

ROUTT COUNTY REGIONAL BUILDING DEPARTMENT

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Policy Statement

From: Carl Dunham, BCO

Re: Acceptable Load Duration Factor (C_D) for Wood Elements Supporting Snow

Effective Date: Immediately (Reissued January 23, 2007)

There is inaccurate information in the Structural Engineers Association of Colorado (SEAC) 1997 Survey of Colorado Building Departments with regard to load duration. Routt County Regional Building Department **does not** allow the Load Duration Factor C_D of 1.15. A C_D value of 1.00 should be used for roof load calculations for trusses and engineered lumber.

The International Building Code Section 2306.1 references the AF&PA National Design Supplement for Wood Construction Section 2.3.2 which shows an adjustment of the Load Duration Factor C_D of 1.15 when the accumulated duration of the full maximum load during the life of the member does not exceed two months.

In most years, Routt County and Steamboat Springs will experience the full maximum load for more than two months, based on the SEAC Snow Load Map.