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www.rockymtnflycasters.org

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June 3, 2013

Mr. Sean Cronin, South Platte Basin Roundtable, Chairman
Mr. Mark Koleber, Metro Basin Roundtable, Chairman
Mr. Alan Hamel, Chairman of the Board
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St. Rm. 721
Denver, CO 80203

RE: SUPPORT FOR COLORADO WATER TRUST GRANT TO DECONSTRUCT JOSH AMES DIVERSION

Dear Mr. Cronin, Mr. Koleber and Mr. Hamel,

On behalf of Rocky Mountain Flycasters, I am writing to support Colorado Water Trust's Water Supply Reserve Account grant request to fund the removal of the Josh Ames check dam and diversion structure across the Poudre River in Fort Collins. This is one small part of the \$1.4 Million Poudre River restoration project being undertaken by the Colorado Water Trust and the City of Fort Collins's Natural Areas Department near the North Shields Avenue Bridge. This project will restore the aquatic habitat, riparian corridor and enhance the wetland habitat in the North Shields Ponds Natural Areas. There will also be increased parking and access trails for fishermen as part of the larger Poudre River projects being undertaken in this reach by partners in Larimer County.

Trout Unlimited's mission is to "Conserve, protect and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds". Funding of this project and the subsequent removal of this particular diversion is a first step towards restoring free passage of fish in their natural habitat and revitalizing the riparian area so critical to a healthy watershed.

This project is a major first step in the effort to restore the river through the downtown corridor in Fort Collins.

The Sterling/Josh Ames project is an appropriate use of Water Supply Reserve Account basin and statewide funds. We respectfully ask the members of the South Platte Basin Roundtable, the Metro Basin Roundtable and CWCB Board to award the full request of \$75,000 from the South Platte Basin Account, \$25,000 from the Metro Roundtable and \$200,000 from the Statewide Account to Colorado Water Trust for this project. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dick Jefferies
President, Rocky Mountain Fly Casters
Trout Unlimited



TROUT UNLIMITED'S MISSION

To conserve, protect and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

1609 Wagon Tongue Ct Fort Collins, Colorado 80521 (970) 481-2924





THE GREENWAY FOUNDATION

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May 23, 2013

Mr. Mark Koleber, Metro Roundtable Chairman

Mr. Alan Hamel, Chairman of the Board
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St. Rm. 721
Denver, CO 80203

RE: **SUPPORT FOR COLORADO WATER TRUST'S POUDRE RIVER PROJECT**

Dear Mr. Hamel and Mr. Koleber,

On behalf of the Greenway Foundation, I am writing in support of Colorado Water Trust's Water Supply Reserve Account grant requests of \$25,000 from Metro Basin fund, \$75,000 from South Platte Basin fund and \$200,000 from the Statewide Account. We appreciate the past support of the Greenway Foundation's projects in Denver by the members of the South Platte Basin Roundtable and we encourage the members of the Metro Basin Roundtable to support this important project in Fort Collins.

Like the Greenway Foundation, the Colorado Water Trust and City of Fort Collins propose to leverage WSRA funds with significant local matching funds from multiple sources for this project. This grant will be matched with \$1.1 million. Other partners are simultaneously implementing additional project elements at the site at a cost of \$7.2 Million. This is terrific leverage of State resources.

The WSRA funds will help implement an ambitious restoration of one half mile of the Poudre River including removal of the old Josh Ames check dam and diversion structure. The community of Fort Collins has many diverse interests all working together to find ways to turn replicate the sort of collaborative approach the Greenway Foundation has accomplished on the South Platte River. We applaud their efforts to work through multiple issues and address this working urban river as a whole in partnership with downtown businesses. This is the first step towards implementing the grand vision of connecting the people of Fort Collins with the Poudre River. The Greenway Foundation is confident the State of Colorado will reap the rewards of enhanced economic development that we have demonstrated follows restoration of an urban river corridor.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeff Shoemaker
Executive Director

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"A RIVER IS MORE THAN AN AMENITY, IT IS A TREASURE" - JUSTICE OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

The Greenway Foundation is supported in part by the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District
as well as a gift from the Estate of Robert V. and Billie Mae Behrent.

5299 DTC Blvd, Suite 710 • Greenwood Village CO 80111 • Tel (303) 455-7109 • Fax (303) 455-7234
www.greenwayfoundation.org



May 29, 2013

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MAY 31 2013
Colorado Water
Conservancy

Mr. Sean Cronin, South Platte Basin Roundtable, Chairman
Mr. Alan Hamel, Chairman of the Board
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St. Rm. 721
Denver, CO 80203

RE: SUPPORT FOR COLORADO WATER TRUST GRANT TO DECONSTRUCT JOSH AMES DIVERSION

Dear Mr. Cronin and Mr. Hamel:

On behalf of Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District, I am writing to support Colorado Water Trust's Water Supply Reserve Account grant request to fund a portion of the removal of the Josh Ames check dam and diversion structure across the Poudre River in Fort Collins. The removal of the Josh Ames Diversion structure is proposed as part of the \$1.4 Million Sterling Project being undertaken by the Colorado Water Trust and the City of Fort Collins' Natural Areas Department to restore one half mile of river and enhance the wetland habitat in the North Shields Ponds Natural Areas. This is part of a larger community effort to enhance the Poudre River through downtown in collaboration with many partners, including Northern Water.

We are in support of the Colorado Water Trust and City of Fort Collins' efforts to work collaboratively with diverse interests to address multiple issues and concerns of water providers throughout the South Platte watershed. This project is consistent with the non-consumptive water supply projects and methods identified by members of the South Platte Basin Roundtable. We believe this Colorado Water Trust project will restore this portion of the Cache La Poudre River in a way that contributes positively to our mutual goals in the South Platte watershed and across the state.

Sincerely,

Eric Wilkinson
General Manager

rdm
cc: CarolineBradford@wildblue.net