



Project:
Linking Substrate Mobility and Metabolism, South Platte River, Eastern Colorado

Lead Investigator: John Pitlick

The South Platte River in eastern Colorado is managed intensively for agricultural and municipal water use. The South Platte and its tributaries are also subject to high nutrient loading and large fluctuations in discharge. We have worked with biologists from the Center for Limnology (<http://cires.colorado.edu/limnology/>) to evaluate effects of water management practices and long-term changes in hydrology on ecosystem metabolism in the South Platte River. Field measurements of photosynthesis and respiration were coupled with measurements of flow and sediment-transport to establish relations between metabolic response and bed movement.

