

**Transportation Commission of Colorado  
Safety Committee Meeting Agenda  
March 19, 2014 @ 8:00 a.m.  
4201 East Arkansas Avenue; Auditorium  
Denver, Colorado**

**Darrell Lingk  
Director,  
Office of Transportation Safety**

**Herman Stockinger  
Secretary**

**Kathy Connell, Chair  
District 6, Steamboat Springs**

**Steve Hofmeister  
District 11, Haxtun**

**Heather Barry  
District 4, Westminster**

**Sidny Zink,  
District 8, Durango**

**THE AGENDA MAY BE ALTERED AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION**

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call**
- 2. Discuss & Act on Safety Committee Minutes of December 18, 2014**
- 3. Loss History (Excellence In Safety Update) – 5 minutes**
- 4. Annual Highway Statistics – Charles Meyer – 5 minutes**
- 5. Geo Hazard Program – Ty Ortiz - 10 minutes**
- 7. Adjournment**

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF COLORADO  
SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
December 18th, 2014

Chairperson Kathy Connell called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. on Thursday December 18th, 2014 in the auditorium of the headquarters building at 4201 East Arkansas Avenue, Denver, Colorado.

PRESENT WERE: Commissioner Kathy Connell, District 6  
Commissioner Sidney Zink, District 8  
Commissioner Steven Hofmeister, District 11

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioner Shannon Gifford, District 1  
Commissioner Edward Peterson, District 2  
Commissioner Gary Reiff, District 3  
Commissioner Kathy Gilliland, District 5  
Commissioner Douglas Aden, District 7  
Commissioner Bill Thiebaut, District 10  
Darrell Lingk, Director of OTS  
Herman Stockinger, Director, Government Relations  
Josh Laipply, Chief Engineer  
Heidi Humphreys, Director, Admin. & Human Resources  
Scott Richrath, Chief Financial Officer  
Tony DeVito, Regional Transportation Director, Region 1  
Karen Rowe, Regional Transportation Director, Region 2  
Dave Eller, Regional Transportation Director, Region 3  
Johnny Olson, Regional Transportation Director, Region 4  
Kerrie Neet, Regional Transportation Director, Region 5

AND: Other CDOT & State Staff

One audiotape and supporting documentation is filed in the Transportation Commission office.

**August 20th, 2014 Transportation Commission of Colorado Safety Committee Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Connell asked if there were any comments on the August committee meeting minutes. There were none and the minutes were approved.

**Loss History (Excellence in Safety Update)**

Office of Transportation Safety Director Darrell Lingk gave a 5 minute overview on the loss history results for CDOT employees since the inception of our new safety process titled "Excellence in Safety" in early 2013.

- There are four charts provided in the meeting packet that show the trends in Worker's Compensation Claims, Lost Time Injuries, Motor Vehicle Accidents and Property Damage incidents.
- This summer, we interviewed many of our employees to solicit ideas on how we can be more visible out on the roadways. As a result we came up with a series of recommendations including things like reflectivity modifications on some of our vehicles so they are more visible and a new PR campaign for the general public. The PR office will be doing radio spots during rush hour periods all across the state to appeal to the traveling public with personalized messages directly from our snow plow operators' perspective. We recorded actual CDOT snow plow drivers talking about what they see out of their windshields to try and give drivers some idea of what things may be like from their perspective and to ask that they give them some space.

Commissioner Connell: Do you see more incidents of the traveling public hitting snow plow drivers than of snow plow drivers hitting the public?

Darrell: The number of incidents where the snow plow was at fault has had a slight increase whereas we have seen a greater increase in the number of incidents where the driving public is at fault.

Commissioner Hofmeister: Somehow we need to get State Patrol more involved. I have seen cars weaving in and out of a line of 3 properly spaced snowplows. This type of thing is a highly dangerous situation. If a State Patrol car was present this probably would not be taking place.

Darrell: Good point and we do work closely with CSP through the use of Federal Grant money to pay for overtime and get them out on the street more often.

Hofmeister: We should have snow plow drivers take pictures of license plates.

Darrell: We are working with PR office to put cameras on some of our snowplows to get clips of dangerous situations and appeal to drivers through social media.

Commissioner Zink: Graphs only carve out a 4 month period to look at this data. It doesn't seem like a very good representation.

Darrell: We look at the data in all different ways – including by fiscal year and calendar year but trends are usually similar overall. This was just the group of data we decided to look at and put in the packet for this committee meeting.

Commissioner Connell asks if there are any further questions in regard to this and there are none.

- Additional conversations were held while waiting for the next presenter to arrive.
- Commissioner Reiff raises topic of concern about the number of accidents on I-25 on the stretch between Santa Fe and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and how can we change driver behavior.
- Tony DeVito gave a historical account of the area's accident history and the successful changes that have been implemented already. He talked about the challenges of the North bound stretch we are facing and the strategies currently in place to address issues over the entire area.
- Josh Laipply commented on the challenges of having the two merges in one area and ramp metering plans.
- Commissioner Peterson asks Tony if we are continuing to have discussions with Denver Fire and PD on not blocking lanes when there are accidents.
- Tony agreed that we should continue those conversations.

### **Highway Fatality/Injury Update**

CDOT State Traffic Engineer Charles Meyer gives a 5 minute presentation highlighting trends regarding both on system and off system fatalities and serious injuries over the last few years. Several charts are provided in the packet to show these trends in various categories including: older drivers, pedestrians, unbelted fatalities and impaired driving fatalities.

- These charts are the monthly update of traffic statistics that we issue to HQ & the Regions so they can see the trends and where we are heading in terms of our goals.
- The Strategic Highway Safety plan is in draft form and currently under review for adoption.
- The numbers in the charts are as of the end of November and encompass City Streets and County Roads, as well as Highways.
- The summary report shows that last year we had 481 fatalities and we are currently at 452. We are hoping to achieve our goal of 476 fatalities this year, which is part of the overall goal of a reduction in fatalities by 12 per year for the next 5 years.
- Other graphs are representative of trends in specific focus areas.

Commissioner Connell: The programs toward education don't seem to be doing quite as well as we have seen in the past.

Darrell: Motorcycle fatalities are going up. We are going to ramp up our efforts from an education standpoint and do a more focused motorcycle safety campaign. Particularly for older riders age 40 – 55.

Charles gave some details about the focus areas of the Strategic Highway Safety plan and thanked Commissioner Connell for her work on it.

Commissioner Connell asked if there are any further questions. There were none.

### **CDOT Rock Fall/Geohazards Report**

Bob Group – in place of Ty Ortiz - gave a 5 minute update on CDOT's new Geohazards Program. In addition, a presentation is given in the meeting packet showing the corridors that pose the greatest total geohazard risk to the state transportation system at this time.

- We are making some changes with the geohazards management plan as far as how we assess sites. We are going with a new grading system for the hazard sites where they will be rated A – F. The goal is to get 80% of sites to a grade C or better and eliminate all F sites throughout the state.
- The total number of hazards is changing because we are adding in landslides and sink holes.
- No big changes with emergency response protocol.
- 2 new ER contracts for next year. Advantage will be that they will be spatially organized throughout the state – one being near Durango.

Darrell: Do you have a timeline for upgrading the “F” sites?

Bob: It is tough to say – we are looking at 5-7 years.

Commissioner Connell: That seems like a long time.

Bob: Ratings are partially based upon the volume of traffic and not entirely rated on the hazard itself.

Commissioner Connell asked if there are any further questions. There were none.

### **Other Matters and Adjournment**

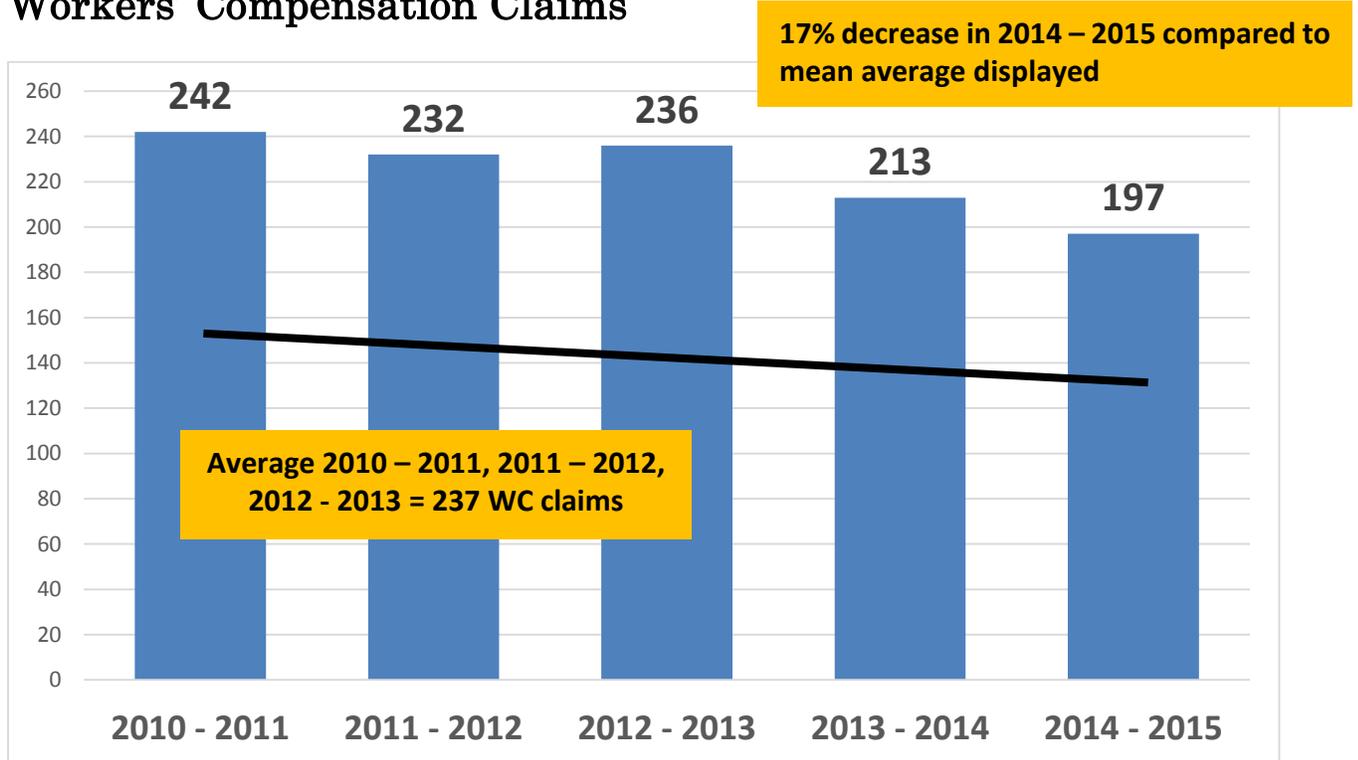
And there being no further matters to discuss, Chairperson Connell adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m. on Wednesday, August 20th, 2014.

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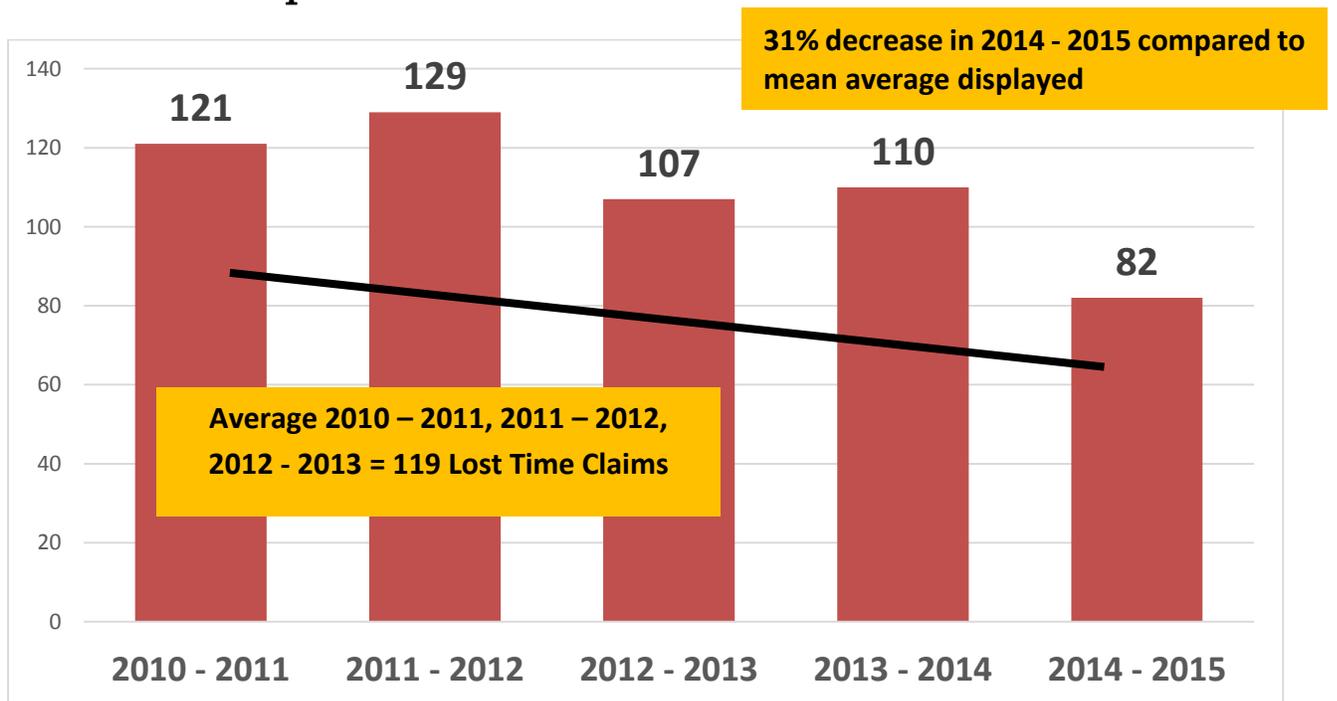
**Herman Stockinger, Secretary  
Transportation Commission of Colorado**

## Loss History Results July 1 - February 28

### Workers' Compensation Claims



### Workers' Compensation Lost Time Claims



\*All Claims valued as of March 3, 2015. Number is subject to change due to late reporting. Each bar represents the number of claims filed during the same time frame from 07/01 to 02/28 of the following year.



MOVING TOWARDS  
**ZERO**  
DEATHS

## Colorado Fatalities & Serious Injuries Year-to-Date Monthly Summary Report

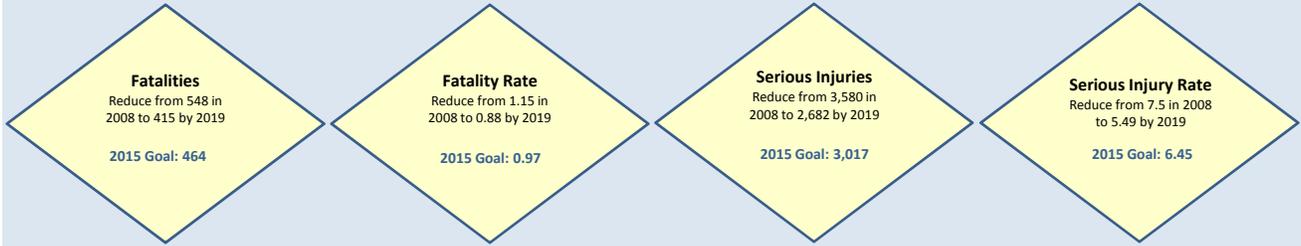
As of 2/28/2015  
(\* 2015 Data is Preliminary)



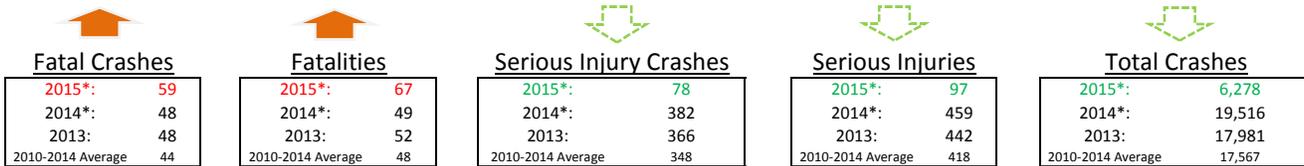
**COLORADO**  
Department of Transportation  
Transportation Systems  
Management & Operations

Traffic and Safety Engineering Branch

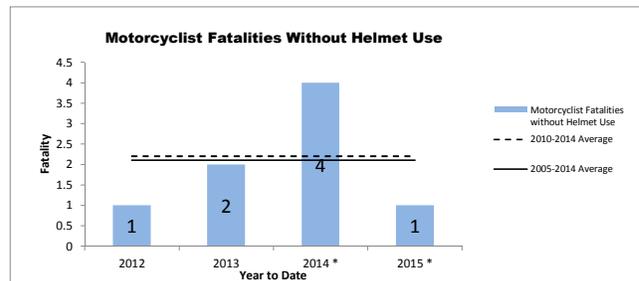
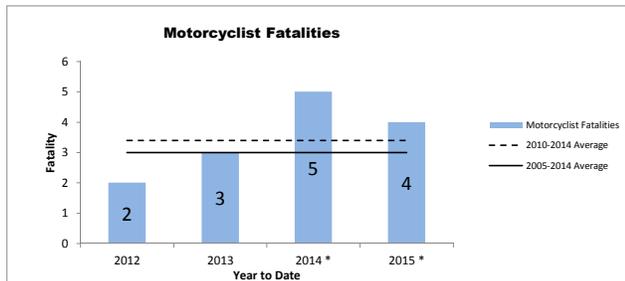
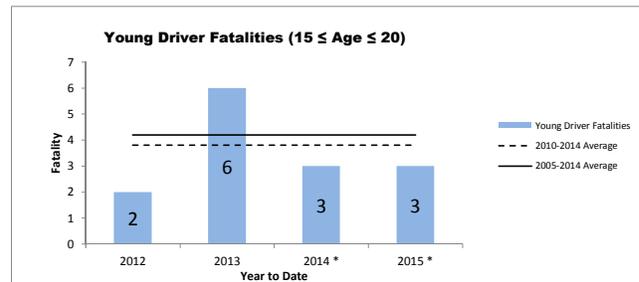
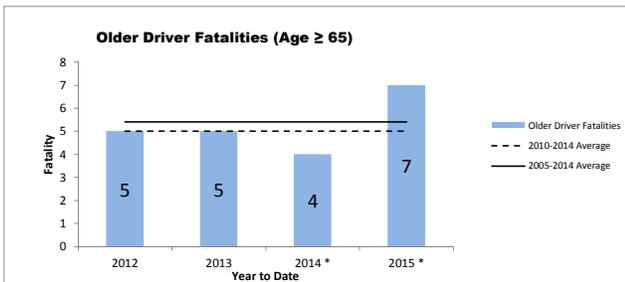
### Colorado Traffic Safety Goals



### 2014 Traffic Safety Trends (compared to past 5 years)



### Emphasis/Focus Areas:





MOVING TOWARDS  
**ZERO**  
DEATHS

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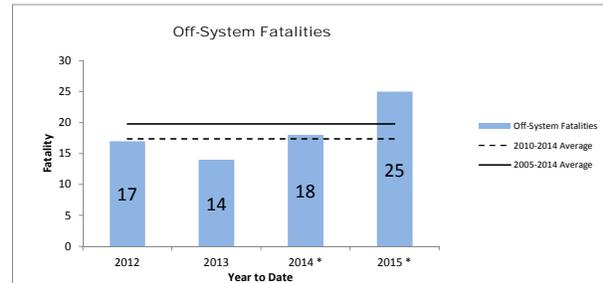
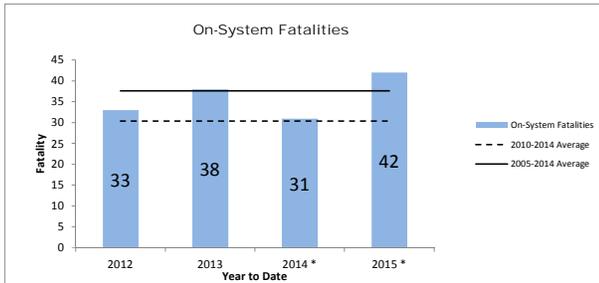
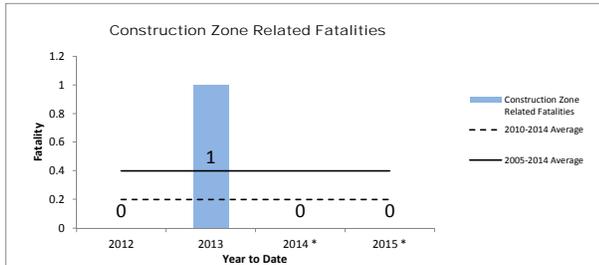
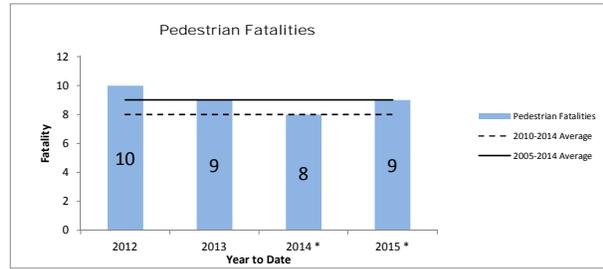
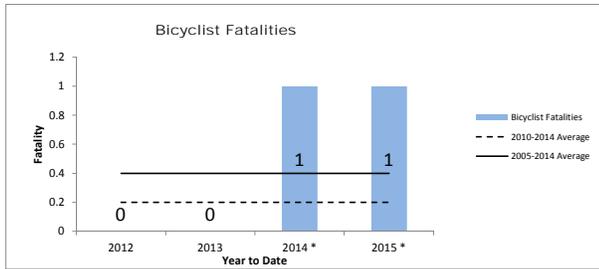
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**COLORADO**  
Department of Transportation  
Transportation Systems  
Management & Operations

Traffic and Safety Engineering Branch

### Emphasis/Focus Areas:



## **Current Projects**

R1 – US 6 Clear Creek Canyon Corridor - *Ongoing construction with feasibility and design for second phase in progress.*

R2 – I 25 Raton Pass Corridor – *Scheduled for advertisement this spring. Design for second phase in progress.*

R3 – I 70 Glenwood Canyon – *Work incorporated into the advertisement of a scheduled project in the canyon. Bid tabs have been opened with an apparent low bidder.*

R3 – SH 133 Paonia Reservoir – *Project awarded to TK Construction of Grand Junction, CO. Construction to begin late spring/summer.*

R5 – US 550 Ridgeway – *Project awarded to Rock Solid Solutions of Palisade, CO. Construction to begin spring/summer.*

## **Unmanned Aerial System**

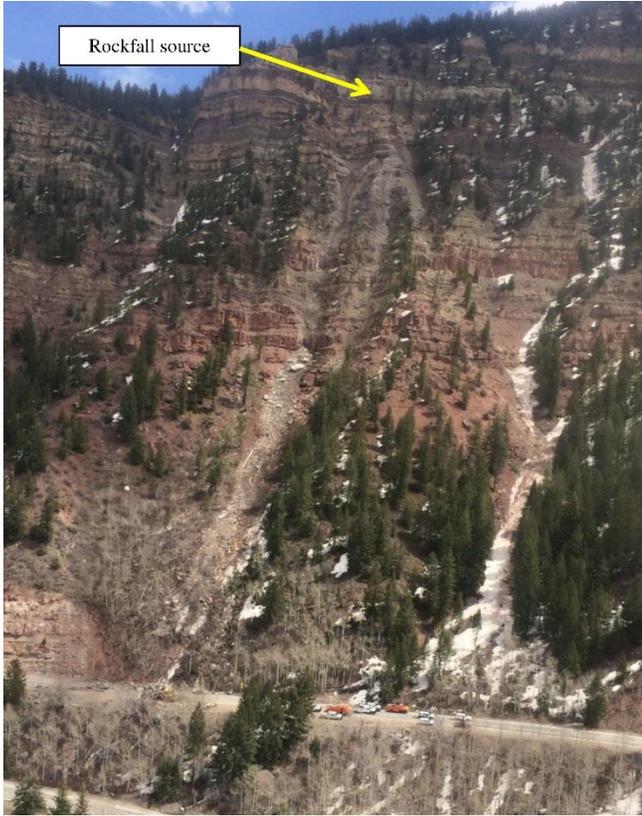
In the fall of 2014 CDOT's "Low Altitude Large Scale" aerial reconnaissance work was put on hold pending the issuance of a Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The COA application has been submitted and has gone through a preliminary review by FAA. Additional information regarding CDOT's equipment and pilot ability was requested. The information has been provided and the application is in final review. The expected issuance is not known but anticipated this spring.

## **Geohazard Response Highlights**

The Geohazards Program is working with Region personnel on several projects ranging from landslide investigation and design to rock anchor design review. The ability to offer Region support for geohazard needs beyond rockfall was the impetus behind revamping the program from rockfall only to a more encompassing Geohazards Program. It was understood, though, that response to rockfall and rockslide emergencies would still be a priority for the Program. A few of the emergency projects of particular interest the Geohazards Program has responded to or assisted with are listed here:

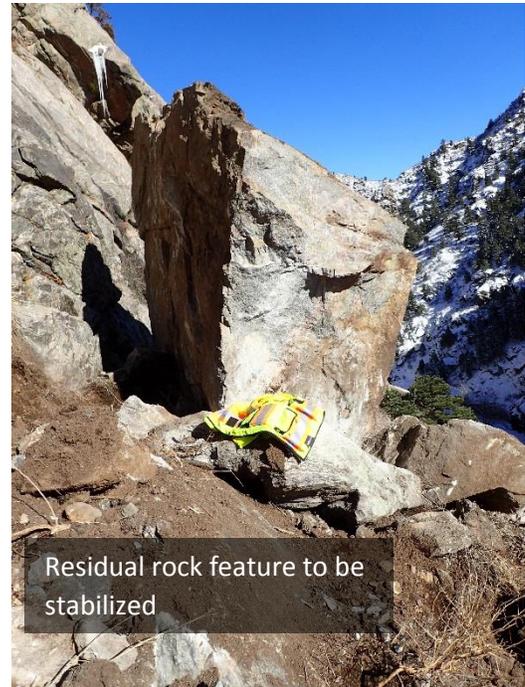
### *US 24 approximate mile post 150 – Tennessee Pass*

On December 27, 2014 a large rock feature released from the steep slopes above US 24 near the base of Tennessee Pass above Minturn. This was the second slide sourced at this location in the last year. Additional rock removal is in the planning stages but because of the difficult access to the source, the work will not begin until late spring to summer.



US 6 approximate mile post 268.5 – Clear Creek Canyon

On February 24 a rockfall incident impacted a vehicle on US 6 in Clear Creek Canyon and closed the highway for several hours. At the time of reporting property damage and minor injuries only indicated. During their response, Geohazards Program personnel removed residual rocks from the slope that were threatening the highway. Additional rock scaling and stabilization work is scheduled for March 2015.



**Geohazards Management Plan (GMP)**

The Geohazards Program is continuing its efforts to improve the deterioration curves for geohazards to be fully incorporated into CDOT's Asset Investment Management System. The deterioration curves follow the current Risk Based Asset Management Plan of looking at a system wide affect geohazards have on travel. The GMP takes a corridor approach to mitigate statewide geohazard risk. Individual sites are categorized into letter grades of A, B, C, D and F and corridors are selected based upon grade point average of the corridor. Additionally, F sites or corridors with a specific hazard that significantly contributes to the geohazard risk are considered individually.