



RECEIVED *JK*

MAR 25 1997

WATER RIGHTS
SALT LAKE

Trout Unlimited Utah Council
2348 Lynwood Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84109
25 March 1997

Mr. Robert L. Morgan
Utah Department of Natural Resources
Division of Water Rights
1636 West North Temple, Suite 220
Salt Lake City, UT 84116-3156

Re: Application # 5710141 for Permanent Change of Place and Use
of Water Rights *a 20824*

Dear Mr. Morgan:

The Utah Council, Trout Unlimited is opposed to the above referenced Change Application. We do not **feel** that it is appropriate for the State to grant Mr. Wayne G. Crawford's application for a changes in point(s) of diversion for the following reasons.

1. Due to the geological structure of both Big and Little Canyons, what little return flows that occur will end up in the streams. These canyons are prime watersheds. There would likely be an unacceptable degradation of water quality that would likely occur from the addition of over 59 families.
2. There is a potential for a reduction of in stream flows. Any such reduction would result in a negative **impact on the fishery.**
3. There is the potential for a negative impact on **the riparian habitat** in both Canyons.
4. Approval of this application may be contrary to the Salt Lake County Master Plan for the canyons.

The Bonham v. Morgan decision specifically states that title 73, Utah Code, permits "any person interested", not just a water user or an owner of vested water rights to protest the granting of an application. The decision also states that "the state engineer must investigate and reject the application for either appropriation or permanent change of use or place of use if approval would interfere with more beneficial use, public recreation, the natural stream environment, or the public welfare."

For the above reasons, Trout Unlimited requests that there be a formal hearing on change application #5710141.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,


Paul F. Dremann

Vice President, Conservation
Utah Council, Trout Unlimited

cc; UTU Exec., Comm.