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Colorado Water Conservation Board



Rio Grande Water Conservation District

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Protecting & Conserving San Luis Valley Water

MAR 09
CWCB MLC

October 6, 2008

Todd Doherty
Colorado Water Conservation Board
Intrastate Water Management and Development Section
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Doherty and CWCB Board:

This letter is written to express support of the Willow Creek Reclamation Committee's (WCRC) application to partially fund the Lower Willow Creek Reclamation project.

The Rio Grande Water Conservation Board has supported the WCRC's projects for several years because it has pursued water quality objectives, as well as carried out water conservation and stabilization efforts throughout the Willow Creek watershed.

The Lower Willow Creek Restoration project will not only stabilize Lower Willow Creek before it enters the Rio Grande, but will also support the Gold Medal fisheries downstream. The project's goals of returning the stream to natural conditions and functions will reduce evaporative loss and increase water supply to the Rio Grande. Furthermore, it will maintain open space and improve riparian and wildlife habitat at the headwaters of the Rio Grande

The Rio Grande Water Conservation Board of Directors recommends giving the Lower Willow Creek Restoration project your full support.

Sincerely,

Ray Wright
President, Rio Grande Water Conservation District

cc: Carishma Gokhale-Welsh, Director WCRC