



January 6th, 2020

Attn: Chris Sturm
Colorado Water
Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Rm. 721
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Fish Creek Critical Community Wildfire Watershed Protection Plan (CWP)2 – Final Report

Dear Mr. Sturm,

The City of Steamboat Springs (City) and the Mount Werner Water and Sanitation District (District) have long been aware of the threats that wildfire poses to the Steamboat Springs community's water supply. Therefore, it is with gratitude to the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) for its funding support that the City and the District are pleased to provide you with the attached Fish Creek (CWP)² Final Report.

The Fish Creek (CWP)² was developed through an open and collaborative process to define and prioritize site specific measures to implement within the water supply system and the watershed as a whole before, during, and after a wildfire event. The attached Executive Summary and Final Report elaborate on the scope, methods, findings, and recommendations of the Fish Creek (CWP)².

The only real obstacle encountered during the project was the shut-down of the United States Government in early 2019. The majority of the Fish Creek Basin sits on US Forest Service land and several of the Core Team members were federal employees, so the consultant team had to adjust the project schedule. The project continued smoothly despite the temporary shut-down, thanks to the hard work of the Project Team.

The City Council of Steamboat Springs and the Mount Werner Water Board both adopted the Fish Creek (CWP)² by resolution and the plan has been well received by local and statewide stakeholders, including CDPHE's Source Water Protection Program staff, as a model plan for utilities facing similar risks to their drinking water supplies. City and District staff have already started working with partners to implement the strategies outlined in the plan and both entities plan to work cooperatively on building capacity and raising funds to support the recommended projects.

Documentation confirming that the consultant's invoices were paid and that all matching requirements were met is attached. The City has archived all geodatabase and modeling

files and meeting materials. Please advise if CWCB requires access to these files and the City will make them available.

The City and the District are now able to better adapt its water supplies to the impacts of wildland fire thanks to the generous support of the CWCB and we look forward to working with you as we move into implementation.

With Gratitude,



Kelly Romero-Heaney
City of Steamboat Springs
kheaney@steamboatsprings.net;



Frank Alfone
Mount Werner Water & Sanitation
District
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Attachments:

Fish Creek Critical Community Wildfire Watershed Protection Plan – Final Report
Fish Creek CCWWPP Activity Ledger Detail