

STATE OF COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

1580 Logan Street, Suite 600
Denver, Colorado 80203
Phone: (303) 866-3441
Fax: (303) 894-2578
www.cwcb.state.co.us



TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

FROM: Ray Alvarado
Interstate, Federal & Water Information Section

Mike King
DNR Executive Director

DATE: November 8, 2013

James Eklund
CWCB Director

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 27c, November 19-20, 2013 Board Meeting**
Finance – Construction Fund Non-Reimbursable Investment – En-Bloc
Decision Support System Operation and Maintenance

Introduction

Staff is requesting from the CWCB Non-Reimbursable Investment Program an appropriation of \$200,000 for the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of the Colorado Decision Support System (CDSS). Staff further requests that a fund be created in order to continuously appropriate the moneys for O&M. The CDSS goal is to help water users make informed decisions regarding major water issues and policy positions. For the past twenty years, the DSS's have provided the State of Colorado agencies, water users and managers a better means for organizing, accessing and evaluating a wide range of information and alternative strategies for managing their water resources. Over these years, the CDSS has evolved and adjusted to meet the changing water information needs and will be a vital component in Colorado's Water Plan. All basins have a DSS in place or one is being implemented; as such, a mechanism to maintain and operate CDSS into the future has led to this request for \$200,000 for the continued operation and maintenance of CDSS by the CWCB and DWR.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board approve this request for the General Assembly to authorize this project and appropriate \$200,000 from the Construction Fund to the Department of Natural Resources for allocation to CWCB for the Operation and Maintenance of the Colorado Decision Support System.

Staff recommends that the Board approve this request for the General Assembly to authorize and create a new fund for the Colorado Decision Support System Operation and Maintenance. The moneys in this fund should be continuously appropriated to CWCB for O&M of CDSS.

Staff recommends that the Board approve this request for the General Assembly to authorize CWCB, from the Construction Fund, to annually provide up to \$200,000 in order to restore the unencumbered balance in this fund up to \$200,000.

**CWCB Water Project Non-Reimbursable Investment Program
Project Data Sheet**

Sponsor: Colorado Water Conservation Board

Location: Statewide

Project Name: Decision Support System
Operation and Maintenance

Project Type: O & M

Drainage Basin: All Colorado River Basins

Water Source: Various

Total Project Cost: \$200,000 (refreshed
annually)

Funding Source: Construction Fund

CWCB NRI: \$200,000

Type of Grantee: State Agency

This request is for funding to operate and maintain the CDSS infrastructure developed in the past 20 years by CWCB and DWR. Historically this operation and maintenance was accomplished by using ongoing CDSS implementation plans throughout the state. These implementations have been or are near completions, so past funding sources will no longer be available for the ongoing CDSS operation and maintenance. A long term funding source is needed in order to maintain the extensive data and tools developed under this effort.