



Jesse Kruthaupt
Upper Gunnison Project Manager

December 12, 2020

Chris Sturm
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St, Rm. 712
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Final Report Ocate Properties Channel and Irrigation Improvement Project

Dear Mr. Sturm,

Trout Unlimited, the National Resource Conservation Service, Partners for Fish and Wildlife and Mike Schaefer would like to thank the Colorado Water Conservation board for their support of the Ocate Properties Channel and Irrigation Improvement Project. The irrigation pipe, headgate and riparian fence tasks included in this project have been completed. Project partners plan to complete the stream channel structures in the fall of 2021. The following report summaries each of these tasks.

Task 1: Irrigation Pipe

K.R. Welding and Fabricating was contracted to fabricate and install seven hundred and fifty feet of irrigation pipe, a new headgate, flow measuring device, settling structure and sluice gate. This infrastructure was designed by NRCS and installed the first week of September 2020. Photos 1-3 below show the headgate, flow measuring device and settling box, and buried irrigation pipe.



Figure 1: Headgate



Figure 2: Measuring device and settling structure



Figure 3: Buried Pipe

Task 2: Channel Stabilization Structures

NRCS engineers are working to complete the design for proposed channel stabilization structures. Design should be completed by the spring of 2021 and construction is planned for fall 2021.

Task 3: Riparian Fence

Grizzly Fence and Stone was hired to construct the riparian fence and this work was completed in May 2020. The owner opted to install a permanent 4 strand fence rather than temporary fence originally considered. Total cost of the riparian fence was \$54,519.

Grazing occurred within the riparian enclosure during the 2020 growing season. This area will be rested during 2021. Vegetation monitoring and channel cross section measurements are planned for the spring and fall of 2021 and 2022. The following photos show existing condition at vegetation monitoring sites. Figure 4 shows location of three monitoring sites on the stream reach.



The following two aerial images below were taken from the northern gate on the property looking upstream and downstream to capture the entirety of stream reach within the new riparian fence. The red lines indicate monitoring sites.




Figure 4: Looking south, stream reach and monitoring sites in red.



Figure 5: Stream reach looking north.

Financial support from the Colorado Water Conservation Board made this project possible and has led to several additional water resource improvement conversations with landowners on Cebolla Creek. TU is grateful to have the CWCB's involvement in this project and excited to continue work in this watershed. I would be happy to discuss any questions or schedule a site visit during the summer of 2021.

Sincerely,



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