



West Denver Trout Unlimited



Miles D. Williams Ph.D.

Director; Clear Creek Initiative

Sept. 9, 2009

Mr. Russell Cox, Res. Engineer
Region 1, Foothills Residency
Colorado Dept. of Transportation
425 A Corporate Circle
Golden CO 80401

Dear Mr. Cox:

I am writing to add my unequivocal support for the River, Roads and Recovery project proposed for the vicinity of the nexus of Hwy. 40, Hwy 6, and Hwy 119.

As a member of the Board of the Clear Creek Watershed Foundation, and director of Clear Creek projects of West Denver Trout Unlimited, I am more than a little familiar with the problems at which the proposed application activities are directed.

With the increase in gas prices, and deterioration of the economy, we have seen a vast increase in recreational utilization of the corridors in that area because of proximity and access. Some points along Clear Creek have experienced a documented 10-fold increase in fisher use, for example, as folks are forced to look closer to home for water-oriented recreation.

We have a real quandary here. The traffic in that vicinity has far outstripped the capacity of the roads, pull-outs and related infrastructure needed to accommodate it. The proposed remedies would help to a remarkable extent to mitigate the worst of those.

Work on the remaining instances of nagging, poisonous waste draining into the north fork from the old mining sites would certainly be a blessing too, especially since we anticipate developing yet another stream habitat improvement project on the main stem just downstream of the confluence of the North Fork.

Sincerely,

Miles D. Williams, Ph.D.
Director, Clear Creek Initiatives
West Denver Trout Unlimited