

0003

# Memorandum

To: Lowell Braxton  
 CC: Paul Baker  
 From: Ben Grimes  
 Date: November 19, 1996  
 Subject: Violation N96-41-1-1 Assessment Conf. Followup

As a follow up to the conference yesterday I have done some research of my records and offer the following:

I cannot find any reference in the MRP to notify the Division when water is diverted at Willow Creek during the stream alteration project.

On June 6, 1996 I telephoned the Army Corps of Engineers to notify them that we would be diverting the Willow Creek flow into the new channel in approximately two weeks. This was in compliance with the 404 permit stipulation with the Corps. Michele Waltz, our contact person, was out of the office, however, the person answering the phone assured me she would get the message.

On June 20 I faxed the attached letter to Michele notifying her that we were planning to divert the water on the 21st. Actual diversion took place on June 21 after Michele called and said to proceed without her presence. I have this documented in my day timer. Michele can also confirm this.

During the construction of the channel diversion project I was in telephone contact with Michele on many occasions discussing various aspects of the project. Since the Corps of Engineers has jurisdiction of the stream alteration project they were the focus of our concern.

I reemphasize the fact that we made a judgement call in the field on how to handle the diversion at the old culvert area based on sound environmental and safety considerations. I will never concede the fact that we minimized environmental degradation by handling the project the way we did.

Post-it™ Fax Note	7671	Date 11/19	# of pages 3
To LOWELL BRAXTON	From BEN GRIMES		
Co./Dept.	Co.		
Phone #	Phone #		
Fax # 3592 3940	Fax #		



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Post Office Drawer PMC  
Price, Utah 84501  
(801) 637-2875

June 20, 1996

Ms. Michele Waltz  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
1403 South 600 West  
Bountiful, UT 84010

**Faxed**

Dear Ms. Waltz,

**RE: VEGETATION PLANTING - WILLOW CREEK STREAM RELOCATION**

As requested, I am writing to clarify the vegetation planting for the Willow Creek relocation project. As you and I discussed, the project has progressed slower than expected due to a diesel fuel contamination problem in the ground near the west end of the lower relocation segment. The diesel fuel contaminated soil was a result of a trucking operation that existed at the site years ago before we acquired the property. The contaminated soil has been removed from the site and the stream work is progressing.

As we discussed, the willow clump plantings were not done during the riprap placement because the willows would not survive the dry conditions during construction. The clumps would have been without water for from two to four weeks. To go back after the riprap placement and remove riprap to plant clumps would be difficult and would jeopardize the structural integrity of the channel. In addition until the riprap and smaller rock filter in the bottom of the channel silts in we are not guaranteed that water would be high enough in the channel to allow the clumps to survive. Our opinion is that willow cuttings planted next spring or at a time when water is available will result in adequate willow vegetation.

As for willow cuttings, it is our opinion that planting should be done when soil is available in the planting zone. Until the riprap and rock filter in the bottom of the channel silts in and provides soil for the willows it is useless to plant cuttings. As we agreed, we will monitor the flow and silt buildup and determine with your approval when to plant the cuttings. The spring of 1997 would be the ideal time if the conditions are right. As you have directed, siltation of the riprap and rock filter will be monitored and a determination will be made in the future if remedial actions will be necessary to enhance the silt buildup.

As we discussed, pole plantings will be done as soon as possible after the water is diverted through the new channel. As you directed, because we are late in getting the plantings in we will plant twice as many poles as planned. The poles will be planted so that the bottoms of the poles will be below water level. Because of the late plantings we can expect greater than normal mortality of the pole plantings

All other topsoiling, planting, and sprinkling plans will proceed as planned.

As of late yesterday, the plan is to divert the flow through the lower channel tomorrow. Please let me know if this plan is acceptable.

Respectfully,



Ben Grimes  
Sr. Staff Project Engineer

C: John Borla  
Kurt Jardine  
Gary Stevens

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