



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Steamboat Springs Service Center
925 Weiss Dr.

Steamboat Springs, CO 80487
P 970-870-2197 | F 970-871-2853

January 2, 2016

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

**RE: Colorado Water Conservation Board - Water Supply Reserve Account Application
Crosho Lake and Reservoir - Simon #1 Dam Outlet Replacement**

Dear Mr. Godbout:

I am writing this letter to show our support for Crosho Lake Corporation's efforts to replace the outlet works at Crosho Lake Reservoir, known as Simon #1 Dam. It is our understanding that the current deteriorated state of the outlets works presents a legitimate dam safety concern; subsequently, we recognize the Corporation's need to address this issue as quickly as possible.

Due to the fact that Crosho Lake Reservoir supports a valuable grayling and Colorado River cutthroat trout fishery, it is necessary from our perspective that this project be completed in a manner that protects this popular fishery. In recognition of the importance of this fishery, it is our understanding that Crosho Lake Corporation has agreed to provide local Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) staff with reasonably adequate time to review and comment on the project design plans and specifications as well as the construction timeline in order to ensure that appropriate measures, if needed, are taken to avoid any negative impacts to the existing fishery at Crosho Lake Reservoir.

In addition, it is our understanding that Crosho Lake Corporation has also agreed to support the efforts of CPW, the US Forest Service (USFS), and the Colorado Division of Water Resources (DWR) to review the existing erosion concerns around the gabion baskets located where the inlet channel enters the reservoir, and to determine the extent of assistance which Crosho Lake Corporation may be able to provide in repairing these structures. Although the erosion issue involving the gabion baskets is not specifically related to the intent of this application, Crosho Lake Corporation is aware that there is a mutual interest between the CPW, USFS, DWR, and Crosho Lake Corporation to keep fish out of the irrigation ditches. This project provides an opportunity for additional collaboration while work is underway at Crosho Lake.

Bob D. Broscheld, Director, Colorado Parks and Wildlife • Parks and Wildlife Commission: Robert W. Bray • Chris Castilian, Chair • Jeanne Horne, Vice-Chair
John Howard • Bill Kane • Dale Pizet • James Pribyl, Secretary • James Vigil • Dean Wingfield • Michelle Zimmerman • Alex Zipp

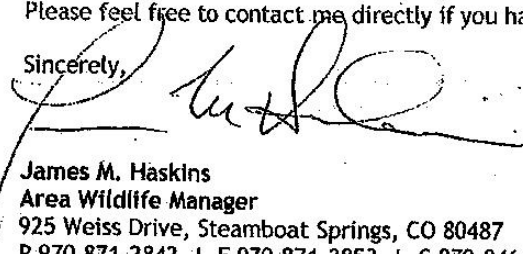


Lastly, Crosho Lake and the immediate area within the surrounding reservoir watershed provide significant hunting-related recreational opportunities. Big game hunting for elk, mule deer, and black bear, as well as small game hunting for dusky grouse are all extremely popular activities in this area during the fall. The vast majority of the hunting-related activity in this area is concentrated between the middle of August through the end of October. Crosho Lake Corporation understands CPW's concerns about potential impacts to hunters, given the proposed fall schedule for construction. Subsequently, it is our understanding that Crosho Lake Corporation has agreed to make every reasonable effort to work directly with the USFS and local CPW staff to minimize and when possible, eliminate any safety or other use concerns to hunters and the general public.

As always, CPW staff appreciates being afforded the opportunity to advise on projects that may impact wildlife and/or wildlife-related activities, and we look forward to continued collaboration with Crosho Lake Corporation on this project.

Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



James M. Haskins

Area Wildlife Manager

925 Weiss Drive, Steamboat Springs, CO 80487

P 970.871.2842 | F 970.871.2853 | C 970.846.4233

jim.haskins@state.co.us | www.cpw.state.co.us

CC: Velarde, Haskins, Miller, Atkinson



Town of Yampa
56 Lincoln Street
P.O. Box 224
Yampa, CO 80483
970-638-4511
Fax 970-638-1085

January 7, 2016

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

Dear Mr. Godbout:

The Board of Trustees of the Town of Yampa is writing to support the Water Supply Reserve Account request for funding from Crosho Lake Corporation to replace the outlet works at Crosho Lake Reservoir.

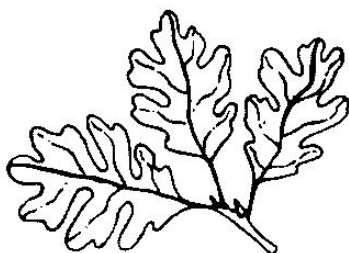
First and foremost, Crosho is a very popular fishing destination for many of Yampa's residents. They want the reservoir to continue to offer the excellent fishing opportunities it does now, for many years to come.

In addition, Yampa is a member of the Northwest Colorado Cultural Heritage Program (NWCCHP) and South Routt Economic Development Council (SREDC). Both NWCCHP and SREDC are working hard to maintain and increase the number of visitors to our area to help in the economic recovery of our region.

Crosho is a significant recreational draw for all fishing enthusiasts, both locals and visitors; therefore, your consideration of helping fund the needed outlet work will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Yackey
Mayor



TOWN OF OAK CREEK

P.O. Box 128 • Oak Creek, Colorado 80467 • (970) 736-2422

January 5, 2016

Craig Godbout, Program Manager
Colorado Water Conservation Board
Water Supply Planning Section
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Godbout:

On behalf of the Town of Oak Creek, we are writing to support the Crosho Lake Corporation's request for funding from the Water Supply Reserve Account to replace the outlet works at Crosho Lake Reservoir.

Crosho Lake provides an abundance of year round recreation opportunities, and is a rare Arctic grayling fishery. Crosho Lake also provides water resources for our South Routt County agricultural endeavors. Maintaining the viability of the lake and the recreational and agricultural resources it affords with the proposed repairs to the dam is a critical component of preserving significant facets of our local cultural and economic community.

Thank you for the opportunity for us to voice our support for this project.

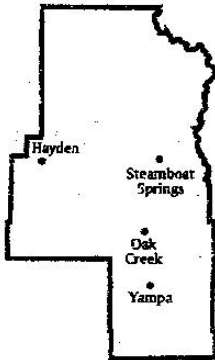
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nikki Knoebel".

Nikki Knoebel
Mayor

NK:map

xc:file



ROUTT COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Box 773598 • Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80477

Phone: 970-879-0108 • Fax: 970-879-3992

January 12, 2016

Timothy V. Corrigan
District 1

Douglas B. Monger
District 2

Carl Hermacinski
District 3

Thomas A. Sullivan
County Manager

Craig Godbout
Program Manager
Colorado Water Conservation Board
Water Supply Planning Section
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Godbout,

On behalf of Routt County, we are writing in support of Crosho Lake Corporation's Water Supply Reserve Account funding request to replace the outlet works at Crosho Lake Reservoir. This project includes a multitude of partnerships of Colorado Parks and Wildlife, the Forest Service, and local ranchers. It provides many benefits including rehabilitating a historical water storage structure with pre-compact water rights, wetlands rejuvenation, dam safety improvements, continued late season return flows on irrigation water to the Yampa River, historic fishery of native trout and Grayling Salmon (a fresh water salmon that is only located in two spots in Colorado), and improvements to a highly visited area by locals and destination visitors.

We encourage your strongest funding support for the Crosho Lake Corporation's request.

Best Regards,

ROUTT COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cari", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cari Hermacinski, Chair



Oak Tree Inn
Penny's Diner
PO Box 267
98 Moffat Avenue
Yampa, CO 80483
(970) 638-1000 / Fax (970) 638-9702



January 12, 2016

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

Dear Mr. Godbout:

This is to express our support for Crosho Lake Corporation's request for funding from the Water Supply Reserve Account to replace the outlet works at Crosho Lake Reservoir.

The hospitality business is a primary economic driver for many businesses and service providers in this part of Colorado. People come here to have fun, to relax, to explore the outdoors, and to enjoy the many natural treasures of these high-country communities. We understand that this reservoir, which provides irrigation for many ranching families, is about 100 years old, and that some worn out parts of the dam need to be replaced.

Our combined businesses in Yampa provide affordable and comfortable lodging at Oak Tree Inn, and a 24-hour restaurant at Penny's Diner. Especially in summer time, our customers come here to stay overnight and to eat, sometimes at both ends of their trip.

What draws people to this area are the excellent opportunities for hiking, fishing, camping, and enjoying the beautiful forest environment and wildlife at Crosho Lake. Our businesses are always especially busy during hunting season, so of course we don't want anything to reduce that flow of visitors.

Please know that our business community is in favor of this project. We ask that you grant the funding that is needed to protect this valuable resource. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Onika Mayer, General Manager
Oak Tree inn & Penny's Diner
TR Lodging Enterprises

January 12, 2016

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

Dear Mr. Godbout:

We as a team here at Kum & Go, are writing to support the Water Supply Reserve Account request for funding from Crosho Lake Corporation to replace the outlet works at the Crosho Lake Reservoir.

We feel as a team that it is important to fix the dam, due to the amount of business we see throughout the summer as well into our hunting seasons up here. Not only the business side of it, but many of us with our families' camp, fish, hike and just love going for the scenery. We feel that is the main reason for their never being an open spot to camp, during the 4th of July. During our hunting season's our hunters when they fill their tags for that season. They will come and grab some food, something to drink and some worms to go fish. Seeing how most of the tourist enjoy many of the same things that we do, we feel that it is very important to fix the dam. A lot of customers like to come in and talk about the tree's that have carvings in them, as well as tell us about their trips and how much they enjoyed coming up to this area. They really love the fishing in that lake as well, they will come in multiple times a day to buy worms, ice, snacks, as well as fuel. They always leave happy and wanting to come back. Crosho Lake is a big part of this community and all of the families as well as the people who just come to visit. It benefits our community as well as our businesses in this area.

Sincerely,

Ellicia Fuller
Hay Fuller
Patricia Shea

MONTGOMERY'S General Merchandise

224 MAIN STREET

P.O. BOX 202

YAMPA, CO 80483

BUSINESS 638-4531

January 12, 2016

Mr. Craig Godbout

Program Manager

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Supply Planning Section

1313 Sherman Street, Room 718

Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Godbout:

As it is important to understand what came before in order to make well-grounded decisions in the future, we fear that all the hard work, perseverance, and dedication that built these communities are becoming lost to our children and grandchildren. As owners and operators of one of the oldest general mercantiles in Colorado, we feel that saving and restoring the dam at Crosho Reservoir should be considered a high priority. Water is a very valuable resource and a dam would ensure that we maintain our heritage in our ranching valley. It would bring in more visitors which would benefit the business of the Yampa valley. Much work has been done by these project leaders already that demonstrate their vision and commitment to this project. We whole-heartedly support their efforts and hope for a successful conclusion for their efforts.

Respectfully submitted,



Ken and Cindia Montgomery

Montgomery's General Merchandise