



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

Lauren Ris, CWCB Acting Director

TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Lauren Ris, Deputy Director

DATE: July 19-20, 2023

AGENDA ITEM: 15. Operational Planning

Recommendation:

This is an informational item only.

Background:

Action 5.10 of the 2023 Colorado Water Plan is to develop annual operational plans that identify targeted work for CWCB. The description of the action follows:

While the agency actions in the Colorado Water Plan focus on ways CWCB can strategically advance and support multiple initiatives, there will inevitably be multiple-year efforts that intertwine with the Water Plan and require CWCB attention and resources. Sequencing and focusing work priorities annually provides a key check-in that allows CWCB to be strategic, track progress, and also be responsive to changing needs. The CWCB should identify specific strategies that help address needed short-term work and other CWCB projects that are not identified in the Colorado Water Plan. Additionally, evaluating the progress of the Water Plan, grant programs, and other needs at annual CWCB board meetings will help ensure strategic sequencing of Water Plan implementation and determine where overlaps exist with project development and funding. For example, annual focus or targets could be considered at CWCB's annual Finance Committee meetings.

CWCB has contracted with Government Performance Solutions (GPS) to assist the Board and staff through the process of creating the first operational plan. GPS works with public sector entities to improve operational efficiency, strategic planning, organizational effectiveness, and stakeholder engagement. As a Denver based firm, they have worked with a number of state agencies and departments, including previous projects with the CWCB.

During this agenda item, Greg Bellomo, GPS President and Managing Partner will be continuing the conversation from the May Board meeting on the next steps in developing an operational plan. A summary of the results of Mr. Bellomo's interviews with the Board members follows this memo.

