

## ***NORTH PLATTE BASIN ROUNDTABLE***

Wm. Kent Crowder, Chair  
P.O. Box 1019  
Walden, Colorado 80480

FAX (970) 723-4706  
(970) 723-4660

March 25, 2015

Mr. Craig Godbout, Program Manager  
Colorado Water Conservation Board  
Water Supply Planning Section  
WSRA Application  
1313 Sherman Street, Suite 718  
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Water Supply Reserve Account Grant Application for the Mallon Extension Ditch Bypass Structure - Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife Applicant - \$35,900 Basin Account WSRA Funds

Dear Mr. Godbout:

This letter is to advise you that the WSRA grant application submitted by the Colorado Division of Wildlife for \$35,900.00 in Basin Account funds for the Mallon Extension Ditch Bypass Structure (Water Control Check/Wastegate) was reviewed by the North Platte Basin Roundtable and was approved by a unanimous vote of the voting members present at the North Platte Basin Roundtable meeting held on the 24th day of March, 2015. Because there were no dissenting votes on project approval or funding, a minority report is not required.

The NPBRT has identified the development of the full allocation of irrigated acres in the North Platte Basin allowed under the equitable apportionment Supreme Court Decree and the Three States Agreement as a very high priority consumptive need. After the conclusion of irrigation, hay is typically cut on private land adjacent and down-gradient of the Mallon Extension. Prior to cutting, the ditch must be shut off in order to sufficiently dry out those fields lying below the ditch, and this typically occurs in mid-July. During this period however, water may still be available to CPW and the Double R Ranch for direct flow irrigation or for storage in the South and East Delaney Butte Lakes. In order to utilize available water, and accommodate the need to dry adjacent fields, water can be bypassed into Butte Creek as an alternate means of delivering water to the lakes. Construction of this bypass structure to deliver water to the Delaney Lakes via Butte Creek will allow CPW and private land owners to maximize their ability to fill the lakes during what is often a very short window of opportunity between the end of the irrigation season and the onset of freezing conditions in North Park, without causing any disruption to agricultural operations on adjacent private lands. This will help ensure adequate water levels in the lake for piscatorial and recreational use, as well as help secure adequate storage for irrigation for the following season.

This project will facilitate the continued use of direct flow irrigation water and the delivery of water for storage in the South and East Delaney Butte Lakes within the Delaney Butte Lakes State Wildlife Area (SWA), one of the premier public flat water fishing destinations in North Park. Both Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) and the private Double R Ranch hold water storage rights in the Delaney Lakes and cooperate jointly on the management and operation of the lakes for agricultural irrigation, piscatorial, recreational and environmental uses.

Please feel free to call me with any questions that you may have regarding the North Platte Basin Roundtable meeting or our level of support for this project.

Sincerely,



Wm. Kent Crowder, Chair  
North Platte Basin Roundtable