



UPPER CLEAR CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 3058
Idaho Springs, CO 80452

November 16, 2023

Chris Sturm
Watershed Program Director
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Support for the Clear Creek Watershed & Forest Health Partnership Wildfire Ready Watersheds Grant Application

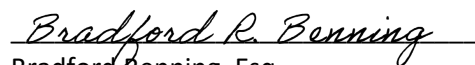
Dear Mr. Sturm,

This letter is to confirm the Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association (UCCWA) support of the proposed Wildfire Ready Watersheds grant project, “Bakerville Sediment and Flood Risk Reduction Feasibility Analysis”. The Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association (UCCWA) is designated under Section 208 of the Clean Water Act as the management agency responsible for reviewing proposed actions that may impact water quality in the watershed. Our membership includes municipalities, counties, dischargers, and related entities located in the upper Clear Creek watershed, primarily in Clear Creek and Gilpin counties.

UCCWA is actively pursuing pre-fire planning for risk mitigation and post fire recovery in the Clear Creek Watershed and is deeply interested in any efforts to reduce wildfire risk and post-fire impacts. We are highly aware of the potential impact wildfires can have for flooding, critical water infrastructure damage, and water quality impairments down stream of burn areas.

UCCWA is committed to developing and supporting projects that will protect the water quality in Clear Creek and particularly committed to projects that increase the Clear Creek watershed’s resiliency to wildfire. The “Bakerville Sediment and Flood Risk Reduction Feasibility Analysis” project is in one of the most at-risk sub-basins identified the 2021 Upper Clear Creek Pre-Wildfire Planning study. This project will review low-tech, processed based restoration methods to increase floodplain connectivity and prepare this drainage to recover more quickly from post-fire debris flows and water quality degradation, and to protect critical drinking water infrastructure downstream.

Sincerely,



Bradford Benning, Esq.
UCCWA, CHair