

January 25, 2016

Mr. Craig Godbout
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St, Suite 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: WSRA Application Letter of Support—Horse Creek Restoration Project (Coalition for the Upper South Platte)

Dear Craig,

At its January meeting, the Metro Roundtable voted unanimously to support a request from the Coalition for the Upper South Platte (CUSP) for the Horse Creek Restoration Project, with 1) a commitment from the Metro WSRA fund of \$50,000.00 (with that amount being equally matched by the South Platte Roundtable) and 2) full support and endorsement for CUSP's request to the Statewide WSRA for \$650,000.00. These funds will be matched by other funding sources exceeding \$1.1 million.

The Roundtable sees this project as meeting multiple criteria under our own WSRA Guidance and the priorities identified in the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan, including: 1) meeting environmental and recreational needs, including improving habitat for T&E species (in this case, the Prebles Meadow Jumping Mouse and the Pawnee Montane Skipper) and 2) by helping meet water-supply needs by significantly ameliorating the loss of storage capacity in Strontia Springs Reservoir from sediment depletion, thus providing indirect yield for the basin.

The Roundtable believes that this project fully meets the threshold criteria for the WSRA program. It is consistent with 37-75-102 Colorado Revised Statutes; it is supported by two Roundtables; and it exceeds the matching requirements. We also believe that it meets the criteria under all three tiers of the evaluation criteria: It is highly collaborative as CUSP is working with Denver Water, Aurora Water, the USFS, and Douglas County to name just a few, (and has supplied support letters from these entities); it is highly matched; and it addresses other issues of statewide value.

If you, or the Board, have any questions for me, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Barbara Biggs', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Barbara Biggs
Chair, Metro Roundtable