

*Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note***FINAL
FISCAL NOTE**

Drafting Number: LLS 15-0112	Date: June 10, 2015
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Hodge Rep. Mitsch Bush	Bill Status: Signed into Law
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BILL TOPIC: REPEAL NEW AUGMENTATION STANDARD DAWSON AQUIFER

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, beginning July 1, 2015, wells that pump from the Dawson aquifer will be required to use calculations based on actual aquifer conditions when determining the amounts necessary to replace stream depletions. This bill repeals that requirement and maintains current practice, which requires wells that pump from the Dawson aquifer to replace actual out-of-priority depletions to the stream and continued replacement after pumping ceases if necessary to compensate for injurious stream depletions.

Background

Implementation of a new modeling approach for the Dawson aquifer was initially set to be effective July 1, 2001. Because no modeling tool has been available and there is a high cost for developing such a model, the effective date has been delayed several times and is currently July 1, 2015.

Assessment

This bill is assessed at no fiscal impact. By continuing current practice, the Division of Water Resources in the Department of Natural Resources is not required to implement a new modeling tool for the Dawson aquifer. No resources have been appropriated and no work is currently underway for developing a new modeling tool, so the bill does not change division workload.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on March 13, 2015.

State and Local Government Contacts

Natural Resources