

## State of Utah

## **DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

JOEL FERRY
Executive Director

**Division of Water Rights** 

TERESA WILHELMSEN State Engineer/Division Director

July 18, 2024

Granite Construction Quinten G. Bingham 1000 Warm Springs Road Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Re: Stream Alteration Application No. 24-57-15SA to install a new culvert on Smith Creek, Salt Lake County.

## Mr. Bingham:

Stream Alteration Application No. 24-57-15SA in the name of Granite Construction was received by the Division of Water Rights (Division) on May 14, 2024. The application was processed as per normal protocols with an open comment period ending on June 3, 2024. Upon review of the application and comments received, this office is unable to approve the application at this time for the following reasons:

- The application does not show details for the inlet and outlet of the proposed culvert installation. If wing walls, inlet/outlet aprons, or other structures are proposed for the culvert installation, please provide details for these. If not, please provide justification for their absence.
- Supporting documentation included with the application indicates the possible extension
  of an existing culvert as part of the proposed project. However, it is unclear if connection
  to the existing culvert will occur as part of this project or as part of another project.
  Please provide clarification on the culvert connection and extension as it relates to this
  project.
- To account for potential increased stream velocities resulting from the proposed culvert installation, please provide a profile of the proposed culvert in relation to the channel along with a hydraulic analysis indicating that flow velocities are not appreciably changed or, if they are, how the increased velocities will be mitigated.
- The stated purpose of the project is to provide better access across UDOT property but it is unclear in the application why the current access across the property is insufficient. In order for the Division to determine if the proposed alteration to the natural stream environment is unreasonable or unnecessary, a more detailed project justification is required.
- It is the Division's understanding that local land use permits for any project that would generate the need for a new culvert crossing at this location have not been issued making the project appear unnecessary. If this is in error, please provide copies of relevant land use permits to the Division.

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• It is the Division's understanding that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) will require separate permitting under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for the proposed project. Recognizing project parameters may change as a result of COE requirements, issuance of a decision now may only result in the need to re-evaluate the project and reissue a decision. Therefore, issuance of our decision will be deferred until the requirements of the COE for the subject stream alteration are satisfied.

At this time Stream Alteration Application No. 24-57-15SA will remain in an unapproved status until the above noted items have been addressed and results found acceptable to this office. If you have any questions, please contact Chuck Williamson at 801-538-7404 or <a href="mailto:charleswilliamson@utah.gov">charleswilliamson@utah.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Everett W. Taylor, P.E. Assistant State Engineer

EWT/tg

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