

Our Future Depends on Water Planning

The Colorado Legislature authorized the CWCBC to implement a plan to better prepare for the State's long-term water needs.

- We recently conducted a comprehensive study to explore Colorado's existing water supplies, projected demands through the year 2030, and developed a range of potential options to meet that demand. This information is helping local communities and water providers to manage and efficiently utilize the State's surface and groundwater resources.
- We promote water use efficiency by assisting communities in preparing and implementing drought mitigation plans, monitoring drought impacts on water users, and providing resources to the public, media, and state officials.

As the State's leader in protecting, planning, and managing Colorado's water, the CWCBC website can provide much more information. Visit us at www.cwcb.state.co.us

Water is a valuable resource. If we all work together in planning for the future, many generations can enjoy this wonderful state we call home.



San Juan Range



Colorado Water Conservation Board

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Colorado Water Conservation Board



To Conserve,
Develop,
Protect
and Manage
Colorado's
Water for
Present
and Future
Generations

Upper Fish Creek Falls



Three Island
Lake



Who We Are

Water is a key resource for life. To help protect this invaluable resource, the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) was created over 75 years ago to provide policy direction on water issues.

The Board is comprised of governor-appointed members, representing the State's major water basins. Public board meetings are held every two months in various locations throughout the state.

Responsibilities of the CWCB range from protecting Colorado's streams and lakes to water conservation, flood mitigation, drought planning, water supply planning, and project financing. Additionally, since all of Colorado's water originates within the State's boundaries, we work to protect the State's water apportionments pursuant to legal agreements with other western states.

The CWCB is Colorado's most comprehensive water information resource. We maintain expertise in a broad range of programs and provide technical assistance to further the protection and benefit of Colorado's waters.

Indian Peaks Wilderness

Loans & Grants for Water Projects and Planning Efforts

The CWCB offers numerous loans and grants for a variety of water related projects, studies, planning documents, awareness campaigns, and other activities to water providers and other entities statewide. While you can visit our website to understand more about these programs, the following is a sample of our funding programs.

- We provide low interest loans to Colorado water providers for raw water projects that develop and/or preserve waters statewide.
- The CWCB also provides grants for water conservation planning, drought mitigation, and water education and awareness. Additionally, grants are available for local and regional water related projects, flood mitigation efforts, weather modification, and watershed restoration.

Elkhead Reservoir Enlargement: The CWCB provided \$11 million in funds toward the enlargement of Elkhead Reservoir. The enlargement included raising the existing dam for the purpose of obtaining additional storage to support endangered fish species downstream and for municipal, industrial, and agricultural use.



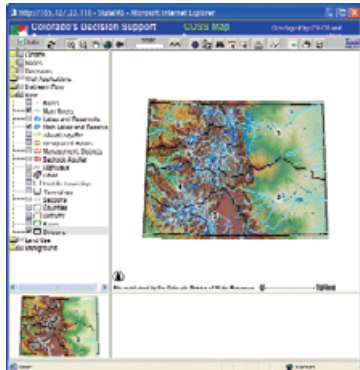
BEFORE



AFTER

The Place to Come for Technical Support and Informational Resources

Through the collection of water resource data and the use of various modeling tools, the CWCB has set the standard for providing the most accurate and reliable water information in the State. An integrated system of software, models, and data were created to provide credible information on which to base informed decisions concerning water resource management issues. With a click of a mouse, water decision makers and the public can easily access this data on-line.



Water, Flood & Endangered Species Protection for Colorado's Precious Resources

As a semi-arid state with an ever-growing population and a changing climate, Colorado is faced with many competing demands for a relatively small quantity of water available to the State. The CWCB provides several types of programs to help protect the State's water resources.

- We preserve stream flows and natural lake levels by securing and protecting state water rights within the State's water rights system. Since the program's creation in 1973, the CWCB has obtained water rights to protect over 8,500 miles of stream and 486 natural lakes.
- The CWCB's flood assistance efforts are focused on preventing flood damages, reviewing and designating floodplain information for use by local governments, and providing technical assistance.
- We represent Colorado's interests on interstate and Federal issues such as compact administration, endangered species recovery efforts, Colorado River salinity control programs, and identification of Federal water rights under State law.

Lake Powell: The CWCB represents the State regarding the apportionment of Colorado River water.



Dam Rehabilitation Project: The CWCB provided financing for the repair and enlargement of Foothills Reservoir near Longmont.



Flooding near Holyoke: The CWCB provided technical assistance following torrential rains in 1997, which caused Frenchman Creek to experience significant flooding.

