



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Upper Colorado Region
Four Corners Construction Office
1235 La Plata Highway
Farmington, NM 87401

IN REPLY REFER TO:
FCCO-200
LND-8.00

APR 6 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Ms. Gloria Tom
Director
Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife
P.O. Box 1480
Window Rock, AZ 86515

Subject: Request for Renewal of Public Recreation Area Closure at Cutter Dam during Reach 22A
Construction – Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project (NGWSP) – New Mexico (Action
Requested by April 28, 2017)

Dear Ms. Tom:

This letter serves as the Bureau of Reclamation's formal request to renew the closure of the Public Recreation Area at Cutter Dam to allow construction of Reach 22A of the NGWSP to be completed safely in this area during this spring and summer seasons. The previous closure of the south lake access by your office, which Reclamation requested by letter on September 11, 2015, expired on September 30, 2016. Due to unforeseen complications with the improvements at the dam, construction was not able to be completed by that deadline. The Contractor is continuing to work on the final improvements for Reach 22A at the dam, including retrofitting the existing River Outlet Works, but will need a few more months to complete them. Additionally, the Contractor's staging area for Reach 22A is immediately east of the Public Recreation Area, that includes picnic and camping sites, downstream of the right abutment of the dam. To continue to ensure safety of the public during construction, Reclamation requests that the Public Recreation Area at the face of Cutter Dam, including the Cutter Canyon access road (see enclosure), be closed for the remainder of the Reach 22A construction through September 30, 2017.

Per our previous correspondence, this renewal of the closure only applies to the southern access to Cutter Reservoir. Reclamation does not anticipate any construction impacts will occur to the public's secondary access at the boat ramp on the northwest side of the reservoir. Access for federal and tribal agencies, as well as oil and gas companies with existing facilities near the dam will continue to be maintained.

In order to ensure the safety of the public, a written confirmation of our request by April 28, 2017, would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for granting our previous request for closure. If you have any questions, comments or concerns about this request, please contact Mr. Bart Deming at 505-324-5031 or Mr. Chico Quintana at 505-324-5055.

Sincerely,

Barry Longwell
Construction Engineer

cc: See next page.

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cc: Mr. Jeffrey Cole
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Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife
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