

STATE OF COLORADO

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

November 7, 2017

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Colonel John L. Hudson
Commander and District Engineer, Omaha District
1616 Capital Ave, Ste. 9000
Omaha, NE 68102

RE: Northern Integrated Supply Project, *Fish and Wildlife Mitigation and Enhancement Plan*

Dear Colonel Hudson:

Enclosed is the Fish and Wildlife Mitigation and Enhancement Plan for the Northern Integrated Supply Project, recommended by the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission and the Colorado Water Conservation Board as the State of Colorado position with regard to mitigation of impacts from this project to these resources.

Under Colorado law (Section 37-60-122.2, C.R.S.), an applicant for any water diversion, delivery, or storage facility, which requires an application for a permit, license, or other approval from the United States must inform the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission and the Colorado Water Conservation Board of its application and submit a fish and wildlife mitigation proposal. Once there is agreement on reasonable mitigation actions between the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission and the Colorado Water Conservation Board, that agreement becomes the state position on mitigation of impacts to fish and wildlife resources. This state position must then be communicated to each federal, state, or other governmental agency from which the project applicant must obtain a permit, license, or other approval for consideration in these decision-making processes.

This letter is to inform you that the State of Colorado has adopted the enclosed Fish and Wildlife Mitigation and Enhancement Plan for the Northern Integrated Supply Project. This mitigation plan fulfills one of two state processes that must be completed related to water supply projects. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment must also complete the Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification process. I believe that this mitigation plan maintains a balance between the development of the state's water resources and the protection of the state's fish and wildlife resources. I urge its consideration in the Federal permitting process.

Sincerely,

John Hickenlooper
Governor

Enclosed: Northern Integrated Supply Project Fish and Wildlife Mitigation and Enhancement Plan

CC: John Urbanic, NISP EIS Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District