

STATE OF COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board Department of Natural Resources

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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Jamie Prochno, P.E., CFM
Watershed and Flood Protection Section, CAP Coordinator

DATE: March 6, 2012

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 29, March 20-21, 2012 Board Meeting
Watershed and Flood Protection Section – Community Assistance Program Functions

John Hickenlooper
Governor

Mike King
DNR Executive Director

Jennifer L. Gimbel
CWCB Director

Background

Through the Community Assistance Program (CAP), the Colorado Water Conservation Board partners with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to assist local governments with their management of floodplains through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The CAP is financed through a federal grant that enables staff to serve as the state liaison to coordinate activities and provide support, technical assistance, training, and outreach to local officials in the execution of their duties to identify, prevent, and resolve floodplain management issues. The primary activities that staff undertakes as part of CAP include evaluating community performance in implementing NFIP floodplain management activities, assisting with local floodplain regulation updates, and providing technical resources and training to local officials.

Staff has created a new State Model Floodplain Ordinance to assist communities in updating their floodplain regulations to be compliant with the State Rules and Regulations for Floodplains in Colorado. Local governments have until January 14, 2014 to adopt the Rules and update their ordinance, and a number of communities have already updated their ordinances with help from staff. Workshops and other specific technical assistance will be planned to guide communities through the update of their regulations.

Staff has participated in the update of the Community Rating System (CRS) Manual. CRS is a program that rewards communities with good floodplain management programs through flood insurance premium discounts. The CRS Manual is undergoing a significant periodic update, and staff has commented on the changes and helped communities understand the process.

Staff will update the Board on recent activities that have been undertaken to assist local officials.

Staff Recommendation

This is an information item, and staff is not requesting board action.