested in participating in ATMs, as shown on Figure 76. Based on the number of survey respondents in each category that responded maybe to the level of interest in participating in ATM's, it is clear that a lot of questions need to be addressed related to participation in ATMs prior to full support and utilization of ATM projects by project participants.

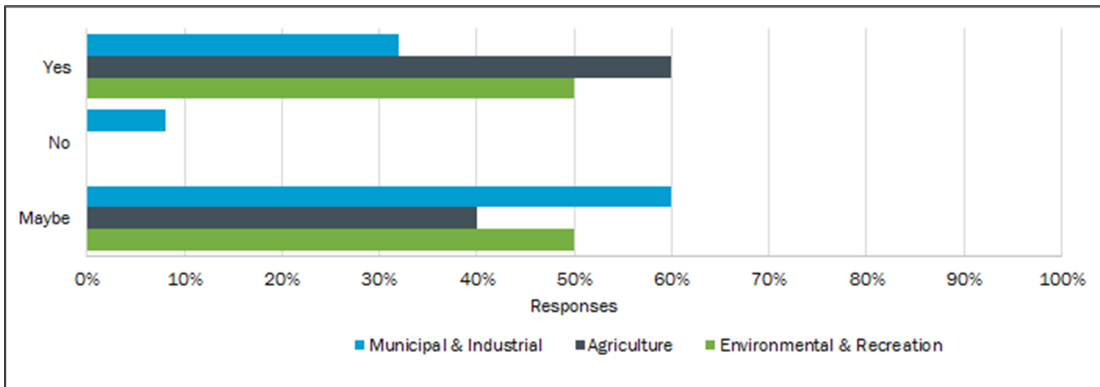


Figure 76. Interest in Participating in ATMs by Stakeholder Category

There is limited agreement between the three stakeholder categories about the potential use of water derived from an ATM project, as shown on Figure 77. Assuming the time and amount of need associated with each of these potential uses is different, these results suggest that an ATM project having a variety of stakeholders has the potential to maximize the use of water derived from the ATM.



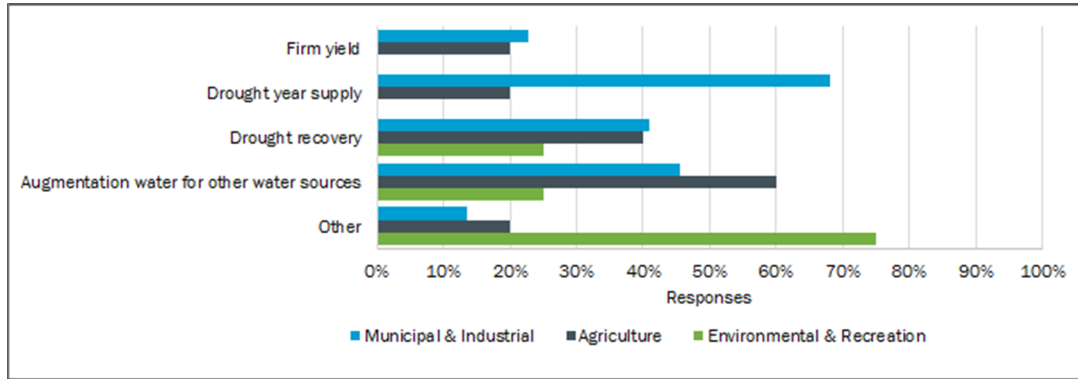


Figure 77. Potential Use of Water Derived from an ATM Project by Stakeholder Category