Dear Grant Committee:

My name is Lowell Aberson and I am the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism (KDWPT) fisheries biologist responsible for managing the fishery at Horsethief Reservoir. In this capacity, I am acutely aware of the need for additional fish habitat at Horsethief, as it was built on the plains of southwest Kansas where limited material is available to introduce or improve fish habitat.

I support the request by the volunteer, non-profit Friends of HorseThief group to help create and place additional fish habitat in the reservoir. I believe this project is important because of the real difference it can make to help maintain and enhance the fishery. The introduction of these habitat structures will also help the group meet one of their goals of assisting in the development and implementation of recreational improvements to benefit lake visitors.

I've seen similar habitat programs do good things at other reservoirs throughout Kansas and believe that this proposal would be worthy of your full consideration. If you have any questions I can answer, feel free to contact me at (620) 450-7211.

Thank you,

Lowell Aberson Fisheries Biologist Kansas Department of Wildlife Parks & Tourism