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February 10, 2012

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Re: Rattlesnake Creek Partnership 4-year review in 2012

Dear Members of the Rattlesnake Creek Partnership:

The Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources (DWR) respectfully calls upon the Rattlesnake Creek Partnership partners to participate in the third and final 4-year implementation review of the management program which is to be completed in 2012.

The June 29, 2000 Rattlesnake Creek Partnership Program Proposal (Proposal) established the 4-year implementation review to provide an opportunity to determine the success of the management program to date and allow for any needed changes in the program to enhance its effectiveness. The review will examine specific management strategies and will report hydrologic conditions in the basin.

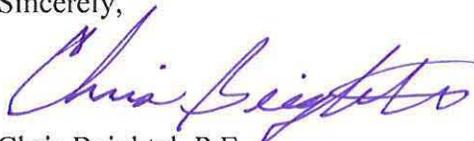
While the last 4-year review process ended with only two partners, DWR and U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, signing the final report, we believe it important that this review be completed. We are hopeful that the improved relationships between the partners, especially between DWR and GMD #5, will allow us to fulfill our responsibility to perform this review thoroughly, objectively and in an atmosphere of mutual trust.

DWR is committed to a transparent, non-adversarial review process with all partners sharing and openly discussing data and methodology throughout the review. Our goal is that all partners are able to sign the 2012 review in good faith.

This 4-year implementation review provides a valuable opportunity for all partners to strengthen our relationships, increase our understanding of the water resource issues in the basin and move forward with fulfilling our responsibilities to protect the rights all water users within Rattlesnake Creek basin.

DWR looks forward to working with all the partners to compile and complete the 4-year implementation review in 2012. We suggest a kick-off meeting, probably telephonic, the week of February 20 or at everyone's earliest convenience after that. We will send a meeting invitation and start the scheduling process early next week (February 13).

Sincerely,



Chris Beightel, P.E.
Program Manager
Water Management Services

cc: Jeff Lanterman