

STATE OF COLORADO

Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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*For Wildlife-
For People*

April 25, 2008

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street - Room 721
Denver, CO 80203
Attn: Colorado Watershed Protection Fund

RE: Fountain Creek Restoration – Shryver Park Reach Including Shryver Pond

Colorado Watershed Protection Fund Administrator:

The Colorado Division of Wildlife wishes to state its strong support for the above mentioned CWPF Grant application for the revitalization of Fountain Creek and the Shryver Park Pond. The CDOW has been actively working with the Fountain Creek Restoration Committee on its project to restore these important aquatic resources, and we have been impressed with the diversity, enthusiasm, dedication, and expertise of this grass roots organization and their well executed planning and coordination.

This well-designed project will improve trout habitat within Fountain Creek at Shryver Park in Manitou Springs, and provide stream fishing in the center of this popular area. Fountain Creek currently lacks fish habitat in the form of deeper, permanent pools and the streambanks are vulnerable to flood erosion. Although the area attracts anglers, the limited amount of fish habitat does not support good fishing. This project will rejuvenate the stream through the park by stabilizing streambanks, construction of in-stream habitat, removal of excess sediment and placement of angler access trails. Those elements will allow for the development of an improved fish population capable of supporting and enhancing fishing recreation.

In addition, Shryver Park Pond has been used in the past as a resource for conducting kid's fishing education clinics in conjunction with the City of Manitou Springs, Trout Unlimited and other community groups. Although the pond is situated in an attractive area next to Fountain Creek, the aquatic habitat and water quality very much limits its desirability as a fishery. Reconstruction of its inlet structure and pond excavation will allow for increased water exchange, much improved water quality and enhanced fish habitat. With such enhancements the pond will provide increased capabilities to maintain a viable fishery. Trout stocking and angling participation will show dramatic improvement and help the DOW in its mission to provide increased fishing recreation days in an urban setting.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, Harris D. Sherman, Executive Director
WILDLIFE COMMISSION, Tom Burke, Chair • Claire O'Neal, Vice Chair • Robert Bray, Secretary
Members, Dennis Buechler • Brad Coors • Jeffrey Crawford • Tim Glenn • Roy McAnally • Richard Ray
Ex Officio Members, Harris Sherman and John Stulp

The Fountain Creek Restoration Committee has organized a well orchestrated project throughout the Fountain Creek watershed within the City of Manitou Springs, with participation by several local governmental, civic and environmental agencies and groups. The Colorado Division of Wildlife is proud to be included with this effort and has approved of and assisted in the funding of their important goals. We ask that their grant application to the Colorado Watershed Protection Fund receive your full consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Douglas Krieger".

Douglas Krieger
Senior Aquatic Biologist