



January 11, 2007

Mr. Rick Brown
Interstate Water Management Development Section
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1580 Logan Street, Suite 1600
Denver, Colorado 80203

Subject: Water Supply Reserve Account 2007 Grant Application for the Strategic Plan for the Long Term Management of Non-Native Phreatophyte Trees and a Mapping Project for the Arkansas River Basin

Dear Rick:

Enclosed is a grant application from the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District for the Water Supply Reserve Account 2007 Grant Application for the Strategic Plan for the Long Term Management of Non-Native Phreatophyte Trees and a Mapping Project for the Arkansas River Basin for \$50,000. At the Arkansas Basin Roundtable's (ABRT) recent meeting, this grant application was approved with full consensus for the Statewide Competing Fund. The ABRT Needs Assessment Committee approved this on a 11-1 vote at their December 8, 2006, meeting to move this to the full Roundtable for consideration yesterday. This application has received a thorough review and full discussion by our Roundtable at a regularly scheduled and noticed meeting, with a quorum present.

In closing, if I can be of any assistance to you and your staff or the Water Conservation Board in their evaluation, please do not hesitate to contact me at: 719.584.0221 or ahamel@pueblowater.org.

Sincerely,

Alan C. Hamel, Chair

lkm

enc

c: Jay Winner
Jonathon Fox
Gary Barber
Eric Hecox



S O U T H E A S T E R N C O L O R
A D O

Water Conservancy District

"Your Investment in water"

January 11, 2007

Mr. Rick Brown
Intrastate Water Management and Development Section
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1580 Logan Street, Suite 600
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Brown,

The Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District is requesting a \$50,000 grant from the Water Supply Reserve Account to fund the development of a Strategic Plan for the Long-Term Management of Non-Native Phreatophyte Trees and for a mapping project for the Arkansas River Basin.

Non-native phreatophytes trees (Tamarisk, Russian olive and Siberian elm), have infested much of the riparian lands and are moving into the upland areas within the Arkansas River Basin. These invasive trees are causing serious impacts to our limited water resources. In addition, dense stands of the non-native trees have restricted recreational accessibility, negatively impacted wildlife habitat, and increased the risk for wildfires and flooding.

To compliment the Plan a comprehensive data base will be developed that will assist property owners and land managers in determining proper control, restoration, monitoring, and long-term maintenance methods for a particular infestation level and land situation. This data base will be available on a website and it will enable the District and agencies to track the progress of projects and evaluate the methods that are implemented.

Another extremely important element of the project is to map the entire basin to provide a clear understanding of the extent of the problem. The Tamarisk Coalition, with funding from the Colorado Water Conservation Board, the District and the Purgatoire River Water Conservancy District, recently mapped the lower portion of the main stem of the Arkansas River and several of the major tributaries. Unfortunately, the mapping project is incomplete because it does not include the upper basin from Pueblo Reservoir west to the headwaters, small reservoirs, lakes and ponds, nor the hundreds of miles of creeks, ephemeral streams, canals, ditches, and dry washes that harbor these thirsty invaders. This type of information is invaluable in determining the total acres of infestation and average density, estimate of current and future water losses, as well as the costs associated with control, revegetation and long-term management.

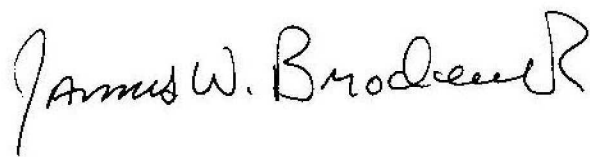
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We believe this project fits the constraints of Senate Bill 06-179 as called out in subparagraph III. The Strategic Plan development and mapping project complies with items C and D of that Act. The Plan development meets several of the SWSI objectives: Optimize existing and future water supplies, enhance recreational opportunities, and provide for environmental enhancements.

The development of the Strategic Plan would assist the Basin in implementing Governor Owens' 2003 Executive Order and the Department of Natural Resource's 2004 10-year Plan to Control Tamarisk and Restore Riparian Plant Communities in Colorado. The Strategic Plan will also assist the Basin in taking advantage of the funding source created by the recently passed Federal legislation H.R. 2720, "The Salt Cedar and Russian Olive Control Demonstration Act". In addition, it will support securing funds to implement the Plan from new and existing state and federal programs, foundations, and other sources.

CWCB has already invested time, energy, and dollars in mapping the main stem of the Arkansas and the major tributaries and reservoirs. It is clear that the long-term management of the non-native phreatophytes in Colorado is in the best interest of the Board, the State and the Arkansas Basin. Your consideration of the grant application is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James W. Broderick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent "R" at the end.

James W. Broderick
Executive Director