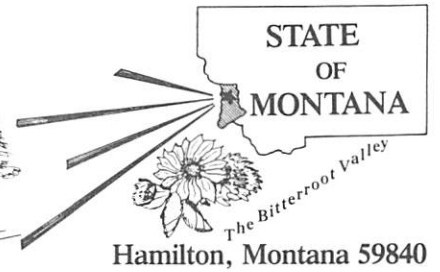


COUNTY OF RAVALLI



Ravalli County Commissioners
215 South 4th Street, Suite A
Hamilton, MT 59840
406-375-6500 • 406-375-6507 fax
commissioners@ravallicounty.mt.gov

December 19, 2018

Kurt Steele, Responsible Official
1801 N 1st Street
Hamilton, MT 59840

RE: Proposed Canyon Lake Dam Access for Repair Project

Supervisor Steele,

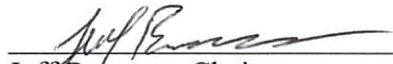
The Ravalli County Commissioners support access for necessary repairs to the Canyon Lake Dam. The project will provide benefits for irrigators, aquifer recharge, fisheries and late stream flow, but more importantly will enhance public health and safety associated with possible minor or major dam failures.

The Canyon Lake Dam was constructed in 1891, long before the Wilderness designation. The prohibition of activities and access in designated wilderness makes repair and maintenance work cost prohibitive, especially for locally funded irrigation districts. The Ravalli County Natural Resource Use Policy supports maintenance and enhancement of water conveyance, storage and diversion structures.


The Ravalli County Commissioners would urge the Forest Service to allow CCID the requested access for necessary repairs to the Canyon Lake Dam.

Thank you for your consideration.

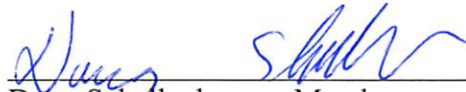
Sincerely,
RAVALLI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Jeff Burrows, Chairman



Chris Hoffman, Vice-Chairman



Doug Schallenberger, Member



Greg Chilcott, Member

Ray Hawk, Member