



COLORADO

**Colorado Water
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Brandy Logan, Water Resource Specialist
Jeff Baessler, Deputy Section Chief
Stream and Lake Protection Section

DATE: March 9, 2018

AGENDA ITEM: 14. Update on Himes Creek Instream Flow Recommendation in
Water Division 7

Background:

At the January 2016 Instream Flow (ISF) workshop the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) submitted a recommendation to the CWCB for ISF water rights on Himes Creek. This recommendation was part of a pilot process for the USFS to evaluate whether the ISF Program can meet the USFS' non-consumptive water right needs on the San Juan National Forest. Staff has spent the past two years collecting, reviewing, and analyzing data while collaboratively working with the USFS, CPW, and other interested stakeholders to address issues related to the natural environment and flow quantification on this stream. In November 2017, Staff communicated its intent to bring a Himes Creek recommendation to the March 2018 meeting for the Board to form its intent to appropriate an ISF water right. Staff needs additional time to meet with stakeholders to address concerns. At this time, Staff plans to request the Board to form its intent to appropriate at the May 2018 meeting.

Staff recommendation:

This is an informational item and no Board action is required.

