

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

June 1, 2016

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

The Colorado Basin Roundtable voted unanimously at its May 23, 2016, meeting to support the Trout Unlimited-Ware Hinds Ditch WSRA grant request. The grant requests \$31,750.00 from CBRT basin funds and a 50% match (\$31,750.00) from state funds.

This project is supported by the Healthy Streams finding of our Basin Implementation Plan. It also brings the environmental community together with agriculturists to work on a project to create a fish passage on Main Elk Creek that should provide additional recreational benefits to anglers in the Colorado River as reproductive migration is improved. Further, it is anticipated that the project will help fish species identified in the "Range-Wide Conservation Agreement and Strategy for Roundtail Chub, Bluehead Sucker and Flannelmouth Sucker", a multi-state (CO, WY, UT, AZ, NM) strategy to prevent ESA listing for these species. The fish bypass channel could be a model for future projects where irrigation dams on tributaries are modified to allow fish migration.

The Roundtable had discussed whether greater benefits to the water users could be incorporated into the project, but the Ditch Board of Directors is clearly comfortable at this point with a more limited project. At that, it will help to build trust, and as indicated, be a model for other similar work.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Pokrandt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jim Pokrandt  
Chair, Colorado Basin Roundtable