September 16-18, 2025 Board Meeting Case No. 25CW3096 (Water Division 5); City of Aspen

#### **Summary of Water Court Application**

Application for Change of Storage Rights.

### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the Board ratify the filing of a Statement of Opposition filed on behalf of the Board in July 2025 to protect CWCB's instream flow water rights.

#### **CWCB Instream Flow Water Rights**

The CWCB holds water rights, including the following instream flow water rights in Water Division 5 in the Roaring Fork River Watershed, that could be injured by this application:

Case Number	Stream	Upper Terminus	Lower Terminus	CFS Rate (Dates)	Approp. Date
W-2938 (1976)	Woody Creek	headwaters	confl Roaring Fork River	6 (1/1 - 12/31)	01/14/1976
W-2944 (1976)	East Maroon Creek	headwaters	confl Maroon Creek	10 (1/1 - 12/31)	01/14/1976
W-2945 (1976)	Maroon Creek		confl Roaring Fork River	14 (1/1 - 12/31)	01/14/1976
W-2947 (1976)	Castle Creek	headwaters	confl Roaring Fork River	12 (1/1 - 12/31)	01/14/1976
W-2948 (1976)	Roaring Fork River	confl Difficult Creek	confl Maroon Creek	32 (1/1 - 12/31)	01/14/1976
85CW0265	West Maroon Creek	outlet Maroon Lake	confl East Maroon Creek	4 (1/1 - 12/31)	05/03/1985
85CW0639	Roaring Fork River	confl Fryingpan River	confl Crystal River	75 (10/1 - 3/31) 145 (4/1 - 9/30)	11/08/1985
85CW0646	Roaring Fork River	confl Maroon Creek	confl Fryingpan River	30 (10/1 - 3/31) 55 (4/1 - 9/30)	11/08/1985

## Potential for Injury

- The proposed change of water rights could cause an expansion of use and could alter the time, place, and amount of historical return flows that would have occurred under the water rights, which could injure the CWCB's instream flow water rights.
- A contemplated draft analysis will be necessary to ensure the change of conditional waters does not result in an expansion of use.

• Terms and conditions should be included in any decree entered in this case to ensure that the decreed water rights will not injure the CWCB's instream flow water rights.

# Other Objectors

A Statement of Opposition was also filed by Basalt Water Conservancy District.

## **Attorney Representing CWCB**

Jennifer L. Mele, First Assistant Attorney General, is assigned to this case and can be contacted at jen.mele@coag.gov, or 720-508-6282.

