



COLORADO

**Colorado Water
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Linda Bassi, Section Chief
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Stream and Lake Protection Section

DATE: November 14-15, 2018 Board Meeting

AGENDA ITEM: 6. Request for Water Acquisitions Pilot Process Update

Earlier this year, the CWCB staff, in partnership with the Colorado Water Trust (CWT), piloted a streamlined approach to instream flow (ISF) water acquisition using a public outreach process similar to the one currently used for new appropriations. The goals of the Request for Water Acquisition Pilot Process are:

- to inform water right owners about voluntary, market-based opportunities to use their rights to benefit rivers in need;
- to proactively invite voluntary water right offers for ISF use from willing water rights owners;
- to provide a user-friendly mechanism for water rights owners to investigate working with CWCB and CWT on ISF acquisitions;
- to streamline transaction processes and utilization of resources;
- to facilitate implementation of Colorado's Water Plan objectives; and
- to add flows to river segments in need while coordinating with agricultural and other uses.

Representatives of the Colorado Water Trust will present an overview of how the pilot process worked this year, including the process timeline, the number and types of preliminary offers of water received, and how those offers were processed.

This is an informational item with no Board action required.

