

Bear Creek Watershed Association Policy

Approved: May 9, 2013

BCWA Policy 1 – Nutrient Trading Program



Statement of Basis and Purpose

The Bear Creek Watershed Association (BCWA) asserts nutrient water quality trading is a necessary and essential long-term nutrient (nitrogen and phosphorus) control strategy for the Bear Creek Watershed. The BCWA nutrient trading can have a net water quality benefit in the watershed. As such, the BCWA maintains a member pollutant nutrient trading program as defined in the BCWA *Trading Guidelines (Total Phosphorus Trade Program and Nonpoint Source Trading Guidelines)*, Affirmed by majority vote January 12, 2012) and as defined in *Bear Creek Reservoir Control Regulation #74* for total phosphorus trades specific to the Bear Creek Watershed. The Bear Regulation #74 establishes trading provisions for point to point source trades and point to nonpoint source trades

Policy Position

The BCWA supports nutrient (nitrogen and phosphorus) trading as a long-term and necessary water quality management practice for the Bear Creek Watershed. The BCWA will maintain and periodically update Nutrient Trading Guidelines. The BCWA endorses the use of nutrient trading for:

1. Point source to point source trades (consistent with Bear Creek Regulation #74 and issued discharge permits); and
2. Nonpoint source to point source total phosphorus trading specific to the Bear Creek Watershed (*Trading Guidelines*).

The BCWA will maintain a reserve pool in the Bear Creek Regulation #74 that can be used for Total Phosphorus trading.

The *Bear Creek Trading Program* allows permitted member point source dischargers (Colorado Wastewater Discharge Permits) to either receive total phosphorus pounds for new or increased phosphorus wasteload allocations in exchange for phosphorus loading reductions from nonpoint source pollutant reduction or through approved point source trades.

The *Bear Creek Trading Program* guidelines outline the process necessary for member nonpoint source to point source trades that have a net water quality benefit in the watershed.