

DENVER BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Date: May 12, 2010

Board Item: V-A-3

**RENEWAL OF CONTRACT WITH COLORADO STATE FOREST SERVICE
FOR FOREST AND LAND MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

Action by Consent

Action

Information

Denver Water and the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) have a long, mutually beneficial relationship regarding forest and land management services. Some of the joint projects the two agencies have undertaken include: development and implementation of a vegetation recovery, restoration and management program for Cheesman Reservoir properties following the Hayman Fire; long-term management of selected properties near Granby and Winter Park; extensive forestry assistance and wildfire mitigation at the Trumbull/Deckers demonstration sites; and forestry management on Denver Water lands in Jefferson and Douglas counties along the North Fork of the South Platte and the main stem of the South Platte Rivers. The CSFS continues management efforts to address the Mountain Pine Beetle problem in Grand and Summit counties, thereby reducing fire danger in the Board's watersheds.

The CSFS has been very successful in leveraging past contract and project monies to obtain matching grants used to complete work on Denver Water lands. To date the agency has received more than \$2,762,063.00 in grants for work on Denver Water lands. Denver Water has contracted with the CSFS since 1990 and to date has paid \$1,703,000 for their services. The CSFS will continue to identify opportunities for grants during this contract period.

Denver Water seeks to extend the contract to include additional implementation and restoration activities, as well as preparation of vegetation and fuels management plans for site-specific areas (Attachment A). Included within this contract is continued support of the Upper South Platte Watershed Protection and Restoration Project. This relationship provides leadership for the Upper South Platte's watershed health and sustainability. It also serves as the model for the United States Forest Service and the Front Range Roundtable, and the emerging Colorado Watershed Protection Initiative. These efforts are particularly important in light of the threats to Denver's watersheds resulting from catastrophic wildfires such as the 1996 Buffalo Creek and 2002 Hayman Fires.

Compensation for this contract is \$1,552,315 over a 5 year period. The specific amount for this project is allocated in the 2010 budget for \$480,000. In the subsequent years, the amounts that are planned to be spent are \$273,450; \$315,465; \$231,500; and \$251,900 which are specifically allocated in the 10-Year Plan for this project. The budget for the 5 year period is structured as stated in the contract under master plan code 4AS003.

Recommendation:

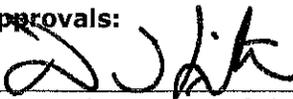
Staff recommends the Board approve this agreement with the Colorado State Forest Service for forest and land management services.

Budget Considerations

Master Plan Code(s): 4AS0003

x - Budgeted Item

Approvals:



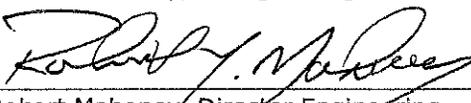
Dave Little, Director of Planning



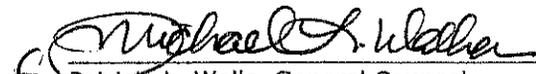
Brian Good, Director Operations/Maintenance



Robert Mahoney, Acting Manager



Robert Mahoney, Director Engineering



Patricia L. Wells, General Counsel