



ALBERTA  
ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS

*Office of the Minister  
Minister Responsible for the Climate Change Office  
MLA, Lethbridge-West*

DECO 6 2018

Peter Crowe-Swords, President Bow  
River Trout Foundation

Dear Peter Crowe-Swords:

Thank you for your letter regarding your concerns with the proposed water management infrastructure in the Bow River. I welcome the opportunity to provide the following information.

Environment and Parks established the one-year Bow Basin Water Management Options Conceptual Assessment project to carry out high-level studies of three potential reservoir sites on the Bow River. The study will review options for additional storage to provide flood and drought mitigation; it will also confirm the viability of each site and provide conceptual, engineering-level details regarding the infrastructure required to achieve the proposed storage. The study will carry out feasibility-level supplementary hydrologic studies, mapping, and geotechnical studies to confirm viability and complete the conceptual design for various components required for each option. An overview of existing infrastructure, social, and environmental impacts will also be compiled.

I am pleased to note that as part of this study, stakeholder and Indigenous engagement will be carried out to update stakeholders on the project's status and gather feedback to ensure concerns are documented and suitable solutions to mitigate them are explored. I have directed department staff to engage the Bow River Trout Foundation directly in this process, and I have forwarded your feedback to our consultants for their consideration. We look forward to hearing your concerns as we progress with this project.

Thank you again for writing to share your concerns. The Government of Alberta recognizes that a suitable balance is required between the economic, social, and environmental impacts of flood and drought, while also considering the potential impacts of water management infrastructure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "S. Philips".

Shannon Philips  
Minister

