

STATE OF COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 721
Denver, Colorado 80203
Phone: (303) 866-3441
Fax: (303) 866-4474
www.cwcb.state.co.us



TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Kevin Houck, P.E. – Chief
Watershed Protection and Flood Mitigation Section

DATE: November 5, 2012

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 16e, November 13-14, 2012 Board Meeting**
Finance – Construction Fund En-Bloc Non-Reimbursable Investment
Flood and Drought Response Fund

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

Mike King
DNR Executive Director

Jennifer L. Gimbel
CWCB Director

Introduction and Discussion

A \$150,000 Flood Response Program was authorized in the 2001 Construction Fund Bill (SB 01-157) and enacted by the Colorado General Assembly. This amount was increased in the 2007 Construction Fund Bill (SB 07-122) to \$300,000 to reflect the additional cost of performing existing program functions and the addition of valuable services under the program. The Flood Response Fund (Fund) was originally created to give the CWCB an ability to quickly respond to events and have program funds in the areas of: 1) flood documentation, 2) flood forecasting and outlooks, 3) post-event floodplain mapping, 4) aerial photography, and 5) flood mitigation. In FY 2012/13, drought preparedness, response, and recovery activities were added to the fund scope through board approval and statutory change.

The current request is to refresh the account up to \$300,000 for FY 2013/14. Staff clearly recognizes that there will be years in the future when both flood conditions and drought conditions exist during the same water year and/or during the same fiscal year. In those situations, the Fund could be stressed by needs from the two extreme conditions, and Staff will prioritize expenditures.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board request the General Assembly to authorize \$300,000 from the Construction Fund to be appropriated to the Department of Natural Resources for allocation to the CWCB for technical activities related to flood and drought response, as called out in the scope of the Flood and Drought Response Fund.

**Water Project Construction Program - Project Data
Non-Reimbursable Investment**

Grantee: Colorado Water Conservation Board **County:** Statewide

Project Name: Colorado Flood and Drought Response Fund

Project Type: Program Funds for post event floodplain mapping, flood and drought forecasting, aerial photography, natural hazard mitigation, documentation and natural hazard preparedness and response.

Drainage Basin: All River Basins in Colorado

Water Source: N/A

Total Project Cost: \$300,000

Funding Source: CWCB Const. Fund

Type of Grantee: State Government

Median Household income: N/A

CWCB Non-Reimbursable Inv.: \$300,000 (refresh up to) **Interest Rate:** N/A **Term:** N/A

A \$150,000 Flood Response Program was authorized in the 2001 Construction Fund Bill (SB 01-157) and enacted by the Colorado General Assembly. This amount was increased in the 2007 Construction Fund Bill (SB 07-122) to \$300,000 to reflect the additional cost of performing existing program functions and the addition of valuable services under the program. The Flood Response Fund (Fund) was originally created to give the CWCB an ability to quickly respond to events and have program funds in the areas of: 1) flood documentation, 2) flood forecasting and outlooks, 3) post-event floodplain mapping, 4) aerial photography, and 5) flood mitigation. The FY 2012/13 request included an expanded scope involving drought response activities, and this year's request also includes this expanded scope.

The current request is to refresh the account up to \$300,000 for FY 2013/14 for flood and drought response purposes. Use of this fund to address both flood and drought increases the efficiency and effectiveness of the CWCB to adequately respond to natural hazards affecting Colorado while also recognizing the current fiscal constraints by utilizing existing resources. Staff clearly recognizes that there will be years in the future when both flood conditions and drought conditions exist during the same water year and/or during the same fiscal year. In those situations, the Fund could be stressed by needs from the two extreme conditions, and Staff will prioritize expenditures.