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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Jeff Baessler, Deputy Section Chief

Stream and Lake Protection Section

DATE: July 20, 2016

AGENDA ITEM: Consent Agenda Item 2. 2016 Willow Creek Instream Flow

Appropriations Modified Hearing Schedule

Background

On January 26, 2016, the Board voted unanimously to form its intent to appropriate a new instream flow water right on two segments of Willow Creek below Steamboat Lake. On March 25, 2016, the Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District contested the appropriations. In addition, the City of Steamboat Springs obtained Party Status.

Staff is working with all stakeholders to address various issues without the need for a hearing. However, at this point, the issues have not been resolved and it is likely that additional time will be required before a settlement can be reached. As a result, staff is recommending that the Board adopt a modified hearing schedule for these appropriations.

Staff recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board adopt the following modified ISF Rule 5 procedural schedule:

	Standard Schedule	Modified Schedule
Prior to September Board meeting	No action	Parties submit pre-hearing statements and attend pre-hearing conference
September Board meeting	Board holds hearing and takes final action	No action
October 15	Process finished	Parties submit rebuttal statements
November Board meeting		Board holds hearing and takes final action

