

Middle South Platte River Wetland Mitigation Bank Erie, Colorado

Banker: Middle South Platte River Wetland Bank, LLC

Developed by: Land and Water Resources, Inc. (LAWR)

Land Owner: Rain Baa Farms

Long Term Manager: City of Erie, Colorado

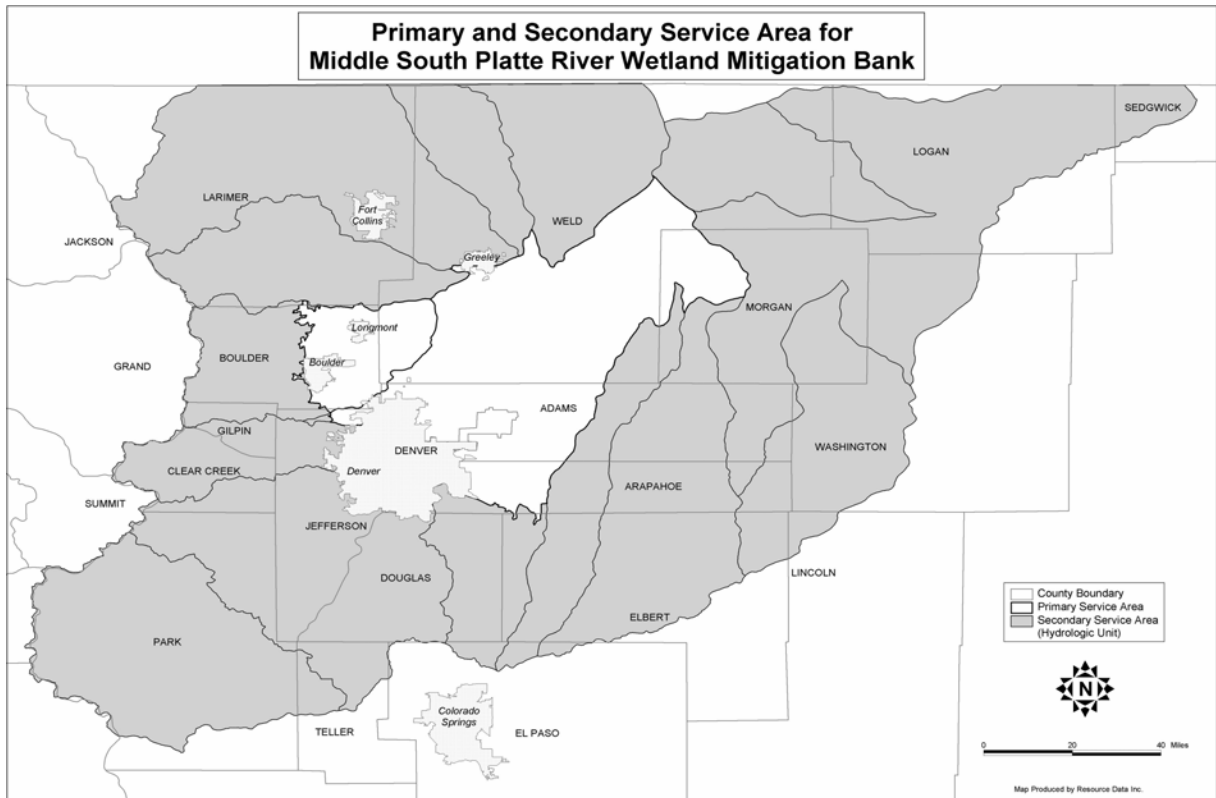
LAWR Design Team: Land and Water Resources, Inc., Applied Ecological Services, Inc. (AES)

In 1999, this bank was permitted, constructed and planted. It was the first wetland bank in the Omaha District of the Corps. The bank utilizes the most senior water rights in Colorado. With the superior water rights, we have been able develop an outstanding wetland and prairie complex. After only 2 growing seasons, all of the wetland areas have met final performance standards. This 80 –acre site is in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains and utilizes the passive irrigation system previously used to grow alfalfa. With the slope that existed on the site, we incorporated several low-level berms to trap the water. Behind each berm, we have ecological systems including emergent, wet prairie and mesic prairie areas. Colorado has been experiencing severe droughts, but our wetlands are thriving.



This bank was featured as a field trip for the Terrene Institute's conference in Denver. The ingenuity of the design and the rapid success of the vegetation impressed all of the visitors.





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