



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SACRAMENTO DISTRICT
1325 J STREET
SACRAMENTO CA 95814-2922

June 24, 2020

Regulatory Division (SPK-2020-00444)

Ms. Marcia Gilles
U.S. Forest Service, White River National Forest
Post Office Box 190
Minturn, Colorado 81645
marcia.gilles@usda.gov

Dear Ms. Gilles:

We are responding to your May 28, 2020, request for comments on the Whitney Reservoir Geotechnical Investigation project. The project site is located approximately 10 miles south of the Town of Minturn, along Homestake Creek and Homestake Reservoir Road, centered at Latitude 39.436337°, Longitude -106.399726°, Eagle County, Colorado. The project involves surveying at specific transects and boring at approximately 10 locations for the purpose of researching the feasibility of developing a reservoir at this location. Some of the boring activities will require the construction of temporary access roads.

As you are aware, the Corps of Engineers' jurisdiction within the study area is under the authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States (WOTUS). This includes, but is not limited to, rivers, perennial or intermittent streams, lakes, ponds, wetlands, wet meadows, and seeps. Project features that result in the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States will require Department of the Army authorization prior to starting work.

Based on the information provided, this project will attempt to avoid the discharge of dredged or fill materials in WOTUS where possible and temporary mats will be used where avoidance is not possible. In this case, the placement of mats within WOTUS for short periods of time is not considered an activity regulated by the Corps. We appreciate efforts to avoid and minimize impacts. Please coordinate with our office further if final project plans involve features that require a Corps permit.

Please refer to identification number SPK-2020-00444 in any correspondence concerning this project. If you have any questions, please contact me at the Colorado

West Regulatory Section, 400 Rood Avenue, Room 224, Grand Junction, Colorado 81501,
by email at Benjamin.R.Wilson@usace.army.mil, or telephone at 970-243-1199 ext. 1012.

Sincerely,

Benjamin R. Wilson
Project Manager
CO West Section

cc:
Matthew Klein, White River National Forest, matthew.klein@usda.gov