



## COLORADO

### Colorado Water Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

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## Memorandum

To: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members  
From: Kate McIntire, Water Supply Planning Section  
Date: May 8, 2014  
Re: Agenda Item 9, May 21-22, 2014 Board Meeting -  
Colorado's Water Plan Public Input and Outreach - Water Supply Planning Section

**Staff Recommendation:** This is an informational item only. No Board action is required.

### Background:

The Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) maintains an Outreach and Communications Plan in order to provide a cohesive strategy and structure for all communications and outreach activities related to Colorado's Water Plan. At each CWCB Board meeting since September, 2013 there has been a public input agenda item regarding Colorado's Water Plan. At the November 2013 Board meeting, staff gave a presentation on statewide opinion-editorials, launch of the Colorado's Water Plan website, and a review of public input received to date. In January, 2014 staff provided a summary of current and planned outreach efforts within each basin statewide and reviewed public input received to date. At the March, 2014 Board meeting, staff provided an overview of public input received between January 16, 2014 and March 3, 2014 and took comments from the Board regarding the process for incorporating those comments. Additionally, over one hour, the CWCB Board heard three separate public input presentations from stakeholder groups interested in commenting on Colorado's Water Plan.

### Discussion

Staff will lead a discussion with the Board on the following outreach items:

#### a. Basin and Statewide Outreach Update

- 1) All of the Basin Roundtables submitted detailed status reports in May, 2014 to the CWCB regarding their outreach activities to date and planned. A summary of each of those reports is included as an attachment to this memo for Board review, in addition to the detailed reports in their original format as submitted by each basin.
- 2) A status update regarding statewide outreach efforts to date is also attached to this Board memo for review. Staff will lead a brief discussion with the Board regarding the process for drafting Chapter 7. Outreach, Education and Public Engagement.

#### b. Review of Public Input Received to Date and Staff Response

The input received between March 4, 2014 and May 2, 2014, including a summary spreadsheet, is included as an attachment to this Board memo. Please note that the spreadsheet includes staff responses and recommendations. Staff has recommended discussion of several specific comments with the Board as outlined in the bullets below, and noted in **RED** ink within the summary spreadsheet.



- **Input Item #1:** CWCB staff will discuss with the CWCB Board the reorganization of Chapter 5 suggested by Steve Harris on behalf of the Southwestern Water Conservancy District. Mr. Harris suggests that Chapter 5 be split into 2 subsections, with one of the subsections addressing the "four legs of the stool", and the other subsection addressing Sections 5.1 - 5.4 and 5.10.
- **Input Items #18 and #22:** As noted in the summary spreadsheet within the staff responses for these two items, CWCB staff will discuss with the CWCB Board the issues related to both Source Water Assessment and Protection Plan (SWAP) and 208 plans.
- **Input Items #44 and #50:** As suggested by two commenters, Kent Brakken, a Colorado citizen, and Kristin Martiniez, Metro State University, CWCB staff will discuss with the CWCB Board opportunities to "encourage land developers to separate graywater from blackwater and develop facilities to treat and beneficially use graywater." Additionally, CWCB staff will discuss with the CWCB Board opportunities to further incentivize xeriscaping.
- **Note Regarding Input Item #22:** The commenter, Eddie Kochman, a Colorado citizen, asked if riparian areas could be protected with instream flows. Although not fully tested, instream flows can be designed to directly benefit riparian areas, and *the CWCB Stream and Lake Protection Section will discuss the issue with the CWCB Board.*

All of the comments received to date via the Colorado's Water Plan website or by email to [cwaterplan@state.co.us](mailto:cwaterplan@state.co.us) have been included in the Board packets for review and comment. Depending on the date of submission, input has or will be reviewed at the next scheduled CWCB Board meeting. While not every individual receives a direct email reply regarding their input, a CWCB staff response and/or recommendation regarding all input received is included in a summary spreadsheet within the related Board packet and available for review online at <http://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cwaterplan/record-input-received-date>.

### c. Public Input Presentations

This agenda item will continue to provide an expanded opportunity for public input regarding Colorado's Water Plan. Groups that do not participate in this agenda item at the May meeting are invited to participate in similar agenda items offered at the July, September, and November, 2014 Board meetings. Preference will be given to groups that submit formal written input and send to [cwaterplan@state.co.us](mailto:cwaterplan@state.co.us). At least two weeks before each CWCB Board meeting, interested individuals or groups must email [cwaterplan@state.co.us](mailto:cwaterplan@state.co.us) with confirmation of who the speaker(s) will be, affiliation, general presentation topics, and any documents related to specific input.

At the May, 2014 Board meeting, the following groups will provide public input as part of this agenda item:

#### Presentation 1

**Group:** Northwest Colorado Council of Governments - Quality/ Quantity Group (NWCCOG-QQ)

**Speaker:** Kathy Chandler-Henry

**General Presentation Topics:** On behalf of NWCCOG-QQ, Eagle County Commissioner Kathy Chandler-Henry will briefly highlight NWCCOG-QQ's comments on Colorado's Water Plan to date and provide a summary of the NWCCOG-QQ May 7, 2014 Land Use Water Conservation workshop.



## Presentation 2

**Groups:** Western Resource Advocates (WRA), Environmental Defense Fund (EDF)

**Speakers:** Bart Miller (WRA), Drew Beckwith (WRA), Laura Belanger, Aaron Citron (EDF)

**General Presentation Topics:** Comments related to urban conservation, re-use, and alternative ag-to-urban transfers, with speakers as follows:

- 1) Urban Conservation (WRA--Drew Beckwith or Bart Miller).
- 2) Re-Use (Laura Belanger, on WRA's staff, has been working with several water utility folks on re-use, one of whom may be interested in speaking; though Laura is out on vacation this week and next, I will try to have a name by early next week).
- 3) Alternative Ag-to-Urban transfers (EDF--Aaron Citron; or perhaps an irrigator or other NGO)

## Presentation 3

**Groups:** Protect the Flows, Fishpond, and Lilypond

**Speaker:** John le Coq

**General Presentation Topics:** Protect the Flows (PTF) is a business coalition that has over 1,100 businesses working in support of a healthy and flowing Colorado River system. PTF has met with James Eklund on a number of occasions. He was a keynote speaker at our Business of Water summit in Denver last October. There are two goals for this public input presentation as follows:

- 1) PTF has a letter signed by over 100 Colorado businesses we would like to deliver to the board and the letter was included in the May Board packet.
- 2) John le Coq, co-founder and co-owner of Fishpond and Lilypond, will also provide perspective on the Colorado brand, the Colorado lifestyle, the new and balanced Colorado economy, and the value of healthy river systems to our state, communities and quality of life.

## Presentation 4

**Group:** Trout Unlimited

**Speaker:** Stephanie Scott

**General Presentation Topics:** Trout Unlimited (TU) has prepared input packets that are specific to each basin. These packets are TU's suggested content for the Basin Implementation Plans. Stephanie Scott plans to present these packets to the board and explain the outreach that TU has done on the water plan, emphasize the opportunity for the CWCB Board and TU to work together, and give a brief overview of our high level principles. The following is a message from TU regarding the input packets:

While TU originally intended to develop comments for all 9 basin, the organization realized that it was best to focus on just the ones included in the Board packet. TU combined the South Platte and Metro comments into one packet. For the basins that do not have comments, TU noted it is still pushing the TU Water Plan Principles to be incorporated into the BIP and the organization's members will be involved at the meetings. The TU Water Plan Principles are also included in the Board packet.

Roundtable representatives suggested that TU include both broad level and specific detailed comments. Per this request, TU gathered and organized their packets into 3 sections to make it easier for the roundtables to incorporate the comments.

- The first section includes broad principles that Trout Unlimited would like to see incorporated into all of the BIPs throughout CO.



- The second includes bullet point comments that are specific to each of the basins.
- The third section lays out each of those bullet points in more detail.

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In addition to providing public input directly to the CWCB during this agenda item, interested parties are encouraged to engage directly with their Basin Roundtable as they have all recently created significant opportunities for public input into the Basin Implementation Plan process. Providing input to your Roundtable is a very effective way to be sure that your comments are considered as your basin's Basin Implementation Plan is being drafted. Draft versions of each Basin Implementation Plan are due to the CWCB Board at the end of July, 2014. Find more information including guides for public input online at [www.coloradowaterplan.com](http://www.coloradowaterplan.com).

