

Durango Lake Nighthorse Raw Water Supply Project

The City of Durango is evaluating options for delivering raw water, based on the City's current Animas La Plata (ALP) Project allocation, from Lake Nighthorse to the City's existing College Mesa Water Treatment Plant (CMWTP).

Project Overview

Why: The City relies on two water sources: the Florida River and Animas River. Water supply is at risk due to aging infrastructure, drought/aridification, mine spills, and wildfires.



Where: The design team will evaluate multiple alignment alternatives for conveyance of ALP water from Lake Nighthorse to CMWTP.



Who: The Design Team & City are planning public engagement, outreach, & Consultations with Tribal Governments.



PROJECT GOAL
Improve Resiliency of Durango's Water Supply

When: 2023 includes the evaluation and 30% design. Design will continue in 2024 and construction will start in 2025



History

1968: The Animas LaPlata Project was authorized by US Congress

2009: The Animas-La Plata OM&R Association formed to manage the operation of ALP Project

2013: Durango purchased its ALP Project allocation from Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority

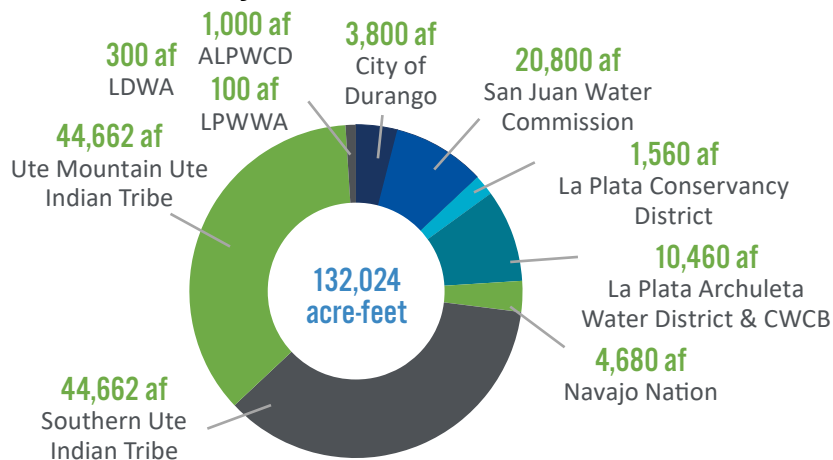
Future: Additional infrastructure to convey ALP Project water from Lake Nighthorse

1988: The Colorado Ute Indian Water Rights Settlement Act approved, resolving water rights claims of the Colorado Ute Tribes

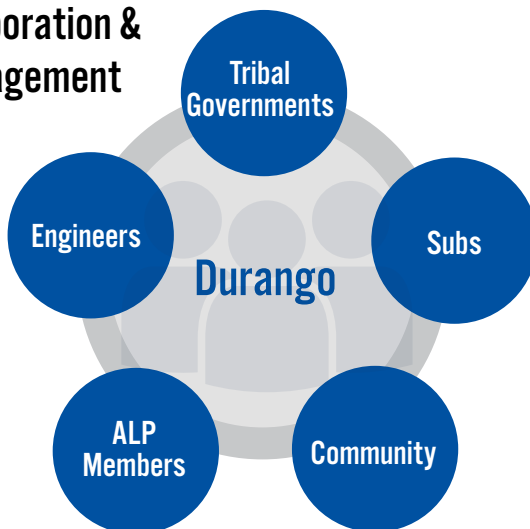
2011: Lake Nighthorse filled

Present: One supply intake drawing water out of Lake Nighthorse on the north side under a 3-party agreement. There is also a pipeline through the dam.

ALP Project Water Allocation



Collaboration & Engagement



The City has an allocation of 3,800 af of ALP Project water and would like to develop infrastructure to access this allocation