



Joint Budget Committee Staff

Memorandum

To: Joint Budget Committee Members
From: Kelly Shen, JBC Staff (303-866-5434)
Date: Thursday, February 27, 2025
Subject: [Additional activities for Colorado Parks and Wildlife \(CPW\) funds](#)

During the briefing, the Committee was interested in additional activities that could be supported by CPW cash funds. This memo includes a few potential options.

CPW funds are used within a TABOR-exempt enterprise. The Department has indicated that the requested decision items are projected to bring the Parks Cash Fund to the maximum capacity that it can support. According to the Schedule 9, revenue from the Wildlife Cash Fund is also projected to be almost entirely spent every year.

Staff's recommendation for CPW was lower than the Department's by approximately \$4.6 million cash funds across the Department's R1, R2, R5, and R8 requests. This lower recommendation allows space for the Committee to consider the following items.

Additional ideas for CPW funds

Staff suggests that the Committee could consider item #1 without significant trade-offs, but the remainder of the listed options come with larger trade-offs and policy decisions.

- 1 Refinancing of the \$125,000 General Fund to provide veterans free access to state parks every August, as required by H.B. 15-1045. Instead of General Fund, this could be supported by the Parks Cash Fund.
 - This refinance was proposed by the Department as a budget balancing measure in FY 2021-22, and was deemed absorbable by the Department. JBC staff denied the request, citing poor cash flows within the Parks Cash Fund. The Keep Colorado Wild Pass was implemented after the FY 2021-22 budget cycle, and has generated significant additional revenue for state parks.
 - This change may include legislation, as Section 33-12-106 (2.4), C.R.S. currently states that the General Assembly will appropriate funds to offset any lost revenue resulting from free park access and that CPW does not need to offer free entrance if the money is not appropriated.
- 2 Reduction or elimination of the \$2.5 million from the Severance Tax Operational Fund that is distributed for Colorado State Parks.

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- Increased support from the Parks Cash Fund could allow for severance tax revenue to be used for other purposes.
 - Historically, the Colorado State Parks received General Fund before it was refinanced to severance tax through H.B. 10-1326.
 - The Department indicates that this reduction of \$2.5 million would have downstream impacts on CPW and limit their ability to carry out activities outlined in S.B. 21-249 which created the Keep Colorado Wild Pass.
- 3 Increase the funding from the Parks Cash Fund and Wildlife Cash Fund for the Outdoor Equity Program. Currently, the program receives about \$3.0 million in lottery revenue that would otherwise go to other programs (public school capital construction assistance, Wildlife Cash Fund, Parks Cash Fund). Originally, these lottery funds went to the General Fund (see Title XXVII Section 3 of the Colorado Constitution).
- Increased support from the Parks Cash Fund and Wildlife Cash Fund could allow lottery proceeds to be used for other purposes.
 - Utilizing increased funds from the Parks Cash Fund and Wildlife Cash Fund has trade-offs for parks maintenance and capital needs, as well as wildlife management. This could be counterproductive to the intent of the Outdoor Equity Program, and limit access to outdoor spaces if these spaces are not adequately managed.
- 4 Refinance a portion of funds that the Aquatic Nuisance Species program receives from the Severance Tax Operational Fund (\$4.0 million annually). This could be partially supported by the Parks Cash Fund, but the Department indicates that there are trade-offs:
- The Parks Cash Fund would need to readjust its spending to accommodate revenue that is instead utilized for the ANS program. Reducing funding for park operations and management could result in reduced hours of operation, temporary staff hours, and delays in capital projects.
 - The Department has indicated that ANS is an issue of statewide interest that benefits many users beyond those who pay park fees. As such, they have indicated that concentrating the financial burden for ANS on a small subset of water users may not be appropriate.

Staff also considered the impacts of utilizing CPW cash funds to support the Species Conservation Trust Fund or the Colorado Avalanche Information Center, both of which receive revenue from the Severance Tax Operational Fund. The Department has indicated that utilizing CPW funds, which are TABOR-exempt, for non-CPW programs would bring this revenue under the TABOR cap.

As a whole, CPW receives limited General Fund. State Park Operations only receives the \$125,000 General Fund for allowing veterans free access to state parks in August. Almost all of the General Fund for Wildlife Operations is for wolf reintroduction, and these efforts may not be funded by hunting and fishing license fee revenue. These fees are the vast majority of the Wildlife Cash Fund's revenue.

Joint Budget Committee



Staff Figure Setting FY 2025-26

Department of Natural Resources

JBC Working Document - Subject to Change

Staff Recommendation Does Not Represent Committee Decision

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How to Use this Document: The Department Overview contains a table summarizing the staff recommended changes. Brief explanations of each change follow the table. Each division description includes a similar table but does not repeat the brief explanations. Sections following the Department Overview and the division summary tables provide more details about the changes.

To find decision items, look at the Decision Items Affecting Multiple Divisions or the most relevant division. This applies to both decision items requested by the department and recommended by the staff. Decision items appear in the requested priority order within sections.

Department Overview

The Department of Natural Resources is responsible for developing, protecting, and enhancing Colorado’s natural resources for the use and enjoyment of present and future residents and visitors. The Department is comprised of seven total divisions:

The **Executive Director's Office (EDO)** develops department-wide policies and provides administrative and technical support for Department divisions including: budgeting, accounting, financial management, human resources services, and the coordination of public information and environmental education. The EDO also houses the Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC) that provides and promotes avalanche information and research.

The **Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (DRMS)** regulates development and reclamation at mining sites, reclaims abandoned mine sites, and provides safety training for mine operators and employees.

The **Energy and Carbon Management Commission (ECMC)** regulates the exploration, development, and conservation of Colorado’s oil and natural gas resources. The commission issues permits, conducts inspections, pursues enforcement actions, and engages in public outreach efforts.

The **State Board of Land Commissioners (SLB)** manages agricultural, commercial, mineral, and other leases on state-owned lands to generate reasonable and consistent revenue for public schools and other trust beneficiaries.

The **Division of Parks and Wildlife (CPW)** provides recreational opportunities at 43 state parks, manages more than 960 game and non-game wildlife species, issues hunting and fishing licenses, enforces wildlife regulations, and administers more than 350 state wildlife areas.

The **Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB)** works to conserve, develop, and protect the state's water resources to ensure adequate water supply, maximize beneficial use, and reduce the impact of flooding and drought.

The **Division of Water Resources (DWR or State Engineer's Office)** administers and enforces water rights, issues well permits, monitors streamflow and water use, regulates dam construction and safety, and represents Colorado in interstate water compact proceedings.

Summary of Staff Recommendations

Department of Natural Resources						
Item	Total Funds	General Funds	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$440,903,702	\$45,189,508	\$346,059,749	\$9,227,540	\$40,426,905	1,730.3
Other Legislation	58,808,588	185,060	58,618,306	-3,800	9,022	10.9
Total	\$499,712,290	\$45,374,568	\$404,678,055	\$9,223,740	\$40,435,927	1,741.2

Department of Natural Resources						
Item	Total Funds	General Funds	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$499,712,290	\$45,374,568	\$404,678,055	\$9,223,740	\$40,435,927	1,741.2
Centrally appropriation items	15,707,331	1,342,149	13,425,998	797,090	142,094	0.0
CSFS R1 Move line items to DNR	10,360,024	10,360,024	0	0	0	0.0
R1 Keep Colorado Wild Pass staff and operating	3,573,992	0	3,573,992	0	0	12.0
R2 Outdoor equity grant program	1,264,744	0	1,264,744	0	0	0.9
R8 Wildlife conservation and management	1,188,811	0	1,188,811	0	0	11.1
R6/BA1 Digital video evidence for CPW officers	1,008,184	0	1,008,184	0	0	2.0
R4 Scale dept administrative support	391,374	0	0	391,374	0	5.0
R9 Working lands internship program	177,585	0	177,585	0	0	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	167,127	1,090,318	122,194	-1,090,318	44,933	0.0
R3 Water commissioner job class	119,933	119,933	0	0	0	0.0
R5 Implement IT product owners	114,935	0	114,935	0	0	0.9
R7 Water plan technical update	102,759	0	102,759	0	0	0.9
CSFS R2 Forestry workforce internships	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Prior year legislation	-55,838,477	-13,146	-55,818,300	-7,031	0	3.8
Prior year budget actions	-1,272,185	69,371	-3,379,923	-663	2,039,030	7.3
Impacts from other agencies	-135,005	-18,809	-109,173	-4,498	-2,525	0.0
Total	\$476,643,422	\$58,324,408	\$366,349,861	\$9,309,694	\$42,659,459	1,785.1
Changes from FY 2024-25	-\$23,068,868	\$12,949,840	-\$38,328,194	\$85,954	\$2,223,532	43.9
Percentage Change	-4.6%	28.5%	-9.5%	0.9%	5.5%	0.0
FY 2025-26 Executive Request						
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$6,638,138	-\$1,987,609	\$8,883,592	-\$299,208	\$41,363	-24.4

Description of Incremental Changes

Centrally appropriated items: The recommendation includes adjustments to the following centrally appropriated line items.

Centrally appropriation items						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
Salary survey	\$5,624,194	\$644,204	\$4,646,768	\$154,353	\$178,869	0.0
Health, life, and dental	3,046,234	357,695	2,697,624	-44,613	35,528	0.0
Vehicle lease payments	2,977,792	260,225	2,682,130	7,369	28,068	0.0
Payments to OIT	1,173,595	-197,119	828,576	657,020	-114,882	0.0
AED and SAED adjustment	1,128,435	114,730	1,042,015	3,672	-31,982	0.0
Step Plan	1,031,999	168,947	835,442	27,610	0	0.0
Risk management & property	607,155	40,521	555,564	7,376	3,694	0.0
Shift differential	144,228	0	144,832	-604	0	0.0
Capitol Complex leased space	100,524	31,885	35,179	15,151	18,309	0.0
Health, life, dental true-up	71,470	11,152	61,418	-1,071	-29	0.0
PERA direct distribution	70,263	-19,209	95,756	-6,284	0	0.0

Centrally appropriation items						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
Depreciation-lease equivalent payment	68,232	68,232	0	0	0	0.0
Paid Family & Medical Leave Insurance	48,348	5,163	44,459	166	-1,440	0.0
Leased space	45,614	21,316	17,032	218	7,048	0.0
Short-term disability	16,394	1,721	15,098	55	-480	0.0
Legal services	-388,397	-165,703	-219,747	-22,852	19,905	0.0
Workers' compensation	-41,994	-303	-41,621	-50	-20	0.0
CORE operations	-16,755	-1,308	-14,527	-426	-494	0.0
Total	\$15,707,331	\$1,342,149	\$13,425,998	\$797,090	\$142,094	0.0

CSFS R1 Move line items to DNR: Staff recommends a budget-neutral adjustment that moves \$10.4 million General Fund across three line items within the Colorado State Forest Service (Department of Higher Education) to the Department of Natural Resources.

R1 Keep Colorado Wild Pass staff and operating: Staff recommends partial approval of the request for a total of \$3,573,992 from the Parks Cash Fund and 12.0 FTE in FY 2025-26. This includes:

- 1 \$785,772 and 10.2 FTE for state park operations and vehicles;
- 2 \$2,752,702 for an inflationary adjustment to park operating budgets; and
- 3 \$35,518 and 1.8 FTE for administrative staff.

R2 Outdoor equity grant program: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request, including \$1,264,744 cash funds evenly split between the Parks and Wildlife Cash Funds, and 0.9 FTE.

R8 Wildlife conservation and management: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request, including \$1,188,811 from the Wildlife Cash Fund and 11.1 FTE to increase operational staffing for wildlife biology, aquatic species, wildlife health, and habitat improvements.

R6/BA1 Digital video evidence for CPW officers: Staff recommends \$1.0 million cash funds, including \$378,069 from the Parks Cash Fund and \$630,115 from the Wildlife Cash Fund, and 2.0 FTE to continue the full-scale implementation of a digital video evidence system for Colorado Parks and Wildlife officers.

R4 Scale dept administrative support: Staff recommends \$391,374 reappropriated funds and 5.0 FTE to support the Department's increased workload by increasing staff in the Executive Director's Office including:

- 1.0 FTE for grant accounting;
- 1.0 FTE for procurement;
- 2.0 FTE for human resources; and
- 1.5 FTE for program assistants to help with fleet and IT asset management.

R9 Working lands internship program: Staff recommends approving an increase of \$177,585 cash funds from the State Land Board Administration Trust Fund for FY 2025-26. This funding would support the creation of an internship program at the State Land Board and allow for the

hiring of three temporary employees per year. The out-year impact would increase to \$202,112 cash funds in FY 2026-27.

Indirect cost assessment: The recommendation includes a net increase in the Department's indirect cost assessments.

R3 Water commissioner job class: Staff recommends \$119,933 General Fund in FY 2025-26 and ongoing to reclassify 36 water commissioner positions to adjust for the increased complexity of water administration in Colorado.

R5 Implement IT product owners: Staff recommends partial approval of the Department's request, including only the product owner for the State Land Board, hired at the requested average salary in order to ensure that the salary is competitive among similar IT roles.

This recommendation totals to \$114,935 from the State Land Board Trust Administration Fund and 0.9 FTE.

R7 Water plan technical update: Staff recommends \$102,759 from the Colorado Water Conservation Board Construction Fund and 0.9 FTE to hire a term-limited staff member through December 2029. This individual would assist with a technical update that will inform the 2033 Water Plan Update.

CSFS R2 Forestry workforce internships: Staff recommends denial of the request.

R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund: Staff recommends denial of the request. The request would restructure the Severance Tax Operational Fund by moving some programs to the General Fund in order to reduce the Operational Fund reserve requirement to allow that reserve to spill into the General Fund. Depending on the March forecast, this would make approximately \$68.0 million General Fund available for budget balancing purposes.

Prior year legislation: The recommendation includes a net decrease of \$55,838,477 total funds for the out-year impact of prior year legislation as shown in the table below.

Prior year legislation						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
SB23-255 Wolf depredation compensation	\$175,000	\$0	\$175,000	\$0	\$0	0.0
SB 23-016 GHG reduction	171,160	0	171,160	0	0	2.4
HB24-1117 Invertebrates and rare plants	60,702	0	60,702	0	0	1.0
SB24-212 Local gov renewable energy projects	59,106	0	59,106	0	0	0.7
SB24-171 Restore wolverines	13,239	0	13,239	0	0	0.2
HB23-1265 Born to be wild license plate	10,000	0	10,000	0	0	0.0
SB24-026 Ag and nat resources public engagement	8,128	0	8,128	0	0	0.0
SB24-229 Ozone mitigation	5,137	0	5,137	0	0	0.0
HB23-1242 Oil and gas water conservation	162	0	162	0	0	0.0
HB24-1435 CWCB projects bill	-55,957,500	0	-55,957,500	0	0	0.0
SB23-059 State park funds for local access	-137,000	0	-137,000	0	0	0.0
SB 23-285 Energy carbon mgmt	-105,185	0	-105,185	0	0	-0.5
HB23-1294 Pollution protection measures	-95,166	0	-95,166	0	0	0.0
SB24-185 Protections for mineral owners	-20,483	0	-20,483	0	0	0.0
SB22-114 Fire suppression ponds	-13,146	-13,146	0	0	0	0.0

Prior year legislation						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
SB23-285 Energy and carbon management	-7,031	0	0	-7,031	0	0.0
HB 23-1069 Study biochar	-5,600	0	-5,600	0	0	0.0
Total	-\$55,838,477	-\$13,146	-\$55,818,300	-\$7,031	\$0	3.8

Prior year budget actions: The recommendation includes a decrease of \$1,272,185 total funds for the out-year impact of prior year budget actions as shown in the table below.

Prior year budget actions						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
Annualize CPW RFI	\$2,405,194	\$0	\$250,000	\$0	\$2,155,194	0.0
FY24-25 R9 Wildlife mgmt staffing	80,052	0	80,052	0	0	1.4
FY23-24 R9 Wildlife staffing	65,135	0	65,135	0	0	0.0
FY24-25 R2 CPW biodiversity and habitat staff	55,410	0	55,410	0	0	0.7
FY23-24 R15 Vehicles for water admin	48,311	48,311	0	0	0	0.0
FY24-25 R4 Park manager equitable progression	33,856	0	33,856	0	0	0.0
FY24-25 R11 State park staffing for demand	33,850	0	33,850	0	0	0.6
FY24-25 R10 Aquatics and hatchery ops	21,942	0	21,942	0	0	0.3
FY24-25 R5 River ops coordinators	21,060	21,060	0	0	0	0.2
FY23-24 R8 Manage and protect state parks	19,567	0	19,567	0	0	0.0
FY24-25 R1 SLB biodiversity program	11,912	0	11,912	0	0	0.3
FY22-23 R10 Records access mgmt and radios	9,286	0	9,286	0	0	0.0
FY24-25 R8 Wildlife dam safety staffing	8,371	0	8,371	0	0	0.1
FY24-25 R5 Inclusive recruitment	5,621	0	5,621	0	0	0.0
FY24-25 R13 SLB outdoor rec leasing	4,496	0	4,496	0	0	0.1
FY24-25 R6 Create CWCB grants section	2,961	0	2,961	0	0	0.1
FY23-24 R11 Water and research projects	785	0	785	0	0	0.0
Annualize CPW vendor commissions	-2,871,058	0	-2,871,058	0	0	0.0
Prior year salary survey	-907,474	0	-804,038	0	-103,436	0.0
FY 2024-25 Step Plan	-213,744	0	-201,016	0	-12,728	0.0
FY24-25 BA1 CPW counter poaching K9 program	-80,339	0	-80,339	0	0	0.5
FY23-24 R7 Winter recreation support	-13,340	0	-13,340	0	0	2.0
FY24-25 R14 CPW admin support	-13,008	0	-13,008	0	0	0.5
FY24-25 R7 IT infrastructure and network	-663	0	0	-663	0	0.1
FY24-25 R12 CPW info and education	-368	0	-368	0	0	0.4
Total	-\$1,272,185	\$69,371	-\$3,379,923	-\$663	\$2,039,030	7.3

Impacts from other agencies: The request includes decision items originating in other departments. The following table summarizes these “nonprioritized” requests, which will be addressed in separate staff briefings.

Impacts from other agencies						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
DPS Digital trunk radio	\$2,796	\$0	\$2,796	\$0	\$0	0.0
BANP Short-term disability	-137,801	-18,809	-111,969	-4,498	-2,525	0.0
Total	-\$135,005	-\$18,809	-\$109,173	-\$4,498	-\$2,525	0.0

Major Differences from the Request

The major differences from the request include:

- Staff denial of the Department's R10 request to refinance severance tax;
- Staff denial of large portion of the Department's R1 request for state park resources;
- Staff denial of CSFS R2 request for a permanently funded forestry internship program; and
- Hiring recommendations at the minimum instead of average job classification salary.

Decision Items Affecting Multiple Divisions

→ R10 Restructure Severance Tax Operational Fund

Request

The Department requests changing the distribution formula and methodology for severance tax revenue in the Severance Tax Operational Fund and the Severance Tax Perpetual Base Fund.

Recommendation

Staff recommends denial of the request.

Analysis

If approved, this request would make significant changes to how severance tax revenues are distributed in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), how much of a reserve the Severance Tax Operational Fund is required to hold, and the source of funding for several core programs currently funded through severance tax revenue. The primary changes are as follows:

- For FY 2025-26, the Operational Fund would receive 24.5 percent of severance tax revenues. For FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28, the Operational Fund would receive 23.0 percent of severance tax revenues. The Perpetual Base Fund would receive in-kind increases of revenue. Current law requires 25.0 percent in all fiscal years for both funds.
- For FY 2025-26, the amount held in reserve in the Operational Fund would decrease to 150.0 percent of appropriations, and for FY 2026-27 and ongoing the amount held in reserve in the Operational Fund would decrease to 100.0 percent of appropriations. Current law requires a 200.0 percent reserve.
- For FY 2025-26 through FY 2027-28, the following core and discretionary programs would be funded through GF transfers and appropriations instead of severance tax revenues:
 - Colorado Geological Survey (appropriation);
 - Avalanche Information Center (appropriation);
 - Species Conservation Trust Fund (transfer);
 - Soil Conservation Grant Fund (transfer); and
 - Colorado Strategic Wildfire Action Plan (transfer).

- Additionally, the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) would receive annual appropriations from the CWCB Construction Fund over the same time period.
- The following table provides a very high level overview of the total estimated impact of the request.

Net Estimated Impacts of R-10 Refinance Severance Tax Operational Fund		
Fiscal Year	CWCB PBF	General Fund
FY 2024-25	\$0	\$11,046,165
FY 2025-26	-27,295,285	56,247,887
FY 2026-27	-10,264,143	19,320,799
Subtotal for Amounts Based on Forecast Data	-\$37,559,428	\$86,614,850
FY 2027-28*	-9,539,340	10,192,470
Total	-\$47,098,768	\$96,807,320

*These amounts are based on numbers not derived from forecast data and should be considered guesses at best.

Discussion

This request item has many moving parts, and the numbers presented in this document are contingent on the Committee’s future forecast selections and any quarterly changes to the chosen forecast. Most of the numbers are also contingent on other aspects of the request. Staff has generally presented **isolated** impact amounts throughout. For these reasons, some of the totals represented in this write-up are not the true expected impact or will change with the forecast.

Additionally, the December forecast has been presented since staff’s briefing presentation, and severance tax revenue was revised down in that forecast. As a result, staff has updated the numbers in this section, so even though it is mostly the same as was presented during the briefing, the numbers are generally different.

This request essentially does five things, and in staff’s view, all five work together toward the main goal of **reducing the total appropriation out of the Operational Fund to reduce its reserve requirement so that there are more dollars to divert to the General Fund.**

- 4 The request would change the severance tax revenue distribution formula to allocate more funds to the Perpetual Base Fund (PBF) and fewer to the Severance Tax Operational Fund (Op Fund) over the three fiscal years that are impacted.
- 5 The request would capture the spillovers from the Op Fund *into the General Fund* instead of those spillovers going to the PBF. These captures would take place in all three years that the request impacts. There is an additional capture in the form of a transfer from the PBF to the General Fund of dollars that have already spilled into the PBF.
- 6 The request would move funding of several core and discretionary Op Fund programs to the General Fund, including: the Colorado Geological Survey; the Avalanche Information Center; the Species Conservation Trust Fund; the Soil Conservation Grant Fund; and the Colorado Strategic Wildfire Action Plan. This change would be in effect for the three years that the request impacts. After the three fiscal years, funding for those programs would revert to the Op Fund.

- 7 The request would move funding of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) from the Op Fund to the CWCB Construction Fund. This change would be in effect for the three years that the request impacts.
- 8 The request would modify the reserve requirement of the Op Fund from 200.0 percent to 100.0 percent. This would be an ongoing change.

In the following sections, staff has attempted to reflect the fiscal impacts of these proposed changes.

Operational Fund and Perpetual Base Fund Distributions

The first layer of the request is a change to how severance tax revenues are distributed within DNR. Under current law, the Severance Tax Operational Fund and the Perpetual Base Fund receive 25.0 percent of severance tax revenues each. If approved, this request would change that distribution in the following way:

- For FY 2025-26, the Op Fund would receive 24.5 percent of revenues and the PBF would receive 25.5 percent.
- For FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28, the Op Fund would receive 23.0 percent of revenues and the PBF would receive 27.0 percent.

The reason for this change is twofold. First, the request would move approximately \$14.2 million in FY 2025-26 and \$14.8 million in FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 out of the Op Fund, bringing the total appropriation from the Op Fund down to roughly \$18.5 million in each of the three fiscal years. The second reason is that the request would transfer and divert nearly \$40.0 million out of the PBF, so an increased distribution of revenues would help to mitigate the effects of those transfers and diversions.

In practice, these amounts are small. For FY 2025-26, approximately \$900,000 would be distributed to the PBF instead of the Op Fund. For FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28, approximately \$3.3 million would be distributed to the PBF instead of the Op Fund.

These changes would revert back to current law in FY 2028-29.

Spillover to General Fund

The next layer of the request is what happens to the spillover from the Op Fund to the PBF. As a refresher, any distribution to the Op Fund *in excess of* the appropriation and the reserve (appropriation * 200%) “spills over” into the PBF on August 15 of the following fiscal year.

The request proposes to transfer and divert three “spillover events”, described here.

- Spillover Event 1: On August 15, 2024, \$11,046,165 spilled over into the PBF. This amount would be transferred to the General Fund.
- Spillover Event 2: On August 15, 2026, \$0 is projected to spill over into the PBF. This means that severance tax revenue is projected to be low enough so that the Op Fund cannot fill its reserve requirement. No transfer or diversion would be made in this instance.
- Spillover Event 3: On August 15, 2027, \$7,456,656 is projected to spill over into the PBF. This amount would be diverted to the General Fund.

These spillover events would cumulatively increase available General Fund by approximately \$18.5 million across FY 2024-25, FY 2025-26, and FY 2026-27.

General Fund Increased Obligations

The third layer of the request is refinancing several Op Fund core and discretionary programs to General Fund. The following appropriations and transfers would be funded through General Fund through FY 2027-28. As requested, in FY 2028-29 funding for these programs would revert back to the Op Fund.

- Appropriations
 - Colorado Geological Survey
 - Avalanche Information Center
 - Totals:
 - FY 2025-26 General Fund appropriation increase = \$3,493,624
 - FY 2026-27 General Fund appropriation increase = \$3,598,432
 - FY 2027-28 General Fund appropriation increase = \$3,706,385
- Transfers
 - Soil Conservation Grant Fund
 - Species Conservation Trust Fund
 - COSWAP
 - Totals:
 - FY 2025-26 General Fund transfer amount = \$10.7 million
 - FY 2026-27 General Fund transfer amount = \$10.7 million
 - FY 2027-28 General Fund transfer amount = \$10.7 million

In total, the General Fund obligation would increase by between \$14.0 and \$15.0 million in each fiscal year impacted by this request.

The reason that the request proposes to move this obligation from the Op Fund to the General Fund is because of the Op Fund's reserve requirement. For every dollar appropriated out of the Op Fund, under current law two dollars must be held in reserve. In the context of this request – considering the diversions of the spillover to the General Fund – if the Op Fund is required to hold less in reserve, then more money can spill over into the General Fund.

In the out years, when the reserve requirement might be only 100.0 percent, this benefit is less pronounced, but the effect is the same – every dollar not spent from the Op Fund decreases the amount required to be held in the reserve and increases the amount that can spill into the General Fund.

Colorado Water Conservation Board Perpetual Base Fund Decreases

As mentioned above, the PBF will receive modestly increased severance tax revenue from the changes to the distribution formula for all three fiscal years impacted by the request. The dollars that it *will not* receive, however, are much greater. In FY 2025-26, the following items will **reduce** the level of funding in the PBF:

- Moving CWCB funding to the CWCB Construction Fund = -\$1,319,250

- FY 2023-24 spillover transfer in FY 2024-25 = -\$11,046,165
- FY 2025-26 projected spillover = \$0
 - TOTAL = -\$12,365,415

In FY 2026-27, the following items will **reduce** the level of funding in the PBF:

- CWCB funding from the CWCB Construction Fund = -\$1,319,250
- FY 2026-27 projected spillover = -\$7,456,656
 - TOTAL = -\$8,775,906

Risks

Staff believes that there are several risks inherent in this request.

- First, staff is concerned about basing a multi-year budget balancing request of this magnitude on forecast data of a very volatile revenue stream. Most of the above numbers are based on forecast data, and forecast data change. The request makes assumptions about the level of severance tax revenues in out years – even beyond what is forecasted, and it is well established that severance tax revenue is perhaps the most volatile revenue stream in the state.
- Second, staff is concerned about returning all of these changes to the current status quo in FY 2028-29. What if severance tax revenues are much lower for that year than expected? If revenues are low enough to be unable to fully fund the core and/or discretionary programs, do some of these programs remain funded by General Fund until some undecided date? Or, do all of these programs return to being funded through the Op Fund regardless?
- Third, staff is concerned about a near-future recessionary environment. If the economy declines and the General Assembly has to make further General Fund cuts, where on the list are these programs? Some of these programs would be harmed greatly from a funding lapse, and it would be very easy to find General Fund from them if they are already funded as such.
- Fourth, staff has concerns about the health of the Perpetual Base Fund. This is a fund with significant resources on paper, but those resources are not sitting stagnant in the fund. The fund is used to provide loans to improve water quality and the efficient use of water, broadly. Water projects typically take longer than one year, so much of the money in the fund is obligated through contracts or loans into the future. Over the past several years, the General Assembly has transferred approximately \$90.5 million out of the PBF for budget balancing reasons, and staff worries that additional transfers/diversions out of the PBF will jeopardize the amount and quality of present and future water projects.
- Finally, staff is concerned with the ongoing change to the Op Fund reserve requirement. The 200.0 percent requirement was put into place in reaction to the state being on the razors edge of having to claw money back from programs and funds. In the end, the General Assembly at the time made an emergency General Fund transfer to ensure these programs were funded (SB 21-281). Again, this is a very volatile revenue stream, and it is never certain that enough revenue will be collected to fund all of the core programs. The

200.0 percent reserve ensures that the state has a little breathing room to fund the core programs in the event of weak revenue collection.

Reversing Changes made by past JBC

As mentioned above, some of the changes proposed in this request would be direct reversals of the changes made in S.B. 21-281 (State Severance Tax Trust Fund Allocation). That bill was sponsored by the Committee in response to:

- 1 Fears that the Op Fund was over-encumbered; and
- 2 That there was no guarantee of funding year over year because of the volatility of the revenue stream.

The other role that that legislation played was to establish which programs were important enough to keep in the Op Fund and which could be relegated to the General Fund. The programs funded today – with the exception of COSWAP – are the result of that value statement by the Committee at the time.

Prior to S.B. 21-281, the programs funded through the Op Fund were split into tiers – where available funding filtered down to the lowest tier when revenue collections were strong. Additionally, the reserve requirement was 100.0 percent of core program appropriations, which at the time did not include everything that could be funded through the Op Fund.

Staff believes that these changes were wise then and now. Despite the recent boom years that severance tax revenues have experienced, there will be bust years in the future. If there is only one year with weak revenue collection, then a 100.0 percent reserve *should be* sufficient to maintain funding for all core and discretionary programs. If, however, there is more than one down year in a row, then the General Assembly will have to make a decision on whether or not to backfill the Op Fund with General Fund. With a 200.0 percent reserve, the state grants itself a little breathing room in the case of more than one year of depressed revenue collections.

Because of the certainty of future down years for revenue collection, staff is confused as to why the reserve requirement would remain at 100.0 percent even after all of the existing funding would return to the Op Fund. It would be much more logical for the reserve requirement to also revert to 200.0 percent of appropriations.

Recommendation

While staff understands that this request represents a large percentage of the deficit that the General Assembly must reduce, staff nonetheless believes that the downsides of reducing funding to the Perpetual Base Fund, shifting several cash funded programs to the General Fund, and reducing the reserve requirement for the Operational Fund will be more significant and persist longer than the benefits of achieving short-term General Fund relief.

Though this request would certainly make managing the deficit easier for the three years that it has been requested for, it is still a short-term solution to a long-term structural deficit. In FY 2028-29, even after reducing the existing deficit to the point of balance, the General Assembly and JBC at that time will need to deal with tens of millions of dollars that will suddenly no longer be available in the General Fund. What happens at that point is anyone's guess.

Perhaps the future General Assembly decides that any excess severance tax revenue will forever be deposited into the General Fund as opposed to the Perpetual Base Fund. This would seriously compromise the fund's ability to continue making loans and grants for important water infrastructure, as the PBF will no longer receive additional capital from the spillover from the Operational Fund.

Staff believes that this is the single most dangerous outcome. Colorado's most valuable resource is currently and will increasingly be water. Neglected infrastructure is not something that can easily be reconstituted, because infrastructure is continuously degrading and there are always new projects to fund. Jeopardizing water infrastructure now will only make for more difficult funding choices in the future.

→ R5 Implement IT product owners

Request

The Department requests \$991,060 total funds, including \$705,287 cash funds and \$285,773 reappropriated funds, and 6.4 FTE to hire seven IT product owners. These staff would provide strategic oversight of:

- State Land Board asset management systems (1.0 FTE);
- Energy and Carbon Management Commission public forms (1.0 FTE);
- Administrative systems within Executive Director's Office (1.0 FTE);
- Websites for CPW and Executive Director's Office (2.0 FTE);
- CPW public safety systems (1.0 FTE); and
- CPW wildlife data analytics (1.0 FTE).

Requested Product Owners	
Fund Source	Appropriation
Oil and Gas Conservation Fund	\$139,837
SLB Trust Administration Fund	139,837
Parks Cash Fund	100,021
Wildlife Cash Fund	325,592
Reappropriated funds (no GF)	285,773
Total	\$991,060

The request annualizes to \$736,534 cash funds, \$298,605 reappropriated funds, and 7.0 FTE in FY 2026-27.

Recommendation

Staff recommends partial approval of the Department's request, including only the product owner for the State Land Board, hired at the requested average salary in order to ensure that the salary is competitive among similar IT roles.

This recommendation totals to \$114,935 from the State Land Board Trust Administration Fund and 0.9 FTE.

Analysis

The Department operates 152 unique systems and 36 public-facing websites. However, the Department has indicated that the current operating model with the Office of Information

Technology is project-based and often reactive – and that the Department currently has the state’s second largest share of technical debt.

The systems selected in this request were prioritized based on:

- Criticality to program operations;
- Delayed modernization that has affected users’ ability to find information or created unnecessary work and errors; and
- Heavy usage by the public.

The Department indicated that no cash fund revenue increases are necessary to accommodate the proposed request.

Current IT structure

The Department currently oversees its technology portfolio with one business product director in the Executive Director’s Office hired in 2022. This is coupled with individual technology liaisons in each division except the State Land Board. These liaisons are the main point of contact with OIT, coordinate with internal subject matter experts, manage vendors, oversee asset management, and respond to outages and emergencies.

This reliance on existing staff who are system users to gather business requirements has led to delays. Additionally, the Department suggests that delayed system modernization has forced the Department to a “break-fix” point in which the Department pays a premium to repair a system that could have instead received long-term maintenance and strategic planning.

Requested product owners

In 2024, the Office of Information Technology, Department of Natural Resources, and other agency representatives met to define agency-side roles vs. OIT-side roles. Product owners were identified as a key agency role to ensure long-term direction and maintenance for IT systems.

In light of ongoing budgetary constraints, staff recommends consideration of only one product owner for the State Land Board. For the remainder of systems outlined in this request, staff suggests considering project-based, term-limited positions and an evaluation of product owner effectiveness within DNR before expanding to multiple systems.

- 3 \$139,837 The **State Land Board’s asset management systems** hold 149 years of land user history and over 7,000 active contracts that govern 2.8 million surface areas across the state. The board does not currently have a dedicated technology liaison like the rest of the Department’s divisions. The Department has indicated that before 2022, OIT assisted SLB staff with technology needs. However, since then, SLB staff without IT expertise have been managing these systems. A product owner could provide long-term guidance to these systems.
- 4 The **Energy and Carbon Management Commission** utilizes a number of forms to collect data for its oil and gas system database. The Department expects more user-friendly access to records and improved data security as a result of hiring a product owner.
- 5 Within the **Executive Director’s Office**, multiple HR, finance, training, and payroll systems and the website are a priority for modernization. Historically, this has been accomplished

through term-limited projects with OIT. These projects have experienced delays due to the lack of staff capacity to assist with project management and business requirement documentation.

- 6 The **Division of Parks and Wildlife** operates a website, public safety system, and wildlife species analytics. While staff believes that adequate information technology infrastructure for the public safety system is a priority, staff also notes that CPW received \$379,052 cash funds and 5.0 FTE in FY 23-24 to support daily IT operations and long-term project planning. This specifically includes a business systems analyst and project delivery coordinator that appear to perform tasks similar to that of a product owner.

Fund sources

The Department has indicated that it does not plan to adjust cash fund revenue in order to accommodate the proposed request.

The State Land Board Trust Administration fund is projected to remain healthy despite increased expenditures from FY 22-23 to FY 25-26. The \$114,935 requested for the State Land Board is 1.2 percent of total projected revenue (\$9,740,827) in FY 25-26.

(1) Executive Director's Office

The Executive Director's Office is responsible for the Department administration, including budgeting, accounting, financial management, and human resources. The office has two sub-sections: (A) Administration and (B) Special Programs. The Colorado Avalanche Information Center was added to Special Programs, pursuant to H.B. 13-1057.

Department of Natural Resources						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$120,915,636	\$16,464,478	\$93,830,296	\$8,995,509	\$1,625,353	77.9
Other Legislation	772,430	185,060	582,148	-3,800	9,022	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$121,688,066	\$16,649,538	\$94,412,444	\$8,991,709	\$1,634,375	77.9
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$121,688,066	\$16,649,538	\$94,412,444	\$8,991,709	\$1,634,375	77.9
Prior year budget actions	-8,934,749	-1,063,736	-7,741,961	-663	-128,389	2.1
Prior year legislation	-62,784	0	-62,784	0	0	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	14,542,217	1,273,917	12,420,944	797,090	50,266	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	17,707	1,090,318	17,707	-1,090,318	0	0.0
R1 Keep Colorado Wild Pass staff and operating	31,365	0	31,365	0	0	0.0
R2 Outdoor equity grant program	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R4 Scale dept administrative support	391,374	0	0	391,374	0	5.0
R5 Implement IT product owners	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R6/BA1 Digital video evidence for CPW officers	45,140	0	45,140	0	0	0.0
R7 Water plan technical update	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R8 Wildlife conservation and management	30,389	0	30,389	0	0	0.0
R9 Working lands internship program	12,767	0	12,767	0	0	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Impacts from other agencies	-135,005	-18,809	-109,173	-4,498	-2,525	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$127,626,487	\$17,931,228	\$99,056,838	\$9,084,694	\$1,553,727	85.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$5,938,421	\$1,281,690	\$4,644,394	\$92,985	-\$80,648	7.1
Percentage Change	4.9%	7.7%	4.9%	1.0%	-4.9%	9.1%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$117,885,547	\$19,689,831	\$87,299,450	\$9,383,902	\$1,512,364	86.8
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$9,740,940	-\$1,758,603	\$11,757,388	-\$299,208	\$41,363	-1.8

Decision Items

➔ R4 Scale department admin support

Request

The Department requests \$561,273 reappropriated funds and 5.0 FTE in FY 2025-26, and \$572,302 reappropriated funds and 5.5 FTE in FY 2026-27 and ongoing. The funding would support the Department's increased workload by increasing staff in the Executive Director's Office including:

- 1.0 FTE for grant accounting;
- 1.0 FTE for procurement;
- 2.0 FTE for human resources; and
- 1.5 FTE for program assistants to help with fleet and IT asset management.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the Department's request with two differences:

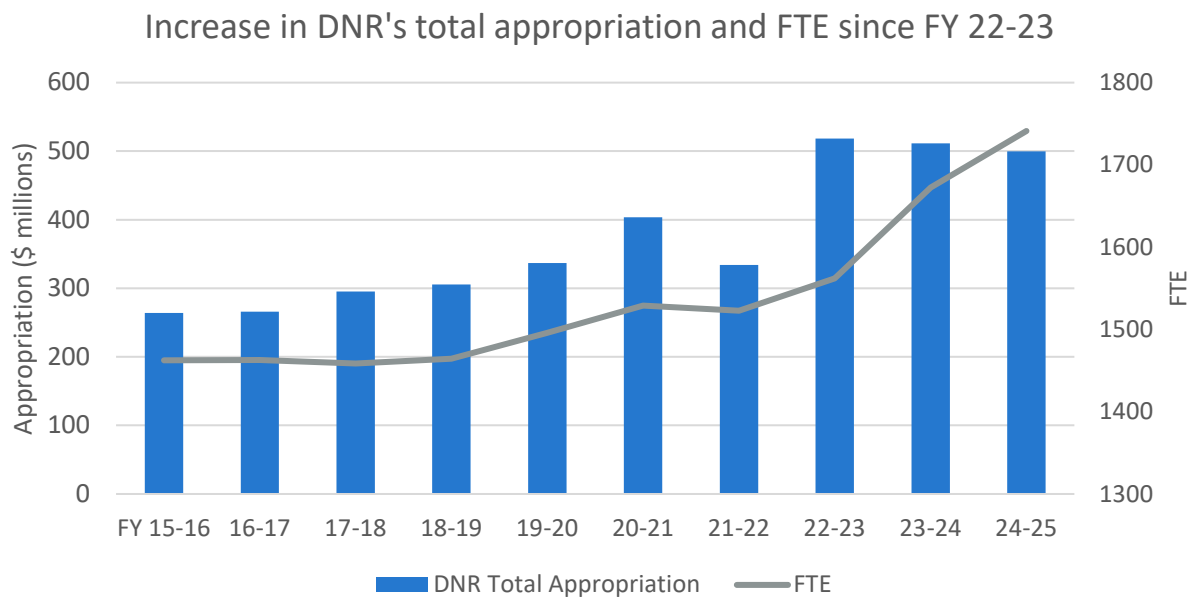
- 1 A recommendation to hire staff at the minimum instead of average job class salary, and
- 2 The removal of centrally appropriated costs within the positions' first year, pursuant to Committee policy.

The recommendation totals to \$391,374 reappropriated funds and 5.0 FTE.

Recommended FTE for DNR R4 Request					
Position	Prorated FTE	Personal Services	Standard Operating	Capital Outlay	Total Appropriation
HUMAN RESOURCES SPEC III	1.8	\$117,461	\$2,304	\$13,340	\$133,105
ACCOUNTANT II	0.9	64,751	1,152	6,670	72,573
PURCHASING AGENT IV	0.9	71,383	1,152	6,670	79,205
PROGRAM ASSISTANT II	1.4	91,359	1,792	13,340	106,491
Total	5.0	344,954	6,400	40,020	391,374

Analysis

The Department's total appropriation and FTE have been steadily increasing, with the largest increases experienced over the past three years.



Accounting and procurement

In response to this increased workload, the Department requested and was approved for 5.0 FTE since FY 2020-21. This includes 3.0 FTE for accounting and procurement staff in FY 2020-21, and a Chief Financial Officer and budget analyst in FY 2023-24. These did not include human resources staff.

Since FY 2020-21, the Department's total appropriation and FTE have increased at a higher rate than in previous years. This includes a 23.8 percent increase in total appropriations and 13.9 percent increase in FTE. This increased workload created a need for additional staff to assist with centralized functions like fund distribution, accounting, and benefits management.

Human resources

Over the past ten years, the Department's FTE increased by approximately 19.0 percent from 1,462.6 to 1,741.2 FTE. The Department indicates that this has created additional human resources work pertaining to performance management, leave and benefit administration, and compensation analysts.

According to the Society for Human Resources Management's 2022 Human Capital Report ([cite](#)) focused on governmental agencies, the average HR to employee ratio was 1.6 HR staff for every 100 employees. The Department currently has 13.0 human resources staff, resulting in a ratio of approximately 0.75 HR staff per 100 employees.

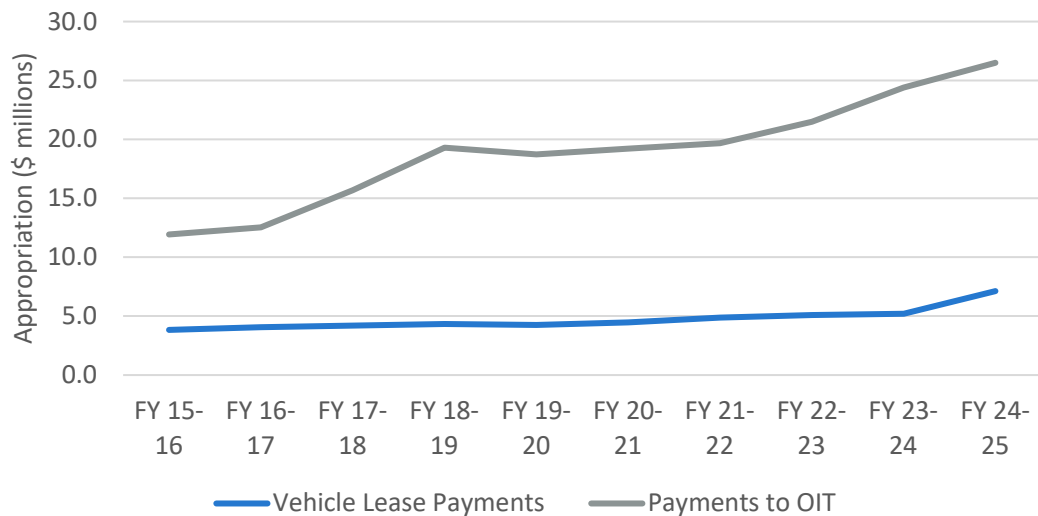
Without these staff, the Department has suggested that functions such as leave, worker's compensation, benefits, risk management, and compensation analysis risk their quality and timeliness.

Program assistants for IT and fleet management

The Department currently has one program assistant that manages fleet, IT assets, travel and meeting scheduling, purchasing, building and facility maintenance, board and commissions, public inquiries, and serves as the executive assistant for the executive director and deputy executive director.

The Department specifically highlighted a need for additional staff to manage increased fleet and information technology responsibilities. The Department operates the largest fleet in the state with over 1,400 vehicles and an estimated 2,600 drivers. Many of the staff added over the past five years have been field staff that require a vehicle to complete their job duties. Furthermore, spending on IT services has approximately doubled over the past 10 years.

Similar appropriation increases for IT and vehicle lease line items



Available fund sources

The Department indicates that it does not plan to adjust cash fund revenues to support the reappropriated funds outlined in this request. Furthermore, none of these reappropriated funds originate as General Fund.

In general, the Department's indirect cost plan totals \$8.2 million, including \$7.1 million from cash funds (85.6 percent) and \$1.2 million from federal funds (14.4 percent). The Department indicated that approximately 70.0 percent of indirect cost collections originate from the Division of Parks and Wildlife.

Line Item Detail

(A) Administration

The Administration subdivision includes the following units:

- The Administration and Policy Development unit oversees the administration of divisions, policy development, and program implementation.
- Human Resources is responsible for all duties pertaining to personnel management.
- Accounting and Purchasing directs, controls, and manages accounting and procurement.
- The Budgeting unit formulates the Department's annual budget and administers central appropriations and allocations for all divisions.

Personal Services

This line item supports personnel costs for the division. It is funded entirely through indirect cost recoveries collected from each division in the Department.

Statutory Authority: Sections 24-1-105, 24-1-124, and 24-33-101 et seq., C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$6.6 million total funds, including \$388,291 General Fund.

Recommendation:

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Personal Services						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$5,620,314	\$217,739	\$61,938	\$5,340,637	\$0	53.2
Total FY 2024-25	\$5,620,314	\$217,739	\$61,938	\$5,340,637	\$0	53.2
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$5,620,314	\$217,739	\$61,938	\$5,340,637	\$0	53.2
R4 Scale dept administrative support	344,954	0	0	344,954	0	5.0
Prior year budget actions	318,352	37,316	5,556	275,480	0	0.1
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R5 Implement IT product owners	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$6,283,620	\$255,055	\$67,494	\$5,961,071	\$0	58.3
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$663,306	\$37,316	\$5,556	\$620,434	\$0	5.1
Percentage Change	11.8%	17.1%	9.0%	11.6%	n/a	9.6%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$6,569,108	\$388,291	\$67,494	\$6,113,323	\$0	60.1
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$285,488	-\$133,236	\$0	-\$152,252	\$0	-1.8

Health, Life, and Dental

This line item pays for the state contribution to health insurance, life insurance, and dental insurance.

Statutory Authority: Sections 24-50-611 and 24-50-603 (9), C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$30.1 million total funds, including \$5.4 million General Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the below appropriation, with flexibility to adjust the appropriation based on the Committee's decisions on common policies.

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Health, Life, and Dental						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$26,184,715	\$3,917,123	\$20,873,932	\$962,115	\$431,545	0.0
Other Legislation	\$11,222	\$0	\$11,222	\$0	\$0	0.0

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Health, Life, and Dental						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
Total FY 2024-25	\$26,195,937	\$3,917,123	\$20,885,154	\$962,115	\$431,545	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$26,195,937	\$3,917,123	\$20,885,154	\$962,115	\$431,545	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	3,117,704	368,847	2,759,042	-45,684	35,499	0.0
R6/BA1 Digital video evidence for CPW officers	28,828	0	28,828	0	0	0.0
Impacts from other agencies	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	0	830,242	0	-830,242	0	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R7 Water plan technical update	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R8 Wildlife conservation and management	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R1 Keep Colorado Wild Pass staff and operating	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R2 Outdoor equity grant program	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R5 Implement IT product owners	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R4 Scale dept administrative support	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$29,342,469	\$5,116,212	\$23,673,024	\$86,189	\$467,044	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$3,146,532	\$1,199,089	\$2,787,870	-\$875,926	\$35,499	0.0
Percentage Change	12.0%	30.6%	13.3%	-91.0%	8.2%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$30,104,729	\$5,392,301	\$24,062,751	\$182,633	\$467,044	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$762,260	-\$276,089	-\$389,727	-\$96,444	\$0	0.0

Short-term Disability

The appropriation for this line item funds short-term disability insurance premiums paid by the State to provide for the partial replacement of salary if an employee becomes disabled. The Department's short-term disability request is calculated as 0.17 percent of salaries.

Statutory Authority: Sections 24-50-611 and 24-50-603 (13), C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$127,498 total funds, including \$17,311 General Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the below appropriation, with flexibility to adjust the appropriation based on the Committee's decisions on common policies.

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Short-term Disability						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$241,982	\$33,546	\$194,844	\$8,378	\$5,214	0.0
Other Legislation	\$89	\$0	\$89	\$0	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$242,071	\$33,546	\$194,933	\$8,378	\$5,214	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$242,071	\$33,546	\$194,933	\$8,378	\$5,214	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	16,394	1,721	15,098	55	-480	0.0

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Short-term Disability						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
R6/BA1 Digital video evidence for CPW officers	233	0	233	0	0	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R1 Keep Colorado Wild Pass staff and operating	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R2 Outdoor equity grant program	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R5 Implement IT product owners	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R7 Water plan technical update	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R8 Wildlife conservation and management	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R4 Scale dept administrative support	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Impacts from other agencies	-137,801	-18,809	-111,969	-4,498	-2,525	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$120,897	\$16,458	\$98,295	\$3,935	\$2,209	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	-\$121,174	-\$17,088	-\$96,638	-\$4,443	-\$3,005	0.0
Percentage Change	-50.1%	-50.9%	-49.6%	-53.0%	-57.6%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$127,498	\$17,311	\$103,205	\$4,773	\$2,209	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$6,601	-\$853	-\$4,910	-\$838	\$0	0.0

Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance

Colorado Proposition 118, Paid Family Medical Leave Initiative, was approved by voters in November 2020 and created a paid family and medical leave insurance program for all Colorado employees administered by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment. This requires employers and employees in Colorado to pay a payroll premium (.90 percent with a minimum of half paid by the employer) to finance paid family and medical leave insurance benefits beginning January 1, 2023. It will finance up to 12 weeks of paid family and medical leave to eligible employees beginning January 1, 2024.

Statutory Authority: Section 8-13.3-516, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$796,418 total funds, including \$111,283 General Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the below appropriation, with flexibility to adjust the appropriation based on the Committee's decisions on common policies.

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$726,780	\$100,637	\$585,367	\$25,133	\$15,643	0.0
Other Legislation	\$267	\$0	\$267	\$0	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$727,047	\$100,637	\$585,634	\$25,133	\$15,643	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$727,047	\$100,637	\$585,634	\$25,133	\$15,643	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	48,348	5,163	44,459	166	-1,440	0.0
R6/BA1 Digital video evidence for CPW officers	693	0	693	0	0	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
R1 Keep Colorado Wild Pass staff and operating	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R2 Outdoor equity grant program	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R5 Implement IT product owners	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R7 Water plan technical update	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R8 Wildlife conservation and management	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R9 Working lands internship program	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R4 Scale dept administrative support	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$776,088	\$105,800	\$630,786	\$25,299	\$14,203	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$49,041	\$5,163	\$45,152	\$166	-\$1,440	0.0
Percentage Change	6.7%	5.1%	7.7%	0.7%	-9.2%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$796,418	\$111,283	\$643,126	\$27,806	\$14,203	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$20,330	-\$5,483	-\$12,340	-\$2,507	\$0	0.0

Unfunded Liability Amortization Equalization Disbursement Payments

This line item provides funding for amortization and supplemental amortization payments to increase the funded status of the Public Employees' Retirement Association (PERA).

Statutory Authority: Section 24-51-411, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$17.7 million total funds, including \$2.5 million General Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the below appropriation, with flexibility to adjust the appropriation based on the Committee's decisions on common policies.

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Unfunded Liability Amortization Equalization Disbursement Payments						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$16,096,626	\$2,236,382	\$12,954,112	\$558,520	\$347,612	0.0
Other Legislation	\$5,926	\$0	\$5,926	\$0	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$16,102,552	\$2,236,382	\$12,960,038	\$558,520	\$347,612	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$16,102,552	\$2,236,382	\$12,960,038	\$558,520	\$347,612	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	1,128,435	114,730	1,042,015	3,672	-31,982	0.0
R6/BA1 Digital video evidence for CPW officers	15,386	0	15,386	0	0	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R1 Keep Colorado Wild Pass staff and operating	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R2 Outdoor equity grant program	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R5 Implement IT product owners	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R7 Water plan technical update	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R8 Wildlife conservation and management	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R9 Working lands internship program	0	0	0	0	0	0.0

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Unfunded Liability Amortization Equalization Disbursement Payments						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
R4 Scale dept administrative support	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$17,246,373	\$2,351,112	\$14,017,439	\$562,192	\$315,630	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$1,143,821	\$114,730	\$1,057,401	\$3,672	-\$31,982	0.0
Percentage Change	7.1%	5.1%	8.2%	0.7%	-9.2%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$17,698,149	\$2,472,956	\$14,291,610	\$617,953	\$315,630	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$451,776	-\$121,844	-\$274,171	-\$55,761	\$0	0.0

PERA Direct Distribution

This line item is included as a common policy allocation payment for the state portion of the PERA Direct Distribution created in Section 24-51-414, C.R.S., enacted in S.B. 18-200.

Statutory Authority: Section 24-51-414, (2) C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$3.3 million total funds, including \$524,092 General Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the below appropriation, with flexibility to adjust the appropriation based on the Committee's decisions on common policies.

Executive Director's Office, Administration, PERA Direct Distribution						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$3,180,502	\$520,288	\$2,547,756	\$112,458	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$3,180,502	\$520,288	\$2,547,756	\$112,458	\$0	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$3,180,502	\$520,288	\$2,547,756	\$112,458	\$0	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	70,263	-19,209	95,756	-6,284	0	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$3,250,765	\$501,079	\$2,643,512	\$106,174	\$0	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$70,263	-\$19,209	\$95,756	-\$6,284	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	2.2%	-3.7%	3.8%	-5.6%	n/a	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$3,250,765	\$524,092	\$2,620,499	\$106,174	\$0	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	-\$23,013	\$23,013	\$0	\$0	0.0

Salary Survey

Pursuant to Section 24-50-104 (4) (c), C.R.S., the Department of Personnel's total compensation report recommends a salary adjustment each year, which is funded by this line item.

Statutory Authority: Section 24-50-104, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$4.7 million total funds, including \$677,718 General Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the below appropriation, with flexibility to adjust the appropriation based on the Committee’s decisions on common policies.

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Salary Survey						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$5,679,781	\$779,769	\$4,590,435	\$193,916	\$115,661	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$5,679,781	\$779,769	\$4,590,435	\$193,916	\$115,661	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$5,679,781	\$779,769	\$4,590,435	\$193,916	\$115,661	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	4,728,328	644,204	3,842,730	154,353	87,041	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Prior year budget actions	-5,679,781	-779,769	-4,590,435	-193,916	-115,661	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$4,728,328	\$644,204	\$3,842,730	\$154,353	\$87,041	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	-\$951,453	-\$135,565	-\$747,705	-\$39,563	-\$28,620	0.0
Percentage Change	-16.8%	-17.4%	-16.3%	-20.4%	-24.7%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$4,728,328	\$677,718	\$3,809,216	\$154,353	\$87,041	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	-\$33,514	\$33,514	\$0	\$0	0.0

Step Pay

This line item provides detail on the amount of funding appropriated to each department as a result of the step pay plan. The step pay plan takes effect in FY 2024-25 and is a result of negotiations between the State of Colorado and Colorado Workers for Innovative and New Solutions (COWINS).

Statutory Authority: Section 24-50-1101, C.R.S., et seq.

Request: The Department requests \$830,983 total funds, including \$172,569 General Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the below appropriation, with flexibility to adjust the appropriation based on the Committee’s decisions on common policies.

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Step Pay						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$4,016,373	\$439,038	\$3,461,010	\$103,597	\$12,728	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$4,016,373	\$439,038	\$3,461,010	\$103,597	\$12,728	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$4,016,373	\$439,038	\$3,461,010	\$103,597	\$12,728	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	830,983	168,947	634,426	27,610	0	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Step Pay						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
Prior year budget actions	-4,016,373	-439,038	-3,461,010	-103,597	-12,728	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$830,983	\$168,947	\$634,426	\$27,610	\$0	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	-\$3,185,390	-\$270,091	-\$2,826,584	-\$75,987	-\$12,728	0.0
Percentage Change	-79.3%	-61.5%	-81.7%	-73.3%	-100.0%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$830,983	\$172,569	\$630,804	\$27,610	\$0	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	-\$3,622	\$3,622	\$0	\$0	0.0

Temporary employees related to authorized leave

This line item would fund the backfill costs associated with state employees utilizing 160 hours or four weeks of Paid Family Medical Leave.

Statutory Authority: Not applicable.

Request: The Department requests \$111,198 total funds, including \$3,427 General Fund, \$107,227 cash funds, and \$544 reappropriated funds.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

Shift Differential

The Shift Differential line item addresses the adjustment necessary to compensate employees for work performed outside of normal work schedules. These are second and third shift workers whose scheduled work hours fall outside of regular work hours.

Statutory Authority: Section 24-50-104 (1) (a), C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$507,624 total funds.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the below appropriation, with flexibility to adjust the appropriation based on the Committee's decisions on common policies.

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Shift Differential						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$363,396	\$0	\$362,792	\$604	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$363,396	\$0	\$362,792	\$604	\$0	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$363,396	\$0	\$362,792	\$604	\$0	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	144,228	0	144,832	-604	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$507,624	\$0	\$507,624	\$0	\$0	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$144,228	\$0	\$144,832	-\$604	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	39.7%	n/a	39.9%	-100.0%	n/a	n/a

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Shift Differential						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$507,624	\$0	\$507,624	\$0	\$0	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Workers' Compensation

This line item is used to pay the Department's share of the State's workers' compensation program administered by the Department of Personnel.

Statutory Authority: Section 24-30-1510.7, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$1.4 million total funds, including \$30,175 General Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the below appropriation, with flexibility to adjust the appropriation based on the Committee's decisions on common policies.

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Workers' Compensation						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$1,436,375	\$10,348	\$1,423,627	\$1,717	\$683	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$1,436,375	\$10,348	\$1,423,627	\$1,717	\$683	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$1,436,375	\$10,348	\$1,423,627	\$1,717	\$683	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Impacts from other agencies	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	-41,994	-303	-41,621	-50	-20	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$1,394,381	\$10,045	\$1,382,006	\$1,667	\$663	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	-\$41,994	-\$303	-\$41,621	-\$50	-\$20	0.0
Percentage Change	-2.9%	-2.9%	-2.9%	-2.9%	-2.9%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$1,396,417	\$30,175	\$1,356,413	\$2,150	\$7,679	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$2,036	-\$20,130	\$25,593	-\$483	-\$7,016	0.0

Operating Expenses

This line item includes both the Executive Director's Office operating costs and capital outlay. Capital outlay is typically spent on computers, furniture and other one-time purchases. A portion of this line is also annually held aside in a technology fund for IT projects that benefit all divisions within the Department. The total appropriation amount for this line changes very little from year to year. Staff notes that the majority of expenses are related to Division of Parks and Wildlife capital outlay related expenditures.

Statutory Authority: Sections 24-1-105, 24-1-124, and 24-33-101 et seq., C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$302,168 total funds, including \$3,427 General Fund.

Recommendation:

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Operating Expenses						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$248,114	\$3,427	\$950	\$243,737	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$248,114	\$3,427	\$950	\$243,737	\$0	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$248,114	\$3,427	\$950	\$243,737	\$0	0.0
R4 Scale dept administrative support	46,420	0	0	46,420	0	0.0
R5 Implement IT product owners	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Prior year budget actions	-7,000	0	0	-7,000	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$287,534	\$3,427	\$950	\$283,157	\$0	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$39,420	\$0	\$0	\$39,420	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	15.9%	0.0%	0.0%	16.2%	n/a	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$302,168	\$3,427	\$950	\$297,791	\$0	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$14,634	\$0	\$0	-\$14,634	\$0	0.0

Legal Services

This line item is used to pay the Department of Law for the provision of attorney and paralegal services for all Divisions.

Statutory Authority: Sections 24-31-101 (1)(a) and 24-75-112 (1)(i), C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$7.7 million total funds, including \$2.5 million General Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the below appropriation, with flexibility to adjust the appropriation based on the Committee's decisions on common policies.

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Legal Services						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$8,230,267	\$2,649,414	\$5,412,961	\$123,975	\$43,917	0.0
Other Legislation	\$20,483	\$0	\$20,483	\$0	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$8,250,750	\$2,649,414	\$5,433,444	\$123,975	\$43,917	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$8,250,750	\$2,649,414	\$5,433,444	\$123,975	\$43,917	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	-388,397	-165,703	-219,747	-22,852	19,905	0.0
Prior year legislation	-115,649	0	-115,649	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$7,746,704	\$2,483,711	\$5,098,048	\$101,123	\$63,822	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	-\$504,046	-\$165,703	-\$335,396	-\$22,852	\$19,905	0.0

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Legal Services						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
Percentage Change	-6.1%	-6.3%	-6.2%	-18.4%	45.3%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$7,746,704	\$2,483,724	\$5,098,035	\$101,123	\$63,822	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	-\$13	\$13	\$0	\$0	0.0

Payment to Risk Management and Property Funds

This line item represents an allocation appropriated to each department based on a shared statewide risk formula for two programs, the Liability Program and the Property Program. The Liability Program is used to pay liability claims and expenses brought against the State. The Property Program provides insurance coverage for State buildings and their contents.

Statutory Authority: Sections 24-30-1510 and 24-30-1510.5, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$3.3 million total funds, including \$103,672 General Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the below appropriation, with flexibility to adjust the appropriation based on the Committee's decisions on common policies.

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Payment to Risk Management and Property Funds						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$2,925,596	\$195,252	\$2,677,001	\$35,543	\$17,800	0.0
Other Legislation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$2,925,596	\$195,252	\$2,677,001	\$35,543	\$17,800	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$2,925,596	\$195,252	\$2,677,001	\$35,543	\$17,800	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	607,155	40,521	555,564	7,376	3,694	0.0
Impacts from other agencies	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$3,532,751	\$235,773	\$3,232,565	\$42,919	\$21,494	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$607,155	\$40,521	\$555,564	\$7,376	\$3,694	0.0
Percentage Change	20.8%	20.8%	20.8%	20.8%	20.8%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$3,250,916	\$102,672	\$3,124,674	\$14,479	\$9,091	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$281,835	\$133,101	\$107,891	\$28,440	\$12,403	0.0

Vehicle Lease Payments

Funds provided through this line item enable the Department to lease vehicles from State Fleet Management in the Department of Personnel and Administration. Seven of the Department's eight divisions lease vehicles to perform their work. The cost of each lease is based on the purchase price of the vehicle selected and the terms of the lease agreement.

Statutory Authority: Section 24-30-1104 (2), C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$9.1 million total funds, including \$1.3 million General Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the below appropriation, with flexibility to adjust the appropriation based on the Committee's decisions on common policies.

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Vehicle Lease Payments						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$6,127,172	\$535,444	\$5,518,813	\$15,162	\$57,753	0.0
Other Legislation	\$997,845	\$209,420	\$781,476	-\$3,800	\$10,749	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$7,125,017	\$744,864	\$6,300,289	\$11,362	\$68,502	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$7,125,017	\$744,864	\$6,300,289	\$11,362	\$68,502	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	2,977,792	260,225	2,682,130	7,369	28,068	0.0
Prior year budget actions	341,318	117,755	223,563	0	0	0.0
Prior year legislation	52,703	0	52,703	0	0	0.0
R1 Keep Colorado Wild Pass staff and operating	31,365	0	31,365	0	0	0.0
R8 Wildlife conservation and management	30,389	0	30,389	0	0	0.0
R9 Working lands internship program	12,767	0	12,767	0	0	0.0
Impacts from other agencies	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$10,571,351	\$1,122,844	\$9,333,206	\$18,731	\$96,570	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$3,446,334	\$377,980	\$3,032,917	\$7,369	\$28,068	0.0
Percentage Change	48.4%	50.7%	48.1%	64.9%	41.0%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$9,146,351	\$1,346,213	\$7,713,894	\$23,290	\$62,954	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$1,425,000	-\$223,369	\$1,619,312	-\$4,559	\$33,616	0.0

Capital Outlay

This line item provides funding for the replacement of equipment and furnishings and minor facility renovations.

Statutory Authority: Sections 24-1-105, 24-1-124, and 24-33-101 et seq., C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$1.1 million total funds, including \$1,928 General Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends \$1.1 million total funds, which does not include General Fund.

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Capital Outlay						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$1,062,343	\$0	\$1,057,006	\$0	\$5,337	0.0

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Capital Outlay						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
Total FY 2024-25	\$1,062,343	\$0	\$1,057,006	\$0	\$5,337	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$1,062,343	\$0	\$1,057,006	\$0	\$5,337	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$1,062,343	\$0	\$1,057,006	\$0	\$5,337	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	0.0%	n/a	0.0%	n/a	0.0%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$1,062,343	\$1,928	\$1,055,078	\$0	\$5,337	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	-\$1,928	\$1,928	\$0	\$0	0.0

Information Technology Asset Maintenance

This line item enables the Department to maintain and replace its IT systems. This includes annual IT support and maintenance agreements with hardware and software vendors, new and replacement equipment, computer supplies, data communication charges, utilities and other related costs.

Statutory Authority: Sections 24-1-105, 24-1-124, and 24-33-101 et seq., C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$882,819 total funds, including \$128,815 General Fund.

Recommendation:

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Information Technology Asset Maintenance						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$877,198	\$122,121	\$643,068	\$112,009	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$877,198	\$122,121	\$643,068	\$112,009	\$0	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$877,198	\$122,121	\$643,068	\$112,009	\$0	0.0
Prior year budget actions	5,621	0	5,621	0	0	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$882,819	\$122,121	\$648,689	\$112,009	\$0	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$5,621	\$0	\$5,621	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	0.6%	0.0%	0.9%	0.0%	n/a	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$882,819	\$128,815	\$641,995	\$112,009	\$0	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	-\$6,694	\$6,694	\$0	\$0	0.0

Leased Space

The responsibilities of the Department of Natural Resources extend across the entire state, and for reasons of efficiency and proximity to specific project areas DNR's divisions operate a number of satellite offices throughout Colorado. In many instances, divisions are statutorily required to operate offices in specific counties and/or congressional districts.

Statutory Authority: Section 24-30-1303, et seq., C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$2.0 million total funds, including \$781,711 General Fund.

Recommendation:

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Leased Space						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$1,985,820	\$754,490	\$1,202,977	\$5,687	\$22,666	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$1,985,820	\$754,490	\$1,202,977	\$5,687	\$22,666	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$1,985,820	\$754,490	\$1,202,977	\$5,687	\$22,666	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	45,614	21,316	17,032	218	7,048	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$2,031,434	\$775,806	\$1,220,009	\$5,905	\$29,714	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$45,614	\$21,316	\$17,032	\$218	\$7,048	0.0
Percentage Change	2.3%	2.8%	1.4%	3.8%	31.1%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$2,031,434	\$781,711	\$1,214,104	\$5,905	\$29,714	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	-\$5,905	\$5,905	\$0	\$0	0.0

Capitol Complex Leased Space

This line item is used to pay the Department of Personnel for the costs of maintaining state buildings that are part of the capitol complex. Capitol Complex Leased Space is appropriated based on usable square footage utilized by each state department. For the Department of Natural Resources, this includes 79,240 square feet of space at 1313 Sherman Street (Centennial Building).

Statutory Authority: Section 24-30-1104 (4), C.R.S., and Part 1 of Article 82 of Title 24, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$886,228 total funds, including \$281,101 General Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the below appropriation, with flexibility to adjust the appropriation based on the Committee's decisions on common policies.

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Capitol Complex Leased Space						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Capitol Complex Leased Space						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$839,367	\$266,238	\$293,744	\$126,508	\$152,877	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$839,367	\$266,238	\$293,744	\$126,508	\$152,877	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$839,367	\$266,238	\$293,744	\$126,508	\$152,877	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	100,524	31,885	35,179	15,151	18,309	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$939,891	\$298,123	\$328,923	\$141,659	\$171,186	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$100,524	\$31,885	\$35,179	\$15,151	\$18,309	0.0
Percentage Change	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$886,228	\$281,101	\$314,040	\$133,571	\$157,516	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$53,663	\$17,022	\$14,883	\$8,088	\$13,670	0.0

Digital Trunk Radio Payments

This line item provides funding for payments to the Office of Public Safety Communications in the Department of Public Safety related to digital trunk radio user charges. This is a new line item that reflects the transfer of digital trunk radio administration from the Office of Information Technology to the Office of Public Safety Communications as created by H.B. 22-1353 (Public Safety Communications Transfer).

Statutory Authority: Section 24-33.5-2508, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$2.0 million total funds, including \$30,778 General Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the below appropriation, with flexibility to adjust the appropriation based on the Committee's decisions on common policies.

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Digital Trunk Radio Payments						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$2,022,900	\$0	\$2,022,900	\$0	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$2,022,900	\$0	\$2,022,900	\$0	\$0	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$2,022,900	\$0	\$2,022,900	\$0	\$0	0.0
Impacts from other agencies	2,796	0	2,796	0	0	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$2,025,696	\$0	\$2,025,696	\$0	\$0	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$2,796	\$0	\$2,796	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	0.1%	n/a	0.1%	n/a	n/a	n/a

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Digital Trunk Radio Payments						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$2,025,696	\$30,778	\$1,994,918	\$0	\$0	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	-\$30,778	\$30,778	\$0	\$0	0.0

CORE Operations

This line item funds the Department's share of the statewide accounting system (CORE) used by the State Controller to record all state revenues and expenditures.

Statutory Authority: Section 24-30-209, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$481,188 total funds, including \$40,478 General Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the below appropriation, with flexibility to adjust the appropriation based on the Committee's decisions on common policies.

Executive Director's Office, Administration, CORE Operations						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$151,676	\$11,841	\$131,507	\$3,857	\$4,471	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$151,676	\$11,841	\$131,507	\$3,857	\$4,471	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$151,676	\$11,841	\$131,507	\$3,857	\$4,471	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	-16,755	-1,308	-14,527	-426	-494	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$134,921	\$10,533	\$116,980	\$3,431	\$3,977	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	-\$16,755	-\$1,308	-\$14,527	-\$426	-\$494	0.0
Percentage Change	-11.0%	-11.0%	-11.0%	-11.0%	-11.0%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request						
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$481,188	\$40,478	\$415,461	\$11,689	\$13,560	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$346,267	-\$29,945	-\$298,481	-\$8,258	-\$9,583	0.0

Payments to OIT

This line item provides spending authority for the Department to purchase IT services from the Governor's Office of Information Technology (OIT). The majority of this appropriation is used to pay for the OIT staff who provide network support, desktop support, and applications development for the Department.

Statutory Authority: Sections 24-37.5-103, 4-37.5-506 and 24-37.5-604, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$20.8 million total funds, including \$3.9 million General Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the below appropriation, with flexibility to adjust the appropriation based on the Committee's decisions on common policies.

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Payments to OIT						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$19,640,024	\$3,667,954	\$15,384,594	\$215,001	\$372,475	0.0
Other Legislation	-263,402	-24,360	-237,315	0	-1,727	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$19,376,622	\$3,643,594	\$15,147,279	\$215,001	\$370,748	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$19,376,622	\$3,643,594	\$15,147,279	\$215,001	\$370,748	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	1,173,595	-197,119	828,576	657,020	-114,882	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	0	260,076	0	-260,076	0	0.0
R6/BA1 Digital video evidence for CPW officers	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$20,550,217	\$3,706,551	\$15,975,855	\$611,945	\$255,866	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$1,173,595	\$62,957	\$828,576	\$396,944	-\$114,882	0.0
Percentage Change	6.1%	1.7%	5.5%	184.6%	-31.0%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$20,813,619	\$3,849,593	\$16,094,488	\$611,945	\$257,593	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$263,402	-\$143,042	-\$118,633	\$0	-\$1,727	0.0

Species Conservation Trust Fund

Senate Bill 21-281 (Concerning Severance Tax Revenue) authorized an annual appropriation up to \$5.0 annually from the Severance Tax Operational Fund to the Species Conservation Trust Fund (SCTF). However, pursuant to Section 24-33-111 (3)(a), C.R.S., legislative approval through an annual SCTF bill is required to authorize spending from the Species Conservation Trust Fund.

Statutory Authority: Section 39-29-109.3 (1)(g)(I), C.R.S.

Request: The Department does not request an appropriation for this line item.

Recommendation:

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Species Conservation Trust Fund						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0	0.0

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Species Conservation Trust Fund						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	0.0%	n/a	0.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0	0.0

Wildfire Mitigation Capacity Development Fund

Senate Bill 23-139 (State Severance Tax Trust Fund Allocation) authorized an annual appropriation up to \$5.0 annually from the Severance Tax Operational Fund to the Wildfire Mitigation Capacity Development Fund. This continuously appropriated cash fund supports the Colorado Strategic Wildfire Action Program.

Statutory Authority: Section 39-29-109.3 (1)(g)(V), C.R.S.

Request: The Department does not request an appropriation for this line item.

Recommendation:

Executive Director's Office, Administration, Appropriation to Wildfire Mitigation and Capacity Development Fund						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	0.0%	n/a	0.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0	0.0

(B) Special Programs

Colorado Avalanche Information Center Program Costs

The Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC) works to minimize the economic and human impact of snow avalanches on recreation, tourism, commerce, industry, and the citizens of Colorado by providing information and education on avalanche danger. The CAIC is responsible for forecasting avalanche danger and providing education and safety training to help reduce

risks to highway travelers, Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) staff, recreationalists, and avalanche professionals.

Statutory Authority: Sections 24-1-124 (2.1) (c) and 24-33-116, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$2.6 million total funds, including \$849,268 General Fund.

Recommendation:

Executive Director's Office, Special Programs, Colorado Avalanche Information Center						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$2,490,554	\$0	\$1,665,172	\$806,411	\$18,971	20.7
Total FY 2024-25	\$2,490,554	\$0	\$1,665,172	\$806,411	\$18,971	20.7
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$2,490,554	\$0	\$1,665,172	\$806,411	\$18,971	20.7
Prior year budget actions	81,230	0	52,860	28,370	0	2.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$2,571,784	\$0	\$1,718,032	\$834,781	\$18,971	22.7
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$81,230	\$0	\$52,860	\$28,370	\$0	2.0
Percentage Change	3.3%	n/a	3.2%	3.5%	0.0%	9.7%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$2,571,784	\$849,268	\$868,764	\$834,781	\$18,971	22.7
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	-\$849,268	\$849,268	\$0	\$0	0.0

Colorado River Program

This line item supports funding for the Upper Colorado River Commissioner and a communications specialist.

Request: The Department requests \$325,042 cash funds from the CWCB Construction Fund.

Recommendation:

Executive Director's Office, Special Programs, Colorado River Program						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$309,900	\$0	\$309,900	\$0	\$0	2.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$309,900	\$0	\$309,900	\$0	\$0	2.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$309,900	\$0	\$309,900	\$0	\$0	2.0
Prior year budget actions	15,142	0	15,142	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$325,042	\$0	\$325,042	\$0	\$0	2.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$15,142	\$0	\$15,142	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	4.9%	n/a	4.9%	n/a	n/a	0.0%

Executive Director's Office, Special Programs, Colorado River Program						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$325,042	\$0	\$325,042	\$0	\$0	2.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Colorado Produced Water Consortium

This line item supports funding for the Colorado Produced Water Consortium created via H.B. 23-1242 (Water Conservation in Oil and Gas Operations). The bill requires the Consortium to make recommendations to state agencies and the General Assembly regarding the recycling and reuse of produced water, develop guidance documents to promote best practices for in-field recycling and reuse of produced water, and analyze and report on:

- Existing produced water infrastructure, storage, and treatment facilities;
- The volume of produced water in different oil and gas basins available for recycling and reuse; and
- Additional infrastructure, storage, and technology needed to achieve different levels of recycling and reuse of produced water throughout the state.

Statutory Authority: Section 34-60-135 (2)(a), C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$238,028 cash funds.

Recommendation:

Executive Director's Office, Special Programs, Colorado Produced Water Consortium						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$231,134	\$0	\$231,134	\$0	\$0	2.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$231,134	\$0	\$231,134	\$0	\$0	2.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$231,134	\$0	\$231,134	\$0	\$0	2.0
Prior year budget actions	6,742	0	6,742	0	0	0.0
Prior year legislation	162	0	162	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$238,038	\$0	\$238,038	\$0	\$0	2.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$6,904	\$0	\$6,904	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	3.0%	n/a	3.0%	n/a	n/a	0.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$238,038	\$0	\$238,038	\$0	\$0	2.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Indirect Cost Assessment

This line item reflects the amount of indirect cost assessments to cash and federal funding sources within this subdivision. The Department uses the funds collected to offset General Fund that would otherwise be required to pay for services from the Executive Director's Office.

Request: The Department does not request an appropriation for this line item as part of the R10 severance tax refinancing proposal.

Recommendation:

Executive Director's Office, Special Programs, Indirect Cost Assessment						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$115,529	\$0	\$115,529	\$0	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$115,529	\$0	\$115,529	\$0	\$0	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$115,529	\$0	\$115,529	\$0	\$0	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	17,707	0	17,707	0	0	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$133,236	\$0	\$133,236	\$0	\$0	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$17,707	\$0	\$17,707	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	15.3%	n/a	15.3%	n/a	n/a	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$133,236	\$0	\$133,236	\$0	\$0	0.0

(2) Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety

The Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (DRMS) is charged with helping to develop Colorado’s mining industry in an environmentally protective manner and ensuring that mined land is reclaimed to a beneficial use. This includes: (1) permitting, inspecting, and ensuring compliance at active coal and mineral prospecting and mining operations; (2) safeguarding and reclaiming abandoned and forfeited mine sites; and (3) training, testing, and certifying mine employees at both coal and non-coal mining operations in accordance with federal health and safety standards. Pursuant to Section 39-29-109.3 (1)(c), C.R.S., the General Assembly may appropriate up to 25.0 percent of the money in the Severance Tax Operational Fund to the Division.

Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$8,610,383	\$0	\$4,932,851	\$0	\$3,677,532	64.8
Total FY 2024-25	\$8,610,383	\$0	\$4,932,851	\$0	\$3,677,532	64.8
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$8,610,383	\$0	\$4,932,851	\$0	\$3,677,532	64.8
Centrally appropriation items	201,062	0	109,234	0	91,828	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	-3,991	0	31,079	0	-35,070	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$8,807,454		\$5,073,164	\$0	\$3,734,290	64.8
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$197,071	\$0	\$140,313	\$0	\$56,758	0.0
Percentage Change	2.3%	0.0%	2.8%	0.0%	1.5%	0.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$8,807,454	\$0	\$5,073,164	\$0	\$3,734,290	64.8
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Decision Items

No decision items submitted only impact this division.

Line Item Detail

(A) Coal Land Reclamation

Program Costs

This line item supports the Coal Regulatory Program, which regulates active coal mines and ensures mined lands are reclaimed to beneficial use while protecting public health, safety, and the environment. Colorado was granted state primacy to regulate coal mines following the passage of the federal Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA), Title V of 1977. The program is funded with 77.6 percent federal funds from the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Surface Mining (OSM) and 22.4 percent state cash match from the Severance Tax Operational Fund, based on total permitted mine acres located on federally owned lands versus non-federal acres. The federal grant funds are contingent on Colorado maintaining state primacy to conduct a coal regulation program. The state severance tax funds are subject to a statutory limit on the Division's total allowable usage of 25.0 percent of the total revenue in the Operational Fund (Section 39-29-109.3 (1)(c), C.R.S.). This appropriation supports 19.0 FTE, which includes technical regulatory and management staff, a grant/financial warranty specialist, administrative staff and a share of central administrative staff that support the entire division.

Statutory Authority: Sections 34-33-101, et seq., C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests an appropriation of \$2,150,814 total funds including \$505,066 cash funds from the Severance Tax Operational Fund and \$1,645,748 federal funds and 19.0 FTE for FY 2025-26.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approving the request.

Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety, Coal Land Reclamation, Program Costs						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$2,101,077	\$0	\$476,712	\$0	\$1,624,365	19.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$2,101,077	\$0	\$476,712	\$0	\$1,624,365	19.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$2,101,077	\$0	\$476,712	\$0	\$1,624,365	19.0
Centrally appropriation items	49,737	0	28,354	0	21,383	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$2,150,814	\$0	\$505,066	\$0	\$1,645,748	19.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$49,737	\$0	\$28,354	\$0	\$21,383	0.0
Percentage Change	2.4%	n/a	5.9%	n/a	1.3%	0.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$2,150,814	\$0	\$505,066	\$0	\$1,645,748	19.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Indirect Cost Assessment

This line item reflects the amount of indirect cost assessments to cash and federal funding sources within the Coal Land Reclamation subdivision. The Department uses the funds collected to offset General Fund that would otherwise be required to pay for services from the Executive Director's Office.

Request: The Department requests an appropriation of \$89,018 total funds, including \$18,694 cash funds from the Severance Tax Operational Fund and \$70,324 federal funds for FY 2025-26.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approving the request.

Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety, Coal Land Reclamation, Indirect Cost Assessment						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$99,197	\$0	\$20,831	\$0	\$78,366	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$99,197	\$0	\$20,831	\$0	\$78,366	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$99,197	\$0	\$20,831	\$0	\$78,366	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	-10,179	0	-2,137	0	-8,042	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$89,018	\$0	\$18,694	\$0	\$70,324	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	-\$10,179	\$0	-\$2,137	\$0	-\$8,042	0.0
Percentage Change	-10.3%	n/a	-10.3%	n/a	-10.3%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$89,018	\$0	\$18,694	\$0	\$70,324	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

(B) Inactive Mines

Program Costs

This line item provides funding for the Inactive Mines Reclamation Program (IMRP), which is responsible for safeguarding abandoned mine openings, and reclaiming pre-law or legacy abandoned mine sites mined prior to passage of SMCRA in 1977. Funding consists of OSM federal grant funds and state cash funds from the Severance Tax Operational Fund.

Unlike the Coal Program, no specific percentage cash match is required but federal funding is contingent on maintaining a federally-approved coal mining regulatory program. OSM funds are limited to use at pre-law sites and may not be used to remedy environmental and water quality issues. The federal funds appropriated in the Long Bill reflect the administrative portion of the federal grant. The IMRP includes 17.8 FTE but the cost of between 7.0 and 11.0 FTE are charged to non-appropriated project funds from the federal Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation, and Enforcement, the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Energy, and other cooperative agreements.

This line item also supports the Mining Non-Point Source (MNPS) Program, formerly included in the Legacy Mine Hydrology Projects line item which was consolidated into the program line item in FY 2020-21. The program helps local entities secure federal funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for water quality improvement (not water treatment) projects at pre-law mine sites abandoned prior to adoption of the Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1972. After mining operations cease in a given location, acid drainage and metal leaching can continue at these sites for many years. The cost of water treatment is now accounted for in the permitting and bonding process for active mine sites, but abandoned legacy mine sites do not have an identifiable party or operator that can be held responsible for remediation. Instead, reclamation must be undertaken voluntarily by local entities and is supported by grant funding with financial and technical assistance from the DRMS.

The MNPS Program uses cash funds from the Severance Tax Operational Fund as matching funds for the federal grants used to support the construction of hydro-geologic controls at legacy sites, including: diversion ditches, mine waste removal, mine waste consolidation, stream diversion, and re-vegetation. Additionally, the DRMS occasionally receives non-appropriated grant funds from CDPHE for which it has continuous spending authority pursuant to Section 34-33-133 (2)(a), C.R.S. The MNPS includes 1.2 FTE for project management.

This line item also supports the former Reclamation of Forfeited Mine Sites line item which was also consolidated into the program line item in FY 2020-21. The General Assembly created this line item in FY 2007-08 to provide funding to reclaim mine sites forfeited due to operator bankruptcy or death, or that had insufficient bonds when the mining permit was revoked. Risks associated with un-reclaimed mine sites include water contamination, unstable soils, volatile gases and explosives, and open pits. Funding available for reclamation at forfeited mine sites is largely determined by the date of forfeiture:

1. Mines forfeited prior to 1977 qualify for federal funding from the Office of Surface Mining and receive some severance tax revenue through the Program Costs line item in this subdivision. Sites treated under this line item are not eligible for federal funds that can be used for pre-1977 mines.
2. Between 1977 and 1993 mine operators were required to post bonds, but the bonds were capped in statute by mine type and were not tailored to the features of individual mine sites. As a result, the capped bonds were sometimes inadequate to fully fund reclamation at sites from this period and, prior to the establishment of this line item, the DRMS was only able to address the sites as funding permitted.
3. Mines established after 1993 have individually-calculated bond requirements based on size, type of disturbance, on-site structures, surrounding environmental impacts, and construction costs. While the bonds from mines forfeited after 1993 have generally been adequate to address necessary reclamation work, the DRMS still encounters mine sites with bond shortages or failures that require additional funding to fully reclaim. This situation can occur if a mine site has changed between permitting/bonding and forfeiture.

This line item also supports the former Emergency Response Costs line item which was also consolidated into the program line item in FY 2020-21. This appropriation provides funds for the Department to use for an initial response to environmental emergencies at both permitted

and legacy mining sites. For large-scale emergencies, there are procedures for the Governor and/or the JBC to make additional funding available, but the appropriation in this line item can be used immediately while other funds are secured. Additionally, even if affected sites have financial warranties, it often takes time to go through the required regulatory procedures needed to liquidate the bonds and other warranty instruments for abandoned mine sites. By providing an immediately available source of funds, the Division is able to avoid increased remediation costs that may be incurred by a delay in responding to environmental emergencies due to funding. Contractors perform the environmental remediation work and no FTE are associated with emergency activity.

To accommodate projects completed at high elevation locations, the time required for landowner and contract approval prior to actual work at each site, and due to the length of time mine reclamation can take to complete, the former Legacy Mine Hydrology Projects and Reclamation of Forfeited Mine Sites line items included three-year spending authority, authorized by Long Bill footnote. The consolidated Program Costs line item was accorded three-year spending authority at the time of consolidation in FY 2020-21. The Program Costs line still has three-year spending authority.

Statutory Authority: Sections 34-21-101 to 34-21-103, C.R.S., Section 34-24-110, C.R.S., Sections 34-32-118 and 34-32.5-118, Sections 34-32-122, 34-32-124 and 34-32-124.5, C.R.S., Section 34-33-133, C.R.S., and Section 34-34-101, et seq., C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests an appropriation of \$2,828,018 total funds including \$1,250,384 cash funds from the Severance Tax Operational Fund and \$1,577,634 federal funds and 17.8 FTE for FY 2025-26.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approving the request and continuing three-year spending authority and the related RFI.

Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety, Inactive Mines, Program Costs						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$2,763,923	\$0	\$1,248,310	\$0	\$1,515,613	17.8
Total FY 2024-25	\$2,763,923	\$0	\$1,248,310	\$0	\$1,515,613	17.8
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$2,763,923	\$0	\$1,248,310	\$0	\$1,515,613	17.8
Centrally appropriation items	64,095	0	2,074	0	62,021	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$2,828,018	\$0	\$1,250,384	\$0	\$1,577,634	17.8
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$64,095	\$0	\$2,074	\$0	\$62,021	0.0
Percentage Change	2.3%	n/a	0.2%	n/a	4.1%	0.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$2,828,018	\$0	\$1,250,384	\$0	\$1,577,634	17.8
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Indirect Cost Assessment

This line item reflects the amount of indirect cost assessments to cash and federal funding sources within the Inactive Mines subdivision. The Department uses the funds collected to offset General Fund that would otherwise be required to pay for services from the Executive Director's Office.

Request: The Department requests an appropriation of \$202,570 total funds, including \$76,941 cash funds from the Severance Tax Operational Fund and \$125,629 federal funds for FY 2025-26.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approving the request.

Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety, Inactive Mines, Indirect Cost Assessment						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$200,234	\$0	\$42,226	\$0	\$158,008	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$200,234	\$0	\$42,226	\$0	\$158,008	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$200,234	\$0	\$42,226	\$0	\$158,008	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	2,336	0	34,715	0	-32,379	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$202,570	\$0	\$76,941	\$0	\$125,629	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$2,336	\$0	\$34,715	\$0	-\$32,379	0.0
Percentage Change	1.2%	n/a	82.2%	n/a	-20.5%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$202,570	\$0	\$76,941	\$0	\$125,629	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

(C) Minerals

Program Costs

This program issues and enforces mining and reclamation permits for all non-coal mines in Colorado on state, federal, and private lands. The types of minerals regulated under this program include metals (e.g. gold, silver, and molybdenum), construction materials (e.g. sand, gravel, marble, and flagstone), uranium, and vanadium. The Minerals Program also regulates oil shale development but coordinates extensively with the Energy and Carbon Management Commission in reviewing permits and conducting inspections. Additionally, operating costs of the Mined Land Reclamation Board are paid from this line item. Fund sources include permitting fees deposited in the Mined Land Reclamation Fund and severance tax revenues from the Severance Tax Operational Fund. Most fees are set in statute, but some are set by rule pursuant to Section 34-32-127, C.R.S.

Statutory Authority: Sections 34-32-101, et seq., and 34-32.5-101, et seq., C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests an appropriation of \$2,683,347 cash funds from the Severance Tax Operational Fund and 23.0 FTE for FY 2025-26.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approving the request.

Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety, Minerals, Program Costs						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$2,608,810	\$0	\$2,608,810	\$0	\$0	23.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$2,608,810	\$0	\$2,608,810	\$0	\$0	23.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$2,608,810	\$0	\$2,608,810	\$0	\$0	23.0
Centrally appropriation items	74,537	0	74,537	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$2,683,347	\$0	\$2,683,347	\$0	\$0	23.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$74,537	\$0	\$74,537	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	2.9%	n/a	2.9%	n/a	n/a	0.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$2,683,347	\$0	\$2,683,347	\$0	\$0	23.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Indirect Cost Assessment

This line item reflects the amount of indirect cost assessments to cash and federal funding sources within the Minerals subdivision. The Department uses the funds collected to offset General Fund that would otherwise be required to pay for services from the Executive Director's Office.

Request: The Department requests an appropriation of \$113,400 cash funds from the Severance Tax Operational Fund for FY 2025-26.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approving the request.

Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety, Minerals, Indirect Cost Assessment						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$112,310	\$0	\$112,310	\$0	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$112,310	\$0	\$112,310	\$0	\$0	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$112,310	\$0	\$112,310	\$0	\$0	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	1,090	0	1,090	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$113,400	\$0	\$113,400	\$0	\$0	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$1,090	\$0	\$1,090	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	1.0%	n/a	1.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a

Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety, Minerals, Indirect Cost Assessment						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$113,400	\$0	\$113,400	\$0	\$0	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

(D) Mines Program

Colorado and Federal Mine Safety Program

This program conducts safety audits of active mines, provides mine rescue and safety training, produces and distributes mine safety training materials, and inspects tourist mines. Federal funds are from the Mine Safety and Health Administration in the U.S. Department of Labor and account for the majority of program funding. The remainder of the appropriation is comprised of cash funds from the Severance Tax Operational Fund and a small amount of fee revenue from coal mine certification exams and training materials.

Statutory Authority: Articles 20 to 24 of Title 34, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests an appropriation of \$579,581 total funds including \$381,597 cash funds from the Severance Tax Operational Fund and \$197,984 federal funds and 4.0 FTE for FY 2025-26.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approving the request.

Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety, Mines Program, Colorado and Federal Mine Safety Program						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$571,328	\$0	\$379,863	\$0	\$191,465	4.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$571,328	\$0	\$379,863	\$0	\$191,465	4.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$571,328	\$0	\$379,863	\$0	\$191,465	4.0
Centrally appropriation items	8,253	0	1,734	0	6,519	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$579,581	\$0	\$381,597	\$0	\$197,984	4.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$8,253	\$0	\$1,734	\$0	\$6,519	0.0
Percentage Change	1.4%	n/a	0.5%	n/a	3.4%	0.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$579,581	\$0	\$381,597	\$0	\$197,984	4.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Blaster Certification Program

This line item provides funding for the Blaster Certification Program, which administers certification exams required by certain coal mine officials as specified in Section 34-22-105, C.R.S. Federal funds from the OSM account for 79.0 percent of program funding with a 21.0 percent state match from the Severance Tax Operational Fund.

Statutory Authority: Section 34-33-101, et seq., C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests an appropriation of \$145,302 total funds, including \$37,642 cash funds from the Severance Tax Operational Fund and \$107,660 federal funds and 1.0 FTE for FY 2025-26.

Recommendation: JBC staff recommends approving the request.

Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety, Mines Program, Blaster Certification Program						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$140,862	\$0	\$35,107	\$0	\$105,755	1.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$140,862	\$0	\$35,107	\$0	\$105,755	1.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$140,862	\$0	\$35,107	\$0	\$105,755	1.0
Centrally appropriation items	4,440	0	2,535	0	1,905	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$145,302	\$0	\$37,642	\$0	\$107,660	1.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$4,440	\$0	\$2,535	\$0	\$1,905	0.0
Percentage Change	3.2%	n/a	7.2%	n/a	1.8%	0.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$145,302	\$0	\$37,642	\$0	\$107,660	1.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Indirect Cost Assessment

This line item reflects the amount of indirect cost assessments to cash and federal funding sources within the Mines Program subdivision. The Department uses the funds collected to offset General Fund that would otherwise be required to pay for services from the Executive Director's Office.

Request: The Department requests an appropriation of \$15,404 total funds, including \$6,093 cash funds from the Severance Tax Operational Fund and \$9,311 federal funds for FY 2025-26.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approving the request.

Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety, Mines Program, Indirect Cost Assessment						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$12,642	\$0	\$8,682	\$0	\$3,960	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$12,642	\$0	\$8,682	\$0	\$3,960	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$12,642	\$0	\$8,682	\$0	\$3,960	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	2,762	0	-2,589	0	5,351	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$15,404	\$0	\$6,093	\$0	\$9,311	0.0

Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety, Mines Program, Indirect Cost Assessment						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$2,762	\$0	-\$2,589	\$0	\$5,351	0.0
Percentage Change	21.8%	n/a	-29.8%	n/a	135.1%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$15,404	\$0	\$6,093	\$0	\$9,311	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

(3) Energy and Carbon Management Commission

The Energy and Carbon Management Commission (ECMC) is charged with regulating the responsible exploration, development, and conservation of Colorado's oil and natural gas resources in a manner that protects public health, safety, welfare, the environment, and wildlife resources. To achieve these goals, the Commission promulgates regulations governing oil and gas development, issues permits, enforces laws and regulations, maintains a financial surety program to ensure proper reclamation of well sites, and provides information to the public and industry pertaining to oil and gas production. In addition to regulation and enforcement, the ECMC responds to complaints and inquiries, responds to oil and gas spills and other environmental emergencies at production sites, manages plugging and reclamation work at abandoned well sites, and performs baseline water quality studies.

Energy and Carbon Management Commission						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$32,468,858	\$0	\$32,316,168	\$0	\$152,690	199.6
Other Legislation	274,617	0	274,617	0	0	2.8
Total FY 2024-25	\$32,743,475	\$0	\$32,590,785	\$0	\$152,690	202.4
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$32,743,475	\$0	\$32,590,785	\$0	\$152,690	202.4
Prior year legislation	63,430	0	63,430	0	0	2.1
Centrally appropriation items	682,792	0	682,792	0	0	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	73,196	0	74,722	0	-1,526	0.0
R5 Implement IT product owners	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$33,562,893	\$0	\$33,411,729	\$0	\$151,164	204.5
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$819,418	\$0	\$820,944	\$0	-\$1,526	2.1
Percentage Change	2.5%	n/a	2.5%	n/a	-1.0%	1.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$33,679,645	\$0	\$33,528,481	\$0	\$151,164	205.4
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$116,752	\$0	-\$116,752	\$0	\$0	-0.9

Decision Items

No decision items submitted only impact this division.

Line Item Detail

Program Costs

This line item supports the majority of personal services and operating expenses for the ECMC. Approximately 28.3 percent of the funding for this line item is from the Severance Tax Operational Fund. The other 71.7 percent is from the Energy and Carbon Management Cash Fund (ECMC Fund). The ECMC Fund is supported by a statewide mill levy on the market value of oil and gas production. Pursuant to Section 34-60-122 (1)(a), C.R.S., the mill levy rate is capped at a maximum of 1.7 mills, but the Commission has the authority to increase or decrease the mill levy rate under the cap if necessary to align revenue with expenditures from the Response Fund. The current rate is 1.5 mills.

Statutory Authority: Section 34-60-101 et seq., C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests an appropriation of \$22,375,378 cash funds from the ECMC Fund and 203.4 FTE for FY 2025-26.

Recommendation: Staff recommends an appropriation of \$22,258,626 cash funds and 202.5 FTE for FY 2025-26. The recommendation differs from the request as a result of adjustments for centrally appropriated line items and the recommended denial of the Department's R-5 request item for this division.

Energy and Carbon Management Commission, Program Costs						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$21,237,787	\$0	\$21,237,787	\$0	\$0	197.6
Other Legislation	274,617	0	274,617	0	0	2.8
Total FY 2024-25	\$21,512,404	\$0	\$21,512,404	\$0	\$0	200.4
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$21,512,404	\$0	\$21,512,404	\$0	\$0	200.4
Centrally appropriation items	682,792	0	682,792	0	0	0.0
Prior year legislation	63,430	0	63,430	0	0	2.1
R5 Implement IT product owners	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$22,258,626	\$0	\$22,258,626	\$0	\$0	202.5
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$746,222	\$0	\$746,222	\$0	\$0	2.1
Percentage Change	3.5%	n/a	3.5%	n/a	n/a	1.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$22,375,378	\$0	\$22,375,378	\$0	\$0	203.4
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$116,752	\$0	-\$116,752	\$0	\$0	-0.9

Underground Injection Program

This line item supports the Underground Injection Control Program, which is responsible for the regulation of Class II underground injection wells under authority delegated to the ECMC by the

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This includes overseeing the injection of oil and gas production wastes or the injection of liquids to enhance fuel recovery, as well as the inspecting and permitting of sites where these underground injections occur. Program funding comes from a federal grant through the EPA.

Statutory Authority: Section 34-60-101, et seq., C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation informational appropriation of \$96,559 federal funds and 2.0 FTE for FY 2025-26.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approving the request.

Orphaned Wells Mitigation Enterprise

This line item provides funding to plug and reclaim orphaned oil and gas well sites where there is no known responsible party or financial bonds are insufficient to fully cover the cost of reclamation. Senate Bill 22-198 established the Orphaned Wells Mitigation Enterprise and the five member Orphaned Wells Mitigation Enterprise Board to administer the enterprise in consultation with the Energy and Carbon Management Commission. The source of funds is mitigation fees that each well operator must pay for each well that has become operational but has not been plugged and abandoned. For wells that produce greater than 15 BOE (barrel of oil equivalent) or 22 MCFE (thousand cubic feet equivalent), the fee is \$225 per well. For wells that produce less than or equal to 15 BOE or 22 MCFE, the fee is \$125 per well. The fees are set so that the enterprise will receive approximately \$10.0 million in revenue each year

Statutory Authority: Section 34-60-133, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation informational appropriation of \$9,500,000 cash funds for FY 2025-26.

Recommendation: Staff recommends a continuation informational appropriation of \$9,500,000 for FY 2025-26.

Environmental Assistance and Complaint Resolution

This line item funds environmental assistance projects such as baseline water quality studies, studies on the beneficial reuse of production wastes, remediation projects, and studies to better understand air emissions from oil and gas activities. Funding is also used for water, soil, and air sampling in response to citizen complaints, reported spills, and field investigations. This line provides funding for ongoing studies and emergent issues with a direct link to protecting public safety. The source of funds is penalties deposited in the Environmental Response Account established in Section 34-60-122 (5), C.R.S., within the Energy and Carbon Management Cash Fund.

Statutory Authority: Section 34-60-101, et seq., C.R.S.

Request and Recommendation: The Department requests a continuation appropriation of \$312,033 cash funds from the ECMC Fund for FY 2025-26.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approving the request.

Emergency Response

This line item is intended to be used – if and when necessary – for emergency response. The ECMC also uses this line item to address high-risk wells that have been orphaned and require immediate reclamation work to stabilize. Prior to 2006, there were a number of emergency funding requests both during the session and during the interim. The line was created out of concern that emergency funding would be necessary during a time when the JBC was not meeting during the interim, delaying a response until the approval of an interim supplemental.

Statutory Authority: Section 34-60-101, et seq., C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation appropriation of \$150,000 cash funds from the ECMC Fund for FY 2025-26 and continuation and modification of the footnote associated with this line item.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approving the request.

Special Environmental Protection and Mitigation Studies

The General Assembly created this line item in FY 2006-07 with an appropriation of \$500,000 cash funds from the Energy and Carbon Management Cash Fund, but reduced funding to the current level of \$325,000 cash funds in FY 2009-10.

Statutory Authority: Section 34-60-101, et seq., C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation appropriation of \$325,000 cash funds from the ECMC Fund for FY 2025-26.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approving the request.

Indirect Cost Assessment

This line item reflects the amount of indirect cost assessments to cash and federal funding sources within the ECMC. The Department uses the funds collected to offset General Fund that would otherwise be required to pay for services from the Executive Director's Office.

Request: The Department requests an appropriation of \$920,675 total funds, including \$866,070 cash funds from the ECMC Fund and \$54,605 federal funds for FY 2025-26.

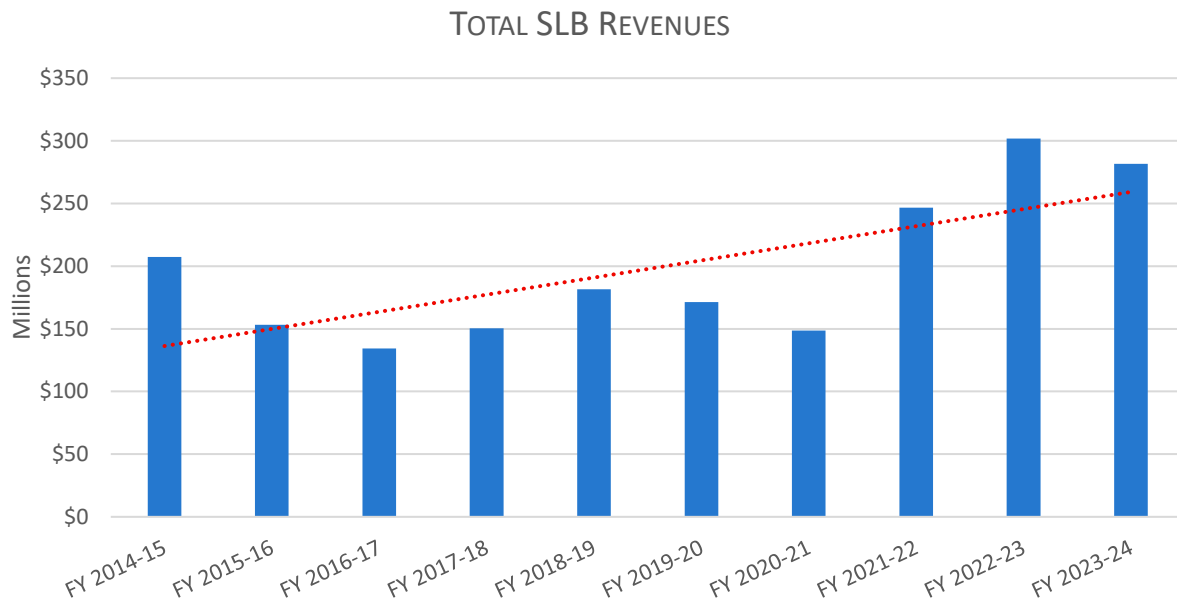
Recommendation: Staff recommends approving the request.

Energy and Carbon Management Commission, Indirect Cost Assessment						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$847,479	\$0	\$791,348	\$0	\$56,131	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$847,479	\$0	\$791,348	\$0	\$56,131	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$847,479	\$0	\$791,348	\$0	\$56,131	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	73,196	0	74,722	0	-1,526	0.0

Energy and Carbon Management Commission, Indirect Cost Assessment						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
Total FY 2025-26	\$920,675	\$0	\$866,070	\$0	\$54,605	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$73,196	\$0	\$74,722	\$0	-\$1,526	0.0
Percentage Change	8.6%	n/a	9.4%	n/a	-2.7%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$920,675	\$0	\$866,070	\$0	\$54,605	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

(4) State Board of Land Commissioners

The State Land Board manages agricultural, commercial, mineral, and other leases on state-owned lands, and is charged with generating reasonable and consistent revenue for nine trust beneficiaries over time. Total trust assets include approximately 2.8 million surface acres and 4.0 million mineral or subsurface acres. Total Land Board revenue for FY 2023-24 was \$281.7 million compared to \$301.9 million in FY 2022-23, a decrease of 6.7 percent. JBC staff and Land Board staff both agree that despite fluctuations and recent increases, it is likely that revenue will decline in the future, as a large portion of the Land Board's revenue comes from royalties on oil and gas extraction, which is declining overall despite the record revenues in FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 resulting from high oil and gas prices. The following chart shows the last 10 years of Land Board revenues.



The Public School Trust benefiting K-12 education is the largest of the nine trusts managed by the State Land Board, accounting for approximately 94.0 percent of total trust land surface acres and 99.3 percent of total trust revenues in FY 2023-24.

The eight smaller trusts managed by the State Land Board benefit a range of entities including institutions of higher education, state parks, and the Department of Corrections. Revenues for these trusts ranged from \$0 to \$699,598 in FY 2023-24, and account for the remaining 0.7 percent of total trust revenues.

State Board of Land Commissioners						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$6,459,110	\$0	\$6,234,110	\$225,000	\$0	48.6
Total FY 2024-25	\$6,459,110	\$0	\$6,234,110	\$225,000	\$0	48.6

State Board of Land Commissioners						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$6,459,110	\$0	\$6,234,110	\$225,000	\$0	48.6
Prior year budget actions	-4,624	0	-4,624	0	0	0.4
Centrally appropriation items	213,028	0	213,028	0	0	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	-8,411	0	-8,411	0	0	0.0
R5 Implement IT product owners	114,935	0	114,935	0	0	0.9
R9 Working lands internship program	164,818	0	164,818	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$6,938,856	\$0	\$6,713,856	\$225,000	\$0	49.9
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$479,746	\$0	\$479,746	\$0	\$0	1.3
Percentage Change	7.4%	n/a	7.7%	0.0%	n/a	2.7%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$6,940,672	\$0	\$6,715,672	\$225,000	\$0	49.9
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$1,816	\$0	-\$1,816	\$0	\$0	0.0

Decision Items

→ R9 Working Lands Internship Program

Request

The Department requests a total increase of \$189,812 cash funds from the State Land Board Administration Trust Fund in FY 2025-26 to develop an internship program and talent pipeline for state lands stewardship. This funding would increase to \$202,112 cash funds in FY 2026-27 and ongoing.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approving an increase of \$177,585 cash funds from the State Land Board Administration Trust Fund for FY 2025-26, annualizing to \$202,112 cash funds in FY 2026-27. This recommendation differs from the request because of calculation assumptions for new FTE.

Analysis

Background

The State Board of Land Commissioners (SLB) manages 2.8 million surface acres of working lands that generate revenue from leasing activities including agriculture, oil and gas, recreation, renewable energy, water, solid minerals, and commercial purposes. The assets that the Land Board manages are often leased using a layered approach where the same parcel is used for various different activities – either simultaneously or seasonally or both. SLB reports that as a result of this style of management, it hires people with specialized skills in narrow fields of expertise, and hiring people with the right skills is challenging.

The skills required to be a successful land manager at SLB include recreation management, land stewardship, species conservation, livestock and crop agriculture, small and large property range management, small business management, water management, and energy development.

SLB has identified three main areas relevant to the work it does where broader, industry-wide skills gaps exist. It is reasonable to assume that the skill gaps that impact the following industries will also have some impact on SLB going forward. The first area that SLB identified is Outdoor Recreation, Stewardship, and Conservation. The primary challenge in this sector is balancing outdoor recreation with conservation on public lands. Staff feels that this issue is particularly salient in Colorado, given the natural attractions that Colorado hosts and the need to ensure that those opportunities remain attractive to tourists while also preserving the land.

The second area that SLB identified is renewable energy. There is a growing consensus that predicts significant shortfalls in the green energy skilled workforce in the coming years. If those predictions hold true, staff believes that SLB could struggle to attract skilled workers needed to manage renewable energy land leases.

The third area that SLB identified is housing. While there may not be a looming workforce shortage in the housing industry, this is an area that SLB expects to expand operations in the future, and it will need a bench of skilled land managers to enable that expansion.

The goal of this request is to create a talent pipeline with the above skillsets in mind so that when turnover happens, SLB does not have as much difficulty in finding and hiring new talent with the skills required to be an effective land manager.

Funding

The State Land Board is almost entirely funded from the State Land Board Trust Administration Fund. The appropriation for the division is almost exclusively to support administrative costs for managing the state's land trust. Since FY 2013-14, SLB's appropriation has grown slowly while revenue has experienced more fluctuation. As a result, the percentage of lease revenue that is used for overhead (SLB's appropriation) has remained relatively stable and at a comparatively low level.

Overhead costs for many programs in the state fall somewhere between 6.0 and 10.0 percent. SLB's appropriation has averaged 2.8 percent over this time period. This tells staff that SLB has done a good job of managing a very large fund with comparatively few resources. The following table shows an eleven-year history of this.

SLB Appropriation vs. Revenue			
Fiscal Year	Appropriation	Revenue	Overhead Percentage
FY 13-14	\$5,332,877	\$188,284,944	2.8%
FY 14-15	4,664,478	207,454,568	2.2%
FY 15-16	4,801,909	153,226,860	3.1%
FY 16-17	4,991,219	134,370,064	3.7%
FY 17-18	5,089,096	150,528,407	3.4%
FY 18-19	5,181,149	181,674,704	2.9%
FY 19-20	5,264,461	171,343,915	3.1%

SLB Appropriation vs. Revenue			
Fiscal Year	Appropriation	Revenue	Overhead Percentage
FY 20-21	5,345,601	148,700,005	3.6%
FY 21-22	5,360,321	246,546,008	2.2%
FY 22-23	5,599,782	301,888,266	1.9%
FY 23-24	5,790,173	281,688,996	2.1%

FTE

While SLB is not requesting FTE, the request is essentially an FTE request for three temporary employees for nine months out of the year. Similar to the appropriation to SLB, the number of FTE at the division has grown relatively slowly over the past 10 years. In FY 2013-14 SLB received funding for 40.0 FTE, and in FY 2023-24 it received funding for 44.0 FTE. Again, staff feels that SLB has been efficient in managing the land trust with the resources provided. As such, if SLB is expecting difficulty hiring in the future, staff is inclined to believe them.

Wage

The requested wage level for this internship program is \$25 per hour. Staff is comfortable with this level. The Department notes that they based this number off of job postings for similar work and wage rates allowed at job classifications doing similar work in the state. SLB also reports that several of its entry level positions with skill sets similar to those needed for these internship positions are paid between \$26 and \$28 per hour. Paying slightly less for an internship seems like a reasonable way to set the wage.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of this request for a few reasons. First, staff believes that it is important for SLB to maintain a skilled staff that can continue to effectively steward the land trust assets while generating revenue. Most of the revenue generated by the land goes to schools, and staff believes that to continue supporting Colorado schools with this revenue requires a skilled, experienced staff at the State Land Board.

Along with this, there is good evidence that internship programs, broadly, help to enhance talent pipelines and are effective at recruiting good candidates for career paths. It is reasonable to assume that SLB would benefit from this effect as well.

In the current budget environment, the Committee has made clear that it is reluctant to fund requests for ongoing General Fund or TABOR non-exempt cash fund revenue increases. The dollars that would fund this request are neither of those. The majority of the cash fund revenue generated by SLB is TABOR-exempt. This funding would also not cause SLB to need to increase revenue, so would not have a TABOR impact. Were this a General Fund request, staff would likely recommend denial, but considering the lack of impact on TABOR impacts and potential long-term benefit of the creation of a talent pipeline for SLB, staff feels that this is a worthwhile investment for the state.

Finally, staff believes that SLB has managed its own budget efficiently over the years, evidenced by the slow growth in both appropriations and FTE as well as the low level of overhead cost for managing the state's land trust. SLB does not request funding often, but when they do, staff

generally believes that there is a good reason and that the state stands to gain in the long run from the incremental investments.

Line Item Detail

Program Costs

This line item supports the State Land Board's administrative and operating costs. The appropriation is mostly supported by revenues earned on school trust lands from the State Land Board Trust Administration Fund (Section 36-1-145 (2)(a) C.R.S.). It also includes \$75,000 cash funds from the Land and Water Management Fund, established in Section 36-1-148 (1), C.R.S., to be used for the management and improvement of state-owned lands and waters under the control of the State Land Board. This fund receives revenues from fees collected for the issuance of leases, patents, certificates of purchase, rights of way documents, and recording assignments for the making of township plans.

Statutory Authority: Article IX of the Colorado Constitution, Article 1 of Title 36, C.R.S., and Section 24-35-115, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests an appropriation of \$6,440,463 cash funds from the SLB Trust Administration Fund and the SLB Land and Water Management Fund and 49.9 FTE for FY 2025-26.

Recommendation: Staff recommends an appropriation of \$6,438,463 cash funds and 49.9 FTE for FY 2025-26. The recommendation differs from the request because of calculation assumptions for new FTE.

State Board of Land Commissioners, Program Costs						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$5,950,490	\$0	\$5,950,490	\$0	\$0	48.6
Total FY 2024-25	\$5,950,490	\$0	\$5,950,490	\$0	\$0	48.6
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$5,950,490	\$0	\$5,950,490	\$0	\$0	48.6
Centrally appropriation items	213,028	0	213,028	0	0	0.0
R9 Working lands internship program	164,818	0	164,818	0	0	0.0
R5 Implement IT product owners	114,935	0	114,935	0	0	0.9
Prior year budget actions	-4,624	0	-4,624	0	0	0.4
Total FY 2025-26	\$6,438,647	\$0	\$6,438,647	\$0	\$0	49.9
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$488,157	\$0	\$488,157	\$0	\$0	1.3
Percentage Change	8.2%	n/a	8.2%	n/a	n/a	2.7%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$6,440,463	\$0	\$6,440,463	\$0	\$0	49.9
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$1,816	\$0	-\$1,816	\$0	\$0	0.0

Public Access Program Damage and Enhancement Costs

The General Assembly created this line item in FY 2010-11 to reflect expenditures associated with the Public Access Program, a collaborative effort with the Division of Parks and Wildlife (CPW). CPW leases approximately 975,000 acres from the State Land Board for public access hunting and fishing. The program generates around \$1.5 million per year for the Land Board, which spends approximately 15.0 percent of that funding on access improvements, damage repairs, and property enhancement for public access properties. The funds are classified as reappropriated funds in the State Land Board's budget.

Statutory Authority: Article IX of the Colorado Constitution and Article 1 of Title 36, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation appropriation of \$225,000 reappropriated funds for FY 2025-26.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approving the request.

Indirect Cost Assessment

This line item reflects indirect cost assessments to cash funds within the State Land Board. The Department uses indirect cost recoveries to offset General Fund that would otherwise be required to pay for centralized services provided by the Executive Director's Office.

Request: The Department requests an appropriation of \$275,209 cash funds from the SLB Trust Administration Fund for FY 2025-26.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approving the request.

State Board of Land Commissioners, Indirect Cost Assessment						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$283,620	\$0	\$283,620	\$0	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$283,620	\$0	\$283,620	\$0	\$0	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$283,620	\$0	\$283,620	\$0	\$0	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	-8,411	0	-8,411	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$275,209	\$0	\$275,209	\$0	\$0	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	-\$8,411	\$0	-\$8,411	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	-3.0%	n/a	-3.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$275,209	\$0	\$275,209	\$0	\$0	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

(5) Division of Parks and Wildlife

The Division of Parks and Wildlife (CPW) provides recreational opportunities at 42 state parks, manages 960 game and non-game wildlife species, issues hunting and fishing licenses, enforces wildlife regulations, and oversees more than 295 state wildlife areas.

Division of Parks and Wildlife						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$232,262,482	\$2,314,354	\$195,820,211	\$0	\$34,127,917	1,009.5
Other Legislation	1,804,041	0	1,804,041	0	0	8.1
Total FY 2024-25	\$234,066,523	\$2,314,354	\$197,624,252	\$0	\$34,127,917	1,017.6
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$234,066,523	\$2,314,354	\$197,624,252	\$0	\$34,127,917	1,017.6
Centrally appropriation items	68,232	68,232	0	0	0	0.0
CSFS R1 Move line items to DNR	10,360,024	10,360,024	0	0	0	0.0
R2 Outdoor equity grant program	1,264,744	0	1,264,744	0	0	0.9
R8 Wildlife conservation and management	1,158,422	0	1,158,422	0	0	11.1
R6/BA1 Digital video evidence for CPW officers	963,044	0	963,044	0	0	2.0
R1 Keep Colorado Wild Pass staff and operating	3,542,627	0	3,542,627	0	0	12.0
Indirect cost assessment	201,006	0	128,206	0	72,800	0.0
R5 Implement IT product owners	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
CSFS R2 Forestry workforce internships	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Prior year legislation	138,554	0	138,554	0	0	1.7
Prior year budget actions	6,207,285	-41,642	4,093,733	0	2,155,194	4.5
Total FY 2025-26	\$257,970,461	\$12,700,968	\$208,913,582	\$0	\$36,355,911	1,049.8
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$23,903,938	\$10,386,614	\$11,289,330	\$0	\$2,227,994	32.2
Percentage Change	10.2%	448.8%	5.7%	0.0%	6.5%	3.2%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$260,940,880	\$12,929,974	\$211,654,995	\$0	\$36,355,911	1,071.5
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$2,970,419	-\$229,006	-\$2,741,413	\$0	\$0	-21.7

Decision Items

→ R1 Keep Colorado Wild Pass – Staff and Operating

Request

The Department requests \$6.6 million cash funds from the Parks Cash Fund and 31.7 FTE which includes:

- Operations:** \$3.9 million and 10.1 FTE to increase park operational staffing and increase regional state park budgets by 13.64 percent;

- 4 **Expansion:** \$915,997 and 6.9 FTE to expand amenities and acreage at existing parks;
- 5 **Education, interpretation, and volunteer programs:** \$1.5 million and 12.9 FTE to hire community engagement specialists and provide virtual engagement opportunities;
- 6 **Administrative support:** \$96,722 and 1.8 FTE for administrative support; and
- 7 **Vehicles:** \$168,278 for vehicle lease payments.

The request increases to \$6.8 million cash funds and 34.5 FTE in FY 2026-27.

Recommendation

Staff recommends partial approval of the request for a total of \$3,573,992 from the Parks Cash Fund and 12.0 FTE in FY 2025-26. This includes:

- 8 \$785,772 and 10.2 FTE for state park operations and vehicles;
- 9 \$2,752,702 for an inflationary adjustment to park operating budgets; and
- 10 \$35,518 and 1.8 FTE for administrative staff.

Recommended FTE for DNR R1 Request						
	Position	Prorated FTE	Personal Services	Standard Operating	Capital Outlay	Total
Park Operations						
	PARK MANAGER III	3.7	\$266,200	\$4,736	\$26,680	\$297,616
	TECHNICIAN III	2.8	157,831	3,584	20,010	181,425
	TECHNICIAN IV	3.7	229,950	4,736	26,680	261,366
	Law enforcement costs					31,365
	Vehicles					14,000
Administration						
	ADMIN ASSISTANT III	0.9	50,731	1,152	6,670	58,553
	PROGRAM ASSISTANT II	0.9	58,731	1,152	6,670	66,553
	Savings as a result of transitioning from temporary staff					-\$89,588
Grand Total		12.0	\$763,443	\$15,360	\$86,710	\$821,290

Analysis

Outdoor recreation in Colorado has major economic benefits. In 2023, Colorado Parks and Wildlife estimated that the total economic output associated with outdoor recreation by Colorado residents was \$65.8 billion, which added \$36.5 billion (8.5 percent) to the state Gross Domestic Product. This industry supports over 404,000 jobs in Colorado, which is approximately 12.0 percent of the state's labor force. Furthermore, this activity generates \$11.2 billion in local, state, and federal tax revenue.

In light of ongoing budgetary constraints, staff recommends only funding park operations, administrative support, and the corresponding number of vehicle lease payments. Doing so would relieve pressure on the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Cash Fund and allow the fund to potentially absorb budget balancing measures proposed to the Committee, including reduced transfers from the General Fund and Severance Tax Operational Fund.

If the Committee does not decide to pursue additional budget balancing measures that affect the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Cash Fund, then staff recommends approval of the Department’s full request.

Funding for Colorado State Parks

Prior to 2018, the Parks and Wildlife Commission was unable to adjust park fees if total revenue were to increase by more than 20.0 percent of the revenue generated in 2011. This resulted in chronic underfunding for the state park system.

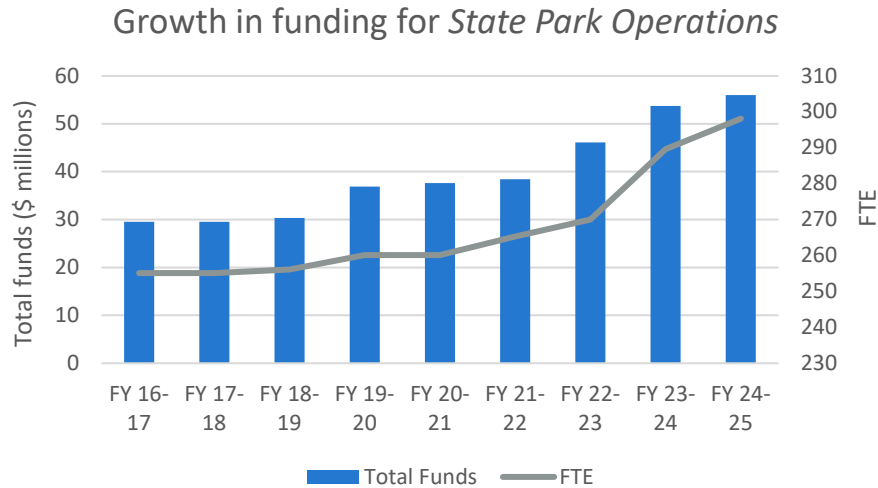
Senate Bill 18-143 (Parks And Wildlife Measures To Increase Revenue) removed the above requirement and instead imposed a maximum annual fee increase of \$1 for daily park passes and \$10 for annual park passes. This was done in an effort to invest in initiatives to increase park visitation, maintain customer service, and generate revenue and reduce the division’s capital construction and maintenance backlog.

Senate Bill 21-249 (Keep Colorado Wild Annual Pass) created an optional, discounted annual pass for Colorado State Parks when an individual registers their motor vehicle. The pass rolled out on January 1, 2023. Pursuant to Section 33-12-108, C.R.S., the first \$32.5 million of the revenue generated goes to the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Cash Fund to (1) provide a simple and affordable access pass to improve accessibility of the outdoors and (2) ensure sufficient staffing and resources to manage and protect Colorado’s *existing* state parks.

Beginning in FY 22-23, revenue from the Keep Colorado Wild pass has become sizeable portion of total park revenue. CPW sold 768,867 passes in FY 22-23, comprising 14.4 percent of total revenue for state parks. This number increased to \$1.5 million passes in FY 23-24, comprising 22.2 percent of total revenue for state parks.

KCW pass is a sizeable portion of total park revenue					
Revenue	FY 19-20	FY 20-21	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY 23-24
Total across all park funds	\$119,455,074	\$134,910,945	\$143,799,808	\$155,334,480	\$155,013,564
KCW for state parks	-	-	-	22,325,998	34,347,488
KCW for non-park entities	-	-	-	-	5,323,073

These adjustments to state park fee structure have allowed adequate revenue to support a number of decision items and new legislation. Since FY 20-21, funding and staff for state park operations have increased by 48.9 percent and 14.6 percent, respectively. However, the Department indicates that KCW revenue was only realized recently and this R1 request is the first request to adjust park staffing and operational budgets to align with the increased revenue.



Of this increase, approximately \$9.1 million and 33.8 FTE are related to budget actions pertaining to state park operations and staffing. Details are shown in the table below.

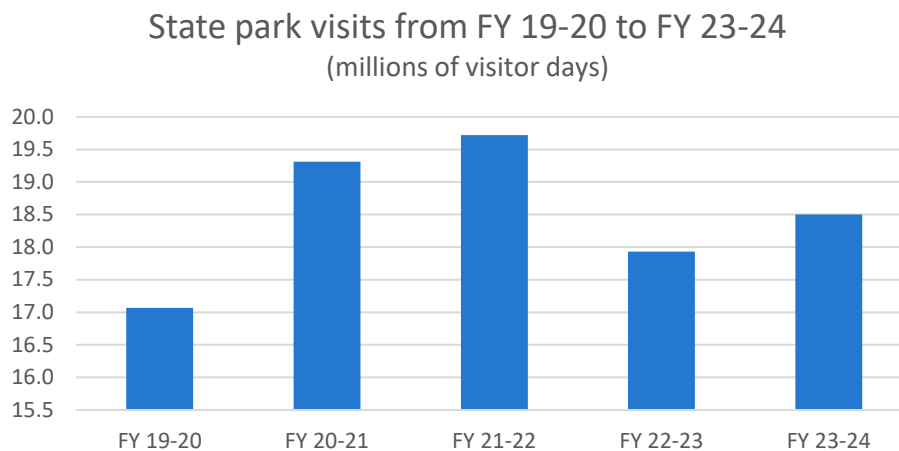
FY 20-21 through FY 24-25: budget actions for park operations and staffing			
Budget Action	Amount from Parks Cash Fund	FTE	Purpose
FY 24-25			
R11 Staff for demand at state parks	\$456,568	6.4	Additional staff for the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area, North Sterling, Lake Pueblo, Staunton, Jackson Lake, Sweitzer Lake, and Ridgway State Parks.
R4 Park manager career progression	452,070	0.0	To implement a career progression plan for the Park Manager job class, aligning with that of Wildlife Managers.
S1 Digital video system for CPW officers	304,017	0.3	Extension and expansion of a body-worn camera pilot program for CPW officers.
R12 CPW information and education	81,608	1.8	Staff to support increased customer demand for education and outreach, including a graphic designer, sign manager, and videographer.
FY 23-24			
R8 Resources for state parks	1,636,037	19.0	Continuation of 14.0 staff that were hired as a result of H.B. 21-1326; five new staff at Lory, Crawford, Jackson Lake, Elkhead Reservoir, Eleven Mile and Spinney Mountain State Parks; a newly acquired shooting range (Colorado Clays).
R6/BA3 Keep Colorado Wild (KCW) support	157,866	0.6	Continued support for the FY 22-23 supplemental request.
FY 22-23			
R1 Increased outdoor recreation and conservation	3,024,827	0.0	Majority of funds for a 20.0 increase to park operating budgets; also includes temporary staff, a shuttle for Eldorado Canyon, and COTREX maintenance.
S3 Keep Colorado Wild (KCW) support	2,229,364	0.4	Replenish funding related to KCW implementation (primarily outreach) and staff for outreach, communications, visitation data.
BA3 Support for state park at Sweetwater Lake	344,616	3.0	Operational costs and staff for a potential new state park at Sweetwater Lake.
Staff-initiated funding for S.B. 21-249	108,200	0.0	Funding to update the Department of Revenue's DRIVES system to allow purchase of KCW passes during vehicle registration.
FY 21-22			
R2 Fishers Peak staff and operating	174,199	2.0	Operational costs and staff for Fishers Peak State Park, which opened in October 2020.

FY 20-21 through FY 24-25: budget actions for park operations and staffing			
Budget Action	Amount from Parks Cash Fund	FTE	Purpose
S1 Support for state park at Sweetwater Lake	76,579	0.3	Operational costs and staff for a potential new state park at Sweetwater Lake.

The Department has indicated that this FY 25-26 R1 request was submitted as part of the effort to address historic underfunding for parks and support increased park visitation since the pandemic. If all FY 25-26 requests were approved, the Department expects that revenue and expenditures for the Parks Cash Fund would be relatively equal. In previous years since the implementation of the KCW pass, the Parks Cash Fund has generated more money than it has spent.

State Park Visitation Trends

From FY 15-16 to FY 20-21, state park visitation has increased by 25.0 percent from about 13.6 million visitor days to more than 19.3 million visitor days. In years since, park visitation has declined slightly, but on average remains significantly above FY 15-16 visitation.



During previous budget cycles, the Department has indicated that increased visitation requires additional management of park operations, customer service, maintenance of trails, parking areas, restrooms, water bodies and other features within the parks to protect the habitat and to ensure the parks are safe and enjoyable.

Additional Resources Needed

Operations (Request: \$3,924,296 and 10.1 FTE)

The majority of the requested funding increase for park operations is the result of a 13.64 percent, or \$2,752,702, operating increase for state park budgets. The Department indicates that rising costs include utilities, supplies, temporary staff wages, and other costs. State park operating budgets last received an inflationary adjustment in FY 22-23, and the Denver-Aurora-Lakewood Consumer Price Index (CPI) has increased by 13.64 percent since then. **Staff recommends approval of this inflationary adjustment.**

In order to continue to accommodate for increased park visitation, the Department also requests 11 new park managers and resource technicians at nine different parks. **Staff recommends approval of these new staff.**

Park Operational Needs		
Staff	Location	Purpose
Park Managers	Boyd Lake and Chatfield	Popular, urban, water-based parks in areas of population growth.
Park Managers	Rifle Falls and Ridgway	Increased use due to closure of boating at nearby parks, and increased evening usage.
Park Resource Technicians	Chatfield, Cheyenne Mountain, Eldorado Canyon, Mancos, Roxborough, Stagecoach	Heavy trail usage and water/wastewater system improvement needs.

Park Expansion (Request: \$915,997 and 6.9 FTE)

The request for park expansion includes the following staff to accommodate for expanded acreage and amenities at existing state parks. Due to budgetary constraints, **staff recommends denial of the request in order to prioritize maintenance and operations of existing park facilities and functions.**

If the Committee does not adopt additional budget balancing measures that impact the Parks Cash Fund, the Committee could consider the Department’s full request detailed below:

Park Expansion Needs		
Staff	Location	Purpose
Admin assistant (0.5 FTE) and park manager	Fishers Peak	Support the next phase of the development for the state's newest state park - including volunteer support, a Tribal engagement program, and track chair program.
Park manager and resource technician	Sweitzer Lake	Supervise and support expansion of park amenities - including campsites, the visitor center, and trails.
Resource technician	Highline	Assist with maintenance of new facilities - including entrance station, campsites, sewage system, and an Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) decontamination station.
Project manager	n/a	Manage increased capital construction workload in the southwest region.
Resource stewardship coordinator	n/a	Ensure protection for wildlife, natural, and cultural resources throughout state park expansion. Reduce the program's reliance on temporary staff.

Education, Interpretation, and Volunteer Programs (Request: \$1,485,465 and 12.9 FTE)

The request includes 13 community engagement specialists at 13 state parks and one virtual education coordinator. Due to budgetary constraints, **staff recommends denial of the request in order to prioritize maintenance and operations of existing park facilities and functions.**

If the Committee does not adopt additional budget balancing measures that impact the Parks Cash Fund, the Committee could consider the Department’s full request. The Department indicates that currently, the 13 state parks identified do not have dedicated staff for community engagement and to provide information to visitors. This work is currently done by rangers, technicians, seasonal staff, and volunteers that face higher priority demands on their time for visitor safety, cleaning, maintenance, and resource protection. Mueller State Park does have a

dedicated education and volunteer staff member, who the Department indicates has been successful in developing park programming and supporting visitors.

Furthermore, the Department indicates that consistent and large-scale virtual programming is limited due to staffing constraints. Currently, two staff members dedicate a portion of their time to virtual programming. CPW has built a virtual classroom in Denver that includes the necessary technology for virtual programming. Since 2022, these individuals have delivered:

- Seven programs to 400 students in 2022;
- 25 virtual programs to 1,100 K-12 students on adaptations, ecosystems, and mapping;
- 50 programs on wolf biology/reintroduction to 2,500 K-12 students; and
- 23 educational videos that have received approximately 54,000 views on CPW’s YouTube channel.

CPW has experienced an increase in interest from the K-12 community, and plans to pilot a virtual educator training in 2025. The Department indicates that this work cannot be scaled up without the requested position.

Administrative Support (Request: \$96,722 and 1.8 FTE)

The request includes one administrative assistant at Cheyenne Mountain State Park and a program assistant for the state trails program. In order to support increased workload and realize administrative efficiencies, **staff recommends approval of this request.**

Administrative Support Needs		
Staff	Location	Purpose
Administrative assistant	Cheyenne Mountain	Perform duties currently handled by three temporary positions (e.g., retail, camping reservations, answering phones, maintaining the visitor center) and reduce time needed to re-train and hire temporary staff every year.
Program assistant	n/a	Support increased workload within the state trails program by overseeing the website, developing the annual budget, and serving as a public point of contact.

→ R2 Outdoor Equity Grant Program Increase

Request

The Department requests \$1.3 million cash funds, including \$640,616 from the Parks Cash Fund and the same amount from the Wildlife Cash Fund, and 0.9 FTE in FY 2025-26. The request annualizes to \$1.3 million cash funds and 1.0 FTE in FY 2026-27 and ongoing. This funding will support a new grants specialist and a \$1.0 million (33.3 percent) increase in funding for grant awards.

Recommendation

Due to high program demand, alignment with the intent of the Keep Colorado Wild Pass, and adequate cash fund revenue – staff recommends approval of the Department’s request.

This includes a recommendation of \$1,264,744 cash funds evenly split between the Parks and Wildlife Cash Funds, and 0.9 FTE. This difference with the request is due to Committee policy to hire at the minimum salary range and not include a position’s centrally appropriated costs in the first year.

Analysis

Created through H.B. 21-1318 (Create Outdoor Equity Grant Program), the Outdoor Equity Grant Program aims to increase access and opportunity for underserved youth and their families to experience Colorado’s public outdoor areas.

Research demonstrates strong associations between access to green space and physical and mental health benefits.^{1 2} However, access to and benefits from green spaces vary depending on socioeconomic status. Communities of color and low-income communities are often left out of these benefits.^{3 4}

One of the goals of Senate Bill 21-249 (Keep Colorado Wild Annual Pass) was to “ensure that Colorado’s outdoors are welcome and accessible to all” pursuant to Section 33-12-108 (2)(a)(IV), C.R.S. As such, the Department has identified additional funding for the Outdoor Equity Grant Program as a priority that aligns with the intent of the Keep Colorado Wild Pass.

Existing Program Demand and Outcomes

Over the past three grant cycles, the program has awarded over \$5.5 million in funding to 106 recipients. In 2023, the average grant award was \$64,000 and non-profits comprised 34 of the 37 recipients. Additionally, two schools and one federally-recognized tribe received grant awards.

Program Grant Awards from 2022-2024			
Metric	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY 23-24
Number of Awards	42	27	37
Total Award Amount	\$1,763,000	\$1,321,808	\$2,440,100

In its first three years of existence, the program has experienced demand that is significantly greater than available funds. In FY 2023-24, the program received \$17.0 million in eligible requests from 240 applicants that met all program guidelines. The program only had \$2.4 million for 37 applicants – funding about 15.4 percent of eligible applicants. In FY 21-22 and FY 22-23, the program received \$23.0 million in eligible requests from 300 applicants. The program only had \$3.1 million to distribute to 69 applicants.

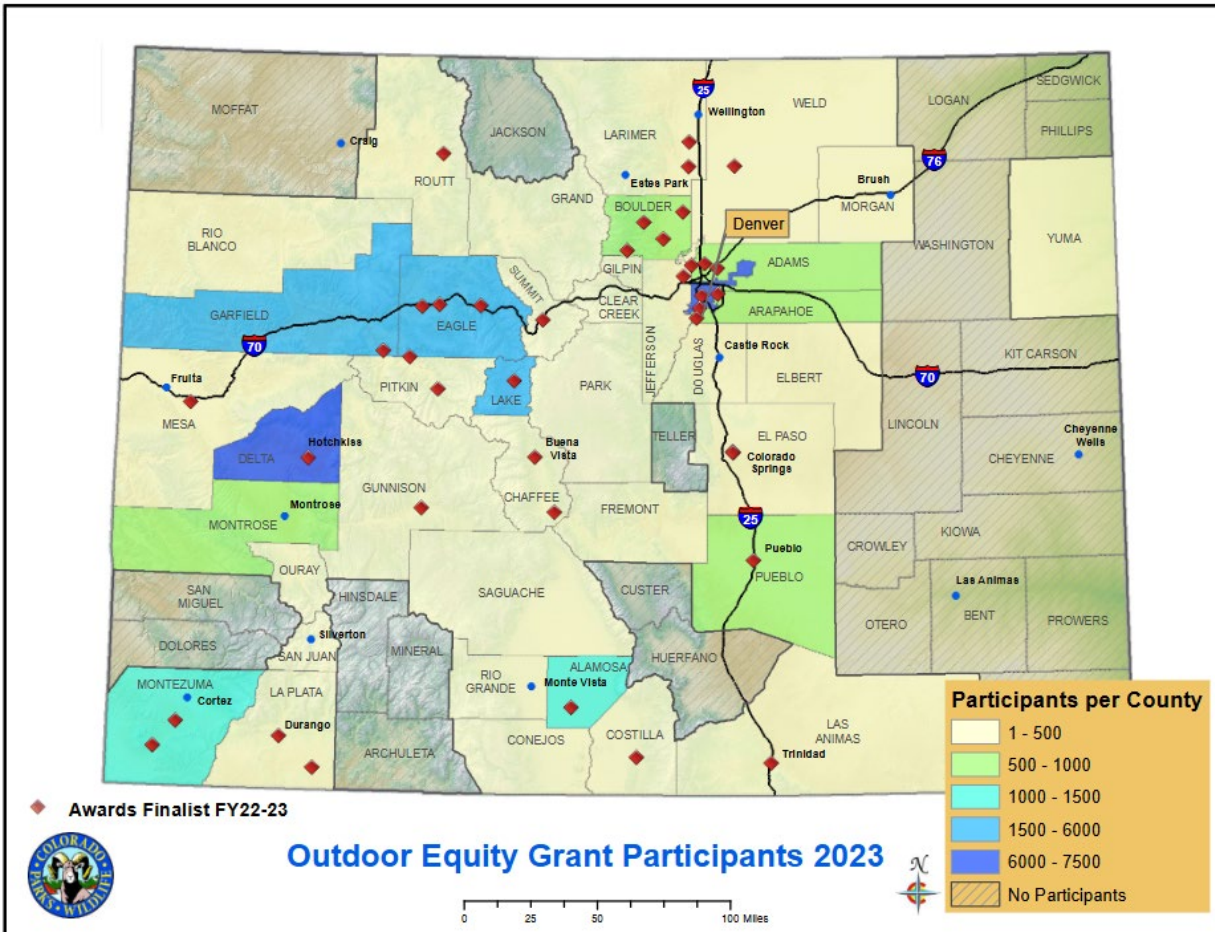
¹ <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1618866715001016#preview-section-abstract>

² <https://www.science.org/doi/full/10.1126/sciadv.aax0903>

³ <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.healthplace.2019.02.001>.

⁴ <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0169204614000310?via%3Dihub>.

The grants fund primarily outdoor or conservation education programs and outdoor sports programs across the state. Since its creation, grantees have engaged with 38,000 participants across the state (see map below). In 2023, this included over 1,300 participants with disabilities and 25.0 percent of participants who identified as Hispanic or Latino.



Adapted from the Outdoor Equity Grant Program's 2024 Annual Report:
https://cpw.widen.net/s/7rzjsv2h57/2023_oegp_report.

Program Funding

H.B. 21-1318 restructured the distribution of lottery revenue in order to annually appropriate funds to the Outdoor Equity Fund as follows:

- \$750,000 in FY 20-21;
- \$1.5 million in FY 21-22;
- \$2.2 million in FY 22-23; and
- \$3.0 million in FY 23-24 and future years.

As such, the current program receives \$3.0 million annually from lottery proceeds, which are exempt from TABOR. Approximately \$184,599 support one program manager and the remainder of the funds are distributed as grants.

The Department's R2 request proposes to fund the existing program manager and a new grants specialist from the Parks Cash Fund and Wildlife Cash Fund. Both of these funds are receiving increased revenue as a result of the Keep Colorado Wild Pass. This would allow the full \$3.0 million from the Outdoor Equity Fund to be utilized for grants.

The new grants specialist would assist the current program manager and provide technical assistance to applicants and grant recipients, as well as operational functions like application review, process invoices, complete site visits, and assist with the annual report. Over the first few years of the program, the Department has noticed that grantees are generally not familiar with state funding programs and require more guidance and support than applicants to other CPW grant programs.

Additionally, the request proposes an additional \$1.0 million to be appropriated for grant funding. \$500,000 would come from the Parks Cash Fund and \$500,000 would come from the Wildlife Cash Fund. Based on the cash flow for both programs, both funds are able to support this increased appropriation. Furthermore, \$1.0 million in grant awards is far smaller than the demand that the program has been experiencing and is likely to be necessary and utilized.

→ R6/BA1 Digital video evidence for CPW officers

Request

As adjusted by the Department's January budget amendment, the Department requests \$1.0 million cash funds, including \$378,069 from the Parks Cash Fund and \$630,115 from the Wildlife Cash Fund, and 2.0 FTE to implement a digital video evidence system for Colorado Parks and Wildlife officers. This is lower than the Department's request because the Office of Information Technology told the Department that they cannot provide the necessary IT services. As such, the Department plans to contract for these services at a lower cost.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the Department's request, in order to align with the Committee's decision on the related FY 24-25 supplemental request.

Analysis

The Committee approved the related FY 2024-25 supplemental request for \$828,216 cash funds and 0.8 FTE to immediately scale-up CPW's body-worn camera pilot program. As such, staff recommends approval of the Department's FY 2025-26 to continue to fund the full scale program.

During the supplemental comeback process, the Department indicated that they are confident that they have requested the full amount necessary to fully scale the current body-worn camera pilot program. As such, they do not expect to return to the legislature to secure additional funds for implementation.

CPW Pilot Program

CPW employs approximately 390 Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) certified law enforcement officers, who are exempt from the requirement to wear body-worn cameras pursuant to Section 24-31-902 (1)(a)(I), C.R.S. However, the Department has indicated that officers are facing increased scrutiny due to their inability to provide digital evidence.

Between May and July 2024, CPW began a pilot program for body-worn cameras and received hardware and licenses for 80 officers at no cost. The additional network infrastructure and security clearances necessary were absorbed within existing appropriations.

The pilot program showed favorable results, per the Department. Specifically, participating officers highlighted that the cameras allowed officers to capture video evidence and behavior that is difficult to describe in standard reports. Additionally, the footage allowed supervisors to review officer interactions and provide feedback. Footage from the pilot program included:

- Pursuit and arrest of a suspected felon,
- Arrival of a CPW officer who was first on the scene of a double homicide,
- Evidence of poaching cases, and
- Evidence of rescuing an inebriated person from drowning.

The Department received supplemental funding in FY 2024-25 to fully scale the program, and the FY 2025-26 request is necessary to continue fully funding the new program.

→ R8 Wildlife conservation and management

Request

The Department requests \$2.3 million cash funds from the Wildlife Cash Fund and 11.1 FTE to increase operational staffing for wildlife biology, aquatic species, wildlife health, and habitat improvements. The request annualizes to \$2.2 million cash funds and 12.0 FTE in FY 2026-27.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the Department's request with two differences:

- 1 A recommendation to hire staff at the minimum instead of average job class salary, and
- 2 The removal of centrally appropriated costs within the positions' first year, pursuant to Committee policy.

The recommendation totals to \$1,188,811 cash funds and 11.1 FTE.

Analysis

Senate Bill 18-143 (Parks and Wildlife Measures to Increase Revenue) allowed for additional license fee revenue in order to increase the number of hunters and anglers in Colorado, improve the state's big game population, increase the number of fish stocked, and reduce capital and maintenance backlogs. This request builds on similar requests in previous years that are utilizing the increased revenue from S.B. 18-143.

The Department has recently received funding for similar requests, totaling over \$10.1 million and 74.0 FTE supported by the Wildlife Cash Fund.

Approved Funding for Wildlife Resources		
Decision Item	Wildlife Cash Fund	FTE
FY 24-25		
R9 Wildlife Management Staffing	\$1,320,746	15.6
R2 CPW Biodiversity and Habitat Staffing	1,097,145	8.3
R10 Aquatics Staffing and Hatchery Ops	1,014,939	3.7
BA1 Counter-poaching K9 program	910,953	5.5
R14 Administrative support	393,511	5.5
R8 Wildlife Dam Safety Staffing	140,071	0.9
FY 23-24		
R9 Resources for Wildlife Management	604,730	6.0
R11 Wildlife Water and Research Projects	431,909	4.0
FY 22-23		
R1 Increased Outdoor Recreation and Conservation	2,896,969	15.5
BA2 Implement Big Game Policy Report	1,153,804	8.0
FY 21-22		
R3 Habitat Connectivity and Transportation Coordinator	91,879	1.0
Total	\$10,056,656	74.0

The fund balance is large and projected to begin declining with the addition of all requested wildlife activities, including as part of the Department's R2, R5, and R6 requests as well. However, the balance remains well-above the suggested 16.5 percent uncommitted reserve requirement.

Staff recommends approval of the Department's full request because:

- 1 The requested positions align with the legislative intent outlined in S.B. 18-143;
- 2 Multiple recommended positions are to accommodate increased visitation and demand for state services;
- 3 Multiple recommended positions would provide administrative support and alleviate the need for technical staff to perform these administrative duties;
- 4 CPW is an enterprise that is not subject to the TABOR revenue limit;
- 5 The Wildlife Cash Fund has a more limited set of uses compared to, for example, the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Cash Fund.

Wildlife Cash Fund				
	FY 22-23	FY 23-24	FY 24-25 (estimate)	FY 25-26 (estimate)
Revenue	\$218,872,008	\$236,164,264	\$226,774,043	\$225,466,915
Expenditure	201,810,825	243,545,795	293,631,613	268,409,521
Net Cash Flow	17,061,183	-7,381,531	-66,857,570	-42,942,606
Net Cash Assets	202,822,416	195,490,552	128,632,983	85,690,377

Wildlife Biology (\$145,457 and 1.8 FTE)

The recommendation includes a technician and wildlife manager to (1) perform additional deer and elk population monitoring and (2) support the one biologist currently in Monte Vista.

Aquatic Species and Water Resources (\$343,034 and 3.7 FTE)

The recommendation includes four staff. One staff member would serve as a hatchery manager and assist with the creation of fish hatchery as part of the Chatfield Storage Reallocation Project. The remainder of the staff would help to address workload increases, including:

- Increased aquatic data collection across multiple databases that is currently managed by one staff member who does not have capacity to process and store all information currently collected in the field;
- Growth in water projects (e.g., stream restoration projects and acquisition of water rights for state parks, wildlife areas, hatcheries) that creates additional administrative workload currently completed by a section manager because the section does not have a program assistant; and
- Increased demand for water quality lab resources due to increased interest for in-house metals and nutrients analyses, public interest in new chemicals of concern (e.g., molybdenum, cobalt).

Wildlife Health Research (\$147,419 and 1.8 FTE)

The recommendation includes a program assistant and laboratory technician to (1) allow technical staff to focus on increased laboratory needs and (2) respond to new disease detections (e.g., rabbit hemorrhagic disease, white nose syndrome, highly pathogenic avian influenza, meningeal worm) while maintaining existing surveillance efforts.

Wildlife Management (\$252,901 and 2.7 FTE)

The recommendation includes three staff. Two staff are assistant area wildlife managers, which is a similar position included in previous wildlife-related requests that the Department indicates has been an effective, efficient addition to the organizational structure. The two proposed assistant managers would be placed in Area 3 (based in Brush) and Area 11 (based in Pueblo). These two areas have seen increased visitation. The recommendation also includes an additional property technician in Area 9 (based in Hot Sulphur Springs) that currently only has one technician.

Proposition 114 Staffing (\$0 and 1.0 FTE)

The recommendation includes a technical adjustment to reflect the addition of a Wolf Damages Administrator that would ensure that payments to livestock owners for livestock losses are completed in a timely and accurate manner. This position would be funded with the General Fund already allocated for the wolf reintroduction program.

Habitat Improvements (\$300,000)

The recommendation includes an operating budget increase to wildlife improvements. This increase would allow CPW to enhance an average of 600 acres and move the Department towards its goal of enhancing 1,500 to 3,000 acres of big game and grouse habitat annually.

Line Item Detail

(A) Colorado Parks and Wildlife Operations

State Park Operations

The State Park Operations line item funds the ongoing operations and administrative staff at all state parks and central offices. This includes personal services, operating expenses, and utility expenses, as well as a seasonal work program that enables CPW to hire temporary staff to assist at state parks during the busy season. Most of the funding for this line item is from the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Cash Fund, which is predominantly supported by revenue from fees, passes, and registrations. Other sources of funding include Lottery proceeds and grants from the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) program, both informational, and the Severance Tax Operational Fund.

Statutory Authority: Sections 33-10-101 to 33-13-116, C.R.S., and Section 33-60-101 et seq., C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$64.9 million total funds and 332.8 FTE.

Recommendation:

Division of Parks and Wildlife, Colorado Parks and Wildlife Operations, State Park Operations						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$55,715,072	\$125,000	\$55,145,266	\$0	\$444,806	297.8
Other Legislation	\$307,693	\$0	\$307,693	\$0	\$0	0.3
Total FY 2024-25	\$56,022,765	\$125,000	\$55,452,959	\$0	\$444,806	298.1
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$56,022,765	\$125,000	\$55,452,959	\$0	\$444,806	298.1
R1 Keep Colorado Wild Pass staff and operating	3,542,627	0	3,542,627	0	0	12.0
Prior year budget actions	2,932,057	0	2,476,863	0	455,194	0.8
R6/BA1 Digital video evidence for CPW officers	361,141	0	361,141	0	0	0.8
R2 Outdoor equity grant program	125,576	0	125,576	0	0	1.0
R5 Implement IT product owners	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Prior year legislation	-134,155	0	-134,155	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$62,850,011	\$125,000	\$61,825,011	\$0	\$900,000	312.7
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$6,827,246	\$0	\$6,372,052	\$0	\$455,194	14.6
Percentage Change	12.2%	0.0%	11.5%	n/a	102.3%	4.9%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$64,923,348	\$125,000	\$63,898,348	\$0	\$900,000	332.8
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$2,073,337	\$0	-\$2,073,337	\$0	\$0	-20.1

Wildlife Operations

This line item provides funding for Division's supervision and management, program and financial oversight, grant management, and intermediary activities necessary to encourage the success of the Division's strategic plan. It also funds the education and training of new wildlife officers.

Statutory Authority: Sections 31-1-101 to 33-6-101 et seq., C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$134.9 million total funds and 733.9 FTE.

Recommendation:

Division of Parks and Wildlife, Colorado Parks and Wildlife Operations, Wildlife Operations						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$124,223,199	\$2,189,354	\$89,033,845	\$0	\$33,000,000	705.9
Other Legislation	\$1,695,416	\$0	\$1,695,416	\$0	\$0	7.8
Total FY 2024-25	\$125,918,615	\$2,189,354	\$90,729,261	\$0	\$33,000,000	713.7
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$125,918,615	\$2,189,354	\$90,729,261	\$0	\$33,000,000	713.7
Prior year budget actions	6,110,804	-41,642	4,452,446	0	1,700,000	3.7
R8 Wildlife conservation and management	1,158,422	0	1,158,422	0	0	11.1
R6/BA1 Digital video evidence for CPW officers	601,903	0	601,903	0	0	1.2
Prior year legislation	272,709	0	272,709	0	0	1.7
R2 Outdoor equity grant program	125,575	0	125,575	0	0	0.9
R5 Implement IT product owners	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$134,188,028	\$2,147,712	\$97,340,316	\$0	\$34,700,000	732.3
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$8,269,413	-\$41,642	\$6,611,055	\$0	\$1,700,000	18.6
Percentage Change	6.6%	-1.9%	7.3%	n/a	5.2%	2.6%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$134,856,104	\$2,147,712	\$98,008,392	\$0	\$34,700,000	733.9
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$668,076	\$0	-\$668,076	\$0	\$0	-1.6

Vendor Commissions, Fulfillment Fees, and Credit Card Fees

This line item provides funding for vendor commissions, fulfillment fees, and credit card fees associated with the sale of hunting and fishing licenses, park passes, and recreational vehicle registration (e.g., snowmobiles, boats, etc.).

Statutory Authority: Sections 33-4-101 and 33-12-101 C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$11.7 million cash funds.

Recommendation:

Division of Parks and Wildlife, Colorado Parks and Wildlife Operations, Vendor commissions, fulfillment fees, and credit card fees

Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$14,555,758	\$0	\$14,555,758	\$0	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$14,555,758	\$0	\$14,555,758	\$0	\$0	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$14,555,758	\$0	\$14,555,758	\$0	\$0	0.0
Prior year budget actions	-2,871,058	0	-2,871,058	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$11,684,700	\$0	\$11,684,700	\$0	\$0	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	-\$2,871,058	\$0	-\$2,871,058	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	-19.7%	n/a	-19.7%	n/a	n/a	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$11,684,700	\$0	\$11,684,700	\$0	\$0	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

(B) Special Purpose

Line items in this subdivision support programs that have a dedicated funding source or are related to federal programs that do not directly pertain to the operations of the Colorado parks system or wildlife programs.

Snowmobile Program

This line item funds the Snowmobile Program, which is responsible for the registration of snowmobiles, mandatory safety certification of young operators, enforcement of registration requirements, trail marking and signing, establishment and maintenance of snowmobile trails and related facilities. The source of funds is the Snowmobile Recreation Fund, established pursuant to Section 33-14-106, C.R.S. to receive fees from the registration of snowmobiles.

Statutory Authority: Section 33-14-102, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$1.0 million cash funds and 1.3 FTE.

Recommendation:

Division of Parks and Wildlife, Special Purpose, Snowmobile Program

Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$1,037,031	\$0	\$1,037,031	\$0	\$0	1.3
Total FY 2024-25	\$1,037,031	\$0	\$1,037,031	\$0	\$0	1.3
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$1,037,031	\$0	\$1,037,031	\$0	\$0	1.3

Division of Parks and Wildlife, Special Purpose, Snowmobile Program						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
Prior year budget actions	10,900	0	10,900	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$1,047,931	\$0	\$1,047,931	\$0	\$0	1.3
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$10,900	\$0	\$10,900	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	1.1%	n/a	1.1%	n/a	n/a	0.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$1,047,931	\$0	\$1,047,931	\$0	\$0	1.3
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

River Outfitters Regulation

This program is responsible for the administration of the annual licensing for river outfitters, regulation of the river outfitters, and ensuring the safety of river running activities through inspections. This program performs inspections on these companies to ensure river outfitters employ qualified personnel, follow appropriate operating parameters and meet minimum equipment standards to ensure customer safety. Funding comes from registration and licensing fee revenue from river outfitters credited to the River Outfitters Cash Fund established pursuant to Section 33-32-111, C.R.S. The program also receives some funding from the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Cash Fund.

Statutory Authority: Section 33-32-103, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$154,624 total funds and 0.5 FTE.

Recommendation:

Division of Parks and Wildlife, Special Purpose, River Outfitters Regulation						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$151,451	\$0	\$151,451	\$0	\$0	0.5
Total FY 2024-25	\$151,451	\$0	\$151,451	\$0	\$0	0.5
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$151,451	\$0	\$151,451	\$0	\$0	0.5
Prior year budget actions	3,173	0	3,173	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$154,624	\$0	\$154,624	\$0	\$0	0.5
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$3,173	\$0	\$3,173	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	2.1%	n/a	2.1%	n/a	n/a	0.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$154,624	\$0	\$154,624	\$0	\$0	0.5
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Stores Revolving Fund

This line item appropriates money into the Stores Revolving Fund, which was established pursuant to S.B. 03-290. This fund is used for the acquisition of warehousing stock and distributing supplies for retail sales to park visitors. At the end of every fiscal year, any fund balance exceeding \$200,000 reverts back to the Parks Cash Fund. The Stores Revolving Fund is continuously appropriated and this appropriation is for informational purposes only.

Statutory Authority: Section 33-10-111.5 (4), C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation-level appropriation of \$200,000 cash funds from the Stores Revolving Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

Off-Highway Vehicle Program Support

This line item funds the administrative costs of the Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Program, which is responsible for the administration of OHV grants. The program provides promotes the availability of OHV recreational opportunities, and encourages safe and responsible use through brochures, news releases and other media. The program is also responsible for OHV safety awareness through the promulgation and enforcement of rules and regulations. Partnerships with land management agencies and enthusiasts are formed to leverage grant funds and promote good management of motorized recreation. Funding is from OHV registration fees credited to the Off- Highway Vehicle Recreation Fund.

Statutory Authority: Section 33-14.5-106, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$626,805 total funds and 3.0 FTE.

Recommendation:

Division of Parks and Wildlife, Special Purpose, Off-highway Vehicle Program						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$615,396	\$0	\$615,396	\$0	\$0	3.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$615,396	\$0	\$615,396	\$0	\$0	3.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$615,396	\$0	\$615,396	\$0	\$0	3.0
Prior year budget actions	21,409	0	21,409	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$636,805	\$0	\$636,805	\$0	\$0	3.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$21,409	\$0	\$21,409	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	3.5%	n/a	3.5%	n/a	n/a	0.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$636,805	\$0	\$636,805	\$0	\$0	3.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Off-Highway Vehicle Direct Services

This line item supports direct services provided by the OHV Program including activities and expenses associated with law enforcement, capital equipment, rescue and first aid equipment, off-highway vehicle facilities, and division and contract services related to clearing parking lots and providing trail maintenance. This is mostly in the form of grants to federal, state, and local government agencies and non-profit user groups to construct and maintain off-highway vehicle trails, parking areas, signage and maps. Funding is from off-highway vehicle registrations collected in the Off-Highway Vehicle Registration Fund. As part of this line item, the Committee approved a footnote that authorized three year spending authority and to account for projects that require more than a year of funding to complete.

Statutory Authority: Section 33-14.5-106, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation-level appropriation of \$6.0 million cash funds from the Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

Information Technology

This line item supports IT systems and services necessary for core CPW functions by providing computer and communications infrastructure, asset management, user support, standardized software applications, internet oversight, development of IT policies and plans, and the development and maintenance of new and existing business applications.

Statutory Authority: Section 33-10-109, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation-level appropriation of \$2.6 million cash funds, including \$1.3 million from the Wildlife Cash Fund, \$674,969 from lottery proceeds, and \$600,000 from the Parks Cash Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

Severance Tax For Aquatic Nuisance Species

Senate Bill 21-281 (Concerning Severance Tax Revenue) authorized an annual appropriation up to \$4,006,050 annually from the Severance Tax Operational Fund to the continuously-appropriated Aquatic Nuisance Species Fund.

Statutory Authority: Section 39-29-109.3 (1)(g)(I), C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation-level appropriation of \$4.0 million from the Severance Tax Operational Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

Game Damage Claims and Prevention

The Game Damage program is a prevention and reimbursement program that compensates ranchers, farmers, and landowners for damage caused by big game animals. This line item also

includes funds for the purchase of fencing, pyrotechnics and other materials provided to landowners to prevent damage (and potential CPW liability) to standing and harvested crops, forage, and other property. Approximately half of the expenditures for this line item are for game damage prevention and the other half is for claims. However, spending on claims is unpredictable and dependent upon many factors, including the weather.

Statutory Authority: Sections 33-3-101 et seq., C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation-level appropriation of \$1.3 million from the Wildlife Cash Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

Grant and Habitat Partnerships

This line item funds projects related to (1) grants for habitat improvement on private property under the Pheasant Habitat Partnership Program; (2) the CPW Wetlands Program, which supports work to protect vulnerable wetlands and improve habitat; (3) grants for the Large Shooting Range Program to expand shooting range opportunities in Colorado; (4) grants for the Fishing Is Fun Program, which supports the improvement of fishing opportunities in the State. The three year spending authority can be found in the footnote section of the Division's Long Bill.

Statutory Authority: Sections 33-3-101 et seq., C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation-level appropriation of \$2.4 million cash funds, including \$1.6 million from the Wildlife Cash Fund, \$400,000 from waterfowl stamp revenue, and \$375,000 from the Parks Cash Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

Outdoor Equity Grant Program

House Bill 21-1318 authorized the Outdoor Equity Grant Program and creates the Outdoor Equity Board to engage diverse eligible youth from historically underserved communities in such a way as to build sustainability and capacity. This line item supports grants to reduce barriers to the outdoors, create pathways for formal or information conservation of the Colorado outdoors, or offer environmental and Colorado outdoor-based educational opportunities. Typical expenditures from the line item will include grants, personal services, and operating expenses including the direct and indirect costs to administer the program and the per diem and expenses of the Board members. Funding comes from the Outdoor Equity Fund (Section 33-9-206, C.R.S.) via proceeds from lottery sales pursuant to Section 44-40-111, C.R.S.

Statutory Authority: Sections 33-9-201 et seq., and 33-60-104, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$4.0 million cash funds, including \$3.0 million from the Outdoor Equity Fund, \$500,000 from the Parks Cash Fund, and \$500,00 from the Wildlife Cash Fund.

Recommendation:

Division of Parks and Wildlife, Special Purpose, Outdoor Equity Grant Program						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$2,986,407	\$0	\$2,986,407	\$0	\$0	1.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$2,986,407	\$0	\$2,986,407	\$0	\$0	1.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$2,986,407	\$0	\$2,986,407	\$0	\$0	1.0
R2 Outdoor equity grant program	1,013,593	0	1,013,593	0	0	-1.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$4,000,000	\$0	\$4,000,000	\$0	\$0	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$1,013,593	\$0	\$1,013,593	\$0	\$0	-1.0
Percentage Change	33.9%	n/a	33.9%	n/a	n/a	-100.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$4,000,000	\$0	\$4,000,000	\$0	\$0	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Asset Maintenance and Repairs

This line item funds small construction projects that do not rise to the scope or funding level of the Division’s annual legislative capital construction request. These are typically routine repair projects that occur during the normal lifecycle of capital assets. Appropriations under this line item are available for three years, as authorized in the Long Bill footnote.

Statutory Authority: Sections 33-1-107, 33-10-106, and 24-75-112, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation-level appropriation of \$10.1 million cash funds, including \$6.3 million from the Wildlife Cash Fund and \$3.8 million in lottery proceeds.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Department’s request.

Annual Depreciation-lease Equivalent

This line item was added as a result of H.B. 17-1144 (Amend Capital Construction Automatic Funding Mechanism) that required state agencies with capital projects funded by cash funds to include this line item in their operating budgets. The Department annually calculates an amount equal to the recorded depreciation of the capital asset and includes this amount as a base adjustment in the budget request.

Statutory Authority: Section 24-30-1310 (2)(a), C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$68,232 General Fund.

Recommendation:

Division of Parks and Wildlife, Special Purpose, Annual Depreciation-lease Equivalent Payment						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$199,068	\$0	\$199,068	\$0	\$0	0.0
Other Legislation	-199,068	0	-199,068	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Centrally appropriation items	68,232	68,232	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$68,232	\$68,232	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$68,232	\$68,232	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$68,232	\$68,232	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Beaver Park Dam Repayment

This line item was moved from the capital construction budget to CPW's operating budget in FY 2015-16. It provides spending authority for CPW to repay the Colorado Water Conservation Board for a \$10 million loan for improvements to the dam at Beaver Park Reservoir. This zero interest loan is being repaid at \$333,334 per year for 30 years.

Statutory Authority: Section 39-29-109 (2) (a) (X), C.R.S.

Request: The Department request a continuation-level appropriation of \$333,334 from the Wildlife Cash Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

Chatfield Reallocation Repayment

This line item was added to CPW's operating budget in FY 2017-18. It provides spending authority for CPW to repay the Colorado Water Conservation Board for an \$8.3 million interest-free loan.

Statutory Authority: Sections 37-60-120.1 and 37-60-122 (1) (b), C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation-level appropriation of \$276,700 from the Wildlife Cash Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

Indirect Cost Assessment

This line item reflects indirect cost assessments to cash and federal funds within the Division of Parks and Wildlife. The Department uses indirect cost recoveries to offset General Fund that would otherwise be required to pay for services from the Executive Director's Office.

Request: The Department requests \$5.8 million total funds, including no General Fund.

Recommendation:

Division of Parks and Wildlife, Special Purpose, Indirect Cost Assessment						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$5,600,545	\$0	\$4,917,434	\$0	\$683,111	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$5,600,545	\$0	\$4,917,434	\$0	\$683,111	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
F 2024-25 Appropriation	\$5,600,545	\$0	\$4,917,434	\$0	\$683,111	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	201,006	0	128,206	0	72,800	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$5,801,551	\$0	\$5,045,640	\$0	\$755,911	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$201,006	\$0	\$128,206	\$0	\$72,800	0.0
Percentage Change	3.6%	n/a	2.6%	n/a	10.7%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$5,801,551	\$0	\$5,045,640	\$0	\$755,911	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

(6) Colorado Water Conservation Board

The Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) was created in 1937 with a mission to conserve, develop, protect, and manage Colorado’s water for present and future generations. Section 37-60-104 (1), C.R.S., stipulates the requirement of a 15-member Board of Directors and Section 37-60-106, C.R.S., describes the duties of those board members “to promote the conservation of the waters of the state of Colorado in order to secure the greatest utilization of such waters and the utmost prevention of floods.” The CWCB manages two large cash fund accounts—the CWCB Construction Fund and the Severance Tax Perpetual Base Fund—to provide loans and grants for projects that will increase the beneficial consumptive use of Colorado's waters. This includes protection of water resources, water conservation, flood mitigation, stream restoration, drought planning, and implementation of the Colorado Water Plan. Special bills provide a significant source of funding for the CWCB.

Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB)						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$11,661,500	\$0	\$11,073,538	\$0	\$587,962	61.6
Other Legislation	53,750,000	0	53,750,000	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$65,411,500	\$0	\$64,823,538	\$0	\$587,962	61.6
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$65,411,500	\$0	\$64,823,538	\$0	\$587,962	61.6
Indirect cost assessment	-112,842	0	-121,642	0	8,800	0.0
R7 Water plan technical update	102,759	0	102,759	0	0	0.9
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Prior year legislation	-53,750,000	0	-53,750,000	0	0	0.0
Prior year budget actions	243,369	0	231,144	0	12,225	0.1
Total FY 2025-26	\$11,894,786		\$11,285,799	\$0	\$608,987	62.6
Changes from FY 2024-25	-\$53,516,714		-\$53,537,739	\$0	\$21,025	1.0
Percentage Change	-81.8%	0.0%	-82.6%	0.0%	3.6%	1.6%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$11,908,601	\$0	\$11,299,614	\$0	\$608,987	62.6
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$13,815		-\$13,815	\$0	\$0	0.0

Decision Items

→ R7 Water plan technical update

Request

The Department requests \$138,751 from the Colorado Water Conservation Board Construction Fund and 0.9 FTE to hire a term-limited staff member through December 2029. This individual would assist with a technical update that will inform the 2033 Water Plan Update.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the Department's request with two differences:

- 1 A recommendation to hire staff at the minimum instead of average job class salary, and
- 2 The removal of centrally appropriated costs within the position's first year, pursuant to Committee policy.

The recommendation totals to \$102,759 from the CWCB Construction Fund and 0.9 FTE.

Recommended FTE for DNR R7 Request						
Position	Prorated FTE	Personal Services	Standard Operating	Capital Outlay	Travel	Total
PHY SCI RES/SCIENTIST III	0.9	\$87,907	\$1,152	\$6,670	\$7,030	\$102,759

Analysis

The Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB)'s Water Supply Planning Section has 11.0 FTE and is responsible for maintaining and updating the Colorado Water Plan, supporting basin roundtables and the Interbasin Compact Committee, and water conservation, climate, and drought planning.

Due to the importance of accurate water forecasts that spans across multiple sectors, finite time period for this request, and strong revenue stream within the CWCB Construction Fund, staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

Purpose and Importance of the Colorado Water Plan

Pursuant to Section 37-60-106.3, C.R.S., CWCB is responsible for engaging with the public and basin roundtables to develop a state water plan. The plan should outline state policy pertaining to the "optimal conservation and development of Colorado's water resources". The plan discusses changing water supply availability, increasing demand, options for water conservation and storage, and the importance of support for local-level projects.

The 2023 plan is based on details from the last technical update in 2019 that includes multiple scenarios of current and future water demand, water supplies and potential gaps. The technical update provides tools and detailed datasets to help basin roundtables update their project

portfolios for meeting future water needs in a targeted manner.⁵ In the 2023 plan, basin roundtables identified \$20 billion in potential projects to help manage Colorado’s water supply and demand.⁶

The 2019 technical update found an increasing gap in water supply compared to demand. For municipal and industrial uses, this was approximately 250,000 to 750,000 acre-feet of water per year. One acre-foot is approximately enough water to cover a football field with a foot of water.

Need for additional funding

The Department has indicated that due to the increasing complexity of the technical update, stakeholders involved, new and improved data methods and sources available, they will require additional staff to complete the update in time for 2029.

The last technical update was funded through the annual CWCB Projects Bill.

Furthermore, the CWCB’s *Personal Services* line item reverted approximately 3.0 percent of spending authority in FY 23-24. This small reversion was due to the hiring process for 5.0 FTE that were approved for FY 23-24, and all these positions are now filled. As such, the Department indicates that it is unable to absorb this additional work into existing appropriations.

If the requested staff member were not to be funded, the Department indicates that the work effort for the technical update would be more limited and stakeholder involvement restricted. This impacts the information available for basin roundtables to use when making future basin water demand and supply plans.

CWCB Construction Fund

The CWCB Construction Fund supports the administration and programs within the CWCB, as well as loans for water projects across the state.

The fund’s cash flow is projected to be more than adequate to absorb this increased expense. Any remaining money in the fund is distributed as loans for water projects – so this increase would translate to an equivalent funding decrease for statewide water projects.

Colorado Water Conservation Board Construction Fund				
	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Estimate	FY 2025-26 Estimate
Net Cash Assets	\$280,401,123	\$342,852,145	\$264,828,361	\$185,209,647
Net Cash Assets (less loan and grant obligations)	90,909,646	96,434,358	20145,001	17,523,991

⁵ Colorado Water Conservation Board. 2019. *Technical Update to the Water Plan*. <https://dnrftp.state.co.us/CWCB/Technical%20Update%20to%20Water%20Plan/1.%20Technical%20Update%20Documentation/Volume%201-Executive%20Summary.pdf>.

⁶ Colorado Water Conservation Board. 2023. *Colorado Water Plan: Executive Summary*. https://dnrweblink.state.co.us/CWCB/0/edoc/219188/Colorado_WaterPlan_2023_Digital.pdf.

Line Item Detail

(A) Administration

Personal Services

This line item provides funding for salaries and associated expenses for program staff in the Colorado Water Conservation Board.

Statutory Authority: Articles 60 to 69 of Title 37, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$5.2 million total cash funds and 43.9 FTE, including \$4.4 million from the CWCB Construction Fund.

Recommendation:

Colorado Water Conservation Board, Administration, Personal Services						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$4,945,220	\$0	\$4,945,220	\$0	\$0	42.9
Total FY 2024-25	\$4,945,220	\$0	\$4,945,220	\$0	\$0	42.9
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$4,945,220	\$0	\$4,945,220	\$0	\$0	42.9
Prior year budget actions	181,376	0	181,376	0	0	0.1
R7 Water plan technical update	87,907	0	87,907	0	0	0.9
Total FY 2025-26	\$5,214,503	\$0	\$5,214,503	\$0	\$0	43.9
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$269,283	\$0	\$269,283	\$0	\$0	1.0
Percentage Change	5.4%	n/a	5.4%	n/a	n/a	2.3%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$5,228,478	\$0	\$5,228,478	\$0	\$0	43.9
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$13,975	\$0	-\$13,975	\$0	\$0	0.0

Operating Expenses

This line item funds the day-to-day operating costs of the CWCB.

Statutory Authority: Articles 60 to 69 of Title 37, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$652,912 cash funds, including \$602,012 from the CWCB Construction Fund.

Recommendation:

Colorado Water Conservation Board, Administration, Operating Expenses						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE

Colorado Water Conservation Board, Administration, Operating Expenses						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$645,220	\$0	\$645,220	\$0	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$645,220	\$0	\$645,220	\$0	\$0	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$645,220	\$0	\$645,220	\$0	\$0	0.0
R7 Water plan technical update	14,852	0	14,852	0	0	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Prior year budget actions	-7,000	0	-7,000	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$653,072	\$0	\$653,072	\$0	\$0	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$7,852	\$0	\$7,852	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	1.2%	n/a	1.2%	n/a	n/a	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$652,912	\$0	\$652,912	\$0	\$0	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$160	\$0	\$160	\$0	\$0	0.0

River Decision Support Systems

The River Decision Support System (RDSS) consists of databases and models that facilitate decision making related to interstate compacts, water resource planning, and water rights administration, through use of historic data and geographic information system data to support Colorado's Decision Support System (CDSS). The CDSS is comprised of water management systems being developed and maintained by the CWCB and the Division of Water Resources for each of Colorado's major water basins.

Statutory Authority: Article 60 of Title 37, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$569,677 cash funds and 4.0 FTE.

Recommendation:

Colorado Water Conservation Board, Administration, River Decision Support Systems						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$555,410	\$0	\$555,410	\$0	\$0	4.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$555,410	\$0	\$555,410	\$0	\$0	4.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$555,410	\$0	\$555,410	\$0	\$0	4.0
Prior year budget actions	14,267	0	14,267	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$569,677	\$0	\$569,677	\$0	\$0	4.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$14,267	\$0	\$14,267	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	2.6%	n/a	2.6%	n/a	n/a	0.0%

Colorado Water Conservation Board, Administration, River Decision Support Systems						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$569,677	\$0	\$569,677	\$0	\$0	4.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

(B) Special Purpose

Intrastate Water Management and Development

This line item supports the work of the CWCB's Water Supply Planning Section. Duties of this section include providing broad technical expertise in water use, water availability, and water supply planning. Staff members in this section also manage the Water Supply Reserve Fund, which provides money for grants and loans to complete water activities. Requests for monies from this program must be approved by Basin Roundtables established under Section 37-75-104, C.R.S.

Statutory Authority: Articles 60 to 69 of Title 37, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation-level appropriation of \$361,821 from the CWCB Construction Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

Federal Emergency Management Assistance

The majority of the appropriation for this line item is federal funds, which are included in the Long Bill for informational purposes only. This is a federally-funded program that provides flood plain mapping and information about flood prevention. This line item supports 3.0 FTE for the Map Modernization Coordinator and the State Coordinator for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The Map Modernization Coordinator is responsible for the management of the Map Modernization Program and ensuring high quality mapping products. The State Coordinator for the NFIP is responsible for performance measurement, community assistance visits, ordinance assistance, community information system, floodplain mitigation strategies, education and outreach, technical assistance, Community Rating System (CRS) support, mapping coordination assistance, intra- and inter-state coordination, and other related activities. The position also serves as the State Hazard Mitigation Officer in the event of a federally declared flood disasters, and has a primary responsibility as the CWCB representative within Disaster Field Offices when they become active.

Statutory Authority: Section 37-60-121 (3) (b), C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$546,649 total funds, including primarily federal funds, and 4.0 FTE.

Recommendation:

Colorado Water Conservation Board, Special Purpose, Federal Emergency Management Assistance						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$534,424	\$0	\$83,732	\$0	\$450,692	4.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$534,424	\$0	\$83,732	\$0	\$450,692	4.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$534,424	\$0	\$83,732	\$0	\$450,692	4.0
Prior year budget actions	12,225	0	0	0	12,225	0.0
R10 Restructure sev tax operational fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$546,649	\$0	\$83,732	\$0	\$462,917	4.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$12,225	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,225	0.0
Percentage Change	2.3%	n/a	0.0%	n/a	2.7%	0.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$546,649	\$0	\$83,732	\$0	\$462,917	4.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Water Conservation Program

This line item supports the Office of Water Conservation and Drought Planning (OWCDP), which promotes water use efficiency and drought management planning. Funding for the program comes from the CWCB Construction Fund. Program responsibilities include the administration of municipal and agricultural grants, the provision of technical assistance, precipitation harvesting pilot projects, and water conservation training. The OWCDP also promotes drought planning by encouraging and assisting communities to prepare and implement drought mitigation plans and by monitoring drought impacts and informing the public, media, and state officials.

Statutory Authority: Sections 37-60-106, 37-60-115, 37-60-124-127, and 37-96-103 C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$570,806 cash funds from the CWCB Construction Fund and 5.0 FTE.

Recommendation:

Colorado Water Conservation Board, Special Purpose, Water Conservation Program						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$553,234	\$0	\$553,234	\$0	\$0	5.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$553,234	\$0	\$553,234	\$0	\$0	5.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$553,234	\$0	\$553,234	\$0	\$0	5.0
Prior year budget actions	17,572	0	17,572	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$570,806	\$0	\$570,806	\$0	\$0	5.0

Colorado Water Conservation Board, Special Purpose, Water Conservation Program						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$17,572	\$0	\$17,572	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	3.2%	n/a	3.2%	n/a	n/a	0.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$570,806	\$0	\$570,806	\$0	\$0	5.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Water Efficiency Grant Program

This program is administered within the Office of Water Conservation and Drought Planning and supports the implementation of water conservation plan goals and programs identified in locally adopted water conservation plans. The program also gives grants to help agencies promote the benefits of water efficiency through public education and outreach programs. Funding for this program is from the Water Efficiency Grant Program Cash Fund, which receives annual transfers from the Natural Resources and Energy Grant Programs section (formerly Tier II) of the Severance Tax Operational Fund, and the CWCB Construction Fund.

Statutory Authority: Section 37-60-126, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$624,845 cash funds, including \$498,788 from the Water Plan Implementation Cash Fund, and 1.0 FTE.

Recommendation:

Colorado Water Conservation Board, Special Purpose, Water Efficiency Grant Program						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$621,259	\$0	\$621,259	\$0	\$0	1.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$621,259	\$0	\$621,259	\$0	\$0	1.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$621,259	\$0	\$621,259	\$0	\$0	1.0
Prior year budget actions	3,586	0	3,586	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$624,845	\$0	\$624,845	\$0	\$0	1.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$3,586	\$0	\$3,586	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	0.6%	n/a	0.6%	n/a	n/a	0.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$624,845	\$0	\$624,845	\$0	\$0	1.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Severance Tax Fund

This line item provides funding for water projects with cash funds from the Core Departmental Programs section of the Severance Tax Operational Fund. The CWCB prepares an annual proposal for projects to be funded from this line item comprised of agency initiatives and grant

requests submitted by other parties. Proposals are forwarded to the CWCB Board and the Executive Director of the Department for review and approval, and the list of approved projects is included in the annual budget request. This line item accounts for most of the CWCB's Core Departmental Program appropriation each year.

Statutory Authority: Section 39-29-109.3 (1) (d), C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation-level appropriation of \$1.2 million cash funds, which includes a refinance of the full amount from the Severance Tax Operational Fund to the CWCB Construction Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends a continuation-level appropriation of \$1.2 million cash funds from the Severance Tax Operational Fund. This recommendation does not include the proposed refinance outlined in the Department's R10 request.

Interbasin Compacts

House Bill 05-1177 created nine permanent basin roundtables to develop a common understanding of existing water supplies and future water supply needs and demands throughout Colorado, and possible means of meeting those needs. These "Basin Roundtables" include municipal users, agricultural users, local governments, water conservation and conservancy districts, recreational and environmental interests, and the business community. The Basin Roundtable meetings are focused on consensus building and the exchange of information on water use. This line item is funded in part by the continuously-appropriated Interbasin Compact Committee Operation Fund, which receives annual transfers the Natural Resources and Energy Grant Programs section (formerly Tier II) of the Severance Tax Operational Fund. The remainder is from CWCB Construction Fund.

Statutory Authority: Article 75 of Title 37, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$1.2 million cash funds and 3.7 FTE.

Recommendation:

Colorado Water Conservation Board, Special Purpose, Interbasin Compacts						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$1,225,403	\$0	\$1,225,403	\$0	\$0	3.7
Total FY 2024-25	\$1,225,403	\$0	\$1,225,403	\$0	\$0	3.7
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$1,225,403	\$0	\$1,225,403	\$0	\$0	3.7
Prior year budget actions	17,779	0	17,779	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$1,243,182	\$0	\$1,243,182	\$0	\$0	3.7
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$17,779	\$0	\$17,779	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	1.5%	n/a	1.5%	n/a	n/a	0.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$1,243,182	\$0	\$1,243,182	\$0	\$0	3.7

Colorado Water Conservation Board, Special Purpose, Interbasin Compacts						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Platte River Basin Cooperative Agreement

Colorado became a participant in the Platte River Basin Endangered Species Cooperative, now known as the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program, in 1997. The Cooperative Agreement is a three-year agreement signed by the governors of Wyoming, Colorado, and Nebraska and by the Secretary of the Interior to address the protection and restoration of various endangered species habitats along the North Platte River. The cash funds appropriation from the Fish and Wildlife Resources Fund supports 1.0 FTE and contractual personal services for ongoing administration of the program and Colorado's portion of contract technical support.

Statutory Authority: Sections 24-33-111 and 37-65-101, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$264,941 cash funds, including \$259,276 from the Fish and Wildlife Resources Fund, and 1.0 FTE.

Recommendation:

Colorado Water Conservation Board, Special Purpose, Platte River Basin Cooperative Agreement						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$261,377	\$0	\$261,377	\$0	\$0	1.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$261,377	\$0	\$261,377	\$0	\$0	1.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$261,377	\$0	\$261,377	\$0	\$0	1.0
Prior year budget actions	3,564	0	3,564	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$264,941	\$0	\$264,941	\$0	\$0	1.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$3,564	\$0	\$3,564	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	1.4%	n/a	1.4%	n/a	n/a	0.0%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$264,941	\$0	\$264,941	\$0	\$0	1.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Indirect Cost Assessment

Indirect cost assessments are charged to cash and federally-funded programs for departmental and statewide overhead costs. The indirect cost assessments for this Department are based upon personal services costs of cash and federally funded FTE in each division.

Request: The Department requests \$639,790 total funds, including no General Fund.

Recommendation:

Colorado Water Conservation Board, Special Purpose, Indirect Cost Assessment						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$752,632	\$0	\$615,362	\$0	\$137,270	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$752,632	\$0	\$615,362	\$0	\$137,270	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$752,632	\$0	\$615,362	\$0	\$137,270	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	-112,842	0	-121,642	0	8,800	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$639,790	\$0	\$493,720	\$0	\$146,070	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	-\$112,842	\$0	-\$121,642	\$0	\$8,800	0.0
Percentage Change	-15.0%	n/a	-19.8%	n/a	6.4%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$639,790	\$0	\$493,720	\$0	\$146,070	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

(7) Division of Water Resources

The Water Resources Division, also called the Office of the State Engineer, is primarily responsible for administration of water resources, which includes overseeing over 170,000 intrastate surface and groundwater rights, as well as ensuring compliance with nine interstate compact agreements. The Division has seven field offices that monitor and distribute water based on priority and ensure dam safety. Additionally, the Division issues permits for well construction; engages in community education; consults with water suppliers and conservation districts; and collects, preserves, and provides current and historic water records and information.

Division of Water Resources						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$28,525,733	\$26,410,676	\$1,852,575	\$7,031	\$255,451	268.3
Other Legislation	2,207,500	0	2,207,500	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$30,733,233	\$26,410,676	\$4,060,075	\$7,031	\$255,451	268.3
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$30,733,233	\$26,410,676	\$4,060,075	\$7,031	\$255,451	268.3
Indirect cost assessment	462	0	533	0	-71	0.0
R3 Water commissioner job class	119,933	119,933	0	0	0	0.0
Prior year legislation	-2,227,677	-13,146	-2,207,500	-7,031	0	0.0
Prior year budget actions	1,216,534	1,174,749	41,785	0	0	0.2
Total FY 2025-26	\$29,842,485	\$27,692,212	\$1,894,893	\$0	\$255,380	268.5
Changes from FY 2024-25	-\$890,748	\$1,281,536	-\$2,165,182	-\$7,031	-\$71	0.2
Percentage Change	-2.9%	4.9%	-53.3%	-100.0%	0.0%	0.1%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$29,842,485	\$27,692,212	\$1,894,893	\$0	\$255,380	268.5
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Decision Items

→ R3 Adjust water commissioner job classifications

Request

The Department requests \$119,933 General Fund in FY 2025-26 and ongoing to reclassify 36 water commissioner positions to adjust for the increased complexity of water administration in Colorado.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the Department’s request. The Committee could consider funding a portion of the request with the Water Resources Cash Fund in order to offer General Fund relief, but there may be risks to fund solvency in doing so.

Analysis

Water commissioners are responsible for day-to-day, on-the-ground activities associated with water administration in the state. This includes monitoring water conditions, measuring and recording diversions, and working with users to ensure that water is taken in accordance with the law. These individuals direct who can and cannot use water when supply is limited.

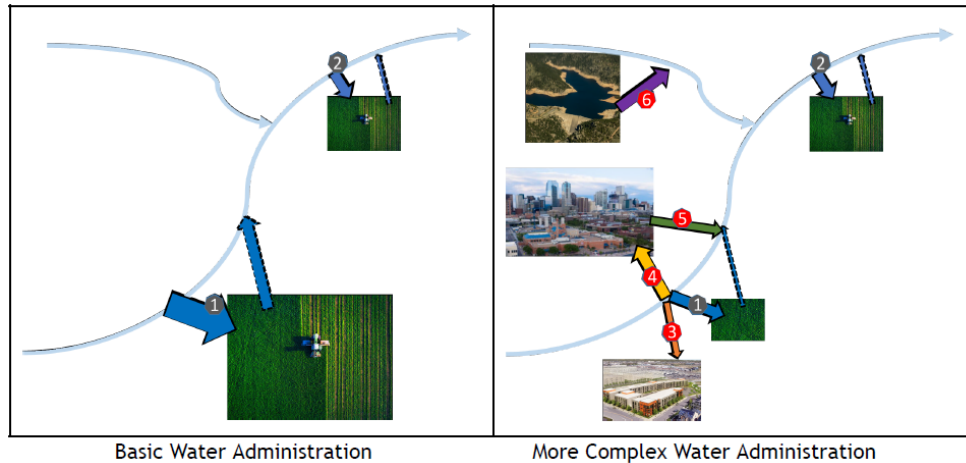
In 2023, the Department performed an analysis of the work completed by all 100 water commissioners across the state. The analysis indicated that the work performed by water commissioners was often more complex than their classification. As a result, the Department requested the following adjustments to 36 water commissioner positions:

Summary of Proposed Adjustments					
Job Class	Positions Affected	FTE	Average Salary Increase (per position)	Total Salary Increase (all positions)	Total Funds
EPST I to EPST II	22	17.4	\$2,448	\$53,853	\$66,541
EPST II to EPST III	14	13.5	3,086	43,211	53,392
Total	36	30.8	-	\$97,064	\$119,933

Increased Complexity of Water Administration

Some areas of the state have a straightforward system of water administration, in which water is diverted for irrigation with partial return flow that goes back to the waterway (see left panel in figure below).

However, due to limited water supply and a growing urban population, water administration in Colorado has grown very complex. Instead of clear diversions for irrigation, water administration is now also dictated by changes to allowed uses, augmentation plans, compact requirements, and unique exceptions for different water divisions (see right panel in the figure below).



The Department has indicated that while basic water administration aligns with the EPST I classification, the increasing administration complexity has required some water commissioners to perform work above their current classification. For example, some commissioners need to run monthly spreadsheet calculations based on court decree requirements to determine the quantity and location of water releases. Based on the class series description published by the Department of Personnel and Administration, this operational level of decision-making better aligns with the EPST II classification.⁷

Furthermore, some commissioners have such complex administration requirements that they are creating stream-specific tools to calculate and visualize multiple factors needed to properly direct water use. These tools are updated daily or multiple times a day in order to inform who may divert water at a particular moment in time – showcasing a deeper-level of analytical expertise that these commissioners have that aligns with the EPST III classification.

Engineering/Physical Sciences Technician (EPST) Series	
Classification	Duties
EPST I	Basic support to engineers or scientists by following standard procedures.
EPST II	Basic duties and responsibility for decisions on the operations needed to complete the work.
EPST III	Basic and operational duties, and responsibility for additional analysis and judgement to study data, determine what it means, and how it may be used to inform reports, test data, or work processes.

Fund Sources for Water Administration

In FY 22-23 and FY 23-24, the Division of Water Resources reverted 1.0 to 2.5% of its appropriation for the *Water Administration* line item, and has indicated they do not have room

⁷ Department of Personnel and Administration. 2015. *Class Series Description*. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4enHpLSV4eaDcxOGIFdHdZVnM/view?resourcekey=0-Yy5HlbZ4nZrvQOGLJyCq9g>.

within the existing appropriation to absorb the proposed job classification adjustment. The Division is primarily funded by General Fund.

Division of Water Resources						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$30,733,233	\$26,410,676	\$4,060,075	\$7,031	\$255,451	268.3
<i>Water Administration Line Item</i>	27,023,055	26,215,708	800,316	7,031	0	261.3

The Water Resources Cash Fund receives revenue from fees for water well permits, permit changes, and applications for substitute water supply agreements. The fund has reserves well above 16.5 percent of expenditures that may be used to fund the adjustment, and its fund balance is currently projected to keep growing.

Water Resources Cash Fund							
	FY 20-21 Actual	FY 21-22 Actual	FY 22-23 Actual	FY 23-24 Actual	FY 24-25 Estimate	FY 25-26 Estimate	FY 26-27 Estimate
Net Cash Assets	\$851,584	\$1,300,648	\$1,224,329	\$1,029,558	\$1,062,497	\$1,234,606	\$1,410,514
Change from Prior Year							
Fund Balance	595,973	449,064	-66,050	-201,500	37,116	172,109	176,077
16.5% of expenditures	44,634	25,670	97,750	115,430	85,145	69,575	73,034

Pursuant to Section 37-80-111.7, C.R.S., the fund is used for processing well permits, producing publications, reviewing water supply plans and agreements, enforcement, and "...operations and administration of the division based on ongoing priorities of the division".

While the fund currently has reserves that may be able to absorb a portion of the Department's request, the Department has indicated that current projections show that the fund is likely to be insolvent in FY 2032-33. Furthermore:

- 1 The Department has indicated that it is working on refilling positions to return to full staffing, which may also draw down the fund.
- 2 Fees generated by the Water Resources Cash Fund are set in statute, and have historically been inadequate to fully support program operations.

Line Item Detail

(A) Division Operations

Water Administration

Water Administration consists of two sub-programs: administration of intrastate water rights and interstate compact enforcement. It is the statutory responsibility of DWR to verify: 1) stream diversions are per decree; 2) wells are operated in compliance with their decrees; 3) augmentation or substitute water supply plans are replacing stream depletions; and 4) interstate compact flows are delivered to downstream states. This requires daily oversight of the water allocation system. There are seven division offices located throughout the state, one in each major drainage basin; these division offices employ field staff, including water

commissioners, who perform duties that contribute to water administration. Duties of the field staff include adjusting water flow, collecting water use and/or diversion data, and enforcing decrees and water laws.

Statutory Authority: Articles 61 to 69, 80 to 92 of Title 37, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests \$28.3 million total funds, including \$27.5 million General Fund, and 261.5 FTE.

Recommendation:

Division of Water Resources, Division Operations, Water Administration						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$27,023,055	\$26,215,708	\$800,316	\$7,031	\$0	261.3
Total FY 2024-25	\$27,023,055	\$26,215,708	\$800,316	\$7,031	\$0	261.3
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$27,023,055	\$26,215,708	\$800,316	\$7,031	\$0	261.3
Prior year budget actions	1,216,534	1,174,749	41,785	0	0	0.2
R3 Water commissioner job class	119,933	119,933	0	0	0	0.0
Prior year legislation	-20,177	-13,146	0	-7,031	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$28,339,345	\$27,497,244	\$842,101	\$0	\$0	261.5
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$1,316,290	\$1,281,536	\$41,785	-\$7,031	\$0	0.2
Percentage Change	4.9%	4.9%	5.2%	-100.0%	n/a	0.1%
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$28,339,345	\$27,497,244	\$842,101	\$0	\$0	261.5
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Well Inspection

The Well Inspection Program was established by S.B. 03-045 and continues to be funded by well permit application fees. The Well Inspection Program licenses water well construction contractors and enforces existing rules and regulations. The General Assembly created the State Board of Examiners of Water Well Construction and Pump Installation Contractors to develop construction standards to protect aquifers and license contractors for well construction. The Board is also authorized to enforce the rules and standards for well construction and pump installation.

Statutory Authority: Article 91 of Title 37, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation-level appropriation of \$379,038 from the Well Inspection Cash Fund and 3.0 FTE.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

Satellite Monitoring System

This line item supports satellite-linked water resource monitoring stations throughout the state. This system provides "real-time" stream flow information that is used by the Division, consumptive water users such as agricultural users, and other interested persons such as rafters and anglers. Stations record stream flow and transmit the information to a database. Some revenue is generated through voluntary fees from local conservancy districts, water users, user associations, and municipalities, which are deposited in the Satellite Monitoring System Cash Fund.

Statutory Authority: Sections 37-80-102 (10) and 37-80-111.5, C.R.S., and Article 92 of Title 37, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation-level appropriation of \$575,204 total funds, including \$194,968 General Fund, and 2.0 FTE.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

Federal Grants

This line item is funded by federal grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and is included in the Long Bill for informational purposes only. FEMA grants are used support the Division's Dam Safety Program and BOR grants support a water project in the San Luis Valley and provide gauging station maintenance for the Williams Fork gauge in northwestern Colorado.

Request: The Department requests a continuation-level appropriation of \$230,000 federal funds.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

River Decision Support Systems

This line item supports a statewide decision support system for the Colorado, Rio Grande, South Platte, and Arkansas River Basins. The Colorado Decision Support System consists of databases and models that use historic data and geographic information systems to facilitate decisions related to interstate compacts, water resource planning, and water rights administration.

Statutory Authority: Article 60 of Title 37, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation-level appropriation of \$212,467 cash funds from the CWCB Construction Fund, and 2.0 FTE.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

(B) Special Purpose

Dam Emergency Repair

This appropriation provides funding to the State Engineer if emergency action is necessary to repair a dangerous or threatened dam. Cash funds are from the Emergency Dam Repair Cash Fund, which is replenished from transfers from the CWCB Construction Fund. A maximum amount of \$50,000 is continuously appropriated. These funds have only been required in one year to date (FY 2013-14), but any funds expended are recoverable from the dam owner.

Statutory Authority: Sections 37-60-122.5 and 37-87-108.5, C.R.S.

Request: The Department requests a continuation-level appropriation of \$50,000 cash funds from the CWCB Construction Fund.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

Indirect Cost Assessment

Indirect cost assessments are charged to cash and federally-funded programs for departmental and statewide overhead costs. The indirect cost assessments for this Department are based upon personal services costs of cash and federally funded FTE in each division.

Request: The Department requests \$56,431 total funds, including no General Fund.

Recommendation:

Division of Water Resources, Special Purpose, Indirect Cost Assessment						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$55,969	\$0	\$30,518	\$0	\$25,451	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$55,969	\$0	\$30,518	\$0	\$25,451	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$55,969	\$0	\$30,518	\$0	\$25,451	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	462	0	533	0	-71	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$56,431	\$0	\$31,051	\$0	\$25,380	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$462	\$0	\$533	\$0	-\$71	0.0
Percentage Change	0.8%	n/a	1.7%	n/a	-0.3%	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$56,431	\$0	\$31,051	\$0	\$25,380	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

(8) Division of Forestry

This is a new division that the Department requests to be transferred from the Department of Higher Education's Long Bill section to the Department of Natural Resources beginning in FY 2025-26.

The Division of Forestry and Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) are operated jointly by the Department of Higher Education and Department of Natural Resources. CSFS provides staff, scientific expertise, and outreach and education for the DNR's Division of Forestry. The DNR provides policy direction.

Division of Forestry						
Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2024-25 Appropriation						
HB 24-1430 (Long Bill)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Total FY 2024-25	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
FY 2025-26 Recommended Appropriation						
FY 2024-25 Appropriation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
CSFS R1 Move line items to DNR	10,360,024	10,360,024	0	0	0	0.0
CSFS R2 Forestry workforce internships	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total FY 2025-26	\$10,360,024	\$10,360,024	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Changes from FY 2024-25	\$10,360,024	\$10,360,024	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Percentage Change	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
FY 2025-26 Executive Request	\$10,589,030	\$10,589,030	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Staff Rec. Above/-Below Request	-\$229,006	-\$229,006	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0

Decision Items

→ CSFS R1 Move line items to DNR

Request

The Department requests a budget-neutral adjustment that moves \$10.4 million General Fund across three line items within the Colorado State Forest Service (Department of Higher Education) to the Department of Natural Resources.

Line Items to Move to DNR	
Line Item	FY 2025-26 General Fund
Healthy Forests and Vibrant Communities Fund	\$2,245,640
Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation Grant Program	8,000,000
Colorado State Forest Service at CSU (S.B. 23-005)	114,384
Total	\$10,360,024

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

Analysis

The responsibilities for the DNR and CSFS are outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding between the Department and Board of Governors of the Colorado State University System. DNR is responsible for providing policy direction while Colorado State University is responsible for providing scientific expertise, education, outreach, and staff to fulfill the purpose of the DNR's Division of Forestry.

CSFS activities include timber management, wildfire mitigation projects, insect and disease surveys, guidance for obtaining and administering grants, community workshops, and nursery operations to provide low-cost seedlings.

The purpose of the request is to align CSFS's budget and legislative requests with the forestry-specific expertise within the Department of Natural Resources, and streamline the corresponding approval and submission processes. The Department does not propose to change day-to-day operational structures.

Current and Proposed Budget Structure

In 2021, Senate Bill 21-258 (Wildfire Risk Mitigation) directed the Department of Natural Resources, Colorado State Forest Service, and Department of Public Safety to "conduct an assessment of wildfire mitigation efforts undertaken or support by the state to determine the most efficient and effective organizational structure for these efforts". The resulting assessment indicated that the alignment of budget and policy processes was a key challenge, since CSFS was in a gray area in between the Department of Higher Education and Department of Natural Resources.

In FY 2023-24, funding for the CSFS was primarily supported by \$16.4 million (53.8 percent) state revenue sources, including General Fund and various cash funds. This includes formula funding from the higher education system, additional Long Bill appropriations, and General Fund transfers to various cash funds initiated by legislation outside of the Long Bill. The CSFS also receives a significant portion of its funding from federal grants (\$11.2 million, or 36.6 percent of total expenditures).

Currently, all CSFS line items are housed within the Department of Higher Education. The Department proposes to move the following line items to the Department of Natural Resources, citing that these are standalone line items that only support CSFS activities. The CSFS also receives funding from a portion of various additional line items in the Department of Higher Education. This includes base operational funding through the Specialty Education Program (SEP) account administered by Colorado State University and distributed according to the higher education funding formula. In 2024, the SEP budget for CSFS was \$6.7 million.

Programs Supported by the Adjusted Line Items

- *Healthy Forest and Vibrant Communities Cash Fund* supports wildfire protection planning, technical assistance, and loans to support small forestry businesses.
- *Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation Grant Program Cash Fund* supports community-level capacity to implement mitigation projects.
- *Colorado State Forest Service at Colorado State University* funds a workforce development program created by S.B. 23-005 (Forestry and Wildfire Mitigation Workforce) that reimburses timber, forest health, or wildfire mitigation organizations for the cost of hiring interns.

Due to the budget-neutral nature of the request and potential for improved expertise and efficiency by aligning CSFS budget requests with forestry experts within DNR, staff recommends approval of the full request.

→ CSFS R2 Forestry workforce development program

Request

The Department requests \$229,006 General Fund to permanently establish a forestry workforce internship program within the Colorado State Forest Service. The request annualizes to \$231,730 General Fund in FY 2026-27.

Recommendation

Staff recommends denial of the Department's request.

Analysis

The proposed grant program does appear to be in demand and fill a workforce need, but due to ongoing budgetary challenges, staff does not recommend starting a new program funded by General Fund. Additionally, there are other programs that aim to address the challenges in the forestry workforce – such as community college tuition assistance for in-demand fields (including forestry) through H.B. 23-1246 and a timber and wildfire mitigation industry-focused internship program through S.B. 23-005.

Forestry Workforce Challenges

The forestry sector is comprised of multiple job types, including logging and timber, wildfire mitigation, and watershed and forest health. These sectors are experiencing a variety of workforce challenges. For example, the U.S. logging industry is aging and has experienced a decline in employment over the past two decades.⁸ Increasing wildfire frequency and severity

⁸ He et al. (2021) *Logging Industry in the United States: Employment and Profitability*.
https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/ja/2021/ja_2021_smidt_004.pdf

are stressing the wildfire-response system, including firefighters on the front lines of wildfire response.^{9 10} Furthermore, firefighting resources are often scarce during peak fire season over the summer, during which firefighters work long hours in difficult conditions.^{11 12}

These challenges, driven by both fewer workers in the sector and an increasing demand for wildfire mitigation and response, highlight the importance of growing the forestry-related workforce.

Existing Program and Internship Opportunities

The existing internship program was created in 2018 as a pilot program. Each intern is placed at one of the CSFS field offices across Colorado and provides additional support during the busy field season and growing season at the nursery.

When the pilot program was created, it funded five interns using a combination of funds including base funding from Colorado State University, individual program funding, and private donations. In 2024, the program received 90 applications for 21 intern openings. Due to inflationary pressures on the CSFS operating budget, as well as decreased federal funds, the program does not anticipate having continued funds to fully support this internship program.

Previously, many of these internship opportunities were limited to students at Colorado State University because of donor fund restrictions. The Department indicates that the request could open the internship opportunity to students from all Colorado institutions of higher education.

Two years ago, the General Assembly passed S.B. 23-005 (Forestry and Mitigation Workforce) that created the timber, forest health, and wildfire mitigation industries workforce development program that partially reimburses related organizations for the cost of hiring interns. The bill appropriates \$75,000 for internship reimbursements, intended to support the cost of 15 internships. This program is separate from the internship program that is the focus of the CSFS R2 request.

⁹ Thompson et al. (2023) *Wildfire Response: A System on the Brink?*
https://www.fs.usda.gov/rm/pubs_journals/2023/rmrs_2023_thompson_m001.pdf

¹⁰ Abatzoglou et al. (2020) *Increasing Synchronous Fire Danger in Forests of the Western United States*.
<https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1029/2020GL091377>

¹¹ Bayham et al. (2022) *The Economics of Wildfire in the United States*. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-resource-111920-014804>

¹² Belval et al. (2020) *Fire suppression resource scarcity: Current metrics and future performance indicators*.
<https://www.mdpi.com/1999-4907/11/2/217/pdf>

Line Item Detail

Colorado State Forest Service at Colorado State University

This line item provides funding for a workforce development program created by Senate Bill 23-005. This program is focused on the timber, forestry, and wildfire mitigation industries.

Request: The Department requests \$343,390 General Fund, which includes a budget-neutral increase of \$114,384 General Fund from the Department of Higher Education and an increase of \$229,006 to permanently fund a forestry workforce internship program.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the budget-neutral increase of \$114,384 General Fund from the Department of Higher Education. The Committee will see a corresponding decrease in the Department of Higher Education.

Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation Grant Program

The grant program receives \$8.0 million General Fund annually that is awarded to community-level actions to reduce the risk of wildfire to people, property and infrastructure and encourage forest health and restoration projects.

Request: The Department requests a budget-neutral increase of \$8.0 million General Fund that is to be transferred from the Department of Higher Education. The Committee will see a corresponding decrease in the Department of Higher Education.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of Department's request.

Healthy Forests and Vibrant Communities Fund

This program receives General Fund annually to implement forest management and fuel reduction projects, assist communities with developing Community Wildfire Protection Plans, loans to forest product businesses, and support marketing for wood products.

Request: The Department requests a budget-neutral increase of \$2,245,640 million General Fund that is to be transferred from the Department of Higher Education. The Committee will see a corresponding decrease in the Department of Higher Education.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Department's request.

Long Bill Footnotes

Staff recommends **continuing** the following footnote:

- N Department of Natural Resources, Energy and Carbon Management Commission, Emergency Response -- It is the General Assembly's intent that this appropriation be expended if there is an oil and gas related emergency under the jurisdiction of the Energy and Carbon Management Commission. The purpose of this appropriation is to fund investigation, prevention, monitoring, and mitigation of circumstances caused by or that are alleged to be associated with oil and gas activities and that call for immediate action by the Energy and Carbon Management Commission.

Comment: This footnote sets forth the purpose, conditions, and limitations of the line item. The JBC created the Emergency Response line item in FY 2006-07 to be used, if and when necessary, for emergency response. The appropriation was approved due to a concern that emergency funding would be necessary during a time when the JBC may not be meeting during the interim (and thus would have to wait for an interim supplemental, delaying the Department's ability to respond adequately). Funding is from the Energy and Carbon Management Cash Fund.

Staff recommends **continuing and modifying** the following footnotes:

- N Department of Natural Resources, Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety, Inactive Mines, Program Costs -- This appropriation remains available until completion of the project or the close of the ~~2026-27~~ 2027-28 state fiscal year, whichever comes first.

Comment: This footnote provides three-year roll-forward spending authority for this line item consolidated in FY 2020-21.

- N Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Wildlife, Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Special Purpose, Off-highway Vehicle Direct Services – This appropriation remains available for expenditure until the completion of the project or the close of the ~~2026-27~~ 2027-28 state fiscal year, whichever comes first.

Comment: This footnote provides roll-forward authority three fiscal years to accommodate grant reimbursements for multi-year projects.

- N Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Wildlife, Special Purpose, Grants and Habitat Partnerships – This appropriation remains available for expenditure until the completion of the project or the close of the ~~2026-27~~ 2027-28 state fiscal year, whichever comes first.

Comment: This footnote provides roll-forward authority three fiscal years to accommodate grant reimbursements for multi-year projects.

- N Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Wildlife, Special Purpose, Asset Maintenance and Repairs – This appropriation remains available for expenditure until the completion of the project or the close of the ~~2026-27~~ 2027-28 state fiscal year, whichever comes first.

Comment: This footnote provides roll-forward authority three fiscal years to accommodate grant reimbursements for multi-year projects.

- N Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Wildlife, Special Purpose, Outdoor Equity Grant Program – This appropriation remains available for expenditure until the completion of the project or the close of the ~~2026-27~~ 2027-28 state fiscal year, whichever comes first.

Comment: This footnote provides roll-forward authority three fiscal years to accommodate grant reimbursements for multi-year projects.

Requests for Information

Staff recommends **continuing** the following request for information:

- 3 Department of Natural Resources, Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety, Inactive Mines, Program Costs -- The Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety is requested to include in its annual budget request a report detailing all expenditures made in the previous year from this line item. The report should include but not be limited to: (1) Non-project expenditures: (a) spending type, (b) FTE allocation, (c) total expenditure; and (d) fund sources and fund source splits. (2) Project expenditures: (a) project name; (b) project type; (c) geographic location; (d) period of work on-site; (e) total expenditure and FTE allocation; and (f) fund sources and fund source split. The Division is requested to include any other data points, details, or comments that more fully express or explain the expenditure experience from this line item.
- 4 Department of Natural Resources, Energy and Carbon Management Commission, Program Costs -- The Department of Natural Resources is requested to include in its annual budget request a report on the performance of the risk-based inspection program. The report should provide information on the activities of the Facilities Integrity group, the inspection process for piping and flowlines, and the metrics used to measure the performance and effectiveness of the Facilities Integrity program.
- 5 Department of Natural Resources, Energy and Carbon Management Commission, Orphaned Wells Mitigation Enterprise -- The Energy and Carbon Management Commission is requested to include in its annual budget request a report detailing all enterprise revenues collected, federal funds received, and expenditures made in the previous year from this line item and from funding received through the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and an inventory of all known orphaned wells that are in the process of being plugged and reclaimed or remain to be plugged and reclaimed.
- 6 Department of Natural Resources, Energy and Carbon Management Commission, Emergency Response -- The Energy and Carbon Management Commission is requested to include in its annual budget request a report detailing all expenditures made in the previous year from this line item.
- 7 Department of Natural Resources, Energy and Carbon Management Commission, Special Environmental Protection and Mitigation Studies -- The Energy and Carbon Management Commission is requested to include in its annual budget request a report detailing all expenditures made in the previous year from this line item.

Staff recommends **continuing and modifying** the following requests for information:

- N Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Wildlife – The Division of Parks and Wildlife is requested to provide the Joint Budget Committee with actual expenditures for the prior fiscal year and estimated expenditures and awards/distributions expected in the next budget year for informational-only sources included in the State Park Operations line item and the Wildlife Operations line item. The Division is also requested to include a technical adjustment in its annual November 1 budget request that represents its best estimate for informational-only expenditures in the State Park Operations line item and

the Wildlife Operations line item. The report is requested to be submitted by November 1, ~~2024~~ EVERY YEAR.

Comment: The State Park Operations line item and the Wildlife Operations line item are the main funding lines for CPW. These lines contain both appropriated funds and informational-only funds. This request for information asks the Department to update these lines on an annual basis and provide tables that show both actual expenditures for the prior fiscal year and expected awards for the next fiscal year.

Additional Balancing Options

As part of staff budget briefings in November and December 2024, staff identified budget reduction options for each department that the JBC could consider in addition to or instead of the options presented in the budget request. **Items staff recommends and items that agencies have requested formally are addressed earlier in this packet.** Other items that could be considered, if needed to bring the budget into balance, are listed below.

Additional Options for General Fund Relief				
Option	General Fund	Other Funds	Bill? Y/N	Description
Revenue Enhancements				
ECMC transfer to General Fund	\$5,000,000	-\$5,000,000	Y	The Department reports that this transfer could cause the conservation mill levy to increase to the statutory cap of 1.7 mills in the next few years instead of closer to FY 2029-30 if projections hold.

Revenue Enhancements

Energy and Carbon Management Cash Fund Transfer to GF

Description: Bill to transfer \$5.0 million from the Energy and Carbon Management Cash Fund to the General Fund.

Key Considerations: The transfer would not directly affect any existing program, though, if a larger amount were transferred, it could jeopardize programming at the Energy and Carbon Management Commission in the future as well as possibly lead to an insolvency issue for the fund. This is a one-time option.

Additional background: The fund consists of revenue from the conservation levy, which is currently set at 1.5 mills. The conservation levy “is imposed on the market value at the well of all oil and natural gas produced, saved, and sold or transported from the field where produced in this state”¹³. The fund is primarily used to support the regulatory activities of the Energy and Carbon Management Commission (ECMC). The fund is projected to have an excess uncommitted fee reserve balance of \$24,621,603 for FY 2025-26.

The Department has noted that the excess uncommitted fee reserve balance grew significantly during the COVID years as a result of atypically high oil prices, but has been shrinking steadily since then. The Department anticipates utilizing the excess reserve to offset an expected \$5.0-7.0 million decline in fee revenue in the near future, as well as to hire 20.0 FTE that have already been approved and funding appropriated for to come to full staffing.

¹³ Section 34-60-122 (1)(a), C.R.S.

Staff recognizes that often times departments use the excess reserve to plan for the future in these ways, but staff is unsure that the costs the Department identified necessitate an excess fee reserve of the magnitude that exists.

Staff has suggested \$5.0 million because if the Department is on a path to spend the excess reserve down, then their expenditures should be larger than their revenues, and staff assumes they have planned into the future for a slow depletion of the excess reserve. If the Committee were to transfer \$5.0 million to the General Fund, staff believes that the Department would be able to absorb this transfer without significant disruption to their spend-down plans.

Staff further believes that transferring much more than \$5.0 million could have an impact on the Department's ability to manage the ECMC, especially if revenues decline more sharply than the Department anticipates, or if expenditures must increase sharply in a given year in the near future.

If the Committee approves R-10 as requested or with modifications, staff would recommend against any transfers out of the ECMC Cash Fund.

Energy and Carbon Management Cash Fund				
	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Estimate	FY 2025-26 Estimate	FY 2026-27 Estimate
Beginning FY Balance	\$49,731,130	\$43,254,275	\$41,978,918	\$36,646,708
Revenues	43,812,961	37,177,063	35,857,960	35,562,765
Expenditures	50,659,955	37,691,263	40,690,170	39,488,668
Ending FY Balance	\$43,254,275	\$41,978,918	\$36,646,708	\$32,720,805
Excess Uncommitted Fee Reserve	\$27,686,773	\$31,453,266	\$24,621,603	\$21,296,451

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
Staff Working Document - Does Not Represent Committee Decision

Appendix A: Numbers Pages

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Dan Gibbs, Executive Director

(1) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

The office develops department-wide policies and provides administrative and technical support for Department divisions including: budgeting, accounting, financial management, human resources services, and the coordination of public information and environmental education. The EDO also contains the Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC) and the Colorado River Program.

(A) Administration

Personal Services	<u>4,859,269</u>	<u>5,096,684</u>	<u>5,620,314</u>	<u>6,569,108</u>	<u>6,283,620</u> *
FTE	45.2	52.9	53.2	60.1	58.3
General Fund	177,493	218,977	217,739	388,291	255,055
Cash Funds	0	53,914	61,938	67,494	67,494
Reappropriated Funds	4,681,776	4,823,793	5,340,637	6,113,323	5,961,071
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Health, Life, and Dental	<u>19,229,847</u>	<u>22,424,281</u>	<u>26,195,937</u>	<u>30,104,729</u>	<u>29,342,469</u> *
General Fund	3,638,034	3,968,435	3,917,123	5,392,301	5,116,212
Cash Funds	15,470,885	17,914,802	20,885,154	24,062,751	23,673,024
Reappropriated Funds	120,928	541,044	962,115	182,633	86,189
Federal Funds	0	0	431,545	467,044	467,044
Short-term Disability	<u>182,276</u>	<u>184,264</u>	<u>242,071</u>	<u>127,498</u>	<u>120,897</u> *
General Fund	31,903	30,127	33,546	17,311	16,458
Cash Funds	143,653	146,780	194,933	103,205	98,295
Reappropriated Funds	6,720	7,357	8,378	4,773	3,935
Federal Funds	0	0	5,214	2,209	2,209

*An asterisk denotes the line is impacted by a decision item.

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
Staff Working Document - Does Not Represent Committee Decision

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance	0	0	727,047	796,418	776,088 *
General Fund	0	0	100,637	111,283	105,800
Cash Funds	0	0	585,634	643,126	630,786
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	25,133	27,806	25,299
Federal Funds	0	0	15,643	14,203	14,203
Unfunded Liability Amortization Equalization					
Disbursement Payments	0	0	16,102,552	17,698,149	17,246,373 *
General Fund	0	0	2,236,382	2,472,956	2,351,112
Cash Funds	0	0	12,960,038	14,291,610	14,017,439
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	558,520	617,953	562,192
Federal Funds	0	0	347,612	315,630	315,630
S.B. 04-257 Amortization Equalization					
Disbursement S.B. 04-257 Amortization					
Equalization Disbursement S.B. 04-257					
Amortization Equalization Disbursement	6,382,451	6,950,953	0	0	0
General Fund	1,009,173	1,017,605	0	0	0
Cash Funds	5,159,974	5,670,741	0	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	213,304	262,607	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
S.B. 06-235 Supplemental Amortization					
Equalization Disbursement	6,382,451	6,950,953	0	0	0
General Fund	1,009,173	1,017,605	0	0	0
Cash Funds	5,159,974	5,670,741	0	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	213,304	262,607	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
PERA Direct Distribution	<u>2,468,271</u>	<u>468,983</u>	<u>3,180,502</u>	<u>3,250,765</u>	<u>3,250,765</u> *
General Fund	0	79,467	520,288	524,092	501,079
Cash Funds	2,369,405	372,435	2,547,756	2,620,499	2,643,512
Reappropriated Funds	98,866	17,081	112,458	106,174	106,174
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Salary Survey	<u>4,665,424</u>	<u>7,645,523</u>	<u>5,679,781</u>	<u>4,728,328</u>	<u>4,728,328</u> *
General Fund	659,952	1,124,437	779,769	677,718	644,204
Cash Funds	3,871,450	6,245,773	4,590,435	3,809,216	3,842,730
Reappropriated Funds	134,022	275,313	193,916	154,353	154,353
Federal Funds	0	0	115,661	87,041	87,041
Step Increases	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,016,373</u>	<u>830,983</u>	<u>830,983</u> *
General Fund	0	0	439,038	172,569	168,947
Cash Funds	0	0	3,461,010	630,804	634,426
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	103,597	27,610	27,610
Federal Funds	0	0	12,728	0	0
Shift Differential	<u>54,831</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>363,396</u>	<u>507,624</u>	<u>507,624</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	54,831	0	362,792	507,624	507,624
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	604	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Workers' Compensation	<u>1,336,669</u>	<u>1,105,642</u>	<u>1,436,375</u>	<u>1,396,417</u>	<u>1,394,381</u> *
General Fund	0	6,344	10,348	30,175	10,045
Cash Funds	1,301,229	1,077,312	1,423,627	1,356,413	1,382,006
Reappropriated Funds	0	2,548	1,717	2,150	1,667
Federal Funds	35,440	19,438	683	7,679	663

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
Operating Expenses	<u>294,419</u>	<u>194,028</u>	<u>248,114</u>	<u>302,168</u>	<u>287,534</u> *
General Fund	130,630	15,752	3,427	3,427	3,427
Cash Funds	6,502	0	950	950	950
Reappropriated Funds	157,287	178,276	243,737	297,791	283,157
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Legal Services	<u>5,645,596</u>	<u>7,642,787</u>	<u>8,250,750</u>	<u>7,746,704</u>	<u>7,746,704</u> *
General Fund	1,464,539	2,125,358	2,649,414	2,483,724	2,483,711
Cash Funds	4,029,721	5,374,159	5,433,444	5,098,035	5,098,048
Reappropriated Funds	137,628	116,604	123,975	101,123	101,123
Federal Funds	13,708	26,666	43,917	63,822	63,822
Payment to Risk Management and Property Funds	<u>1,567,049</u>	<u>2,474,741</u>	<u>2,925,596</u>	<u>3,250,916</u>	<u>3,532,751</u> *
General Fund	140,186	277,367	195,252	102,672	235,773
Cash Funds	1,388,639	2,121,288	2,677,001	3,124,674	3,232,565
Reappropriated Funds	22,532	52,342	35,543	14,479	42,919
Federal Funds	15,692	23,744	17,800	9,091	21,494
Vehicle Lease Payments	<u>4,289,714</u>	<u>4,881,383</u>	<u>7,125,017</u>	<u>9,146,351</u>	<u>10,571,351</u> *
General Fund	364,586	365,414	744,864	1,346,213	1,122,844
Cash Funds	3,882,585	4,455,928	6,300,289	7,713,894	9,333,206
Reappropriated Funds	3,173	4,321	11,362	23,290	18,731
Federal Funds	39,370	55,720	68,502	62,954	96,570
Capital Outlay	<u>129,674</u>	<u>133,804</u>	<u>1,062,343</u>	<u>1,062,343</u>	<u>1,062,343</u> *
General Fund	0	0	0	1,928	0
Cash Funds	129,674	133,804	1,057,006	1,055,078	1,057,006
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	5,337	5,337	5,337

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
Staff Working Document - Does Not Represent Committee Decision

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
Information Technology Asset Maintenance	<u>75,531</u>	<u>248,052</u>	<u>877,198</u>	<u>882,819</u>	<u>882,819</u> *
General Fund	4,270	23,420	122,121	128,815	122,121
Cash Funds	4,561	117,225	643,068	641,995	648,689
Reappropriated Funds	66,700	107,407	112,009	112,009	112,009
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Leased Space	<u>1,800,435</u>	<u>1,848,430</u>	<u>1,985,820</u>	<u>2,031,434</u>	<u>2,031,434</u> *
General Fund	700,421	712,017	754,490	781,711	775,806
Cash Funds	1,074,082	1,110,184	1,202,977	1,214,104	1,220,009
Reappropriated Funds	4,706	5,003	5,687	5,905	5,905
Federal Funds	21,226	21,226	22,666	29,714	29,714
Temporary Employees Related to Authorized Leave	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>111,198</u>	<u>111,198</u>	<u>111,198</u>
General Fund	0	0	3,427	3,427	3,427
Cash Funds	0	0	107,227	107,227	107,227
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	544	544	544
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Capitol Complex Leased Space	<u>1,067,890</u>	<u>860,440</u>	<u>839,367</u>	<u>886,228</u>	<u>939,891</u>
General Fund	280,328	272,922	266,238	281,101	298,123
Cash Funds	333,837	301,119	293,744	314,040	328,923
Reappropriated Funds	291,016	129,684	126,508	133,571	141,659
Federal Funds	162,709	156,715	152,877	157,516	171,186
CORE Operations	<u>624,718</u>	<u>544,817</u>	<u>151,676</u>	<u>481,188</u>	<u>134,921</u> *
General Fund	44,019	41,071	11,841	40,478	10,533
Cash Funds	549,036	476,495	131,507	415,461	116,980
Reappropriated Funds	13,699	13,005	3,857	11,689	3,431
Federal Funds	17,964	14,246	4,471	13,560	3,977

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
Staff Working Document - Does Not Represent Committee Decision

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
Digital Trunk Radio Payments	<u>0</u>	<u>1,940,561</u>	<u>2,022,900</u>	<u>2,025,696</u>	<u>2,025,696</u> *
General Fund	0	0	0	30,778	0
Cash Funds	0	1,940,561	2,022,900	1,994,918	2,025,696
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Species Conservation Trust Fund	<u>5,000,000</u>	<u>5,000,000</u>	<u>5,000,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,000,000</u> *
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	0	5,000,000
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Payments to OIT	<u>14,109,537</u>	<u>17,844,614</u>	<u>19,376,622</u>	<u>20,813,619</u>	<u>20,550,217</u> *
General Fund	2,215,481	3,620,973	3,643,594	3,849,593	3,706,551
Cash Funds	11,332,801	13,992,323	15,147,279	16,094,488	15,975,855
Reappropriated Funds	403,806	0	215,001	611,945	611,945
Federal Funds	157,449	231,318	370,748	257,593	255,866
Appropriation to Wildfire Mitigation and Capacity					
Development Fund	<u>10,000,000</u>	<u>5,100,000</u>	<u>5,000,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,000,000</u> *
General Fund	0	100,000	0	0	0
Cash Funds	10,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	0	5,000,000
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
Staff Working Document - Does Not Represent Committee Decision

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
SUBTOTAL - (A) Administration	90,166,052	99,540,940	118,540,949	114,750,683	124,358,387
<i>FTE</i>	<u>45.2</u>	<u>52.9</u>	<u>53.2</u>	<u>60.1</u>	<u>58.3</u>
General Fund	11,870,188	15,017,291	16,649,538	18,840,563	17,931,228
Cash Funds	71,262,839	77,175,584	92,090,709	85,867,606	96,642,490
Reappropriated Funds	6,569,467	6,798,992	8,185,298	8,549,121	8,249,913
Federal Funds	463,558	549,073	1,615,404	1,493,393	1,534,756

(B) Special Programs

Colorado Avalanche Information Center	<u>1,494,853</u>	<u>2,525,829</u>	<u>2,490,554</u>	<u>2,571,784</u>	<u>2,571,784</u> *
<i>FTE</i>	13.9	18.7	20.7	22.7	22.7
General Fund	0	0	0	849,268	0
Cash Funds	651,608	1,668,866	1,665,172	868,764	1,718,032
Reappropriated Funds	795,191	808,761	806,411	834,781	834,781
Federal Funds	48,054	48,202	18,971	18,971	18,971
Colorado River Program	<u>0</u>	<u>319,202</u>	<u>309,900</u>	<u>325,042</u>	<u>325,042</u>
<i>FTE</i>	0.0	1.6	2.0	2.0	2.0
Cash Funds	0	319,202	309,900	325,042	325,042
Colorado Produced Water Consortium	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>231,134</u>	<u>238,038</u>	<u>238,038</u>
<i>FTE</i>	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Cash Funds	0	0	231,134	238,038	238,038
Indirect Cost Assessment	<u>72,282</u>	<u>98,263</u>	<u>115,529</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>133,236</u> *
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	70,336	96,465	115,529	0	133,236
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	1,946	1,798	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
CAIC Outdoor Recreation Stimulus	<u>414,857</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	414,857	0	0	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
SUBTOTAL - (B) Special Programs	1,981,992	2,943,294	3,147,117	3,134,864	3,268,100
FTE	<u>13.9</u>	<u>20.3</u>	<u>24.7</u>	<u>26.7</u>	<u>26.7</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	849,268	0
Cash Funds	1,136,801	2,084,533	2,321,735	1,431,844	2,414,348
Reappropriated Funds	795,191	808,761	806,411	834,781	834,781
Federal Funds	50,000	50,000	18,971	18,971	18,971
TOTAL - (1) Executive Director's Office	92,148,044	102,484,234	121,688,066	117,885,547	127,626,487
FTE	<u>59.1</u>	<u>73.2</u>	<u>77.9</u>	<u>86.8</u>	<u>85.0</u>
General Fund	11,870,188	15,017,291	16,649,538	19,689,831	17,931,228
Cash Funds	72,399,640	79,260,117	94,412,444	87,299,450	99,056,838
Reappropriated Funds	7,364,658	7,607,753	8,991,709	9,383,902	9,084,694
Federal Funds	513,558	599,073	1,634,375	1,512,364	1,553,727

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
Staff Working Document - Does Not Represent Committee Decision

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
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(2) DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING, AND SAFETY

Primary Functions: Provides regulation and enforcement related to the development and reclamation of mining sites. Primary sources of cash funds are fees on metal and aggregate mining operations and the severance tax.

(A) Coal Land Reclamation

Program Costs	<u>2,194,777</u>	<u>2,068,252</u>	<u>2,101,077</u>	<u>2,150,814</u>	<u>2,150,814</u>
FTE	15.0	14.9	19.0	19.0	19.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	396,791	372,650	476,712	505,066	505,066
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	1,797,986	1,695,602	1,624,365	1,645,748	1,645,748
Indirect Cost Assessment	<u>96,214</u>	<u>123,910</u>	<u>99,197</u>	<u>89,018</u>	<u>89,018</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	17,613	19,537	20,831	18,694	18,694
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	78,601	104,373	78,366	70,324	70,324
SUBTOTAL - (A) Coal Land Reclamation	2,290,991	2,192,162	2,200,274	2,239,832	2,239,832
FTE	<u>15.0</u>	<u>14.9</u>	<u>19.0</u>	<u>19.0</u>	<u>19.0</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	414,404	392,187	497,543	523,760	523,760
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	1,876,587	1,799,975	1,702,731	1,716,072	1,716,072

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
(B) Inactive Mines					
Program Costs	<u>2,233,968</u>	<u>2,094,246</u>	<u>2,763,923</u>	<u>2,828,018</u>	<u>2,828,018</u>
FTE	7.9	9.0	17.8	17.8	17.8
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	1,190,356	739,694	1,248,310	1,250,384	1,250,384
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	1,043,612	1,354,552	1,515,613	1,577,634	1,577,634
Indirect Cost Assessment	<u>113,030</u>	<u>183,961</u>	<u>200,234</u>	<u>202,570</u>	<u>202,570</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	19,604	8,182	42,226	76,941	76,941
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	93,426	175,779	158,008	125,629	125,629
Legacy Mine Hydrology Projects	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Reclamation of Forfeited Mine Sites	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
Staff Working Document - Does Not Represent Committee Decision

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
SUBTOTAL - (B) Inactive Mines	2,346,998	2,278,207	2,964,157	3,030,588	3,030,588
<i>FTE</i>	<u>7.9</u>	<u>9.0</u>	<u>17.8</u>	<u>17.8</u>	<u>17.8</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	1,209,960	747,876	1,290,536	1,327,325	1,327,325
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	1,137,038	1,530,331	1,673,621	1,703,263	1,703,263
(C) Minerals					
Program Costs	<u>1,976,405</u>	<u>2,144,875</u>	<u>2,608,810</u>	<u>2,683,347</u>	<u>2,683,347</u>
<i>FTE</i>	<u>18.1</u>	<u>17.2</u>	<u>23.0</u>	<u>23.0</u>	<u>23.0</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	1,976,405	2,144,875	2,608,810	2,683,347	2,683,347
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Indirect Cost Assessment	<u>106,620</u>	<u>103,990</u>	<u>112,310</u>	<u>113,400</u>	<u>113,400</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	106,620	103,990	112,310	113,400	113,400
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
SUBTOTAL - (C) Minerals	2,083,025	2,248,865	2,721,120	2,796,747	2,796,747
<i>FTE</i>	<u>18.1</u>	<u>17.2</u>	<u>23.0</u>	<u>23.0</u>	<u>23.0</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	2,083,025	2,248,865	2,721,120	2,796,747	2,796,747
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
(D) Mines Program					
Colorado and Federal Mine Safety Program	<u>481,746</u>	<u>544,087</u>	<u>571,328</u>	<u>579,581</u>	<u>579,581</u>
FTE	2.1	2.6	4.0	4.0	4.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	353,923	258,225	379,863	381,597	381,597
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	127,823	285,862	191,465	197,984	197,984
Blaster Certification Program	<u>133,538</u>	<u>152,916</u>	<u>140,862</u>	<u>145,302</u>	<u>145,302</u>
FTE	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	18,558	32,112	35,107	37,642	37,642
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	114,980	120,804	105,755	107,660	107,660
Indirect Cost Assessment	<u>17,153</u>	<u>26,584</u>	<u>12,642</u>	<u>15,404</u>	<u>15,404</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	7,029	8,281	8,682	6,093	6,093
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	10,124	18,303	3,960	9,311	9,311
SUBTOTAL - (D) Mines Program	632,437	723,587	724,832	740,287	740,287
FTE	<u>2.7</u>	<u>3.4</u>	<u>5.0</u>	<u>5.0</u>	<u>5.0</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	379,510	298,618	423,652	425,332	425,332
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	252,927	424,969	301,180	314,955	314,955

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
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(E) Emergency Response Costs

Emergency Response Costs	0	0
General Fund	0	0
Cash Funds	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0

SUBTOTAL - (E) Emergency Response Costs	0	0
<i>FTE</i>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>
General Fund	0	0
Cash Funds	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0

TOTAL - (2) Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety	7,353,451	7,442,821	8,610,383	8,807,454	8,807,454
<i>FTE</i>	<u>43.7</u>	<u>44.5</u>	<u>64.8</u>	<u>64.8</u>	<u>64.8</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	4,086,899	3,687,546	4,932,851	5,073,164	5,073,164
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	3,266,552	3,755,275	3,677,532	3,734,290	3,734,290

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
(3) OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION					
the severance tax.					
Program Costs	<u>13,812,624</u>	<u>19,075,486</u>	<u>21,512,404</u>	<u>22,375,378</u>	<u>22,258,626</u> *
FTE	127.8	149.9	200.4	203.4	202.5
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	13,812,624	19,075,486	21,512,404	22,375,378	22,258,626
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Underground Injection Program	<u>204,941</u>	<u>101,979</u>	<u>96,559</u>	<u>96,559</u>	<u>96,559</u>
FTE	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	204,941	101,979	96,559	96,559	96,559
Plugging and Reclaiming Abandoned Wells	<u>2,801,972</u>	<u>3,848,632</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	2,801,972	3,848,632	0	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Orphaned Wells Cash Fund	<u>0</u>	<u>262,589</u>	<u>9,500,000</u>	<u>9,500,000</u>	<u>9,500,000</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	0	262,589	9,500,000	9,500,000	9,500,000
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
Environmental Assistance and Complaint Resolution	<u>248,846</u>	<u>27,457</u>	<u>312,033</u>	<u>312,033</u>	<u>312,033</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	248,846	27,457	312,033	312,033	312,033
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Emergency Response	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>150,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	0	0	150,000	150,000	150,000
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Special Environmental Protection and Mitigation Studies	<u>77,793</u>	<u>167,029</u>	<u>325,000</u>	<u>325,000</u>	<u>325,000</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	77,793	167,029	325,000	325,000	325,000
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Indirect Cost Assessment	<u>786,789</u>	<u>911,330</u>	<u>847,479</u>	<u>920,675</u>	<u>920,675</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	665,139	709,661	791,348	866,070	866,070
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	121,650	201,669	56,131	54,605	54,605
Orphaned Well Mitigation Enterprise	<u>390,592</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Cash Funds	390,592	0	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
TOTAL - (3) Oil and Gas Conservation Commission	18,323,557	24,394,502	32,743,475	33,679,645	33,562,893
<i>FTE</i>	<u>129.8</u>	<u>151.9</u>	<u>202.4</u>	<u>205.4</u>	<u>204.5</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	17,996,966	24,090,854	32,590,785	33,528,481	33,411,729
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	326,591	303,648	152,690	151,164	151,164

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
(4) STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS					
Program Costs	<u>5,104,537</u>	<u>5,269,993</u>	<u>5,950,490</u>	<u>6,440,463</u>	<u>6,438,647</u> *
FTE	40.0	43.1	48.6	49.9	49.9
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	5,104,537	5,269,993	5,950,490	6,440,463	6,438,647
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Public Access Program Damage and Enhancement Costs	<u>150,583</u>	<u>201,393</u>	<u>225,000</u>	<u>225,000</u>	<u>225,000</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	150,583	201,393	225,000	225,000	225,000
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Indirect Cost Assessment	<u>234,500</u>	<u>243,133</u>	<u>283,620</u>	<u>275,209</u>	<u>275,209</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	234,500	243,133	283,620	275,209	275,209
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL - (4) State Board of Land Commissioners	5,489,620	5,714,519	6,459,110	6,940,672	6,938,856
FTE	<u>40.0</u>	<u>43.1</u>	<u>48.6</u>	<u>49.9</u>	<u>49.9</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	5,339,037	5,513,126	6,234,110	6,715,672	6,713,856
Reappropriated Funds	150,583	201,393	225,000	225,000	225,000
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
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(5) DIVISION OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

The division (CPW) provides recreational opportunities state parks, manages game and non-game wildlife species, issues hunting and fishing licenses, enforces wildlife regulations, and administers state wildlife areas.

(A) Colorado Parks and Wildlife Operations

State Park Operations	<u>45,895,099</u>	<u>51,387,782</u>	<u>56,022,765</u>	<u>64,923,348</u>	<u>62,850,011</u> *
FTE	300.1	309.3	298.1	332.8	312.7
General Fund	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000
Cash Funds	45,744,734	50,663,595	55,452,959	63,898,348	61,825,011
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	25,365	599,187	444,806	900,000	900,000
Wildlife Operations	<u>95,485,577</u>	<u>104,045,618</u>	<u>125,918,615</u>	<u>134,856,104</u>	<u>134,188,028</u> *
FTE	606.6	648.5	713.7	733.9	732.3
General Fund	1,770,275	1,676,584	2,189,354	2,147,712	2,147,712
Cash Funds	67,644,714	73,694,670	90,729,261	98,008,392	97,340,316
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	26,070,588	28,674,364	33,000,000	34,700,000	34,700,000
Vendor commissions, fulfillment fees, and credit card fees	<u>10,109,184</u>	<u>9,824,550</u>	<u>14,555,758</u>	<u>11,684,700</u>	<u>11,684,700</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	10,109,184	9,824,550	14,555,758	11,684,700	11,684,700
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
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SUBTOTAL - (A) Colorado Parks and Wildlife					
Operations	151,489,860	165,257,950	196,497,138	211,464,152	208,722,739
<i>FTE</i>	<u>906.7</u>	<u>957.8</u>	<u>1,011.8</u>	<u>1,066.7</u>	<u>1,045.0</u>
General Fund	1,895,275	1,801,584	2,314,354	2,272,712	2,272,712
Cash Funds	123,498,632	134,182,815	160,737,978	173,591,440	170,850,027
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	26,095,953	29,273,551	33,444,806	35,600,000	35,600,000

(B) Special Purpose

Snowmobile Program	<u>988,816</u>	<u>990,841</u>	<u>1,037,031</u>	<u>1,047,931</u>	<u>1,047,931</u>
FTE	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.3
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	988,816	990,841	1,037,031	1,047,931	1,047,931
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
 River Outfitters Regulation	 <u>154,735</u>	 <u>135,373</u>	 <u>151,451</u>	 <u>154,624</u>	 <u>154,624</u>
FTE	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.5
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	154,735	135,373	151,451	154,624	154,624
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0

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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
Off-highway Vehicle Program	<u>399,346</u>	<u>393,121</u>	<u>615,396</u>	<u>636,805</u>	<u>636,805</u>
FTE	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	399,346	393,121	615,396	636,805	636,805
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Off-highway Vehicle Grants	<u>5,306,023</u>	<u>5,371,855</u>	<u>6,000,000</u>	<u>6,000,000</u>	<u>6,000,000</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	5,306,023	5,371,855	6,000,000	6,000,000	6,000,000
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Stores Revolving Fund	<u>1,096,761</u>	<u>1,346,942</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>200,000</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	1,096,761	1,346,942	200,000	200,000	200,000
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Information Technology	<u>2,251,540</u>	<u>2,090,435</u>	<u>2,605,016</u>	<u>2,605,016</u>	<u>2,605,016</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	2,251,540	2,090,435	2,605,016	2,605,016	2,605,016
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
Staff Working Document - Does Not Represent Committee Decision

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
Appropriation to Aquatic Nuisance Species Fund	<u>4,006,005</u>	<u>4,006,005</u>	<u>4,006,005</u>	<u>4,006,005</u>	<u>4,006,005</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	4,006,005	4,006,005	4,006,005	4,006,005	4,006,005
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Game Damage Claims and Prevention	<u>1,242,049</u>	<u>574,298</u>	<u>1,282,500</u>	<u>1,282,500</u>	<u>1,282,500</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	1,242,049	574,298	1,282,500	1,282,500	1,282,500
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Grants and Habitat Partnerships	<u>1,185,893</u>	<u>1,353,642</u>	<u>2,375,000</u>	<u>2,375,000</u>	<u>2,375,000</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	1,185,893	1,353,642	2,375,000	2,375,000	2,375,000
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Outdoor Equity Grant Program	<u>349,934</u>	<u>774,913</u>	<u>2,986,407</u>	<u>4,000,000</u>	<u>4,000,000</u> *
FTE	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	349,934	774,913	2,986,407	4,000,000	4,000,000
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
Asset Maintenance and Repairs	<u>9,075,010</u>	<u>10,421,302</u>	<u>10,100,000</u>	<u>10,100,000</u>	<u>10,100,000</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	9,075,010	10,421,302	10,100,000	10,100,000	10,100,000
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Annual Depreciation-lease Equivalent Payment	<u>375,116</u>	<u>402,265</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>68,232</u>	<u>68,232</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	68,232	68,232
Cash Funds	375,116	402,265	0	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Beaver Park Dam Repayment	<u>333,333</u>	<u>333,333</u>	<u>333,334</u>	<u>333,334</u>	<u>333,334</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	333,333	333,333	333,334	333,334	333,334
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Chatfield Reallocation Project Loan Repayment	<u>276,699</u>	<u>276,699</u>	<u>276,700</u>	<u>276,700</u>	<u>276,700</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	276,699	276,699	276,700	276,700	276,700
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
CWCB Projects Bill	<u>0</u>	<u>7,802,884</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Cash Funds	0	7,802,884	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
Indirect Cost Assessment	<u>8,214,804</u>	<u>7,785,497</u>	<u>5,600,545</u>	<u>5,801,551</u>	<u>5,801,551</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	4,066,425	3,422,942	4,917,434	5,045,640	5,045,640
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	4,148,379	4,362,555	683,111	755,911	755,911
SUBTOTAL - (B) Special Purpose	35,256,064	44,059,405	37,569,385	38,887,698	38,887,698
FTE	<u>5.7</u>	<u>4.6</u>	<u>5.8</u>	<u>4.8</u>	<u>4.8</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	68,232	68,232
Cash Funds	31,107,685	39,696,850	36,886,274	38,063,555	38,063,555
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	4,148,379	4,362,555	683,111	755,911	755,911
TOTAL - (5) Division of Parks and Wildlife	186,745,924	209,317,355	234,066,523	250,351,850	247,610,437
FTE	<u>912.4</u>	<u>962.4</u>	<u>1,017.6</u>	<u>1,071.5</u>	<u>1,049.8</u>
General Fund	1,895,275	1,801,584	2,314,354	2,340,944	2,340,944
Cash Funds	154,606,317	173,879,665	197,624,252	211,654,995	208,913,582
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	30,244,332	33,636,106	34,127,917	36,355,911	36,355,911

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
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(6) COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD

The Board (CWCB) works to conserve, develop, and protect the state's water resources to ensure adequate water supply, maximize beneficial use, and reduce the impact of flooding and drought.

(A) Administration

Personal Services	<u>3,834,030</u>	<u>4,448,389</u>	<u>4,945,220</u>	<u>5,228,478</u>	<u>5,214,503</u> *
FTE	30.7	39.7	42.9	43.9	43.9
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	3,834,030	4,448,389	4,945,220	5,228,478	5,214,503
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Operating Expenses	<u>564,128</u>	<u>683,462</u>	<u>645,220</u>	<u>652,912</u>	<u>653,072</u> *
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	564,128	683,462	645,220	652,912	653,072
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
River Decision Support Systems	<u>511,563</u>	<u>529,275</u>	<u>555,410</u>	<u>569,677</u>	<u>569,677</u>
FTE	4.0	3.3	4.0	4.0	4.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	511,563	529,275	555,410	569,677	569,677
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
Staff Working Document - Does Not Represent Committee Decision

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
SUBTOTAL - (A) Administration	4,909,721	5,661,126	6,145,850	6,451,067	6,437,252
<i>FTE</i>	<u>34.7</u>	<u>43.0</u>	<u>46.9</u>	<u>47.9</u>	<u>47.9</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	4,909,721	5,661,126	6,145,850	6,451,067	6,437,252
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0

(B) Special Purpose

Intrastate Water Management and Development	<u>269,650</u>	<u>352,580</u>	<u>361,821</u>	<u>361,821</u>	<u>361,821</u>
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	269,650	352,580	361,821	361,821	361,821
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
 Federal Emergency Management Assistance	 <u>6,128,804</u>	 <u>5,490,697</u>	 <u>534,424</u>	 <u>546,649</u>	 <u>546,649</u> *
FTE	3.2	4.9	4.0	4.0	4.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	11,779	62,811	83,732	83,732	83,732
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	6,117,025	5,427,886	450,692	462,917	462,917
 Water Conservation Program	 <u>360,859</u>	 <u>531,273</u>	 <u>553,234</u>	 <u>570,806</u>	 <u>570,806</u>
FTE	3.6	4.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	360,859	531,273	553,234	570,806	570,806
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
Staff Working Document - Does Not Represent Committee Decision

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
Water Efficiency Grant Program	<u>307,465</u>	<u>260,896</u>	<u>621,259</u>	<u>624,845</u>	<u>624,845</u>
FTE	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	307,465	260,896	621,259	624,845	624,845
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Severance Tax Fund	<u>1,238,213</u>	<u>1,201,422</u>	<u>1,205,500</u>	<u>1,205,500</u>	<u>1,205,500</u> *
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	1,238,213	1,201,422	1,205,500	1,205,500	1,205,500
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Interbasin Compacts	<u>508,989</u>	<u>656,358</u>	<u>1,225,403</u>	<u>1,243,182</u>	<u>1,243,182</u>
FTE	5.0	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	508,989	656,358	1,225,403	1,243,182	1,243,182
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Platte River Basin Cooperative Agreement	<u>220,218</u>	<u>253,862</u>	<u>261,377</u>	<u>264,941</u>	<u>264,941</u>
FTE	4.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	220,218	253,862	261,377	264,941	264,941
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
Staff Working Document - Does Not Represent Committee Decision

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
CWCB Projects Bill	<u>12,370,985</u>	<u>21,135,584</u>	<u>53,750,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	12,370,985	21,135,584	53,750,000	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
HB22-1151 Turf replacement	<u>63,105 0.8</u>	<u>560,308 1.0</u>	<u>0 0.0</u>	<u>0 0.0</u>	<u>0 0.0</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	63,105	560,308	0	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Indirect Cost Assessment	<u>563,454</u>	<u>731,838</u>	<u>752,632</u>	<u>639,790</u>	<u>639,790</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	471,891	531,260	615,362	493,720	493,720
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	91,563	200,578	137,270	146,070	146,070
Colorado Water Plan Implementation	<u>4,155,614</u>	<u>4,925,886</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	4,155,614	4,925,886	0	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
Staff Working Document - Does Not Represent Committee Decision

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
HB22-1379 Wildfire Prevention and Watershed					
Restoration	<u>1,328,882</u>	<u>30,573,311</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	1,328,882	30,573,311	0	0	0
Watershed Restoration Stimulus	<u>10,009,502</u>	<u>3,832,213</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	10,009,502	3,832,213	0	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
SUBTOTAL - (B) Special Purpose	37,525,740	70,506,228	59,265,650	5,457,534	5,457,534
FTE	<u>17.6</u>	<u>15.6</u>	<u>14.7</u>	<u>14.7</u>	<u>14.7</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	29,988,270	34,304,453	58,677,688	4,848,547	4,848,547
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	7,537,470	36,201,775	587,962	608,987	608,987
TOTAL - (6) Colorado Water Conservation Board	42,435,461	76,167,354	65,411,500	11,908,601	11,894,786
FTE	<u>52.3</u>	<u>58.6</u>	<u>61.6</u>	<u>62.6</u>	<u>62.6</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	34,897,991	39,965,579	64,823,538	11,299,614	11,285,799
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	7,537,470	36,201,775	587,962	608,987	608,987

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
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(7) DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

The division (DWR), also known as the State Engineer's Office, administers and enforces water rights, issues well permits, monitors streamflow and water use, regulates dam construction and safety, and represents Colorado in interstate water compact proceedings.

(A) Division Operations

Water Administration	<u>23,985,305</u>	<u>25,005,483</u>	<u>27,023,055</u>	<u>28,339,345</u>	<u>28,339,345</u> *
FTE	233.3	241.0	261.3	261.5	261.5
General Fund	23,551,382	24,615,167	26,215,708	27,497,244	27,497,244
Cash Funds	433,923	390,316	800,316	842,101	842,101
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	7,031	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Well Inspection	<u>292,491</u>	<u>262,108</u>	<u>379,038</u>	<u>379,038</u>	<u>379,038</u>
FTE	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	292,491	262,108	379,038	379,038	379,038
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Satellite Monitoring System	<u>536,022</u>	<u>517,260</u>	<u>575,204</u>	<u>575,204</u>	<u>575,204</u>
FTE	1.0	1.1	2.0	2.0	2.0
General Fund	181,417	194,763	194,968	194,968	194,968
Cash Funds	354,605	322,497	380,236	380,236	380,236
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
Staff Working Document - Does Not Represent Committee Decision

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
Federal Grants	<u>720,352</u>	<u>703,887</u>	<u>230,000</u>	<u>230,000</u>	<u>230,000</u>
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	720,352	703,887	230,000	230,000	230,000
River Decision Support Systems	<u>204,151</u>	<u>210,801</u>	<u>212,467</u>	<u>212,467</u>	<u>212,467</u>
FTE	1.6	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	204,151	210,801	212,467	212,467	212,467
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
SUBTOTAL - (A) Division Operations	25,738,321	26,699,539	28,419,764	29,736,054	29,736,054
FTE	<u>238.7</u>	<u>247.1</u>	<u>268.3</u>	<u>268.5</u>	<u>268.5</u>
General Fund	23,732,799	24,809,930	26,410,676	27,692,212	27,692,212
Cash Funds	1,285,170	1,185,722	1,772,057	1,813,842	1,813,842
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	7,031	0	0
Federal Funds	720,352	703,887	230,000	230,000	230,000

(B) Special Purpose

Dam Emergency Repair	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	0	0	50,000	50,000	50,000
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
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	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
Indirect Cost Assessment	<u>31,076</u>	<u>36,227</u>	<u>55,969</u>	<u>56,431</u>	<u>56,431</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	26,329	32,452	30,518	31,051	31,051
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	4,747	3,775	25,451	25,380	25,380
CWCB Projects Bill	<u>420,791</u>	<u>459,282</u>	<u>2,207,500</u>	0	0
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	420,791	459,282	2,207,500	0	0
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0
SUBTOTAL - (B) Special Purpose	451,867	495,509	2,313,469	106,431	106,431
FTE	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	447,120	491,734	2,288,018	81,051	81,051
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	4,747	3,775	25,451	25,380	25,380
TOTAL - (7) Division of Water Resources	26,190,188	27,195,048	30,733,233	29,842,485	29,842,485
FTE	<u>238.7</u>	<u>247.1</u>	<u>268.3</u>	<u>268.5</u>	<u>268.5</u>
General Fund	23,732,799	24,809,930	26,410,676	27,692,212	27,692,212
Cash Funds	1,732,290	1,677,456	4,060,075	1,894,893	1,894,893
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	7,031	0	0
Federal Funds	725,099	707,662	255,451	255,380	255,380

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
Staff Working Document - Does Not Represent Committee Decision

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
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(8) DIVISION OF FORESTRY

The division, also known as the Colorado State Forest Service, provides technical assistance, wildfire mitigation guidance, and outreach to communities to assist with their forest management goals. The division is jointly administered by the Department of Natural Resources and Colorado State University,

Colorado State Forest Service at Colorado State

University	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>343,390</u>	<u>114,384</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	343,390	114,384

Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation

Grant Program	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8,000,000</u>	<u>8,000,000</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	8,000,000	8,000,000

Healthy Forests and Vibrant Communities Fund

General Fund	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,245,640</u>	<u>2,245,640</u>
	0	0	0	2,245,640	2,245,640

TOTAL - (8) Division of Forestry	0	0	0	10,589,030	10,360,024
<i>FTE</i>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>
General Fund	0	0	0	10,589,030	10,360,024

JBC Staff Figure Setting - FY 2025-26
Staff Working Document - Does Not Represent Committee Decision

	FY 2022-23 Actual	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	FY 2025-26 Request	FY 2025-26 Recommendation
TOTAL - Department of Natural Resources	378,686,245	452,715,833	499,712,290	470,005,284	476,643,422
<i>FTE</i>	<u>1,476.0</u>	<u>1,580.8</u>	<u>1,741.2</u>	<u>1,809.5</u>	<u>1,785.1</u>
General Fund	37,498,262	41,628,805	45,374,568	60,312,017	58,324,408
Cash Funds	291,059,140	328,074,343	404,678,055	357,466,269	366,349,861
Reappropriated Funds	7,515,241	7,809,146	9,223,740	9,608,902	9,309,694
Federal Funds	42,613,602	75,203,539	40,435,927	42,618,096	42,659,459