



COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Andrew Rickert, Interstate, Federal & Water Information Section

DATE: May 15, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: 15. Colorado Weather Modification Program Update

Staff Recommendation: This item is informational only, no Board action required.

Background: Colorado has seven permitted wintertime ground-based weather modification programs and one permitted aerial weather modification program. The CWCB, on behalf of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), is the sole permitting agency for the State of Colorado. Each year the CWCB awards weather modification grants around the state to augment and increase snowpack. Local sources, including ski areas, municipalities, and local water districts contribute roughly 30% of the annual weather modification funds. The State of Colorado provides 40% of the funding through the CWCB Projects Bill. The remaining 30% comes from the Lower Basin of the Colorado River and the State of New Mexico. This cooperative program helps ensure that all funds spent result in effective and efficient weather modification activities throughout Colorado.

There will be a presentation to the Board at the May meeting that will provide information on all the permitted weather modification programs throughout the State and will provide information on future weather modification activities currently being developed.

