

City of
Steamboat Springs 
Parks & Community Services

January 29, 2018

Routt County Board of Commissioners
522 Lincoln Avenue
P.O. Box 773598
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

RE: Lafarge Conservation Easement Annual Report

Dear County Commissioners:

Attached, please find the 2017 annual monitoring report submitted by City of Steamboat Springs Parks and Community Services staff for the City owned Lafarge/Chuck Lewis Wildlife Area parcel. The City has an Agreement with Routt County to monitor and report on the compliance of the Conservation Easement held by Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Additionally within the Agreement, the City has agreed to monitor and report on the Wetlands Agreement and Reclamation Agreement.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience.

Thank you.



Brad Setter
Open Space, Trails, Rodeo & Howelsen Hill Supervisor



REPORT TO ROUTT COUNTY
SITE INSPECTION

I. Property and Owner Information

- 1) **Conservation/Access Easement Name:** Chuck Lewis State Wildlife Area - Lafarge Parcel
- 2) **Date of Easement:** November 12, 2004
- 3) **Easement Acreage:** 102.8 acres
- 4) **Inspection Date:** July 19th
- 5) **Reception Number:** 611415
- 6) **Property Owner Information:**

City of Steamboat Springs
PO Box 775088
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477
- 7) **Property Manager/Easement Holder:**

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Area 10 Manager
PO Box 775777
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

II. Monitoring Information

1) Land Use Changes

- a. *Purpose:* The purpose for which the easement was created appears to be fulfilled. The preservation and protection of the conservation values are occurring on the property and the public has access to the property for enjoyment of the conservation values.
- b. *Activities:* The activities taking place on the property appear to be consistent with and compliant with the terms of the Deed of Conservation Easement.
- c. *Intended Uses:* The property appears to be utilized as intended.

2) Natural Alterations

- a. *Alterations/Impacts:* Bank erosion and seasonal flooding occurs along the Yampa River, yet no major problem areas were observed. Yellow Toadflax and Canada Thistle were observed on the property. There were no other problems observed that would negatively affect the property.
- b. *Adjacent Properties:* There were no observed adverse conditions on adjacent properties that would affect the property.

3) General Observations

a. *Observations/Concerns:*

1. There are several informal trails visible that are indicative of use of the area but none appear to negatively impact the conservation values of the property.
2. Trash (empty bottles, shotgun shells, fishing gear, toilet paper, etc) continues to be found around the pond as more people visit the site.

b. *Future Plans:* Colorado Parks and Wildlife has the right to construct future improvements such as formal pedestrian trails and restrooms or other sanitary facilities.

c. *Future Monitoring:* Continue to monitor bank erosion along the Yampa River and on the larger pond, the presence of noxious weeds, and the impacts of facility users throughout the site.