



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 Members

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

DATE: May 17, 2023

AGENDA ITEM: 14. Colorado Snow Survey

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

Background: The NRCS Snow Survey Program provides mountain snowpack data and streamflow forecasts for the western United States. In partnership with NRCS, CWCB helps with snow measurements at three snow courses, all located along Willow Creek Pass. The data gathered at these locations allows for more accurate water forecasting. Snow Surveys date back to 1935 when NRCS established a formal, cooperative Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting program.

There will be a presentation to the Board at the May meeting providing a detailed description of the snow courses CWCB operates and how staff takes snow measurements.

