

Upper Clark Fork River Basin Steering Committee

C/O Gerald Mueller

440 Evans

Missoula, MT 59801

(406)543-0026

October 28, 2010

Representative Chas Vincent
Chairman
Environmental Quality Council
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

RE: Upper Clark Fork River Basin Steering Committee Basin Closure Report

Dear Chairman Vincent:

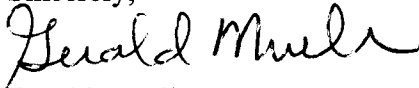
I write to you on behalf and at the direction of the Upper Clark Fork River Basin Steering Committee (Steering Committee). The purpose of this letter is to report on the Steering Committee's review of the closure of the Upper Clark Fork River basin enacted in §85-2-336 MCA. Pursuant to §85-2-338(5)(a), the Steering Committee must review the closure and its exceptions at least every five years and make recommendations to the legislature regarding necessary changes.

We consulted with the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation and its Missoula and Helena Water Resources Regional Office Managers. The closure was discussed at meetings in June, September, and October 2010. The Steering Committee decided not to recommend any changes to the closure or exceptions in §85-2-336.

If the Environmental Quality Council has questions or would like a presentation regarding this subject, please contact me at the address or telephone listed above or by email at gmueller@montana.com.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Gerald Mueller

Steering Committee Facilitator

cc: Representative Walter McNutt, Chairman, Water Policy Interim Committee