

***THE COLORADO BASIN ROUNDTABLE***  
***C/O P.O. BOX 1120***  
***GLENWOOD SPRINGS, COLORADO***  
***81602***

Nov. 30, 2015

**Craig Godbout**  
**Colorado Water Conservation Board**  
**Water Supply Planning Section**  
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Dear Craig:

The Colorado Basin Roundtable voted unanimously on Nov. 30, 2015 by email balloting to support the Windy Gap Reservoir Modification Project request for \$30,000 in CBRT WSRA Basin account funds. Trout Unlimited will be the fiscal agent for the Windy Gap Bypass Committee, which seeks to reconnect the Colorado River around the Windy Gap Reservoir in Grand County. The requested money will leverage \$355,500 in other secured funding. The project is a multi-basin effort that has the support of Northern Water and its Municipal Subdistrict. One of the benefits of the project is to improve the Municipal Subdistrict's conveyance of a water supply to Northern Colorado.

At the Basin level, the project advances the CBRT's Basin Implementation Plan by addressing our theme/finding of Ecosystem Health while improving recreational values. The project is designed to re-connect the Colorado River by restoring approximately one mile of the river currently inundated by the Windy Gap Dam and Reservoir by constructing a bypass channel. Aquatic habitat of the Colorado River in the vicinity of Windy Gap is suboptimal. The Gold Medal trout fishery appears to be in decline over recent years and fish passage is blocked by the dam. Water temperatures commonly exceed standards during portions of the summer. This project is listed in the BIP and is one of four priority projects for the Grand County Region.



Jim Pokrandt  
Chair, Colorado Basin Roundtable