

**First Regular Session  
Sixty-ninth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**REVISED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted  
on Second Reading in the Second House*

LLS NO. 13-0855.01 Jennifer Berman x3286

**SENATE BILL 13-181**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Schwartz,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Fischer,**

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**Senate Committees**

Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Energy  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources  
Appropriations

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING THE FUNDING OF COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION**  
102 **BOARD PROJECTS, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS IN**  
103 **CONNECTION THEREWITH.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

The bill appropriates the following amounts from the Colorado water conservation board (CWCB) construction fund for the following projects:

! \$300,000 for continuation of maintenance to the satellite

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

HOUSE  
2nd Reading Unamended  
April 8, 2013

SENATE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
March 13, 2013

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
March 12, 2013

- ! monitoring system;
- ! \$175,000 for continuation of the weather modification program;
- ! \$500,000 for continuation of the Colorado floodplain map modernization program;
- ! \$250,000 for continuation of the watershed restoration program;
- ! \$300,000 for restoration of the balance of the flood and drought response fund;
- ! \$215,000 for implementation of the Rio Grande forecasting development project;
- ! \$100,000 for the operation and maintenance of Colorado's decision support systems;
- ! \$75,000 for continuation of the Colorado river basin study;
- ! \$250,000 for continuation of the Arkansas river decision support system;
- ! \$225,000 for continuation of the statewide water supply initiative;
- ! \$250,000 for continuation of the South Platte river basin groundwater level data collection and analysis;
- ! \$2,000,000 for the planning, design, and construction of the Windy Gap reservoir bypass channel project;
- ! \$28,000,000 for implementation of the Chatfield reservoir reallocation project.

Current law gives the CWCB continuous spending authority of up to \$1,000,000 per year to acquire instream flow water rights to preserve the natural environment; the bill allows the CWCB to also acquire these rights to improve the natural environment.

The bill authorizes the CWCB to loan an additional \$4,040,000 from the CWCB construction fund to the Tri-county Water Conservancy District for the construction of a hydropower project.

The bill changes the operational account of the severance tax trust fund into a separate fund and transfers the administration of that fund and the severance tax trust fund from the state treasury to the department of natural resources. The bill also changes the perpetual base account of the severance tax trust fund into a separate fund, the severance tax perpetual base fund, that is administered by the CWCB.

The bill also transfers an additional \$49,000,000 from the severance tax perpetual base fund to the CWCB construction fund for the Chatfield reservoir reallocation project and \$2,000,000 for the Windy Gap reservoir bypass channel project, which is part of the Windy Gap firming project.

The bill authorizes the CWCB to loan \$18,538,550 from the CWCB construction fund for the purchase of water rights for the Roxborough water and sanitation district water activity enterprise.

Finally, the bill makes conforming amendments.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2           **SECTION 1. Continuation of maintenance to the satellite**  
3 **monitoring system - appropriation.** (1) In addition to any other  
4 appropriation, there is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the  
5 Colorado water conservation board construction fund not otherwise  
6 appropriated, to the department of natural resources, for allocation to the  
7 division of water resources, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, the  
8 sum of \$300,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for renovation  
9 of existing gauging stations; replacement of outdated collection  
10 platforms; upgrading of transmission components of the satellite  
11 monitoring system, established and operated pursuant to section  
12 37-80-102 (10), Colorado Revised Statutes; implementation of stream  
13 gauge flood hardening projects; and coordination of data collection  
14 efforts related to flood forecasting and warning.

15           (2) The moneys appropriated in subsection (1) of this section  
16 remain available for the designated purposes until they are fully  
17 expended.

18           **SECTION 2. Continuation of the weather modification**  
19 **program - appropriation.** (1) In addition to any other appropriation,  
20 there is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the Colorado water  
21 conservation board construction fund not otherwise appropriated, to the  
22 department of natural resources, for allocation to the Colorado water  
23 conservation board, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, the sum of  
24 \$175,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the board to  
25 continue to assist water conservation districts, water conservancy

1 districts, and other water providers and their fiscal agents with the  
2 development of cloud-seeding programs that provide benefits to  
3 recreational areas, streams, and reservoirs through snowpack  
4 enhancement.

5 (2) The moneys appropriated in subsection (1) of this section  
6 remain available for the designated purposes until they are fully  
7 expended.

8 **SECTION 3. Continuation of the Colorado floodplain map**  
9 **modernization program - appropriation.** (1) In addition to any other  
10 appropriation, there is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the  
11 Colorado water conservation board construction fund not otherwise  
12 appropriated, to the department of natural resources, for allocation to the  
13 Colorado water conservation board, for the fiscal year beginning July 1,  
14 2013, the sum of \$500,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, in  
15 order to restore the unencumbered balance in the Colorado floodplain  
16 map modernization program to \$500,000, for the board to continue to  
17 assist with the preparation of revised and improved floodplain studies and  
18 maps for communities throughout Colorado and to participate in federally  
19 sponsored floodplain map modernization activities.

20 (2) The moneys appropriated in subsection (1) of this section  
21 remain available for the designated purposes until they are fully  
22 expended.

23 **SECTION 4. Continuation of the watershed restoration**  
24 **program - appropriation.** (1) In addition to any other appropriation,  
25 there is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the Colorado water  
26 conservation board construction fund not otherwise appropriated, to the  
27 department of natural resources, for allocation to the Colorado water

1 conservation board, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, the sum of  
2 \$250,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the board to  
3 continue to provide planning and engineering studies, including  
4 implementation measures, to address technical needs for watershed  
5 restoration and flood mitigation projects throughout the state.

6 (2) The moneys appropriated in subsection (1) of this section  
7 remain available for the designated purposes until they are fully  
8 expended.

9 **SECTION 5. Restoration of the balance of the flood and**  
10 **drought response fund - transfer.** (1) The state treasurer shall transfer  
11 the sum of \$300,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, from the  
12 unreserved cash in the Colorado water conservation board construction  
13 fund to the flood and drought response fund created in section  
14 37-60-123.2, Colorado Revised Statutes, for the fiscal year beginning July  
15 1, 2013, in order to restore the unencumbered balance in the flood and  
16 drought response fund to \$300,000, for the board to provide  
17 documentation, forecasting, mapping, aerial photography, mitigation, and  
18 other efforts deemed necessary to quickly respond to flood and drought  
19 events.

20 (2) The moneys transferred in subsection (1) of this section remain  
21 available for the designated purposes until they are fully expended.

22 **SECTION 6. Implementation of the Rio Grande forecasting**  
23 **development project - appropriation.** (1) In addition to any other  
24 appropriation, there is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the  
25 Colorado water conservation board construction fund not otherwise  
26 appropriated, to the department of natural resources, for allocation to the  
27 Colorado water conservation board, for the fiscal year beginning July 1,

1 2013, the sum of \$215,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for  
2 the board to improve forecasting of water supplies in the Rio Grande river  
3 basin.

4 (2) The moneys appropriated in subsection (1) of this section  
5 remain available for the designated purposes until the project is  
6 completed.

7 **SECTION 7. Operation and maintenance of Colorado's**  
8 **decision support systems - appropriation.** (1) In addition to any other  
9 appropriation, there is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the  
10 Colorado water conservation board construction fund not otherwise  
11 appropriated, to the department of natural resources, for allocation to the  
12 Colorado water conservation board, for the fiscal year beginning July 1,  
13 2013, the sum of \$100,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to  
14 fund the operation and maintenance of the Colorado's decision support  
15 systems.

16 (2) The moneys appropriated in subsection (1) of this section  
17 remain available for the designated purposes until completion of the  
18 project.

19 **SECTION 8. Continuation of the Colorado river basin study**  
20 **- appropriation.** (1) In addition to any other appropriation, there is  
21 hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the Colorado water  
22 conservation board construction fund not otherwise appropriated, to the  
23 department of natural resources, for allocation to the Colorado water  
24 conservation board, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, the sum of  
25 \$75,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to support stakeholder  
26 participation, negotiations, and other work required for implementation  
27 of the Colorado river basin study.

1           (2) The moneys appropriated in subsection (1) of this section  
2 remain available for the designated purposes until completion of the  
3 project.

4           **SECTION 9. Continuation of the Arkansas river decision**  
5 **support system - appropriation.** (1) In addition to any other  
6 appropriation, there is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the  
7 Colorado water conservation board construction fund not otherwise  
8 appropriated, to the department of natural resources, for allocation to the  
9 Colorado water conservation board, for the fiscal year beginning July 1,  
10 2013, the sum of \$250,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to  
11 begin implementation of the Arkansas river decision support efforts,  
12 including the collection and compilation of data.

13           (2) The moneys appropriated in subsection (1) of this section  
14 remain available for the designated purposes until completion of the  
15 project.

16           **SECTION 10. Continuation of the statewide water supply**  
17 **initiative - appropriation.** (1) In addition to any other appropriation,  
18 there is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the Colorado water  
19 conservation board construction fund not otherwise appropriated, to the  
20 department of natural resources, for allocation to the Colorado water  
21 conservation board, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, the sum of  
22 \$225,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the board to begin  
23 work on the study's 2016 update that will include reexamining the  
24 methodologies used to analyze the municipal, industrial, agricultural, and  
25 nonconsumptive water demands, as well as considering varying  
26 hydrologic analyses, climate change, and drought planning.

27           (2) The moneys appropriated in subsection (1) of this section

1 remain available for the designated purposes until they are fully  
2 expended.

3           **SECTION 11. Continuation of the South Platte river basin**  
4 **groundwater level data collection and analysis - appropriation.** (1) In  
5 addition to any other appropriation, there is hereby appropriated, out of  
6 any moneys in the Colorado water conservation board construction fund  
7 not otherwise appropriated, to the department of natural resources, for  
8 allocation to the Colorado water conservation board, for the fiscal year  
9 beginning July 1, 2013, the sum of \$250,000, or so much thereof as may  
10 be necessary, for the board to collect and analyze data, perform updates,  
11 make enhancements, perform model runs to the South Platte decision  
12 support system model, install and monitor various devices, conduct public  
13 outreach, and perform other functions as necessary to assist with  
14 determining the cause, and developing possible remediation, of high  
15 groundwater levels in the South Platte river basin.

16           (2) The moneys appropriated in subsection (1) of this section  
17 remain available for the designated purposes until completion of the  
18 project.

19           **SECTION 12. Windy Gap reservoir bypass channel project**  
20 **- appropriation.** (1) In addition to any other appropriation, there is  
21 hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the Colorado water  
22 conservation board construction fund not otherwise appropriated, to the  
23 department of natural resources, for allocation to the Colorado water  
24 conservation board, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, the sum of  
25 \$2,000,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the board to  
26 participate in the planning, design, and construction of the Windy Gap  
27 reservoir bypass channel project.



1 (2) The moneys appropriated in subsection (1) of this section  
2 remain available for the designated purposes until completion of the  
3 project.

4 **SECTION 13. Chatfield reservoir reallocation project -**  
5 **appropriation.** (1) In addition to any other appropriation, there is hereby  
6 appropriated, out of any moneys in the Colorado water conservation  
7 board construction fund not otherwise appropriated, to the department of  
8 natural resources, for allocation to the Colorado water conservation  
9 board, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, the sum of \$28,000,000,  
10 or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the board to participate in the  
11 implementation of the Chatfield reservoir reallocation project pursuant to  
12 section 37-60-120.1, Colorado Revised Statutes, and to provide funding  
13 for other project participants to purchase their allocated storage space in  
14 the Chatfield reservoir reallocation project.

15 (2) The moneys appropriated in subsection (1) of this section  
16 remain available for the designated purposes until completion of the  
17 project.

18 **SECTION 14. Tri-county Water Conservancy District -**  
19 **increased water project loan authorization from the Colorado water**  
20 **conservation board construction fund.** Pursuant to section 37-60-122  
21 (1) (b), Colorado Revised Statutes, the Colorado water conservation  
22 board is hereby authorized to loan moneys from the Colorado water  
23 conservation board construction fund to the Tri-county Water  
24 Conservancy District to continue the construction of the tri-county water  
25 hydropower project at the outlet works of Ridgway dam in Ouray county,  
26 which the board previously authorized in September 2011. The previously  
27 approved loan amount of \$9,090,000 is increased by \$4,040,000, for a

1 total of \$13,130,000.

2 **SECTION 15.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 37-60-123.7,  
3 **amend** (1) as follows:

4 **37-60-123.7. Acquisitions of water for instream flows.** (1) In  
5 addition to any other moneys appropriated from the Colorado water  
6 conservation board construction fund, up to one million dollars in the  
7 fund are continuously appropriated to the board annually to pay for the  
8 costs of acquiring water, water rights, and interests in water for instream  
9 flow use. The total amount of ~~such~~ THE continuous appropriation that is  
10 unencumbered in any fiscal year ~~shall~~ MUST not exceed one million  
11 dollars. The primary priority for expenditures of these revenues ~~shall be~~  
12 IS the costs of water acquisitions for existing or new instream flow water  
13 rights to preserve AND IMPROVE the natural environment to a reasonable  
14 degree. These revenues also may be used, in limited circumstances, for  
15 the costs of water acquisitions to:

- 16 (a) Preserve AND IMPROVE the natural environment of species that  
17 have been listed as threatened or endangered under state or federal law,  
18 ~~or~~ are candidate species, or are likely to become candidate species;
- 19 (b) Support wild and scenic alternative management plans; or
- 20 (c) Provide federal regulatory certainty.

21 **SECTION 16.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-29-109, **amend**  
22 (1), (2) (a) (II), (2) (a) (III), (2) (a) (VIII) (D), (2) (a) (XI), (2) (b), and (2)  
23 (c) (I) introductory portion; **repeal** (2) (a) (VII) and (2) (a) (IX); and **add**  
24 (2) (a) (I.5) and (2) (a) (XII) as follows:

25 **39-29-109. Severance tax trust fund - created - administration**  
26 **- distribution of moneys - repeal.** (1) There is hereby created in the  
27 ~~office of the state treasurer~~ TREASURY the severance tax trust fund, also

1 referred to in this section as the "fund", WHICH THE DEPARTMENT OF  
2 NATURAL RESOURCES SHALL ADMINISTER. The fund is to be perpetual and  
3 held in trust as a replacement for depleted natural resources, for the  
4 development and conservation of the state's water resources pursuant to  
5 sections 37-60-106 (1) (j) and (1) (l), 37-60-119, and 37-60-122, C.R.S.,  
6 for the use in funding programs that promote and encourage sound natural  
7 resource planning, management, and development related to minerals,  
8 energy, geology, and water and for the use in funding programs to reduce  
9 the burden of increasing home energy costs on low-income households.

10 (2) State severance tax receipts shall be credited to the severance  
11 tax trust fund as provided in section 39-29-108. Except as otherwise set  
12 forth in section 39-29-109.5, all income derived from the deposit and  
13 investment of the moneys in the fund shall be credited to the fund. At the  
14 end of any fiscal year, all unexpended and unencumbered moneys in the  
15 fund remain therein and shall not be credited or transferred to the general  
16 fund or any other fund. All moneys in the fund are subject to  
17 appropriation by the general assembly for the following purposes:

18 (a) **The severance tax perpetual base fund.** (I.5) THERE IS  
19 HEREBY CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY THE SEVERANCE TAX  
20 PERPETUAL BASE FUND, ALSO REFERRED TO IN THIS PARAGRAPH (a) AS THE  
21 "FUND", WHICH THE COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD, ALSO  
22 REFERRED TO IN THIS PARAGRAPH (a) AS THE "BOARD", SHALL  
23 ADMINISTER. THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER MONEYS TO THE  
24 FUND FROM THE SEVERANCE TAX TRUST FUND, AS SPECIFIED IN THIS  
25 SECTION. THE MONEYS IN THE FUND ARE CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED  
26 TO THE BOARD FOR PURPOSES AUTHORIZED BY THIS PARAGRAPH (a).

27 (II) One-half of the severance tax receipts credited to the fund for

1 fiscal years commencing on or after July 1, 2009, shall be credited to the  
2 SEVERANCE TAX perpetual base ~~account of the~~ fund and used for state  
3 water projects pursuant to sections 37-60-119 and 37-60-122, C.R.S.;  
4 except that the total amount of severance tax receipts credited to the  
5 SEVERANCE TAX perpetual base ~~account~~ FUND during ~~said~~ THE fiscal year  
6 shall not exceed fifty million dollars unless the cap established in  
7 subparagraph (III) of this paragraph (a) is exceeded. The authorization  
8 and contract for each ~~such~~ project ~~shall~~ MUST require repayment of  
9 principal and interest to the fund, and moneys so repaid shall be credited  
10 to the SEVERANCE TAX perpetual base ~~account of the~~ fund.

11 (III) For fiscal years commencing on or after July 1, 2009, the  
12 state treasurer shall transfer the moneys credited to the fund that are not  
13 credited to either the SEVERANCE TAX perpetual base ~~account~~ FUND or the  
14 SEVERANCE TAX operational ~~account~~ FUND to the small communities  
15 water and wastewater grant fund created in section 25-1.5-208 (4),  
16 C.R.S.; except that the maximum amount of moneys annually credited to  
17 the small communities water and wastewater grant fund shall not exceed  
18 ten million dollars.

19 (VII) ~~Notwithstanding any provision of this paragraph (a) to the~~  
20 ~~contrary, on June 30, 2011, the state treasurer shall deduct sixteen million~~  
21 ~~dollars from the perpetual base account of the fund and transfer such sum~~  
22 ~~to the general fund.~~

23 (VIII) (D) If, on June 30, 2015, any moneys appropriated under  
24 sub-subparagraph (A) of this subparagraph (VIII) have not been fully  
25 expended, the unexpended moneys are deauthorized and ~~shall~~ revert to  
26 the SEVERANCE TAX perpetual base ~~account~~ FUND.

27 (IX) (A) ~~Notwithstanding any provision of this paragraph (a) to~~

1 the contrary, on July 1, 2011, the state treasurer shall deduct twenty-five  
2 million dollars from the perpetual base account of the fund and transfer  
3 such sum to the general fund.

4 (B) Notwithstanding any provision of this paragraph (a) to the  
5 contrary, on June 30, 2012, the state treasurer shall deduct twenty-three  
6 million one hundred thousand dollars from the perpetual base account of  
7 the fund and transfer such sum to the general fund.

8 (XI) (A) Notwithstanding any provision of this paragraph (a) to  
9 the contrary, the state treasurer shall transfer to the Colorado water  
10 conservation board construction fund, for use by the Colorado water  
11 conservation board also referred to in this subparagraph (XI) as the  
12 "board", ~~thirteen~~ SIXTY-TWO million dollars for the implementation of the  
13 Chatfield reservoir reallocation project, pursuant to section 37-60-120.1,  
14 C.R.S. The state treasurer shall transfer the moneys in two consecutive  
15 installments of five million dollars on January 1, 2013, and eight  
16 FOURTEEN million dollars on July JANUARY 1, 2014, FOURTEEN MILLION  
17 DOLLARS ON JUNE 30, 2014, AND TWENTY-NINE MILLION DOLLARS ON  
18 JULY 1, 2015.

19 (B) This subparagraph (XI) is repealed, effective July 1, 2015  
20 2016.

21 (XII) (A) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF THIS PARAGRAPH  
22 (a) TO THE CONTRARY, ON JULY 1, 2013, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL  
23 TRANSFER TWO MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE FUND TO THE COLORADO  
24 WATER CONSERVATION BOARD CONSTRUCTION FUND, FOR USE BY THE  
25 BOARD TO MAKE A GRANT TO THE MUNICIPAL SUBDISTRICT OF THE  
26 NORTHERN COLORADO WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT FOR THE  
27 PLANNING, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE WINDY GAP RESERVOIR

1 BYPASS CHANNEL PROJECT, AS PART OF THE WINDY GAP FIRING PROJECT  
2 ON THE COLORADO RIVER.

3 (B) THIS SUBPARAGRAPH (XII) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
4 2014.

5 (b) **The severance tax operational fund.** There is hereby created  
6 IN THE STATE TREASURY the SEVERANCE TAX operational ~~account of the~~  
7 ~~severance tax trust~~ fund, also referred to in this paragraph (b) as the  
8 "~~account~~" "FUND", which THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES shall  
9 ~~be administered by the state treasurer and shall consist of~~ ADMINISTER.  
10 THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER one-half of the severance tax  
11 receipts credited to the SEVERANCE TAX TRUST fund for tax years  
12 commencing on and after July 1, 1995, TO THE FUND. Moneys in the  
13 ~~account~~ FUND shall be distributed as set forth in section 39-29-109.3.

14 (c) **The water supply reserve fund.** (I) There is hereby created  
15 in the office of the state treasurer the water supply reserve fund, also  
16 referred to in this paragraph (c) as the "fund", which shall be administered  
17 by the Colorado water conservation board. The state treasurer shall  
18 transfer moneys to the fund from the SEVERANCE TAX operational ~~account~~  
19 ~~of the severance tax trust~~ fund as specified in section 39-29-109.3 (2) (a).  
20 The moneys in the fund are hereby continuously appropriated, for  
21 purposes authorized by this paragraph (c), to the Colorado water  
22 conservation board, also referred to in this paragraph (c) as the "board".  
23 All interest derived from the investment of moneys in the fund shall be  
24 credited to the statewide account of the fund, which account is hereby  
25 created. Repayments of both the principal and interest on loans from the  
26 fund shall be credited to the fund. Any balance remaining in the fund at  
27 the end of any fiscal year remains in the fund. The board shall allocate

1 moneys by grant or loan from the fund only for water activities approved  
2 by a roundtable pursuant to article 75 of title 37, C.R.S. The approving  
3 roundtable is the roundtable for the basin in which a proposed water  
4 diversion or nonstructural activity would occur. If the applicant is a  
5 covered entity, as defined in section 37-60-126, C.R.S., the board shall  
6 allocate moneys by grant or loan from the fund only if the applicant has  
7 adopted a water conservation plan, as defined in section 37-60-126,  
8 C.R.S. The board, in consultation with the interbasin compact committee  
9 created in section 37-75-105, C.R.S., shall establish criteria and  
10 guidelines for allocating moneys from the fund, including criteria that  
11 ensure that the allocations will assist in meeting water supply needs  
12 identified under section 37-75-104 (2) (c), C.R.S., in a manner consistent  
13 with section 37-75-102, C.R.S., and shall facilitate both structural and  
14 nonstructural projects or methods. Eligible water activities include the  
15 following:

16 **SECTION 17.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 37-60-122, **amend**  
17 (1) (b) as follows:

18 **37-60-122. General assembly approval.** (1) Moneys in the  
19 Colorado water conservation board construction fund shall be expended  
20 in the following manner and under the following circumstances:

21 (b) The general assembly may authorize ~~such~~ projects as it deems  
22 to be to the advantage of the people of the state of Colorado and shall  
23 direct the board to proceed with ~~said~~ THE projects in the priorities  
24 established by the general assembly under terms approved by the general  
25 assembly. The board is authorized to make loans without general  
26 assembly approval in amounts not to exceed ten million dollars. The  
27 unappropriated balance of moneys in the Colorado water conservation

1 board construction fund and the state severance tax ~~trust~~ PERPETUAL BASE  
2 fund ~~perpetual base account~~ shall be available and continuously  
3 appropriated for this purpose. The board shall submit a written  
4 determination of the basis for ~~such~~ THE project loans to the general  
5 assembly by January 15 of the year following the year in which the loan  
6 was made.

7 **SECTION 18. Water project loan authorization from the**  
8 **construction fund.** (1) Pursuant to section 37-60-122 (1) (b), Colorado  
9 Revised Statutes, the Colorado water conservation board is hereby  
10 authorized to loan moneys in the amount of \$18,538,550 from the  
11 Colorado water conservation board construction fund to enable the  
12 purchase of water rights for the Roxborough water and sanitation district  
13 water activity enterprise.

14 (2) The Colorado water conservation board may make loans for  
15 the project specified in subsection (1) of this section from moneys that are  
16 or may become available to the Colorado water conservation board  
17 construction fund. The amount of the loan listed in subsection (1) of this  
18 section may vary based on the following:

19 (a) Ordinary fluctuations in construction costs, as indicated by the  
20 engineering cost indices applicable to the types of construction required  
21 for the project; and

22 (b) Changes in the plans for the project due to:

23 (I) Differing or unforeseen site conditions;

24 (II) Errors;

25 (III) Omissions in the plans and specifications;

26 (IV) Changes instituted by regulatory agencies; or

27 (V) Changes in material quantities beyond contract limits.



1 (3) Pursuant to section 37-60-120 (1), Colorado Revised Statutes,  
2 the board shall require terms and conditions in any contracts concerning  
3 the project as will ensure repayment of funds made available by the  
4 board. The board shall not disburse moneys for a loan authorized by  
5 subsection (1) of this section unless it is satisfied, at its sole discretion,  
6 that the recipient of the loan will be able to make repayment pursuant to  
7 the terms and conditions established by the board and by subsection (1)  
8 of this section.

9 **SECTION 19.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-75-201.5,  
10 **amend** (1) (g) (II) (F) and (1) (g) (II) (G) as follows:

11 **24-75-201.5. Revenue shortfalls - required actions by the**  
12 **governor with respect to the reserve.** (1) (g) (II) The transfer or  
13 transfers described in subparagraph (I) of this paragraph (g) shall be made  
14 from one or more of the following funds:

15 (F) The SEVERANCE TAX perpetual base ~~account of the severance~~  
16 ~~tax trust~~ fund created in section 39-29-109 (2) (a), C.R.S., not to exceed  
17 seventy-five million dollars;

18 (G) The SEVERANCE TAX operational ~~account of the severance tax~~  
19 ~~trust~~ fund created in section 39-29-109 (2) (b), C.R.S., not to exceed  
20 twenty-one million three hundred thousand dollars;

21 **SECTION 20.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-75-217, **amend**  
22 (3) (d) as follows:

23 **24-75-217. Restoration of funds transferred to augment the**  
24 **general fund for the 2001-02 fiscal year.** (3) The funds that shall be  
25 restored pursuant to subsection (1) of this section include:

26 (d) The SEVERANCE TAX operational ~~account of the severance tax~~  
27 ~~trust~~ fund created in section 39-29-109 (2) (b), C.R.S.;

1           **SECTION 21.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 34-20-104, **amend**  
2 (3) (j) as follows:

3           **34-20-104. Minerals, energy, and geology policy advisory**  
4 **board - creation.** (3) The advisory board shall:

5           (j) Provide advice to the executive director on programs or  
6 projects that should receive a grant of funds from the SEVERANCE TAX  
7 operational ~~account of the severance tax trust fund~~, as set forth in section  
8 39-29-109.3 (1), C.R.S.

9           **SECTION 22.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 37-60-123.1  
10 as follows:

11           **37-60-123.1. Loan foreclosure fund - created.** There is hereby  
12 created in the state treasury the loan foreclosure fund, referred to in this  
13 section as the "foreclosure fund". The state treasurer is hereby authorized  
14 and directed to transfer one hundred thousand dollars from the Colorado  
15 water conservation board construction fund to the foreclosure fund. The  
16 Colorado water conservation board is authorized to provide funding to  
17 cover the direct costs associated with completing foreclosure proceedings  
18 against a delinquent borrower from either the Colorado water  
19 conservation board construction fund or the severance tax ~~trust fund~~  
20 perpetual base ~~account~~ FUND. The moneys in the foreclosure fund are  
21 hereby continuously appropriated to the board for loan foreclosure  
22 proceedings, including ~~but not limited to~~, property management costs,  
23 appraisals, assessments, taxes, local government fees, insurance costs,  
24 court costs, and legal fees. All interest derived from the investment of  
25 moneys in the foreclosure fund shall be credited to the Colorado water  
26 conservation board construction fund. Any balance remaining in the  
27 foreclosure fund at the end of any fiscal year ~~shall remain~~ REMAINS in the

1 fund.

2 **SECTION 23.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 37-60-123.5,  
3 **amend** (1) as follows:

4 **37-60-123.5. Agricultural emergency drought response.** (1) If,  
5 pursuant to federal or state law, any portion of Colorado has received  
6 emergency drought designation or a disaster emergency has been  
7 proclaimed due to drought, notwithstanding the provisions of section  
8 39-29-109 (1), C.R.S., in addition to any other moneys appropriated from  
9 the SEVERANCE TAX perpetual base ~~account of the severance tax trust~~  
10 fund, created by section 39-29-109 (2) (a), C.R.S., up to one million  
11 dollars in the SEVERANCE TAX perpetual base ~~account of the severance tax~~  
12 ~~trust~~ fund are continuously appropriated annually to the director of the  
13 Colorado water conservation board and the state engineer for ~~any such~~  
14 USE, IN CONNECTION WITH THE designation or proclamation, to make loans  
15 and grants to agricultural organizations for emergency drought-related  
16 water augmentation purposes.

17 **SECTION 24.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 37-60-126, **amend**  
18 (6) and (12) (a) (IV) as follows:

19 **37-60-126. Water conservation and drought mitigation**  
20 **planning - programs - relationship to state assistance for water**  
21 **facilities - guidelines - water efficiency grant program - repeal.**

22 (6) The board is hereby authorized to recommend the appropriation and  
23 expenditure of ~~such~~ revenues as are necessary from the unobligated  
24 balance of the five percent share of the SEVERANCE TAX operational  
25 ~~account of the severance tax trust~~ fund designated for use by the board for  
26 the purpose of the office providing assistance to covered entities to  
27 develop water conservation plans that meet the provisions of this section.

1 (12) (a) (IV) Any moneys remaining in the fund on June 30, 2020,  
2 shall be transferred to the SEVERANCE TAX operational ~~account of the~~  
3 ~~severance tax trust~~ fund described in section 39-29-109 (2) (b), C.R.S.

4 **SECTION 25.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 37-60-126.5,  
5 **amend** (3) as follows:

6 **37-60-126.5. Drought mitigation planning - programs -**  
7 **relationship to state assistance.** (3) The board is hereby authorized to  
8 expend revenues from the water efficiency grant program cash fund and  
9 to recommend the appropriation and expenditure of ~~such~~ THE revenues as  
10 is necessary from the unobligated balance of the five-percent share of the  
11 SEVERANCE TAX operational ~~account of the severance tax trust~~ fund  
12 designated for use by the board for the purpose of assisting covered  
13 entities and other state or local governmental entities to develop drought  
14 mitigation plans ~~identified~~ THAT THE OFFICE IDENTIFIES as sufficient. ~~by~~  
15 ~~the office.~~

16 **SECTION 26.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-29-109.3,  
17 **amend** (1) introductory portion, (1) (a) (I), (1) (b), (1) (c), (1) (d), (1) (e),  
18 (1) (f), (2), (3) (a), (4) (b), and (5); and **repeal** (6), as follows:

19 **39-29-109.3. Severance tax operational fund - repeal.** (1) For  
20 fiscal years commencing on and after July 1, 1997, the executive director  
21 of the department of natural resources shall submit with the department's  
22 budget request for each fiscal year a list and description of the programs  
23 the executive director recommends to be funded from the SEVERANCE TAX  
24 operational ~~account of the severance tax trust~~ fund created in section  
25 39-29-109 (2) (b), referred to in this section as the "operational ~~account~~  
26 FUND". The minerals, energy, and geology policy advisory board  
27 established pursuant to section 34-20-104, C.R.S., shall review the

1 executive director's recommendation before submittal. The general  
2 assembly may appropriate moneys from the total moneys available in the  
3 operational ~~account~~ FUND to fund recommended programs as follows:

4 (a) (I) For programs or projects within the Colorado oil and gas  
5 conservation commission, up to thirty-five percent of the moneys in the  
6 operational ~~account~~ FUND for fiscal years commencing on or after July 1,  
7 2009.

8 (b) For programs within the Colorado geological survey, up to  
9 twenty percent of the moneys in the operational ~~account~~ FUND;

10 (c) For programs within the division of reclamation, mining, and  
11 safety, up to thirty percent of the moneys in the operational ~~account~~ FUND  
12 for fiscal years commencing before July 1, 2008, and up to twenty-five  
13 percent of the moneys in the operational ~~account~~ FUND for fiscal years  
14 commencing on or after July 1, 2008. As part of any appropriation made,  
15 five hundred thousand dollars, or so much as may be available, shall be  
16 transferred to the abandoned mine reclamation fund created in section  
17 34-34-102 (1), C.R.S.

18 (d) For programs within the Colorado water conservation board  
19 and for purposes authorized by article 75 of title 37, C.R.S., up to five  
20 percent of the moneys in the operational ~~account~~ FUND;

21 (e) For fiscal years commencing on or after July 1, 2008, only, for  
22 programs within the division of parks and wildlife that monitor, manage,  
23 or mitigate the impacts of mineral or mineral fuel production activities on  
24 wildlife in any region of the state in which production activity is  
25 occurring or, from any location in the state, research such impacts, up to  
26 five percent of the moneys in the operational ~~account~~ FUND, which  
27 moneys shall not supplant moneys that would otherwise be made

1 available for such programs;

2 (f) For fiscal years commencing on or after July 1, 2009, for  
3 programs within the division of parks and wildlife that operate, maintain,  
4 or improve state parks in any region of the state in which production  
5 activity is occurring, up to ten percent of the moneys in the operational  
6 ~~account~~ FUND.

7 (2) Subject to the requirements of subsections (3) and (4) of this  
8 section, if the general assembly chooses not to spend up to one hundred  
9 percent of the moneys in the operational ~~account~~ FUND as specified in  
10 subsection (1) of this section, the state treasurer shall transfer the  
11 following:

12 (3) (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection (3),  
13 it is the intent of the general assembly that the operational ~~account~~ FUND  
14 maintain a reserve equal to the current state fiscal year's operating  
15 appropriations for the programs specified in subsection (1) of this section  
16 plus fifteen percent of the current fiscal year's transfers specified in  
17 subsection (2) of this section. Moneys may be transferred from the  
18 reserve to offset temporary revenue reductions in the programs specified  
19 in subsection (1) of this section and to offset reductions for programs  
20 specified in subsection (2) of this section, up to fifteen percent of the  
21 current fiscal year's transfers specified in subsection (2) of this section;  
22 except that, if the general assembly determines that transfers of moneys  
23 from the reserve are needed during a state revenue crisis, the transfers  
24 shall be a loan from the reserve to be repaid as soon as moneys are  
25 available. This provision is intended to mitigate the impact of fluctuations  
26 in the amount of revenue credited to the fund from year to year so as to  
27 maintain current levels of service for the programs specified in subsection

1 (1) of this section.

2 (4) (b) (I) If the revenue estimate prepared by the staff of the  
3 legislative council in June of any fiscal year indicates that the amount of  
4 severance tax revenues to be credited to the operational ~~account~~ FUND in  
5 the next fiscal year as specified in section 39-29-109 (2) (b) is insufficient  
6 for the state treasurer to make the transfers set forth in subsection (2) of  
7 this section and to meet the reserve requirement specified in subsection  
8 (3) of this section, all transfers scheduled to be made on July 1 shall be  
9 proportionally reduced. The July 1 proportional reduction shall be  
10 calculated based on the size of the annual transfers as specified in  
11 subsection (2) of this section and shall be made to the extent necessary to  
12 cover forty percent of the projected shortfall between total moneys  
13 available in the operational ~~account~~ FUND and the sum of the total  
14 operating appropriations for the programs specified in subsection (1) of  
15 this section, the total fiscal year's transfers specified in subsection (2) of  
16 this section, and the reserve requirement specified in subsection (3) of  
17 this section; except that up to one-third of the fifteen percent of the  
18 current fiscal year's transfers specified as part of the reserve set forth in  
19 subsection (3) of this section shall be used to offset any proportional  
20 reduction required by this subparagraph (I) in any fiscal year.

21 (II) If the revenue estimate prepared by the staff of the legislative  
22 council in December of any fiscal year indicates that the amount of  
23 severance tax revenues credited to the operational ~~account~~ FUND as  
24 specified in section 39-29-109 (2) (b) is insufficient for the state treasurer  
25 to make the transfers set forth in subsection (2) of this section and to meet  
26 the reserve requirement specified in subsection (3) of this section, all  
27 transfers scheduled to be made on January 4 of the fiscal year shall be

1 proportionally reduced. The January 4 proportional reduction shall be  
2 calculated based on the size of the annual transfers as specified in  
3 subsection (2) of this section and shall be made to the extent necessary to  
4 cover seventy percent of the projected shortfall between total moneys  
5 available in the operational ~~account~~ FUND and the sum of the total  
6 operating appropriations for the programs specified in subsection (1) of  
7 this section, the total fiscal year's transfers specified in subsection (2) of  
8 this section, and the reserve requirement specified in subsection (3) of  
9 this section; except that up to one-third of the fifteen percent of the  
10 current fiscal year's transfers specified as part of the reserve set forth in  
11 subsection (3) of this section shall be used to offset any proportional  
12 reduction required by this subparagraph (II) in any fiscal year.

13 (III) If the revenue estimate prepared by the staff of the legislative  
14 council in March of any fiscal year indicates that the amount of severance  
15 tax revenues credited to the operational ~~account~~ FUND as specified in  
16 section 39-29-109 (2) (b) is insufficient for the state treasurer to make the  
17 transfers set forth in subsection (2) of this section and to meet the reserve  
18 requirement specified in subsection (3) of this section, all transfers  
19 scheduled to be made on April 1 of the fiscal year shall be proportionally  
20 reduced. The April 1 proportional reduction shall be calculated based on  
21 the size of the annual transfers as specified in subsection (2) of this  
22 section and shall be made to the extent necessary to cover the projected  
23 shortfall between total moneys available in the operational ~~account~~ FUND  
24 and the sum of the total operating appropriations for the programs  
25 specified in subsection (1) of this section, the total fiscal year's transfers  
26 specified in subsection (2) of this section, and the reserve requirement  
27 specified in subsection (3) of this section; except that any moneys



1 remaining of the fifteen percent of the current fiscal year's transfers  
2 specified as part of the reserve set forth in subsection (3) of this section  
3 shall be used to offset any proportional reduction required by this  
4 subparagraph (III) in any fiscal year.

5 (IV) If proportional reductions are made to either the July 1 or  
6 January 4 installments, the April 1 installment may be increased to offset  
7 proportional reductions made earlier in the current fiscal year to the  
8 maximum extent allowable under the revenue estimate prepared by the  
9 staff of the legislative council in March of any fiscal year. The April 1  
10 installment shall only be increased if the revenue estimate indicates that  
11 the amount of severance tax revenues credited to the operational ~~account~~  
12 FUND as specified in section 39-29-109 (2) (b) is sufficient to fund ~~such~~  
13 THE increased installments and still meet the reserve requirement  
14 specified in subsection (3) of this section.

15 (5) In addition to the distributions specified in paragraph (a) of  
16 subsection (4) of this section, if there were any proportional reductions  
17 required in a fiscal year as specified in paragraph (b) of said subsection  
18 (4), after the reserve specified in subsection (3) of this section is made  
19 whole if any portion of the reserve was used as specified in paragraph (b)  
20 of subsection (4) of this section to offset any proportional reduction  
21 required by said paragraph (b) of subsection (4), the state treasurer shall  
22 make proportional distributions on August 20 of the following fiscal year  
23 to the programs specified in subsection (2) of this section if the revenues  
24 actually received in the operational ~~account of the severance tax trust~~  
25 fund for the previous fiscal year were sufficient for the state treasurer to  
26 more fully make the transfers set forth in subsection (2) of this section  
27 and to fully meet the reserve requirement specified in subsection (3) of

1 this section.

2 (6) (a) ~~Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the~~  
3 ~~contrary, on April 15, 2010, the state treasurer shall deduct eleven million~~  
4 ~~dollars from the operational account and transfer such sum to the general~~  
5 ~~fund.~~

6 (b) ~~Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary,~~  
7 ~~on June 30, 2012, the state treasurer shall deduct three million nine~~  
8 ~~hundred fifty thousand dollars from the operational account and transfer~~  
9 ~~such sum to the general fund.~~

10 **SECTION 27. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
11 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
12 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.