



## COLORADO

### Colorado Water Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 718  
Denver, CO 80203

P (303) 866-3441  
F (303) 866-4474

Jared Polis, Governor

Dan Gibbs, DNR Executive Director

Rebecca Mitchell, CWCB Director

TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board

FROM: Anna Mauss, Chief Operating Officer  
Admin and Operations Section

DATE: November 16-17, 2022 Board Meeting

ITEM: 15c. 2023 Projects Bill - Miscellaneous  
(1) Water Plan Grant Implementation Cash Fund - Appropriation

---

#### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board support an appropriation of \$12.6 million from the Water Plan Implementation Cash Fund to support the Water Plan Grant Program in the 2023 Projects Bill.

#### Introduction/Discussion

The Water Plan Grant Program is available to promote progress on the critical actions identified in the Water Plan and its measurable objectives. The grant program supports projects, programs and activities that have the best opportunity to make progress on the Water Plan's objectives and that are in alignment with the program guidelines. Funding categories include: Agricultural Projects, Conservation & Land Use Planning, Engagement & Innovation, Water Storage & Supply, Water Sharing Agreements, and Watershed Health & Recreation Projects.

In September 2022, the Department of Revenue transferred \$11.4 million to the Water Plan Implementation Cash Fund from sports betting revenue collected in FY 2021/22. A portion of the revenue will be used for Water Plan Grant Program administration. Staff is recommending appropriation of \$10.6M from the FY 2021/22 revenue for Water Plan Grants in FY 2023/24.

With the additional \$2.0 million transfer from the Construction Fund to the Water Plan Implementation Cash Fund (pending November 2022 Board Meeting Agenda Item 15a.(9) approval) the total CWCB recommended appropriation is \$12.6 million.

Additionally, Governor Polis included \$5 million in General Fund for the Water Plan Grant Program in the initial FY 2023/24 budget package. This is subject to legislative approval. If approved by the legislature, the 2023 Projects Bill will include a provision to make the transfer of \$5 million from the General Fund to the Water Plan Implementation Cash Fund on July 1, 2023 and the total appropriation would be increased to \$17.6 million.

