



**COLORADO**

**Colorado Water  
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

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**TO:** Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

**FROM:** Corey Elliott, Hazard Mapping Coordinator,  
Watershed and Flood Protection Section

**DATE:** November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016

**AGENDA ITEM:** Agenda Item #10 Success Stories - Colorado Hazard Mapping Program in  
Colorado Watersheds

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**Background:**

As of mid-November, the Colorado Hazard Mapping Program (CHAMP) is well underway with the second part of Phase 1, which includes field reconnaissance and surveying as well as performing hydraulic modeling. Local community engagement is in progress in the St. Vrain Watershed and communities along the South Platte River. An ongoing collaborative partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has allowed open dialogue with communities in Colorado that are involved with CHAMP. The benefactors of this program stem from the local counties, watershed coalitions, and others who are engaged with the CHAMP process. A successful program has the characteristics of enhanced understanding, effective communication and valuable and mutual relationships. More importantly, protecting life and mitigating damage to property is the ultimate goal. Impactful local success stories help shed light on what has worked. Great outcomes from CHAMP help build upon the local's overall risk awareness and public engagement process in order to increase resiliency from future floods.

CWCB staff has asked two local representatives to provide their success stories with CHAMP. Additionally, they will share the benefits of a collaborative effort well before new floodplain maps are adopted. They will give their perspective on how CHAMP has increased risk awareness, as well as, any impact this program has had on other flood recovery efforts.

There will be on-going community meetings taking place in the coming months, kick-off meetings, flood risk review meetings and quarterly updates. The Colorado Hazard Mapping website: <http://coloradohazardmapping.com/>, will continuously be updated for an "outward facing" information trove of various updates on each watershed study area.

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

