



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, SACRAMENTO
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
1325 J STREET
SACRAMENTO CA 95814-2922

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

CESPK-RD

29 April 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Traditional Navigable Water; Navigable In-Fact Determination for the Dolores River from the McPhee Reservoir to its Confluence with the Colorado River (SPK-2008-00194-DC).

1. The Sacramento District of the Corps of Engineers performed a review to determine the status of navigability on the Dolores River from the McPhee Dam to its confluence with the Colorado River. This stretch of the Dolores River is located in Montezuma, Dolores, San Miguel, and Montrose Counties in Colorado and Grand County in Utah. The approximate distance of this stretch of river is 185 miles. The discharge is determined through water releases from of the McPhee Reservoir. When large releases are made, typically in the spring, the river becomes navigable.
2. This determination is made in accordance to Appendix D of the Rapanos Guidance
3. The Dolores River is currently a popular recreational area. A number of commercial rafting companies utilize this river when it contains enough flow to be navigable. In addition, in Utah, private boaters are required to obtain a permit from the Bureau of Land Management. The commercial rafting companies are supported by interstate commerce and navigation. Most commercial trips are multi-day trips.
4. A map of the Dolores River and its watershed can be found at <http://www.sanjuancitizens.org/dolores2/pdf/Doloresmap-lowres.pdf>.
5. List of Reference Material:
<http://www.sanjuancitizens.org/dolores2/pdf/Doloresmap-lowres.pdf>
<http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/sjplc/recreation/sjdolores.html>
<http://www.fourcornersrafting.com/dolores.htm>
<http://www.doloresriverrafting.com/>
<http://www.inaraft.com/dolores-river-colorado.htm>
<http://www.rafting.com/dolores-river-rafting.htm>
<http://www.mild2wildrafting.com/lowerdoloresriver.htm>
<http://www.utah.com/raft/rivers/dolores.htm>

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6. Kara Hellige of the Durango Regulatory Office is the point-of-contact for this determination for the Sacramento District, and can be reached by phone at 970-375-9452 or e-mail kara.a.hellige@usace.army.mil.

[Handwritten signature] 30 Apr 08

MICHAEL S. JEWELL DATE
Chief, Regulatory Division
Sacramento District