

# Northstar Horse Rescue Inc



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Ref # POGC1-2017-876

Final Report, Little Blanco Highline Ditch, as regards grant funding from Colorado Conservation Water Board (CWCB) in the amount of \$7500.00:

On May 17, 2019, The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) came and blew out a large highway culvert under Route 84. This portion of the project was not paid for through the grant, but it took CDOT two years to get to the job, and the rest of the job could not proceed until this portion was completed. Lizzie Dickerson arrived to see work progress and discovered that the workers were blowing out the culvert in the wrong direction. They had stopped and were having a conversation about whether to turn around and go the other way or not. Upon verification of which direction the water flows, the job was finally completed.

Next, on July 2, work commenced on a 60 foot long suspended culvert that is on the east side of Route 84, and carries water into the highway culvert and underneath 84. Steve Tothe of Pagosa Environmental employed almost 11,000 gallons of water to blast out the culvert, and Bruce Jones of Bruce Jones Construction dug a 20 foot long, ten foot deep ditch to contain the sediment and blasting water coming out of the culvert. While Steve continued to work on the culvert, with Scott Condrey, one of the water rights holders and member of the newly-forming ditch company helping, Bruce began digging out the ditch itself throughout the course of the week of July 2, 2018.

When the grant was submitted by Lizzie Dickerson, a member of the ditch company and director of Northstar Horse Rescue, it was stated that the total project would cost \$13,000-\$15,000. The amount that the CWCB grant did fund was \$7,500. Therefore, Lizzie revamped the project into phases. At this time, Phase One is complete.

## Phase I:

Blowing out and repairing the 60 foot long suspended culvert. The bill from Pagosa Environmental to blow out was for \$4525.00.

Scott Condrey provided chainsaw work to clear away trees and brush, and will continue to work on the culvert to repair a broken trestle.

Bruce Jones digs the ditch to a crossing just before having to go behind residential homes, and then re-cross the road to get to Northstar Horse Rescue. The reason to stop here is that more chainsaw work and work with homeowners to move fences and structures built on and around ditch needs to be completed before digging through.

*Northstar Horse Rescue's mission is to prevent cruelty to horses, to educate the public on equine issues, and to assist or facilitate in equine rescue efforts.*



Lizzie continues to pay liability insurance with the State of Colorado as a named insured for \$500 a year.

Lizzie and the Condreys pay Bruce Jones cash for the remainder he is owed besides what the grant will cover.

The management of the ditch passes to the Little Blanco Highline Ditch Company, and Lizzie works to incorporate the ditch company as a separate mutual ditch company, separate of Northstar Horse Rescue. The officers of the ditch company will be Lizzie Dickerson, Scott Condrey, and Debbie Condrey.

Phase II, not paid for by the grant, will include clearing the way for more digging behind homes, and continuing the dig down the ditch. Phase II is projected to cost between \$5,000-\$8,000, which will be paid for by water rights holders.

Phase I is now completed.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Dickerson

Executive Director, Northstar Horse Rescue Inc