

STATE OF COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board Department of Natural Resources

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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

FROM: Jamie Prochno
Watershed and Flood Protection Section

Mike King
DNR Executive Director

DATE: November 6, 2013

James Eklund
CWCB Director

SUBJECT: **November 19-20, 2013 Board Meeting**
Agenda Item 9 – State Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board approve Colorado's 2013 Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Introduction and Discussion

CWCB has partnered with the Colorado Office of Emergency Management to update the State of Colorado's Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan (Plan). It also helps to complete and complement Colorado's overall natural hazard mitigation document, which complies with all Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) guidelines and criteria for natural hazard mitigation planning. The Plan includes an updated flood vulnerability assessment which provides the necessary data to create a comprehensive mitigation strategy. This will not only be used to meet FEMA requirements, but will also guide the State in determining risk and vulnerability of assets and how to mitigate flood impacts.

Critical to the update of the Plan is an analysis of events since 2010, actions taken during those events, how they impacted Colorado, and any recommended actions that should be taken during future events. The update of the risk assessment and mitigation strategies focuses on post-wildfire flooding. An existing coordination group, the Flood Technical Assistance Partnership, consisting of stakeholders involved in flood mitigation, recovery and response, was utilized to review and comment on the Plan throughout update process.

The updated Plan will be incorporated into the State Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Numerous State agencies and consultants have been included in the planning process. The State Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan will ultimately be adopted by the Governor.

Staff will provide the board with a brief overview of this effort and will recommend board approval of the Plan. While the document was not fully ready at the time of this memo, it will be posted to the CWCB flood page and available for review by the close of business on November 13th.