

STATE OF COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board Department of Natural Resources

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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Tom Browning, Deputy Director
Integrated Water Resources

DATE: October 17, 2013

SUBJECT: **October 21, 2013 Special Board Meeting
Agenda Item 9 – Satellite Monitoring Update**

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

Mike King
DNR Executive Director

James Eklund
CWCB Director

Staff Recommendation

This is an informational item only. Staff is not requesting board action at this time.

Introduction

As discussed during the Board's September 2013 Finance Committee workshop, the Division of Water Resources (DWR) requested an appropriation of \$330,000 for continued operations of Colorado's Satellite-linked Monitoring System (SMS) and Stream Gage Refurbishment Program. For many years, funding for this program has been approved by the Board and the Colorado General Assembly as part of the annual CWCB Construction Fund Bill.

This program is vital for the State's water policy and water rights administration agencies to support and maintain state-of-art stream gaging programs. The SMS program is outlined in §37-60-121 and §37-80-102 C.R.S.

Discussion

A large number of stream gages in the South Platte River basin were either damaged or destroyed by the flood event of September 2013. Staff has invited DWR to provide Board members with an update regarding their current understanding of damage assessments, along with an estimated range for potential funding needs related to repairing or re-establishing impacted stream gages.

Staff anticipates that the original funding request for this item may need to be further discussed and potentially adjusted at the November 2013 CWCB meeting based on the flood damage situation.