



# The South Platte Basin Roundtable

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January 22, 2009

Mr. Todd Doherty  
Colorado Water Conservation Board  
721 State Centennial Building  
1313 Sherman Street  
Denver, Colorado 80203

Re: Roundtable Approval Letter — FMRICO Recharge and  
Wetlands Project — WSRA Grant Application

Dear Todd:

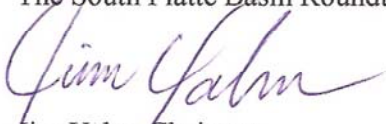
This letter is submitted on behalf of the South Platte Basin Roundtable to indicate our approval of this grant application and meet the new requirements of the criteria and guidelines. First, I want to confirm that this grant application was considered at the South Platte Basin Roundtable's regular meeting on November 11, 2008. The result was a unanimous vote of approval for the request of \$250,000 from the basin account and a recommendation that the CWCB approve an amount of up to \$850,000 from the statewide account.

This project furthers the roundtable's basin-wide water needs assessment because it will assist in meeting the consumptive needs by developing new junior water rights and increasing the beneficial use of retimed augmentation credits from existing recharge projects. The project will make approximately 2,000 - 2,500 acre-feet of additional water available for beneficial use in the South Platte Basin each year. This water will help to meet the water supply gap for agricultural purposes that were identified in SWSI.

Additionally, although the Basin's non-consumptive water supply needs assessment has not been finished, the Roundtable believes that this project will help meet non-consumptive water supply needs by providing habitat for wintering and migrating water fowl in the South Platte Watershed.

At the November Roundtable meeting, this application received thorough discussion. The majority of that discussion strongly favored approval of this project as exactly the kind of structural water supply project that should be assisted by the WSRA. Following that discussion, there was a unanimous approval vote. Therefore, the CWCB should understand that this project has been heartily endorsed by the South Platte Roundtable.

Sincerely,  
The South Platte Basin Roundtable

  
Jim Yahn, Chairman