

CONVERSATION MEMORANDUM

(Telephone)

Rocky Trail

From: J. Westra *JW*

Date: 1/22/04

RE: Trail Diversion 61-4123 measurement-upstream weir

I called Mr. Trail to discuss the measurement device issue at the Trail Diversion Dam on Little Canyon Creek. Mr. Trail stated, that he was not quite sure of the upstream weir location because of the willow and brush growth. I did recall walking with his father years ago to look at the weir, but can not recall the location. The weirs located on the creek downstream of the dam and diversion canal are functional and utilized.

Mr. Trail indicated, that when the watermaster receives a call from a senior creek natural flow right he adjusts the spillway boards and gate for creek delivery, and then balances the flow back through the Trail diversion gate. When creek demand meets natural flow, the Trail diversion is turned off.. The Watermaster continues to utilize the diversion reservoir to buffer creek flow spikes, and adjusts the spillway gate to manage an even creek flow throughout the season. Creek water losses are minimized. The original Trail storage right has been split, giving the BLM 73 ac-ft for recreation storage. The reservoir level is kept generally at the spillway sill level, and stocked fish are not lost thru the outlet pipe. Unfortunately by doing this, the reservoir water losses to evaporation are bore by the waterusers. However in the long term, the waterusers should be able to offset this loss and even benefit by this creek flow management.

Under this setup, measuring the creek flow upstream of the reservoir would be of little value. If in the future the water district management of the diversion is changed or complaints filed, an upstream reservoir weir may have to be install for water measurement. Mr. Trail agreed.

BLM WR—#61-4123D & F—Recreation Storage
Trail/Crane WR—#61-4123C & E—Irrigation Storage