

FAX TRANSMITTAL FORM

Date: 9/9/03To: DAVE BULL, FOREST SUPERVISOR BNFFax Telephone Number: (406) 363-7159
(Includes Area Code)From: TIN CUP CO. WATER and/or SEWER DISTRICT
C/O Tex R. Marsolek, Assistant General Manager
P.O. Box 292
Darby, MT. 59829
Fax Phone No. (406) 821-3808
Telephone No. " 821-3534Total Pages (including This Sheet): 4If you do not receive all the pages,
please call back immediately.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: DO I NEED TO MAKE A
SPECIFIC WRITTEN REQUEST FOR HELICOPTER
ACCESS IF MECHANIZED TRAIL ACCESS IS
DENIED? CAN THIS BE CONSIDERED A FORMAL
REQUEST FOR MECHANIZED TRAIL ACCESS FOR
FUTURE WORK SO THE USFS CAN START THE
EIS PROCESS NOW?

Tin Cup County Water and/or Sewer District
Post Office Box 292
Darby, Montana 59829
September 09, 2003

Darby Ranger District
P.O. Box 388
712 North Main Street
Darby, Montana 59829

Subject: Cost Estimates for Emergency Repair Work for
Tin Cup Lake Dam Based on Various Types of
Access.

Attention: Mr. Dan Ritter

Dear sir,

The following are our estimated costs to complete the subject work utilizing Mechanized Access to the dam over the existing trail within an eight foot wide right of way.

\$ 44,700

This cost provides an access that minimum width, low impact 4-wheel drive rubber tire or rubber track vehicles can traverse to and from the dam in approximately 2.5 hrs each way.

\$ 34,700

This cost provides an access that rubber track, minimum width, low impact vehicles only can traverse to and from the lake in approximately 2.5 hrs. each way.

The above costs include work at the dam, but does not include materials such as camp costs, liners, fabric, cables, logs for log booms, engineering costs and culverts to replace existing trail culverts (Est. 20), along the access route.

NOTE: If access can be obtained through the Brandborg property, the cost for access could be reduced by \$ 6900.00. If not, we could access the old cat trail as it exits Mr. Brandborg's property along his north property line, which is National Forest Land. Of course we would need that access granted by the USFS and it would require the removal of some small diameter trees. This proposed access could be gated to restrict unauthorized use.

In other words, access would cost between \$ 18,000 and \$ 28,000, depending on the degree of trail improvement allowed, if access can be obtained through the Brandborg property.

Cost for the same type of access would increase to between \$ 24,900 and \$ 34,000 if we have to provide access around the Brandborg property.

Emergency Costs

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The following are our estimated costs to complete the subject work utilizing Mechanized access to the dam via medium-lift helicopter transporting of equipment, supplies and personnel.

\$ 47,000

This cost includes \$ 32,000 in helicopter costs utilizing a Puma with a lift capacity of 5000 lbs. at a rate of \$ 4000/hr. plus \$ 5600 in lite lift personnel flights.

\$ 42,000

This cost includes \$ 27,000 in helicopter costs utilizing a Bell with a lift capacity of just under 4000 lbs. plus \$ 5600 in lite lift pesonnel flights.

The above costs include work at the dam, but does not include materials such as camp costs, liners, fabric, cables, logs for the log booms or engineering costs.

We are relatively certain that the Bell will be available on the 12th to fly us in but we are uncertain of its availability to fly us out when the work is completed. The same scenario exists with the Puma.

As you can see access costs are increased by \$ 14,600 to \$ 19,600 utilizing helicopter access verses ground access. If we should be required to take equipment in the future, we are looking at an access cost differential for helicopters of between \$ 31,000 and \$ 36,600 increase over a one to two days travel cost of \$ 1000 to \$ 1500 per day.

If ground access is approved we could start in on or about October 1, 2003 and would take approximately 7 days to access the dam. Two to three days would be required to provide safe access across the draw just past the slide area. However larger equipment would be available to do the work much more efficiently.

Therefore, by copy of the attached letter, we are requesting permission for mechanized equipment access to the dam to perform emergency work via the existing trail.

We would very much appreciate your immediate response to our request, as time is of the essence.

Respectfully submitted,

Tex R. Marsblek

Tex R. Marsblek

Assist. Gen. Mgr. TCCWSD

Attachments: 1

cc: Dave Bull

Forest Supervisor, BNF

Tin Cup County Water and/or Sewer District
Post Office Box 292
Darby, Montana 59829
September 09, 2003

Darby Ranger District
P.O. Box 388
712 North Main Street
Darby, Montana 59829

Subject: Agreement to Access Tin Cup Dam

Attention: Mr. Dan Ritter

Dear Sir,

At your suggestion, we have examined in detail the alternatives for repairing Tin Cup Dam. The minimum cost to bring the dam up to compliance is approximately \$10,000. The cost of airlifting all the required equipment is \$ 14,600 to \$ 19,600 greater than utilizing rubber track motorized equipment utilizing an eight (8) foot right of way. We have travelled the trail required to move this equipment and can advise you that our proposed ingress and egress will have minimal impacts on the ground and vegetation of the National Forest. Further, as part of our ongoing effort to be a state of the art protector of environmental values in the Wilderness Areas, we will, upon our exit, take steps to restore the right of way as necessary to assure future visitors that no harm has taken place on the ground.

We have been advised that under the law we have a right of reasonable access. Our research suggests that two components make up "reasonable". First is the protection of environmental values, and as we state here, our on the ground approach will have only minimal impacts. Second is cost. While \$15,000 to \$ 20,000 may not be much to the Forest Service or to some of the wealthy recreation users of National Forest lands, it is a substantial sum to the low income rural residents of Montana who rely on the Tin Cup water supply. As you well know, under principles of Environmental Justice, the Forest Service must always assure that its environmental policies do not "disproportionately" impact low income citizens. Accordingly, we are hopeful that you will support our request to move very quickly to access on the ground the Tin Cup Dam for necessary repairs and restoration.

Respectfully submitted,

Tex R. Marsolek

Tex R. Marsolek
Assist. Gen. Mgr. TCCWSD

cc: Dave Bull ✓
Forest Supervisor, BNF