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October 14, 2015

Colorado River Basin Roundtable
c/o Jim Pokrandt
Colorado River District
Glenwood Springs, CO

RE: Colorado Basin Roundtable Integrated Water Management Planning
Framework

Dear Roundtable

The Northwest Colorado Council of Governments Watershed Services Program fully supports the Colorado Watershed Restoration Program Grant Application to develop the informational and procedural framework for conducting comprehensive integrated water management plans in the Colorado River Basin. This information will be invaluable in the effort to complete a basin wide stream management plan as outlined in the Colorado Basin Implementation Plan. Colorado Mesa University is an excellent entity to carry out this project. You can count on our in-kind assistance on this endeavor.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this letter of support.

Sincerely,



Lane Wyatt P.E.
Watershed Services program Manager



Richard Van Gytenbeek, Colorado River Basin Outreach Coordinator, Colorado Water Project

October 14, 2015

Mr. Chris Sturm
Stream Restoration Coordinator
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Rm. 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Colorado Basin Roundtable Integrated Water Management Planning Framework Grant Application.

Dear Chris

As a member of the Colorado Basin Roundtable Stream Management Plan (CBRT-SMP) grant application committee and a representative of Trout Unlimited I would like to express support for the CBRT Integrated Water Management Planning Framework grant application being submitted to the Colorado Watershed Restoration Grant Program in the Stream Mgt. Plan category. Using the recent Grand County, Colorado river management plans as an example, the CBRT-SMP committee recognized the need to provide a common starting point for future sub-basin SMP's within the Colorado River basin.

To provide this common starting point the grant seeks to:

- 1) Provide a comprehensive basin wide reference list of studies, scientific papers and other information relevant to the environmental parameters that generally define a healthy aquatic and riparian environment. The list will be spatially displayed on a basin wide map.
- 2) Develop and describe a framework for the SMP process which is informed through stakeholder input.

The reference list is intended to provide an inventory "head-start" necessary for sub-basin SMP's. The SMP framework process will describe the fundamental goals and parameters, participants and process that sub-basins can employ to create an integrated water management plan that recognizes environmental needs and respects the rights of consumptive water users. Finally, by providing a common foundation, each sub-basin's unique and discrete water plan can be integrated into a comprehensive basin wide management plan.

TU believes this type of integrated, community driven water management plans will result in healthier rivers and increased agricultural efficiency and production in western Colorado. We hope that you will positively consider, and choose to fund this application.

Respectfully,

Richard Van Gytenbeek



MIDDLE COLORADO WATERSHED COUNCIL

P.O. Box 1136
Glenwood Springs, CO 81602
Phone: 303-204-4164

October 14, 2015

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., #178
Denver, CO 80203

Colorado Water Conservation Board Members:

The Middle Colorado Watershed Council (MCWC) is writing today in support of this application for a Colorado Watershed Restoration Program grant for stream management planning work in the Colorado River Basin. If selected, this grant request will be used to gather and synthesize existing technical information, and to support a facilitated stakeholder process that will determine how stream management plans are developed at the sub-basin level, integrated, and applied to assist with decision-making at a variety of scales.

Integrated stream management planning was identified by the Colorado Basin Roundtable as one of its top priority projects that spans the entire basin. Similarly, the MCWC Board has identified stream management planning as a project that will be highlighted in its Watershed Plan (scheduled for release in early 2016). Understanding the individual and cumulative environmentally-based flow needs of the Colorado River is key to our organization's mission to protect and enhance the health of the watershed. The foundational work described in this proposal will set the stage for organizations like the MCWC to undertake stream management planning at the sub-basin level, engaging local and regional stakeholders to participate and help shape the outcomes.

The MCWC pledges its support for this effort through providing in-kind staff time to help direct and provide input as the various tasks are executed. Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Donna Gray
President and Chair



October 14, 2015

Mr. Chris Sturm
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Colorado Basin Roundtable/Hutchins Water Center at CMU Stream Management Planning Grant application

Dear Chris,

American Rivers, one of the nations largest river conservation organizations, strongly supports this Stream Management Planning application through the Colorado Watershed Restoration Program. As you know Stream Management Planning, or Integrated Water Management Planning is a key basin wide recommendation from the Colorado Basin Roundtable's Basin Implementation Plan. It is also a key recommendation from the Colorado Water Plan.

Such water management planning can be a highly sensitive issue for a number of people. Yet such planning will be essential if we are to achieve the goals for meeting the needs of all the values identified in the Governor's Executive Order for creation of the Water Plan. To make such planning successful we agree with the Colorado Basin Roundtables approach for starting by finding out what we know and what the knowledge gaps are, engaging all stakeholders and communities and developing a framework from which such integrated water plans can be developed. We will need buy in from all stakeholders and communities and this approach will help continue a neutral conversation while laying a foundation of trust and unbiased science based information.

We hope that you and the CWCB will be able to support this grant request. Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your consideration and support

Ken Neubecker, Associate Director
American Rivers Colorado River Basin Program
Colorado Basin Roundtable Environmental Representative
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