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MAR 26 2003
WATER RIGHTS
SALT LAKE

RED CEDAR CORPORATION
STAR ROUTE 705
TROUT CREEK, UTAH
435-693-3143 84083

Ms. Sally Wisely
Utah State Director
Bureau of Land Management
324 South State Street, 3rd Floor
Salt Lake City, Utah 84145-0155

Dear Ms. Wisely:

I received a copy of the letter to you from Reed Harris, Recovery Programs Director (March 14, 2003). He represents the lead agency for administration of the Bonneville Cutthroat Trout Conservation, etc.

I am sure Mr. Harris is acting in what he thinks is what is best for the Bonneville Cutthroat Trout. However, his statements and requests from the BLM would indicate he is approaching this from a rather one-sided point of view.

Red Cedar Corporation is one of three water users presently on the Granite Creek system. It is true that we decided to terminate an ongoing agreement with Mr. Douglass to provide 20-gallons per minute of water, which had been directly diverted into Mr. Douglass' irrigation pipeline. We, however, did not terminate the lease in order to jeopardize several thousands of dollars worth of federal and state cooperative investment to establish fish ponds. We terminated the lease in order to preserve several thousands of dollars worth of money invested in ponds and spawning facilities for the Bonneville Cutthroat trout on **our** property.

Red Cedar Corporation had been working with Charles Thompson, with the DWR, for several years in establishing facilities for raising Bonneville Cutthroat Trout in a reservoir on our property. Charles Thompson has since retired and we are now still striving to work with Don Wiley, with the DWR, on the same project.

We also rely on a small amount of water (the water that passes through our fish pond) for stock watering and dairy operations through the Non-irrigation season.

Last year, the flow of water from Granite Creek slowed to less than 20 gallons per minute available in the whole creek. Red Cedar Creek, the other water source to our ranch, completely stopped flowing for about a month. Because of the lease we had with Mr. Douglass, we had no water at all going to our fish, nor to our Ranch, for over 3-weeks. We were very lucky we did not lose all of our fish. We also had to haul water for stock watering and dairy operations during that time. Contrary to the many letters from Mr. Douglass and the various environmental groups, we generally divert less water than we are legally entitled to.

We have received no monetary value at all from the lease of the above mentioned water.

Most of the year, Mr. Douglass could use the water, available under his own irrigation and stock watering water rights, to maintain his fish. Mr. Douglass would only need the additional 20 gallons per minute lease water, or BLM requested water, when there was insufficient water to satisfy all water users. During most normal water years, there would be sufficient water to satisfy the needs of water for both fish ponds.

There have been several bad drought years in a row here in the Deep Creek Mountain range. It appears this year will be as bad as last. If the BLM obtains a change of diversion point and change of place of use for its water, you will have created the same problem I was trying to resolve by ending the water lease with Mr. Douglass. By your acts, you will have decided to kill the Bonneville Cutthroat Trout in our pond in order to save the Bonneville Cutthroat Trout in Mr. Douglass' pond. Furthermore, you will have created another hardship on the dairy and farming operations of Granite Ranch.

If you decide to proceed with the above mentioned change application, I would like you to also consider making a similar change application to preserve the Bonneville Cutthroat Trout on our property.

Sincerely,

Date: 3-22-03


Glen A. Allred

Cc: Reed Harris
Utah Division of Water Rights