FISCAL IMPACT: ☒ State ☐ Local ☐ Statutory Public Entity ☐ Conditional ☐ No Fiscal Impact

Drafting Number: LLS 17-1109  
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Sonnenberg  
                    Rep. McKean; Esgar  
Date: June 27, 2017  
Bill Status: Postponed Indefinitely  
Fiscal Analyst: Matt Becker (303-866-4785)

BILL TOPIC: DEDICATE RESERVOIR RELEASE ENVIRONMENTAL PURPOSES

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Revenue</td>
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<td>State Expenditures</td>
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<td>Minimal workload increase.</td>
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<td>Appropriation Required: None.</td>
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<td>Future Year Impacts:  Ongoing minimal workload increase.</td>
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NOTE: This bill was not enacted into law; therefore, the impacts identified in this analysis do not take effect.

Summary of Legislation

This bill creates a process by which a storage water right owner may obtain a water court decree authorizing releases to be delivered downstream for decreed beneficial uses by the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). The releases may be used in the intervening stream reach to preserve or improve the natural environment, if certain conditions are met.

State Expenditures

The bill will minimally increase workload for the CWCB Instream Flow Program and Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) within the Department of Natural Resources. The CWCB is expected to accomplish the workload required to process any new transactions within existing appropriations. CPW currently provides biological analyses for CWCB water acquisitions and will attempt to accomplish any new workload within existing appropriations.

Effective Date

The bill was postponed indefinitely by the Senate Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Energy Committee on April 20, 2017.
The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit: www.leg.colorado.gov/fiscalnotes/