



Granted

The moving party is hereby ORDERED to provide a copy of this Order to any pro se parties who have entered an appearance in this action within 10 days from the date of this order.

James B. Boyd
District Court Judge
Date of Order attached

STATE OF COLORADO,
GARFIELD COUNTY COURTHOUSE
109 8th Street, Suite 104
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601

Concerning the Application for Water Rights of:
COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD,
IN WALLACE CREEK, A NATURAL STREAM,
IN THE WATERSHED OF COLORADO
HEADWATERS-PLATEAU,

IN MESA COUNTY, COLORADO.

COURT USE ONLY

Case No. : 08CW103

Div. 5

**FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, RULING OF REFEREE, JUDGMENT
AND DECREE OF THE WATER COURT**

This matter comes before the Water Referee by Application of the Colorado Water Conservation Board, Department of Natural Resources, State of Colorado ("CWCB") for a water right to preserve the natural environment to a reasonable degree. The Application was filed on July 31, 2008. The Application was thereafter referred to the Water Referee for Water Division No. 5, State of Colorado, by the Water Judge of said Court in accordance with Article 92, Chapter 37, C.R.S., known as the Water Rights Determination and Administration Act of 1969.

The undersigned Referee, having made such investigations as are necessary to determine whether or not the statements in the Application are true, having consulted with the Division Engineer, and having become fully advised with respect to the subject matter in the Application, does hereby make the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Judgment and Decree in this matter:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The statements in the Application are true.
2. The name and address of Applicant:

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Suite 721
Denver, Colorado 80203
(303) 866-3441

3. Notice and Jurisdiction: All notices of this matter required by law have been fulfilled and the Court has jurisdiction over the Application and all parties affected thereby, whether or not they have chosen to appear.
4. Objectors: John and Dorothy Nauroth timely filed a Statement of Opposition. The CWCB and the Nauroths entered into a stipulation on March 17, 2010. The time for filing statements of opposition has expired.
5. Summary of Consultation: The Division Engineer filed a Summary of Consultation pursuant to C.R.S. § 37-92-302(4) dated June 24, 2009. The CWCB provided a response to the Summary of Consultation on July 27, 2009. The Referee has considered these documents.
6. Name of Natural Stream: Wallace Creek tributary to Colorado River.
7. Location:
 - a. Legal description of the stream segment through which an instream flow is claimed: The natural stream channel from the headwaters in the vicinity of latitude 39° 19' 7.7"N and longitude 107° 57' 47.2"W as the upstream terminus and extending to the confluence with North Fork Wallace Creek at latitude 39° 21' 9.38"N and longitude 108° 1' 43.19"W as the downstream terminus, being a distance of approximately 4.78 miles. This segment can be located on the Hawxhurst Creek and Housetop Mountain U.S.G.S. quadrangles. See Exhibit A.
 - b. Termini for administrative purposes only:
 - i. Upper Terminus: NESW Section 35, Township 8 South, Range 95 West of the 6th P.M., at a point 2330 feet East of the West Section line and 2150 feet North of the South Section line. UTM North: 4356343.1 UTM East: 244551.8.
 - ii. Lower Terminus: NENE Section 19, Township 8 South, Range 95 West of the 6th P.M., 390 feet West of the East Section line and 1290 feet South of the North Section line. UTM North: 4360282.8 UTM East: 239025.3.
8. Use of the Water: Instream flow to preserve the natural environment to a reasonable degree.
9. Date of Appropriation: The water was first applied to the above beneficial use on or before January 23, 2008. The appropriation was completed on January 23, 2008 by the action of the CWCB under the provisions of C.R.S. §§ 37-92-102(3) and 37-92-103(3), (4) and (10).

10. Amount of Water Claimed: Instream flow of 1.5 cfs (April 1 – October 31), 0.6 cfs (November 1 – March 31), absolute.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

11. The foregoing Findings of Fact are incorporated herein to the extent they constitute conclusions of law.
12. The Water Court for Division 5 has jurisdiction over the subject matter of these proceedings and over all persons, owners of property and water rights that may be affected hereby, whether or not they have chosen to appear. The Application in this matter and the resume publication of the application placed such persons on notice of the relief requested by the Application and granted by this decree. C.R.S. §§ 37-92-203 and 302.
13. The CWCB has fulfilled all legal requirements for a decree for water rights including C.R.S. §§ 37-92-302, 304 and 305.
14. The CWCB has complied with all requirements, has met all standards and burdens of proof to adjudicate the water rights requested in the Application and is therefore entitled to a decree approving the requested water rights.

RULING OF REFEREE, JUDGMENT AND DECREE

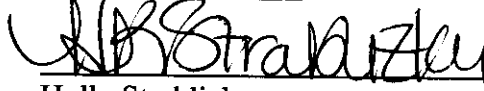
15. The foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law are hereby approved and incorporated as the Judgment and Decree of the Court by this reference.
16. The Application is granted and the Court hereby approves and decrees the absolute water rights described herein, in the amount of flow of 1.5 cfs (April 1 – October 31) and 0.6 cfs (November 1 – March 31) in order to preserve the natural environment to a reasonable degree in the reach of Wallace Creek between the upstream and downstream termini described in paragraph 7 above. The appropriation date for this water right is January 23, 2008.
17. The priority herein awarded was filed in the water court in the year of 2008 and shall be junior to all priorities filed in previous years. As between all rights filed in the same calendar year, priorities shall be determined by historical date of appropriation and not affected by the date of entry of ruling. The Applicant shall install and maintain such measuring devices and keep such records as the Division Engineer may require for administration of this right.

It is accordingly **ORDERED** that this Ruling shall be filed with the water clerk subject to judicial review.

It is further **ORDERED** that a copy of this Ruling shall be filed with the Division Engineer and the State Engineer.

Dated this 9 day of August, 2010.

BY THE REFEREE



Holly Strablitzky
Water Referee
Water Division No. 5
State of Colorado

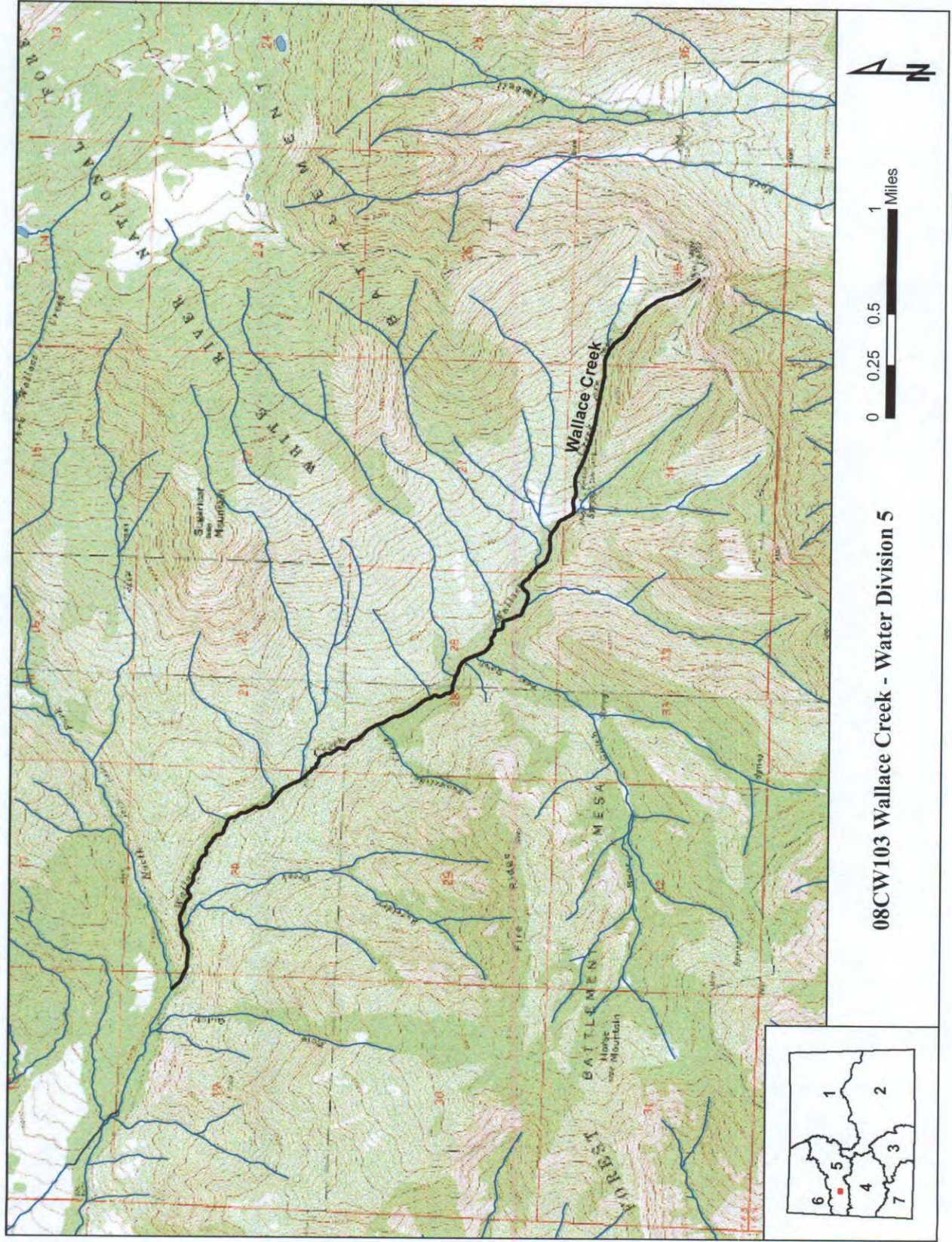
No protest was filed in this matter. The foregoing Ruling is confirmed and approved, and is made the Judgment and Decree of this Court.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2010.

BY THE COURT

James B. Boyd
Water Judge
Water Division No. 5
State of Colorado

EXHIBIT A



This document constitutes a ruling of the court and should be treated as such.

Court: CO Garfield County District Court 9th JD

Judge: Holly Kirsner Strablizky

Current Date: Oct 11, 2010

Case Number: 2008CW103

/s/ **Judge James B Boyd**