

Chaffee County Board of Commissioners
c/o Patti Baldwin

RECEIVED
02-28-19

Dear Commissioners;

The current permit held by Nestle Waters North America (NWNA) to extract spring water at the old Hagen Fish Hatchery site (Ruby Mountain) is up for renewal. I was involved in the original permitting process through Collegiate Peaks Chapter of Trout Unlimited, but am not currently on their board. I recently walked the property with Bruce Lauerman from NWNA and Keith Krebs from our chapter. We were pleased to hear that monitoring data from multiple wells indicated there has been no negative impact to the water supply from the springs to the river and that the annual consumption of spring water is 40% less than the amount allowed under the permit.

I am in agreement with the letter you have or will get from Collegiate Peaks Chapter and I see only positive outcomes with the lot line adjustment with the Jacobsens including providing more river access and opportunities for enhanced wildlife habitat.

The proposed NWNA conservation easement would preserve open space, maintain wildlife habitat and movement corridors and provide wildlife (Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep) viewing opportunities at the north entrance to Browns Canyon National Monument. I have personally seen sheep on their property several times. The lot line adjustment improves and does not diminish the conservation easement. CPC-TU is in strong support of creating the conservation easement.

The recommendations stated in the CPC-TU letter are realistic and would bring added value to this area. Please renew the permit with those stipulations.

Sincerely,

Karen Dils