

# Aquatic Resources Delineation Report Bridge H-13-N Survey

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## Executive Summary

Stanley Consultants, Inc. (Stanley) has prepared an aquatic resources delineation for the proposed replacement of a timber bridge on US Highway 24 east of Hartsel, Colorado, known as the H-13-N Bridge Replacement Project (Project). The purpose of the delineation is to identify any potential waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) and wetlands, with the potential to be impacted by Project activities. The delineation was conducted in accordance with the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (Environmental Laboratory 1987) and the Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual: Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region (Version 2.0) (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers [USACE] 2010).

This delineation reports on the finding at the CDOT bridge H-13-N survey area (6.4 acres), where two emergent wetlands (PEM: 0.1 and 0.6 acres) were recorded along with the OHWM for the Middle Fork of the South Platte River (R3UBG: 0.09 acres and 102 linear feet). The wetlands directly abut the river OHWM and are dominated by sedges and rushes. The Middle Fork of the South Platte River is a perennial water that is part of a large braided system with other wetlands including a potential fen wetland approximately 0.3 west of the surveyed area.

The delineation findings presented in this report will be used to assess potential Project impacts to surface water resources. The findings may be used to develop Project designs that minimize or avoid impacts to WOTUS or, if impacts to WOTUS are unavoidable, to understand the total anticipated impacts that would need to be approved or permitted by the USACE. Depending on the level of impacts, the Project would likely require permitting under the Nationwide Permit (NWP) program or through an Individual Permit (IP). The NWP program is available for projects with relatively minor impacts (the exact nature of the impacts and acreage thresholds depend on the applicable NWP), while IPs are required for projects with larger impacts and can involve a lengthy permitting process.

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## **Acronyms and Abbreviations**

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| CDOT  | Colorado Department of Transportation  |
| CWA   | Clean Water Act                        |
| IP    | Individual Permit                      |
| NRCS  | Natural Resources Conservation Service |
| NWI   | National Wetland Inventory             |
| NWP   | Nationwide Permit                      |
| NWPL  | National Wetland Plant List            |
| OHWM  | ordinary high water mark               |
| PIA   | Potential Impact Area                  |
| PSS   | palustrine scrub-shrub                 |
| ROW   | right-of-way                           |
| SH    | State Highway                          |
| USACE | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers           |
| USFWS | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service         |
| WOTUS | water of the United States             |

# 1. Introduction

On behalf of Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), Stanley Consultants, Inc. (Stanley) has prepared an aquatic resources delineation for the proposed replacement of a timber bridge on US Highway 24 east of Hartsel, Colorado, known as the H-13-N Bridge Replacement Project (Project). The purpose of the delineation is to identify any potential waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) and/or wetland present within the Project's area of potential Project impacts (Figure 1).

The presence of wetlands and other waters were assessed within the vicinity of the proposed Project construction. The boundaries of potential WOTUS were then delineated to determine the extent of waters subject to regulation under the Clean Water Act within the area of potential Project impacts. The purpose of this delineation report is to facilitate efforts to:

- Avoid or minimize impacts to aquatic resources during the design process.
- Document aquatic resource boundary determinations for review by regulatory authorities.

Field investigations were conducted on August 30, 2020, by wetland biologists for Stanley Consultants, Inc.

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## 2. Location and Project Description

### 2.1 Location

The surveyed Project Impact Area (PIA) is based on the area of potential Project-related impacts per communications with Project engineers, and approximately 6.4 acres. The PIA occurs within the CDOT right-of-way (ROW) along U.S. Highway (US) 24 that includes the timber bridge that currently allows traffic to cross the Middle Fork of the South Platte River. The timber bridge is located approximately 1.5 miles east of the town center of Hartsel (39.030422/-105.768882), in portions of Sections 3, 4, and 9 in Township 12 South, Range 75 West (6<sup>th</sup> Principal Base and Meridian). The map of the PIA is located in the Aquatic Resources Delineation Map in Appendix A.

### 2.2 Purpose and Need

The treated timber stringer bridge at H-13-N near Hartsel, Colorado was built in 1937 on US 24, which is a key corridor connecting residents and tourists from Colorado Springs and southern Colorado to the recreational activities in the Rocky Mountains. The structure is in poor condition, requires frequent inspection and repair for issues such as the piles splitting (requiring banding). This bridge is well past its replacement life, is not up to current construction and safety standards, and must be replaced to prevent potential failure.

### 2.3 Project Description

The CDOT Region 2 Bridge Bundle Design Build Project consists of the replacement of a total of nineteen (19) structures bundled together as a single design-build project. These structures are rural bridges on essential highway corridors (US 350, US 24, Colorado State Highway [CO] 239 and CO 9) in southeastern and central Colorado. These key corridors provide rural mobility, intra- and interstate commerce, movement of agricultural products and supplies, and access to tourist destinations. The design build project has two funding sources; Bridge J-15-G will be jointly funded by the USDOT FHWA Competitive Highway Bridge Program grant and the Colorado Bridge Enterprise (Project No. 23558).

Bridge H-13-N is located on US 24 at milepost 240.7, approximately 1.5 miles east of Hartsel, Colorado (Figure 1). The bridge is a treated timber stringer bridge (24 wide, 30 ft long) structure that crosses over the Middle Fork of the South Platte River. This bridge will likely be replaced with a bridge, a three-sided box culvert, or open bottom arch structure in order to accommodate a natural river bottom for the perennial stream.

Due to heavy traffic at this location, a detour will likely be constructed to accommodate traffic while allowing bridge replacement activities to proceed. A temporary two-lane shoofly will be constructed on the north or south side of the existing bridge with a temporary drainage pipe. We anticipate that the area of disturbance will be restricted to

the limits of the ROW. Once the bridge is complete and ready for use, any disturbed areas will be restored to original contours and reseeded.

## 2.4 Directions to the Site

The PIA is accessible from Denver, Colorado, by taking CO 470 to the US 285 S exit towards Fairplay. At Fairplay, turn left onto US 24 towards Hartsel, and continue through the Hartsel town center for about 1.5 east of town before reaching the Project bridge at the Middle Fork of the South Platte River. There is a large pull-off area on the right after the bridge to access the site.

# 3. Methods

## 3.1 Regulatory Context

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into WOTUS and is administered by the USACE and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The definition of WOTUS has been in flux in recent years, with the latest definition published by the EPA in the Navigable Waters Protection Rule, which went into effect on June 22, 2020, in 49 states. Due to an injunction issued by a federal court in Colorado, the Navigable Waters Protection Rule has not gone into effect in Colorado, and instead the state remains under the post-*Rapanos v. United States* (Rapanos) guidance (USACE and EPA 2008). The potential for waters of the U.S. within the PIA therefore will be evaluated per the definition in the the Rapanos guidance. Since the WOTUS definition under Rapanos is more expansive than the Navigable Waters Protection Rule, assessing the PIA under Rapanos ensures that no additional reevaluation is likely to be required in the event CWA applicability changes in Colorado during the period of Project construction.

The Rapanos guidance defines waters of the U.S. as traditional navigable waters (TNWs), relatively permanent waters, and their adjacent wetlands.<sup>1</sup> Additionally, the Rapanos guidance includes all tributaries with a bed and bank or ordinary highwater mark (OHWM) that have a significant nexus to a Traditionally Navigable Water, as well as wetlands, ponds, impoundments, and lakes located adjacent to said tributaries. Under Section 404 of the CWA, the OHWM defines the lateral extent of federal jurisdiction in non-tidal WOTUS (absent adjacent wetlands) (33 U.S.C. 1251). Per the regional guidance developed by the Corps (Mersel and Lichvar 2014), OHWM in Colorado is considered to be the “physical and biological signature established and maintained at the boundaries of the active channel.” Mersel and Lichvar (2014) state the OHWM identification in non-perennial streams is based on three primary physical or biological indicators—topographic break in slope, change in sediment characteristics, and change in vegetation characteristics.

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<sup>1</sup> Adjacent is defined as “bordering, contiguous, or neighboring” in the Rapanos guidance.



### 3.2 Wetland Delineation

The wetland delineation was conducted in accordance with the 1987 *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual* (Environmental Laboratory 1987) and the Regional Supplement to the *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual: Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region (Version 2.0)* (USACE 2010). The entire survey area was assessed by the Project team to determine the presence or absence of wetland features. Any location that contained some potential as a wetland based on the National Wetland Inventory mapping (Appendix B) or observed surface conditions, such as the presence of dominant hydrophytic vegetation or surface hydrology, was investigated more closely with a sampling point containing a soil pit that was recorded in a delineation field form (Appendix C) with photo documentation (Appendix D).

Additionally, a Functional Assessment of Colorado Wetlands (FACWet) was conducted for the site using the CDOT wetland functional assessment method (Version 3, 2013). Information on site characteristics was collected during the field survey, and additional information was gathered from multiple online databases. The results of the site assessment and desktop analysis are presented in a FACWet form (Appendix E).

At the request of CDOT, the beginning of Wetland Findings Report has been prepared using the CDOT Programmatic template (Appendix F). Please note that the Wetland Findings Report will need impact information to be complete. All impact analysis will not be completed at this time.

Sources of information used in this investigation include:

- Web Soil Survey (USDA/NRCS 2020) – No published soil survey for area.
- Aerial photography of the PIA from the National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP) taken in 2017, and from aerial drone photography collected by Stanley.
- National Wetland Plant List, version 3.4 (USACE 2018)
- Munsell Soil-Color Charts (Munsell Color 2009)
- National Wetland Inventory (NWI) Map (See Appendix, NWI Mapping)

### 3.3 Non-Wetland Waters Delineation

The PIA was examined for any potential OHWM supporting features, such as root exposure, water staining, silt deposits, litter removal, etc. (Mersel and Lichvar 2014, USACE 2005), that might provide information interpreting recent flow levels (e.g., drift/wrack deposits or headcutting) or that might eliminate or reinforce potential OHWM locations. Stanley also examined aerial photography and hydrologic data to support the Section 404 CWA assessment. The boundaries of any non-wetland water features were identified by the OHWM indicators and recorded using a Trimble sub-meter GPS antenna connected to a tablet or smart phone, and also were surveyed using the same sub-meter GPS unit.

## 4. Existing Conditions

### 4.1 Topography

The PIA is located within a basin of the Middle Fork of the South Platte River valley, surrounded open high elevation meadows. The area includes the river channel area and its surrounding terraces and slopes. The elevation at the site is approximately 8,830 feet (ft) above mean sea level (AMSL). Land use in the vicinity of the PIA predominantly consists of transportation and ranching activities. The area surrounding the Project consists of privately-owned lands, much of which appears to support grazing cattle and bison. In addition to US 24, County Roads 443 and 11 extend north and south, respectively, on the eastern side of the PIA. No structures or residences are located in the vicinity of the PIA.

### 4.2 Climate

The PIA has an average maximum temperature of 53° F and average 9

minimum temperature of 17° F (U.S. Climate Data 2020). The average annual precipitation is 10.86 inches of rain and 46 inches of snowfall (U.S. Climate Data 2020). The monthly precipitation average for August is 2.42 inches; however, this August the rainfall was measured at 0.83 inches, which is below normal (Weather Underground 2020).

### 4.3 NWI Mapping

National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) data suggested that wetlands could exist within the PIA, classified as riverine, freshwater pond, and freshwater emergent wetland (See Appendix B, Supporting Maps and Documents, NWI Mapping).

### 4.4 Plant Communities

The plant communities in the PIA consists of emergent wetland vegetation and disturbed roadway edges. The vegetation community is dominated by Baltic rush (*Juncus balticus*) and water sedge (*Carex aquatilis*) within the wetland areas and the upland areas along the edge of the roadway are dominated by smooth brome (*Bromus inermis*), Baltic rush, and Canada thistle (*Circum arvense*).

**Table 1. Plant List**

| Common Name    | Scientific Name        |
|----------------|------------------------|
| Baltic rush    | <i>Juncus balticus</i> |
| Water sedge    | <i>Carex aquatilis</i> |
| Canada thistle | <i>Circum arvense</i>  |
| Smooth brome   | <i>Bromus inermis</i>  |

## 4.5 Hydrology

The dominant hydrological feature in the area is the Middle Fork of the South Platte River, which all surface and sub-surface drainage flows into. From the PIA, the Middle Fork flows southeast until its confluence with the South Platte River, approximately 1 river mile south of the PIA. From this point the South Platte flows southeast, then turn northeast towards Denver, then east where it joins the North Platte River, then continues east to the Missouri River and south to the Gulf of Mexico.

In the wetland areas of the PIA, saturation was present at 7-8 inches below the surface and the water table was within 11-12 inches of the surface. The surrounding uplands soils were also damp but no signs of saturation were present. The primary hydrology input is the river with other inputs that include groundwater and surface runoff from the adjacent hillsides and the highway.

## 4.6 Soils

Five soils were identified in the PIA (See Appendix B, Soil Resource Report; also see Table 2). Four of the soils are considered to be predominantly nonhydric or nonhydric, while the remaining one is considered to be partially hydric (NRCS 2020). Soils observed in the soil pits within the wetland areas were generally dark gray to dark grayish brown with loams and appear to be within the area mapped as Platdon association, a partially hydric soil. The upland soil pits appear to be located within the area mapped as Platdon loam, a predominantly nonhydric soil.

**Table 2. NRCS Soils Mapped within PIA**

| <b>Soil Map Unit Name</b>                  | <b>Potentially Hydric?</b> |
|--|----------------------------|
| Gebson sandy loams, 2 to 10% slopes        | Nonhydric                  |
| Gebson very gravelly loam, 5 to 25% slopes | Nonhydric                  |
| Lanswick loam, 1 to 5% slopes              | Predominantly Nonhydric    |
| Platdon association, 0 to 1% slopes        | Partially Hydric           |
| Platdon loam, 0 to 1% slopes               | Predominantly Nonhydric    |

## 5. Aquatic Resource Results

Field data forms reflect the conditions as observed at the time of investigation and can be found in Appendix C. Associated photos of the sample points can be found in Appendix D. Sample points were chosen to best represent the features observed and are listed in Table 3 (Sample Point Summary Data). The following subsections summarize the results of the delineation including a description of any wetlands delineated, justification for the boundaries, classification of the wetlands, functionality of the wetlands, and any waters identified. Feature details are summarized in Table 4 (Aquatic Resources within PIA).

**Table 3. Sample Point Summary Data**

| <b>Sample Point ID</b> | <b>Hydrophytic Vegetation?</b> | <b>Hydric Soils?</b> | <b>Wetland Hydrology?</b> | <b>Sampled Area within a Wetland?</b> |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| SP1                    | Y                              | Y                    | Y                         | Y                                     |

|     |   |   |   |   |
|-----|---|---|---|---|
| SP2 | N | N | N | N |
| SP3 | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| SP4 | Y | N | N | N |

**Table 4. Aquatic Resources within PIA**

| Name                                  | Cowardin Classification | Location (Lat/Long)   | Size (ac)   | Length (ft) |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Wetlands</b>                       |                         |                       |             |             |
| Wetland 1                             | PEM1C                   | 39.030423/-105.768698 | 0.04        |             |
| Wetland 2a                            | PEM1A                   | 39.030589/-105.768844 | 0.06        |             |
| Wetland 2b                            | PEM1J                   | 39.030416/-105.769317 | 0.60        |             |
| <b>Non-wetland Waters</b>             |                         |                       |             |             |
| Middle Fork of the South Platte River | R3UBG                   | 39.030470/-105.768867 | 0.09        | 102         |
| <b>Totals</b>                         |                         |                       | <b>0.79</b> | <b>102</b>  |

### 5.1 Wetland 1

Wetland 1 is a seasonally flooded palustrine emergent wetland (0.04 ac) located on the southeastern side of the H-13-N bridge. The wetland extends from the OHWM of the adjacent river into the bank and terrace between the roadway fill toe of slope and the adjacent drier land (see Wetland 1, Appendix D: Photo Inventory). Vegetation is characterized as a wet meadow dominated by Baltic rush (FACW) and creeping thistle (FACW). The soils observed in the soil pit (SP1) consisted of dark gray and dark grayish-brown loam and gravely loam with concentrations of redox and depletions starting approximately 5 inches below the surface and to beyond 14 inches. This layer satisfied the Redox Dark Surface (F6) and Depletions Dark Surface (F7) hydric indicators. Wetland hydrology was present at this dry time of the year as saturation starting at 8 inches and the water table starting at 11 inches, though other secondary indicators, such as drainage patterns and geomorphic position, were also observed.

This wetland is likely influenced primarily by the abutting stream, the Middle Fork of the South Platte River, and by potentially surface runoff from the adjacent roadside and drainage swale as well. The east borders were delineated by the transition between hydric and non-hydric as the slopes gradually increased and grew more distant from the river. The north border was delineated by the steep slope of the roadbed. The western boundary was drawn at the edge of the channel's OHWM. Several test pit investigations were conducted immediately west of the river to determine whether the wetland's western boundary extended further; no hydric soils were present in the portion of the PIA located on the southwestern side of the bridge.

### 5.2 Wetland 2

Wetland 2 consists of Wetland 2a (0.06 ac), located on the northeastern side of the H-13-N bridge, and Wetland 2b (0.6 ac), located on the northwestern side of the bridge. Wetland 2 is located within a temporary to intermittently flooded palustrine emergent wetland.

This wetland complex is likely influenced primarily by the abutting stream, the Middle Fork of the South Platte River, and by unimpeded surface and subsurface flow from the upgradient marsh. Vegetation in this complex is characterized by a wet meadow dominated by water sedge (OBL) and Baltic rush (FACW). Similar hydric soil profiles,

detailed below, were observed across the complex. Sample points for the complex were recorded along the wetland's eastern boundary, as the complex's western boundary extends outside of the PIA.

Wetland 2a extends from the OHWM of the abutting channel onto the bank and terrace between the roadway fill toe of slope and the adjacent gently sloping drier land (See Wetland 2a, Appendix D: Photo Inventory). The soils observed in the soil pit (SP3) consisted of dark grayish-brown loam, loamy sand, and sandy loam on top of dark brown sand. The dark grayish-brown later extended from 5 to 12 inches below the surface and contained redox concentrations and coated sand grains within the matrix. This layer satisfied the Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2) hydric indicator. Wetland hydrology was present at this dry time of the year as saturation starting at 8 inches and the water table starting at 12 inches, though other secondary indicators, such as drainage patterns and geomorphic position, were also observed.

The east borders of Wetland 2a were delineated by where the soils became non-hydric as the slopes gradually increased and grew more distant from the river. The southern border was delineated by the steep slope of the roadbed. The break between Wetland 2a and 2b was drawn at the edge of the abutting channel's OHWM.

The western boundary of Wetland 2b was delineated at the western extent of the PIA, although the wetland likely extends to the nearby branch of the Middle Fork of the South Platte River located west of the PIA (Figure 1). Potential fens categorized (recorded as low confidence fens) have been mapped adjacent to the channel west of the PIA. Due to field observations and proximity to the fens, it is likely that the potential fens are within the same wetland complex as Wetland 2.

### 5.3 Middle Fork of the South Platte River

The Middle Fork of the South Platte River is the only perennial riverine system in the PIA (102 linear feet, 0.09 acres). It is part of a heavily braided segment of the Middle Fork of the South Platte River that flows northwest to southeast, with the largest channel of the system located west of the PIA. The OHWM was determined by recording evidence of debris wracking and emergent vegetation (See Middle Fork of the South Platte River, Appendix D: Photo Inventory).

## 6. Interstate Commerce

Federal authority to regulate waters within the United States is primarily derived from the Commerce Clause, which gives Congress the power to regulate interstate commerce. Section 404 of the Clean Water Act defines the limits of jurisdiction as encompassing navigable waters and waters of the U.S. including, among other water bodies, "waters which are currently used, or were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce" (40 CFR § 120.2(1)(i)).

The section of the stream intersecting the PIA is currently primarily used for recreational purposes. The replacement of the existing bridge with an updated structure to meet CDOT

standards will not affect water flows or alter the ability of the stream to support any future interstate commerce.

## 7. Summary

Two emergent wetlands (0.7 acres total) identified and delineated within the Potential Impact Area that are all connected to the Middle Fork of the South Platte River (0.09 acres and 102 linear feet).

### 7.1 Anticipated Impacts

In the event that the selected Project design will impact any potential waters of the U.S. delineated in this report, the impacts to these resources would need to be approved or permitted by the USACE. Depending on the level of impacts, the Project would likely require permitting under the Nationwide Permit (NWP) program or through an Individual Permit (IP). The NWP program is available for projects with relatively minor impacts (the exact nature of the impacts and acreage thresholds depend on the applicable NWP), while IPs are required for projects with larger impacts and can involve a lengthy permitting process.

Permitting impacts to wetlands under the NPW program would likely require the submittal of a pre-construction notification to the Corps, as the project wetlands identified within the PIA are located approximately 0.3 miles from of a potential fen (OTIS 2020). Per the Colorado Regional Conditions, “[a]ll nationwide permits, with the exception of 3, 5, 6, 20, 27, 32, 37, and 38, are revoked for activities located in fens and wetlands adjacent to fens” (USACE 2017). Although the Stanley biologists did not identify any fens within the PIA, based on aerials, the PIA wetlands’ location within a marsh system, and the National Wetland Inventory mapping, there is potential for the delineated wetlands to be considered to be part of the potential fen complex. As such, in order to be permitted under an applicable NWP, prior to commencing any Project activities the applicant will be required to submit a Pre-Construction Notification to the USACE successfully demonstrating any adverse environmental effects to the fen hydrology are minimal in order to qualify for NWP coverage.

CDOT also assesses projects for wetland impacts and compensates for losses, which it evaluates through the Wetland Findings Report. Once Project impacts have been determined, the Contractor will be required 1) determine whether the impacts meet the CDOT Programmatic or Non-Programmatic report template requirement criteria, 2) complete the existing Wetland Findings Report; and 3) submit the Wetland Findings Report to CDOT for approval. At the request of CDOT, a Programmatic Wetland Findings Report has been started with the available information and is provided in Appendix F.

### 7.2 Avoidance and Mitigation Measures

Measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate for potential impacts to wetlands and other WOTUS include:

- Tailoring design to avoid or minimize impacts as much as possible given structural constraints.
- Having construction methods and equipment that can avoid or minimize temporary impacts by reducing footprint of machines used or accessing work from roadway fill or other uplands.
- Developing compensatory mitigation measures, if impacts are not avoidable. These measures would be a part of the permitting process with the USACE.
- Developing a detailed and thorough construction plan which includes best management practices. An example is a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan that incorporates measures to protect sensitive resources from stormwater run-off, pollutants, etc., due to construction activities.

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## List of Preparers

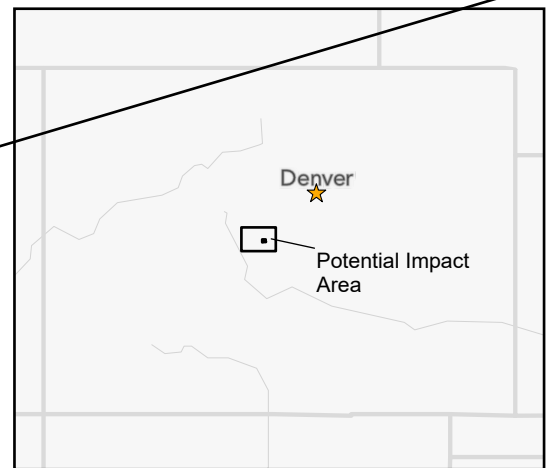
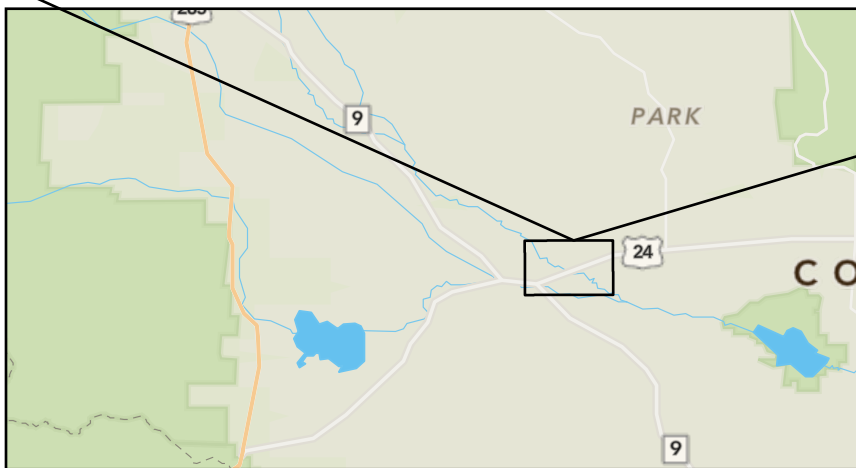
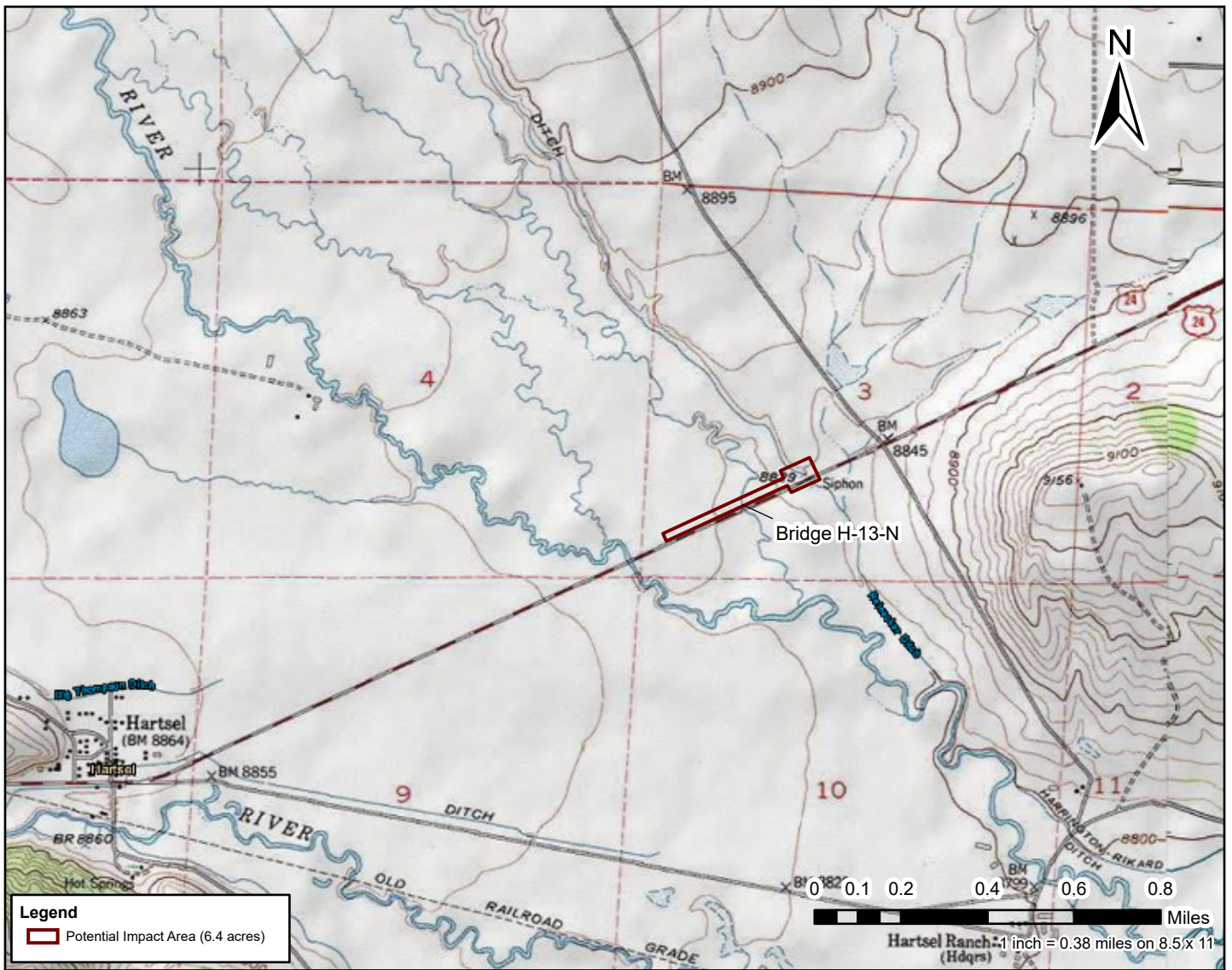
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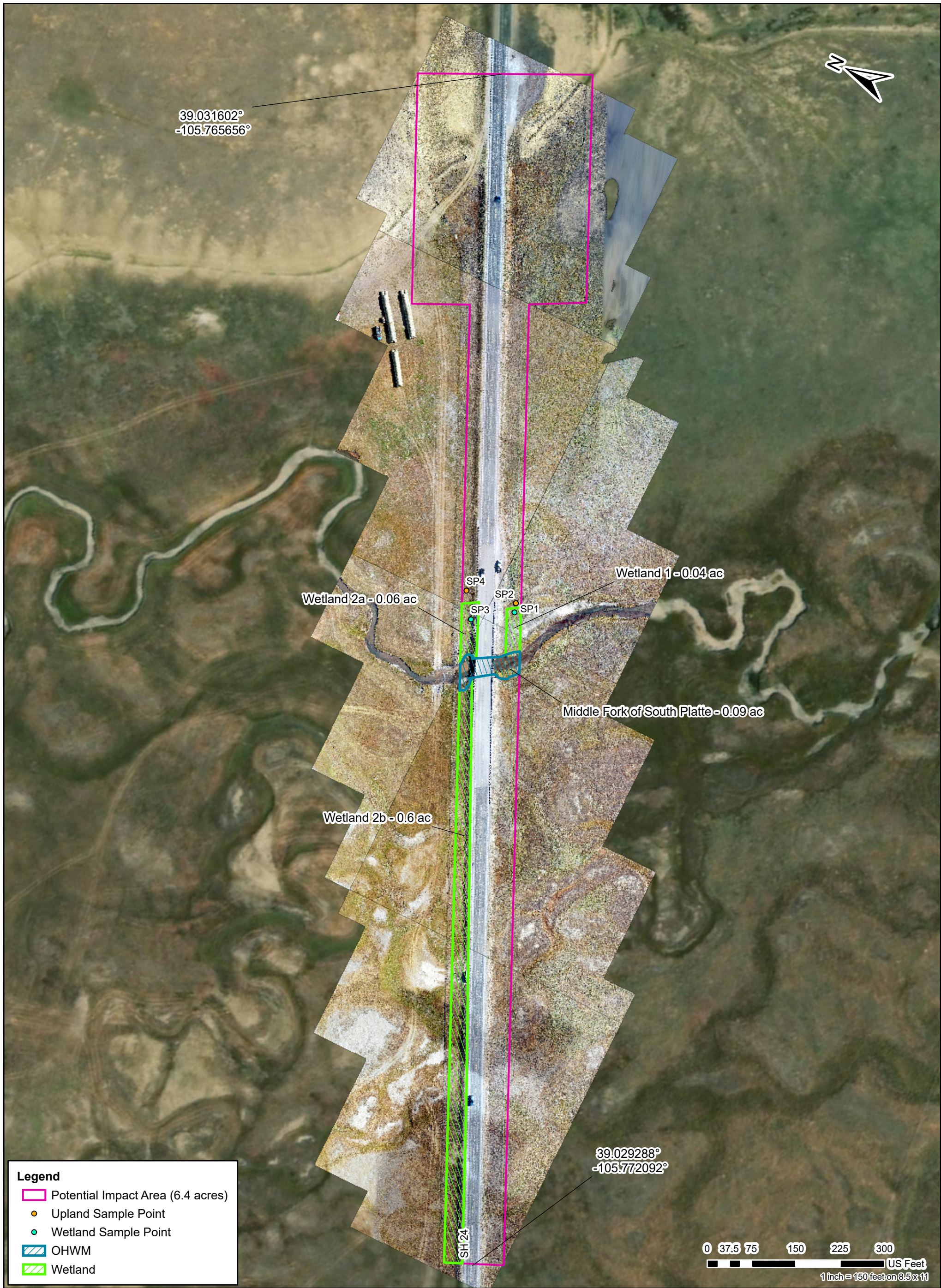
## **Appendix A**

### **Aquatic Resources Delineation Maps**



COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
 Region 2 Bridge Rebuild Project - Bridge H-13-N  
 Aquatic Resources Delineation Report

**Figure 1**  
 Vicinity Map



**Legend**

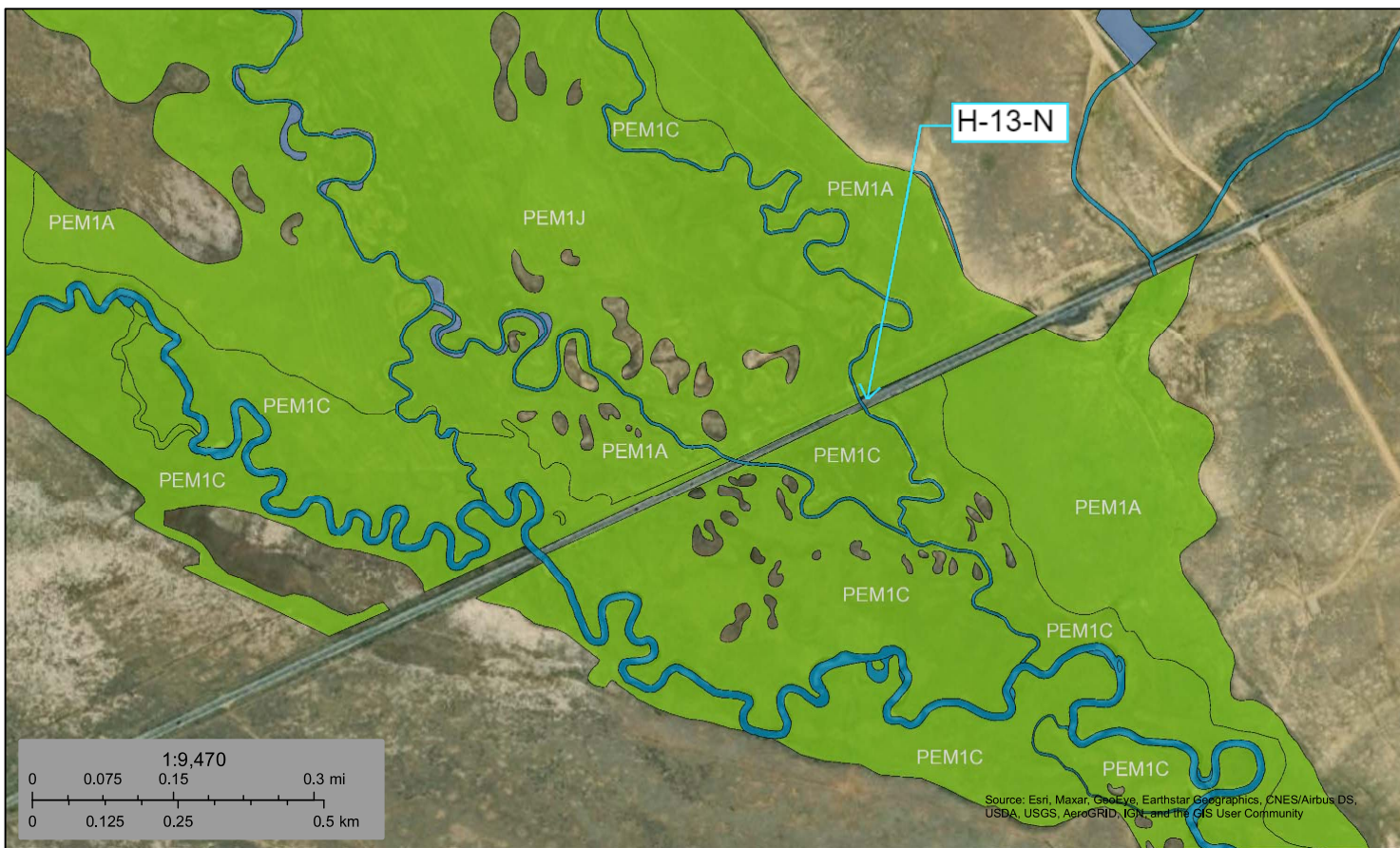
- Potential Impact Area (6.4 acres)
- Upland Sample Point
- Wetland Sample Point
- OHWM
- Wetland

**COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**Region 2 Bridge Rebuild Project - Bridge H-13-N**  
**Aquatic Resources Delineation Report**

**Figure 2**  
**Potential Waters of the U.S. Delineation**

## **Appendix B**

### Supporting Maps and Documents



November 5, 2020

**Wetlands**

- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Estuarine and Marine Wetland

- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Pond

- Lake
- Other
- Riverine

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.

# Custom Soil Resource Report for Teller-Park Area, Colorado, Parts of Park and Teller Counties

## Bridge H-13-N



November 23, 2020



# Preface

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Soil surveys contain information that affects land use planning in survey areas. They highlight soil limitations that affect various land uses and provide information about the properties of the soils in the survey areas. Soil surveys are designed for many different users, including farmers, ranchers, foresters, agronomists, urban planners, community officials, engineers, developers, builders, and home buyers. Also, conservationists, teachers, students, and specialists in recreation, waste disposal, and pollution control can use the surveys to help them understand, protect, or enhance the environment.

Various land use regulations of Federal, State, and local governments may impose special restrictions on land use or land treatment. Soil surveys identify soil properties that are used in making various land use or land treatment decisions. The information is intended to help the land users identify and reduce the effects of soil limitations on various land uses. The landowner or user is responsible for identifying and complying with existing laws and regulations.

Although soil survey information can be used for general farm, local, and wider area planning, onsite investigation is needed to supplement this information in some cases. Examples include soil quality assessments (<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/soils/health/>) and certain conservation and engineering applications. For more detailed information, contact your local USDA Service Center (<https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?agency=nrcs>) or your NRCS State Soil Scientist ([http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/contactus/?cid=nrcs142p2\\_053951](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/contactus/?cid=nrcs142p2_053951)).

Great differences in soil properties can occur within short distances. Some soils are seasonally wet or subject to flooding. Some are too unstable to be used as a foundation for buildings or roads. Clayey or wet soils are poorly suited to use as septic tank absorption fields. A high water table makes a soil poorly suited to basements or underground installations.

The National Cooperative Soil Survey is a joint effort of the United States Department of Agriculture and other Federal agencies, State agencies including the Agricultural Experiment Stations, and local agencies. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has leadership for the Federal part of the National Cooperative Soil Survey.

Information about soils is updated periodically. Updated information is available through the NRCS Web Soil Survey, the site for official soil survey information.

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# How Soil Surveys Are Made

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Soil surveys are made to provide information about the soils and miscellaneous areas in a specific area. They include a description of the soils and miscellaneous areas and their location on the landscape and tables that show soil properties and limitations affecting various uses. Soil scientists observed the steepness, length, and shape of the slopes; the general pattern of drainage; the kinds of crops and native plants; and the kinds of bedrock. They observed and described many soil profiles. A soil profile is the sequence of natural layers, or horizons, in a soil. The profile extends from the surface down into the unconsolidated material in which the soil formed or from the surface down to bedrock. The unconsolidated material is devoid of roots and other living organisms and has not been changed by other biological activity.

Currently, soils are mapped according to the boundaries of major land resource areas (MLRAs). MLRAs are geographically associated land resource units that share common characteristics related to physiography, geology, climate, water resources, soils, biological resources, and land uses (USDA, 2006). Soil survey areas typically consist of parts of one or more MLRA.

The soils and miscellaneous areas in a survey area occur in an orderly pattern that is related to the geology, landforms, relief, climate, and natural vegetation of the area. Each kind of soil and miscellaneous area is associated with a particular kind of landform or with a segment of the landform. By observing the soils and miscellaneous areas in the survey area and relating their position to specific segments of the landform, a soil scientist develops a concept, or model, of how they were formed. Thus, during mapping, this model enables the soil scientist to predict with a considerable degree of accuracy the kind of soil or miscellaneous area at a specific location on the landscape.

Commonly, individual soils on the landscape merge into one another as their characteristics gradually change. To construct an accurate soil map, however, soil scientists must determine the boundaries between the soils. They can observe only a limited number of soil profiles. Nevertheless, these observations, supplemented by an understanding of the soil-vegetation-landscape relationship, are sufficient to verify predictions of the kinds of soil in an area and to determine the boundaries.

Soil scientists recorded the characteristics of the soil profiles that they studied. They noted soil color, texture, size and shape of soil aggregates, kind and amount of rock fragments, distribution of plant roots, reaction, and other features that enable them to identify soils. After describing the soils in the survey area and determining their properties, the soil scientists assigned the soils to taxonomic classes (units). Taxonomic classes are concepts. Each taxonomic class has a set of soil characteristics with precisely defined limits. The classes are used as a basis for comparison to classify soils systematically. Soil taxonomy, the system of taxonomic classification used in the United States, is based mainly on the kind and character of soil properties and the arrangement of horizons within the profile. After the soil

scientists classified and named the soils in the survey area, they compared the individual soils with similar soils in the same taxonomic class in other areas so that they could confirm data and assemble additional data based on experience and research.

The objective of soil mapping is not to delineate pure map unit components; the objective is to separate the landscape into landforms or landform segments that have similar use and management requirements. Each map unit is defined by a unique combination of soil components and/or miscellaneous areas in predictable proportions. Some components may be highly contrasting to the other components of the map unit. The presence of minor components in a map unit in no way diminishes the usefulness or accuracy of the data. The delineation of such landforms and landform segments on the map provides sufficient information for the development of resource plans. If intensive use of small areas is planned, onsite investigation is needed to define and locate the soils and miscellaneous areas.

Soil scientists make many field observations in the process of producing a soil map. The frequency of observation is dependent upon several factors, including scale of mapping, intensity of mapping, design of map units, complexity of the landscape, and experience of the soil scientist. Observations are made to test and refine the soil-landscape model and predictions and to verify the classification of the soils at specific locations. Once the soil-landscape model is refined, a significantly smaller number of measurements of individual soil properties are made and recorded. These measurements may include field measurements, such as those for color, depth to bedrock, and texture, and laboratory measurements, such as those for content of sand, silt, clay, salt, and other components. Properties of each soil typically vary from one point to another across the landscape.

Observations for map unit components are aggregated to develop ranges of characteristics for the components. The aggregated values are presented. Direct measurements do not exist for every property presented for every map unit component. Values for some properties are estimated from combinations of other properties.

While a soil survey is in progress, samples of some of the soils in the area generally are collected for laboratory analyses and for engineering tests. Soil scientists interpret the data from these analyses and tests as well as the field-observed characteristics and the soil properties to determine the expected behavior of the soils under different uses. Interpretations for all of the soils are field tested through observation of the soils in different uses and under different levels of management. Some interpretations are modified to fit local conditions, and some new interpretations are developed to meet local needs. Data are assembled from other sources, such as research information, production records, and field experience of specialists. For example, data on crop yields under defined levels of management are assembled from farm records and from field or plot experiments on the same kinds of soil.

Predictions about soil behavior are based not only on soil properties but also on such variables as climate and biological activity. Soil conditions are predictable over long periods of time, but they are not predictable from year to year. For example, soil scientists can predict with a fairly high degree of accuracy that a given soil will have a high water table within certain depths in most years, but they cannot predict that a high water table will always be at a specific level in the soil on a specific date.

After soil scientists located and identified the significant natural bodies of soil in the survey area, they drew the boundaries of these bodies on aerial photographs and

## Custom Soil Resource Report

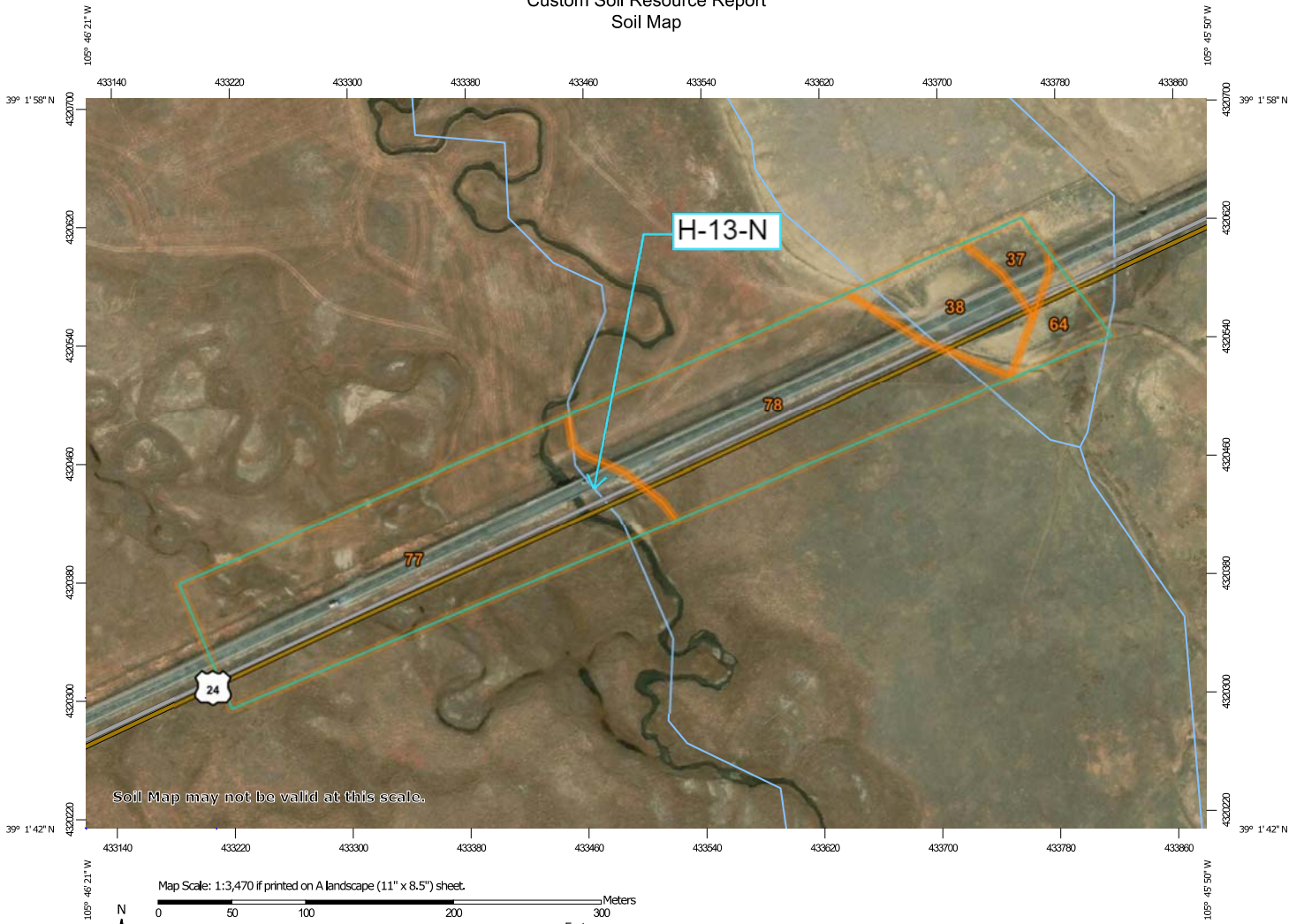
identified each as a specific map unit. Aerial photographs show trees, buildings, fields, roads, and rivers, all of which help in locating boundaries accurately.

# Soil Map

---

The soil map section includes the soil map for the defined area of interest, a list of soil map units on the map and extent of each map unit, and cartographic symbols displayed on the map. Also presented are various metadata about data used to produce the map, and a description of each soil map unit.





































Custom Soil Resource Report  
Soil Map



Map Scale: 1:3,470 if printed on A landscape (11" x 8.5") sheet.  
Map projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84 Edge tics: UTM Zone 13N WGS84



### MAP LEGEND

|  |                        |   |                       |
|--|------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| <b>Area of Interest (AOI)</b>  |                        |  | Spoil Area            |
|   | Area of Interest (AOI) |  | Stony Spot            |
| <b>Soils</b>   |                        |  | Very Stony Spot       |
|   | Soil Map Unit Polygons |  | Wet Spot              |
|   | Soil Map Unit Lines    |  | Other                 |
|   | Soil Map Unit Points   |  | Special Line Features |
| <b>Special Point Features</b>  |                        | <b>Water Features</b>   |                       |
|   | Blowout                |  | Streams and Canals    |
|   | Borrow Pit             | <b>Transportation</b>   |                       |
|   | Clay Spot              |  | Rails                 |
|   | Closed Depression      |  | Interstate Highways   |
|   | Gravel Pit             |  | US Routes             |
|   | Gravelly Spot          |  | Major Roads           |
|   | Landfill               |  | Local Roads           |
|   | Lava Flow              | <b>Background</b>   |                       |
|   | Marsh or swamp         |  | Aerial Photography    |
|   | Mine or Quarry         |   |                       |
|   | Miscellaneous Water    |   |                       |
|   | Perennial Water        |   |                       |
|   | Rock Outcrop           |   |                       |
|   | Saline Spot            |   |                       |
|   | Sandy Spot             |   |                       |
|   | Severely Eroded Spot   |   |                       |
|   | Sinkhole               |   |                       |
|   | Slide or Slip          |   |                       |
|  | Sodic Spot             |   |                       |

### MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:24,000.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service  
 Web Soil Survey URL:  
 Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Teller-Park Area, Colorado, Parts of Park and Teller Counties  
 Survey Area Data: Version 12, Jun 5, 2020

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Jul 4, 2010—Nov 8, 2017

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background

**MAP LEGEND**

**MAP INFORMATION**

imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

## Map Unit Legend

| Map Unit Symbol                    | Map Unit Name                                     | Acres in AOI | Percent of AOI |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------|----------------|
| 37                                 | Gebson sandy loam, 2 to 10 percent slopes         | 0.5          | 3.1%           |
| 38                                 | Gebson very gravelly loam, 5 to 25 percent slopes | 1.5          | 9.9%           |
| 64                                 | Lanswick loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes              | 0.6          | 3.9%           |
| 77                                 | Platdon association, 0 to 1 percent slopes        | 7.0          | 46.9%          |
| 78                                 | Platdon loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes               | 5.4          | 36.2%          |
| <b>Totals for Area of Interest</b> |   | <b>14.9</b>  | <b>100.0%</b>  |

## Map Unit Descriptions

The map units delineated on the detailed soil maps in a soil survey represent the soils or miscellaneous areas in the survey area. The map unit descriptions, along with the maps, can be used to determine the composition and properties of a unit.

A map unit delineation on a soil map represents an area dominated by one or more major kinds of soil or miscellaneous areas. A map unit is identified and named according to the taxonomic classification of the dominant soils. Within a taxonomic class there are precisely defined limits for the properties of the soils. On the landscape, however, the soils are natural phenomena, and they have the characteristic variability of all natural phenomena. Thus, the range of some observed properties may extend beyond the limits defined for a taxonomic class. Areas of soils of a single taxonomic class rarely, if ever, can be mapped without including areas of other taxonomic classes. Consequently, every map unit is made up of the soils or miscellaneous areas for which it is named and some minor components that belong to taxonomic classes other than those of the major soils.

Most minor soils have properties similar to those of the dominant soil or soils in the map unit, and thus they do not affect use and management. These are called noncontrasting, or similar, components. They may or may not be mentioned in a particular map unit description. Other minor components, however, have properties and behavioral characteristics divergent enough to affect use or to require different management. These are called contrasting, or dissimilar, components. They generally are in small areas and could not be mapped separately because of the scale used. Some small areas of strongly contrasting soils or miscellaneous areas are identified by a special symbol on the maps. If included in the database for a given area, the contrasting minor components are identified in the map unit descriptions along with some characteristics of each. A few areas of minor components may not have been observed, and consequently they are not mentioned in the descriptions, especially where the pattern was so complex that it was impractical to make enough observations to identify all the soils and miscellaneous areas on the landscape.

The presence of minor components in a map unit in no way diminishes the usefulness or accuracy of the data. The objective of mapping is not to delineate pure taxonomic classes but rather to separate the landscape into landforms or landform segments that have similar use and management requirements. The delineation of such segments on the map provides sufficient information for the development of resource plans. If intensive use of small areas is planned, however, onsite investigation is needed to define and locate the soils and miscellaneous areas.

An identifying symbol precedes the map unit name in the map unit descriptions. Each description includes general facts about the unit and gives important soil properties and qualities.

Soils that have profiles that are almost alike make up a *soil series*. Except for differences in texture of the surface layer, all the soils of a series have major horizons that are similar in composition, thickness, and arrangement.

Soils of one series can differ in texture of the surface layer, slope, stoniness, salinity, degree of erosion, and other characteristics that affect their use. On the basis of such differences, a soil series is divided into *soil phases*. Most of the areas shown on the detailed soil maps are phases of soil series. The name of a soil phase commonly indicates a feature that affects use or management. For example, Alpha silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is a phase of the Alpha series.

Some map units are made up of two or more major soils or miscellaneous areas. These map units are complexes, associations, or undifferentiated groups.

A *complex* consists of two or more soils or miscellaneous areas in such an intricate pattern or in such small areas that they cannot be shown separately on the maps. The pattern and proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas are somewhat similar in all areas. Alpha-Beta complex, 0 to 6 percent slopes, is an example.

An *association* is made up of two or more geographically associated soils or miscellaneous areas that are shown as one unit on the maps. Because of present or anticipated uses of the map units in the survey area, it was not considered practical or necessary to map the soils or miscellaneous areas separately. The pattern and relative proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas are somewhat similar. Alpha-Beta association, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is an example.

An *undifferentiated group* is made up of two or more soils or miscellaneous areas that could be mapped individually but are mapped as one unit because similar interpretations can be made for use and management. The pattern and proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas in a mapped area are not uniform. An area can be made up of only one of the major soils or miscellaneous areas, or it can be made up of all of them. Alpha and Beta soils, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is an example.

Some surveys include *miscellaneous areas*. Such areas have little or no soil material and support little or no vegetation. Rock outcrop is an example.

## Teller-Park Area, Colorado, Parts of Park and Teller Counties

### 37—Gebson sandy loam, 2 to 10 percent slopes

#### Map Unit Setting

*National map unit symbol:* k103  
*Elevation:* 8,900 to 9,600 feet  
*Mean annual precipitation:* 10 to 16 inches  
*Mean annual air temperature:* 35 to 39 degrees F  
*Frost-free period:* 50 to 80 days  
*Farmland classification:* Not prime farmland

#### Map Unit Composition

*Gebson and similar soils:* 85 percent  
*Minor components:* 15 percent  
*Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.*

#### Description of Gebson

##### Setting

*Landform:* Fan remnants, pediments  
*Down-slope shape:* Linear  
*Across-slope shape:* Linear  
*Parent material:* Alluvium and/or slope alluvium

##### Typical profile

*A - 0 to 2 inches:* sandy loam  
*Bt1 - 2 to 12 inches:* sandy clay loam  
*Bt2 - 12 to 18 inches:* gravelly sandy clay loam  
*Bk1 - 18 to 32 inches:* gravelly sandy clay loam  
*Bk2 - 32 to 60 inches:* gravelly sandy clay loam

##### Properties and qualities

*Slope:* 2 to 10 percent  
*Depth to restrictive feature:* More than 80 inches  
*Drainage class:* Well drained  
*Runoff class:* Medium  
*Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat):* Moderately high to high (0.60 to 2.00 in/hr)  
*Depth to water table:* More than 80 inches  
*Frequency of flooding:* None  
*Frequency of ponding:* None  
*Calcium carbonate, maximum content:* 20 percent  
*Maximum salinity:* Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 2.0 mmhos/cm)  
*Available water capacity:* Low (about 4.6 inches)

##### Interpretive groups

*Land capability classification (irrigated):* None specified  
*Land capability classification (nonirrigated):* 6e  
*Hydrologic Soil Group:* B  
*Ecological site:* R048BY225CO - Mountain Loam 10-16" South Park  
*Hydric soil rating:* No

**Minor Components**

**Hodden**

*Percent of map unit:* 6 percent  
*Landform:* Breaks  
*Ecological site:* R048BY225CO - Mountain Loam 10-16" South Park  
*Hydric soil rating:* No

**Glentivar**

*Percent of map unit:* 6 percent  
*Landform:* Ridges  
*Ecological site:* R048BY225CO - Mountain Loam 10-16" South Park  
*Hydric soil rating:* No

**Lanswick**

*Percent of map unit:* 3 percent  
*Landform:* Drainageways  
*Ecological site:* R048BY225CO - Mountain Loam 10-16" South Park  
*Hydric soil rating:* No

**38—Gebson very gravelly loam, 5 to 25 percent slopes**

**Map Unit Setting**

*National map unit symbol:* k108  
*Elevation:* 9,000 to 9,300 feet  
*Mean annual precipitation:* 10 to 16 inches  
*Mean annual air temperature:* 35 to 39 degrees F  
*Frost-free period:* 50 to 80 days  
*Farmland classification:* Not prime farmland

**Map Unit Composition**

*Gebson and similar soils:* 80 percent  
*Minor components:* 20 percent  
*Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.*

**Description of Gebson**

**Setting**

*Landform:* Fan remnants, pediments  
*Down-slope shape:* Linear  
*Across-slope shape:* Linear  
*Parent material:* Alluvium and/or slope alluvium

**Typical profile**

*A - 0 to 4 inches:* very gravelly loam  
*Bt1 - 4 to 7 inches:* loam  
*Bt2 - 7 to 13 inches:* loam  
*Bt3 - 13 to 21 inches:* loam  
*Bk1 - 21 to 30 inches:* sandy loam  
*Bk2 - 30 to 37 inches:* sandy loam

## Custom Soil Resource Report

*Bk3 - 37 to 46 inches: sandy loam*

*Bk4 - 46 to 51 inches: loam*

*Bk5 - 51 to 60 inches: sandy loam*

### Properties and qualities

*Slope: 5 to 25 percent*

*Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches*

*Drainage class: Well drained*

*Runoff class: Medium*

*Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high to high  
(0.60 to 2.00 in/hr)*

*Depth to water table: More than 80 inches*

*Frequency of flooding: None*

*Frequency of ponding: None*

*Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 20 percent*

*Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 2.0 mmhos/cm)*

*Available water capacity: Moderate (about 6.5 inches)*

### Interpretive groups

*Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified*

*Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 6e*

*Hydrologic Soil Group: B*

*Ecological site: R048BY227CO*

*Hydric soil rating: No*

### Minor Components

#### Temdille

*Percent of map unit: 10 percent*

*Landform: Alluvial fans, bajadas*

*Ecological site: R048BY227CO*

*Hydric soil rating: No*

#### Glentivar

*Percent of map unit: 5 percent*

*Landform: Ridges*

*Ecological site: R048BY225CO - Mountain Loam 10-16" South Park*

*Hydric soil rating: No*

#### Hodden

*Percent of map unit: 5 percent*

*Landform: Breaks*

*Ecological site: R048BY225CO - Mountain Loam 10-16" South Park*

*Hydric soil rating: No*

## 64—Lanswick loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes

### Map Unit Setting

*National map unit symbol: k115*

*Elevation: 8,900 to 9,200 feet*

*Mean annual precipitation: 10 to 16 inches*

## Custom Soil Resource Report

*Mean annual air temperature:* 35 to 39 degrees F

*Frost-free period:* 50 to 80 days

*Farmland classification:* Not prime farmland

### Map Unit Composition

*Lanswick and similar soils:* 90 percent

*Minor components:* 10 percent

*Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.*

### Description of Lanswick

#### Setting

*Landform:* Flood-plain steps, drainageways, flood plains

*Down-slope shape:* Linear

*Across-slope shape:* Linear

*Parent material:* Alluvium

#### Typical profile

*A1 - 0 to 5 inches:* loam

*A2 - 5 to 13 inches:* loam

*A3 - 13 to 23 inches:* sandy loam

*Bw - 23 to 33 inches:* sandy loam

*Bk1 - 33 to 43 inches:* loam

*Bk2 - 43 to 60 inches:* stratified loamy coarse sand to loam

#### Properties and qualities

*Slope:* 1 to 5 percent

*Depth to restrictive feature:* More than 80 inches

*Drainage class:* Well drained

*Runoff class:* Low

*Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat):* Moderately high to high  
(0.60 to 2.00 in/hr)

*Depth to water table:* More than 80 inches

*Frequency of flooding:* NoneRare

*Frequency of ponding:* None

*Calcium carbonate, maximum content:* 10 percent

*Maximum salinity:* Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 2.0 mmhos/cm)

*Available water capacity:* Moderate (about 7.0 inches)

#### Interpretive groups

*Land capability classification (irrigated):* None specified

*Land capability classification (nonirrigated):* 6c

*Hydrologic Soil Group:* B

*Ecological site:* R048BY280CO

*Hydric soil rating:* No

### Minor Components

#### Hodden

*Percent of map unit:* 2 percent

*Landform:* Breaks

*Ecological site:* R048BY225CO - Mountain Loam 10-16" South Park

*Hydric soil rating:* No

#### Gebson

*Percent of map unit:* 2 percent

*Landform:* Fan remnants



*Ecological site:* R048BY225CO - Mountain Loam 10-16" South Park  
*Hydric soil rating:* No

**Glentivar**

*Percent of map unit:* 2 percent  
*Landform:* Ridges  
*Ecological site:* R048BY225CO - Mountain Loam 10-16" South Park  
*Hydric soil rating:* No

**Platdon, frequently flooded**

*Percent of map unit:* 2 percent  
*Landform:* Flood plains  
*Ecological site:* R048AY241CO  
*Hydric soil rating:* Yes

**Temdille**

*Percent of map unit:* 2 percent  
*Landform:* Bajadas  
*Ecological site:* R048BY225CO - Mountain Loam 10-16" South Park  
*Hydric soil rating:* No

**77—Platdon association, 0 to 1 percent slopes**

**Map Unit Setting**

*National map unit symbol:* k12q  
*Elevation:* 8,700 to 9,000 feet  
*Mean annual precipitation:* 10 to 16 inches  
*Mean annual air temperature:* 35 to 39 degrees F  
*Frost-free period:* 50 to 80 days  
*Farmland classification:* Not prime farmland

**Map Unit Composition**

*Platdon, poorly drained, and similar soils:* 65 percent  
*Platdon, frequently flooded, and similar soils:* 25 percent  
*Minor components:* 10 percent  
*Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.*

**Description of Platdon, Poorly Drained**

**Setting**

*Landform:* Flood-plain steps  
*Landform position (three-dimensional):* Tread  
*Down-slope shape:* Linear  
*Across-slope shape:* Concave  
*Parent material:* Alluvium

**Typical profile**

*A1 - 0 to 4 inches:* loam  
*A2 - 4 to 9 inches:* loam  
*AB - 9 to 16 inches:* clay loam  
*Bg - 16 to 22 inches:* gravelly loam

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2C - 22 to 37 inches: very gravelly loamy coarse sand

2Cg - 37 to 60 inches: extremely gravelly coarse sand

### Properties and qualities

*Slope:* 0 to 1 percent

*Depth to restrictive feature:* 20 to 31 inches to strongly contrasting textural stratification

*Drainage class:* Poorly drained

*Runoff class:* Low

*Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat):* Moderately high (0.20 to 0.60 in/hr)

*Depth to water table:* About 12 to 20 inches

*Frequency of flooding:* NoneRare

*Frequency of ponding:* None

*Calcium carbonate, maximum content:* 5 percent

*Maximum salinity:* Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 2.0 mmhos/cm)

*Available water capacity:* Very low (about 2.7 inches)

### Interpretive groups

*Land capability classification (irrigated):* None specified

*Land capability classification (nonirrigated):* 6c

*Hydrologic Soil Group:* C/D

*Ecological site:* R048BY268CO

*Hydric soil rating:* No

## Description of Platdon, Frequently Flooded

### Setting

*Landform:* Flood plains

*Down-slope shape:* Linear

*Across-slope shape:* Linear

*Parent material:* Alluvium

### Typical profile

*A - 0 to 8 inches:* loam

*Ag - 8 to 18 inches:* loam

*Cg1 - 18 to 30 inches:* very gravelly sandy clay loam

*2Cg2 - 30 to 60 inches:* extremely gravelly sand

### Properties and qualities

*Slope:* 0 to 1 percent

*Depth to restrictive feature:* 25 to 35 inches to strongly contrasting textural stratification

*Drainage class:* Very poorly drained

*Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat):* Moderately high to high (0.60 to 2.00 in/hr)

*Depth to water table:* About 0 to 10 inches

*Frequency of flooding:* NoneFrequent

*Frequency of ponding:* None

*Maximum salinity:* Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 2.0 mmhos/cm)

*Available water capacity:* Very low (about 2.6 inches)

### Interpretive groups

*Land capability classification (irrigated):* None specified

*Land capability classification (nonirrigated):* 6w

*Hydrologic Soil Group:* B/D

*Ecological site:* R048AY241CO

*Hydric soil rating:* Yes

**Minor Components**

**Spinth**

*Percent of map unit:* 5 percent  
*Landform:* Flood-plain steps  
*Down-slope shape:* Linear  
*Across-slope shape:* Linear  
*Ecological site:* R048BY221CO  
*Hydric soil rating:* No

**Gebson**

*Percent of map unit:* 3 percent  
*Landform:* Hills  
*Landform position (three-dimensional):* Base slope  
*Ecological site:* R048BY225CO - Mountain Loam 10-16" South Park  
*Hydric soil rating:* No

**Hartsel**

*Percent of map unit:* 2 percent  
*Landform:* Flood-plain steps  
*Down-slope shape:* Linear  
*Across-slope shape:* Linear  
*Ecological site:* R048AY241CO  
*Hydric soil rating:* No

**78—Platdon loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes**

**Map Unit Setting**

*National map unit symbol:* k12h  
*Elevation:* 8,700 to 9,000 feet  
*Mean annual precipitation:* 10 to 16 inches  
*Mean annual air temperature:* 35 to 39 degrees F  
*Frost-free period:* 50 to 80 days  
*Farmland classification:* Not prime farmland

**Map Unit Composition**

*Platdon, poorly drained, and similar soils:* 90 percent  
*Minor components:* 10 percent  
*Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.*

**Description of Platdon, Poorly Drained**

**Setting**

*Landform:* Flood-plain steps  
*Landform position (three-dimensional):* Tread  
*Down-slope shape:* Linear  
*Across-slope shape:* Concave  
*Parent material:* Alluvium

**Typical profile**

*A1 - 0 to 4 inches: loam*  
*A2 - 4 to 9 inches: loam*  
*AB - 9 to 16 inches: clay loam*  
*Bg - 16 to 22 inches: gravelly loam*  
*2C - 22 to 37 inches: very gravelly loamy coarse sand*  
*2Cg - 37 to 60 inches: extremely gravelly coarse sand*

**Properties and qualities**

*Slope: 0 to 1 percent*  
*Depth to restrictive feature: 20 to 31 inches to strongly contrasting textural stratification*  
*Drainage class: Poorly drained*  
*Runoff class: Low*  
*Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high (0.20 to 0.60 in/hr)*  
*Depth to water table: About 12 to 20 inches*  
*Frequency of flooding: NoneRare*  
*Frequency of ponding: None*  
*Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 5 percent*  
*Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 2.0 mmhos/cm)*  
*Available water capacity: Very low (about 2.7 inches)*

**Interpretive groups**

*Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified*  
*Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 6c*  
*Hydrologic Soil Group: C/D*  
*Ecological site: R048BY268CO*  
*Hydric soil rating: No*

**Minor Components**

**Platdon, frequently flooded**

*Percent of map unit: 5 percent*  
*Landform: Flood plains*  
*Ecological site: R048AY241CO*  
*Hydric soil rating: Yes*

**Gebson**

*Percent of map unit: 2 percent*  
*Landform: Hills*  
*Landform position (three-dimensional): Base slope*  
*Ecological site: R048BY225CO - Mountain Loam 10-16" South Park*  
*Hydric soil rating: No*

**Spinth**

*Percent of map unit: 2 percent*  
*Landform: Flood-plain steps*  
*Down-slope shape: Linear*  
*Across-slope shape: Linear*  
*Ecological site: R048BY221CO*  
*Hydric soil rating: No*

**Hartsel**

*Percent of map unit: 1 percent*  
*Landform: Flood-plain steps*  
*Down-slope shape: Linear*

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*Across-slope shape:* Linear  
*Ecological site:* R048AY241CO  
*Hydric soil rating:* No

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## **Appendix C**

### Wetland Delineation Datasheets



## WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

Project/Site: H-13-N City/County: Park County Sampling Date: 8/30/2020  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: SP1  
 Investigator(s): R. Black, T. Toler Section, Township, Range: T12S, R75W, Section 3  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Terrace Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave Slope (%): 1  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR E Lat: 39.030472 Long: -105.768507 Datum: NAD83  
 Soil Map Unit Name: Platdon association, 0 to 1 percent slopes NWI classification: PEM1C

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____<br>Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____<br>Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____                                       | Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No _____ |
| Remarks:<br>Average precipitation in the area in August is 2.42 inches; rainfall in August this year was 0.83 inches.<br>Sample point is located within emergent marsh next to river channel. |   |

### VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

| Tree Stratum (Plot size: _____)                                  | Absolute % Cover | Dominant Species? | Indicator Status | Dominance Test worksheet:  |  |
|--|------------------|-------------------|------------------|--|--|
| 1. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            | Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>1</u> (A)      |  |
| 2. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            | Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>1</u> (B)         |  |
| 3. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            | Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100</u> (A/B) |  |
| 4. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            | <b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b>                                       |  |
| _____ = Total Cover  |                  |                   |                  |  | Total % Cover of: _____ Multiply by: _____   |
| Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: _____)                         |                  |                   |                  | OBL species _____ x 1 = _____  |  |
| 1. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            | FACW species _____ x 2 = _____   |  |
| 2. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            | FAC species _____ x 3 = _____  |  |
| 3. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            | FACU species _____ x 4 = _____   |  |
| 4. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            | UPL species _____ x 5 = _____  |  |
| 5. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            | Column Totals: _____ (A) _____ (B)                                       |  |
| _____ = Total Cover  |                  |                   |                  | Prevalence Index = B/A = _____   |  |
| Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>5 ft</u> )                           |                  |                   |                  | <b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b>                                |  |
| 1. <u>Juncus balticus</u>  | <u>90</u>        | <u>Y</u>          | <u>FACW</u>      |  | ___ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation  |
| 2. <u>Circum arvense</u>   | <u>10</u>        | _____             | <u>FACW</u>      |  | <u>X</u> 2 - Dominance Test is >50%  |
| 3. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            |  | ___ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup>  |
| 4. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            |  | ___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)     |
| 5. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            |  | ___ 5 - Wetland Non-Vascular Plants <sup>1</sup>   |
| 6. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            |  | ___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)  |
| 7. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            |  | <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic. |
| 8. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            |  |  |
| 9. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            |  |  |
| 10. _____  | _____            | _____             | _____            |  |  |
| 11. _____  | _____            | _____             | _____            |  |  |
| _____ = Total Cover  |                  |                   |                  | <b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No _____             |  |
| Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: _____)                            |                  |                   |                  |  |  |
| 1. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            |  |  |
| 2. _____   | _____            | _____             | _____            |  |  |
| _____ = Total Cover  |                  |                   |                  |  |  |
| % Bare Ground in Herb Stratum _____                              |                  |                   |                  |  |  |
| Remarks:<br>Hydrophytic plant community dominated by Baltic rush |                  |                   |                  |  |  |



# WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

Project/Site: H-13-N City/County: Park County Sampling Date: 8/30/2020  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: SP2  
 Investigator(s): R. Black, T. Toler Section, Township, Range: T12S, R75W, Section 3  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Hillslope Local relief (concave, convex, none): Convex Slope (%): 2  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR E Lat: 39.030502 Long: -105.768452 Datum: NAD83  
 Soil Map Unit Name: Platdon loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes NWI classification: PEM1C

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

|  |           |             |  |           |             |
|--|-----------|-------------|--|-----------|-------------|
| Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?  | Yes _____ | No <u>X</u> | <b>Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?</b> | Yes _____ | No <u>X</u> |
| Hydric Soil Present?   | Yes _____ | No <u>X</u> |  |           |             |
| Wetland Hydrology Present?   | Yes _____ | No <u>X</u> |  |           |             |
| Remarks:<br>Average precipitation in the area in August is 2.42 inches; rainfall in August this year was 0.83 inches.<br>Upland area next to riverside wetlands, next to roadway fill. |           |             |  |           |             |

## VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

| <u>Tree Stratum</u> (Plot size: _____)   | Absolute % Cover         | Dominant Species? | Indicator Status    | <b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b>   |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--|
| 1. _____   | _____                    | _____             | _____               | Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>1</u> (A)<br><br>Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>2</u> (B)<br><br>Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>50</u> (A/B)   |
| 2. _____   | _____                    | _____             | _____               |  |
| 3. _____   | _____                    | _____             | _____               |  |
| 4. _____   | _____                    | _____             | _____               |  |
| _____ = Total Cover  |                          |                   |                     | <b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b><br>Total % Cover of: _____ Multiply by: _____<br>OBL species <u>0</u> x 1 = _____<br>FACW species <u>5</u> x 2 = <u>10</u><br>FAC species <u>30</u> x 3 = <u>90</u><br>FACU species <u>0</u> x 4 = _____<br>UPL species <u>50</u> x 5 = <u>250</u><br>Column Totals: <u>85</u> (A) <u>350</u> (B)<br><br>Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>4.12</u> |
| <u>Sapling/Shrub Stratum</u> (Plot size: _____)  | 1. _____                 | _____             | _____               |  |
| 2. _____   | _____                    | _____             | _____               |  |
| 3. _____   | _____                    | _____             | _____               |  |
| 4. _____   | _____                    | _____             | _____               |  |
| 5. _____   | _____                    | _____             | _____               |  |
| _____ = Total Cover  |                          |                   |                     |  |
| <u>Herb Stratum</u> (Plot size: <u>5 ft</u> )  | 1. <u>Bromus inermis</u> | <u>50</u>         | <u>Y</u> <u>UPL</u> |  |
| 2. <u>Circum arvense</u>   | <u>30</u>                | <u>Y</u>          | <u>FAC</u>          |  |
| 3. <u>Juncus balticus</u>  | <u>5</u>                 | _____             | <u>FACW</u>         |  |
| 4. _____   | _____                    | _____             | _____               |  |
| 5. _____   | _____                    | _____             | _____               |  |
| 6. _____   | _____                    | _____             | _____               |  |
| 7. _____   | _____                    | _____             | _____               |  |
| 8. _____   | _____                    | _____             | _____               |  |
| 9. _____   | _____                    | _____             | _____               |  |
| 10. _____  | _____                    | _____             | _____               |  |
| 11. _____  | _____                    | _____             | _____               |  |
| _____ = Total Cover  |                          |                   |                     |  |
| <u>Woody Vine Stratum</u> (Plot size: _____)   | 1. _____                 | _____             | _____               |  |
| 2. _____   | _____                    | _____             | _____               |  |
| _____ = Total Cover  |                          |                   |                     |  |
| % Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>20</u>  |                          |                   |                     |  |
| <b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation<br><input type="checkbox"/> 2 - Dominance Test is >50%<br><input type="checkbox"/> 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup><br><input type="checkbox"/> 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)<br><input type="checkbox"/> 5 - Wetland Non-Vascular Plants <sup>1</sup><br><input type="checkbox"/> Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)<br><sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic. |                          |                   |                     |  |
| <b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes _____ No <u>X</u>   |                          |                   |                     |  |
| Remarks:<br>Weedy mix of upland and hydrophytic, but overall the community is upland.  |                          |                   |                     |  |



**WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region**

Project/Site: H-13-N City/County: Park County Sampling Date: 8/30/2020  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: SP3  
 Investigator(s): R. Black, J. Wiesbrock Section, Township, Range: T12S, R75W, Section 3  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Terrace Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave Slope (%): 1  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR E Lat: 39.030618 Long: -105.768687 Datum: NAD83  
 Soil Map Unit Name: Platdon association, 0 to 1 percent slopes NWI classification: PEM1A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____<br>Hydric Soil Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____<br>Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <u>X</u> No _____   | Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <u>X</u> No _____ |
| Remarks:<br>Average precipitation in the area in August is 2.42 inches; rainfall in August this year was 0.83 inches.<br>Sample point located in emergent marsh abutting a branch of the Middle Fork of the South Platte River. |   |

**VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.**

| <u>Tree Stratum</u> (Plot size: _____)  | Absolute % Cover          | Dominant Species?    | Indicator Status    | <b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b>  |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---|
| 1. _____  | _____                     | _____                | _____               | Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>2</u> (A)<br><br>Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>2</u> (B)<br><br>Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100</u> (A/B)   |
| 2. _____  | _____                     | _____                | _____               |   |
| 3. _____  | _____                     | _____                | _____               |   |
| 4. _____  | _____                     | _____                | _____               |   |
| _____ = Total Cover   |                           |                      |                     | <b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b><br>Total % Cover of: _____ Multiply by: _____<br>OBL species _____ x 1 = _____<br>FACW species _____ x 2 = _____<br>FAC species _____ x 3 = _____<br>FACU species _____ x 4 = _____<br>UPL species _____ x 5 = _____<br>Column Totals: _____ (A) _____ (B)<br><br>Prevalence Index = B/A = _____ |
| <u>Sapling/Shrub Stratum</u> (Plot size: _____)   | 1. _____                  | _____                | _____               |   |
| 2. _____  | _____                     | _____                | _____               |   |
| 3. _____  | _____                     | _____                | _____               |   |
| 4. _____  | _____                     | _____                | _____               |   |
| 5. _____  | _____                     | _____                | _____               |   |
| _____ = Total Cover   |                           |                      |                     |   |
| <u>Herb Stratum</u> (Plot size: <u>5 ft</u> )   | 1. <u>Carex aquatilis</u> | <u>50</u>            | <u>Y</u> <u>OBL</u> |   |
| 2. <u>Juncus balticus</u>   | <u>30</u>                 | <u>Y</u> <u>FACW</u> |                     |   |
| 3. <u>Circum arvense</u>  | <u>10</u>                 | <u>FAC</u>           |                     |   |
| 4. _____  | _____                     | _____                | _____               |   |
| 5. _____  | _____                     | _____                | _____               |   |
| 6. _____  | _____                     | _____                | _____               |   |
| 7. _____  | _____                     | _____                | _____               |   |
| 8. _____  | _____                     | _____                | _____               |   |
| 9. _____  | _____                     | _____                | _____               |   |
| 10. _____   | _____                     | _____                | _____               |   |
| 11. _____   | _____                     | _____                | _____               |   |
| _____ = Total Cover   |                           |                      |                     |   |
| <u>Woody Vine Stratum</u> (Plot size: _____)  | 1. _____                  | _____                | _____               |   |
| 2. _____  | _____                     | _____                | _____               |   |
| _____ = Total Cover   |                           |                      |                     |   |
| % Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>10</u>   |                           |                      |                     |   |
| <b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b><br>___ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation<br><u>X</u> 2 - Dominance Test is >50%<br>___ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup><br>___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)<br>___ 5 - Wetland Non-Vascular Plants <sup>1</sup><br>___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)<br><sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic. |                           |                      |                     |   |
| <b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes <u>X</u> No _____  |                           |                      |                     |   |
| Remarks:<br>Emergent marsh is a hydrophytic community dominated by sedge and rush.<br>Sedge identification is questionable due to plant condition.  |                           |                      |                     |   |

**SOIL**

Sampling Point: SP3

| <b>Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)</b>                             |               |     |  |    |                   |   |            |                  |
|--|---------------|-----|--|----|-------------------|---|------------|------------------|
| Depth<br>(inches)  | Matrix        |     | Redox Features   |    |                   |   | Texture    | Remarks          |
|  | Color (moist) | %   | Color (moist)  | %  | Type <sup>1</sup> | Loc <sup>2</sup>  |            |                  |
| 0-5  | 10YR 2/2      | 95  | 10YR 4/4   | 5  | CS                | M   | loam       | root mat upper   |
| 5-12   | 10YR 2/2      | 60  | Gley2 2.5/00   | 20 | C                 | M   | Sandy loam |                  |
|  |               |     | 5YR 6/8  | 20 | CS                | M   | loamy sand |                  |
| 12-18  | 7.5YR 3/4     | 100 |  |    |                   |   | sand       | gravel and rocks |
|  |               |     |  |    |                   |   |            |                  |
|  |               |     |  |    |                   |   |            |                  |
|  |               |     |  |    |                   |   |            |                  |
| <sup>1</sup> Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. <sup>2</sup> Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix. |               |     |  |    |                   |   |            |                  |
| <b>Hydric Soil Indicators: (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)</b>   |               |     |  |    |                   | <b>Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils<sup>3</sup>:</b>   |            |                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Histosol (A1)   |               |     | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Redox (S5)                                |    |                   | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 cm Muck (A10)  |            |                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Histic Epipedon (A2)  |               |     | <input type="checkbox"/> Stripped Matrix (S6)                            |    |                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Red Parent Material (TF2)  |            |                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black Histic (A3)   |               |     | <input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) <b>(except MLRA 1)</b> |    |                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)   |            |                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)   |               |     | <input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)                        |    |                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks)   |            |                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)   |               |     | <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Matrix (F3)                            |    |                   |   |            |                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thick Dark Surface (A12)  |               |     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Redox Dark Surface (F6)              |    |                   | <sup>3</sup> Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic. |            |                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)  |               |     | <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Dark Surface (F7)                      |    |                   |   |            |                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)  |               |     | <input type="checkbox"/> Redox Depressions (F8)                          |    |                   |   |            |                  |
| <b>Restrictive Layer (if present):</b>   |               |     |  |    |                   |   |            |                  |
| Type: _____  |               |     |  |    |                   |   |            |                  |
| Depth (inches): _____  |               |     |  |    |                   | <b>Hydric Soil Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></b>                           |            |                  |
| Remarks:<br><br>Redox concentrations start at surface until 12 inches, both iron and manganese, indicating hydric soil Redox Dark Surface (F6)."       |               |     |  |    |                   |   |            |                  |

**HYDROLOGY**

| <b>Wetland Hydrology Indicators:</b>   |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply)   | Secondary Indicators (2 or more required)  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water (A1)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves (B9) <b>(except MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves (B9) <b>(MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)</b>                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High Water Table (A2)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Salt Crust (B11)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage Patterns (B10)  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saturation (A3)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Dry-Season Water Table (C2)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Marks (B1)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits (B2)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Rhizospheres along Living Roots (C3)                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Geomorphic Position (D2)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drift Deposits (B3)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Shallow Aquitard (D3)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Algal Mat or Crust (B4)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAC-Neutral Test (D5)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Iron Deposits (B5)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1) <b>(LRR A)</b>                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Raised Ant Mounds (D6) <b>(LRR A)</b>  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Surface Soil Cracks (B6)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks)                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)   |  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)   |  |   |
| <b>Field Observations:</b>   |  |   |
| Surface Water Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                       | Depth (inches): _____  |   |
| Water Table Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                         | Depth (inches): <u>12</u>  |   |
| Saturation Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                          | Depth (inches): <u>8</u>   | <b>Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></b> |
| (includes capillary fringe)  |  |   |
| Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:       |  |   |
| Remarks:<br><br>Saturated soils at 8 inches and water table at 12 inches indicated wetland hydrology is present. |  |   |

# WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

Project/Site: H-13-N City/County: Park County Sampling Date: 8/30/2020  
 Applicant/Owner: CDOT State: CO Sampling Point: SP4  
 Investigator(s): R. Black, J. Wiesbrock Section, Township, Range: T12S, R75W, Section 3  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Terrace Local relief (concave, convex, none): Convex Slope (%): 1  
 Subregion (LRR): LRR E Lat: 39.030686 Long: -105.768514 Datum: NAD83  
 Soil Map Unit Name: Platdon loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes NWI classification: PEM1A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_, Soil \_\_\_\_\_, or Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

|  |           |             |  |           |             |
|--|-----------|-------------|--|-----------|-------------|
| Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?  | Yes _____ | No <u>X</u> | <b>Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?</b> | Yes _____ | No <u>X</u> |
| Hydric Soil Present?   | Yes _____ | No <u>X</u> |  |           |             |
| Wetland Hydrology Present?   | Yes _____ | No <u>X</u> |  |           |             |
| Remarks:<br>Average precipitation in the area in August is 2.42 inches; rainfall in August this year was 0.83 inches.<br>Upland bank close to wetland by bridge. |           |             |  |           |             |

## VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

| <u>Tree Stratum</u> (Plot size: _____)   | Absolute % Cover         | Dominant Species?    | Indicator Status    | <b>Dominance Test worksheet:</b>   |
|--|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--|
| 1. _____   | _____                    | _____                | _____               | Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>1</u> (A)<br><br>Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>2</u> (B)<br><br>Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>50</u> (A/B)   |
| 2. _____   | _____                    | _____                | _____               |  |
| 3. _____   | _____                    | _____                | _____               |  |
| 4. _____   | _____                    | _____                | _____               |  |
| _____ = Total Cover  |                          |                      |                     | <b>Prevalence Index worksheet:</b><br>Total % Cover of: _____ Multiply by: _____<br>OBL species <u>0</u> x 1 = _____<br>FACW species <u>5</u> x 2 = <u>10</u><br>FAC species <u>15</u> x 3 = <u>45</u><br>FACU species <u>0</u> x 4 = _____<br>UPL species <u>50</u> x 5 = <u>250</u><br>Column Totals: <u>70</u> (A) <u>305</u> (B)<br><br>Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>4.36</u> |
| <u>Sapling/Shrub Stratum</u> (Plot size: _____)  | 1. _____                 | _____                | _____               |  |
| 2. _____   | _____                    | _____                | _____               |  |
| 3. _____   | _____                    | _____                | _____               |  |
| 4. _____   | _____                    | _____                | _____               |  |
| 5. _____   | _____                    | _____                | _____               |  |
| _____ = Total Cover  |                          |                      |                     |  |
| <u>Herb Stratum</u> (Plot size: <u>5 ft</u> )  | 1. <u>Bromus inermis</u> | <u>50</u>            | <u>Y</u> <u>UPL</u> |  |
| 2. <u>Ciricum arvense</u>  | <u>15</u>                | <u>Y</u> <u>FAC</u>  |                     |  |
| 3. <u>Juncus balticus</u>  | <u>5</u>                 | <u>N</u> <u>FACW</u> |                     |  |
| 4. _____   | _____                    | _____                | _____               |  |
| 5. _____   | _____                    | _____                | _____               |  |
| 6. _____   | _____                    | _____                | _____               |  |
| 7. _____   | _____                    | _____                | _____               |  |
| 8. _____   | _____                    | _____                | _____               |  |
| 9. _____   | _____                    | _____                | _____               |  |
| 10. _____  | _____                    | _____                | _____               |  |
| 11. _____  | _____                    | _____                | _____               |  |
| _____ = Total Cover  |                          |                      |                     |  |
| <u>Woody Vine Stratum</u> (Plot size: _____)   | 1. _____                 | _____                | _____               |  |
| 2. _____   | _____                    | _____                | _____               |  |
| _____ = Total Cover  |                          |                      |                     |  |
| % Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>30</u>  |                          |                      |                     |  |
| <b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</b><br>___ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation<br>___ 2 - Dominance Test is >50%<br>___ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup><br>___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)<br>___ 5 - Wetland Non-Vascular Plants <sup>1</sup><br>___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)<br><sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic. |                          |                      |                     |  |
| <b>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?</b> Yes _____ No <u>X</u>   |                          |                      |                     |  |
| Remarks:<br>Weedy mix of upland and hydrophytic, but overall the community is upland.  |                          |                      |                     |  |





## **Appendix D**

### Photo Inventory



**Feature:** Wetland 1

**Date:** 8/30/2020

**FACWet Score:** 0.80

**Photo Location:** Inside wetland, facing west

**Description:** Wetland is a palustrine emergent wetland (0.04 ac) located on the southeastern side of the H-13-N bridge.



**Feature:** Wetland 1

**Date:** 8/30/2020

**FACWet Score:** 0.80

**Photo Location:** Upland point, facing east

**Description:** Wetland is a palustrine emergent wetland (0.04 ac) located on the southeastern side of the H-13-N bridge.



**Feature:** Wetland 2a

**Date:** 8/30/2020

**FACWet Score:** 0.80

**Photo Location:** Inside wetland, facing west

**Description:** Wetland is a palustrine emergent wetland (0.06 ac) located along the edge of the Middle Fork of the South Platte River, on the northeast side of the H-13-N bridge.



**Feature:** Wetland 2a

**Date:** 8/30/2020

**FACWet Score:** 0.80

**Photo Location:** Upland point, facing east

**Description:** Wetland is a palustrine emergent wetland (0.06 ac) located along the edge of the Middle Fork of the South Platte River, on the northeast side of the H-13-N bridge.

## Appendix D

CDOT BRIDGE H-13-N REBUILD PROJECT

Aquatic Resources Delineation Report

Photopage 2



**Feature:** Wetland 2b

**Date:** 8/30/2020

**FACWet Score:** 0.80

**Photo Location:** Within wetland, facing northeast

**Description:** Wetland is a palustrine emergent wetland (0.6 ac) located along the edge of the Middle Fork of the South Platte River, on the northwest side of the H-13-N bridge.



**Feature:** Middle Fork of the South Platte River

**Date:** 8/30/2020

**Photo Location:** Southeast bank, facing upstream (north)

**Description:** Tributary is a perennial channel within a large, braided system riverine system (102 linear feet, 0.09 acres).

## Appendix D

CDOT BRIDGE H-13-N REBUILD PROJECT

Aquatic Resources Delineation Report

Photopage 3



**Feature:** Middle Fork of the South Platte River

**Date:** 8/30/2020

**Photo Location:** Southwest bank, facing downstream (south)

**Description:** Tributary is a perennial channel within a large, braided system riverine system (102 linear feet, 0.09 acres).



**Feature:** Middle Fork of the South Platte River

**Date:** 8/30/2020

**Photo Location:** Northeast bank, facing upstream (north)

**Description:** Tributary is a perennial channel within a large, braided system riverine system (102 linear feet, 0.09 acres).

## Appendix D

CDOT BRIDGE H-13-N REBUILD PROJECT

Aquatic Resources Delineation Report

Photopage 4



**Feature:** Middle Fork of the South Platte River

**Date:** 8/30/2020

**Photo Location:** Northwest bank, facing cross-gradient (east)

**Description:** Tributary is a perennial channel within a large, braided system riverine system (102 linear feet, 0.09 acres).

## **Appendix E**

### **FACWet Functional Assessment Forms**

## ADMINISTRATIVE CHARACTERIZATION

|   |   |  |  |     |     |     |
|---|---|--|--|-----|-----|-----|
| <b>General Information</b>  |   | Date of Evaluation: 8/30/2020                        |  |     |     |     |
| Site Name or ID: H-13-N   | Project Name: R2 Bridge Repair  |  |  |     |     |     |
| 404 or Other Permit Application #:  | Applicant Name: CDOT  |  |  |     |     |     |
| Evaluator Name(s): R. Black, T. Toler, C. Phillips  | Evaluator's professional position and organization: Environmental Scientists for Stanley Consultants, Inc.  |  |  |     |     |     |
| <b>Location Information:</b>  |   |  |  |     |     |     |
| Site Coordinates<br>(Decimal Degrees, e.g., 38.85, -104.96):  | 39.03°<br>-105.77°  | Geographic Datum Used<br>(NAD 83):                   | NAD83, Zone 13S  |     |     |     |
|   |   | Elevation  | 8,835 ft   |     |     |     |
| Location Information:   | Project center point is located at Bridge H-15-N on Rt. 24, east of Hartsel in Park County, CO.   |  |  |     |     |     |
| Associated stream/water body name:  | Middle Fork of the South Platte River   | Stream Order:  | 3  |     |     |     |
| USGS Quadrangle Map:  | Hartsel USGS Quad 7.5-Minute Series   | Map Scale:<br>(Circle one)                           | 1:24,000    1:100,000<br>Other    1:                   |     |     |     |
| Sub basin Name (8 digit HUC):   | South Platte Headwaters - 10190001  | Wetland Ownership:                                   | Private, within CDOT right-of-way                      |     |     |     |
| <b>Project Information:</b>   |   |  |  |     |     |     |
| This evaluation is being performed at:<br>(Check applicable box)  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Wetland   | Purpose of Evaluation<br>(check all applicable):     | <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Impacted Wetlands |     |     |     |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation Site  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Pre-construction  |     |     |     |
|   |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation; Post-construction |     |     |     |
|   |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring                    |     |     |     |
|   |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe) | Pre-construction evaluation                            |     |     |     |
| Intent of Project: (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration <input type="checkbox"/> Enhancement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Creation      |   |  |  |     |     |     |
| Total Size of Wetland Involved:<br>(Record Area, Check and Describe Measurement Method Used)  | ac.   | Measured   | N/A - see notes  |     |     |     |
|   |   | Estimated  |  |     |     |     |
| Assessment Area (AA) Size (Record Area, check appropriate box. Additional spaces are used to record acreage when more than one AA is included in a single assessment) | ac.   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured         | ac. 0.70   | ac. | ac. | ac. |
|   |   | Estimated  | ac.  | ac. | ac. | ac. |
| Characteristics or Method used for AA boundary determination:   | Per the request of CDOT, the AA includes all wetlands within the CDOT ROW around the bridge (105ft x 135 ft) and within the CDOT ROW (120 ft) by the requested buffer for any potential bypass design (2,000 ft in either direction from the bridge).   |  |  |     |     |     |
| Notes:  | AA is part of a larger wetland complex on the Middle Fork of the South Platte River and extends onto private land and was not assessed as part of this effort. Therefore, total wetland size provided here only includes wetlands assessed within the Project Area as described immediately above. See Appendix B - NWI Figure in the Aquatic Resources Report. |  |  |     |     |     |



# ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION 1

## Special Concerns

*Check all that apply*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organic soils including Histosols or Histic Epipedons are present in the AA (i.e., AA includes core fen habitat).                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Federally threatened or endangered species are <b>SUSPECTED</b> to occur in the AA?<br>_____<br>_____<br>_____    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Project will directly impact organic soil portions of the AA including areas possessing either Histosol soils or histic epipedons. | <input type="checkbox"/> Species of concern according to the Colorado Natural Heritage (CNHP) are known to occur in the AA?                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Organic soils are known to occur anywhere within the contiguous wetland of which the AA is part.                        | <input type="checkbox"/> The site is located within a potential conservation area or element occurrence buffer area as determined by CNHP? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The wetland is a habitat oasis in an otherwise dry or urbanized landscape?   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other special concerns (please describe)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Federally threatened or endangered species are <b>KNOWN</b> to occur in the AA? List Below.<br>_____<br>_____                      |  |

## HYDROGEOMORPHIC SETTING

- AA wetland maintains its fundamental natural hydrogeomorphic characteristics
- AA wetland has been subject to change in HGM classes as a result of anthropogenic modification  
*If the above is checked, please describe the original wetland type if discernable using the table below.*
- AA wetland was created from an upland setting.

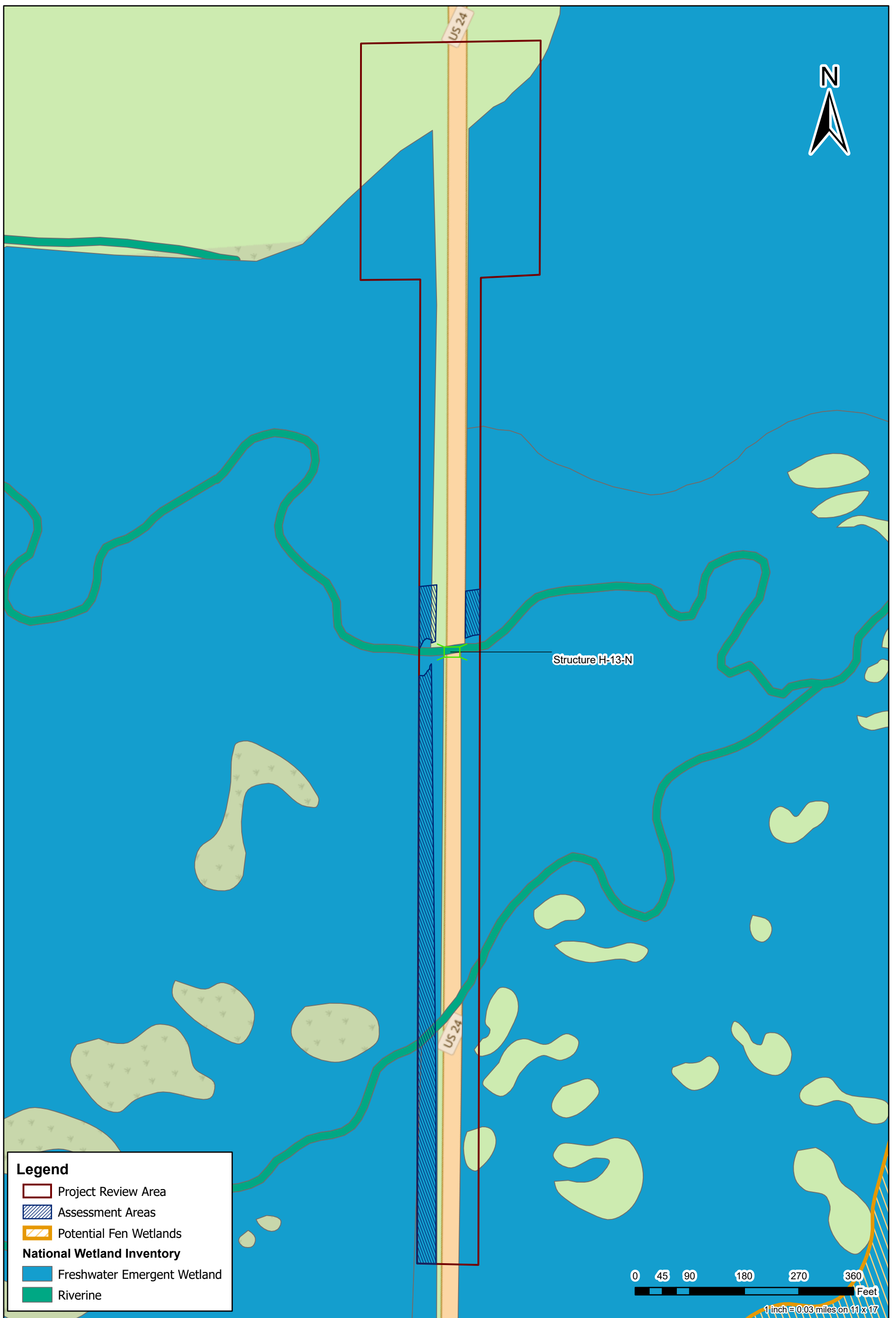
## Current Conditions

*Describe the hydrogeomorphic setting of the wetland by circling all conditions that apply.*

|                              |  |   |             |                |            |   |    |
|------------------------------|--|---|-------------|----------------|------------|---|----|
| HGM Setting                  | <b>Water source</b>  | Surface flow  | Groundwater | Precipitation  | Unknown    |   |    |
|                              | <b>Hydrodynamics</b>   | Unidirectional  | Vertical    | Bi-directional |            |   |    |
|                              | <b>Wetland Gradient</b>  | 0 - 2%  | 2-4%        | 4-10%          | >10%       |   |    |
|                              | <b># Surface Inlets</b>  | Over-bank   | 0           | 1              | 2          | 3 | >3 |
|                              | <b># Surface Outlets</b>   |   | 0           | 1              | 2          | 3 | >3 |
|                              | <b>Geomorphic Setting</b> (Narrative Description. Include approx. stream order for riverine) | AAs abut a riverine system (Middle Fork of the South Platte River, a 3rd order stream per the Strahler system).   |             |                |            |   |    |
|                              | <b>HGM class</b>   | Riverine  | Slope       | Depressional   | Lacustrine |   |    |
| <b>Historical Conditions</b> |  |   |             |                |            |   |    |
| Previous wetland typology    | <b>Water source</b>  | Surface flow  | Groundwater | Precipitation  | Unknown    |   |    |
|                              | <b>Hydrodynamics</b>   | Unidirectional  | Vertical    |                |            |   |    |
|                              | <b>Geomorphic Setting</b> (Narrative Description)  | The river flowing through the Project Area is a branch of the Middle Fork of the South Platte, which has many tributaries and distributaries flowing through a low-gradient alpine meadow immediately upstream of the Project Area. |             |                |            |   |    |
|                              | <b>Previous HGM Class</b>  | Riverine  | Slope       | Depressional   | Lacustrine |   |    |

Notes (include information on the AA's HGM subclass and regional subclass):





COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
 Region 2 Bridge Rebuild Project - Bridge H-13-N  
 Functional Assessment of Colorado Wetlands

**Figure 1**  
 Site Map

## Variable 1: Habitat Connectivity

The Habitat Connectivity Variable is described by two sub-variables – Neighboring Wetland and Riparian Habitat Loss and Barriers to Migration and Dispersal. These sub-variables were treated as independent variables in FACWet Version 2.0. The merging of these variables makes their structure more consistent with that of other composite variables in FACWet. The new variable configuration also makes this landscape variable more accurately reflect the interactions amongst aquatic habitats in Colorado's agricultural and urbanized landscapes, which have a naturally low density of wetlands. The two Habitat Connectivity Sub-variables are scored in exactly the same manner as their FACWet 2.0 counterparts, as described below. The Habitat Connectivity Variable score is simply the arithmetic average of the two sub-variable scores which is entered on the second page of the Variable 1 data form. If there is little or no wetland or riparian habitat in the Habitat Connectivity Envelope (defined below), then Sub-variable 1.1 is not scored.

### SV 1.1 - Neighboring Wetland and Riparian Habitat Loss

(Do not score if few or no wetlands naturally exist in the HCE)

This sub-variable is a measure of how isolated from other naturally-occurring wetlands or riparian habitat the AA has become as the result of habitat destruction. To score this sub-variable, estimate the percent of naturally-occurring wetland/riparian habitat that has been lost (by filling, draining, development, or whatever means) within the 500-meter-wide belt surrounding the AA. This zone is called the Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE). In most cases the evaluator must use best professional judgment to estimate the amount of natural wetland loss. Historical photographs, National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps, hydric soil maps can be helpful in making these determinations. Floodplain maps are especially valuable in river-dominated regions, such as the Front Range urban corridor. Evaluation of landforms and habitat patterns in the context of perceivable land use change is used to steer estimates of the amount of wetland loss within the HCE.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, create a 500 m perimeter around the AA.
2. The area within this perimeter is the **Habitat Connectivity Envelope (HCE)**
3. Within the HCE, outline the current extent of naturally occurring wetland and riparian habitat. Do not include habitats such as excavated ponds or reservoir induced fringe wetlands.
4. Outline the historical extent of wetland and riparian habitats (i.e., existing natural wetlands plus those that have been destroyed).
  - Use your knowledge of the history of the area and evident land use change to identify where habitat losses have occurred. Additional research can be utilized to increase the accuracy of this estimate including consideration of floodplain maps, historical aerial photographs, soil maps, etc.
5. Calculate the area of existing and historical wetlands. Divide the area of existing wetland by the total amount of existing and historical wetland and riparian habitat, and determine the variable score using the guidelines below. Enter sub-variable score at the bottom of p.2 of the Habitat Connectivity data form.

| Variable Score | Condition Grade                  | Scoring Guidelines   |
|----------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 1.0 - 0.9      | <b>A</b><br>Reference Standard   | Wetland losses are absent or negligible or there is no evidence to suggest the native landscape within the HCE historically contained other wetland habitats |
| <0.9 - 0.8     | <b>B</b><br>Highly Functioning   | More than 80% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (less than 20% of habitat area lost).                                       |
| <0.8 - 0.7     | <b>C</b><br>Functioning          | 80 to 60% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (20% to 40% of habitat area lost).  |
| <0.7 - 0.6     | <b>D</b><br>Functioning Impaired | Less than 60 to 25% of historical wetland habitat area within the HCE is still present (more than 40 to 75% of habitat area lost).                           |
| <0.6           | <b>F</b><br>Non-functioning      | Less than 25% of the historical wetland habitat area within the HCE still in existence (more than 70% of habitat lost).                                      |

#### Notes:

Based on conditions observed in the field and a review of available aerial photography and field observations, the wetland complex likely originally extended downstream of the road. One small patch of wetland soils were recorded on the downstream side of the road, but otherwise no wetland soils were present. Surveyors could not access private land outside of the CDOT ROW, but based on vegetation observations and hydrology, it is believed that the wetland reforms at some point downstream of the AA.

## Variable 1: Habitat Connectivity p. 2

### SV 1.2: Migration/Dispersal Barriers

This sub-variable is intended to rate the degree to which the AA has become isolated from existing neighboring wetland and riparian habitat by artificial barriers that inhibit migration or dispersal of organisms. On the aerial photograph, identify the man-made barriers within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding wetlands and riparian areas, and identify them by type on the stressor list. Score this variable based on the barriers' impermeability to migration and dispersal and the amount of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat they affect.

#### Rules for Scoring:

1. On the aerial photo, outline **all** existing wetland and riparian habitat areas within the HCE. This includes naturally occurring habitats, as well as those purposefully created or induced by land use change.
2. Identify artificial barriers to dispersal and migration of organisms within the HCE that intercede between the AA and surrounding habitats. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
3. Considering the composite effect of all of identified barriers to migration and dispersal (i.e., stressors), assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

| Stressors = artificial barriers | ✓ | Stressors                 | Comments/description   |
|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------|--|
|                                 |   | Major Highway             |  |
|                                 | X | Secondary Highway         | Highway 24 ; no reports of road kill within HCE on the OTIS database         |
|                                 | X | Tertiary Roadway          | Rural ranching roads   |
|                                 |   | Railroad                  |  |
|                                 |   | Bike Path                 |  |
|                                 |   | Urban Development         |  |
|                                 |   | Agricultural Development  |  |
|                                 |   | Artificial Water Body     |  |
|                                 | X | Fence                     | CDOT ROW fence   |
|                                 | X | Ditch or Aqueduct         | Reinecker Ditch extends parallel Platte River, approx. 880 ft east of H-15-N |
|                                 |   | Aquatic Organism Barriers |  |
|                                 |   |                           |  |

| Variable Score | Condition Grade                         | Scoring Guidelines   |
|----------------|---|--|
| 1.0 - 0.9      | <b>A</b><br><i>Reference Standard</i>   | No appreciable barriers exist between the AA and other wetland and riparian habitats in the HCE; or there are no other wetland and riparian areas in the HCE.  |
| <0.9 - 0.8     | <b>B</b><br><i>Highly Functioning</i>   | Barriers impeding migration/dispersal between the AA and up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat highly permeable and easily passed by most organisms. Examples could include gravel roads, minor levees, ditches or barbed-wire fences. More significant barriers (see "functioning category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat.  |
| <0.8 - 0.7     | <b>C</b><br><i>Functioning</i>          | Barriers to migration and dispersal retard the ability of many organisms/propagules to pass between the AA and up to 66% of wetland/riparian habitat. Passage of organisms and propagules through such barriers is still possible, but it may be constrained to certain times of day, be slow, dangerous or require additional travel. Busy two-lane roads, culverted areas, small to medium artificial water bodies or small earthen dams would commonly rate a score in this range. More significant barriers (see "functioning impaired" category below) could affect migration to up to 10% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat. |
| <0.7 - 0.6     | <b>D</b><br><i>Functioning Impaired</i> | Barriers to migration and dispersal preclude the passage of some types of organisms/propagules between the AA and up to 66% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat. Travel of those animals which can potential negotiate the barrier are strongly restricted and may include a high chance of mortality. Up to 33% of surrounding wetland/riparian habitat could be functionally isolated from the AA.   |
| <0.6           | <b>F</b><br><i>Non-functioning</i>      | AA is essentially isolated from surrounding wetland/riparian habitat by impermeable migration and dispersal barriers. An interstate highway or concrete-lined water conveyance canal are examples of barriers which would generally create functional isolation between the AA and wetland/riparian habitat in the HCE.  |

|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| SV 1.1 Score | .78  |
| SV 1.2 Score | 0.73 |

Add SV 1.1 and 1.2 scores and divide by two to calculate variable score

**Variable 1 Score**

0.76

## Variable 2: Contributing Area

The AA's Contributing Area is defined as the 250-meter-wide zone surrounding the perimeter of the AA. This variable is a measure of the capacity of that area to support characteristic functions of high quality wetland habitat. Depending on its condition, the contributing area can help maintain wetland condition or it can degrade it. Contributing Area condition is evaluated by considering the AA's Buffer and its Surrounding Land Use. Buffers are strips or patches of more-or-less natural upland and/or wetland habitat more than 5m wide. Buffers are contiguous with the AA boundary and they intercede between it and more intensively used lands. The AA Buffer is characterized with three sub-variables: Buffer Condition, Buffer Extent, and Average Buffer Width. The Surrounding Land Use Sub-variable considers changes within the Contributing Area that limit its capacity to support characteristic wetland functions. Many of the acute, on-site effects of land use change in the Contributing Area are specifically captured by Variables 3 - 8.

### Rules for Scoring:

1. Delimit the Contributing Area on an aerial photograph as the zone within 250 meters of the outer boundary of the AA.
2. Evaluate and then rate the Buffer Condition sub-variable using the scoring guidelines. Record the score in the cell provided on the datasheet.
3. Indicate on the aerial photograph zones surrounding the AA which have  $\geq$ 5m of buffer vegetation and those which do not.
4. Calculate the percentage of the AA which has a Buffer and record the value where indicated on the data sheet.
5. Rate the *Buffer Extent* Sub-variable using the scoring guidelines.
6. Determine the average Buffer width by drawing a line perpendicularly from the AA boundary to the outer extent of the buffer habitat. Measure line length and record its value on the data sheet. Repeat this process until a total of 8 lines have been sampled.
7. Calculate the average buffer width and record value on the data form. Then determine the sub-variable score using the scoring guidelines.
8. Score the Surrounding Land Use sub-variable by recording land use changes on the stressor list that affect the capacity of the landscape to support characteristic wetland functioning.
9. Enter the **lowest** of the three Buffer sub-variable scores along with the Surrounding Land Use Sub-variable score in the Contributing Area Variable scoring formula at the bottom of p. 2 of the data form. The Contributing Area Variable is the average of the two sub-variable scores

### SV 2.1 - Buffer Condition

0.85 SV 2.1 - Buffer Condition Score

| Subvariable Score | Condition Grade             | Buffer Condition Scoring Guidelines   |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1.0 - 0.9         | <i>Reference Standard</i>   | Buffer vegetation is predominately native vegetation, human-caused disturbance of the substrate is not evident, and human visitation is minimal. Common examples: Wilderness areas, undeveloped forest and range lands.   |
| <0.9 - 0.8        | <i>Highly Functioning</i>   | Buffer vegetation may have a mixed native-nonnative composition, but characteristic structure and complexity remain. Soils are mostly undisturbed or have recovered from past human disturbance. Little or only low-impact human visitation. Buffers with higher levels of substrate disturbance may be included here if the buffer is still able to maintain predominately native vegetation. Common examples: Dispursed camping areas in national forests, common in wildland parks (e.g. State Parks) and open spaces. |
| <0.8 - 0.7        | <i>Functioning</i>          | Buffer vegetation is substantially composed of non-native species. Vegetation structure may be somewhat altered, such as by brush clearing. Moderate substrate disturbance and compaction occurs, and small pockets of greater disturbance may exist. Common examples: City natural areas, mountain hay meadows   |
| <0.7 - 0.6        | <i>Functioning Impaired</i> | Buffer vegetation is substantially composed of non-native species and vegetation structure has been strongly altered by the complete removal of one or more strata. Soil disturbance and the intensity of human visitation are generally high. Common examples: Open lands around resource extraction sites (e.g., gravel mines), clear cut logging areas, ski slopes.  |
| <0.6              | <i>Non-functioning</i>      | Buffer is nearly or entirely absent.  |

### SV 2.2 - Buffer Extent

55% Percent of AA with Buffer

0.72 SV 2.2 - Buffer Extent

| Subvariable Score | Condition Class             | % Buffer Scoring Guidelines |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1.0 - 0.9         | <i>Reference Standard</i>   | 90 - 100% of AA with Buffer |
| <0.9 - 0.8        | <i>Highly Functioning</i>   | 70-90% of AA with Buffer    |
| <0.8 - 0.7        | <i>Functioning</i>          | 51-69% of AA with Buffer    |
| <0.7 - 0.6        | <i>Functioning Impaired</i> | 26-50% of AA with Buffer    |
| <0.6              | <i>Non-functioning</i>      | 0-25% of AA with Buffer     |

## Variable 2: Contributing Area (p. 2)

### SV 2.3 - Average Buffer Width

Record measured buffer widths in the spaces below and average.

|                  |     |     |     |     |     |   |   |   |                       |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|---|---|-----------------------|
| Buffer Width (m) | 250 | 250 | 250 | 250 | 250 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 157                   |
| Line #           | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6 | 7 | 8 | Avg. Buffer Width (m) |

8.6 SV 2.3 - Average Buffer Width Score

| Subvariable Score | Condition Grade      | Buffer Width Scoring Guidelines  |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1.0 - 0.9         | Reference Standard   | Average Buffer width is 190-250m |
| <0.9 - 0.8        | Highly Functioning   | Average Buffer width is 101-189m |
| <0.8 - 0.7        | Functioning          | Average Buffer width is 31-100m  |
| <0.7 - 0.6        | Functioning Impaired | Average Buffer width is 6-30m    |
| <0.6              | Non-functioning      | Average Buffer width is 0-5m     |

### SV 2.4 - Surrounding Land Use

0.75 SV 2.4 - Surrounding Land Use Score

Catalog and characterize land use changes in the surrounding landscape and score.

| Stressors   | Comments/description                        |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industrial/commercial   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Urban                              |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential             | Rural ranching roads                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rural                              |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dryland Farming                    |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intensive Agriculture              |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Orchards or Nurseries              |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Livestock Grazing       | Ranch located downstream and upstream of AA |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation Corridor | Highway 24 crosses AA                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Parklands                    |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dams/impoundments                  |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Artificial Water body   | Reinecker Ditch                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Resource Extraction       |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resource Extraction     |   |

| Variable Score | Condition Grade                  | Scoring Guidelines   |
|----------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 1.0 - 0.9      | <b>A</b><br>Reference Standard   | No appreciable land use change has been imposed Surrounding Landscape.   |
| <0.9 - 0.8     | <b>B</b><br>Highly Functioning   | Some land use change has occurred in the Surrounding Landscape, but changes have minimal effect on the the landscape's capacity to support characteristic aquatic functioning, either because land use is not intensive, for example haying, light grazing, or low intensity silviculture, or more substantial changes occur in approximately less than 10% of the area.   |
| <0.8 - 0.7     | <b>C</b><br>Functioning          | Surrounding Landscape has been subjected to a marked shift in land use, however, the land retains much of its capacity to support natural wetland function and it is not an overt source of pollutants or sediment. Moderate-intensity land uses such as dry-land farming, urban "green" corridors, or moderate cattle grazing would commonly be placed within this scoring range.   |
| <0.7 - 0.6     | <b>D</b><br>Functioning Impaired | Land use changes within the Surrounding Landscape has been substantial including the a moderate to high coverage (up to 50%) of impermeable surfaces, bare soil, or other artificial surfaces; considerable in-flow urban runoff or fertilizer-rich waters common. Supportive capacity of the land has been greatly diminished but not totally extinguished. Intensively logged areas, low-density urban developments, some urban parklands and many cropping situations would |
| <0.6           | <b>F</b><br>Non-functioning      | The Surrounding Landscape is essentially completely developed or is otherwise a cause of severe ecological stress on wetland habitats. Commercial developments or highly urban landscapes generally rate a score of less than 0.6.   |

Buffer Score  
(Lowest score)

Surrounding  
Land Use

$$\left( \boxed{0.72} + \boxed{0.75} \right) \div 2 = \text{Variable 2 Score } \boxed{0.74}$$

## Variable 3: Water Source

This variable is concerned with **up-gradient** hydrologic connectivity. It is a measure of impacts to the AA's water source, including the quantity and timing of water delivery, and the ability of source water to perform work such as sediment transport, erosion, soil pore flushing, etc. To score this variable, identify stressors that alter the source of water to the AA, and record their presence on the stressor list. Stressors can impact water source by depletion, augmentation, or alteration of inflow timing or hydrodynamics. This variable is designed to assess water quantity, power and timing, not water quality. Water quality will be evaluated in Variable 7.

### Scoring rules:

1. Use the stressor list and knowledge of the watershed to catalog type-specific impairments of the AA's water source. Mark the stressors present with a check in the first column and describe the general nature, severity and extent of each. List additional stressors in empty rows at the bottom of the table and explain.
2. Considering the composite effect of stressors on the water source, rate the condition of this variable with the aid of the scoring guidelines.

| ✓ | Stressors                       | Comments/description  |
|---|---------------------------------|---|
| X | Ditches or Drains (tile, etc.)  | Reinecker Ditch, Big Thompson Ditch   |
| X | Dams                            | Columbia Reservoir, Montgomery Reservoir  |
| X | Diversions                      | River flows along upstream portions of the river have been altered for construction and reservoir |
| ? | Groundwater pumping             |   |
|   | Draw-downs                      |   |
| X | Culverts or Constrictions       | Bridge H-13-N   |
|   | Point Source (urban, ind., ag.) | Alma Placer Sand and Gravel located along river upstream.   |
|   | Non-point Source                |   |
|   | Increased Drainage Area         |   |
| X | Storm Drain/Urban Runoff        | Alma and Fairplay located along river upstream of AA  |
| X | Impermeable Surface Runoff      | Road runoff   |
|   | Irrigation Return Flows         |   |
|   | Mining/Natural Gas Extraction   |   |
|   | Transbasin Diversion            |   |
|   | Actively Managed Hydrology      |   |
|   |                                 |   |
|   |                                 |   |

| Variable Score | Condition Grade                  | Depletion  | Augmentation  |
|----------------|----------------------------------|--|---|
| 1.0 - 0.9      | <b>A</b><br>Reference Standard   | Unnatural drawdown events minor, rare or non-existent, very slight uniform depletion, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.  | Unnatural high-water events minor, rare or non-existent, slight uniform increase in amount of inflow, or trivial alteration of hydrodynamics.   |
| <0.9 - 0.8     | <b>B</b><br>Highly Functioning   | Unnatural drawdown events occasional, short duration and/or mild; or uniform depletion up to 20%; or mild to moderate reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.  | Occasional unnatural high-water events, short in duration and/or mild in intensity; or uniform augmentation up to 20%; or mild to moderate increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.   |
| <0.8 - 0.7     | <b>C</b><br>Functioning          | Unnatural drawdown events common and of mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 50%; or moderate to substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.   | Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, of a mild to moderate intensity and/or duration; or uniform augmentation up to 50%; or moderate to substantial increase of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work.   |
| <0.7 - 0.6     | <b>D</b><br>Functioning Impaired | Unnatural drawdown events occur frequently with a moderate to high intensity and/or duration; or uniform depletion up to 75%; or substantial reduction of peak flows or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b> | Common occurrence of unnatural high-water events, some of which may be severe in nature or exist for a substantial portion of the growing season; or uniform augmentation more than 50% or capacity of water to perform work. <b>Wetlands with actively managed or wholly artificial hydrology will usually score in this range or lower.</b> |
| <0.6           | <b>F</b><br>Non-functioning      | Water source diminished enough to threaten or extinguish wetland hydrology in the AA.  | Frequency, duration or magnitude of unnaturally high-water great enough to change the fundamental characteristics of the wetland.   |

Variable 3 Score

0.83



## Variable 4: Water Distribution

This variable is concerned with hydrologic connectivity **within** the AA. It is a measure of alteration to the spatial distribution of surface and groundwater within the AA. These alterations are manifested as local changes to the hydrograph and generally result from geomorphic modifications within the AA. To score this variable, identify stressors within the AA that alter flow patterns and impact the hydrograph of the AA, including localized increases or decreases to the depth or duration of the water table or surface water.

Because the wetland's ability to distribute water in a characteristic fashion is fundamentally dependent on the condition of its water source, **in most cases the Water Source variable score will define the upper limit Water Distribution score**. For example, if the Water Source variable is rated at 0.85, the Water Distribution score will usually have the potential to attain a maximum score of 0.85. Additional stressors within or outside the lower end of the AA effecting water distribution (e.g., ditches and levees) will reduce the score from the maximum value.

### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural distribution of water throughout the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. In most cases, the Water Source variable score will set the upper limit for the Water Distribution score.

| ✓ | Stressors                     | Comments/description  |
|---|-------------------------------|---|
|   | Alteration of Water Source    |   |
|   | Ditches                       |   |
|   | Ponding/Impoundment           |   |
| X | Culverts                      | water passes through a bridge, but flows are not significantly impeded          |
| X | Road Grades                   | US 24 abuts wetlands; significantly fewer wetlands on downgradient side of road |
|   | Channel Incision/Entrenchment |   |
|   | Hardened/Engineered Channel   |   |
|   | Enlarged Channel              |   |
|   | Artificial Banks/Shoreline    |   |
|   | Weirs                         |   |
|   | Dikes/Levees/Berms            |   |
|   | Diversions                    |   |
|   | Sediment/Fill Accumulation    |   |

| Variable Score | Condition Grade                  | Non-riverine  | Riverine   |
|----------------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 1.0 - 0.9      | <b>A</b><br>Reference Standard   | Little or no alteration has been made to the way in which water is distributed throughout the wetland. AA maintains a natural hydrologic regime.  | Natural active floodplain areas flood on a normal recurrence interval. No evidence of alteration of flooding and subirrigation duration and intensity. |
| <0.9 - 0.8     | <b>B</b><br>Highly Functioning   | Less than 10% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in less than a 2 in. (5 cm) change in mean growing season water table elevation.   | Channel-adjacent areas have occasional unnatural periods of drying or flooding; or uniform shift in the hydrograph less than typical root depth.       |
| <0.8 - 0.7     | <b>C</b><br>Functioning          | Between 10 and 33% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 4 in. (5 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation.  | In channel-adjacent area, periods of drying or flooding are common; or uniform shift in the hydrograph near root depth.                                |
| <0.7 - 0.6     | <b>D</b><br>Functioning Impaired | 33 to 66% of the AA is affected by <i>in situ</i> hydrologic alteration; or more widespread impacts result in a 6 in. (15 cm) or less change in mean growing season water table elevation. Water table behavior must still meet jurisdictional criteria to merit this rating. | Adjacent to the channel, unnatural periods of drying or flooding are the norm; or uniform shift in the hydrograph greater than root depth.             |
| <0.6           | <b>F</b><br>Non-functioning      | More than 66% of the AA is affected by hydrologic alteration which changes the fundamental functioning of the wetland system, generally exhibited as a conversion to upland or deep water habitat.  | Historical active floodplain areas are almost never wetted from overbank flooding, and/or groundwater infiltration is effectively cut off.             |

**Variable 4 Score**

0.75

## Variable 5: Water Outflow

This variable is concerned with **down-gradient** hydrologic connectivity and the flow of water and water-borne materials and energy out of the AA. In particular it illustrates the degree to which the AA can support the functioning of down-gradient habitats. It is a measure of impacts that affect the hydrologic outflow of water including the passage of water through its normal low- and high-flow surface outlets, infiltration/groundwater recharge, and the energetic characteristics of water delivered to dependent habitats. In some cases, alteration of evapotranspiration rates may be significant enough of a factor to consider in scoring. Score this variable by identifying stressors that impact the means by which water is exported from the AA. To evaluate this variable focus on how water, energy and associated materials are exported out of the AA and their ability to support down-gradient habitats in a manner consistent with their HGM (regional) subclass.

Because the wetland's ability to export water and materials in a characteristic fashion is to a very large degree dependent the condition of its water source, as with the Water Distribution variable, **in most cases the Water Source variable score will define the upper limit Water Outflow score.**

### Scoring rules:

1. Identify impacts to the natural outflow of water from the AA and catalog them in the stressor table.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines. Take in to account the cumulative effect of stressors on the wetland's ability to export water and water-borne materials. In most cases the Water Source variable will set the upper limit for the Water Outflow score.

| ✓ | Stressors                     | Comments/description                                       |
|---|-------------------------------|--|
|   | Alteration of Water Source    |  |
|   | Ditches                       |  |
|   | Dikes/Levees                  |  |
| X | Road Grades                   | US 24 is a barrier for groundwater and subsurface outflows |
| X | Culverts                      | Bridge facilitates outflows from AA                        |
|   | Diversions                    |  |
|   | Constrictions                 |  |
|   | Channel Incision/Entrenchment |  |
|   | Hardened/Engineered Channel   |  |
|   | Artificial Stream Banks       |  |
|   | Weirs                         |  |
|   | Confined Bridge Openings      |  |

| Variable Score | Condition Grade                  | Scoring Guidelines   |
|----------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 1.0 - 0.9      | <b>A</b><br>Reference Standard   | Stressors have little to no effect on the magnitude, timing or hydrodynamics of the AA water outflow regime.   |
| <0.9 - 0.8     | <b>B</b><br>Highly Functioning   | High- or low-water outflows are mildly to moderately affected, but at intermediate ("normal") levels flow continues essentially unaltered in quantity or character.  |
| <0.8 - 0.7     | <b>C</b><br>Functioning          | High- or low-water outflows are moderately affected, mild alteration of intermediate level outflow occurs; or hydrodynamics moderately affected.   |
| <0.7 - 0.6     | <b>D</b><br>Functioning Impaired | Outflow at all stages is moderately to highly impaired resulting in persistent flooding of portions of the AA or unnatural drainage; or outflow hydrodynamics severely disrupted.                                |
| <0.6           | <b>F</b><br>Non-functioning      | The natural outflow regime is profoundly impaired. Down-gradient hydrologic connection severed or nearly so. Alterations may cause widespread unnatural persistent flooding or dewatering of the wetland system. |

**Variable 5 Score**

0.75

## Variable 6: Geomorphology

This variable is a measure of the degree to which the geomorphic setting has been altered within the AA. Changes to the surface configuration and natural topography constitute stressors. Such stressors may be observed in the form of fill, excavation, dikes, sedimentation due to absence of flushing floods, etc. In riverine systems, geomorphic changes to the stream channel should be considered if the channel is within the AA (i.e., small is size). Alterations may involve the bed and bank (substrate embeddedness or morphological changes), stream instability, and stream channel reconfiguration. Geomorphic changes are usually ultimately manifested as changes to wetland surface hydrology and water relations with vegetation. Geomorphic alterations can also directly affect soil properties, such as near-surface texture, and the wetland chemical environment such as the redox state or nutrient composition in the rooting zone. In rating this variable, **do not** include these resultant effects of geomorphic change; rather focus on the physical impacts **within the footprint** of the alteration **within the AA** – For example, the width and depth of a ditch or the size of a levee **within the AA** would describe the extent of the stressors. The secondary effects of geomorphic change are addressed by other variables. All alterations to geomorphology should be evaluated including small-scale impacts such as pugging, hoof shear, and sedimentation which

### Scoring Rules:

1. Identify impacts to geomorphological setting and topography within the AA and record them on the stressor checklist.
2. Considering all of the stressors identified, assign an overall variable score using the scoring guidelines.

| ✓ | Stressors                               | Comments   |
|---|---|--|
|   | Dredging/Excavation/Mining              |  |
| X | Fill, including dikes, road grades, etc | Road fill is common in substrate along the road, adjacent uplands, and toe of slope below road |
|   | Grading                                 |  |
| X | Compaction                              | Road fill compaction along road shoulder adjacent to AA; primarily outside of AA               |
|   | Plowing/Disking                         |  |
|   | Excessive Sedimentation                 |  |
|   | Dumping                                 |  |
|   | Hoof Shear/Pugging                      |  |
|   | Aggregate or Mineral Mining             |  |
|   | Sand Accumulation                       |  |
|   | Channel Instability/Over Widening       |  |
|   | Excessive Bank Erosion                  |  |
|   | Channelization                          |  |
|   | Reconfigured Stream Channels            |  |
|   | Artificial Banks/Shoreline              |  |
|   | Beaver Dam Removal                      |  |
|   | Substrate Embeddedness                  |  |
|   | Lack or Excess of Woody Debris          |  |

| Variable Score | Condition Grade                  | Scoring Guidelines   |
|----------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 1.0 - 0.9      | <b>A</b><br>Reference Standard   | Topography essentially unaltered from the natural state, or alterations appear to have a minimal effect on wetland functioning and condition. Patch or microtopographic complexity may be slightly altered, but native plant communities are still supported.  |
| <0.9 - 0.8     | <b>B</b><br>Highly Functioning   | Alterations to topography result in small but detectable changes to habitat conditions in some or all of the AA; or more severe impacts exist but affect less than 10% of the AA.  |
| <0.8 - 0.7     | <b>C</b><br>Functioning          | Changes to AA topography may be pervasive but generally mild to moderate in severity. May include patches of more significant habitat alteration; or more severe alterations affect up to 20 % of the AA.  |
| <0.7 - 0.6     | <b>D</b><br>Functioning Impaired | At least one important surface type or landform has been eliminated or created; microtopography has been strongly impacted throughout most or all of the AA; or more severe alterations affect up to 50% of the AA. Evidence that widespread diminishment or alteration of native plant community exist due to physical habitat alterations. Most incidentally created wetland habitat such as that created by roadside ditches and the like would score in this range or lower. |
| <0.6           | <b>F</b><br>Non-functioning      | Pervasive geomorphic alterations have caused a fundamental change in site character and functioning, commonly resulting in a conversion to upland or deepwater habitat.  |

**Variable 6  
Score**

0.87

## Variable 7: Water and Soil Chemical Environment

This variable concerns the chemical environment of the soil and water media within the AA, including pollutants, water and soil characteristics. The origin of pollutants may be within or outside the AA. Score this variable by listing indicators of chemical stress in the AA. Consider point source and non-point sources of pollution, as well as mechanical or hydrologic changes that alter the chemical environment. Because water quality frequently cannot be inferred directly, the presence of stressors is often identified by the presence of indirect indicators. Five sub-variables are used to describe the Water and Soil Chemical Environment: Nutrient Enrichment/Eutrophication/Oxygen; Sedimentation/Turbidity; Toxic Contamination/pH; Temperature; and Soil Chemistry and Redox Potential. Utilization of web-based data mining tools is highly recommended to help inform and support variable scores.

### Scoring rules:

1. Stressors are grouped into sub-variables which have a similar signature or set of causes.
2. Use the indicator list to identify each stressor impacting the chemical environment of the AA.
3. For each sub-variable, determine its score using the scoring guideline table provided on the second page of the scoring sheet. Scoring sub-variables is carried out in exactly the same way as normal variable scoring.  
-If the AA is part of a water body that is recognized as impaired or recommended for TMDL development for one of the factors, then score that sub-variable 0.65 or lower.
4. Transcribe sub-variable scores to the following variable scoring page and compute the sum.
5. The lowest sub-variable score sets the letter grade range. The composite of sub-variables influences the score within that range.

| Sub-variable   | Stressor Indicator                | ✓ | Comments                                    | Sub-variable Score |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| SV 7.1<br>Nutrient Enrichment/<br>Eutrophication/<br>Oxygen (D.O.) | Livestock                         | X | Bison and cattle grazing upstream in meadow | 0.95               |
|  | Agricultural Runoff               |   |   |                    |
|  | Septic/Sewage                     |   |   |                    |
|  | Excessive Algae or Aquatic Veg.   |   |   |                    |
|  | Cumulative Watershed NPS          |   |   |                    |
|  | CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List        |   |   |                    |
| SV 7.2<br>Sedimentation/<br>Turbidity                              | Excessive Erosion                 |   |   | 1.0                |
|  | Excessive Deposition              |   |   |                    |
|  | Fine Sediment Plumes              |   |   |                    |
|  | Agricultural Runoff               |   |   |                    |
|  | Excessive Turbidity               |   |   |                    |
|  | Nearby Construction Site          |   |   |                    |
|  | Cumulative Watershed NPS          |   |   |                    |
| CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List   |                                   |   |   |                    |
| SV 7.3<br>Toxic contamination/<br>pH                               | Recent Chemical Spills            |   |   | 0.75               |
|  | Nearby Industrial Sites           |   |   |                    |
|  | Road Drainage/Runoff              | X | AA adjacent to road                         |                    |
|  | Livestock                         |   |   |                    |
|  | Agricultural Runoff               |   |   |                    |
|  | Storm Water Runoff                | X | AA in wide, shallow basin                   |                    |
|  | Fish/Wildlife Impacts             |   |   |                    |
|  | Vegetation Impacts                |   |   |                    |
|  | Cumulative Watershed NPS          |   |   |                    |
|  | Acid Mine Drainage                |   |   |                    |
|  | Point Source Discharge            |   |   |                    |
|  | CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List        |   |   |                    |
| Metal staining on rocks and veg.                                   |                                   |   |   |                    |
| SV 7.4<br>Temperature  | Excessive Temperature Regime      |   |   | 0.95               |
|  | Lack of Shading                   | X | Lack of shade is part of natural system     |                    |
|  | Reservoir/Power Plant Discharge   |   |   |                    |
|  | Industrial Discharge              |   |   |                    |
|  | Cumulative Watershed NPS          |   |   |                    |
| CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List   |                                   |   |   |                    |
| SV 7.5<br>Soil chemistry/<br>Redox potential                       | Unnatural Saturation/Desaturation |   |   | 1.0                |
|  | Mechanical Soil Disturbance       |   |   |                    |
|  | Dumping/introduced Soil           |   |   |                    |
|  | CDPHE Impairment/TMDL List        |   |   |                    |

# Variable 7: Water and Soil Chemical Environment p.2

## Sub-variable Scoring Guidelines

| Variable Score | Condition Class                  | Scoring Guidelines   |
|----------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 1.0 - 0.9      | <b>A</b><br>Reference Standard   | Stress indicators not present or trivial.  |
| <0.9 - 0.8     | <b>B</b><br>Highly Functioning   | Stress indicators scarcely present and mild, or otherwise not occurring in more than 10% of the AA.  |
| <0.8 - 0.7     | <b>C</b><br>Functioning          | Stress indicators present at mild to moderate levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 33% of the AA.                                     |
| <0.7 - 0.6     | <b>D</b><br>Functioning Impaired | Stress indicators present at moderate to high levels, or otherwise not occurring in more than 66% of the AA                                      |
| <0.6           | <b>F</b><br>Non-functioning      | Stress indicators strongly evident throughout the AA at levels which apparently alter the fundamental chemical environment of the wetland system |

Input each sub-variable score from p. 1 of the V7 data form and calculate the sum.

|  |                             |                            |             |                                    |                               |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Nutrient enrichment/<br>Eutrophication/<br>Oxygen (D.O.) | Sedimentation/<br>Turbidity | Toxic contamination/<br>pH | Temperature | Soil chemistry/<br>Redox potential | Sum of Sub-variable<br>Scores |
| .95  | 1                           | .75                        | 0.95        | 1                                  | 4.65                          |

+      +      +      =

Use the table to score the Chemical Environment Variable circling the applicable scoring rules.

| Variable Score | Condition Grade                  | Scoring Rules                            |   |                                      |
|----------------|----------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|
|                |                                  | Single Factor                            |   | Composite Score                      |
| 1.0 - 0.9      | <b>A</b><br>Reference Standard   | No single factor scores < 0.9            |   | The factor scores sum > 4.5          |
| <0.9 - 0.8     | <b>B</b><br>Highly Functioning   | Any single factor scores ≥ 0.8 but < 0.9 |   | The factor scores sum >4.0 but ≤4.5  |
| <0.8 - 0.7     | <b>C</b><br>Functioning          | Any single factor scores ≥ 7.0 but < 0.8 | X | The factor scores sum >3.5 but ≤ 4.0 |
| <0.7 - 0.6     | <b>D</b><br>Functioning Impaired | Any single factor scores ≥ 0.6 but <0.7  |   | The factor scores sum >3.0 but ≤3.5  |
| < 0.6          | <b>F</b><br>Non-functioning      | Any single factor scores < 0.6           |   | The factor scores sum < 3.0          |

**Variable 7 Score**

0.79

## Variable 8: Vegetation Structure and Complexity

This variable is a measure of the condition of the wetland's vegetation relative to its native state. It particularly focuses on the wetland's ability to perform higher-order functions such as support of wildlife populations, and influence primary functions such as flood-flow attenuation, channel stabilization and sediment retention. Score this variable by listing stressors that have affected the structure, diversity, composition and cover of each vegetation stratum that would normally be present in the HGM (regional) subclass being assessed. For this variable, stressor severity is a measure of how much each vegetation stratum differs functionally from its natural condition or from the natural range of variability exhibited the HGM subclass or regional subclass. This variable has four sub-variables, each corresponding to a stratum of vegetation: Tree Canopy; Shrub Layer; Herbaceous Layer; and Aquatics.

### Rules for Scoring:

- Determine the number and types of vegetation layers present within the AA. Make a judgment as to whether additional layers were historically present using direct evidence such as stumps, root wads or historical photographs. Indirect evidence such as local knowledge and expert opinion can also be used in this determination.
- Do not score vegetation layers that would not normally be present in the wetland type being assessed.
- Estimate and record the current coverage of each vegetation layer at the top of the table.
- Record the Reference Standard or expected percent coverage of each vegetation layer to create the sub-variable weighting factor. The condition of predominant vegetation layers has a greater influence on the variable score than do minor components.
- Enter the percent cover values as decimals in the row of the stressor table labeled "Reference/expected Percent Cover of Layer". Note, percentages will often sum to more than 100% (1.0).
- Determine the severity of stressors acting on each individual canopy layers, indicating their presence with checks in the appropriate boxes of the stressor table. The difference between the expected and observed stratum coverages is one measure of stratum alteration.
- Determine the sub-variable score for each valid vegetation layer using the scoring guidelines on the second page of the scoring sheet. Enter each sub-variable score in the appropriate cell of the row labeled "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score". If a stratum has been wholly removed score it as 0.5.
- Multiply each layer's Reference Percent Cover of Layer score by its Veg. Layer Sub-variable scores and enter the products in the labeled cells. These are the weighted sub-variable scores. Individually sum the Reference Percent Cover of Layer and Weighted Sub-variables scores.
- Divide the sum of "Veg. Layer Sub-variable Scores" by the total coverage of all layers scored. This product is the Variable 8 score. Enter this number in the labeled box at the bottom of this page.

| Current % Coverage of Layer                                | Vegetation Layers |              |             |                | Comments   |
|--|-------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|--|
|  | Tree              | Shrub        | Herb        | Aquatic        |  |
|  |                   |              | 100         |                |  |
| <b>Stressor</b>  | <b>Tree</b>       | <b>Shrub</b> | <b>Herb</b> | <b>Aquatic</b> |  |
| Noxious Weeds  |                   |              |             |                |  |
| Exotic/Invasive spp.                                       |                   |              | X           |                | Canadian thistle; evidence of herbicide treatment present in uplands |
| Tree Harvest   |                   |              |             |                |  |
| Brush Cutting/Shrub Removal                                |                   |              |             |                |  |
| Livestock Grazing  |                   |              |             |                |  |
| Excessive Herbivory  |                   |              |             |                |  |
| Mowing/Haying  |                   |              |             |                |  |
| Herbicide  |                   |              |             |                |  |
| Loss of Zonation/Homogenization                            |                   |              |             |                |  |
| Dewatering   |                   |              |             |                |  |
| Over Saturation  |                   |              |             |                |  |
| DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CURRENT COVERAGE AND REFERENCE/EXPECTED |                   | 0            | 0           |                |  |

|  |  |   |  |   |     |   |  |   |     |
|--|--|---|--|---|-----|---|--|---|-----|
| <b>Reference/Expected % Cover of Layer</b> |  | + |  | + | 100 | + |  | = | 100 |
|--|--|---|--|---|-----|---|--|---|-----|

|                                      |  |   |  |   |      |   |  |   |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|------|---|--|---|--|
| <b>Veg. Layer Sub-variable Score</b> |  | X |  | X | 0.89 | X |  | X |  |
|                                      |  |   |  |   |      |   |  |   |  |

See sub-variable scoring guidelines on following page

|                                    |  |   |  |   |    |   |  |   |    |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|----|---|--|---|----|
| <b>Weighted Sub-variable Score</b> |  | + |  | + | 89 | + |  | = | 89 |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|----|---|--|---|----|

**Variable 8 Score**

0.89

## Variable 8: Vegetation Structure and Complexity p. 2

### Sub-variable 8 Scoring Guidelines

Based on the list of stressors identified above, rate the severity of their cumulative effect on vegetation structure and complexity for each vegetation layer.

| Variable Score | Condition Grade                         | Scoring Guidelines   |
|----------------|---|--|
| 1.0 - 0.9      | <b>A</b><br><i>Reference Standard</i>   | Stressors not present or with an intensity low enough as to not detectably affect the structure, diversity or composition of the vegetation layer.   |
| <0.9 - 0.8     | <b>B</b><br><i>Highly Functioning</i>   | Stressors present at intensity levels sufficient to cause detectable, but minor, changes in layer composition. Stress related change should generally be less than 10% for any given attribute (e.g., 10% cover of invasive, 10% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as high as 33% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 10% of the wetland.   |
| <0.8 - 0.7     | <b>C</b><br><i>Functioning</i>          | Stressors present with enough intensity to cause significant changes in the character of vegetation, including alteration of layer coverage, structural complexity and species composition. The vegetation layer retains its essential character though. AA's with a high proportion of non-native grasses will commonly fall in this class. Stress related change should generally be less than 33% for any given attribute (e.g., 33% cover of invasive, 33% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 66% for a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 25% of the wetland. |
| <0.7 - 0.6     | <b>D</b><br><i>Functioning Impaired</i> | Stressor intensity severe enough to cause profound changes to the fundamental character of the vegetation layer. Stress-related change should generally be less than 66% for any given attribute (e.g., 66% cover of invasive, 66% reduction in richness or cover) if the stressor is evenly distributed throughout the wetland. Stress related change could be as much as 80% of a given attribute if stressors are confined to patches comprising less than 50% of the wetland.  |
| <0.6           | <b>F</b><br><i>Non-functioning</i>      | Vegetation layer has been completely removed or altered to the extent that is no longer comparable to the natural structure, diversity and composition.  |

# FACWet Score Card

## Scoring Procedure:

1. Transcribe variable scores from each variable data sheet to the corresponding cell in the variable score table.
2. In each Functional Capacity Index (FCI) equation, enter the corresponding variable scores in the equation cells. Do not enter values in crossed cells lacking labels.
3. Add the variable scores to calculate the total functional points achieved for each function.
4. Divide the total functional points achieved by the functional points possible. The typical number of total points possible is provided, however, if a variable is added or subtracted to FCI equation the total possible points must be adjusted
5. Calculate the Composite FCI, by adding the FCI scores and dividing by the total number of functions scored (usually 7).
6. If scoring is done directly in the Excel spreadsheet, all values will be transferred and calculated automatically.

## VARIABLE SCORE TABLE

|                            |             |   |      |
|----------------------------|-------------|---|------|
| Buffer & Landscape Context | Variable 1: | Habitat Connectivity (Connect)            | 0.76 |
|                            | Variable 2: | Contributing Area (CA)                    | 0.74 |
| Hydrology                  | Variable 3: | Water Source (Source)                     | 0.83 |
|                            | Variable 4: | Water Distribution (Dist)                 | 0.75 |
|                            | Variable 5: | Water Outflow (Outflow)                   | 0.75 |
| Abiotic and Biotic Habitat | Variable 6: | Geomorphology (Geom)                      | 0.87 |
|                            | Variable 7: | Chemical Environment (Chem)               | 0.79 |
|                            | Variable 8: | Vegetation Structure and Complexity (Veg) | 0.89 |

## Functional Capacity Indices

| Function   | Equation   | Total Functional Points | FCI  |
|--|--|-------------------------|------|
| Function 1 -- Support of Characteristic Wildlife Habitat     | $V1_{connect} + V2_{CA} + (2 \times V8_{veg})$   | 3.28                    | 0.82 |
| Function 2 -- Support of Characteristic Fish/aquatic Habitat | $(3 \times V3_{source}) + (2 \times V4_{dist}) + (2 \times V5_{outflow}) + V6_{geom} + V7_{chem}$          | 7.15                    | 0.79 |
| Function 3 -- Flood Attenuation                              | $V2_{CA} + (2 \times V3_{source}) + (2 \times V4_{dist}) + (2 \times V5_{outflow}) + V6_{geom} + V8_{veg}$ | 7.16                    | 0.80 |
| Function 4 -- Short- and Long-term Water Storage             | $V3_{source} + (2 \times V4_{dist}) + (2 \times V5_{outflow}) + V6_{geom}$                                 | 4.7                     | 0.78 |
| Function 5 -- Nutrient/Toxicant Removal                      | $(2 \times V2_{CA}) + (2 \times V4_{dist}) + V6_{geom} + V7_{chem}$  | 4.64                    | 0.77 |
| Function 6 -- Sediment Retention/Shoreline Stabilization     | $V2_{CA} + (2 \times V6_{geom}) + (2 \times V8_{veg})$   | 4.26                    | 0.85 |
| Function 7 -- Production Export/Food Chain Support           | $V1_{connect} + (2 \times V5_{outflow}) + V6_{geom} + V7_{chem} + (2 \times V8_{veg})$                     | 5.7                     | 0.81 |
| Sum of Individual FCI Scores                                 |  | 5.62                    |      |
| Divide by the Number of Functions Scored                     |  | ÷ 7                     |      |
| Composite FCI Score  |  | 0.80                    |      |



## **Appendix F**

### Draft CDOT Wetland Findings Report

## **Appendix F**

Draft CDOT Programmatic  
Wetland Findings Report

# DRAFT Wetland Findings Report: Region 2 Bridge Rebuild Project

## Bridge H-13-N

*This wetland finding has been written in accordance with Executive Order 11990, "Protection of Wetlands" and in accordance with 23 CFR 771, 23 CFR 777, and Technical Advisory T6640.8A.*

## Project Description and Location

The objective of the CDOT Region 2 Bridge Bundle Design Build project is to replace rural structures spread across highway corridors in southern and western Colorado. This structure, H-13-N, is located on US 24 near Hartsel, Colorado. This design build project is funded by the USDOT FHWA Competitive Highway Bridge Program grant (14 structures, Project No. 23558).

Bridge H-13-N is located on US 24 at Mile Post (MP) 240 and 241 (mile 240.7), approximately 1.5 miles east of Hartsel, Colorado (Figure 1). The bridge is a treated timber stringer bridge (24 wide, 30 ft long) structure that crosses over the Middle Fork of the South Platte River. This bridge will likely be replaced with a bridge, a three-sided box culvert, or open bottom arch structure in order to accommodate a natural river bottom for the perennial stream. Due to heavy traffic at this location, a detour will likely be constructed to accommodate traffic while allowing bridge replacement activities to proceed. A temporary two-lane shoofly will be constructed on the north or south side of the existing bridge with a temporary drainage pipe. We anticipate that the area of disturbance will be restricted to the limits of the ROW. Once the bridge is complete and ready for use, any disturbed areas will be restored to original contours and reseeded.

The treated timber stringer bridge at H-13-N near Hartsel, Colorado was built in 1937 on US 24, which is a key corridor connecting residents and tourists from Colorado Springs and southern Colorado to the recreational activities in the Rocky Mountains. The structure is in poor condition, requires frequent inspection and repair for issues such as the piles splitting (requiring banding). This bridge is well past its replacement life, is not up to current construction and safety standards, and must be replaced to prevent potential failure.

## Wetland Summary

This delineation reports on the finding at the CDOT bridge H-13-N survey area (6.4 acres), where two emergent wetlands (PEM: 0.1 and 0.6 acres) were recorded along with the OHWM for the Middle Fork of the South Platte River (R3UBG: 0.09 acres and 102 linear feet; Figure 2). The wetlands directly abut the river OHWM and are dominated by sedges and rushes. The Middle Fork of the South Platte River is a perennial water that is part of a large braided system with other wetlands including a potential fen wetland approximately 0.3 west of the surveyed area.

The Functional Assessment of Colorado Wetlands (FACWet) determined this wetland complex has a score of 0.8.

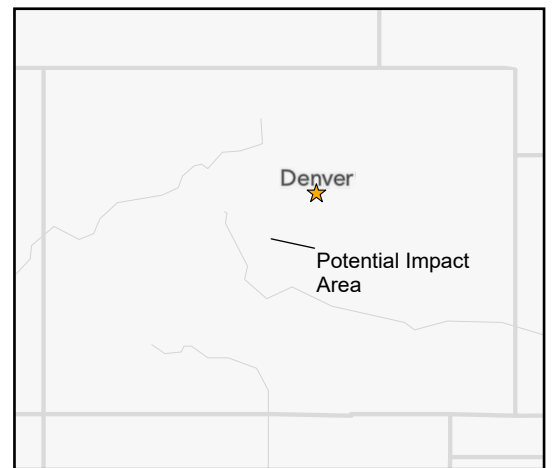
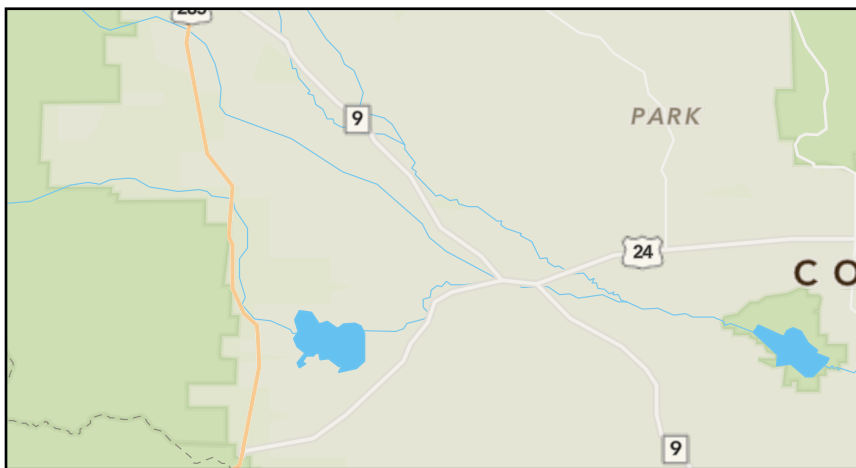
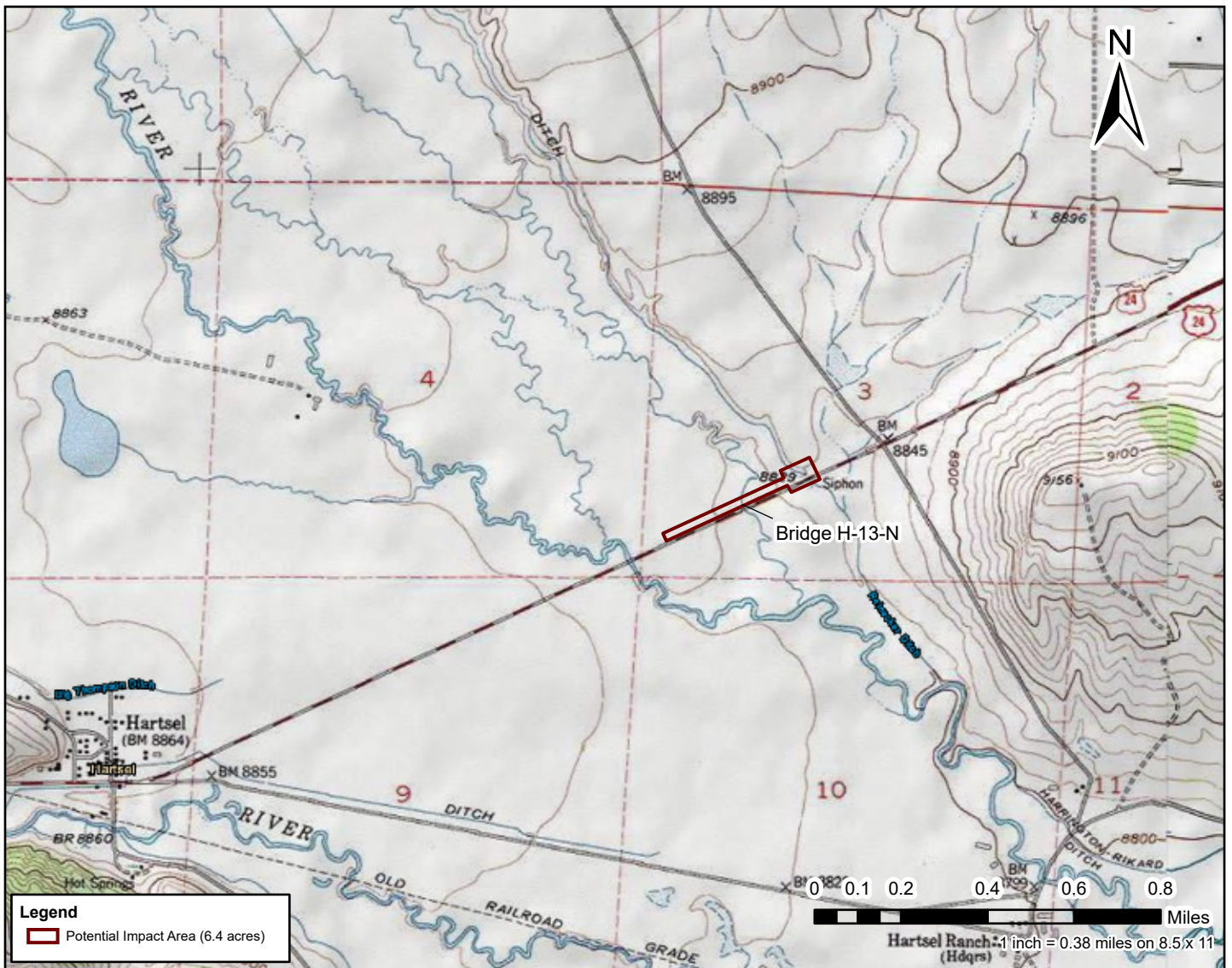
## Wetland Impacts

- Permanent and temporary impact summary, size, and cause
- Section 404 permitting assumptions

## Wetland Mitigation

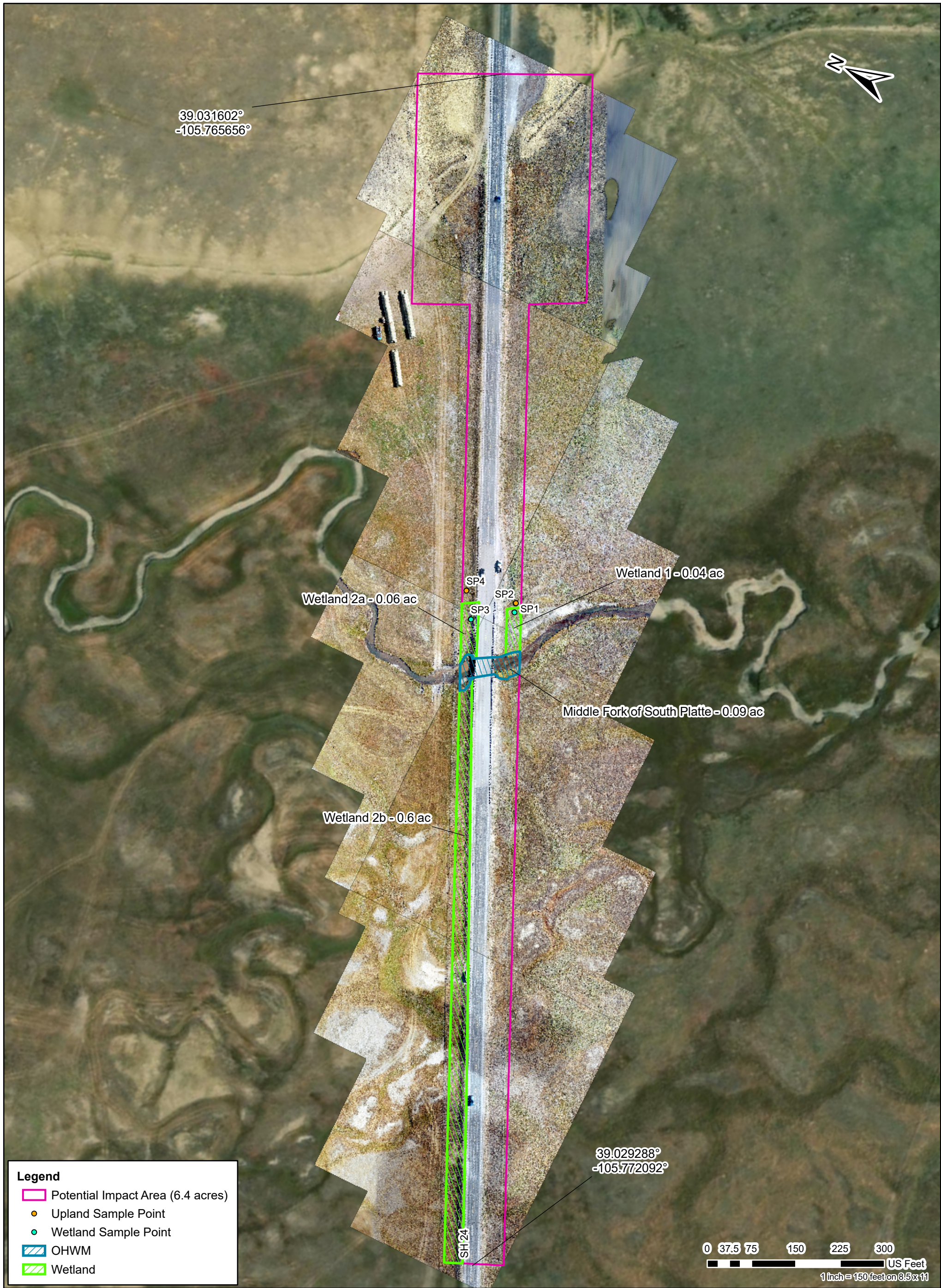
- Brief summary of specific measures to avoid and minimize wetland impacts
- Compensatory mitigation decision and justification

*Based on the above considerations, it is determined that there is no practicable alternative to the proposed construction in wetlands. The proposed action includes all practicable measures to minimize harm to wetlands which may result from such use.*



**COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**Region 2 Bridge Rebuild Project - Bridge H-13-N**  
**Wetland Findings Report**

**Figure 1**  
**Vicinity Map**



**Legend**

- Potential Impact Area (6.4 acres)
- Upland Sample Point
- Wetland Sample Point
- OHWM
- Wetland

**COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**Region 2 Bridge Rebuild Project - Bridge H-13-N**  
**Wetland Findings Report**

**Figure 2**  
**Wetland Delineation**

## **Appendix G**

### **Signed Property Access Letter**

(not included; needs to be obtained prior to permitting efforts)