

**Attachment A:
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION**

US 550 at US 160 Section 4(f) Evaluation
ATTACHMENT A: SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION
INDEX

Date	Correspondence
January 4, 2008	Letter to SHPO from CDOT re: Webb Ranch Eligibility and Effects
January 4, 2008	Letter to La Plata CHS from CDOT re: Webb Ranch Eligibility and Effects
January 14, 2008	Response letter from SHPO to CDOT re: Webb Ranch Eligibility and Effects
April 27, 2009	Letter to ACHP from FHWA re: Webb Ranch
November 9, 2009	Letter to SHPO from CDOT re: Eastern Realignment Alternative Eligibility and Effects
November 9, 2009	Letter to Thomas McNeill, Esq. from CDOT re: Eastern Realignment Alternative Eligibility and Effects
November 9, 2009	Letter to Peggy Cooley from CDOT re: Eastern Realignment Alternative Eligibility and Effects
November 9, 2009	Letter to The Hopi Tribe from CDOT re: Eastern Realignment Alternative Eligibility and Effects
November 9, 2009	Letter to Pueblo of Laguna from CDOT re: Eastern Realignment Alternative Eligibility and Effects
November 9, 2009	Letter to Southern Ute Tribe from CDOT re: Eastern Realignment Alternative Eligibility and Effects
November 23, 2009	Response letter from The Hopi Tribe to CDOT
December 1, 2009	Response letter from SHPO to CDOT
December 3, 2009	Response letter from Pueblo of Laguna to CDOT
December 11, 2009	Letter from SHPO to CDOT re: resouce 5LP.6666
January 25, 2010	Letter to ACHP from FHWA re: Eastern Realignment Alternative Eligibility and Effects
August 5, 2010	Letter to Daniel Gregory (on behalf of Webb family attorney, Edward Pappas) from CDOT re: Webb Ranch
August 6, 2010	Letter to Peggy Cooley from CDOT re: Revised G Alternative and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
August 6, 2010	Letter to Southern Ute Indian Tribe from CDOT re: Revised G Alternative and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
August 6, 2010	Letter to The Hopi Tribe from CDOT re: Revised G Alternative and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
August 6, 2010	Letter to Pueblo of Laguna from CDOT re: Revised G Alternative and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
August 6, 2010	Letter to SHPO from CDOT re: Revised G Alternative and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects

US 550 at US 160 Section 4(f) Evaluation
ATTACHMENT A: SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION
INDEX

August 16, 2010	Response letter from The Hopi Tribe to CDOT re: Revised G Alternative and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
August 25, 2010	Response letter from SHPO to Jane Hann re: Revised G Alternative and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
September 21, 2010	Letter to Shannon Bennett from CDOT
September 22, 2010	Letter to ACHP from FHWA re: Revised G Alternative and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
September 29, 2010	Response letter from Webb family attorney, Edward Pappas, to CDOT re: Revised G Alternative and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
October 8, 2010	Response letter from CDOT to Webb family attorney, Edward Pappas, re: Revised G Alternative and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
October 26, 2010	Response letter from Webb family attorney, Edward Pappas, to CDOT re: Revised G Alternative and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
November 1, 2010	Letter to Shannon Bennett from CDOT re: site forms for Clark Ranch property
November 7, 2010	Response letter from Shannon Bennett to CDOT
November 9, 2010	Response letter from CDOT to Webb family attorney, Edward Pappas, re: Webb Ranch
December 8, 2010	Follow-up letter to SHPO from CDOT re: Eastern Realignment Alternative, Revised G Modified Alternative, and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
December 8, 2010	Letter to Webb family attorney, Edward Pappas, from CDOT re: Eastern Realignment Alternative, Revised G Modified Alternative, and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
December 9, 2010	Letter to Shannon Bennett from CDOT re: Revised G Alternative and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
December 9, 2010	Letter to Peggy Cooley from CDOT re: Revised G Alternative and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
December 9, 2010	Letter to The Hopi Tribe from CDOT re: Eastern Realignment Alternative, Revised G Modified Alternative, and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
December 9, 2010	Letter to Joel Craig from CDOT re: Revised G Alternative and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
December 9, 2010	Letter to Philip S. Craig from CDOT re: Revised G Alternative and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
December 9, 2010	Letter to Pueblo of Laguna from CDOT re: Revised G Alternative and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
December 9, 2010	Letter to Southern Ute Indian Tribe from CDOT re: Revised G Alternative and Revised F Modified Alternative Eligibility and Effects
December 16, 2010	Response letter from SHPO to CDOT re: Webb Ranch
December 16, 2010	Response letter from FHWA to Webb family attorney, Edward Pappas, re: comments

**US 550 at US 160 Section 4(f) Evaluation
ATTACHMENT A: SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION
INDEX**

January 4, 2011	Response letter from Pueblo of Laguna to CDOT
January 29, 2011	Letter to ACHP from FHWA transmitting documentation for Finding of Adverse Effect (DAE)
February 8, 2011	Response letter from ACHP to FHWA re: Webb Ranch
February 24, 2011	Western Alternative E-mail File Search Results (from Lisa Schoch)

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9259



January 4, 2008

Ms. Georgianna Contiguglia
State Historic Preservation Officer
Colorado Historical Society
1300 Broadway
Denver, CO 80203

Subject: Additional Determinations of Eligibility and Effect, US 160 Durango to Bayfield
Environmental Impact Statement, La Plata County

Dear Ms. Contiguglia:

This letter and the attached site form constitutes a request for concurrence on eligibility and effects determinations for one historic property associated with the project referenced above. As you may recall from previous submittals, the undertaking involves phased improvements to a 16.2-mile segment of US Highway 160 between Durango and Bayfield in La Plata County. On US Highway 550, the project limits extend 1.2 miles south from US160/US550 intersection.

The Record of Decision (ROD) for this project was signed on November 7, 2006. However, minor design changes to the Preferred Alternative—specifically the new connection between US 160 and US 550—require the reevaluation of impacts to an assortment of environmental resources. The Webb Ranch, located north of and adjacent to County Road 220 east of US 550, was taken into account during the development of alternatives for the EIS process, but was not evaluated as a historic property under Section 106. This submittal includes an eligibility determination for the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) and assesses effects to it based on the Preferred Alternative. Please see the attached aerial photo for information about the project location and alternatives.

Eligibility Determination

Webb Ranch (5LP8461): The Webb Ranch has been determined eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as a representative example of ranch architecture in La Plata County. Please see the site form for additional information.

Effects Determination

The US 160 EIS evaluated a range of alternatives for the US 550/US 160 connection. Two alternatives (1F and 1G Modified) were carried forward to the Final EIS with Alternative 1G Modified selected as the Preferred. A reconfiguration of US 550 at its intersection with US 160 is necessary because the current alignment follows an unacceptable grade that is greater than 6%, with numerous curves on a winter-shaded north facing slope. During project development, it was determined that a recently created natural gas well lies within the alignment for Alternative 1G Modified. Also, an NRHP eligible archaeological site not addressed in the US 160 EIS but identified in the concurrent US 550 Environmental Assessment would also be impacted by the Preferred Alternative. To avoid the gas well and archaeological site the alignment was shifted slightly to the east; the majority of the realignment still lies within the Area of

Ms. Contiguglia
January 4, 2008
Page 2

alignment was shifted slightly to the east; the majority of the realignment still lies within the Area of Potential Effects for the original 1G Modified alternative. Shifting of the alignment resulted in avoidance of impacts to the archaeological site and the buildings on the eligible Webb Ranch property without having to relocate the natural gas well. The revised alignment impacts slightly more irrigated farmland (7.20 acres vs. 6.38), less pinion-juniper wildlife habitat (18.26 acres vs. 24.18 acres) and fewer wetlands (0.00 acres vs. 0.06 acres). This alternative also provides for the least fragmentation of the Webb Ranch based on an alignment that skirts the western edge of the mesa and ranch property while keeping the largest portion of the ranch intact.

The Preferred Alternative will intersect the Webb Ranch property to the east of the current US 550 alignment. The enclosed plan sheet provides a visual representation of the existing US 550 alignment and the proposed US 550 realignment, noted as the "Proposed Modification." Although the alternative avoids the buildings on the Webb Ranch, the highway realignment extends through the historic boundary of the ranch and introduces a new visual element to the setting. CDOT has determined that the project results in an *adverse effect* to the entire Webb Ranch property. We believe the best form of mitigation for this adverse effect involves the preparation of Level II Documentation as established by your office in Form 1595, and we request your comments on the proposed mitigation.

We request your concurrence with the determinations of eligibility and effect outlined herein. Your response is necessary for the Federal Highway Administration's compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's regulations. These materials have also been submitted to the La Plata County Historical Society for review; once we receive their comments we will forward them to you.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter. If you require additional information, please contact CDOT Assistant Staff Historian Jennifer Olander at (303) 757-9758.

Very truly yours,



for Brad Beckham, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures: site form, location map, plan sheet, photographs

cc: Paul Jankowski, Region 5
File

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9259



January 4, 2008

Ms. Mary Jane Hood
La Plata County Historical Society
P.O. Box 3384
Durango, CO 81302

Subject: Additional Determinations of Eligibility and Effect, US 160 Durango to Bayfield
Environmental Impact Statement, La Plata County

Dear Ms. Hood:

This letter and the attached materials constitutes a request for comments on eligibility and effects determinations for one historic property associated with the project referenced above. The undertaking involves phased improvements to a 16.2-mile segment of US Highway 160 between Durango and Bayfield in La Plata County. On US Highway 550, the project limits extend 1.2 miles south from US 160/US 550 intersection.

The Record of Decision (ROD) for this project was signed on November 7, 2006. However, minor design changes to the Preferred Alternative—specifically the new connection between US 160 and US 550—require the reevaluation of impacts to an assortment of environmental resources. The Webb Ranch, located north of and adjacent to County Road 220 east of US 550, was taken into account during the development of alternatives for the EIS process, but was not evaluated as a historic property under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This submittal includes an eligibility determination for the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) and assesses effects to it based on the Preferred Alternative. Please see the attached aerial photo for information about the project location and alternatives.

Eligibility Determination

Webb Ranch (5LP8461): The Webb Ranch has been determined eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as a representative example of ranch architecture in La Plata County. Please see the site form for additional information.

Effects Determination

The US 160 EIS evaluated a range of alternatives for the US 550/US 160 connection. Two alternatives (1F and 1G Modified) were carried forward to the Final EIS with Alternative 1G Modified selected as the Preferred. A reconfiguration of US 550 at its intersection with US 160 is necessary because the current alignment follows an unacceptable grade that is greater than 6%, with numerous curves on a winter-shaded north facing slope. During project development, it was determined that a recently created natural gas well lies within the alignment for Alternative 1G Modified. Also, an NRHP eligible archaeological site not addressed in the US 160 EIS but identified in the concurrent US 550 Environmental Assessment would also be impacted by the Preferred Alternative. To avoid the gas well and archaeological site the alignment was shifted slightly to the east; the majority of the realignment still lies within the Area of

Ms. Hood
January 4, 2008
Page 2

Potential Effects for the original 1G Modified alternative. Shifting of the alignment resulted in avoidance of impacts to the archaeological site and the buildings on the eligible Webb Ranch property without having to relocate the natural gas well. The revised alignment impacts slightly more irrigated farmland (7.20 acres vs. 6.38), less pinion-juniper wildlife habitat (18.26 acres vs. 24.18 acres) and fewer wetlands (0.00 acres vs. 0.06 acres). This alternative also provides for the least fragmentation of the Webb Ranch based on an alignment that skirts the western edge of the mesa and ranch property while keeping the largest portion of the ranch intact.

The Preferred Alternative will intersect the Webb Ranch property to the east of the current US 550 alignment. The enclosed plan sheet provides a visual representation of the existing US 550 alignment and the proposed US 550 realignment, noted as the "Proposed Modification." Although the alternative avoids the buildings on the Webb Ranch, the highway realignment extends through the historic boundary of the ranch and introduces a new visual element to the setting. CDOT has determined that the project results in an *adverse effect* to the entire Webb Ranch property. We believe the best form of mitigation for this adverse effect involves the preparation of Level II Documentation as established by the Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation.

As a local historical society with a potential interest in this historic resource, we welcome your comments regarding the Section 106 determinations. Should you elect to respond we request that you do so within 30 days of receipt of this letter. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter. If you require additional information, please contact CDOT Assistant Staff Historian Jennifer Olander at (303) 757-9758.

Very truly yours,


for Brad Beckham, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures: site form, location map, photographs

cc: Paul Jankowski, Region 5
File



 OFFICE of ARCHAEOLOGY and HISTORIC PRESERVATION

January 14, 2008

Brad Beckham
Manager, Environmental Programs Branch
Colorado Department of Transportation
Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Denver, CO 80222

Re: US 160 Durango to Bayfield Environmental Impact Statement, La Plata County.
(CHS #33425)

Dear Mr. Beckham:

Thank you for your correspondence dated January 4, 2008 and received by our office on January 8, 2008 regarding the review of the above-mentioned project under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106).

After review of the provided information, we concur with the finding that resource 5LP.8461/Webb Ranch is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. After review of the Assessment of Adverse Effect, we concur with the finding of *adverse effect* for the proposed undertaking. We agree that OAHP Level II documentation would be appropriate for this resource, and we look forward to continued consultation on the Memorandum of Agreement.

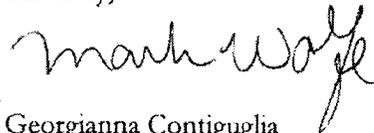
If unidentified archaeological resources are discovered during construction, work must be interrupted until the resources have been evaluated in terms of the National Register criteria, 36 CFR 60.4, in consultation with this office.

We request being involved in the consultation process with the local government, which as stipulated in 36 CFR 800.3 is required to be notified of the undertaking, and with other consulting parties. Additional information provided by the local government or consulting parties might cause our office to re-evaluate our eligibility and potential effect findings.

Please note that our compliance letter does not end the 30-day review period provided to other consulting parties. Also, the 30-day review period under Section 106 begins when our office receives your correspondence, not on the date of the correspondence.

If we may be of further assistance, please contact Amy Pallante, our Section 106 Compliance Coordinator, at (303) 866-4678.

Sincerely,


for Georgianna Contiguglia
State Historic Preservation Officer

COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Colorado Federal Aid Division

April 27, 2009

12300 W. Dakota Ave.
Suite 180
Lakewood, CO 80228

Mr. Reid Nelson, Director
Office of Federal Agency Programs
Attn: Carol Legard
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Ste. 803
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mr. Nelson:

Subject: US Highway 160 from Durango to Bayfield Project, La Plata County, Colorado

As part of our consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, I write to update you on the status of work to avoid impacts to the historic Webb Ranch, which was determined to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) after completion of the "Final Environmental Impact Statement/Final Section 4(f) Evaluation For US Highway 160 From Durango To Bayfield" (US 160 FEIS) published in 2006.

As you know, the historic Webb Ranch is also subject to Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966. Under this provision, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) may not approve the use of a property protected by Section 4(f) unless there is no feasible and prudent avoidance alternative and the action includes all possible planning to minimize harm to the property. FHWA and the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) are currently analyzing whether a feasible and prudent avoidance alternative exists for the US 550/160 connection which avoids harm to Section 4(f) resources, including the historic Webb Ranch. If no such alternative exists, FHWA and CDOT must choose the alternative that causes the least harm in light of the preservation purposes of Section 4(f).

A Section 4(f) evaluation must discuss the impacts on Section 4(f) resources for each alternative. For this project, this allows a comparison among those alternatives advanced for consideration in the US 160 FEIS as well as with any other alternatives that avoid or minimize the use of Section 4(f) resources. The forthcoming Section 4(f) Evaluation will provide valuable information on avoidance opportunities that can be used in the Section 106 process. Therefore, I am writing to advise you that FHWA has preliminarily determined the alignments to be considered in our on-going Section 4(f) analysis.

In reviewing the information we have on this area, we have identified alignments designed to avoid the Webb Ranch that will be subject to further study. It is important to emphasize that the exact locations of these alignments may change as we gather more information. For example, an alignment may be shifted to avoid sensitive resources, such as important wildlife habitat, as we learn more about the potential impacts of an alignment. In addition, if other

**MOVING THE
AMERICAN
ECONOMY**



properties that are protected under Section 106 and/or Section 4(f) are found along the new alignments, those alignments may be altered or new alternatives may emerge.

Once again cautioning that we may revise or refine these alignments as we learn more, the following alternatives will be considered (see the attached figure):

Alternative G Modified: Alternative G Modified was one of two alternatives for a US 160/US 550 (south) connection that was advanced for consideration in the EIS. The evaluation will therefore consider Alternative G Modified, as well as a revision of this alignment that avoids a gas well within the original Alternative G Modified alignment (Revised Alternative G Modified). These alternatives would be east of the existing US 550 alignment, located along the western edge of the Florida Mesa and would connect to US 160 approximately 0.6 mile east of the existing US 160/US 550 (south) intersection at a new interchange that is currently under construction. They would cross through the historic Webb Ranch. Please note that due to the scale of the figure, Alternative G Modified and Revised Alternative G Modified are indicated by a single line, although the alignments differ slightly.

Alternative F Modified: This alternative was advanced for consideration in the EIS and the evaluation will address its impacts on Section 4(f) resources. As noted above, this allows comparison among the alternatives advanced in the EIS and against any other alternatives that avoid or minimize use of the Section 4(f) resources. Alternative F Modified would cross the Florida Mesa through the Webb Ranch and connect to US 160 at the proposed interchange at CR 233 (west), approximately 1.5 miles east of the existing US 160/US 550 (south) intersection.

Current US 550 alignment: The alternatives along the current US 550 alignment (Preliminary Alternative A and Feasibility Alternative 1B in the EIS) were not advanced for detailed consideration during the EIS process due to constructability and other problems. The current alignment will be reviewed in light of new information, including proposals submitted by attorney Thomas McNeill on behalf of Webb Ranch owners. In particular, in an October 28, 2008 letter to me, Mr. McNeill provided seven design alternatives that are variations on the existing US 550 alignment. We will consider whether the design variations suggested by Mr. McNeill, or other designs of US 550 generally along its current alignment, can lead to a feasible and prudent avoidance alternative.

Eastern Realignment Alternative: We will consider an alternative that avoids the historic Webb Ranch by realigning US 550 to the east of the ranch. This is similar to Alternative S.1, suggested by Mr. McNeill in his October 28, 2008 letter to me. This alternative would cross the Florida Mesa to the east of the Webb Ranch, connecting to US 160 at the proposed interchange at CR 233 (west), approximately 1.5 miles east of the existing US 160/US 550 (south) intersection. However, as we learn more about the area, this alternative will likely be refined so as to result in an optimal alignment that avoids impacts to sensitive resources, which can include other historic resources, wildlife areas, wetlands, or community resources.

Western Realignment Alternative: We will consider an alternative that avoids the historic Webb Ranch by taking a route west of the ranch and the existing US 550 alignment. This alternative is similar to Alternative S.2 suggested by Mr. McNeill in his October 28, 2008 letter. This alternative begins much further south on US 550, and would travel north across the

Animus River valley to connect with US 160 approximately 0.5 miles west of the existing US 160/US 550 (south) intersection. Due to the configuration of the Animus River, this alternative requires two crossings of the river, and will likely involve coordination with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine the most acceptable alignment in this area.

FHWA and CDOT will be reviewing the information prepared during the EIS process for Alternatives A, 1B, G Modified, Revised G Modified, and F Modified, and updating the information as necessary. For the Eastern and Western Realignment Alternatives, new environmental reviews and studies (historic, archeological, wetlands, wildlife, etc) are needed. Gathering and analyzing this information will be a lengthy process; therefore we anticipate that the Section 4(f) Evaluation will be completed no earlier than late next year.

As the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) noted in its January 30, 2009 letter to me, it is important that the ACHP, State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and other consulting parties have an opportunity to offer comments and suggestions on the alternatives intended to avoid historic properties or minimize harm. At this time, we are forwarding information on our preliminary determination of the alternatives to be analyzed in the Section 4(f) Evaluation. I am forwarding the same packet of information to the consultation parties, including the Webb Ranch owners as well as Indian Tribes who may attach religious or cultural importance to historic resources in the project area. We once again emphasize that we are in the early stage of work on the Section 4(f) Evaluation and these alternatives may be revised or refined as we proceed with the evaluation.

We note that the eligibility of properties for the NRHP is an important consideration under both Section 4(f) and Section 106. In keeping with the ACHP's regulations, consulting parties may wish to review and offer input on eligibility and other determinations made pursuant Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. We expect that studies by CDOT this year will lead to a report outlining proposed determinations with regard to the National Register for Historic Places that will be circulated to the SHPO, ACHP and consulting parties for review and comment.

We look forward to working with your office, the SHPO and consulting parties as we move forward with the Section 4(f) Evaluation and Section 106 process.

Sincerely,

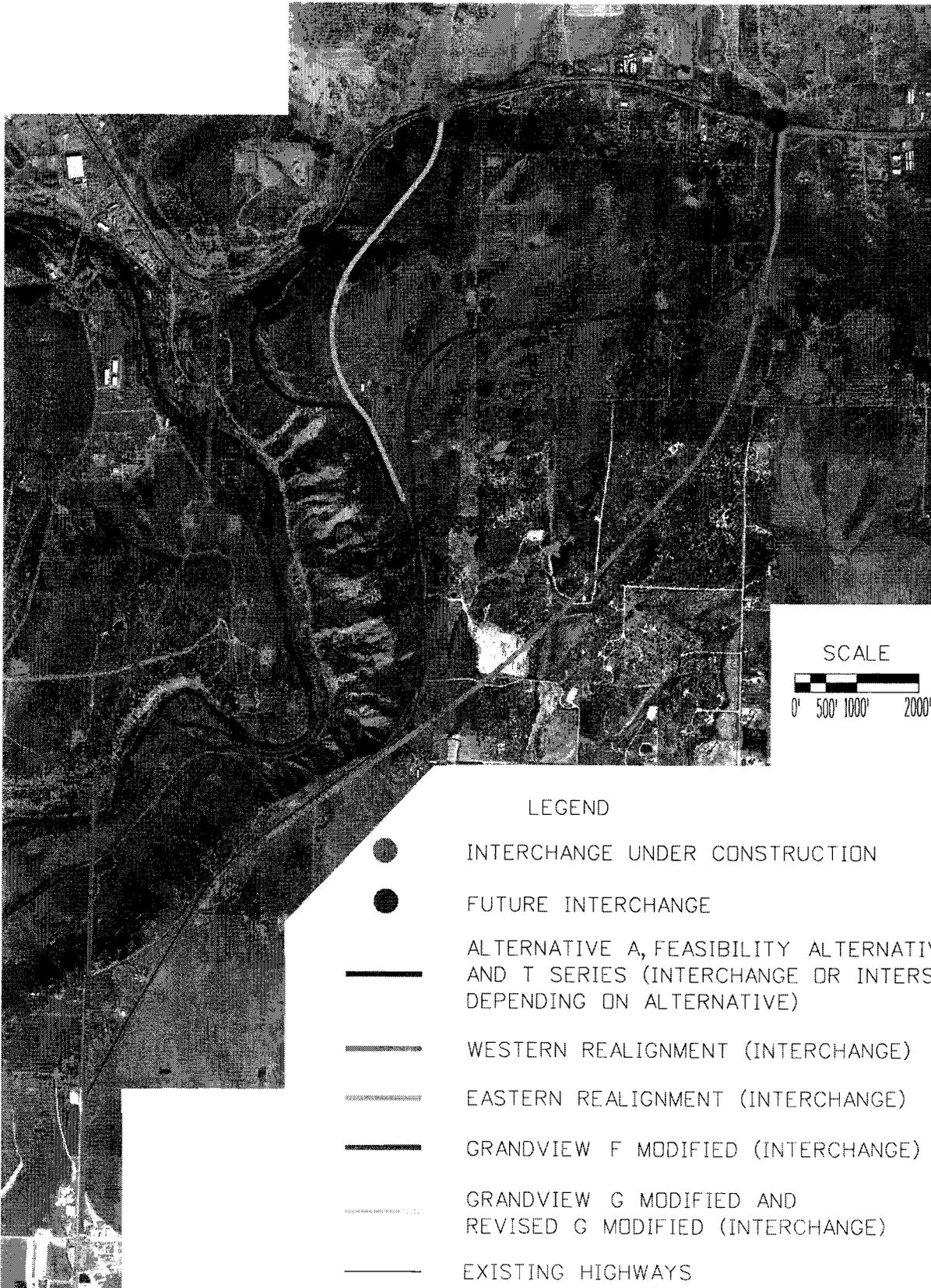


Karla S. Petty, P.E.
Division Administrator

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

Ms. Christine M. Johnson, FHWA
Ms. Maryann Blouin, FHWA
Ms. MaryAnn Nabor, FHWA
Mr. Richard Reynolds, CDOT
Ms. Kerrie Neet, CDOT
Mr. Dan Jepson, CDOT
Mr. Eric Meyer, State of Colorado Office of the Attorney General
Mr. Edward C. Nichols, SHPO
Mr. Thomas G. McNeill, Dickinson Wright PLLC
Ms. Mary Felter, The Hopi Tribe
Mr. Leigh Kuwanwisiwma, The Hopi Tribe
Mr. John Antonio, Sr., Pueblo of Laguna
Mr. Bob Mooney, Pueblo of Laguna
Mr. Matthew Box, Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Mr. Neil Cloud, Southern Ute Indian Tribe



LEGEND

- INTERCHANGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION
- FUTURE INTERCHANGE
- ALTERNATIVE A, FEASIBILITY ALTERNATIVE 1B, AND T SERIES (INTERCHANGE OR INTERSECTION DEPENDING ON ALTERNATIVE)
- WESTERN REALIGNMENT (INTERCHANGE)
- EASTERN REALIGNMENT (INTERCHANGE)
- GRANDVIEW F MODIFIED (INTERCHANGE)
- GRANDVIEW G MODIFIED AND REVISED G MODIFIED (INTERCHANGE)
- EXISTING HIGHWAYS

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



November 9, 2009

Mr. Edward C. Nichols
State Historic Preservation Officer
Colorado Historical Society
1300 Broadway
Denver, CO 80203

SUBJECT: Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County

Dear Mr. Nichols:

Enclosed for your review is a copy of the cultural resources survey report and associated site forms for the undertaking referenced above. In 2006 the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) completed and signed an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and subsequent Record of Decision (ROD) specific to proposed improvements to an approximately 16.2-mile segment of US Highway 160 between Durango and Bayfield in La Plata County (CDOT Project FC-NH[CX] 160-2[48]). Also included in that proposed action was a new connection between US Highways 550 and 160 south of Durango, the Preferred Alternative for which would necessitate a 1.2-mile segment of new highway alignment for US 550.

Section 106 consultation with your office regarding the US 160 EIS occurred over the course of several years beginning in 2000. However, due to the discovery of a large previously undocumented historic site on the alignment approved in the ROD and other associated environmental issues related to the new US 550/160 connection, FHWA and CDOT have undertaken additional analysis of possible alternatives, including historic properties studies along two alignment alternatives known as the Eastern Realignment and F Modified Alternatives.

The report included herewith is specific to pedestrian inventory of the Eastern Realignment Alternative and determinations of eligibility and effects for historic properties therein; a separate report documenting the results of the F Modified Alternative survey will be submitted at a later date once that alignment is comprehensively inventoried. Analysis of the environmental impacts of these two alternatives, as well as other alternatives that are not presently undergoing this level of intensive study, will result in the selection of a Preferred Alternative for the US 550/160 connection as part of FHWA's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) obligations.

Area of Potential Effects

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) established for the Eastern Realignment Alternative survey was a generally linear corridor beginning at (and incorporating a short segment of) the existing US Highway 550 alignment, and extending for approximately 2.8 miles to the north-northeast, terminating at US Highway 160 (refer to report Figures 1 and 2). In order to include potential direct and indirect impacts, the APE ranged from 200-300 feet on either side of the centerline, with broader areas included at intersections with existing roads. As noted on Page 8 of the report, however, the APE was expanded to include properties with boundaries that extended beyond the linear corridor (for example, ranch complexes 5LP9306 and 5LP9307, as discussed below). Although Figure 2 does not specifically reflect

those properties as being within the APE, they are in fact considered to be within the APE boundary, and direct and indirect effects to those resources in their entirety were evaluated.

Eligibility Determinations

Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc., under a subcontracting agreement with CDOT prime consultant Centennial Archaeology, Inc., conducted the survey and associated archival research, and authored the enclosed report. Six previously documented prehistoric archaeological sites within the APE were revisited and re-evaluated, and 10 archaeological sites (7 prehistoric, 1 historic, 2 multi-component prehistoric/historic), two historic ditch segments, and two historic ranches were newly recorded. One additional historic ditch lateral that bisects the APE but is directly associated with, and is a feature of, a historic ranch that is not within the Eastern Realignment Alternative APE (5LP8461, Webb Ranch) was also newly documented. Of the 20 sites (not including the 5LP8461 ditch lateral), 8 prehistoric and 4 historic localities are recommended as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), whereas the remaining eight sites are assessed as not eligible. The Webb/Hotter Lateral (a feature of 5LP8461) is assessed as a supporting element of the NRHP-eligible Webb Ranch. Ten prehistoric isolated finds were also newly recorded, all of which are evaluated as not eligible for the NRHP. A tabular version of the site eligibility data is presented below.

Summary of Site Type and NRHP Eligibility Recommendations

Site Number	Site Type	Cultural Affiliation	NRHP Recommendation
Previously Recorded Sites			
5LP6665	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (10/02)
5LP6666	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Not Eligible (10/02)
5LP6668	Historic Artifact Scatter	Historic	Officially Not Eligible (10/02)
5LP6671	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Recommended Eligible
5LP6673	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (10/02)
5LP6674	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/Historic Artifact	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	Officially Not Eligible (both components) (10/02)
Newly Recorded Sites and Isolated Finds			
5LP9236	Open Camp	Pueblo II	Eligible
5LP9237	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9238	Homestead	Historic	Not Eligible
5LP9239	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9240	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9241	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9242	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9243	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Not Eligible
5LP9244	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/Historic Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	<i>Prehistoric:</i> Eligible <i>Historic:</i> Not Eligible
5LP9245	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Ancestral Puebloan	Eligible
5LP9257.1	Co-op Ditch	Historic	Eligible/supporting segment
5LP9257.2	Co-op Ditch	Historic	Eligible/supporting segment
5LP9306	Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch Complex	Historic	Eligible
5LP9307	Craig Ranch Complex	Historic	Eligible
5LP9246-5LP9255	Isolated Finds	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
Linear Feature Within APE Associated With a Historic Ranch Outside APE			
5LP8461	Webb/Hotter Lateral	Historic	Eligible/supporting element of NRHP-eligible site

Effects Determinations

Please note that the effects determinations outlined below are based on preliminary engineering data for the Eastern Realignment Alternative. At this time the general footprint of the alignment has been accurately identified but no specific design or construction plans associated with this alternative have yet been developed. More detailed design may require a reassessment of these determinations in the future.

Archaeological Sites and Isolated Finds:

All eight of the NRHP eligible archaeological sites within the APE (5LP6665, 5LP6671, 5LP6673, 5LP9236, 5LP9241, 5LP9242, 5LP9244, 5LP9245) would be directly impacted by construction if the Eastern Realignment Alternative was selected as the preferred alignment (refer to report Appendix A, and Appendix B, Maps 1, 4, 5, 7, 12, 13, 15 & 16). Based on their locations and proximity to the proposed travel lanes and highway prism (again, in the context of the minimal design completed at this time), these sites would be completely or partially destroyed by grading, leveling and paving activities undertaken with heavy equipment. As a result, the project would have an *adverse effect* on all eight eligible archaeological sites. It is our judgment that the eligible archaeological sites are significant chiefly because of what can be learned by data recovery and have minimal value for preservation in place. The project would result in *no effect to historic properties* for the remaining eight archaeological sites (5LP6666, 5LP6668, 5LP6674, 5LP9237-5LP9240, 5LP9243) and ten isolated finds (5LP9246-5LP9255) assessed as not eligible for the NRHP.

Historic Linear Sites and Ranch Complexes:

Webb/Hotter Lateral (Feature of 5LP8461): A 1,643-foot segment of the Webb/Hotter Lateral was documented, which extends through a portion of the eligible Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306) prior to crossing onto the eligible Webb Ranch property (5LP8461). Based on the location of the Eastern Realignment Alternative footprint, approximately 870 feet of the documented Webb/Hotter Lateral would be directly impacted by the new highway alignment (Appendix B, Map 17). The water in this section of the lateral would have to be relocated to a siphon. The length and condition of the lateral as it extends through the Webb Ranch property is presently unknown, and the length of the entire lateral outside the ranch boundary is also unknown. However, the lateral on the ranch itself will not be impacted by the Eastern Realignment Alternative and the lateral is only a single feature of the ranch, which is significant for its ranching architecture and associated agricultural lands. None of the Webb Ranch buildings will be affected by the Eastern Realignment Alternative. The impacts to this portion of the ditch lateral are minor and the changes to this feature will not alter the qualities that make the overall Webb Ranch significant. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative would result in *no adverse effect* to the Webb Ranch.

Co-op Ditch (5LP9257/5LP9257.1/5LP9257.2): The entire Co-op Ditch is being treated as NRHP eligible. Two geographically discrete segments of this ditch were evaluated and both segments were found to have integrity. Segment 5LP9257.1 extends for a total of 1,300 feet north of County Road 220 through the eligible Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306). Segment 5LP9257.2 is a 7,984-foot section that meanders parallel to (and in two locations is crossed by) US Highway 550 on the western edge of the eligible Craig Ranch property (5LP9307), and then extends through the southern portion of that property. The Eastern Realignment Alternative would impact approximately 190 feet of 5LP9257.1 that includes a 30-foot existing structure under County Road 220. Due to the angle of the pipe in this location, the water will likely be placed in a new longer pipe and not in an extension of the existing pipe. The Eastern Realignment Alternative will impact approximately 1,319 feet of segment 5LP9257.2. Included in this impact area are two existing structures that run beneath US 550 (a 50-foot northern structure and a 49-foot southern structure) that will need to be replaced with longer structures, and 645 feet of ditch that will likely need to be re-graded to address issues with elevation and slopes in this area. The impacts to the ditch segments are in areas where the ditch has already been disturbed by the existing US 550 and County Road 220 alignments.

Although both of the ditch segments retain integrity, the impacts to those segments are minor and affect portions of the segments that have already been disturbed. Impacts to these segments of the ditches will not alter the characteristics that make the overall Co-op Ditch significant and the remainder of the ditch will still have the integrity to convey its historic significance. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative would have *no adverse effect* on the entire Co-op Ditch.

Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306): The Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch is located on the north side of County Road 220, and the alignment of the Eastern Realignment Alternative extends through the western half of the property (Appendix B, Map 20). Although none of the buildings in the ranch complex would be directly affected, the new highway alignment would extend through open agricultural land that contributes to the significance of this ranch property and introduce a significant visual element to the property setting. The setting, feeling, and association of the ranch will be altered by the presence of a new highway alignment that bisects the property. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that this alternative would have an *adverse effect* on the Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch.

Craig Ranch (5LP9307): The Craig Ranch is located on the east side of US Highway 550 south of County Road 220, and the western boundary of the ranch property abuts the highway. The Eastern Realignment Alternative extends from the existing US Highway 550 alignment across the Craig Ranch, separating the main ranch complex (including the dairy barn and outbuildings) from the saddle shop and barn in the northern section of the ranch (Appendix B, Map 21). The new highway alignment would not directly impact the buildings on the property, but would bring the highway alignment closer to the building complex and would also introduce a significant visual element to the property. The Eastern Realignment Alternative would also extend across open agricultural land that contributes to the significance of 5LP9307. The setting, feeling, and association of this ranch property would be altered by the presence of a new highway alignment. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that this alternative would have an *adverse effect* on the Craig Ranch.

This information has been transmitted to the Section 106 consulting parties (including tribal governments) identified for the undertaking. We will notify you of any responses received from these individuals and groups.

We request your concurrence with the site eligibility determinations outlined above and in the enclosed report, and also with the effects determinations described herein and illustrated in the report. If you have questions or require additional information in order to complete your review, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,

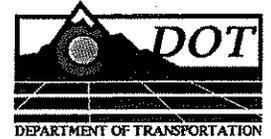

for Brad Beckham, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures (report and site forms)

cc: (w/o enclosures) K. Neet (CDOT Region 5)
S. Gibson (FHWA)

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



November 9, 2009

Mr. Thomas G. McNeill, Esq.
Dickinson Wright PLLC
500 Woodward Avenue, Suite 4000
Detroit, MI 48226-3425

SUBJECT: Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County, Colorado

Dear Mr. McNeill:

Enclosed is a copy of the cultural resources survey report and associated site forms for the undertaking referenced above. As the attorney for the Webb Family, the members of which are considered a consulting party for the project under the auspices of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we are providing these documents to you for review. In 2006 the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) completed and signed an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and subsequent Record of Decision (ROD) specific to proposed improvements to an approximately 16.2-mile segment of US Highway 160 between Durango and Bayfield in La Plata County (CDOT Project FC-NH[CX] 160-2[48]). Also included in that proposed action was a new connection between US Highways 550 and 160 south of Durango, the Preferred Alternative for which would necessitate a 1.2-mile segment of new highway alignment for US 550.

Section 106 consultation with the Colorado State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and other consulting parties regarding the US 160 EIS occurred over the course of several years beginning in 2000. However, due to the discovery of a large previously undocumented historic site on the alignment approved in the ROD and other associated environmental issues related to the new US 550/160 connection, FHWA and CDOT have undertaken additional analysis of possible alternatives, including historic properties studies along two alignment alternatives known as the Eastern Realignment and F Modified Alternatives.

The report included herewith is specific to pedestrian inventory of the Eastern Realignment Alternative and determinations of eligibility and effects for historic properties therein; a separate report documenting the results of the F Modified Alternative survey will be submitted at a later date once that alignment is comprehensively inventoried. Analysis of the environmental impacts of these two alternatives, as well as other alternatives that are not presently undergoing this level of intensive study, will result in the selection of a Preferred Alternative for the US 550/160 connection as part of FHWA's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) obligations.

Area of Potential Effects

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) established for the Eastern Realignment Alternative survey was a generally linear corridor beginning at (and incorporating a short segment of) the existing US Highway 550 alignment, and extending for approximately 2.8 miles to the north-northeast, terminating at US Highway 160 (refer to report Figures 1 and 2). In order to include potential direct and indirect impacts, the APE ranged from 200-300 feet on either side of the centerline, with broader areas included at intersections with existing roads. As noted on Page 8 of the report, however, the APE was expanded to include properties with boundaries that extended beyond the linear corridor (for example, ranch complexes 5LP9306 and 5LP9307, as discussed below). Although Figure 2 does not specifically reflect

those properties as being within the APE, they are in fact considered to be within the APE boundary, and direct and indirect effects to those resources in their entirety were evaluated.

Eligibility Determinations

Six previously documented prehistoric archaeological sites within the APE were revisited and re-evaluated, and 10 archaeological sites (7 prehistoric, 1 historic, 2 multi-component prehistoric/historic), two historic ditch segments, and two historic ranches were newly recorded. One additional historic ditch lateral that bisects the APE but is directly associated with, and is a feature of, a historic ranch that is not within the Eastern Realignment Alternative APE (5LP8461, Webb Ranch) was also newly documented. Of the 20 sites (not including the 5LP8461 ditch lateral), 8 prehistoric and 4 historic localities are recommended as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), whereas the remaining eight sites are assessed as not eligible. The Webb/Hotter Lateral (a feature of 5LP8461) is assessed as a supporting element of the NRHP-eligible Webb Ranch. Ten prehistoric isolated finds were also newly recorded, all of which are evaluated as not eligible for the NRHP. A tabular version of the site eligibility data is presented below.

Summary of Site Type and NRHP Eligibility Recommendations

Site Number	Site Type	Cultural Affiliation	NRHP Recommendation
Previously Recorded Sites			
5LP6665	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (10/02)
5LP6666	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Not Eligible (10/02)
5LP6668	Historic Artifact Scatter	Historic	Officially Not Eligible (10/02)
5LP6671	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Recommended Eligible
5LP6673	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (10/02)
5LP6674	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/Historic Artifact	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	Officially Not Eligible (both components) (10/02)
Newly Recorded Sites and Isolated Finds			
5LP9236	Open Camp	Pueblo II	Eligible
5LP9237	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9238	Homestead	Historic	Not Eligible
5LP9239	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9240	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9241	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9242	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9243	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Not Eligible
5LP9244	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/Historic Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	<i>Prehistoric: Eligible</i> <i>Historic: Not Eligible</i>
5LP9245	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Ancestral Puebloan	Eligible
5LP9257.1	Co-op Ditch	Historic	Eligible/supporting segment
5LP9257.2	Co-op Ditch	Historic	Eligible/supporting segment
5LP9306	Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch Complex	Historic	Eligible
5LP9307	Craig Ranch Complex	Historic	Eligible
5LP9246-5LP9255	Isolated Finds	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
Linear Feature Within APE Associated With a Historic Ranch Outside APE			
5LP8461	Webb/Hotter Lateral	Historic	Eligible/supporting element of NRHP-eligible site

Effects Determinations

Please note that the effects determinations outlined below are based on preliminary engineering data for the Eastern Realignment Alternative. At this time the general footprint of the alignment has been accurately identified but no specific design or construction plans associated with this alternative have yet been developed. More detailed design may require a reassessment of these determinations in the future.

Archaeological Sites and Isolated Finds:

All eight of the NRHP eligible archaeological sites within the APE (5LP6665, 5LP6671, 5LP6673, 5LP9236, 5LP9241, 5LP9242, 5LP9244, 5LP9245) would be directly impacted by construction if the Eastern Realignment Alternative was selected as the preferred alignment (refer to report Appendix A, and Appendix B, Maps 1, 4, 5, 7, 12, 13, 15 & 16). Based on their locations and proximity to the proposed travel lanes and highway prism (again, in the context of the minimal design completed at this time), these sites would be completely or partially destroyed by grading, leveling and paving activities undertaken with heavy equipment. As a result, the project would have an *adverse effect* on all eight eligible archaeological sites. It is our judgment that the eligible archaeological sites are significant chiefly because of what can be learned by data recovery and have minimal value for preservation in place. The project would result in *no effect to historic properties* for the remaining eight archaeological sites (5LP6666, 5LP6668, 5LP6674, 5LP9237-5LP9240, 5LP9243) and ten isolated finds (5LP9246-5LP9255) assessed as not eligible for the NRHP.

Historic Linear Sites and Ranch Complexes:

Webb/Hotter Lateral (Feature of 5LP8461): A 1,643-foot segment of the Webb/Hotter Lateral was documented, which extends through a portion of the eligible Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306) prior to crossing onto the eligible Webb Ranch property (5LP8461). Based on the location of the Eastern Realignment Alternative footprint, approximately 870 feet of the documented Webb/Hotter Lateral would be directly impacted by the new highway alignment (Appendix B, Map 17). The water in this section of the lateral would have to be relocated to a siphon. The length and condition of the lateral as it extends through the Webb Ranch property is presently unknown, and the length of the entire lateral outside the ranch boundary is also unknown. However, the lateral on the ranch itself will not be impacted by the Eastern Realignment Alternative and the lateral is only a single feature of the ranch, which is significant for its ranching architecture and associated agricultural lands. None of the Webb Ranch buildings will be affected by the Eastern Realignment Alternative. The impacts to this portion of the ditch lateral are minor and the changes to this feature will not alter the qualities that make the overall Webb Ranch significant. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative would result in *no adverse effect* to the Webb Ranch.

Co-op Ditch (5LP9257/5LP9257.1/5LP9257.2): The entire Co-op Ditch is being treated as NRHP eligible. Two geographically discrete segments of this ditch were evaluated and both segments were found to have integrity. Segment 5LP9257.1 extends for a total of 1,300 feet north of County Road 220 through the eligible Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306). Segment 5LP9257.2 is a 7,984-foot section that meanders parallel to (and in two locations is crossed by) US Highway 550 on the western edge of the eligible Craig Ranch property (5LP9307), and then extends through the southern portion of that property. The Eastern Realignment Alternative would impact approximately 190 feet of 5LP9257.1 that includes a 30-foot existing structure under County Road 220. Due to the angle of the pipe in this location, the water will likely be placed in a new longer pipe and not in an extension of the existing pipe. The Eastern Realignment Alternative will impact approximately 1,319 feet of segment 5LP9257.2. Included in this impact area are two existing structures that run beneath US 550 (a 50-foot northern structure and a 49-foot southern structure) that will need to be replaced with longer structures, and 645 feet of ditch that will likely need to be re-graded to address issues with elevation and slopes in this area. The impacts to the ditch segments are in areas where the ditch has already been disturbed by the existing US 550 and County Road 220 alignments.

Although both of the ditch segments retain integrity, the impacts to those segments are minor and affect portions of the segments that have already been disturbed. Impacts to these segments of the ditches will not alter the characteristics that make the overall Co-op Ditch significant and the remainder of the ditch will still have the integrity to convey its historic significance. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative would have *no adverse effect* on the entire Co-op Ditch.

Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306): The Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch is located on the north side of County Road 220, and the alignment of the Eastern Realignment Alternative extends through the western half of the property (Appendix B, Map 20). Although none of the buildings in the ranch complex would be directly affected, the new highway alignment would extend through open agricultural land that contributes to the significance of this ranch property and introduce a significant visual element to the property setting. The setting, feeling, and association of the ranch will be altered by the presence of a new highway alignment that bisects the property. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that this alternative would have an *adverse effect* on the Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch.

Craig Ranch (5LP9307): The Craig Ranch is located on the east side of US Highway 550 south of County Road 220, and the western boundary of the ranch property abuts the highway. The Eastern Realignment Alternative extends from the existing US Highway 550 alignment across the Craig Ranch, separating the main ranch complex (including the dairy barn and outbuildings) from the saddle shop and barn in the northern section of the ranch (Appendix B, Map 21). The new highway alignment would not directly impact the buildings on the property, but would bring the highway alignment closer to the building complex and would also introduce a significant visual element to the property. The Eastern Realignment Alternative would also extend across open agricultural land that contributes to the significance of 5LP9307. The setting, feeling, and association of this ranch property would be altered by the presence of a new highway alignment. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that this alternative would have an *adverse effect* on the Craig Ranch.

This information has been transmitted to the SHPO for Section 106 compliance purposes, as well as to the other consulting parties (including tribal governments) identified for the undertaking.

Your comments on the site eligibility determinations outlined above and in the enclosed report, and also on the effects determinations described herein and illustrated in the report, are welcomed. If you elect to submit comments we would appreciate receiving them within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you have questions or require additional information, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,


for Brad Beckham, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

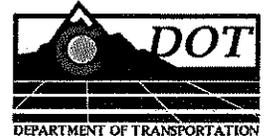
Enclosures (report and site forms)

cc: (w/o enclosures) K. Neet (CDOT Region 5)
S. Gibson (FHWA)

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



November 9, 2009

Ms. Peggy Cooley
1525 Cliff Drive
Santa Barbara, CA 93109-1733

SUBJECT: Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County, Colorado

Dear Ms. Cooley:

Enclosed is a copy of the cultural resources survey report and associated site forms for the undertaking referenced above. As a consulting party for the project under the auspices of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we are providing these documents to you for review. In 2006 the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) completed and signed an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and subsequent Record of Decision (ROD) specific to proposed improvements to an approximately 16.2-mile segment of US Highway 160 between Durango and Bayfield in La Plata County (CDOT Project FC-NH[CX] 160-2[48]). Also included in that proposed action was a new connection between US Highways 550 and 160 south of Durango, the Preferred Alternative for which would necessitate a 1.2-mile segment of new highway alignment for US 550.

Section 106 consultation with the Colorado State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and other consulting parties regarding the US 160 EIS occurred over the course of several years beginning in 2000. However, due to the discovery of a large previously undocumented historic site on the alignment approved in the ROD and other associated environmental issues related to the new US 550/160 connection, FHWA and CDOT have undertaken additional analysis of possible alternatives, including historic properties studies along two alignment alternatives known as the Eastern Realignment and F Modified Alternatives.

The report included herewith is specific to pedestrian inventory of the Eastern Realignment Alternative and determinations of eligibility and effects for historic properties therein; a separate report documenting the results of the F Modified Alternative survey will be submitted at a later date once that alignment is comprehensively inventoried. Analysis of the environmental impacts of these two alternatives, as well as other alternatives that are not presently undergoing this level of intensive study, will result in the selection of a Preferred Alternative for the US 550/160 connection as part of FHWA's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) obligations.

Area of Potential Effects

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) established for the Eastern Realignment Alternative survey was a generally linear corridor beginning at (and incorporating a short segment of) the existing US Highway 550 alignment, and extending for approximately 2.8 miles to the north-northeast, terminating at US Highway 160 (refer to report Figures 1 and 2). In order to include potential direct and indirect impacts, the APE ranged from 200-300 feet on either side of the centerline, with broader areas included at intersections with existing roads. As noted on Page 8 of the report, however, the APE was expanded to include properties with boundaries that extended beyond the linear corridor (for example, ranch complexes 5LP9306 and 5LP9307, as discussed below). Although Figure 2 does not specifically reflect

those properties as being within the APE, they are in fact considered to be within the APE boundary, and direct and indirect effects to those resources in their entirety were evaluated.

Eligibility Determinations

Six previously documented prehistoric archaeological sites within the APE were revisited and re-evaluated, and 10 archaeological sites (7 prehistoric, 1 historic, 2 multi-component prehistoric/historic), two historic ditch segments, and two historic ranches were newly recorded. One additional historic ditch lateral that bisects the APE but is directly associated with, and is a feature of, a historic ranch that is not within the Eastern Realignment Alternative APE (5LP8461, Webb Ranch) was also newly documented. Of the 20 sites (not including the 5LP8461 ditch lateral), 8 prehistoric and 4 historic localities are recommended as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), whereas the remaining eight sites are assessed as not eligible. The Webb/Hotter Lateral (a feature of 5LP8461) is assessed as a supporting element of the NRHP-eligible Webb Ranch. Ten prehistoric isolated finds were also newly recorded, all of which are evaluated as not eligible for the NRHP. A tabular version of the site eligibility data is presented below.

Summary of Site Type and NRHP Eligibility Recommendations

Site Number	Site Type	Cultural Affiliation	NRHP Recommendation
Previously Recorded Sites			
5LP6665	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (10/02)
5LP6666	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Not Eligible (10/02)
5LP6668	Historic Artifact Scatter	Historic	Officially Not Eligible (10/02)
5LP6671	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Recommended Eligible
5LP6673	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (10/02)
5LP6674	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/Historic Artifact	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	Officially Not Eligible (both components) (10/02)
Newly Recorded Sites and Isolated Finds			
5LP9236	Open Camp	Pueblo II	Eligible
5LP9237	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9238	Homestead	Historic	Not Eligible
5LP9239	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9240	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9241	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9242	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9243	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Not Eligible
5LP9244	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/Historic Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	Prehistoric: Eligible Historic: Not Eligible
5LP9245	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Ancestral Puebloan	Eligible
5LP9257.1	Co-op Ditch	Historic	Eligible/supporting segment
5LP9257.2	Co-op Ditch	Historic	Eligible/supporting segment
5LP9306	Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch Complex	Historic	Eligible
5LP9307	Craig Ranch Complex	Historic	Eligible
5LP9246-5LP9255	Isolated Finds	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
Linear Feature Within APE Associated With a Historic Ranch Outside APE			
5LP8461	Webb/Hotter Lateral	Historic	Eligible/supporting element of NRHP-eligible site

Effects Determinations

Please note that the effects determinations outlined below are based on preliminary engineering data for the Eastern Realignment Alternative. At this time the general footprint of the alignment has been accurately identified but no specific design or construction plans associated with this alternative have yet been developed. More detailed design may require a reassessment of these determinations in the future.

Archaeological Sites and Isolated Finds:

All eight of the NRHP eligible archaeological sites within the APE (5LP6665, 5LP6671, 5LP6673, 5LP9236, 5LP9241, 5LP9242, 5LP9244, 5LP9245) would be directly impacted by construction if the Eastern Realignment Alternative was selected as the preferred alignment (refer to report Appendix A, and Appendix B, Maps 1, 4, 5, 7, 12, 13, 15 & 16). Based on their locations and proximity to the proposed travel lanes and highway prism (again, in the context of the minimal design completed at this time), these sites would be completely or partially destroyed by grading, leveling and paving activities undertaken with heavy equipment. As a result, the project would have an *adverse effect* on all eight eligible archaeological sites. It is our judgment that the eligible archaeological sites are significant chiefly because of what can be learned by data recovery and have minimal value for preservation in place. The project would result in *no effect to historic properties* for the remaining eight archaeological sites (5LP6666, 5LP6668, 5LP6674, 5LP9237-5LP9240, 5LP9243) and ten isolated finds (5LP9246-5LP9255) assessed as not eligible for the NRHP.

Historic Linear Sites and Ranch Complexes:

Webb/Hotter Lateral (Feature of 5LP8461): A 1,643-foot segment of the Webb/Hotter Lateral was documented, which extends through a portion of the eligible Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306) prior to crossing onto the eligible Webb Ranch property (5LP8461). Based on the location of the Eastern Realignment Alternative footprint, approximately 870 feet of the documented Webb/Hotter Lateral would be directly impacted by the new highway alignment (Appendix B, Map 17). The water in this section of the lateral would have to be relocated to a siphon. The length and condition of the lateral as it extends through the Webb Ranch property is presently unknown, and the length of the entire lateral outside the ranch boundary is also unknown. However, the lateral on the ranch itself will not be impacted by the Eastern Realignment Alternative and the lateral is only a single feature of the ranch, which is significant for its ranching architecture and associated agricultural lands. None of the Webb Ranch buildings will be affected by the Eastern Realignment Alternative. The impacts to this portion of the ditch lateral are minor and the changes to this feature will not alter the qualities that make the overall Webb Ranch significant. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative would result in *no adverse effect* to the Webb Ranch.

Co-op Ditch (5LP9257/5LP9257.1/5LP9257.2): The entire Co-op Ditch is being treated as NRHP eligible. Two geographically discrete segments of this ditch were evaluated and both segments were found to have integrity. Segment 5LP9257.1 extends for a total of 1,300 feet north of County Road 220 through the eligible Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306). Segment 5LP9257.2 is a 7,984-foot section that meanders parallel to (and in two locations is crossed by) US Highway 550 on the western edge of the eligible Craig Ranch property (5LP9307), and then extends through the southern portion of that property. The Eastern Realignment Alternative would impact approximately 190 feet of 5LP9257.1 that includes a 30-foot existing structure under County Road 220. Due to the angle of the pipe in this location, the water will likely be placed in a new longer pipe and not in an extension of the existing pipe. The Eastern Realignment Alternative will impact approximately 1,319 feet of segment 5LP9257.2. Included in this impact area are two existing structures that run beneath US 550 (a 50-foot northern structure and a 49-foot southern structure) that will need to be replaced with longer structures, and 645 feet of ditch that will likely need to be re-graded to address issues with elevation and slopes in this area. The impacts to the ditch segments are in areas where the ditch has already been disturbed by the existing US 550 and County Road 220 alignments.

Although both of the ditch segments retain integrity, the impacts to those segments are minor and affect portions of the segments that have already been disturbed. Impacts to these segments of the ditches will not alter the characteristics that make the overall Co-op Ditch significant and the remainder of the ditch will still have the integrity to convey its historic significance. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative would have *no adverse effect* on the entire Co-op Ditch.

Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306): The Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch is located on the north side of County Road 220, and the alignment of the Eastern Realignment Alternative extends through the western half of the property (Appendix B, Map 20). Although none of the buildings in the ranch complex would be directly affected, the new highway alignment would extend through open agricultural land that contributes to the significance of this ranch property and introduce a significant visual element to the property setting. The setting, feeling, and association of the ranch will be altered by the presence of a new highway alignment that bisects the property. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that this alternative would have an *adverse effect* on the Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch.

Craig Ranch (5LP9307): The Craig Ranch is located on the east side of US Highway 550 south of County Road 220, and the western boundary of the ranch property abuts the highway. The Eastern Realignment Alternative extends from the existing US Highway 550 alignment across the Craig Ranch, separating the main ranch complex (including the dairy barn and outbuildings) from the saddle shop and barn in the northern section of the ranch (Appendix B, Map 21). The new highway alignment would not directly impact the buildings on the property, but would bring the highway alignment closer to the building complex and would also introduce a significant visual element to the property. The Eastern Realignment Alternative would also extend across open agricultural land that contributes to the significance of 5LP9307. The setting, feeling, and association of this ranch property would be altered by the presence of a new highway alignment. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that this alternative would have an *adverse effect* on the Craig Ranch.

This information has been transmitted to the SHPO for Section 106 compliance purposes, as well as to the other consulting parties (including tribal governments) identified for the undertaking.

Your comments on the site eligibility determinations outlined above and in the enclosed report, and also on the effects determinations described herein and illustrated in the report, are welcomed. If you elect to submit comments we would appreciate receiving them within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you have questions or require additional information, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,


for Brad Beckham, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures (report and site forms)

cc: (w/o enclosures) K. Neet (CDOT Region 5)
S. Gibson (FHWA)

U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**



Colorado Federal Aid Division
12300 W. Dakota Ave., Suite 180
Lakewood, CO 80228

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



November 9, 2009

Mr. Ben Nuvamsa, Chairman
The Hopi Tribe
Attn: Mr. Leigh Kuwanwisiwma, Culture Preservation Office
P.O. Box 123
Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

SUBJECT: Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County, Colorado

Dear Mr. Nuvamsa:

Enclosed for your review is a copy of the cultural resources survey report and associated site forms for the undertaking referenced above. As a consulting tribe for the project under the auspices of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we are providing these documents to you for review. In 2006 the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) completed and signed an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and subsequent Record of Decision (ROD) specific to proposed improvements to an approximately 16.2-mile segment of US Highway 160 between Durango and Bayfield in La Plata County (CDOT Project FC-NH[CX] 160-2[48]). Also included in that proposed action was a new connection between US Highways 550 and 160 south of Durango, the Preferred Alternative for which would necessitate a 1.2-mile segment of new highway alignment for US 550.

Section 106 consultation with the Colorado State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and other consulting parties regarding the US 160 EIS occurred over the course of several years beginning in 2000. However, due to the discovery of a large previously undocumented historic site on the alignment approved in the ROD and other associated environmental issues related to the new US 550/160 connection, FHWA and CDOT have undertaken additional analysis of possible alternatives, including historic properties studies along two alignment alternatives known as the Eastern Realignment and F Modified Alternatives.

The report included herewith is specific to pedestrian inventory of the Eastern Realignment Alternative and determinations of eligibility and effects for historic properties therein; a separate report documenting the results of the F Modified Alternative survey will be submitted at a later date once that alignment is comprehensively inventoried. Analysis of the environmental impacts of these two alternatives, as well as other alternatives that are not presently undergoing this level of intensive study, will result in the selection of a Preferred Alternative for the US 550/160 connection as part of FHWA's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) obligations.

Area of Potential Effects

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) established for the Eastern Realignment Alternative survey was a generally linear corridor beginning at (and incorporating a short segment of) the existing US Highway 550 alignment, and extending for approximately 2.8 miles to the north-northeast, terminating at US Highway 160 (refer to report Figures 1 and 2). In order to include potential direct and indirect impacts, the APE ranged from 200-300 feet on either side of the centerline, with broader areas included at intersections with existing roads. As noted on Page 8 of the report, however, the APE was expanded to include properties with boundaries that extended beyond the linear corridor (for example, ranch complexes 5LP9306 and 5LP9307, as discussed below). Although Figure 2 does not specifically reflect

those properties as being within the APE, they are in fact considered to be within the APE boundary, and direct and indirect effects to those resources in their entirety were evaluated.

Eligibility Determinations

Six previously documented prehistoric archaeological sites within the APE were revisited and re-evaluated, and 10 archaeological sites (7 prehistoric, 1 historic, 2 multi-component prehistoric/historic), two historic ditch segments, and two historic ranches were newly recorded. One additional historic ditch lateral that bisects the APE but is directly associated with, and is a feature of, a historic ranch that is not within the Eastern Realignment Alternative APE (5LP8461, Webb Ranch) was also newly documented. Of the 20 sites (not including the 5LP8461 ditch lateral), 8 prehistoric and 4 historic localities are recommended as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), whereas the remaining eight sites are assessed as not eligible. The Webb/Hotter Lateral (a feature of 5LP8461) is assessed as a supporting element of the NRHP-eligible Webb Ranch. Ten prehistoric isolated finds were also newly recorded, all of which are evaluated as not eligible for the NRHP. A tabular version of the site eligibility data is presented below.

Summary of Site Type and NRHP Eligibility Recommendations

Site Number	Site Type	Cultural Affiliation	NRHP Recommendation
Previously Recorded Sites			
5LP6665	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (10/02)
5LP6666	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Not Eligible (10/02)
5LP6668	Historic Artifact Scatter	Historic	Officially Not Eligible (10/02)
5LP6671	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Recommended Eligible
5LP6673	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (10/02)
5LP6674	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/Historic Artifact	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	Officially Not Eligible (both components) (10/02)
Newly Recorded Sites and Isolated Finds			
5LP9236	Open Camp	Pueblo II	Eligible
5LP9237	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9238	Homestead	Historic	Not Eligible
5LP9239	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9240	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9241	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9242	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9243	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Not Eligible
5LP9244	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/Historic Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	Prehistoric: Eligible Historic: Not Eligible
5LP9245	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Ancestral Puebloan	Eligible
5LP9257.1	Co-op Ditch	Historic	Eligible/supporting segment
5LP9257.2	Co-op Ditch	Historic	Eligible/supporting segment
5LP9306	Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch Complex	Historic	Eligible
5LP9307	Craig Ranch Complex	Historic	Eligible
5LP9246-5LP9255	Isolated Finds	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
Linear Feature Within APE Associated With a Historic Ranch Outside APE			
5LP8461	Webb/Hotter Lateral	Historic	Eligible/supporting element of NRHP-eligible site

Effects Determinations

Please note that the effects determinations outlined below are based on preliminary engineering data for the Eastern Realignment Alternative. At this time the general footprint of the alignment has been accurately identified but no specific design or construction plans associated with this alternative have yet been developed. More detailed design may require a reassessment of these determinations in the future.

Archaeological Sites and Isolated Finds:

All eight of the NRHP eligible archaeological sites within the APE (5LP6665, 5LP6671, 5LP6673, 5LP9236, 5LP9241, 5LP9242, 5LP9244, 5LP9245) would be directly impacted by construction if the Eastern Realignment Alternative was selected as the preferred alignment (refer to report Appendix A, and Appendix B, Maps 1, 4, 5, 7, 12, 13, 15 & 16). Based on their locations and proximity to the proposed travel lanes and highway prism (again, in the context of the minimal design completed at this time), these sites would be completely or partially destroyed by grading, leveling and paving activities undertaken with heavy equipment. As a result, the project would have an *adverse effect* on all eight eligible archaeological sites. It is our judgment that the eligible archaeological sites are significant chiefly because of what can be learned by data recovery and have minimal value for preservation in place. The project would result in *no effect to historic properties* for the remaining eight archaeological sites (5LP6666, 5LP6668, 5LP6674, 5LP9237-5LP9240, 5LP9243) and ten isolated finds (5LP9246-5LP9255) assessed as not eligible for the NRHP.

Historic Linear Sites and Ranch Complexes:

Webb/Hotter Lateral (Feature of 5LP8461): A 1,643-foot segment of the Webb/Hotter Lateral was documented, which extends through a portion of the eligible Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306) prior to crossing onto the eligible Webb Ranch property (5LP8461). Based on the location of the Eastern Realignment Alternative footprint, approximately 870 feet of the documented Webb/Hotter Lateral would be directly impacted by the new highway alignment (Appendix B, Map 17). The water in this section of the lateral would have to be relocated to a siphon. The length and condition of the lateral as it extends through the Webb Ranch property is presently unknown, and the length of the entire lateral outside the ranch boundary is also unknown. However, the lateral on the ranch itself will not be impacted by the Eastern Realignment Alternative and the lateral is only a single feature of the ranch, which is significant for its ranching architecture and associated agricultural lands. None of the Webb Ranch buildings will be affected by the Eastern Realignment Alternative. The impacts to this portion of the ditch lateral are minor and the changes to this feature will not alter the qualities that make the overall Webb Ranch significant. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative would result in *no adverse effect* to the Webb Ranch.

Co-op Ditch (5LP9257/5LP9257.1/5LP9257.2): The entire Co-op Ditch is being treated as NRHP eligible. Two geographically discrete segments of this ditch were evaluated and both segments were found to have integrity. Segment 5LP9257.1 extends for a total of 1,300 feet north of County Road 220 through the eligible Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306). Segment 5LP9257.2 is a 7,984-foot section that meanders parallel to (and in two locations is crossed by) US Highway 550 on the western edge of the eligible Craig Ranch property (5LP9307), and then extends through the southern portion of that property. The Eastern Realignment Alternative would impact approximately 190 feet of 5LP9257.1 that includes a 30-foot existing structure under County Road 220. Due to the angle of the pipe in this location, the water will likely be placed in a new longer pipe and not in an extension of the existing pipe. The Eastern Realignment Alternative will impact approximately 1,319 feet of segment 5LP9257.2. Included in this impact area are two existing structures that run beneath US 550 (a 50-foot northern structure and a 49-foot southern structure) that will need to be replaced with longer structures, and 645 feet of ditch that will likely need to be re-graded to address issues with elevation and slopes in this area. The impacts to the ditch segments are in areas where the ditch has already been disturbed by the existing US 550 and County Road 220 alignments.

Although both of the ditch segments retain integrity, the impacts to those segments are minor and affect portions of the segments that have already been disturbed. Impacts to these segments of the ditches will not alter the characteristics that make the overall Co-op Ditch significant and the remainder of the ditch will still have the integrity to convey its historic significance. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative would have *no adverse effect* on the entire Co-op Ditch.

Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306): The Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch is located on the north side of County Road 220, and the alignment of the Eastern Realignment Alternative extends through the western half of the property (Appendix B, Map 20). Although none of the buildings in the ranch complex would be directly affected, the new highway alignment would extend through open agricultural land that contributes to the significance of this ranch property and introduce a significant visual element to the property setting. The setting, feeling, and association of the ranch will be altered by the presence of a new highway alignment that bisects the property. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that this alternative would have an *adverse effect* on the Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch.

Craig Ranch (5LP9307): The Craig Ranch is located on the east side of US Highway 550 south of County Road 220, and the western boundary of the ranch property abuts the highway. The Eastern Realignment Alternative extends from the existing US Highway 550 alignment across the Craig Ranch, separating the main ranch complex (including the dairy barn and outbuildings) from the saddle shop and barn in the northern section of the ranch (Appendix B, Map 21). The new highway alignment would not directly impact the buildings on the property, but would bring the highway alignment closer to the building complex and would also introduce a significant visual element to the property. The Eastern Realignment Alternative would also extend across open agricultural land that contributes to the significance of 5LP9307. The setting, feeling, and association of this ranch property would be altered by the presence of a new highway alignment. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that this alternative would have an *adverse effect* on the Craig Ranch.

This information has been transmitted to the SHPO for Section 106 compliance purposes, as well as to the other consulting parties (including tribal governments) identified for the undertaking.

Your comments on the site eligibility determinations outlined above and in the enclosed report, and also on the effects determinations described herein and illustrated in the report, are welcomed. If you elect to submit comments we would appreciate receiving them within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you have questions or require additional information, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,



for Brad Beckham, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures (report and site forms)

cc: (w/o enclosures) K. Neet (CDOT Region 5)
S. Gibson (FHWA)

U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**



Colorado Federal Aid Division
12300 W. Dakota Ave., Suite 180
Lakewood, CO 80228

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



November 9, 2009

Mr. John Antonio, Sr., Governor
Pueblo of Laguna
c/o Laguna Pueblo Tribal Council
P.O. Box 194
Laguna, NM 87026

SUBJECT: Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County, Colorado

Dear Mr. Antonio:

Enclosed for your review is a copy of the cultural resources survey report and associated site forms for the undertaking referenced above. As a consulting tribe for the project under the auspices of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we are providing these documents to you for review. In 2006 the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) completed and signed an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and subsequent Record of Decision (ROD) specific to proposed improvements to an approximately 16.2-mile segment of US Highway 160 between Durango and Bayfield in La Plata County (CDOT Project FC-NH[CX] 160-2[48]). Also included in that proposed action was a new connection between US Highways 550 and 160 south of Durango, the Preferred Alternative for which would necessitate a 1.2-mile segment of new highway alignment for US 550.

Section 106 consultation with the Colorado State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and other consulting parties regarding the US 160 EIS occurred over the course of several years beginning in 2000. However, due to the discovery of a large previously undocumented historic site on the alignment approved in the ROD and other associated environmental issues related to the new US 550/160 connection, FHWA and CDOT have undertaken additional analysis of possible alternatives, including historic properties studies along two alignment alternatives known as the Eastern Realignment and F Modified Alternatives.

The report included herewith is specific to pedestrian inventory of the Eastern Realignment Alternative and determinations of eligibility and effects for historic properties therein; a separate report documenting the results of the F Modified Alternative survey will be submitted at a later date once that alignment is comprehensively inventoried. Analysis of the environmental impacts of these two alternatives, as well as other alternatives that are not presently undergoing this level of intensive study, will result in the selection of a Preferred Alternative for the US 550/160 connection as part of FHWA's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) obligations.

Area of Potential Effects

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) established for the Eastern Realignment Alternative survey was a generally linear corridor beginning at (and incorporating a short segment of) the existing US Highway 550 alignment, and extending for approximately 2.8 miles to the north-northeast, terminating at US Highway 160 (refer to report Figures 1 and 2). In order to include potential direct and indirect impacts, the APE ranged from 200-300 feet on either side of the centerline, with broader areas included at intersections with existing roads. As noted on Page 8 of the report, however, the APE was expanded to include properties with boundaries that extended beyond the linear corridor (for example, ranch complexes 5LP9306 and 5LP9307, as discussed below). Although Figure 2 does not specifically reflect

those properties as being within the APE, they are in fact considered to be within the APE boundary, and direct and indirect effects to those resources in their entirety were evaluated.

Eligibility Determinations

Six previously documented prehistoric archaeological sites within the APE were revisited and re-evaluated, and 10 archaeological sites (7 prehistoric, 1 historic, 2 multi-component prehistoric/historic), two historic ditch segments, and two historic ranches were newly recorded. One additional historic ditch lateral that bisects the APE but is directly associated with, and is a feature of, a historic ranch that is not within the Eastern Realignment Alternative APE (5LP8461, Webb Ranch) was also newly documented. Of the 20 sites (not including the 5LP8461 ditch lateral), 8 prehistoric and 4 historic localities are recommended as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), whereas the remaining eight sites are assessed as not eligible. The Webb/Hotter Lateral (a feature of 5LP8461) is assessed as a supporting element of the NRHP-eligible Webb Ranch. Ten prehistoric isolated finds were also newly recorded, all of which are evaluated as not eligible for the NRHP. A tabular version of the site eligibility data is presented below.

Summary of Site Type and NRHP Eligibility Recommendations

Site Number	Site Type	Cultural Affiliation	NRHP Recommendation
Previously Recorded Sites			
5LP6665	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (10/02)
5LP6666	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Not Eligible (10/02)
5LP6668	Historic Artifact Scatter	Historic	Officially Not Eligible (10/02)
5LP6671	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Recommended Eligible
5LP6673	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (10/02)
5LP6674	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/Historic Artifact	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	Officially Not Eligible (both components) (10/02)
Newly Recorded Sites and Isolated Finds			
5LP9236	Open Camp	Pueblo II	Eligible
5LP9237	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9238	Homestead	Historic	Not Eligible
5LP9239	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9240	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9241	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9242	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9243	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Not Eligible
5LP9244	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/Historic Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	Prehistoric: Eligible Historic: Not Eligible
5LP9245	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Ancestral Puebloan	Eligible
5LP9257.1	Co-op Ditch	Historic	Eligible/supporting segment
5LP9257.2	Co-op Ditch	Historic	Eligible/supporting segment
5LP9306	Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch Complex	Historic	Eligible
5LP9307	Craig Ranch Complex	Historic	Eligible
5LP9246-5LP9255	Isolated Finds	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
Linear Feature Within APE Associated With a Historic Ranch Outside APE			
5LP8461	Webb/Hotter Lateral	Historic	Eligible/supporting element of NRHP-eligible site

Effects Determinations

Please note that the effects determinations outlined below are based on preliminary engineering data for the Eastern Realignment Alternative. At this time the general footprint of the alignment has been accurately identified but no specific design or construction plans associated with this alternative have yet been developed. More detailed design may require a reassessment of these determinations in the future.

Archaeological Sites and Isolated Finds:

All eight of the NRHP eligible archaeological sites within the APE (5LP6665, 5LP6671, 5LP6673, 5LP9236, 5LP9241, 5LP9242, 5LP9244, 5LP9245) would be directly impacted by construction if the Eastern Realignment Alternative was selected as the preferred alignment (refer to report Appendix A, and Appendix B, Maps 1, 4, 5, 7, 12, 13, 15 & 16). Based on their locations and proximity to the proposed travel lanes and highway prism (again, in the context of the minimal design completed at this time), these sites would be completely or partially destroyed by grading, leveling and paving activities undertaken with heavy equipment. As a result, the project would have an *adverse effect* on all eight eligible archaeological sites. It is our judgment that the eligible archaeological sites are significant chiefly because of what can be learned by data recovery and have minimal value for preservation in place. The project would result in *no effect to historic properties* for the remaining eight archaeological sites (5LP6666, 5LP6668, 5LP6674, 5LP9237-5LP9240, 5LP9243) and ten isolated finds (5LP9246-5LP9255) assessed as not eligible for the NRHP.

Historic Linear Sites and Ranch Complexes:

Webb/Hotter Lateral (Feature of 5LP8461): A 1,643-foot segment of the Webb/Hotter Lateral was documented, which extends through a portion of the eligible Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306) prior to crossing onto the eligible Webb Ranch property (5LP8461). Based on the location of the Eastern Realignment Alternative footprint, approximately 870 feet of the documented Webb/Hotter Lateral would be directly impacted by the new highway alignment (Appendix B, Map 17). The water in this section of the lateral would have to be relocated to a siphon. The length and condition of the lateral as it extends through the Webb Ranch property is presently unknown, and the length of the entire lateral outside the ranch boundary is also unknown. However, the lateral on the ranch itself will not be impacted by the Eastern Realignment Alternative and the lateral is only a single feature of the ranch, which is significant for its ranching architecture and associated agricultural lands. None of the Webb Ranch buildings will be affected by the Eastern Realignment Alternative. The impacts to this portion of the ditch lateral are minor and the changes to this feature will not alter the qualities that make the overall Webb Ranch significant. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative would result in *no adverse effect* to the Webb Ranch.

Co-op Ditch (5LP9257/5LP9257.1/5LP9257.2): The entire Co-op Ditch is being treated as NRHP eligible. Two geographically discrete segments of this ditch were evaluated and both segments were found to have integrity. Segment 5LP9257.1 extends for a total of 1,300 feet north of County Road 220 through the eligible Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306). Segment 5LP9257.2 is a 7,984-foot section that meanders parallel to (and in two locations is crossed by) US Highway 550 on the western edge of the eligible Craig Ranch property (5LP9307), and then extends through the southern portion of that property. The Eastern Realignment Alternative would impact approximately 190 feet of 5LP9257.1 that includes a 30-foot existing structure under County Road 220. Due to the angle of the pipe in this location, the water will likely be placed in a new longer pipe and not in an extension of the existing pipe. The Eastern Realignment Alternative will impact approximately 1,319 feet of segment 5LP9257.2. Included in this impact area are two existing structures that run beneath US 550 (a 50-foot northern structure and a 49-foot southern structure) that will need to be replaced with longer structures, and 645 feet of ditch that will likely need to be re-graded to address issues with elevation and slopes in this area. The impacts to the ditch segments are in areas where the ditch has already been disturbed by the existing US 550 and County Road 220 alignments.

Although both of the ditch segments retain integrity, the impacts to those segments are minor and affect portions of the segments that have already been disturbed. Impacts to these segments of the ditches will not alter the characteristics that make the overall Co-op Ditch significant and the remainder of the ditch will still have the integrity to convey its historic significance. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative would have *no adverse effect* on the entire Co-op Ditch.

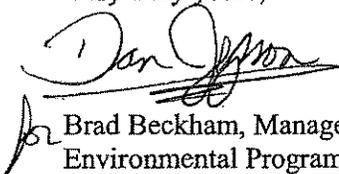
Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306): The Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch is located on the north side of County Road 220, and the alignment of the Eastern Realignment Alternative extends through the western half of the property (Appendix B, Map 20). Although none of the buildings in the ranch complex would be directly affected, the new highway alignment would extend through open agricultural land that contributes to the significance of this ranch property and introduce a significant visual element to the property setting. The setting, feeling, and association of the ranch will be altered by the presence of a new highway alignment that bisects the property. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that this alternative would have an *adverse effect* on the Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch.

Craig Ranch (5LP9307): The Craig Ranch is located on the east side of US Highway 550 south of County Road 220, and the western boundary of the ranch property abuts the highway. The Eastern Realignment Alternative extends from the existing US Highway 550 alignment across the Craig Ranch, separating the main ranch complex (including the dairy barn and outbuildings) from the saddle shop and barn in the northern section of the ranch (Appendix B, Map 21). The new highway alignment would not directly impact the buildings on the property, but would bring the highway alignment closer to the building complex and would also introduce a significant visual element to the property. The Eastern Realignment Alternative would also extend across open agricultural land that contributes to the significance of 5LP9307. The setting, feeling, and association of this ranch property would be altered by the presence of a new highway alignment. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that this alternative would have an *adverse effect* on the Craig Ranch.

This information has been transmitted to the SHPO for Section 106 compliance purposes, as well as to the other consulting parties (including tribal governments) identified for the undertaking.

Your comments on the site eligibility determinations outlined above and in the enclosed report, and also on the effects determinations described herein and illustrated in the report, are welcomed. If you elect to submit comments we would appreciate receiving them within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you have questions or require additional information, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,



Brad Beckham, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures (report and site forms)

cc: (w/o enclosures) K. Neet (CDOT Region 5)
S. Gibson (FHWA)

U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**



Colorado Federal Aid Division
12300 W. Dakota Ave., Suite 180
Lakewood, CO 80228

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



November 9, 2009

Mr. Matthew Box, Chairman
Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Attn: Mr. Neil Cloud, Culture Preservation Office
P.O. Box 737
Ignacio, CO 81137

SUBJECT: Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County, Colorado

Dear Mr. Box:

Enclosed for your review is a copy of the cultural resources survey report and associated site forms for the undertaking referenced above. As a consulting tribe for the project under the auspices of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we are providing these documents to you for review. In 2006 the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) completed and signed an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and subsequent Record of Decision (ROD) specific to proposed improvements to an approximately 16.2-mile segment of US Highway 160 between Durango and Bayfield in La Plata County (CDOT Project FC-NH[CX] 160-2[48]). Also included in that proposed action was a new connection between US Highways 550 and 160 south of Durango, the Preferred Alternative for which would necessitate a 1.2-mile segment of new highway alignment for US 550.

Section 106 consultation with the Colorado State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and other consulting parties regarding the US 160 EIS occurred over the course of several years beginning in 2000. However, due to the discovery of a large previously undocumented historic site on the alignment approved in the ROD and other associated environmental issues related to the new US 550/160 connection, FHWA and CDOT have undertaken additional analysis of possible alternatives, including historic properties studies along two alignment alternatives known as the Eastern Realignment and F Modified Alternatives.

The report included herewith is specific to pedestrian inventory of the Eastern Realignment Alternative and determinations of eligibility and effects for historic properties therein; a separate report documenting the results of the F Modified Alternative survey will be submitted at a later date once that alignment is comprehensively inventoried. Analysis of the environmental impacts of these two alternatives, as well as other alternatives that are not presently undergoing this level of intensive study, will result in the selection of a Preferred Alternative for the US 550/160 connection as part of FHWA's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) obligations.

Area of Potential Effects

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) established for the Eastern Realignment Alternative survey was a generally linear corridor beginning at (and incorporating a short segment of) the existing US Highway 550 alignment, and extending for approximately 2.8 miles to the north-northeast, terminating at US Highway 160 (refer to report Figures 1 and 2). In order to include potential direct and indirect impacts, the APE ranged from 200-300 feet on either side of the centerline, with broader areas included at intersections with existing roads. As noted on Page 8 of the report, however, the APE was expanded to include properties with boundaries that extended beyond the linear corridor (for example, ranch complexes 5LP9306 and 5LP9307, as discussed below). Although Figure 2 does not specifically reflect

those properties as being within the APE, they are in fact considered to be within the APE boundary, and direct and indirect effects to those resources in their entirety were evaluated.

Eligibility Determinations

Six previously documented prehistoric archaeological sites within the APE were revisited and re-evaluated, and 10 archaeological sites (7 prehistoric, 1 historic, 2 multi-component prehistoric/historic), two historic ditch segments, and two historic ranches were newly recorded. One additional historic ditch lateral that bisects the APE but is directly associated with, and is a feature of, a historic ranch that is not within the Eastern Realignment Alternative APE (5LP8461, Webb Ranch) was also newly documented. Of the 20 sites (not including the 5LP8461 ditch lateral), 8 prehistoric and 4 historic localities are recommended as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), whereas the remaining eight sites are assessed as not eligible. The Webb/Hotter Lateral (a feature of 5LP8461) is assessed as a supporting element of the NRHP-eligible Webb Ranch. Ten prehistoric isolated finds were also newly recorded, all of which are evaluated as not eligible for the NRHP. A tabular version of the site eligibility data is presented below.

Summary of Site Type and NRHP Eligibility Recommendations

Site Number	Site Type	Cultural Affiliation	NRHP Recommendation
Previously Recorded Sites			
5LP6665	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (10/02)
5LP6666	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Not Eligible (10/02)
5LP6668	Historic Artifact Scatter	Historic	Officially Not Eligible (10/02)
5LP6671	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Recommended Eligible
5LP6673	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (10/02)
5LP6674	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/Historic Artifact	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	Officially Not Eligible (both components) (10/02)
Newly Recorded Sites and Isolated Finds			
5LP9236	Open Camp	Pueblo II	Eligible
5LP9237	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9238	Homestead	Historic	Not Eligible
5LP9239	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9240	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9241	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9242	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9243	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Not Eligible
5LP9244	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/Historic Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	<i>Prehistoric: Eligible Historic: Not Eligible</i>
5LP9245	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Ancestral Puebloan	Eligible
5LP9257.1	Co-op Ditch	Historic	Eligible/supporting segment
5LP9257.2	Co-op Ditch	Historic	Eligible/supporting segment
5LP9306	Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch Complex	Historic	Eligible
5LP9307	Craig Ranch Complex	Historic	Eligible
5LP9246- 5LP9255	Isolated Finds	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
Linear Feature Within APE Associated With a Historic Ranch Outside APE			
5LP8461	Webb/Hotter Lateral	Historic	Eligible/supporting element of NRHP-eligible site

Effects Determinations

Please note that the effects determinations outlined below are based on preliminary engineering data for the Eastern Realignment Alternative. At this time the general footprint of the alignment has been accurately identified but no specific design or construction plans associated with this alternative have yet been developed. More detailed design may require a reassessment of these determinations in the future.

Archaeological Sites and Isolated Finds:

All eight of the NRHP eligible archaeological sites within the APE (5LP6665, 5LP6671, 5LP6673, 5LP9236, 5LP9241, 5LP9242, 5LP9244, 5LP9245) would be directly impacted by construction if the Eastern Realignment Alternative was selected as the preferred alignment (refer to report Appendix A, and Appendix B, Maps 1, 4, 5, 7, 12, 13, 15 & 16). Based on their locations and proximity to the proposed travel lanes and highway prism (again, in the context of the minimal design completed at this time), these sites would be completely or partially destroyed by grading, leveling and paving activities undertaken with heavy equipment. As a result, the project would have an *adverse effect* on all eight eligible archaeological sites. It is our judgment that the eligible archaeological sites are significant chiefly because of what can be learned by data recovery and have minimal value for preservation in place. The project would result in *no effect to historic properties* for the remaining eight archaeological sites (5LP6666, 5LP6668, 5LP6674, 5LP9237-5LP9240, 5LP9243) and ten isolated finds (5LP9246-5LP9255) assessed as not eligible for the NRHP.

Historic Linear Sites and Ranch Complexes:

Webb/Hotter Lateral (Feature of 5LP8461): A 1,643-foot segment of the Webb/Hotter Lateral was documented, which extends through a portion of the eligible Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306) prior to crossing onto the eligible Webb Ranch property (5LP8461). Based on the location of the Eastern Realignment Alternative footprint, approximately 870 feet of the documented Webb/Hotter Lateral would be directly impacted by the new highway alignment (Appendix B, Map 17). The water in this section of the lateral would have to be relocated to a siphon. The length and condition of the lateral as it extends through the Webb Ranch property is presently unknown, and the length of the entire lateral outside the ranch boundary is also unknown. However, the lateral on the ranch itself will not be impacted by the Eastern Realignment Alternative and the lateral is only a single feature of the ranch, which is significant for its ranching architecture and associated agricultural lands. None of the Webb Ranch buildings will be affected by the Eastern Realignment Alternative. The impacts to this portion of the ditch lateral are minor and the changes to this feature will not alter the qualities that make the overall Webb Ranch significant. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative would result in *no adverse effect* to the Webb Ranch.

Co-op Ditch (5LP9257/5LP9257.1/5LP9257.2): The entire Co-op Ditch is being treated as NRHP eligible. Two geographically discrete segments of this ditch were evaluated and both segments were found to have integrity. Segment 5LP9257.1 extends for a total of 1,300 feet north of County Road 220 through the eligible Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306). Segment 5LP9257.2 is a 7,984-foot section that meanders parallel to (and in two locations is crossed by) US Highway 550 on the western edge of the eligible Craig Ranch property (5LP9307), and then extends through the southern portion of that property. The Eastern Realignment Alternative would impact approximately 190 feet of 5LP9257.1 that includes a 30-foot existing structure under County Road 220. Due to the angle of the pipe in this location, the water will likely be placed in a new longer pipe and not in an extension of the existing pipe. The Eastern Realignment Alternative will impact approximately 1,319 feet of segment 5LP9257.2. Included in this impact area are two existing structures that run beneath US 550 (a 50-foot northern structure and a 49-foot southern structure) that will need to be replaced with longer structures, and 645 feet of ditch that will likely need to be re-graded to address issues with elevation and slopes in this area. The impacts to the ditch segments are in areas where the ditch has already been disturbed by the existing US 550 and County Road 220 alignments.

Although both of the ditch segments retain integrity, the impacts to those segments are minor and affect portions of the segments that have already been disturbed. Impacts to these segments of the ditches will not alter the characteristics that make the overall Co-op Ditch significant and the remainder of the ditch will still have the integrity to convey its historic significance. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative would have *no adverse effect* on the entire Co-op Ditch.

Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306): The Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch is located on the north side of County Road 220, and the alignment of the Eastern Realignment Alternative extends through the western half of the property (Appendix B, Map 20). Although none of the buildings in the ranch complex would be directly affected, the new highway alignment would extend through open agricultural land that contributes to the significance of this ranch property and introduce a significant visual element to the property setting. The setting, feeling, and association of the ranch will be altered by the presence of a new highway alignment that bisects the property. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that this alternative would have an *adverse effect* on the Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch.

Craig Ranch (5LP9307): The Craig Ranch is located on the east side of US Highway 550 south of County Road 220, and the western boundary of the ranch property abuts the highway. The Eastern Realignment Alternative extends from the existing US Highway 550 alignment across the Craig Ranch, separating the main ranch complex (including the dairy barn and outbuildings) from the saddle shop and barn in the northern section of the ranch (Appendix B, Map 21). The new highway alignment would not directly impact the buildings on the property, but would bring the highway alignment closer to the building complex and would also introduce a significant visual element to the property. The Eastern Realignment Alternative would also extend across open agricultural land that contributes to the significance of 5LP9307. The setting, feeling, and association of this ranch property would be altered by the presence of a new highway alignment. For these reasons, CDOT has determined that this alternative would have an *adverse effect* on the Craig Ranch.

This information has been transmitted to the SHPO for Section 106 compliance purposes, as well as to the other consulting parties (including tribal governments) identified for the undertaking.

Your comments on the site eligibility determinations outlined above and in the enclosed report, and also on the effects determinations described herein and illustrated in the report, are welcomed. If you elect to submit comments we would appreciate receiving them within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you have questions or require additional information, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

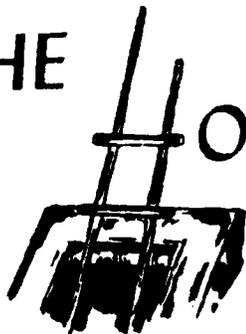
Very truly yours,


for Brad Beckham, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures (report and site forms)

cc: (w/o enclosures) K. Neet (CDOT Region 5)
S. Gibson (FHWA)

THE HOPI TRIBE



CHAIRMAN

VICE-CHAIRMAN

November 23, 2009

Brad Beckham, Manager, Environmental Programs Branch
Attention: Dan Jepson, Senior Staff Archaeologist
State of Colorado, Department of Transportation, Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Ave.
Denver, Colorado 80222

Dear Mr. Beckham,

This letter is in response to your correspondence dated November 9, 2009, regarding the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) proposed US Highways 550 and 160 Connection in La Plata County, Colorado. The Hopi Tribe claims cultural affiliation to prehistoric cultural groups in southwestern Colorado, and the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office supports the identification and avoidance of archaeological sites and Traditional Cultural Properties. We consider the archaeological sites of our ancestors to be Traditional Cultural Properties. Therefore, we appreciate CDOT's continuing solicitation of our input and your efforts to address our concerns.

The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office previously consulted on the US Highway 160 between Durango and Bayfield project. We understand the enclosed cultural resources survey report is for the Eastern Realignment Alternative and a separate report will be submitted for the F Modified Alternative. We have reviewed the enclosed *Cultural Resources Inventory CDOT U.S. Highways 160/550 Connection Alternative Alignments Project: East Alternative* that identifies 8 National Register eligible prehistoric sites, primarily described as artifact scatters, which will be adversely affected if this alternative is implemented.

And therefore, we request continuing consultation to this proposal and look forward to receiving a copy of the cultural resources survey of the F Modified Alternative. If the East Alternative is proposed for construction, or if another alternative is proposed that will adversely affect prehistoric, National Register eligible sites, we request continuing consultation on any proposed treatment plans.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Terry Morgart at the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office. Thank you again for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leigh J. Kuwanwisiwma". The signature is fluid and somewhat abstract, with a large loop at the end.

Leigh J. Kuwanwisiwma, Director
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office

xc: Colorado State Historic Preservation Office

 OFFICE of ARCHAEOLOGY and HISTORIC PRESERVATION

December 1, 2009

Brad Beckham
Manager
Environmental Programs Branch
Colorado Department of Transportation
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, CO 80222

Re: Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County. (CHS #33425)

Dear Mr. Beckham:

Thank you for your correspondence dated November 9, 2009 and received by our office on that same date regarding the review of the above-mentioned project under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106).

After review of the provided information, we concur with the recommended findings of eligibility for the submitted surveyed resources. We concur that resource 5LP.9306 is significant under National Register Criterion A and C. According to item 40/Period of Significance on the site form, the Period of Significance is from 1900 to 1959, which would incorporate the dates of alternations to the main house/structure 3. Considering that the dates of alterations of the main house are covered under the Period of Significance, why is the main house recommended as not contributing to the overall property's significance under National Register Criterion A and C?

However, staff does not concur with the recommended finding of eligibility for resource 5LP.6666. Although it is clear that this site has integrity issues considering that it is located within a disked pasture and has experienced disking and grazing, our office recommends a finding of need data for the site until additional information can be obtained on the potential depth and integrity of any buried deposits at the site. The original recording provides neither soil depth information nor data on the depth of cultural deposits. The original recording notes a primary assemblage of ceramic fragments, and a small amount of lithic debitage, whereas this most recent recording notes (in addition to ceramic sherds and lithic debitage) 17 manos/mano fragments, three metate fragments, three indeterminate groundstone fragments, and two pieces of adobe, suggesting the presence of a structure.

If unidentified archaeological resources are discovered during construction, work must be interrupted until the resources have been evaluated in terms of the National Register criteria, 36 CFR 60.4, in consultation with this office.

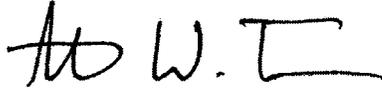
We request being involved in the consultation process with the local government, which as stipulated in 36 CFR 800.3 is required to be notified of the undertaking, and with other

consulting parties. Additional information provided by the local government or consulting parties might cause our office to re-evaluate our eligibility and potential effect findings.

Please note that our compliance letter does not end the 30-day review period provided to other consulting parties.

If we may be of further assistance, please contact Shina DuVall, our Section 106 Compliance Manager for Archaeology, at 303-866-4678 with any archaeology questions and Amy Pallante, our Section 106 Compliance Manager for the Built Environment, at (303) 866-4678, for any other questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E.C. Nichols". The signature is stylized with a large initial "E" and a horizontal line extending to the right.

Edward C. Nichols
State Historic Preservation Officer



PUEBLO OF LAGUNA

P.O. BOX 194
LAGUNA, NEW MEXICO 87028



Office of:

The Governor
The Secretary
The Treasurer

(505) 552-6598
(505) 552-6654
(505) 552-6655

December 3, 2009

Mr. Brad Beckham
Manager
Environmental Programs Branch
State of Colorado
Department of Transportation
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Denver, CO 80222

Dear Mr. Beckham:

RE: Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection
La Plata County, Colorado

The Pueblo of Laguna appreciates your consideration to comment on the possible interest your projects may have on any traditional or cultural properties.

The Pueblo of Laguna has determined that the undertaking WILL NOT have a significant impact at this time. However, in the event that any new archaeological sites are discovered and any new artifacts are removed, we request to be notified to review items. We also request photographs of items. According to our unpublished migration history, our ancestors journeyed from the north through that area and settled for periods of time before traveling to our present location. Therefore, the possibilities of some findings may exist.

We thank you and your staff for the information provided.

Sincerely,


for John E. Antonio, Sr.
Governor, Pueblo of Laguna

 OFFICE of ARCHAEOLOGY and HISTORIC PRESERVATION

EASTERN AKT.

December 11, 2009

Brad Beckham
Manager
Environmental Programs Branch
Colorado Department of Transportation
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, CO 80222

Re: Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County. (CHS #33425)

Dear Mr. Beckham:

On December 9, 2009, staff spoke to Dan Jepson of your office to clarify the eligibility status of resource 5LP.6666. We recommend a finding of needs data for resource 5LP.6666 and continued consultation in regards to the assessment of adverse effect [36 CFR 800.(b)] under Section 106. In regards to the eligibility and assessment of adverse effect for the remaining submitted survey properties, we concur with the recommend findings of eligibility and assessments of adverse effect for those properties.

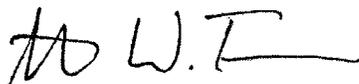
If unidentified archaeological resources are discovered during construction, work must be interrupted until the resources have been evaluated in terms of the National Register criteria, 36 CRF 60.4, in consultation with this office.

We request being involved in the consultation process with the local government, which as stipulated in 36 CFR 800.3 is required to be notified of the undertaking, and with other consulting parties. Additional information provided by the local government or consulting parties might cause our office to re-evaluate our eligibility and potential effect findings.

Please note that our compliance letter does not end the 30-day review period provided to other consulting parties.

If we may be of further assistance, please contact Shina DuVall, our Section 106 Compliance Manager for Archaeology, at 303-866-4678 with any archaeology questions and Amy Pallante, our Section 106 Compliance Manager for the Built Environment, at (303) 866-4678, for any other questions.

Sincerely,



 Edward C. Nichols
State Historic Preservation Officer



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Colorado Division

12300 W. Dakota Avenue, Suite 180
Lakewood, CO 80228
Phone: 720-963-3000

January 25, 2010

Mr. John M. Fowler, Executive Director
Attn: Carol Legard
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 803
Washington, DC 20004

SUBJECT: Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, US Highway 550/US Highway 160
Connection, La Plata County, Colorado

Dear Mr. Fowler:

Enclosed for your review is a copy of the cultural resources survey report for the undertaking referenced above. In 2006 the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) completed and signed an Environmental Impact Statement and subsequent Record of Decision specific to proposed improvements to an approximately 16.2-mile segment of US Highway 160 between Durango and Bayfield in La Plata County (CDOT Project FC-NH[CX] 160-2[48]). Also included in that proposed action was a new connection between US Highways 160 and 550 south of Durango, the Preferred Alternative for which would necessitate a segment of new highway alignment for US 550. The attached report was submitted to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and consulting parties for review in November 2009.

Section 106 consultation regarding the US 160 EIS project occurred over the course of several years beginning in 2000. However, due to the discovery of a large previously undocumented historic site on the alignment approved in the ROD and other associated environmental issues related to the new US 160/550 connection, FHWA and CDOT have undertaken additional analysis of possible alternatives, including historic properties studies along two alignment alternatives known as the Eastern Realignment and F Modified Alternatives. In August 2008, the Advisory Council indicated that it would participate in consultation on this project.

The report included herewith is specific to pedestrian inventory of the Eastern Realignment Alternative and determinations of eligibility and effects for historic properties therein; a separate report documenting the results of the F Modified Alternative survey will be submitted to SHPO, the consulting parties and your office at a later date once that alignment is comprehensively inventoried. Intensive analysis of the environmental impacts of these two alternatives, as well as other alternatives that are not presently undergoing this level of intensive study, will result in the selection of a Preferred Alternative for the US 550/160 connection as part of FHWA's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) obligations.



Area of Potential Effects

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) established for the Eastern Realignment Alternative survey was a generally linear corridor beginning at (and incorporating a short segment of) the existing US Highway 550 alignment, and extending for approximately 2.8 miles to the north-northeast, terminating at US Highway 160 (refer to report Figures 1 and 2). In order to include potential direct and indirect effects, the APE ranged from 200-300 feet on either side of the centerline, with broader areas included at intersections with existing roads. As noted on Page 8 of the report, however, the APE was expanded to include properties with boundaries that extended beyond the linear corridor (for example, ranch complexes 5LP9306 and 5LP9307, as discussed below). Although Figure 2 does not specifically reflect those properties as being within the APE, they are in fact considered to be within the APE boundary, and direct and indirect effects to those resources in their entirety were evaluated.

Eligibility Determinations

Six previously documented prehistoric archaeological sites within the APE were revisited and re-evaluated, and 10 archaeological sites (7 prehistoric, 1 historic, 2 multi-component prehistoric/historic), two historic ditch segments, and two historic ranches were newly recorded. One additional historic ditch lateral that bisects the APE but is directly associated with, and is a feature of, a historic ranch that is not within the Eastern Realignment Alternative APE (5LP8461, Webb Ranch) was also newly documented. Of the 20 sites (not including the 5LP8461 ditch lateral), 8 prehistoric and 4 historic localities were recommended as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), whereas the remaining eight sites are assessed as not eligible. The Webb/Hotter Lateral (a feature of 5LP8461) was assessed as a supporting element of the NRHP-eligible Webb Ranch. Ten prehistoric isolated finds were also newly recorded, all of which were evaluated as not eligible for the NRHP. A tabular version of the site eligibility data is presented below. The SHPO concurred with these eligibility determinations (with the exception of 5LP6666, which was determined to be a "need data" site) in correspondence dated December 1, 2009.

Summary of Site Type and NRHP Eligibility Recommendations

Site Number	Site Type	Cultural Affiliation	NRHP Recommendation
Previously Recorded Sites			
5LP6665	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (10/02)
5LP6666	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Not Eligible (10/02)
5LP6668	Historic Artifact Scatter	Historic	Officially Not Eligible (10/02)
5LP6671	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Recommended Eligible
5LP6673	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (10/02)
5LP6674	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/Historic Artifact	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	Officially Not Eligible (both components) (10/02)
Newly Recorded Sites			
5LP9236	Open Camp	Pueblo II	Eligible
5LP9237	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9238	Homestead	Historic	Not Eligible
5LP9239	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9240	Lithic Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9241	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9242	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9243	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Not Eligible
5LP9244	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/Historic Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	<i>Prehistoric:</i> Eligible <i>Historic:</i> Not Eligible
5LP9245	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Ancestral Puebloan	Eligible

Site Number	Site Type	Cultural Affiliation	NRHP Recommendation
5LP8461	Webb/Hotter Lateral	Historic	Eligible/supporting element of NRHP-eligible site
5LP9257.1	Co-op Ditch	Historic	Eligible/supporting segment
5LP9257.2	Co-op Ditch	Historic	Eligible/supporting segment
5LP9306	Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch Complex	Historic	Eligible
5LP9307	Craig Ranch Complex	Historic	Eligible

Effects Determinations

The effects determinations outlined below are based on preliminary engineering data for the Eastern Realignment Alternative. At this time the general footprint of the alignment has been accurately identified, but no specific design or construction plans associated with this alternative have yet been developed. While we are confident the following effects findings are as accurate as possible, more detailed design may require a reassessment of these determinations in the future. The SHPO concurred with these determinations in correspondence dated December 11, 2009.

Archaeological Sites and Isolated Finds:

All eight of the NRHP eligible archaeological sites within the APE (5LP6665, 5LP6671, 5LP6673, 5LP9236, 5LP9241, 5LP9242, 5LP9244, 5LP9245) would be directly impacted by construction if the Eastern Realignment Alternative were to be selected as the preferred alignment (refer to report Appendix A, and Appendix B, Maps 1, 4, 5, 7, 12, 13, 15 & 16). Based on their locations and proximity to the proposed travel lanes and artificial highway prism (again, in the context of the minimal design completed at this time), these sites would be completely or partially destroyed by grading, leveling and paving activities undertaken with heavy equipment. As a result, the project would have an *adverse effect* on all eight eligible archaeological sites. It is our judgment that the eligible archaeological sites are significant chiefly because of what can be learned by data recovery and have minimal value for preservation in place. The project would result in *no effect to historic properties* for the remaining eight archaeological sites (5LP6666, 5LP6668, 5LP6674, 5LP9237-5LP9240, 5LP9243) and ten isolated finds (5LP9246-5LP9255) assessed as not eligible for the NRHP.

Historic Linear Sites and Ranch Complexes:

Webb/Hotter Lateral (Feature of 5LP8461): A 1,643-foot segment of the Webb/Hotter Lateral was documented, which extends through a portion of the eligible Shaferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306) prior to crossing onto the eligible Webb Ranch property (5LP8461). Based on the location of the Eastern Realignment Alternative footprint, approximately 870 feet of the documented Webb/Hotter Lateral would be directly impacted by the new highway alignment (Appendix B, Map 17). The water in this section of the lateral will have to be relocated to a siphon. The length and condition of the lateral as it extends through the Webb Ranch property is presently unknown, but only a small portion of the lateral located outside the Webb Ranch boundary will be enclosed in a siphon. The lateral on the ranch itself will not be impacted by the Eastern Realignment Alternative, and the lateral is only a single feature of the ranch, which is significant for its ranching architecture and associated agricultural lands. None of the Webb Ranch buildings will be affected by the Eastern Realignment Alternative. The impacts to this portion of the ditch lateral are minor and the changes to this feature will not alter the qualities that make the overall Webb Ranch significant. For these reasons, FHWA and CDOT have determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative will result in *no adverse effect* to the Webb Ranch.

Co-op Ditch (5LP9257/5LP9257.1/5LP9257.2): The entire Co-op Ditch is being treated as NRHP eligible. Two geographically discrete segments of this ditch were evaluated and both segments were found to have integrity. Segment 5LP9257.1 extends for a total of 1,300 feet north of County Road 220 through the eligible Shaferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306). Segment 5LP9257.2 is a 7,984-foot section that meanders parallel to (and in two locations is crossed by) US Highway 550 on the western edge of the eligible Craig Ranch property (5LP9307), and then extends through the southern portion of that property. The Eastern Realignment Alternative would impact approximately 190 feet of 5LP9257.1 that includes a 30-foot existing structure under County Road 220. Due to the angle of the pipe in this location, the water will likely be placed in a new longer pipe and not in an extension of the existing pipe. The Eastern Realignment Alternative will impact approximately 1319 feet of segment 5LP9257.2. Included in this impact area are two existing structures that run beneath US 550 (a 50-foot northern structure and a 49-foot southern structure) that will need to be replaced with longer structures, and 645 feet of ditch that will likely need to be re-graded to address issues with elevation and slopes in this area. The impacts to the ditch segments are in areas where the ditch has already been disturbed by the existing US 550 and County Road 220 alignments.

Although both of the ditch segments retain integrity, the impacts to those segments are minor and affect portions of the segments that have already been disturbed. Impacts to these segments of ditches will not alter the characteristics that make the overall Co-op Ditch significant and the remainder of the ditch will still have the integrity to convey its significance. FHWA and CDOT determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative will have *no adverse effect* on the entire Co-op Ditch.

Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP9306): The Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch is located on the north side of County Road 220, and the alignment of the Eastern Realignment Alternative extends through the western half of the property (Appendix B, Map 20). Although none of the buildings in the ranch complex would be directly affected, the new highway alignment would extend through open agricultural land that contributes to the significance of this ranch property and introduce a significant visual element to the property setting. The setting, feeling, and association of the ranch will be altered by the presence of a new highway alignment that bisects the property. FHWA and CDOT have determined that this alternative will have an *adverse effect* on the Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch.

Craig Ranch (5LP9307): The Craig Ranch is located on the east side of US Highway 550 south of County Road 220, and the western boundary of the ranch property abuts the highway. The Eastern Realignment Alternative extends from the existing US Highway 550 alignment across the Craig Ranch, separating the main ranch complex (including the dairy barn and outbuildings) from the saddle shop and barn in the northern section of the ranch (Appendix B, Map 21). The new highway alignment would not directly impact the buildings on the property, but would bring the highway alignment closer to the building complex and would also introduce a significant visual element to the property. The Eastern Realignment Alternative would also extend across open agricultural land that contributes to the significance of 5LP9307. The setting, feeling, and association of this ranch property would be altered by the presence of a new highway alignment. FHWA and CDOT have determined that this alternative will have an *adverse effect* on the Craig Ranch.

Because the Council elected to participate in the Section 106 consultation process for this project, we welcome your comments on the report and the eligibility and effect determinations. If you would like to review the site forms or have any questions, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). For general information related to the project, please contact FHWA Environmental Program Manager Stephanie Gibson (720-963-3013; stephanie.gibson@dot.gov).

Sincerely yours,

Handwritten signature of Stephanie Gibson in cursive script.

for Karla S. Petty
Division Administrator

Enclosure
Cc: Dan Jepson, CDOT

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



August 5, 2010

Mr. Daniel A. Gregory
Gregory, Golden and Landeryou
Attorneys at Law
1199 Main Ave. Ste. 213
Durango, CO 81301

SUBJECT: Additional Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County

Dear Mr. Gregory:

As a consulting party for the project referenced above under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, in November 2009 we provided the Webb Family (via attorney Thomas McNeill) with National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility and effects determinations for an alternative alignment (the East Alternative) under consideration. As noted in that correspondence, additional alternatives are being studied to ultimately facilitate a new connection between US Highways 550 and 160 south of Durango. Toward that end, enclosed for your review and distribution are three copies of the report and associated site forms documenting survey and site recordation for two additional alignments known as the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives. Please refer to Figure 2 in the report for a graphic illustration of the location of the Revised F and G Alternatives, as well as the previously inventoried East Alternative.

The report included herewith documents the results of four primary tasks:

- 1) A historic properties survey of that portion of the Revised F Modified Alternative within the boundary of the historic Webb Ranch (SLP8461) that was not previously inventoried;
- 2) Formal documentation of archaeological sites located along the Revised G Modified Alternative within the Webb Ranch identified in 2008 by a private consultant under contract to the landowner. The original G Modified Alternative was initially surveyed in 1999-2000 by a CDOT consultant during studies undertaken for the US 160 Durango to Bayfield EIS; in 2005 CDOT staff inventoried a minor revision to that route (the current Revised G Modified);
- 3) Test excavations at previously recorded prehistoric site 5LP6666; and
- 4) An assessment of NRHP eligibility for all historic and archaeological resources present within the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives.

Area of Potential Effects

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) established for the Revised F Modified Alternative survey was a generally linear corridor beginning at US Highway 550 and extending for over one mile to the north and east, including an associated connection to County Road 220 (refer to report Figure 2). The APE terminated at the point where the Revised F Modified and East Alternatives share a common segment south of US Highway 160. In order to include potential direct and indirect effects, the APE ranged generally from 200-275 ft (60-85 m) on either side of the centerline; the APE was expanded in some

areas to include property boundaries, proposed intersections and other potential construction impacts. A formal APE was not created for the G Modified Alternative, as documentation of previously identified sites was the primary task conducted for that alignment. Nonetheless, that corridor is also reflected on report Figure 2, and the historic Webb Ranch site boundary appears on a separate attachment.

Eligibility Determinations

Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc., under a subcontracting agreement with CDOT prime consultant Centennial Archaeology, Inc., conducted all 2010 archival, field and laboratory tasks, and authored the enclosed report. A summary of the NRHP eligibility recommendations by Alternative is presented in tabular form below, followed by a narrative description. Note that tested site 5LP6666, which is not within either the Revised F Modified or Revised G Modified Alternatives (rather the previously surveyed East Alternative alignment), is not included in the table.

NRHP Eligibility Recommendations

Site No.	Site Type	Cultural Affiliation	NRHP Recommendation
Revised F Modified Alternative Inventory			
5LP8461	Webb Ranch (segment of Webb/Hotter Lateral Ditch)	Historic	Eligible/supporting element of NRHP-eligible Webb Ranch (2009)
5LP9307	Craig Ranch	Historic	Original residence (ruins) documented in 2010 as supporting element of larger ranch; larger property Officially Eligible (2009)
5LP9308	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9309	Prehistoric Habitation/ Historic Artifact Scatter	Pueblo I/Pueblo II/Historic	Eligible (prehistoric component only)
5LP9310	Clark Property	Historic	Eligible
5LP9311	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9312	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9213	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9581	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9582	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9583	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9584	Prehistoric Habitation/ Historic Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	Eligible
Revised G Modified Alternative Site Documentation			
5LP2223	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/ Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (2000)
5LP9585	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Not Eligible
5LP9586	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9587	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9588	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9589	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9590	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/ Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Pueblo II	Eligible

Revised F Modified Alternative Survey

The Revised F Modified Alternative survey resulted in the new documentation of seven sites (5LP9308-5LP9310; 5LP9581-5LP9584) and three isolated finds (5LP9311-5LP9313); a boundary enlargement of the historic Craig Ranch (5LP9307); and the recordation of an additional segment of an irrigation ditch

(Webb/Hotter Lateral) and structures associated with the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461). All seven of the newly recorded localities are recommended as *eligible* for the NRHP under Criterion D. Based largely on information provided by a member of the Craig family, the historic boundary of the Craig Ranch (5LP9307)—which was determined officially eligible in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in December 2009 subsequent to the East Alternative survey—has been expanded. CDOT maintains that the site retains its NRHP eligible designation. The additional segment of the Webb/Hotter Lateral ditch is recommended as a supporting element of the eligible Webb Ranch (5LP8461), as is the additional building complex located east of the core ranch structures. All three isolated finds (5LP9311-5LP9313) consist of two or fewer artifacts of unknown cultural affiliation; pertinent data for those localities were collected in the field and each is evaluated as *not eligible*.

Revised G Modified Site Documentation

Within and near the footprint of the Revised G Modified Alternative, six archaeological sites were newly documented (5LP9585-5LP9590) and one previously recorded site was re-evaluated (5LP2223). The latter site was determined officially NRHP eligible in 2000, an assessment with which CDOT continues to agree. Of the remaining six sites, two (5LP9585 and 5LP9586) are evaluated as *not eligible* based on a lack of surface and subsurface cultural deposits coupled with severe physical disturbances, and four sites (5LP9587-5LP9590) are recommended as eligible under Criterion D.

Test Excavations at 5LP6666

Site 5LP6666 was evaluated as not eligible for the NRHP subsequent to the East Alternative survey in 2009. However, the SHPO disagreed with that assessment and indicated that further work was required to evaluate the nature and extent of potential subsurface deposits. Test excavations were therefore conducted during the 2010 phase of work. Testing revealed very shallow and highly disturbed cultural remains, all of which were observed within the upper modern agricultural plow zone. The site is recommended as *not eligible* for inclusion on the NRHP.

Effects Determinations

Please note that the following effects determinations are based on preliminary engineering data for both the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives. At this time the general footprint of each alignment has been accurately identified but no specific design or construction plans have been developed. More detailed design may require a reassessment of these determinations in the future. Please refer to the site planview maps contained in Appendix B of the report for graphic representations of the effects described below.

Revised F Modified Alternative

Should this alternative be selected as the preferred route as a result of the NEPA analysis presently underway, all nine sites completely or partially within the APE of the Revised F Modified Alternative would be adversely affected. The prehistoric archaeological sites would be directly impacted by construction facilitated by heavy equipment (i.e., grading, cutting, leveling and/or paving), whereas the alternative footprint and/or the centerline extend through portions of the Craig Ranch, the Clark property and the Webb Ranch.

With regard to the **Craig Ranch (5LP9307)**, the Revised F Modified centerline extends through a small area on the west side of the property before the alignment continues on a tangent and crosses the northern section of the property near County Road 220, well away from the main complex of buildings documented in 2009. Part of the alternative footprint may also cross a small area of the original homestead site (now in ruins), which is a contributing element to the overall ranch property. The proposed County Road 220 reconnection will also extend through the northern part of the Craig Ranch.

Mr. Gregory
August 6, 2010
Page 4

On the Clark property (SLP9310), the alternative centerline extends through the northern end of that property boundary. The main house on the Clark property is about 725 feet south of the conceptual right-of-way for US Highway 550 and about 190 feet north of any improvements associated with County Road 220.

With regard to the overall Webb Ranch (SLP8461), the alternative centerline curves through the eastern portion of the ranch and impacts the Webb/Hotter Lateral, portions of which will likely be placed in siphon structures. As a result, SLP9307, SLP9310 and SLP8461 could potentially have a new highway alignment within their boundaries, which would compromise the setting, feeling, and association of the properties and result in an *adverse effect*. Again, please refer to the report and associated maps for more information about the location of the Revised F Modified Alternative in relation to these resources.

Revised G Modified Alternative

Of the five NRHP eligible archaeological sites associated with the Revised G Modified Alternative, three sites (SLP9588-5LP9590) would be directly impacted by construction in a fashion similar to those described above within the Revised F Modified alignment. A finding of *adverse effect* is therefore appropriate for those localities. The remaining two sites (SLP2223 and SLP9587) have only very small slivers of their boundaries within the larger corridor footprint; consequently complete avoidance of both sites would be possible during the future design phase. With regard to those sites, the project will have *no effect to historic properties*. It is our judgment that the eligible archaeological sites associated with both alignment alternatives are significant chiefly because of what can be learned by data recovery and have minimal value for preservation in place.

The Revised G Modified Alternative would also have an *adverse effect* on SLP8461, Webb Ranch, in the same fashion outlined above for Revised F Modified (compromise the setting, feeling, and association of the property).

This information has been transmitted to the SHPO as well as the other Section 106 consulting parties (including three tribal governments) identified for the undertaking.

Your comments on the site eligibility determinations outlined above and in the enclosed report, and also on the effects determinations described herein and illustrated in the report, are welcomed. If you elect to submit comments we would appreciate receiving them within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you have questions or require additional information in order to complete your review, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,



Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures: Report and site forms
Map showing historic Webb Ranch boundary

cc: K. Neet (CDOT Region 5)
S. Gibson (FHWA)

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



August 6, 2010

Ms. Peggy Cooley
1525 Cliff Drive
Santa Barbara, CA 93109-1733

SUBJECT: Additional Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County

Dear Ms. Cooley:

As a consulting party for the project referenced above under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, in November 2009 we provided you with National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility and effects determinations for an alternative alignment (the East Alternative) under consideration. As noted in that correspondence, additional alternatives are being studied to ultimately facilitate a new connection between US Highways 550 and 160 south of Durango. Toward that end, enclosed for your review is a copy of the report and associated site forms documenting survey and site recordation for two additional alignments known as the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives. Please refer to Figure 2 in the report for a graphic illustration of the location of the Revised F and G Alternatives, as well as the previously inventoried East Alternative.

The report included herewith documents the results of four primary tasks:

- 1) A historic properties survey of that portion of the Revised F Modified Alternative within the boundary of the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461) that was not previously inventoried;
- 2) Formal documentation of archaeological sites located along the Revised G Modified Alternative within the Webb Ranch identified in 2008 by a private consultant under contract to the landowner. The original G Modified Alternative was initially surveyed in 1999-2000 by a CDOT consultant during studies undertaken for the US 160 Durango to Bayfield EIS; in 2005 CDOT staff inventoried a minor revision to that route (the current Revised G Modified);
- 3) Test excavations at previously recorded prehistoric site 5LP6666; and
- 4) An assessment of NRHP eligibility for all historic and archaeological resources present within the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives.

Area of Potential Effects

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) established for the Revised F Modified Alternative survey was a generally linear corridor beginning at US Highway 550 and extending for over one mile to the north and east, including an associated connection to County Road 220 (refer to report Figure 2). The APE terminated at the point where the Revised F Modified and East Alternatives share a common segment south of US Highway 160. In order to include potential direct and indirect effects, the APE ranged generally from 200-275 ft (60-85 m) on either side of the centerline; the APE was expanded in some areas to include property boundaries, proposed intersections and other potential construction impacts. A formal APE was not created for the G Modified Alternative, as documentation of previously identified sites was

the primary task conducted for that alignment. Nonetheless, that corridor is also reflected on report Figure 2, and the historic Webb Ranch site boundary appears on a separate attachment.

Eligibility Determinations

Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc., under a subcontracting agreement with CDOT prime consultant Centennial Archaeology, Inc., conducted all 2010 archival, field and laboratory tasks, and authored the enclosed report. A summary of the NRHP eligibility recommendations by Alternative is presented in tabular form below, followed by a narrative description. Note that tested site 5LP6666, which is not within either the Revised F Modified or Revised G Modified Alternatives (rather the previously surveyed East Alternative alignment), is not included in the table.

NRHP Eligibility Recommendations			
Site No.	Site Type	Cultural Affiliation	NRHP Recommendation
Revised F Modified Alternative Inventory			
5LP8461	Webb Ranch (segment of Webb/Hotter Lateral Ditch)	Historic	Eligible/supporting element of NRHP-eligible Webb Ranch (2009)
5LP9307	Craig Ranch	Historic	Original residence (ruins) documented in 2010 as supporting element of larger ranch; larger property Officially Eligible (2009)
5LP9308	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9309	Prehistoric Habitation/ Historic Artifact Scatter	Pueblo I/Pueblo II/Historic	Eligible (prehistoric component only)
5LP9310	Clark Property	Historic	Eligible
5LP9311	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9312	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9213	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9581	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9582	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9583	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9584	Prehistoric Habitation/ Historic Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	Eligible
Revised G Modified Alternative Site Documentation			
5LP2223	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/ Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (2000)
5LP9585	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Not Eligible
5LP9586	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9587	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9588	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9589	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9590	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/ Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Pueblo II	Eligible

Revised F Modified Alternative Survey

The Revised F Modified Alternative survey resulted in the new documentation of seven sites (5LP9308-5LP9310; 5LP9581-5LP9584) and three isolated finds (5LP9311-5LP9313); a boundary enlargement of the historic Craig Ranch (5LP9307); and the recordation of an additional segment of an irrigation ditch (Webb/Hotter Lateral) and structures associated with the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461). All seven of the newly recorded localities are recommended as *eligible* for the NRHP under Criterion D. Based

largely on information provided by a member of the Craig family, the historic boundary of the Craig Ranch (5LP9307)—which was determined officially eligible in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in December 2009 subsequent to the East Alternative survey—has been expanded. CDOT maintains that the site retains its NRHP eligible designation. The additional segment of the Webb/Hotter Lateral ditch is recommended as a supporting element of the eligible Webb Ranch (5LP8461), as is the additional building complex located east of the core ranch structures. All three isolated finds (5LP9311-5LP9313) consist of two or fewer artifacts of unknown cultural affiliation; pertinent data for those localities were collected in the field and each is evaluated as *not eligible*.

Revised G Modified Site Documentation

Within and near the footprint of the Revised G Modified Alternative, six archaeological sites were newly documented (5LP9585-5LP9590) and one previously recorded site was re-evaluated (5LP2223). The latter site was determined officially NRHP eligible in 2000, an assessment with which CDOT continues to agree. Of the remaining six sites, two (5LP9585 and 5LP9586) are evaluated as *not eligible* based on a lack of surface and subsurface cultural deposits coupled with severe physical disturbances, and four sites (5LP9587-5LP9590) are recommended as eligible under Criterion D.

Test Excavations at 5LP6666

Site 5LP6666 was evaluated as not eligible for the NRHP subsequent to the East Alternative survey in 2009. However, the SHPO disagreed with that assessment and indicated that further work was required to evaluate the nature and extent of potential subsurface deposits. Test excavations were therefore conducted during the 2010 phase of work. Testing revealed very shallow and highly disturbed cultural remains, all of which were observed within the upper modern agricultural plow zone. The site is recommended as *not eligible* for inclusion on the NRHP.

Effects Determinations

Please note that the following effects determinations are based on preliminary engineering data for both the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives. At this time the general footprint of each alignment has been accurately identified but no specific design or construction plans have been developed. More detailed design may require a reassessment of these determinations in the future. Please refer to the site planview maps contained in Appendix B of the report for graphic representations of the effects described below.

Revised F Modified Alternative

Should this alternative be selected as the preferred route as a result of the NEPA analysis presently underway, all nine sites completely or partially within the APE of the Revised F Modified Alternative would be adversely affected. The prehistoric archaeological sites would be directly impacted by construction facilitated by heavy equipment (i.e., grading, cutting, leveling and/or paving), whereas the alternative footprint and/or the centerline extend through portions of the Craig Ranch, the Clark property and the Webb Ranch.

With regard to the **Craig Ranch** (5LP9307), the Revised F Modified centerline extends through a small area on the west side of the property before the alignment continues on a tangent and crosses the northern section of the property near County Road 220, well away from the main complex of buildings documented in 2009. Part of the alternative footprint may also cross a small area of the original homestead site (now in ruins), which is a contributing element to the overall ranch property. The proposed County Road 220 reconnection will also extend through the northern part of the Craig Ranch.

On the **Clark property** (5LP9310), the alternative centerline extends through the northern end of that property boundary. The main house on the Clark property is about 725 feet south of the conceptual right-of-way for US Highway 550 and about 190 feet north of any improvements associated with County Road 220.

With regard to the overall **Webb Ranch** (5LP8461), the alternative centerline curves through the eastern portion of the ranch and impacts the Webb/Hotter Lateral, portions of which will likely be placed in siphon structures. As a result, 5LP9307, 5LP9310 and 5LP8461 could potentially have a new highway alignment within their boundaries, which would compromise the setting, feeling, and association of the properties and result in an *adverse effect*. Again, please refer to the report and associated maps for more information about the location of the Revised F Modified Alternative in relation to these resources.

Revised G Modified Alternative

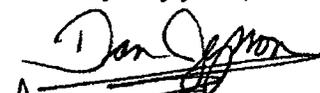
Of the five NRHP eligible archaeological sites associated with the Revised G Modified Alternative, three sites (5LP9588-5LP9590) would be directly impacted by construction in a fashion similar to those described above within the Revised F Modified alignment. A finding of *adverse effect* is therefore appropriate for those localities. The remaining two sites (5LP2223 and 5LP9587) have only very small slivers of their boundaries within the larger corridor footprint; consequently complete avoidance of both sites would be possible during the future design phase. With regard to those sites, the project will have *no effect to historic properties*. It is our judgment that the eligible archaeological sites associated with both alignment alternatives are significant chiefly because of what can be learned by data recovery and have minimal value for preservation in place.

The Revised G Modified Alternative would also have an *adverse effect* on 5LP8461, Webb Ranch, in the same fashion outlined above for Revised F Modified (compromise the setting, feeling, and association of the property).

This information has been transmitted to the SHPO as well as the other Section 106 consulting parties (including three tribal governments) identified for the undertaking.

Your comments on the site eligibility determinations outlined above and in the enclosed report, and also on the effects determinations described herein and illustrated in the report, are welcomed. If you elect to submit comments we would appreciate receiving them within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you have questions or require additional information in order to complete your review, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,



Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures: Report and site forms
Map showing historic Webb Ranch boundary

cc: K. Nect (CDOT Region 5)
S. Gibson (FHWA)

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9259



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**



Colorado Federal Aid Division
12300 W. Dakota Ave., Suite 180
Lakewood, CO 80228

August 6, 2010

Mr. Matthew Box, Chairman
Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Attn: Mr. Neil Cloud, Culture Preservation Office
P.O. Box 737
Ignacio, CO 81137

SUBJECT: Additional Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County, Colorado

Dear Mr. Box:

As a consulting tribe for the project referenced above under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, in November 2009 we provided you with National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility and effects determinations for an alternative alignment (the East Alternative) under consideration. As noted in that correspondence, additional alternatives are being studied to ultimately facilitate a new connection between US Highways 550 and 160 south of Durango. Toward that end, enclosed for your review are three copies of the report and associated site forms documenting survey and site recordation for two additional alignments known as the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives. Please refer to Figure 2 in the report for a graphic illustration of the location of the Revised F and G Alternatives, as well as the previously inventoried East Alternative.

The report included herewith documents the results of four primary tasks:

- 1) A historic properties survey of that portion of the Revised F Modified Alternative within the boundary of the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461) that was not previously inventoried;
- 2) Formal documentation of archaeological sites located along the Revised G Modified Alternative within the Webb Ranch identified in 2008 by a private consultant under contract to the landowner. The original G Modified Alternative was initially surveyed in 1999-2000 by a CDOT consultant during studies undertaken for the US 160 Durango to Bayfield EIS; in 2005 CDOT staff inventoried a minor revision to that route (the current Revised G Modified);
- 3) Test excavations at previously recorded prehistoric site 5LP6666; and
- 4) An assessment of NRHP eligibility for all historic and archaeological resources present within the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives.

Area of Potential Effects

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) established for the Revised F Modified Alternative survey was a generally linear corridor beginning at US Highway 550 and extending for over one mile to the north and east, including an associated connection to County Road 220 (refer to report Figure 2). The APE terminated at the point where the Revised F Modified and East Alternatives share a common segment south of US Highway 160. In order to include potential direct and indirect effects, the APE ranged generally from 200-275 ft (60-85 m) on either side of the centerline; the APE was expanded in some

areas to include property boundaries, proposed intersections and other potential construction impacts. A formal APE was not created for the G Modified Alternative, as documentation of previously identified sites was the primary task conducted for that alignment. Nonetheless, that corridor is also reflected on report Figure 2, and the historic Webb Ranch site boundary appears on a separate attachment.

Eligibility Determinations

Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc., under a subcontracting agreement with CDOT prime consultant Centennial Archaeology, Inc., conducted all 2010 archival, field and laboratory tasks, and authored the enclosed report. A summary of the NRHP eligibility recommendations by Alternative is presented in tabular form below, followed by a narrative description. Note that tested site 5LP6666, which is not within either the Revised F Modified or Revised G Modified Alternatives (rather the previously surveyed East Alternative alignment), is not included in the table.

NRHP Eligibility Recommendations

Site No.	Site Type	Cultural Affiliation	NRHP Recommendation
Revised F Modified Alternative Inventory			
5LP8461	Webb Ranch (segment of Webb/Hotter Lateral Ditch)	Historic	Eligible/supporting element of NRHP-eligible Webb Ranch (2009)
5LP9307	Craig Ranch	Historic	Original residence (ruins) documented in 2010 as supporting element of larger ranch; larger property Officially Eligible (2009)
5LP9308	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9309	Prehistoric Habitation/ Historic Artifact Scatter	Pueblo I/Pueblo II/Historic	Eligible (prehistoric component only)
5LP9310	Clark Property	Historic	Eligible
5LP9311	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9312	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9213	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9581	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9582	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9583	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9584	Prehistoric Habitation/ Historic Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	Eligible
Revised G Modified Alternative Site Documentation			
5LP2223	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/ Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (2000)
5LP9585	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Not Eligible
5LP9586	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9587	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9588	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9589	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9590	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/ Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Pueblo II	Eligible

Revised F Modified Alternative Survey

The Revised F Modified Alternative survey resulted in the new documentation of seven sites (5LP9308-5LP9310; 5LP9581-5LP9584) and three isolated finds (5LP9311-5LP9313); a boundary enlargement of the historic Craig Ranch (5LP9307); and the recordation of an additional segment of an irrigation ditch

(Webb/Hotter Lateral) and structures associated with the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461). All seven of the newly recorded localities are recommended as *eligible* for the NRHP under Criterion D. Based largely on information provided by a member of the Craig family, the historic boundary of the Craig Ranch (5LP9307)—which was determined officially eligible in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in December 2009 subsequent to the East Alternative survey—has been expanded. CDOT maintains that the site retains its NRHP eligible designation. The additional segment of the Webb/Hotter Lateral ditch is recommended as a supporting element of the eligible Webb Ranch (5LP8461), as is the additional building complex located east of the core ranch structures. All three isolated finds (5LP9311-5LP9313) consist of two or fewer artifacts of unknown cultural affiliation; pertinent data for those localities were collected in the field and each is evaluated as *not eligible*.

Revised G Modified Site Documentation

Within and near the footprint of the Revised G Modified Alternative, six archaeological sites were newly documented (5LP9585-5LP9590) and one previously recorded site was re-evaluated (5LP2223). The latter site was determined officially NRHP eligible in 2000, an assessment with which CDOT continues to agree. Of the remaining six sites, two (5LP9585 and 5LP9586) are evaluated as *not eligible* based on a lack of surface and subsurface cultural deposits coupled with severe physical disturbances, and four sites (5LP9587-5LP9590) are recommended as eligible under Criterion D.

Test Excavations at 5LP6666

Site 5LP6666 was evaluated as not eligible for the NRHP subsequent to the East Alternative survey in 2009. However, the SHPO disagreed with that assessment and indicated that further work was required to evaluate the nature and extent of potential subsurface deposits. Test excavations were therefore conducted during the 2010 phase of work. Testing revealed very shallow and highly disturbed cultural remains, all of which were observed within the upper modern agricultural plow zone. The site is recommended as *not eligible* for inclusion on the NRHP.

Effects Determinations

Please note that the following effects determinations are based on preliminary engineering data for both the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives. At this time the general footprint of each alignment has been accurately identified but no specific design or construction plans have been developed. More detailed design may require a reassessment of these determinations in the future. Please refer to the site planview maps contained in Appendix B of the report for graphic representations of the effects described below.

Revised F Modified Alternative

Should this alternative be selected as the preferred route as a result of the NEPA analysis presently underway, all nine sites completely or partially within the APE of the Revised F Modified Alternative would be adversely affected. The prehistoric archaeological sites would be directly impacted by construction facilitated by heavy equipment (i.e., grading, cutting, leveling and/or paving), whereas the alternative footprint and/or the centerline extend through portions of the Craig Ranch, the Clark property and the Webb Ranch.

With regard to the Craig Ranch (5LP9307), the Revised F Modified centerline extends through a small area on the west side of the property before the alignment continues on a tangent and crosses the northern section of the property near County Road 220, well away from the main complex of buildings documented in 2009. Part of the alternative footprint may also cross a small area of the original homestead site (now in ruins), which is a contributing element to the overall ranch property. The proposed County Road 220 reconnection will also extend through the northern part of the Craig Ranch.

On the Clark property (5LP9310), the alternative centerline extends through the northern end of that property boundary. The main house on the Clark property is about 725 feet south of the conceptual right-of-way for US Highway 550 and about 190 feet north of any improvements associated with County Road 220.

With regard to the overall Webb Ranch (5LP8461), the alternative centerline curves through the eastern portion of the ranch and impacts the Webb/Hotter Lateral, portions of which will likely be placed in siphon structures. As a result, 5LP9307, 5LP9310 and 5LP8461 could potentially have a new highway alignment within their boundaries, which would compromise the setting, feeling, and association of the properties and result in an *adverse effect*. Again, please refer to the report and associated maps for more information about the location of the Revised F Modified Alternative in relation to these resources.

Revised G Modified Alternative

Of the five NRHP eligible archaeological sites associated with the Revised G Modified Alternative, three sites (5LP9588-5LP9590) would be directly impacted by construction in a fashion similar to those described above within the Revised F Modified alignment. A finding of *adverse effect* is therefore appropriate for those localities. The remaining two sites (5LP2223 and 5LP9587) have only very small slivers of their boundaries within the larger corridor footprint; consequently complete avoidance of both sites would be possible during the future design phase. With regard to those sites, the project will have *no effect to historic properties*. It is our judgment that the eligible archaeological sites associated with both alignment alternatives are significant chiefly because of what can be learned by data recovery and have minimal value for preservation in place.

The Revised G Modified Alternative would also have an *adverse effect* on 5LP8461, Webb Ranch, in the same fashion outlined above for Revised F Modified (compromise the setting, feeling, and association of the property).

This information has been transmitted to the SHPO as well as the other Section 106 consulting parties (including two additional tribal governments) identified for the undertaking.

Your comments on the site eligibility determinations outlined above and in the enclosed report, and also on the effects determinations described herein and illustrated in the report, are welcomed. If you elect to submit comments we would appreciate receiving them within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you have questions or require additional information in order to complete your review, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,



Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures: Report and site forms
Map showing historic Webb Ranch boundary

cc: K. Neet (CDOT Region 5)
S. Gibson (FHWA)

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9259



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**



Colorado Federal Aid Division
12300 W. Dakota Ave., Suite 180
Lakewood, CO 80228

August 6, 2010

Mr. Leroy Shingoitewa, Chairman
The Hopi Tribe
Attn: Mr. Leigh Kuwanwisiwma, Culture Preservation Office
P.O. Box 123
Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

SUBJECT: Additional Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County, Colorado

Dear Mr. Shingoitewa:

As a consulting tribe for the project referenced above under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, in November 2009 we provided you with National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility and effects determinations for an alternative alignment (the East Alternative) under consideration. As noted in that correspondence, additional alternatives are being studied to ultimately facilitate a new connection between US Highways 550 and 160 south of Durango. Toward that end, enclosed for your review are three copies of the report and associated site forms documenting survey and site recordation for two additional alignments known as the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives. Please refer to Figure 2 in the report for a graphic illustration of the location of the Revised F and G Alternatives, as well as the previously inventoried East Alternative.

The report included herewith documents the results of four primary tasks:

- 1) A historic properties survey of that portion of the Revised F Modified Alternative within the boundary of the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461) that was not previously inventoried;
- 2) Formal documentation of archaeological sites located along the Revised G Modified Alternative within the Webb Ranch identified in 2008 by a private consultant under contract to the landowner. The original G Modified Alternative was initially surveyed in 1999-2000 by a CDOT consultant during studies undertaken for the US 160 Durango to Bayfield EIS; in 2005 CDOT staff inventoried a minor revision to that route (the current Revised G Modified);
- 3) Test excavations at previously recorded prehistoric site 5LP6666; and
- 4) An assessment of NRHP eligibility for all historic and archaeological resources present within the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives.

Area of Potential Effects

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) established for the Revised F Modified Alternative survey was a generally linear corridor beginning at US Highway 550 and extending for over one mile to the north and east, including an associated connection to County Road 220 (refer to report Figure 2). The APE terminated at the point where the Revised F Modified and East Alternatives share a common segment south of US Highway 160. In order to include potential direct and indirect effects, the APE ranged generally from 200-275 ft (60-85 m) on either side of the centerline; the APE was expanded in some

areas to include property boundaries, proposed intersections and other potential construction impacts. A formal APE was not created for the G Modified Alternative, as documentation of previously identified sites was the primary task conducted for that alignment. Nonetheless, that corridor is also reflected on report Figure 2, and the historic Webb Ranch site boundary appears on a separate attachment.

Eligibility Determinations

Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc., under a subcontracting agreement with CDOT prime consultant Centennial Archaeology, Inc., conducted all 2010 archival, field and laboratory tasks, and authored the enclosed report. A summary of the NRHP eligibility recommendations by Alternative is presented in tabular form below, followed by a narrative description. Note that tested site 5LP6666, which is not within either the Revised F Modified or Revised G Modified Alternatives (rather the previously surveyed East Alternative alignment), is not included in the table.

NRHP Eligibility Recommendations

Site No.	Site Type	Cultural Affiliation	NRHP Recommendation
Revised F Modified Alternative Inventory			
5LP8461	Webb Ranch (segment of Webb/Hotter Lateral Ditch)	Historic	Eligible/supporting element of NRHP-eligible Webb Ranch (2009)
5LP9307	Craig Ranch	Historic	Original residence (ruins) documented in 2010 as supporting element of larger ranch; larger property Officially Eligible (2009)
5LP9308	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9309	Prehistoric Habitation/ Historic Artifact Scatter	Pueblo I/Pueblo II/Historic	Eligible (prehistoric component only)
5LP9310	Clark Property	Historic	Eligible
5LP9311	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9312	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9213	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9581	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9582	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9583	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9584	Prehistoric Habitation/ Historic Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	Eligible
Revised G Modified Alternative Site Documentation			
5LP2223	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/ Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (2000)
5LP9585	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Not Eligible
5LP9586	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9587	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9588	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9589	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9590	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/ Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Pueblo II	Eligible

Revised F Modified Alternative Survey

The Revised F Modified Alternative survey resulted in the new documentation of seven sites (5LP9308-5LP9310; 5LP9581-5LP9584) and three isolated finds (5LP9311-5LP9313); a boundary enlargement of the historic Craig Ranch (5LP9307); and the recordation of an additional segment of an irrigation ditch

(Webb/Hotter Lateral) and structures associated with the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461). All seven of the newly recorded localities are recommended as *eligible* for the NRHP under Criterion D. Based largely on information provided by a member of the Craig family, the historic boundary of the Craig Ranch (5LP9307)—which was determined officially eligible in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in December 2009 subsequent to the East Alternative survey—has been expanded. CDOT maintains that the site retains its NRHP eligible designation. The additional segment of the Webb/Hotter Lateral ditch is recommended as a supporting element of the eligible Webb Ranch (5LP8461), as is the additional building complex located east of the core ranch structures. All three isolated finds (5LP9311-5LP9313) consist of two or fewer artifacts of unknown cultural affiliation; pertinent data for those localities were collected in the field and each is evaluated as *not eligible*.

Revised G Modified Site Documentation

Within and near the footprint of the Revised G Modified Alternative, six archaeological sites were newly documented (5LP9585-5LP9590) and one previously recorded site was re-evaluated (5LP2223). The latter site was determined officially NRHP eligible in 2000, an assessment with which CDOT continues to agree. Of the remaining six sites, two (5LP9585 and 5LP9586) are evaluated as *not eligible* based on a lack of surface and subsurface cultural deposits coupled with severe physical disturbances, and four sites (5LP9587-5LP9590) are recommended as eligible under Criterion D.

Test Excavations at 5LP6666

Site 5LP6666 was evaluated as not eligible for the NRHP subsequent to the East Alternative survey in 2009. However, the SHPO disagreed with that assessment and indicated that further work was required to evaluate the nature and extent of potential subsurface deposits. Test excavations were therefore conducted during the 2010 phase of work. Testing revealed very shallow and highly disturbed cultural remains, all of which were observed within the upper modern agricultural plow zone. The site is recommended as *not eligible* for inclusion on the NRHP.

Effects Determinations

Please note that the following effects determinations are based on preliminary engineering data for both the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives. At this time the general footprint of each alignment has been accurately identified but no specific design or construction plans have been developed. More detailed design may require a reassessment of these determinations in the future. Please refer to the site planview maps contained in Appendix B of the report for graphic representations of the effects described below.

Revised F Modified Alternative

Should this alternative be selected as the preferred route as a result of the NEPA analysis presently underway, all nine sites completely or partially within the APE of the Revised F Modified Alternative would be adversely affected. The prehistoric archaeological sites would be directly impacted by construction facilitated by heavy equipment (i.e., grading, cutting, leveling and/or paving), whereas the alternative footprint and/or the centerline extend through portions of the Craig Ranch, the Clark property and the Webb Ranch.

With regard to the Craig Ranch (5LP9307), the Revised F Modified centerline extends through a small area on the west side of the property before the alignment continues on a tangent and crosses the northern section of the property near County Road 220, well away from the main complex of buildings documented in 2009. Part of the alternative footprint may also cross a small area of the original homestead site (now in ruins), which is a contributing element to the overall ranch property. The proposed County Road 220 reconnection will also extend through the northern part of the Craig Ranch.

On the Clark property (SLP9310), the alternative centerline extends through the northern end of that property boundary. The main house on the Clark property is about 725 feet south of the conceptual right-of-way for US Highway 550 and about 190 feet north of any improvements associated with County Road 220.

With regard to the overall Webb Ranch (SLP8461), the alternative centerline curves through the eastern portion of the ranch and impacts the Webb/Hotter Lateral, portions of which will likely be placed in siphon structures. As a result, SLP9307, SLP9310 and SLP8461 could potentially have a new highway alignment within their boundaries, which would compromise the setting, feeling, and association of the properties and result in an *adverse effect*. Again, please refer to the report and associated maps for more information about the location of the Revised F Modified Alternative in relation to these resources.

Revised G Modified Alternative

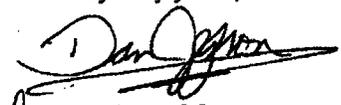
Of the five NRHP eligible archaeological sites associated with the Revised G Modified Alternative, three sites (SLP9588-SLP9590) would be directly impacted by construction in a fashion similar to those described above within the Revised F Modified alignment. A finding of *adverse effect* is therefore appropriate for those localities. The remaining two sites (SLP2223 and SLP9587) have only very small slivers of their boundaries within the larger corridor footprint; consequently complete avoidance of both sites would be possible during the future design phase. With regard to those sites, the project will have *no effect to historic properties*. It is our judgment that the eligible archaeological sites associated with both alignment alternatives are significant chiefly because of what can be learned by data recovery and have minimal value for preservation in place.

The Revised G Modified Alternative would also have an *adverse effect* on SLP8461, Webb Ranch, in the same fashion outlined above for Revised F Modified (compromise the setting, feeling, and association of the property).

This information has been transmitted to the SHPO as well as the other Section 106 consulting parties (including two additional tribal governments) identified for the undertaking.

Your comments on the site eligibility determinations outlined above and in the enclosed report, and also on the effects determinations described herein and illustrated in the report, are welcomed. If you elect to submit comments we would appreciate receiving them within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you have questions or require additional information in order to complete your review, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,


for Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures: Report and site forms
Map showing historic Webb Ranch boundary

cc: K. Neet (CDOT Region 5)
S. Gibson (FHWA)

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9259



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**



Colorado Federal Aid Division
12300 W. Dakota Ave., Suite 180
Lakewood, CO 80228

August 6, 2010

Mr. John Antonio Sr., Governor
Pueblo of Laguna
c/o Laguna Pueblo Tribal Council
P.O. Box 194
Laguna, NM 87026

SUBJECT: Additional Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County, Colorado

Dear Mr. Antonio:

As a consulting tribe for the project referenced above under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, in November 2009 we provided you with National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility and effects determinations for an alternative alignment (the East Alternative) under consideration. As noted in that correspondence, additional alternatives are being studied to ultimately facilitate a new connection between US Highways 550 and 160 south of Durango. Toward that end, enclosed for your review are three copies of the report and associated site forms documenting survey and site recordation for two additional alignments known as the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives. Please refer to Figure 2 in the report for a graphic illustration of the location of the Revised F and G Alternatives, as well as the previously inventoried East Alternative.

The report included herewith documents the results of four primary tasks:

- 1) A historic properties survey of that portion of the Revised F Modified Alternative within the boundary of the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461) that was not previously inventoried;
- 2) Formal documentation of archaeological sites located along the Revised G Modified Alternative within the Webb Ranch identified in 2008 by a private consultant under contract to the landowner. The original G Modified Alternative was initially surveyed in 1999-2000 by a CDOT consultant during studies undertaken for the US 160 Durango to Bayfield EIS; in 2005 CDOT staff inventoried a minor revision to that route (the current Revised G Modified);
- 3) Test excavations at previously recorded prehistoric site 5LP6666; and
- 4) An assessment of NRHP eligibility for all historic and archaeological resources present within the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives.

Area of Potential Effects

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) established for the Revised F Modified Alternative survey was a generally linear corridor beginning at US Highway 550 and extending for over one mile to the north and east, including an associated connection to County Road 220 (refer to report Figure 2). The APE terminated at the point where the Revised F Modified and East Alternatives share a common segment south of US Highway 160. In order to include potential direct and indirect effects, the APE ranged generally from 200-275 ft (60-85 m) on either side of the centerline; the APE was expanded in some

areas to include property boundaries, proposed intersections and other potential construction impacts. A formal APE was not created for the G Modified Alternative, as documentation of previously identified sites was the primary task conducted for that alignment. Nonetheless, that corridor is also reflected on report Figure 2, and the historic Webb Ranch site boundary appears on a separate attachment.

Eligibility Determinations

Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc., under a subcontracting agreement with CDOT prime consultant Centennial Archaeology, Inc., conducted all 2010 archival, field and laboratory tasks, and authored the enclosed report. A summary of the NRHP eligibility recommendations by Alternative is presented in tabular form below, followed by a narrative description. Note that tested site 5LP6666, which is not within either the Revised F Modified or Revised G Modified Alternatives (rather the previously surveyed East Alternative alignment), is not included in the table.

NRHP Eligibility Recommendations

Site No.	Site Type	Classification	NRHP Recommendation
Revised F Modified Alternative Inventory			
5LP8461	Webb Ranch (segment of Webb/Hotter Lateral Ditch)	Historic	Eligible/supporting element of NRHP-eligible Webb Ranch (2009)
5LP9307	Craig Ranch	Historic	Original residence (ruins) documented in 2010 as supporting element of larger ranch; larger property Officially Eligible (2009)
5LP9308	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9309	Prehistoric Habitation/ Historic Artifact Scatter	Pueblo I/Pueblo II/Historic	Eligible (prehistoric component only)
5LP9310	Clark Property	Historic	Eligible
5LP9311	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9312	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9213	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9581	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9582	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9583	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9584	Prehistoric Habitation/ Historic Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	Eligible
Revised G Modified Alternative Site Documentation			
5LP2223	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/ Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (2000)
5LP9585	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Not Eligible
5LP9586	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9587	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9588	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9589	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9590	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/ Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Pueblo II	Eligible

Revised F Modified Alternative Survey

The Revised F Modified Alternative survey resulted in the new documentation of seven sites (5LP9308-5LP9310; 5LP9581-5LP9584) and three isolated finds (5LP9311-5LP9313); a boundary enlargement of the historic Craig Ranch (5LP9307); and the recordation of an additional segment of an irrigation ditch

(Webb/Hotter Lateral) and structures associated with the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461). All seven of the newly recorded localities are recommended as *eligible* for the NRHP under Criterion D. Based largely on information provided by a member of the Craig family, the historic boundary of the Craig Ranch (5LP9307)—which was determined officially eligible in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in December 2009 subsequent to the East Alternative survey—has been expanded. CDOT maintains that the site retains its NRHP eligible designation. The additional segment of the Webb/Hotter Lateral ditch is recommended as a supporting element of the eligible Webb Ranch (5LP8461), as is the additional building complex located east of the core ranch structures. All three isolated finds (5LP9311-5LP9313) consist of two or fewer artifacts of unknown cultural affiliation; pertinent data for those localities were collected in the field and each is evaluated as *not eligible*.

Revised G Modified Site Documentation

Within and near the footprint of the Revised G Modified Alternative, six archaeological sites were newly documented (5LP9585-5LP9590) and one previously recorded site was re-evaluated (5LP2223). The latter site was determined officially NRHP eligible in 2000, an assessment with which CDOT continues to agree. Of the remaining six sites, two (5LP9585 and 5LP9586) are evaluated as *not eligible* based on a lack of surface and subsurface cultural deposits coupled with severe physical disturbances, and four sites (5LP9587-5LP9590) are recommended as eligible under Criterion D.

Test Excavations at 5LP6666

Site 5LP6666 was evaluated as not eligible for the NRHP subsequent to the East Alternative survey in 2009. However, the SHPO disagreed with that assessment and indicated that further work was required to evaluate the nature and extent of potential subsurface deposits. Test excavations were therefore conducted during the 2010 phase of work. Testing revealed very shallow and highly disturbed cultural remains, all of which were observed within the upper modern agricultural plow zone. The site is recommended as *not eligible* for inclusion on the NRHP.

Effects Determinations

Please note that the following effects determinations are based on preliminary engineering data for both the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives. At this time the general footprint of each alignment has been accurately identified but no specific design or construction plans have been developed. More detailed design may require a reassessment of these determinations in the future. Please refer to the site planview maps contained in Appendix B of the report for graphic representations of the effects described below.

Revised F Modified Alternative

Should this alternative be selected as the preferred route as a result of the NEPA analysis presently underway, all nine sites completely or partially within the APE of the Revised F Modified Alternative would be adversely affected. The prehistoric archaeological sites would be directly impacted by construction facilitated by heavy equipment (i.e., grading, cutting, leveling and/or paving), whereas the alternative footprint and/or the centerline extend through portions of the Craig Ranch, the Clark property and the Webb Ranch.

With regard to the Craig Ranch (5LP9307), the Revised F Modified centerline extends through a small area on the west side of the property before the alignment continues on a tangent and crosses the northern section of the property near County Road 220, well away from the main complex of buildings documented in 2009. Part of the alternative footprint may also cross a small area of the original homestead site (now in ruins), which is a contributing element to the overall ranch property. The proposed County Road 220 reconnection will also extend through the northern part of the Craig Ranch.

Mr. Antonio
August 6, 2010
Page 4

On the Clark property (5LP9310), the alternative centerline extends through the northern end of that property boundary. The main house on the Clark property is about 725 feet south of the conceptual right-of-way for US Highway 550 and about 190 feet north of any improvements associated with County Road 220.

With regard to the overall Webb Ranch (5LP8461), the alternative centerline curves through the eastern portion of the ranch and impacts the Webb/Hotter Lateral, portions of which will likely be placed in siphon structures. As a result, 5LP9307, 5LP9310 and 5LP8461 could potentially have a new highway alignment within their boundaries, which would compromise the setting, feeling, and association of the properties and result in an *adverse effect*. Again, please refer to the report and associated maps for more information about the location of the Revised F Modified Alternative in relation to these resources.

Revised G Modified Alternative

Of the five NRHP eligible archaeological sites associated with the Revised G Modified Alternative, three sites (5LP9588-5LP9590) would be directly impacted by construction in a fashion similar to those described above within the Revised F Modified alignment. A finding of *adverse effect* is therefore appropriate for those localities. The remaining two sites (5LP2223 and 5LP9587) have only very small slivers of their boundaries within the larger corridor footprint; consequently complete avoidance of both sites would be possible during the future design phase. With regard to those sites, the project will have *no effect to historic properties*. It is our judgment that the eligible archaeological sites associated with both alignment alternatives are significant chiefly because of what can be learned by data recovery and have minimal value for preservation in place.

The Revised G Modified Alternative would also have an *adverse effect* on 5LP8461, Webb Ranch, in the same fashion outlined above for Revised F Modified (compromise the setting, feeling, and association of the property).

This information has been transmitted to the SHPO as well as the other Section 106 consulting parties (including two additional tribal governments) identified for the undertaking.

Your comments on the site eligibility determinations outlined above and in the enclosed report, and also on the effects determinations described herein and illustrated in the report, are welcomed. If you elect to submit comments we would appreciate receiving them within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you have questions or require additional information in order to complete your review, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,


for Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures: Report and site forms
Map showing historic Webb Ranch boundary

cc: K. Neet (CDOT Region 5)
S. Gibson (FHWA)

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



August 6, 2010

Mr. Edward C. Nichols
State Historic Preservation Officer
History Colorado
1560 Broadway, Ste. 400
Denver, CO 80202

SUBJECT: Additional Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County (CHS #33425)

Dear Mr. Nichols:

In correspondence dated November 9, 2009, we submitted eligibility and effects determinations for an alternative alignment (the East Alternative) specific to the project referenced above. As noted in that letter, additional alternatives are under consideration to ultimately facilitate a new connection between US Highways 550 and 160 south of Durango. Toward that end, enclosed for your review is a copy of the report and associated site forms documenting survey and site recordation for two additional alignments known as the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives. Please refer to Figure 2 in the report for a graphic illustration of the location of the Revised F and G Alternatives, as well as the previously inventoried East Alternative.

The report included herewith documents the results of four primary tasks:

- 1) A historic properties survey of that portion of the Revised F Modified Alternative within the boundary of the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461) that was not previously inventoried;
- 2) Formal documentation of archaeological sites located along the Revised G Modified Alternative within the Webb Ranch identified in 2008 by a private consultant under contract to the landowner. The original G Modified Alternative was initially surveyed in 1999-2000 by a CDOT consultant during studies undertaken for the US 160 Durango to Bayfield EIS; in 2005 CDOT staff inventoried a minor revision to that route (the current Revised G Modified);
- 3) Test excavations at previously recorded prehistoric site 5LP6666; and
- 4) An assessment of National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility for all historic and archaeological resources present within the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives.

Area of Potential Effects

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) established for the Revised F Modified Alternative survey was a generally linear corridor beginning at US Highway 550 and extending for over one mile to the north and east, including an associated connection to County Road 220 (refer to report Figure 2). The APE terminated at the point where the Revised F Modified and East Alternatives share a common segment south of US Highway 160. In order to include potential direct and indirect effects, the APE ranged generally from 200-275 ft (60-85 m) on either side of the centerline; the APE was expanded in some areas

to include property boundaries, proposed intersections and other potential construction impacts. A formal APE was not created for the G Modified Alternative, as documentation of previously identified sites was the primary task conducted for that alignment. Nonetheless, that corridor is also reflected on report Figure 2, and the historic Webb Ranch site boundary appears on a separate attachment.

Eligibility Determinations

Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc., under a subcontracting agreement with CDOT prime consultant Centennial Archaeology, Inc., conducted all 2010 archival, field and laboratory tasks, and authored the enclosed report. A summary of the eligibility recommendations by Alternative is presented in tabular form below, followed by a narrative description. Note that tested site 5LP6666, which is not within either the Revised F Modified or Revised G Modified Alternatives (rather the previously surveyed East Alternative alignment), is not included in the table.

NRHP Eligibility Recommendations

Site No.	Site Type	Cultural Affiliation	NRHP Recommendation
Revised F Modified Alternative Inventory			
5LP8461	Webb Ranch (segment of Webb/Hotter Lateral Ditch)	Historic	Eligible/supporting element of NRHP-eligible Webb Ranch (2009)
5LP9307	Craig Ranch	Historic	Original residence (ruins) documented in 2010 as supporting element of larger ranch; larger property Officially Eligible (2009)
5LP9308	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9309	Prehistoric Habitation/ Historic Artifact Scatter	Pueblo I/Pueblo II/Historic	Eligible (prehistoric component only)
5LP9310	Clark Property	Historic	Eligible
5LP9311	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9312	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9213	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9581	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9582	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9583	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9584	Prehistoric Habitation/ Historic Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	Eligible
Revised G Modified Alternative Site Documentation			
5LP2223	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/ Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (2000)
5LP9585	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Not Eligible
5LP9586	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9587	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9588	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9589	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9590	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/ Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Pueblo II	Eligible

Revised F Modified Alternative Survey

The Revised F Modified Alternative survey resulted in the new documentation of seven sites (5LP9308-5LP9310; 5LP9581-5LP9584) and three isolated finds (5LP9311-5LP9313); a boundary enlargement of the historic Craig Ranch (5LP9307); and the recordation of an additional segment of an irrigation ditch (Webb/Hotter Lateral) and structures associated with the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461). All seven of the newly recorded localities are recommended as *eligible* for the NRHP under Criterion D. Based

largely on information provided by a member of the Craig family, the historic boundary of the Craig Ranch (5LP9307)—which was determined officially eligible in consultation with your office in December 2009 subsequent to the East Alternative survey—has been expanded. CDOT maintains that the site retains its NRHP eligible designation. The additional segment of the Webb/Hotter Lateral ditch is recommended as a supporting element of the eligible Webb Ranch (5LP8461), as is the additional building complex located east of the core ranch structures. All three isolated finds (5LP9311-5LP9313) consist of two or fewer artifacts of unknown cultural affiliation; pertinent data for those localities was collected in the field and each is evaluated as *not eligible*.

Revised G Modified Site Documentation

Within and near the footprint of the Revised G Modified Alternative, six archaeological sites were newly documented (5LP9585-5LP9590) and one previously recorded site was re-evaluated (5LP2223). The latter site was determined officially NRHP eligible in 2000, an assessment with which CDOT continues to agree. Of the remaining six sites, two (5LP9585 and 5LP9586) are evaluated as *not eligible* based on a lack of surface and subsurface cultural deposits coupled with severe physical disturbances, and four sites (5LP9587-5LP9590) are recommended as eligible under Criterion D.

Test Excavations at 5LP6666

Site 5LP6666 was evaluated as not eligible for the NRHP subsequent to the East Alternative survey in 2009. However, you disagreed with that assessment and indicated that further work was required to evaluate the nature and extent of potential subsurface deposits. Test excavations were therefore conducted during the 2010 phase of work. Testing revealed very shallow and highly disturbed cultural remains, all of which were observed within the upper modern agricultural plow zone. The site is recommended as *not eligible* for inclusion on the NRHP.

Effects Determinations

Please note that the following effects determinations are based on preliminary engineering data for both the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives. At this time the general footprint of each alignment has been accurately identified but no specific design or construction plans have been developed. More detailed design may require a reassessment of these determinations in the future. Please refer to the site planview maps contained in Appendix B of the report for graphic representations of the effects described below.

Revised F Modified Alternative

Should this alternative be selected as the preferred route as a result of the NEPA analysis presently underway, all nine sites completely or partially within the APE of the Revised F Modified Alternative would be adversely affected. The prehistoric archaeological sites would be directly impacted by construction facilitated by heavy equipment (i.e., grading, cutting, leveling and/or paving), whereas the alternative footprint and/or the centerline extend through portions of the Craig Ranch, the Clark property and the Webb Ranch.

With regard to the **Craig Ranch** (5LP9307), the Revised F Modified centerline extends through a small area on the west side of the property before the alignment continues on a tangent and crosses the northern section of the property near County Road 220, well away from the main complex of buildings documented in 2009. Part of the alternative footprint may also cross a small area of the original homestead site (now in ruins), which is a contributing element to the overall ranch property. The proposed County Road 220 reconnection will also extend through the northern part of the Craig Ranch.

On the Clark property (5LP9310), the alternative centerline extends through the northern end of that property boundary. The main house on the Clark property is about 725 feet south of the conceptual right-of-way for US Highway 550 and about 190 feet north of any improvements associated with County Road 220.

With regard to the overall Webb Ranch (5LP8461), the alternative centerline curves through the eastern portion of the ranch and impacts the Webb/Hotter Lateral, portions of which will likely be placed in siphon structures. As a result, 5LP9307, 5LP9310 and 5LP8461 could potentially have a new highway alignment within their boundaries, which would compromise the setting, feeling, and association of the properties and result in an *adverse effect*. Again, please refer to the report and associated maps for more information about the location of the Revised F Modified Alternative in relation to these resources.

Revised G Modified Alternative

Of the five NRHP eligible archaeological sites associated with the Revised G Modified Alternative, three sites (5LP9588-5LP9590) would be directly impacted by construction in a fashion similar to those described above within the Revised F Modified alignment. A finding of *adverse effect* is therefore appropriate for those localities. The remaining two sites (5LP2223 and 5LP9587) have only very small slivers of their boundaries within the larger corridor footprint; consequently complete avoidance of both sites would be possible during the future design phase. With regard to those sites, the project will have *no effect to historic properties*. It is our judgment that the eligible archaeological sites associated with both alignment alternatives are significant chiefly because of what can be learned by data recovery and have minimal value for preservation in place.

The Revised G Modified Alternative would also have an *adverse effect* on 5LP8461, Webb Ranch, in the same fashion outlined above for Revised F Modified (compromise the setting, feeling, and association of the property).

This information has been transmitted to the Section 106 consulting parties (including three tribal governments) identified for the undertaking. We will notify you of any responses received from these individuals and groups.

We request your concurrence with the site eligibility determinations outlined above and in the enclosed report, and also with the effects determinations described herein and illustrated in the report. If you have questions or require additional information in order to complete your review, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,


Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures: Report and site forms
Map showing historic Webb Ranch boundary

cc: K. Neet (CDOT Region 5)
S. Gibson (FHWA)



Leroy N. Shingoitewa
CHAIRMAN

Herman G. Honanie
VICE-CHAIRMAN

August 16, 2010

Jane Hann, Manager, Environmental Programs Branch
Attention, Dan Jepson, Archaeologist
State of Colorado, Department of Transportation, Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80222

Re: US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County
Additional Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, Revised F and G Modified Alternatives

Dear Ms. Hann,

Thank you for your correspondence dated August 6, 2010, with an enclosed cultural resources survey report and site forms regarding the US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, Revised F and G Modified Alternatives. The Hopi Tribe claims cultural affiliation to the Ancestral Puebloan prehistoric cultural groups in Colorado. The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office supports identification and avoidance of prehistoric archaeological sites and Traditional Cultural Properties, and we consider the archaeological sites of our ancestors to be Traditional Cultural Properties. Therefore, we appreciate the Colorado Department of Transportation's continuing solicitation of our input and your efforts to address our concerns.

The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office responded to the November, 2009, correspondence regarding the East Alternative. We have now reviewed the enclosed cultural resources survey report that identifies 6 National Register eligible prehistoric sites in the Revised F Modified Alternative, and 4 National Register eligible prehistoric sites in the Revised G Modified Alternative. We understand that either of these alternatives will result in adverse effects to prehistoric structures.

Therefore, if either of these alternatives are implemented, we request ongoing consultation including being provided with copies of any proposed treatment plans for review and comment. We also request an opportunity to review and comment on the preliminary and draft data recovery reports. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Terry Morgart at the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office at 928-734-3619 or tmorgart@hopi.nsn.us. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Leigh J. Kuwanwisiwma, Director
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office

xc: Colorado State Historic Preservation Office



August 25, 2010

Jane Hann
Environmental Programs Branch
Department of Transportation
4201 E. Arkansas Ave.
Shumate Building
Denver, CO 80222

Re: Additional Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County, Colorado (CHS #33425)

Dear Ms. Hann,

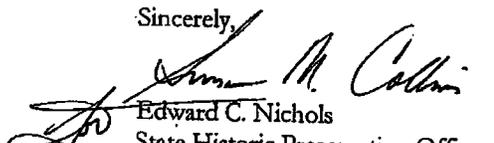
Thank you for your correspondence dated August 6, 2010 (received by our office on August 6, 2010; additional revised documentation received on August 20, 2010) and the documentation provided regarding the subject project.

Following our review of the documentation provided, we provide the following comments:

- We concur with your determination that the following sites are **eligible** for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP): 5LP8461, 5LP9307, 5LP9308, 5LP9309, 5LP9310, 5LP9581, 5LP9582, 5LP9583, 5LP9584, 5LP2223, 5LP9587, 5LP9588, 5LP9589, and 5LP9590.
- We concur with your determination that the following sites are **not eligible** for the NRHP: 5LP6666, 5LP9585, and 5LP9586.
- We concur with your determination that the following isolated finds are **not eligible** for the NRHP: 5LP9311, 5LP9312, and 5LP9313.
- Regarding the determination of effect, we concur that a finding of **adverse effect** is appropriate for the Revised F Modified Alternative as would impact all nine sites located completely or partially within the area of potential effects (APE).
- We further concur that a finding of **adverse effect** is appropriate for the Revised G Modified Alternative, specifically with regard to the three archaeological that would be directly impacted by construction (5LP9588, 5LP9589, and 5LP9590) and the Webb Ranch (5LP8561). Assuming as the documentation suggests that final design could ensure complete avoidance of sites 5LP2223 and 5LP9587, we conditionally concur that a finding of **no historic properties affected** is appropriate with specific regard to these two sites and the Revised G Modified Alternative.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We look forward to continued consultation on the US Highway 550 and 160 Connection project. If we may be of further assistance please contact Shina duVall, Section 106 Compliance Manager, at (303) 866-4674 or shina.duvall@chs.state.co.us or Amy Pallante, Section 106 Compliance Manager, at (303) 866-4678 or amy.pallante@chs.state.co.us.

Sincerely,


Edward C. Nichols
State Historic Preservation Officer
ECN/SAD

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



September 21, 2010

Mr. Shannon Bennett
455 Pinnacle View Drive
Durango CO 81301

SUBJECT: Solicitation for Consulting Party Status, US Highways 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County

Dear Mr. Bennett:

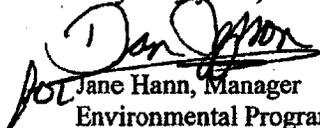
Per your request, in late August you were sent the historic properties survey report specific to two alignment alternatives presently being studied by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) as a possible new connection between US Highways 550 and 160 south of Durango. As you are aware from review of that document, your property bordering County Road 220—referenced as the Clark Ranch and assigned site number 5LP9310—is located along the “Revised F Modified Alternative.” The ranch has been determined eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places as a significant historic resource, an assessment with which the State Historic Preservation Officer concurred.

The US 550/160 project is sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and therefore constitutes a federal undertaking requiring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470f), and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800). As a potentially impacted and/or interested local landowner, FHWA and CDOT would like to formally offer you the opportunity to participate as a consulting party for the Section 106 compliance process, as provided in Section 800.3(f) of the regulation. Two documents are enclosed that provide information about the Section 106 process and the role of consulting parties; in particular, please refer to pp. 15-16 of the *Citizen's Guide to Section 106 Review* for a succinct summary of consulting parties in the historic preservation compliance process.

If you are interested in participating as a consulting party for this project under the Section 106 guidelines, please respond in writing within 30 days of receipt of this letter to Dan Jepson, CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist, at the address on the letterhead. We request that your response include a statement of demonstrated interest in historic properties associated with this project, as stipulated in the Section 106 regulation.

If you require additional information or have questions, please contact Mr. Jepson at (303) 757-9631 or via Email at daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us, or FHWA Environmental Program Manager Stephanie Gibson at (720) 963-3013 or stephanie.gibson@dot.gov.

Very truly yours,


Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures

cc: K. Neet (CDOT Region 5)
S. Gibson (FHWA)



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Colorado Division
September 22, 2010

12300 W. Dakota Avenue, Suite 180
Lakewood, CO 80228
720-963-3000
FAX: 720-963-3001

Mr. John M. Fowler
Office of the Executive Director
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 803
Washington, DC 20004
Attn: Ms. Carol Legard, FHWA Liaison

SUBJECT: Additional Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, Revised F
Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives, US Highway 550 and
160 Connection, La Plata County, Colorado

Dear Mr. Fowler:

Enclosed for your review is a copy of the cultural resources survey report for two proposed alternative alignments specific to the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) undertaking referenced above. In correspondence dated January 25, 2010, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) forwarded you a report documenting the results of the survey conducted for the Eastern Realignment Alternative related to this project. (Please note that the previous report, as well as the document enclosed herewith, refers to that alignment as the "East Alternative;" however, both titles denote the same alignment.) The attached document presents the results of the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives pedestrian inventory, as well as determinations of site eligibility; effects are discussed in this letter. The report was submitted to the Colorado State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and consulting parties for review in August 2010. Please refer to the January 2010 letter for additional background on the US Highway 550/160 Connection project.

As noted in the earlier correspondence, intensive analysis of the environmental impacts of these three alternatives, as well as other alternatives that are not undergoing this level of study, will result in the selection of a Preferred Alternative for the project as part of FHWA's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) obligations. Refer to Figure 2 in the enclosed report for a graphic illustration of the location of the Revised F and G Alternatives, as well as the previously inventoried Eastern Realignment Alternative.

The report included herewith documents the results of four primary tasks:

- 1) A historic properties survey of that portion of the Revised F Modified Alternative within the boundary of the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461) that was not previously inventoried;



- 2) Formal documentation of archaeological sites located along the Revised G Modified Alternative within the Webb Ranch identified in 2008 by a private consultant under contract to the landowner. The original G Modified Alternative was initially surveyed in 1999-2000 by a CDOT consultant during studies undertaken for the US 160 Durango to Bayfield EIS; in 2005 CDOT staff inventoried a minor revision to that route (the current Revised G Modified);
- 3) Test excavations at previously recorded prehistoric site 5LP6666; and
- 4) An assessment of National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility for all historic and archaeological resources present within the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives.

Area of Potential Effects

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) established for the Revised F Modified Alternative survey was a generally linear corridor beginning at US Highway 550 and extending for over one mile to the north and east, including an associated connection to County Road 220 (refer to report Figure 2). The APE terminated at the point where the Revised F Modified and Eastern Realignment Alternatives share a common segment south of US Highway 160. In order to include potential direct and indirect effects, the APE ranged generally from 200-275 ft (60-85 m) on either side of the centerline; the APE was expanded in some areas to include property boundaries, proposed intersections and other potential construction impacts. A formal APE was not created for the Revised G Modified Alternative, as documentation of previously identified sites was the primary task conducted for that alignment. Nonetheless, that corridor is also reflected on report Figure 2, and the historic Webb Ranch site boundary (5LP8461) appears on a separate attachment.

Eligibility Determinations

A summary of the site eligibility recommendations by Alternative is presented in tabular form below, followed by a narrative description. Note that tested site 5LP6666, which is not within either the Revised F Modified or Revised G Modified Alternatives (rather the previously surveyed Eastern Realignment Alternative), is not included in the table.

NRHP Eligibility Recommendations

Site No.	Site Type	Cultural Affiliation	NRHP Recommendation
Revised F Modified Alternative Inventory			
5LP8461	Webb Ranch (segment of Webb/Hotter Lateral Ditch)	Historic	Eligible/supporting element of NRHP-eligible Webb Ranch (2009)
5LP9307	Craig Ranch	Historic	Original residence (ruins) documented in 2010 as supporting element of larger ranch; larger property Officially Eligible (2009)
5LP9308	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9309	Prehistoric Habitation/ Historic Artifact Scatter	Pueblo I/Pueblo II/Historic	Eligible (prehistoric component only)
5LP9310	Clark Property	Historic	Eligible

Site No.	Site Type	Cultural Affiliation	NRHP Recommendation
5LP9311	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9312	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9213	Isolated Find	Unknown	Not Eligible
5LP9581	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9582	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9583	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Pueblo I	Eligible
5LP9584	Prehistoric Habitation/ Historic Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Historic	Eligible
Revised G Modified Alternative Site Documentation			
5LP2223	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/ Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Officially Eligible (2000)
5LP9585	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I	Not Eligible
5LP9586	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Not Eligible
5LP9587	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9588	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9589	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter	Unknown Prehistoric	Eligible
5LP9590	Prehistoric Artifact Scatter/ Habitation	Basketmaker III/Pueblo I/ Pueblo II	Eligible

Revised F Modified Alternative Survey

The Revised F Modified Alternative survey resulted in the new documentation of seven sites (5LP9308-5LP9310; 5LP9581-5LP9584) and three isolated finds (5LP9311-5LP9313); a boundary enlargement of the historic Craig Ranch (5LP9307); and the recordation of an additional segment of an irrigation ditch (Webb/Hotter Lateral) and structures associated with the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461). All seven of the newly recorded localities are recommended as *eligible* for the NRHP under Criterion D. Based largely on information provided by a member of the Craig family, the historic boundary of the Craig Ranch (5LP9307)—which was determined officially NRHP eligible in December 2009 subsequent to the Eastern Realignment Alternative survey—has been expanded. CDOT maintains that the site retains its NRHP eligible designation. The additional segment of the Webb/Hotter Lateral ditch is recommended as a supporting element of the eligible Webb Ranch (5LP8461), as is the additional building complex located east of the core ranch structures. All three isolated finds (5LP9311-5LP9313) consist of two or fewer artifacts of unknown cultural affiliation; pertinent data for those localities were collected in the field and each is evaluated as *not eligible*.

Revised G Modified Site Documentation

Within and near the footprint of the Revised G Modified Alternative, six archaeological sites were newly documented (5LP9585-5LP9590) and one previously recorded site was re-evaluated (5LP2223). The latter site was determined officially NRHP eligible in 2000, an assessment with which CDOT continues to agree. Of the remaining six sites, two (5LP9585 and 5LP9586) are evaluated as *not eligible* based on a lack of surface and subsurface cultural deposits coupled with severe physical disturbances, and four sites (5LP9587-5LP9590) are recommended as eligible under Criterion D.

Test Excavations at 5LP6666

Site 5LP6666 was evaluated as not eligible for the NRHP subsequent to the Eastern Realignment Alternative survey in 2009. However, you disagreed with that assessment and indicated that further work was required to evaluate the nature and extent of potential subsurface deposits. Test

excavations were therefore conducted during the 2010 phase of work. Testing revealed very shallow and highly disturbed cultural remains, all of which were observed within the upper modern agricultural plow zone. The site is recommended as *not eligible* for inclusion on the NRHP.

Effects Determinations

Please note that the following effects determinations are based on preliminary engineering data for both the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives. At this time the general footprint of each alignment has been accurately identified but no specific design or construction plans have been developed. More detailed design may require a reassessment of these determinations in the future. Please refer to the site planview maps contained in Appendix B of the report for graphic representations of the effects described below.

Revised F Modified Alternative

Should this alternative be selected as the preferred route as a result of the NEPA analysis presently underway, all nine sites completely or partially within the APE of the Revised F Modified Alternative would be adversely affected. The prehistoric archaeological sites would be directly impacted by construction facilitated by heavy equipment (i.e., grading, cutting, leveling and/or paving), whereas the alternative footprint and/or the centerline extend through portions of the Craig Ranch, the Clark property and the Webb Ranch.

With regard to the **Craig Ranch** (5LP9307), the Revised F Modified centerline extends through a small area on the west side of the property before the alignment continues on a tangent and crosses the northern section of the property near County Road 220, well away from the main complex of buildings documented in 2009. Part of the alternative footprint may also cross a small area of the original homestead site (now in ruins), which is a contributing element to the overall ranch property. The proposed County Road 220 reconnection will also extend through the northern part of the Craig Ranch.

On the **Clark property** (5LP9310), the alternative centerline extends through the northern end of that property boundary. The main house on the Clark property is about 725 feet south of the conceptual right-of-way for US Highway 550 and about 190 feet north of any improvements associated with County Road 220.

With regard to the overall **Webb Ranch** (5LP8461), the alternative centerline curves through the eastern portion of the ranch and impacts the Webb/Hotter Lateral, portions of which will likely be placed in siphon structures.

As a result, 5LP9307, 5LP9310 and 5LP8461 could potentially have a new highway alignment within their boundaries, which would compromise the setting, feeling, and association of the properties and result in an *adverse effect*. Again, please refer to the report and associated maps for more information about the location of the Revised F Modified Alternative in relation to these resources.

Revised G Modified Alternative

Of the five NRHP eligible archaeological sites associated with the Revised G Modified Alternative, three sites (5LP9588-5LP9590) would be directly impacted by construction in a fashion similar to that described above within the Revised F Modified alignment. A finding of *adverse effect* is therefore appropriate for those localities. The remaining two sites (5LP2223 and 5LP9587) have only very small slivers of their boundaries within the larger corridor footprint; consequently complete avoidance of both sites would be possible during the future design phase. With regard to those sites, the project will have *no effect to historic properties*. It is our judgment that the eligible archaeological sites associated with both alignment alternatives are significant chiefly because of what can be learned by data recovery and have minimal value for preservation in place.

The Revised G Modified Alternative would also have an *adverse effect* on 5LP8461, Webb Ranch, in the same fashion outlined above for Revised F Modified (compromise the setting, feeling, and association of the property).

Because the Council elected to participate in the Section 106 consultation process for this project, we welcome your comments on the report as well as the eligibility and effects determinations. If you would like to review the site forms or have any questions, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). For general information related to the project, please contact FHWA Environmental Program Manager Stephanie Gibson at 720-963-3013; or by e-mail, stephanie.gibson@dot.gov.

Sincerely yours,


for Douglas Bennett, P.E.
Acting Division Administrator

Enclosures:

Report
Map of Webb Ranch site boundary

cc: Dan Jepson, CDOT



38525 WOODWARD AVE., SUITE 2000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48304-5092
TELEPHONE: (248) 433-7200
FACSIMILE: (248) 433-7274
<http://www.dickinsonwright.com>

EDWARD H. PAPPAS
EPappas@dickinsonwright.com
(248) 433-7228

September 29, 2010

Jane Hann, Manager
Environment Programs Branch
Colorado Department of Transportation
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, CO 80222

Re: Additional Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County

Dear Ms. Hann:

We have received your letter of August 5, 2010 addressed to our co-counsel Daniel Gregory and its enclosed report concerning the survey of the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives as conducted by Alpine Archaeological Consultants (under subcontract to Centennial Archaeology).

In connection with CDOT/FHWA's continuing administrative proceedings under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, on behalf of our clients, the owners of Webb Ranch, we plan to submit written comments no later than October 21, 2010. We note your request for submission of comments within 30 days of receipt of your August 5 letter. Please immediately notify us in writing if the additional response time would cause you, CDOT or FHWA to decline to consider, or to disregard, our comments.

In the meantime, we would like additional information concerning the cultural resource reports, studies or surveys conducted with respect to other alternatives for a new connection between U.S. 160 and 550 (south of Durango) which remain under consideration by CDOT and FHWA. In your letter of August 5, you reference material sent to my partner in November 2009 concerning the East Alternative. Would you please provide us with any subsequent correspondence or documentation concerning any Effects Determinations made in relation as to the properties in the path of the East Alignment. By Effects Determinations, we mean analysis or comment such as the Effects Determinations section of your August 5 letter, at pages 3 and 4.

In addition, we note in the first paragraph of your August 5 letter that "additional alternatives are being studied..." Would you please identify each such alternative -- in addition to the East, Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives -- and please provide us with any cultural resource reports, studies and surveys and Effects Determinations prepared for such additional alternatives. We request those materials as counsel to consulting parties under

C O U N S E L O R S A T L A W

DETROIT NASHVILLE WASHINGTON, D.C. TORONTO PHOENIX LAS VEGAS
BLOOMFIELD HILLS ANN ARBOR LANSING GRAND RAPIDS

Jane Hann, Manager
September 29, 2010
Page 2

Section 106 of NHPA. Please advise if you would like us to submit a more formal request for these documents, under the Colorado Open Records Act, § 24-72-201, et seq.

Very truly yours,



Edward H. Pappas

EHP/lm

cc: Kerrie Neet (CDOT Region 5)
Stephanie Gibson (FHWA)
Daniel A. Gregory, Esq.
Thomas G. McNeill, Esq.

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



(Sent via Email 10/8/10 without attachments, and via USPS 10/8/10 with attachments)

October 8, 2010

Mr. Edward H. Pappas
Dickinson Wright PLLC
38525 Woodward Ave., Suite 2000
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-5092

SUBJECT: Section 106 Consultation, US Highway 550/160 Connection, La Plata County, Colorado

Dear Mr. Pappas:

I am in receipt of your letter dated September 29, 2010 regarding determinations of historic properties eligibility and effects for two alternative alignments proposed by the Colorado Department of Transportation for the project referenced above. You inquired about the timing for submission of more formal written comments and also requested additional information related to other alignment alternatives being considered by CDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

As a consulting party for the project under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (as amended), the Webb Ranch is provided the opportunity to submit comments to the agencies regarding a variety of issues related to the compliance process, but specifically the eligibility of and effects to historic properties relevant to the undertaking. As codified in the rules and procedures implementing the Section 106 regulations (36 CFR §800.5(c)(1)), "the agency official may proceed after the close of the 30 day review period if the SHPO...has agreed with the finding or has not provided a response, *and no consulting party has objected* [emphasis added]." CDOT submitted site eligibility and effects determinations to the Colorado SHPO for the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives in a letter dated August 6, 2010; the SHPO concurred with all findings in correspondence dated August 25, 2010. CDOT did not receive written objections from any consulting party, including the Webb Ranch, within the 30 day comment period. You may submit comments specific to historic properties at any time; objections to our findings will be considered but may be disregarded, however, at the discretion of the lead federal agency (FHWA).

You also requested additional documentation concerning cultural resource reports, studies or surveys conducted for other US 550/160 alternatives under consideration. As of this date you are in possession of all reports and directly associated materials for the three alternatives intensively studied for historic properties, including the Eastern Realignment Alternative (previously referenced as the "East Alternative"), the Revised F Modified Alternative, and the Revised G Modified Alternative. You asked for correspondence and/or documentation of effects determinations for the Eastern Realignment Alternative; copies of letters in that regard exchanged with the Colorado SHPO and other consulting parties are enclosed.

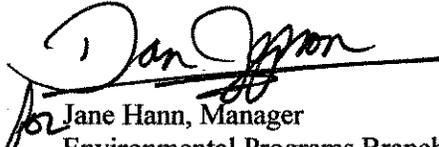
Other alternatives CDOT and FHWA are considering are the Western Realignment, and alternatives along the existing US 550 alignment including Revised Preliminary Alternative A, an alternative with a partial interchange at the existing US 550/US 160 intersection, and an alternative with an at-grade intersection.

Mr. Pappas
October 8, 2010
Page 2

These alignments are described in a letter from FHWA to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation dated April 27, 2009, which is attached for reference. For the Western Realignment Alternative—which parallels the existing US 550 alignment in the Animas River basin to the west—a search was conducted in May 2009 of the site files housed at the Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. The results of that research, in addition to internal CDOT Emails related to that topic, are also included herewith. Similar research was not conducted for Revised Preliminary Alternative A and other alternatives along the current US 550 alignment because that portion of the corridor was surveyed for historic properties during a 1995 CDOT project unrelated to the present undertaking, and therefore those results are known. A copy of that report was provided to you during an earlier Colorado Open Records Act Request; however, if you would like an additional copy, please let us know.

If you have questions regarding any information contained herein, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson at (303) 757-9631 or daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us. Thank you for your continued participation as a Section 106 consulting party for the US 550/160 Connection project.

Very truly yours,


Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures: Eastern Realignment Alternative Section 106 correspondence
Western Realignment Alternative file search results and correspondence
April 27, 2009 FHWA letter to ACHP

cc: K. Neet (CDOT Region 5)
E. Meyer (Colorado Attorney General's Office)
L. Tannenbaum (Colorado Attorney General's Office)



38525 WOODWARD AVE., SUITE 2000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48304-5092
TELEPHONE: (248) 433-7200
FACSIMILE: (248) 433-7274
<http://www.dickinsonwright.com>

EDWARD H. PAPPAS
EPappas@dickinsonwright.com
(248) 433-7228

October 26, 2010

Jane Hann, Manager
Environment Programs Branch
Colorado Department of Transportation
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, CO 80222

Re: Additional Determinations of Eligibility and Effects, Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives, US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County

Dear Ms. Hann:

As indicated in my letter of September 29, 2010, we have received your letter of August 5, 2010 addressed to our co-counsel Daniel Gregory (which he received by overnight courier on August 12, 2010) and its enclosed report concerning the survey of the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives as conducted by Alpine Archaeological Consultants under subcontract to Centennial Archaeology (the "Alpine Report"). We also have received your letter dated October 8, 2010 and its enclosures.

At the outset of our comments, we are constrained to note a certain capricious variance between your two letters with respect to the time frame in which to submit comments concerning your August 5, 2010 letter and the Alpine Report. In the August 5 letter, you indicated that our comments "are welcomed," and as to timing you stated:

If you elect to submit comments we would appreciate receiving them within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

But your October 8, 2010 response to my September 29 letter belies that cordial invitation to comment. The lengthy second paragraph of your October 8 letter articulates a much more formalistic position, citing 36 CFR § 800.5(c)(1) (not cited in your first letter) and suggesting that FHWA could now properly exercise discretion to disregard "objections to [CDOT's] findings" which the owners of Webb Ranch submit after the expiration of "the 30 day comment period."

In any event, we submit the following observations for consideration by CDOT and FHWA with respect to the continuing administrative proceedings conducted under both Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966.

C O U N S E L O R S A T L A W

DETROIT NASHVILLE WASHINGTON, D.C. TORONTO PHOENIX LAS VEGAS
BLOOMFIELD HILLS ANN ARBOR LANSING GRAND RAPIDS

Jane Hann, Manager
October 26, 2010
Page 2

The Alpine Report (pp. 10-11) confirms that the entirety of Webb Ranch (5LP 8461) is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places ("NRHP"). We concur in that determination. However, the table set forth on page 2 of your August 5 letter inaccurately establishes the date of that determination as 2009. In fact, CDOT and SHPO made that determination in January/February 2008. We would like the record corrected to reflect that fact.

The Alpine Report (pp. 11-15) purports to confirm the NRHP eligibility of the "historic Craig Ranch complex" (now designated 5LP 9307) with reference to the September 2009 report prepared by Alpine employee Jack E. Pfertsh. We reserve the right to further comment upon the historical designations conferred upon Craig Ranch and the Schaeferhoff/Cowan Ranch (5LP 9306), the timing of those determinations and CDOT's motivation with respect thereto.

Apart from its discussion of Webb Ranch and Craig Ranch, the Alpine Report concludes that there exist five prehistoric sites (including two Ancestral Puebloan habitation sites, 5LP 2223 and 5LP 9590) in the immediate vicinity of the Revised G Modified and seven prehistoric sites (including two additional Ancestral Puebloan habitation sites, 5LP 9584 and 5LP 9309) in the immediate vicinity of Revised F Modified. We concur with the determination that each of these 12 sites is NRHP eligible.

It is important to note, however, that Alpine's recitation of the procedural history with respect to discovery of these prehistoric sites is incomplete and inaccurate. *See, e.g.*, "Abstract," p. (iii); "Previous Work and Expected Results," p. 7. CDOT and/or its retained consultants conducted cultural resource surveys and pedestrian surveys on Webb Ranch in 1988, 1995, 1998-99, 2002 and 2007. *See*, our letter to Karla S. Petty (FHWA), dated October 15, 2008, and copied to three key CDOT employees. Following the completion of these surveys, on November 6, 2007, CDOT issued its Record of Decision, closing its administrative proceedings and establishing G Modified (not then "Revised"), which if constructed would bisect and destroy Webb Ranch, as CDOT's sole preferred alternative.¹

In these six previous surveys, CDOT entirely missed 11 of the 12 NRHP eligible prehistoric sites described in the Alpine Report.² In fact, in its report (p. 7), Alpine specifically

¹ As noted above, nearly three months later, CDOT determined that the entirety of Webb Ranch is NRHP eligible, causing CDOT to scramble to backfill to create a quasi "administrative record" concerning Webb Ranch as an historical property protected by Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act, but which attempts to conceal that CDOT had not engaged in *any* investigation, study, planning or development of prudent and feasible alternatives directly designed to avoid or minimize harm to Webb Ranch as required by Section 4(f). CDOT previously has provided the owners of Webb Ranch with extensive documentation of its post-ROD efforts in this regard. The record also makes clear that CDOT and SHPO conferred the historical designation upon Webb Ranch several months before CDOT commenced construction of the new bridge, ramps and associated elements at the base of Farmington Hill on U.S. 160.

² In 2000, CDOT identified site 5LP 2223, located on Webb Ranch, and determined that is NRHP eligible.

Jane Hann, Manager
 October 26, 2010
 Page 3

notes that in 2002 CDOT's consultant, URS Corporation, failed to identify at least four prehistoric sites in the path of Revised F Modified. Alpine implies that in Summer, 2009 its employee, Jack Pfertsh, identified several of the prehistoric sites during his survey of the East Alternative alignment.³

In reality, the identification of the extensive and important prehistoric sites located on and near Webb Ranch properly must be attributed to Stratified Environmental & Archaeological Services, LLC ("SEAS") and its principal, Doug Loebig. Retained by the owners of Webb Ranch, SEAS identified eight prehistoric sites located on Webb Ranch in the path of [Revised] G Modified. SEAS detailed its findings in a seventeen page report issued in July, 2008. Thereafter, during field work conducted on April 2-3, 2009, SEAS identified two additional prehistoric sites located on Webb Ranch in the path of [Revised] F Modified. SEAS detailed its findings in this regard in its April, 2009 Report (13 pages). The owners of Webb Ranch provided both SEAS Reports to CDOT. For your convenience, we have enclosed copies. The Alpine Report refers to the SEAS reports, but downplays them as "two informal inventories."

Based in part upon SEAS' July 2008 report, in October, 2008 CDOT formally reopened the administrative proceedings. Thereafter, in its scope of work, CDOT specifically directed Centennial Archaeology to conduct a thorough investigation of SEAS's sites and findings, which Centennial subcontracted to Alpine. In point of fact, Alpine's July, 2010 Report has authenticated and validated, and even expanded upon, SEAS's findings.

Site 5LP 9590 – originally designated SEAS 108-08-10 – is an extremely significant prehistoric site. It covers nearly 15 acres and occupies a portion of Webb Ranch, state land owned by CDOT and lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management, all in the immediate area in which Revised G Modified would connect to U.S. 160 and the elements of the bridge and ramps which CDOT already has constructed. The site includes more than seven hundred artifacts and seven distinct features. Alpine has opined that prolonged site habitation and varied activities at this location is likely, extending over at least two prehistoric periods, Basketmaker III/Pueblo I (AD 500-900) and Pueblo II (AD 900-1150); and Loebig has opined that elements of the late Archaic to Basketmaker II period (BC 800 to AD 400) may also be present. Alpine Report, pp. 52-56; SEAS July 2008 Report, pp. 8-10.

Alpine acknowledges that 5LP 9590 is an important find, but in our view Alpine understates the significance of the site, particularly with respect to the Pueblo II elements. Alpine states: "Sites dating to the Pueblo II period are not well documented in the Animas River drainage, because it appears that by this period, populations favored a shift westward." Alpine Report, p. 57, citing, *Colorado Prehistory: A Context for the Southern Colorado River Basin*, Mark D. Varien, W.D. Lipe and R.H. Wilshusen (1999). But SEAS goes further, opining that:

³ By letter to Ms. Petty and Richard Reynolds dated October 28, 2008, counsel for the owners of Webb Ranch submitted nine alternatives, including what has now become CDOT's East Alternative, for the relocation of U.S. 550 between U.S. 160 and County Road 220 which would avoid Webb Ranch altogether.

Jane Hann, Manager
 October 26, 2010
 Page 4

"The site possesses unique data potential given the probable multi-component nature of the site and an extremely rare instance of a Pueblo II period occupation in the Animas River drainage." SEAS July 2008 Report, p. 10. SEAS concludes that the site possesses "high research value." *Id.*

The preliminary investigations of site 5LP 9590 indicate evidence of occupation over a period of more than 1000 years. There exists a "high potential" for buried intact subsurface cultural deposits. Further investigation and analysis could and should cause a re-evaluation of previous conclusions, or assumptions, that the ancient indigenous population migrated westward out of the Animas River valley during the Pueblo II period (AD 900-1150). *See also*, site 5LP 9309, discussed below.⁴

Alpine also has confirmed the existence of two Ancestral Puebloan habitation sites which would be impacted by Revised F Modified. Site 5LP 9484, located on Webb Ranch, evidences a large prehistoric artifact scatter, with possible prehistoric habitation structures, covering more than 14 acres. SEAS April 2009 Report, pp. 3-9, Alpine July, 2010 Report, pp. 32-39. SEAS first identified a portion of the site (approximately 6 acres) on April 2-3, 2009 and denoted it SEAS site 09-21-01. SEAS and Alpine have identified the period of habitation as Basketmaker III to Pueblo I (AD 500-900). Alpine opines that much of the site demonstrates a high degree of integrity and that there exists a likely potential to produce intact subsurface cultural deposits. Alpine Report, p. 39. Please also note that this site contains an additional important *historical* element – an early turn of the 20th Century homestead that is one of the earliest examples of a ranch in this part of Colorado.

Alpine also identified site 5LP 9309, not located on Webb Ranch, which is relatively small (comprising approximately 3,000 square meters, or ¾ of an acre) but is highly significant. The site contains four habitation structures, a thermal feature and ceramic artifacts dating to the Pueblo II period (AD 900-1150). Again, Pueblo II artifacts are extremely rare in the Animas River drainage, and it is highly significant that there are two Pueblo II sites located on this portion of Florida Mesa.

Each of the four Ancestral Puebloan habitation sites, 5LP 2223, 9590, 9484 and 9309, are highly significant. Each requires additional investigation – including through the use of ground penetrating radar and excavation to exacting archaeological standards – followed by in depth *in situ* evaluation and analysis. Each site offers a probability of recovery of subsurface cultural deposits and the examination of prehistoric habitation structures; and there exists a possibility human remains may be found at one or more of these four sites.

⁴ In this letter, we do not further discuss site 5LP 2223, located in the southwestern corner of Webb Ranch. That site has been the object of considerable evaluation, and now re-evaluation (Alpine Report, pp. 40-46). The site is large (more than 9 acres) with clear evidence of architectural remains, and a "high potential to yield information important to Basketmaker III/Pueblo I prehistory." This site clearly requires further investigation, evaluation and analysis.

Jane Hann, Manager
October 26, 2010
Page 5

Alpine also has determined significance in eight other prehistoric sites, which are comprised of artifact scatters and are NRHP eligible. At this time, we do not offer commentary on these sites beyond that which is contained in the Alpine Report and the two SEAS Reports.

Please note that the owners of Webb Ranch hereby invoke their rights under Colorado law to require CDOT and its cultural resource consultant(s) to conduct all further examination of artifacts on site at Webb Ranch (without removal therefrom) and that the owners shall retain all ownership and possessory rights in such artifacts.

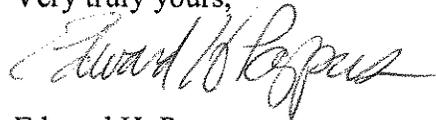
The preliminary investigations conducted by SEAS and Alpine, and your letters of August 5 and October 8, 2010, raise the following questions which we now submit to you for written response:

1. Has CDOT submitted the Alpine Report to FHWA for review and comment? If so, please provide copies of the correspondence between CDOT and FHWA.
2. Has CDOT formulated written plans for further investigation, evaluation and analysis of the twelve prehistoric sites which Alpine has recommended as NRHP eligible? If so, please provide those written plans to us so that we may offer comment on them.
3. Has CDOT submitted such written plans to SHPO for review, comment and approval? If so, please provide copies of the correspondence between CDOT and SHPO.
4. What federal and state law, and regulations, does CDOT acknowledge as governing the further investigation, evaluation and analysis of the twelve prehistoric sites which Alpine has recommended as NRHP eligible?
5. Although it has not acquired the land upon which the 12 prehistoric sites are located and such land is not presently Indian Land, does CDOT intend to proceed in compliance with the Archaeological Resource Protection Act of 1979, 16 U.S.C. §§ 470aa, *et seq.*, and the regulations promulgated thereunder?
6. By copy of this letter, we ask Ms. Petty, Ms. Gibson and Ms. Blouin whether FHWA intends to disregard this letter by invoking 36 CFR § 800.5(c)(1). If so, we would like a written statement of the reasons for such disregard, including whether and to what extent FHWA claims that it has sustained legal "prejudice" by the submission of these comments on this date.

Jane Hann, Manager
October 26, 2010
Page 6

We look forward to your written response to these questions, and FHWA's response to Question no. 6, and to any written response which you may wish to offer to the balance of this letter.

Very truly yours,



Edward H. Pappas

EHP/lm

cc: Edward C. Nichols, Colorado Historical Society
President and CEO and SHPO, with enclosures
Kerrie Neet (CDOT Region 5), without enclosures
Karla Petty (FHWA), with enclosures
Stephanie Gibson (FHWA), without enclosures
Douglas Loebig, without enclosures
Larry Tannenbaum, Esq., without enclosures
Eric Meyer, Esq., without enclosures
Marianne Blouin, Esq., without enclosures
Daniel A. Gregory, Esq., without enclosures
Thomas G. McNeill, Esq., without enclosures

DETROIT 47919-2 1180216v4

C o u n s e l o r s A t L a w

DETROIT NASHVILLE WASHINGTON, D.C. TORONTO PHOENIX LAS VEGAS
BLOOMFIELD HILLS ANN ARBOR LANSING GRAND RAPIDS

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



November 1, 2010

Mr. Shannon Bennett
455 Pinnacle View Drive
Durango CO 81301

SUBJECT: Documentation of Historic and Archaeological Sites, US Highways 550 and 160
Connection, La Plata County

Dear Mr. Bennett:

In late September 2010 you spoke by telephone to CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson regarding our letter of September 21, wherein CDOT and the Federal Highway Administration invited you to be a consulting party for the project referenced above under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. During that phone call you indicated a desire to be a consulting party and also asked for copies of site forms pertaining to historic and archaeological sites located on your property. Per that request, enclosed are forms for the Clark Ranch proper (5LP9310), two prehistoric archaeological sites (5LP9308 and 5LP9309), and two isolated finds (5LP9311 and 5LP9312).

If you have questions regarding any of the enclosed information, please contact Mr. Jepson at (303) 757-9631 or via Email at daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us.

Very truly yours,


Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures (5 site and isolated find forms)

cc: K. Neet (CDOT Region 5)
S. Gibson (FHWA)

Shannon Bennett
455 Pinnacle View Drive
Durango, CO 81301

November 7, 2010

State of Colorado
Department of Transportation
Environmental Programs Branch
Shumante Building
Denver Colorado 80222

C/O Dan Jepson

Dear Dan:

I received your letter dated November 1, 2010. Sorry for the delay in responding to our conversation in late September 2010. Antonia Clark and myself would like to be a consulting party for the project, Documentation of Historic and Archaeological sites, US 550 and 160 connection, La Plata County.

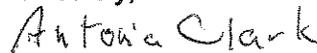
Please contact me if you have any questions. The easiest number to reach me at is 970-749-1094 or shannondog@mindspring.com

Sincerely,



Shannon Bennett
455 Pinnacle View DR.
Durango, CO 81301

Sincerely,



Antonia Clark
P.O. Box 2329
Durango, CO 81303

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



November 9, 2010

Mr. Edward H. Pappas
Dickinson Wright PLLC
38525 Woodward Ave., Suite 2000
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-5092

SUBJECT: Continued Section 106 Consultation, US Highway 550/160 Connection, La Plata County, Colorado

Dear Mr. Pappas:

I received your letter dated October 26, 2010, which addresses issues related to site eligibility and effects determinations for the project referenced above. Our response to a number of your concerns follows.

Many of the archaeological sites within the Webb Ranch were initially identified by Stratified Environmental & Archaeological Services (SEAS), and reports documenting those sites completed by SEAS in 2008 and 2009 were forwarded to the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT). CDOT subsequently used information derived from those reports when it conducted fieldwork specific to the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives. However, the SEAS field research and documentation was not authorized, endorsed or sanctioned by either CDOT or the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the actions and reports resulting therefrom cannot be recognized as an official part of FHWA's Section 106 compliance process. Your letter takes issue with CDOT's characterization of the SEAS work as "informal inventories." We are compelled to point out that both the 2008 and 2009 SEAS reports reference their efforts using *exactly* that phrase (p. 1 of both documents).

Your correspondence reiterates the significance of a number of archaeological localities within or near the two proposed alignment alternatives that cross the Webb Ranch. As noted in the 2010 report completed by Alpine Archaeological Consultants on behalf of CDOT, the sites you reference (5LP2223, 5LP9309, 5LP9590, and 5LP9584 [misidentified in your letter as 5LP9484]), are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred with CDOT's determinations in this regard (documentation of which is enclosed).

You suggest that the Alpine report "understates the significance of the site[s]" and that they are, in fact, "highly significant." However, eligibility to the National Register is not graded on a sliding scale, with some sites being "more significant" than others. All historic properties are treated equally under the law according to the provisions of the Section 106 regulations. The fact that one or more of the sites was characterized in the Alpine report as possessing "unique data potential" does not raise the legal bar for protection of those localities, or provide for expedited "in depth *in situ* evaluation and analysis," as noted in your letter. Once a Preferred Alternative for the US 550/160 Connection is selected at the conclusion of the Section 4(f) Evaluation, mitigation measures and data recovery plans will be developed for any NRHP eligible site that will be impacted along the selected alignment. Those plans will be reviewed and approved by the Colorado SHPO and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation prior to implementation. As a consulting party for the project, the Webb Ranch will also be provided an opportunity to review those plans.

The questions you raised on p. 5 of your letter are addressed individually, below:

1. *Has CDOT submitted the Alpine Report to FHWA for review and comment? If so, please provide copies of the correspondence between CDOT and FHWA.*

The report was forwarded via Email to FHWA Environmental Program Manager Stephanie Gibson on August 9, 2010. A copy of that transmittal is enclosed for your review.

2. *Has CDOT formulated written plans for further investigation, evaluation and analysis of the twelve prehistoric sites which Alpine has recommended as NRHP eligible? If so, please provide those written plans to us so that we may offer comment on them.*

Please see the discussion above.

3. *Has CDOT submitted such written plans to SHPO for review, comment and approval? If so, please provide copies of the correspondence between CDOT and SHPO.*

Again, please refer to the discussion above.

4. *What federal and state law, and regulations, does CDOT acknowledge as governing the further investigation, evaluation and analysis of the twelve prehistoric sites which Alpine has recommended as NRHP eligible?*

The agencies follow all applicable conditions and protocols outlined in the rules and procedures implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR 800), as well as similar regulations at the state level (CRS § 24-80-401-411 and CRS § 24-80-1301-1305). In addition, Section 4(f) of the US Department of Transportation Act (initially codified at 49 USC 1653(f), now found at 23 CFR 774) stipulates that FHWA cannot approve the use of land from publicly owned parks, recreational areas, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, or public and private historical sites unless there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of land, and the action includes all possible planning to minimize harm to the property resulting from use.

5. *Although it has not acquired the land upon which the 12 prehistoric sites are located and such land is not presently Indian Land, does CDOT intend to proceed in compliance with the Archaeological Resource[s] Protection Act of 1979, 16 U.S.C. §§ 470AA, et seq., and the regulations promulgated thereunder?*

The Archaeological Resources Protection Act regulates the preservation of and effects to archaeological resources on Federal properties and Indian owned lands, neither of which apply in this case. Although portions of the alternatives being studied for this project are located within the external boundary of the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, none of those lands are Indian owned. The Southern Ute Indian Tribe (SUIT) has specifically stipulated that it is not interested in cultural resources consultation on non-Indian owned lands within the reservation boundary, except for issues related to human remains. Enclosed is a copy of an April 25, 2006 letter from SUIT to CDOT with this language highlighted.

6. *By copy of this letter, we ask Ms. Petty, Ms. Gibson and Ms. Blouin whether FHWA intends to disregard this letter by invoking 36 CFR 800.5(c)(1). If so, we would like a written statement of*

Mr. Pappas
November 9, 2010
Page 3

the reasons for such disregard, including whether and to what extent FHWA claims that it has sustained legal "prejudice" by the submission of these comments on this date.

This point is directed to FHWA and as such we will defer to that agency to provide a separate response. Please note that John M. Cater is now the FHWA Colorado Division Director.

We look forward to your continued participation as a Section 106 consulting party for this undertaking.

Very truly yours,


for Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures (3)

cc: K. Neet (CDOT Region 5)
E. Meyer (Colorado Attorney General's Office)
L. Tannenbaum (Colorado Attorney General's Office)
S. Gibson (FHWA)

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



December 8, 2010

Mr. Edward C. Nichols
State Historic Preservation Officer
History Colorado/Colorado Historical Society
1560 Broadway, Ste. 400
Denver, CO 80202

RECEIVED BY:

DEC 14 2010

PROGRAM ENG.

SUBJECT: Additional Section 106 Consultation, US Highway 160/US Highway 550 Connection, La Plata County (CHS #33425)

Dear Mr. Nichols:

This letter and the attached materials constitute the request for concurrence on additional eligibility and effects determinations for the project referenced above. In correspondence dated November 9, 2009, we consulted with you regarding eligibility and effects associated with the Eastern Realignment Alternative, and on August 6, 2010, we consulted with you regarding the Revised F Modified and Revised G Modified Alternatives. During your review please consult the attached figures, which provide an overview of the resources and alternatives discussed herein.

Eligibility Determinations

Webb Ranch (5LP8461): In our initial identification of the Webb Ranch in 2008, we determined the ranch is significant under National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criterion C for its examples of ranching architecture. Additional research indicates that the Webb Ranch is also significant under NRHP Criterion A for its association with ranching on Florida Mesa. We request that you make a note of this in your file.

Webb/Hotter Lateral: In our previous consultation, CDOT identified the Webb/Hotter Lateral as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461). Since that time we have determined that the lateral should be documented as a stand-alone resource with a separate site number. A site and segment number—5LP9256/5LP9256.1—were initially assigned to this resource during previous survey efforts and will be used to identify the resource. Since the lateral extends onto two separate historic ranch properties, we have documented the section of the lateral on the historic Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch as 5LP9256.1, and the segment that extends into the Webb Ranch as 5LP9256.2. A Management Data Form and separate Linear Component Forms were completed to document these segments of the lateral. Although this feature is an irrigation lateral, and most laterals are not individually significant, CDOT has determined that the Webb/Hotter Lateral is significant for its association with two historic ranches—the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) and the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306). Please see the attached site forms for more information.

Effects Determinations

Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306): In our August 2010 consultation for the Revised F Modified Alternative, we did not include an effects determination for this historic ranch so that information is outlined here. The Revised F Modified Alternative shares a common alignment with the Eastern Realignment Alternative that extends through the northern portion of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan ranch boundary (see attached figure). The presence of this alignment through the open land within the historic

ranch boundary compromises the setting, feeling, and association of the property and results in an *adverse effect*.

Webb/Hotter Lateral (5LP9256.1/5LP9256.2): As noted above, the Webb/Hotter Lateral was previously evaluated as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch and not as an individual property. Following are effects determinations for the ditch based on the three alternatives under consideration:

Eastern Realignment: Approximately 870 feet of segment 5LP9256.1 on the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306) will be directly impacted by the new highway alignment and water in this section would have to be relocated to a siphon. Segment 5LP9256.2 on the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) will not be directly impacted by this alternative. CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the overall Webb/Hotter Lateral because over a quarter of the entire lateral length that is currently an open irrigation feature will be relocated into a siphon.

Revised F Modified: This alternative directly impacts both segments of the lateral. The conceptual centerline curves through the northwest quadrant of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch and will impact 1,423 feet of segment 5LP9256.1. The alternative centerline also curves through the eastern portion of the Webb Ranch and impacts 1,096 feet of segment 5LP9256.2. Portions of these segments will likely be placed in siphon structures. CDOT has determined that this alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the Webb/Hotter lateral since a significant percentage of the overall lateral length will be impacted by these alignments.

Revised G Alternative: The Revised G Alternative will not directly affect segments 5LP9256.1 or 5LP9256.2 of the Webb/Hotter Lateral, which therefore results in *no historic properties affected*.

Co-op Ditch (5LP9257)

Eastern Realignment: In our November 2009 consultation, we indicated that this alternative would affect 190 feet of segment 5LP9257.1, including an existing 30-foot structure under County Road 220; you concurred that there would be *no adverse effect* to the ditch. During that consultation, however, we did not discuss an additional feature of the ditch that was identified in the field survey—a narrow, shallow linear depression that parallels the length of the recorded ditch segment on the west side. The Eastern Realignment will likely have a similar impact on this shallow depression since it parallels the ditch segment, but the shallow depression will not be restored to its current appearance. The shallow depression appears to be an abandoned ditch (as noted in the site form) that may have served as a secondary channel to the Co-op Ditch. It was documented on the site form but is not considered part of the eligible ditch resource. CDOT has determined that the initial *no adverse effect* determination to the overall Co-op Ditch is still appropriate.

Revised F Modified, Revised G Alternative: Both of these alternatives will have a direct impact on 488 linear feet of segment 5LP9257.2 of the Co-op ditch as a result of widening the highway from two to four lanes. The ditch will likely be placed in a siphon at this location. Given the overall length of the segment (7,984 feet) and the fact that the segment to be affected currently extends through two culverts where it crosses the highway, CDOT has determined that there will be *no adverse effect* to the Co-op Ditch based on these alternatives.

Craig Limousin Ranch (5LP9307)

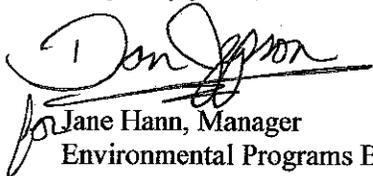
Revised F Modified: We previously consulted with you about this property in August 2010 and determined that the alternative would result in an *adverse effect* to this historic ranch. Since then we have determined that additional land will be required along the western boundary of the property on the curve of the existing US 550 alignment. In this area, the highway will be widened from two to four lanes. A total of 35.6 acres of the Craig Limousin Ranch property will be acquired as part of this alternative. The original determination of *adverse effect* is still appropriate.

Mr. Nichols
December 8, 2010
Page 3

Revised G Modified: US 550 will be widened from two to four lanes along the historic ranch boundary and the alternative will require acquisition of 22.7 acres along the western property boundary from County Road 220 to the edge of the property boundary along the US 550 alignment. The acquisition is distributed for slightly over a mile on the ranch's western boundary and ranges from 164 to 211 feet in depth. None of the ranch's buildings will be directly affected by this acquisition; however, open ranch land along the entire western property boundary will be acquired and the widened US 550 alignment will be closer to the ranch buildings. These effects will diminish the setting, feeling, and association of the ranch. Based on this, CDOT has determined that Revised G Modified results in an *adverse effect* to the Craig Limousin Ranch.

We request your concurrence with the eligibility and effects determinations outlined above. If you have questions or require additional information in order to complete your review, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,



Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures

Site Forms, 5LP9256.1, 5LP9256.2
Figure showing alternatives and resources

cc: Kerrie Neet, CDOT Region 5
Stephanie Gibson, FHWA

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



December 8, 2010

Mr. Edward H. Pappas
Dickinson Wright PLLC
38525 Woodward Ave., Suite 2000
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-5092

SUBJECT: Additional Section 106 Consultation, US Highway 160/US Highway 550 Connection, La Plata County

Dear Mr. Pappas:

This letter and the attached materials are provided so that you have an opportunity to comment on additional eligibility and effects determinations for the project referenced above. As a Section 106 consulting party for this undertaking, you were previously involved in the review of eligibility and effects determinations for the Eastern Realignment, Revised F Modified, and Revised G Modified Alternatives. During the present review please consult the attached figures, which provide an overview of the resources and alternatives discussed herein.

Eligibility Determinations

Webb Ranch (5LP8461): In our initial identification of the Webb Ranch in 2008, CDOT determined the ranch is significant under National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criterion C for its examples of ranching architecture. Additional research indicates that the Webb Ranch is also significant under NRHP Criterion A for its association with ranching on Florida Mesa.

Webb/Hotter Lateral: In our previous consultation, CDOT identified the Webb/Hotter Lateral as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461). Since that time we have determined that the lateral should be documented as a stand-alone resource with a separate site number. A site and segment number—5LP9256/5LP9256.1—were initially assigned to this resource during previous survey efforts and will be used to identify the feature. Since the lateral extends onto two separate historic ranch properties, we have documented the section of the lateral on the historic Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch as 5LP9256.1, and the segment that extends into the Webb Ranch as 5LP9256.2. A Management Data Form and separate Linear Component Forms were completed to document these segments of the lateral. Although this feature is an irrigation lateral, and most laterals are not individually significant, CDOT has determined that the Webb/Hotter Lateral is significant for its association with two historic ranches—the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) and the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306). Please see the attached site forms for more information.

Effects Determinations

Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306): In our August 2010 consultation for the Revised F Modified Alternative, we did not include an effects determination for this historic ranch, so that information is outlined here. The Revised F Modified Alternative shares a common alignment with the Eastern Realignment Alternative that extends through the northern portion of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan ranch boundary (see attached figure). The presence of this alignment through the open land within the historic

ranch boundary compromises the setting, feeling, and association of the property and results in an *adverse effect*.

Webb/Hotter Lateral (5LP9256.1/5LP9256.2): As noted above, the Webb/Hotter Lateral was previously evaluated as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch and not as an individual property. Following are effects determinations for the ditch based on the three alternatives under consideration:

Eastern Realignment: Approximately 870 feet of segment 5LP9256.1 on the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306) will be directly impacted by the new highway alignment and water in this section would have to be relocated to a siphon. Segment 5LP9256.2 on the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) will not be directly impacted by this alternative. CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the overall Webb/Hotter Lateral because over a quarter of the entire lateral length that is currently an open irrigation feature will be relocated into a siphon.

Revised F Modified: This alternative directly impacts both segments of the lateral. The conceptual centerline curves through the northwest quadrant of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch and will impact 1,423 feet of segment 5LP9256.1. The alternative centerline also curves through the eastern portion of the Webb Ranch and impacts 1,096 feet of segment 5LP9256.2. Portions of these segments will likely be placed in siphon structures. CDOT has determined that this alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the Webb/Hotter lateral since a significant percentage of the overall lateral length will be impacted by these alignments.

Revised G Alternative: The Revised G Alternative will not directly affect segments 5LP9256.1 or 5LP9256.2 of the Webb/Hotter Lateral, which therefore results in *no historic properties affected*.

Co-op Ditch (5LP9257)

Eastern Realignment: In our November 2009 consultation, we indicated that this alternative would affect 190 feet of segment 5LP9257.1, including an existing 30-foot structure under County Road 220; the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred that there would be *no adverse effect* to the ditch. During that consultation, however, we did not discuss an additional feature of the ditch that was identified in the field survey—a narrow, shallow linear depression that parallels the length of the recorded ditch segment on the west side. The Eastern Realignment will likely have a similar impact on this shallow depression since it parallels the ditch segment, but the shallow depression will not be restored to its current appearance. The shallow depression appears to be an abandoned ditch (as noted in the site form) that may have served as a secondary channel to the Co-op Ditch. It was documented on the site form but is not considered part of the eligible ditch resource. CDOT has determined that the initial *no adverse effect* determination to the overall Co-op Ditch is still appropriate.

Revised F Modified, Revised G Alternative: Both of these alternatives will have a direct impact on 488 linear feet of segment 5LP9257.2 of the Co-op ditch as a result of widening the highway from two to four lanes. The ditch will likely be placed in a siphon at this location. Given the overall length of the segment (7,984 feet) and the fact that the segment to be affected currently extends through two culverts where it crosses the highway, CDOT has determined that there will be *no adverse effect* to the Co-op Ditch based on these alternatives.

Craig Limousin Ranch (5LP9307)

Revised F Modified: We previously consulted with the SHPO about this property in August 2010 and determined that the alternative would result in an *adverse effect* to this historic ranch. Since then we have determined that additional land will be required along the western boundary of the property on the curve of the existing US 550 alignment. In this area, the highway will be widened from two to four lanes. A total of 35.6 acres of the Craig Limousin Ranch property will be acquired as part of this alternative. The original determination of *adverse effect* is still appropriate.

Revised G Modified: US 550 will be widened from two to four lanes along the historic ranch boundary and the alternative will require acquisition of 22.7 acres along the western property boundary from County Road 220 to the edge of the property boundary along the US 550 alignment. The acquisition is distributed for slightly over a mile on the ranch's western boundary and ranges from 164 to 211 feet in depth. None of the ranch's buildings will be directly affected by this acquisition; however, open ranch land along the entire western property boundary will be acquired and the widened US 550 alignment will be closer to the ranch buildings. These effects will diminish the setting, feeling, and association of the ranch. Based on this, CDOT has determined that Revised G Modified results in an *adverse effect* to the Craig Limousin Ranch.

This information has been sent concurrently to the Colorado SHPO and other consulting parties identified for the project.

If you elect to submit comments regarding the eligibility and effects determinations outlined herein, we request you do so within 30 days of receipt of these materials, as stipulated in the Section 106 regulations. If you have questions or require additional information in order to complete your review, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,

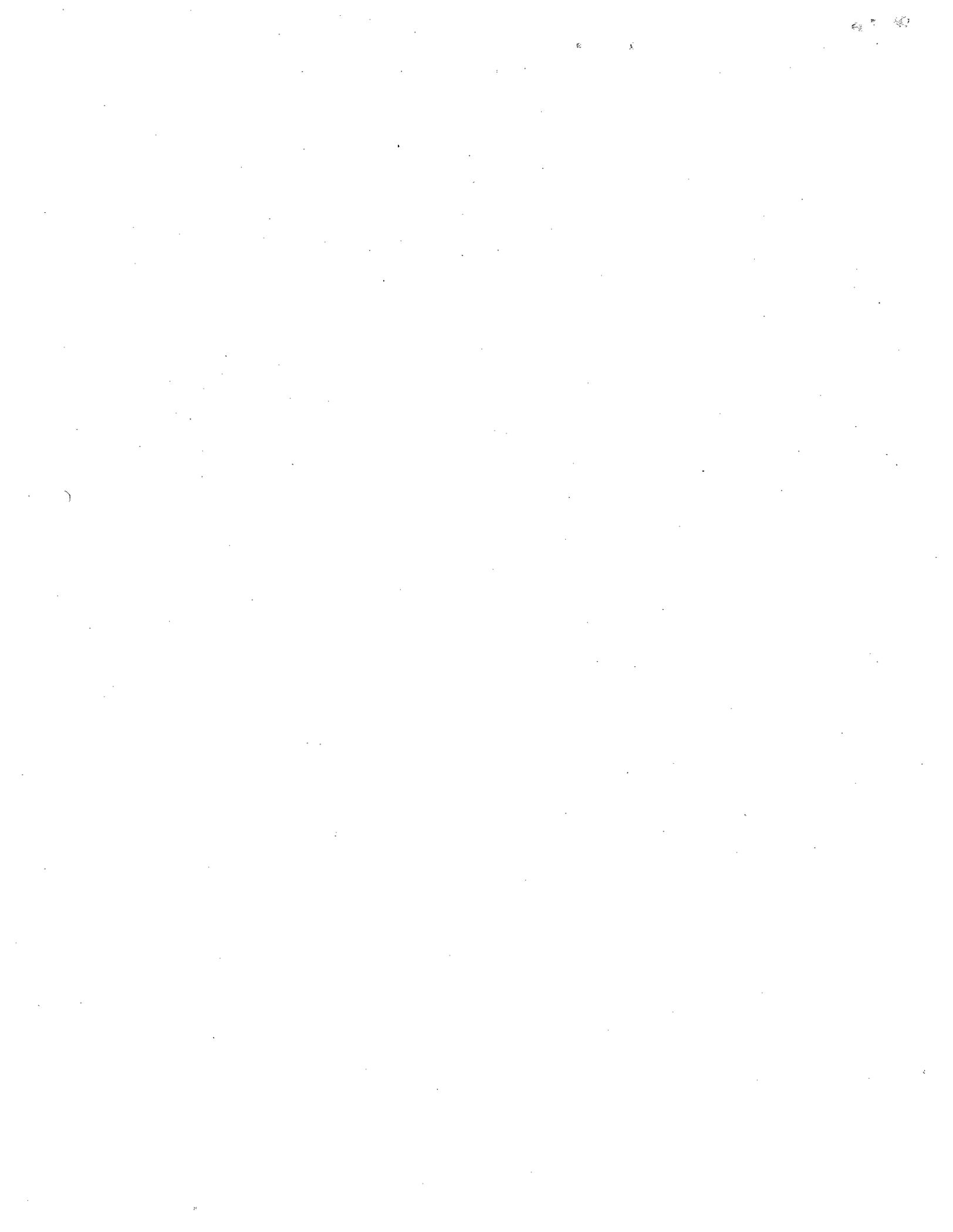


for Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures

Site Forms, 5LP9256.1, 5LP9256.2
Figures showing alternatives and resources

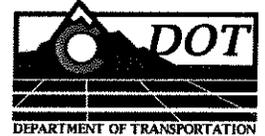
cc: Kerrie Neet, CDOT Region 5
Stephanie Gibson, FHWA



STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



December 9, 2010

Mr. Shannon Bennett
455 Pinnacle View Drive
Durango, CO 81301

SUBJECT: Additional Section 106 Consultation, US Highway 160/US Highway 550 Connection, La Plata County

Dear Mr. Bennett:

This letter and the attached materials are provided so that you have an opportunity to comment on additional eligibility and effects determinations for the project referenced above. As a Section 106 consulting party for this undertaking, you will be involved in reviewing historic properties issues associated with this undertaking from this point forward. During the present review please consult the attached figures, which provide an overview of the resources and alternatives discussed herein.

Eligibility Determinations

Webb Ranch (5LP8461): In our initial identification of the Webb Ranch in 2008, CDOT determined the ranch is significant under National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criterion C for its examples of ranching architecture. Additional research indicates that the Webb Ranch is also significant under NRHP Criterion A for its association with ranching on Florida Mesa.

Webb/Hotter Lateral: In our previous consultation, CDOT identified the Webb/Hotter Lateral as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461). Since that time we have determined that the lateral should be documented as a stand-alone resource with a separate site number. A site and segment number—5LP9256/5LP9256.1—were initially assigned to this resource during previous survey efforts and will be used to identify the feature. Since the lateral extends onto two separate historic ranch properties, we have documented the section of the lateral on the historic Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch as 5LP9256.1, and the segment that extends into the Webb Ranch as 5LP9256.2. A Management Data Form and separate Linear Component Forms were completed to document these segments of the lateral. Although this feature is an irrigation lateral, and most laterals are not individually significant, CDOT has determined that the Webb/Hotter Lateral is significant for its association with two historic ranches—the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) and the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306). Please see the attached site forms for more information.

Effects Determinations

Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306): In our August 2010 consultation for the Revised F Modified Alternative, we did not include an effects determination for this historic ranch, so that information is outlined here. The Revised F Modified Alternative shares a common alignment with the Eastern Realignment Alternative that extends through the northern portion of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan ranch boundary (see attached figure). The presence of this alignment through the open land within the historic

ranch boundary compromises the setting, feeling, and association of the property and results in an *adverse effect*.

Webb/Hotter Lateral (5LP9256.1/5LP9256.2): As noted above, the Webb/Hotter Lateral was previously evaluated as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch and not as an individual property. Following are effects determinations for the ditch based on the three alternatives under consideration:

Eastern Realignment: Approximately 870 feet of segment 5LP9256.1 on the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306) will be directly impacted by the new highway alignment and water in this section would have to be relocated to a siphon. Segment 5LP9256.2 on the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) will not be directly impacted by this alternative. CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the overall Webb/Hotter Lateral because over a quarter of the entire lateral length that is currently an open irrigation feature will be relocated into a siphon.

Revised F Modified: This alternative directly impacts both segments of the lateral. The conceptual centerline curves through the northwest quadrant of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch and will impact 1,423 feet of segment 5LP9256.1. The alternative centerline also curves through the eastern portion of the Webb Ranch and impacts 1,096 feet of segment 5LP9256.2. Portions of these segments will likely be placed in siphon structures. CDOT has determined that this alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the Webb/Hotter lateral since a significant percentage of the overall lateral length will be impacted by these alignments.

Revised G Alternative: The Revised G Alternative will not directly affect segments 5LP9256.1 or 5LP9256.2 of the Webb/Hotter Lateral, which therefore results in *no historic properties affected*.

Co-op Ditch (5LP9257)

Eastern Realignment: In our November 2009 consultation, we indicated that this alternative would affect 190 feet of segment 5LP9257.1, including an existing 30-foot structure under County Road 220; the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred that there would be *no adverse effect* to the ditch. During that consultation, however, we did not discuss an additional feature of the ditch that was identified in the field survey—a narrow, shallow linear depression that parallels the length of the recorded ditch segment on the west side. The Eastern Realignment will likely have a similar impact on this shallow depression since it parallels the ditch segment, but the shallow depression will not be restored to its current appearance. The shallow depression appears to be an abandoned ditch (as noted in the site form) that may have served as a secondary channel to the Co-op Ditch. It was documented on the site form but is not considered part of the eligible ditch resource. CDOT has determined that the initial *no adverse effect* determination to the overall Co-op Ditch is still appropriate.

Revised F Modified, Revised G Alternative: Both of these alternatives will have a direct impact on 488 linear feet of segment 5LP9257.2 of the Co-op ditch as a result of widening the highway from two to four lanes. The ditch will likely be placed in a siphon at this location. Given the overall length of the segment (7,984 feet) and the fact that the segment to be affected currently extends through two culverts where it crosses the highway, CDOT has determined that there will be *no adverse effect* to the Co-op Ditch based on these alternatives.

Craig Limousin Ranch (5LP9307)

Revised F Modified: We previously consulted with the SHPO about this property in August 2010 and determined that the alternative would result in an *adverse effect* to this historic ranch. Since then we have determined that additional land will be required along the western boundary of the property on the curve of the existing US 550 alignment. In this area, the highway will be widened from two to four lanes. A total of 35.6 acres of the Craig Limousin Ranch property will be acquired as part of this alternative. The original determination of *adverse effect* is still appropriate.

Revised G Modified: US 550 will be widened from two to four lanes along the historic ranch boundary and the alternative will require acquisition of 22.7 acres along the western property boundary from County Road 220 to the edge of the property boundary along the US 550 alignment. The acquisition is distributed for slightly over a mile on the ranch's western boundary and ranges from 164 to 211 feet in depth. None of the ranch's buildings will be directly affected by this acquisition; however, open ranch land along the entire western property boundary will be acquired and the widened US 550 alignment will be closer to the ranch buildings. These effects will diminish the setting, feeling, and association of the ranch. Based on this, CDOT has determined that Revised G Modified results in an *adverse effect* to the Craig Limousin Ranch.

This information has been sent concurrently to the Colorado SHPO and other consulting parties identified for the project.

If you elect to submit comments regarding the eligibility and effects determinations outlined herein, we request you do so within 30 days of receipt of these materials, as stipulated in the Section 106 regulations. If you have questions or require additional information in order to complete your review, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,



for Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures

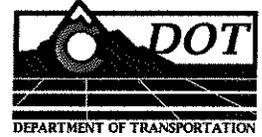
Site Forms, 5LP9256.1, 5LP9256.2
Figures showing alternatives and resources

cc: Kerrie Neet, CDOT Region 5
Stephanie Gibson, FHWA

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



December 9, 2010

Ms. Peggy Cooley
1525 Cliff Drive
Santa Barbara, CA 93109-1733

SUBJECT: Additional Section 106 Consultation, US Highway 160/US Highway 550 Connection, La Plata County

Dear Ms. Cooley:

This letter and the attached materials are provided so that you have an opportunity to comment on additional eligibility and effects determinations for the project referenced above. As a Section 106 consulting party for this undertaking, you were previously involved in the review of eligibility and effects determinations for the Eastern Realignment, Revised F Modified, and Revised G Modified Alternatives. During the present review please consult the attached figures, which provide an overview of the resources and alternatives discussed herein.

Eligibility Determinations

Webb Ranch (5LP8461): In our initial identification of the Webb Ranch in 2008, CDOT determined the ranch is significant under National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criterion C for its examples of ranching architecture. Additional research indicates that the Webb Ranch is also significant under NRHP Criterion A for its association with ranching on Florida Mesa.

Webb/Hotter Lateral: In our previous consultation, CDOT identified the Webb/Hotter Lateral as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461). Since that time we have determined that the lateral should be documented as a stand-alone resource with a separate site number. A site and segment number—5LP9256/5LP9256.1—were initially assigned to this resource during previous survey efforts and will be used to identify the feature. Since the lateral extends onto two separate historic ranch properties, we have documented the section of the lateral on the historic Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch as 5LP9256.1, and the segment that extends into the Webb Ranch as 5LP9256.2. A Management Data Form and separate Linear Component Forms were completed to document these segments of the lateral. Although this feature is an irrigation lateral, and most laterals are not individually significant, CDOT has determined that the Webb/Hotter Lateral is significant for its association with two historic ranches—the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) and the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306). Please see the attached site forms for more information.

Effects Determinations

Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306): In our August 2010 consultation for the Revised F Modified Alternative, we did not include an effects determination for this historic ranch, so that information is outlined here. The Revised F Modified Alternative shares a common alignment with the Eastern Realignment Alternative that extends through the northern portion of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan ranch boundary (see attached figure). The presence of this alignment through the open land within the historic

ranch boundary compromises the setting, feeling, and association of the property and results in an *adverse effect*.

Webb/Hotter Lateral (5LP9256.1/5LP9256.2): As noted above, the Webb/Hotter Lateral was previously evaluated as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch and not as an individual property. Following are effects determinations for the ditch based on the three alternatives under consideration:

Eastern Realignment: Approximately 870 feet of segment 5LP9256.1 on the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306) will be directly impacted by the new highway alignment and water in this section would have to be relocated to a siphon. Segment 5LP9256.2 on the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) will not be directly impacted by this alternative. CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the overall Webb/Hotter Lateral because over a quarter of the entire lateral length that is currently an open irrigation feature will be relocated into a siphon.

Revised F Modified: This alternative directly impacts both segments of the lateral. The conceptual centerline curves through the northwest quadrant of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch and will impact 1,423 feet of segment 5LP9256.1. The alternative centerline also curves through the eastern portion of the Webb Ranch and impacts 1,096 feet of segment 5LP9256.2. Portions of these segments will likely be placed in siphon structures. CDOT has determined that this alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the Webb/Hotter lateral since a significant percentage of the overall lateral length will be impacted by these alignments.

Revised G Alternative: The Revised G Alternative will not directly affect segments 5LP9256.1 or 5LP9256.2 of the Webb/Hotter Lateral, which therefore results in *no historic properties affected*.

Co-op Ditch (5LP9257)

Eastern Realignment: In our November 2009 consultation, we indicated that this alternative would affect 190 feet of segment 5LP9257.1, including an existing 30-foot structure under County Road 220; the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred that there would be *no adverse effect* to the ditch. During that consultation, however, we did not discuss an additional feature of the ditch that was identified in the field survey—a narrow, shallow linear depression that parallels the length of the recorded ditch segment on the west side. The Eastern Realignment will likely have a similar impact on this shallow depression since it parallels the ditch segment, but the shallow depression will not be restored to its current appearance. The shallow depression appears to be an abandoned ditch (as noted in the site form) that may have served as a secondary channel to the Co-op Ditch. It was documented on the site form but is not considered part of the eligible ditch resource. CDOT has determined that the initial *no adverse effect* determination to the overall Co-op Ditch is still appropriate.

Revised F Modified, Revised G Alternative: Both of these alternatives will have a direct impact on 488 linear feet of segment 5LP9257.2 of the Co-op ditch as a result of widening the highway from two to four lanes. The ditch will likely be placed in a siphon at this location. Given the overall length of the segment (7,984 feet) and the fact that the segment to be affected currently extends through two culverts where it crosses the highway, CDOT has determined that there will be *no adverse effect* to the Co-op Ditch based on these alternatives.

Craig Limousin Ranch (5LP9307)

Revised F Modified: We previously consulted with the SHPO about this property in August 2010 and determined that the alternative would result in an *adverse effect* to this historic ranch. Since then we have determined that additional land will be required along the western boundary of the property on the curve of the existing US 550 alignment. In this area, the highway will be widened from two to four lanes. A total of 35.6 acres of the Craig Limousin Ranch property will be acquired as part of this alternative. The original determination of *adverse effect* is still appropriate.

Revised G Modified: US 550 will be widened from two to four lanes along the historic ranch boundary and the alternative will require acquisition of 22.7 acres along the western property boundary from County Road 220 to the edge of the property boundary along the US 550 alignment. The acquisition is distributed for slightly over a mile on the ranch's western boundary and ranges from 164 to 211 feet in depth. None of the ranch's buildings will be directly affected by this acquisition; however, open ranch land along the entire western property boundary will be acquired and the widened US 550 alignment will be closer to the ranch buildings. These effects will diminish the setting, feeling, and association of the ranch. Based on this, CDOT has determined that Revised G Modified results in an *adverse effect* to the Craig Limousin Ranch.

This information has been sent concurrently to the Colorado SHPO and other consulting parties identified for the project.

If you elect to submit comments regarding the eligibility and effects determinations outlined herein, we request you do so within 30 days of receipt of these materials, as stipulated in the Section 106 regulations. If you have questions or require additional information in order to complete your review, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,



ja Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures

Site Forms, 5LP9256.1, 5LP9256.2
Figures showing alternatives and resources

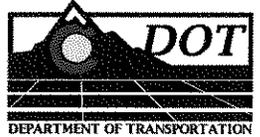
cc: Kerrie Neet, CDOT Region 5
Stephanie Gibson, FHWA

SEE NOTE ON Pg. 3

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



December 9, 2010

Mr. Leroy Shingoitewa, Chairman
The Hopi Tribe
Attn: Mr. Leigh Kuwanwisiwma, Cultural Preservation Office
P.O. Box 123
Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

RECEIVED
DEC 15 2010
BY: CPO/AB

SUBJECT: Additional Section 106 Consultation, US Highway 160/US Highway 550 Connection, La Plata County

Dear Mr. Shingoitewa:

This letter and the attached materials are provided so that you have an opportunity to comment on additional eligibility and effects determinations for the project referenced above. As a Section 106 consulting party for this undertaking, you were previously involved in the review of eligibility and effects determinations for the Eastern Realignment, Revised F Modified, and Revised G Modified Alternatives. During the present review please consult the attached figures, which provide an overview of the resources and alternatives discussed herein. Please note that this submittal does not involve any Native American sites or features.

Eligibility Determinations

Webb Ranch (5LP8461): In our initial identification of the Webb Ranch in 2008, CDOT determined the ranch is significant under National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criterion C for its examples of ranching architecture. Additional research indicates that the Webb Ranch is also significant under NRHP Criterion A for its association with ranching on Florida Mesa.

Webb/Hotter Lateral: In our previous consultation, CDOT identified the Webb/Hotter Lateral as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461). Since that time we have determined that the lateral should be documented as a stand-alone resource with a separate site number. A site and segment number—5LP9256/5LP9256.1—were initially assigned to this resource during previous survey efforts and will be used to identify the feature. Since the lateral extends onto two separate historic ranch properties, we have documented the section of the lateral on the historic Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch as 5LP9256.1, and the segment that extends into the Webb Ranch as 5LP9256.2. A Management Data Form and separate Linear Component Forms were completed to document these segments of the lateral. Although this feature is an irrigation lateral, and most laterals are not individually significant, CDOT has determined that the Webb/Hotter Lateral is significant for its association with two historic ranches—the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) and the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306). Please see the attached site forms for more information.

Effects Determinations

Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306): In our August 2010 consultation for the Revised F Modified Alternative, we did not include an effects determination for this historic ranch, so that information is outlined here. The Revised F Modified Alternative shares a common alignment with the Eastern Realignment Alternative that extends through the northern portion of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan ranch boundary (see attached figure). The presence of this alignment through the open land within the historic

ranch boundary compromises the setting, feeling, and association of the property and results in an *adverse effect*.

Webb/Hotter Lateral (5LP9256.1/5LP9256.2): As noted above, the Webb/Hotter Lateral was previously evaluated as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch and not as an individual property. Following are effects determinations for the ditch based on the three alternatives under consideration:

Eastern Realignment: Approximately 870 feet of segment 5LP9256.1 on the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306) will be directly impacted by the new highway alignment and water in this section would have to be relocated to a siphon. Segment 5LP9256.2 on the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) will not be directly impacted by this alternative. CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the overall Webb/Hotter Lateral because over a quarter of the entire lateral length that is currently an open irrigation feature will be relocated into a siphon.

Revised F Modified: This alternative directly impacts both segments of the lateral. The conceptual centerline curves through the northwest quadrant of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch and will impact 1,423 feet of segment 5LP9256.1. The alternative centerline also curves through the eastern portion of the Webb Ranch and impacts 1,096 feet of segment 5LP9256.2. Portions of these segments will likely be placed in siphon structures. CDOT has determined that this alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the Webb/Hotter lateral since a significant percentage of the overall lateral length will be impacted by these alignments.

Revised G Alternative: The Revised G Alternative will not directly affect segments 5LP9256.1 or 5LP9256.2 of the Webb/Hotter Lateral, which therefore results in *no historic properties affected*.

Co-op Ditch (5LP9257)

Eastern Realignment: In our November 2009 consultation, we indicated that this alternative would affect 190 feet of segment 5LP9257.1, including an existing 30-foot structure under County Road 220; the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred that there would be *no adverse effect* to the ditch. During that consultation, however, we did not discuss an additional feature of the ditch that was identified in the field survey—a narrow, shallow linear depression that parallels the length of the recorded ditch segment on the west side. The Eastern Realignment will likely have a similar impact on this shallow depression since it parallels the ditch segment, but the shallow depression will not be restored to its current appearance. The shallow depression appears to be an abandoned ditch (as noted in the site form) that may have served as a secondary channel to the Co-op Ditch. It was documented on the site form but is not considered part of the eligible ditch resource. CDOT has determined that the initial *no adverse effect* determination to the overall Co-op Ditch is still appropriate.

Revised F Modified, Revised G Alternative: Both of these alternatives will have a direct impact on 488 linear feet of segment 5LP9257.2 of the Co-op ditch as a result of widening the highway from two to four lanes. The ditch will likely be placed in a siphon at this location. Given the overall length of the segment (7,984 feet) and the fact that the segment to be affected currently extends through two culverts where it crosses the highway, CDOT has determined that there will be *no adverse effect* to the Co-op Ditch based on these alternatives.

Craig Limousin Ranch (5LP9307)

Revised F Modified: We previously consulted with the SHPO about this property in August 2010 and determined that the alternative would result in an *adverse effect* to this historic ranch. Since then we have determined that additional land will be required along the western boundary of the property on the curve of the existing US 550 alignment. In this area, the highway will be widened from two to four lanes. A total of 35.6 acres of the Craig Limousin Ranch property will be acquired as part of this alternative. The original determination of *adverse effect* is still appropriate.

Revised G Modified: US 550 will be widened from two to four lanes along the historic ranch boundary and the alternative will require acquisition of 22.7 acres along the western property boundary from County Road 220 to the edge of the property boundary along the US 550 alignment. The acquisition is distributed for slightly over a mile on the ranch's western boundary and ranges from 164 to 211 feet in depth. None of the ranch's buildings will be directly affected by this acquisition; however, open ranch land along the entire western property boundary will be acquired and the widened US 550 alignment will be closer to the ranch buildings. These effects will diminish the setting, feeling, and association of the ranch. Based on this, CDOT has determined that Revised G Modified results in an *adverse effect* to the Craig Limousin Ranch.

This information has been sent concurrently to the Colorado SHPO and other consulting parties identified for the project.

If you elect to submit comments regarding the eligibility and effects determinations outlined herein, we request you do so within 30 days of receipt of these materials, as stipulated in the Section 106 regulations. If you have questions or require additional information in order to complete your review, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,



for Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures

Site Forms, 5LP9256.1, 5LP9256.2
Figures showing alternatives and resources

cc: Kerrie Neet, CDOT Region 5
Stephanie Gibson, FHWA

defer to SHPO
on historic properties
however note enclosed
Aug 16 2010 letter
regarding prehistoric
properties



for
Kawonwissona

62-15-10

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



December 9, 2010

Mr. Joel Craig
14898 Highway 550
Durango, CO 81303-6628

SUBJECT: Additional Section 106 Consultation, US Highway 160/US Highway 550 Connection, La Plata County

Dear Mr. Craig:

This letter and the attached materials are provided so that you have an opportunity to comment on additional eligibility and effects determinations for the project referenced above. As a Section 106 consulting party for this undertaking, you will be involved in reviewing historic properties issues associated with this undertaking from this point forward. During the present review please consult the attached figures, which provide an overview of the resources and alternatives discussed herein.

Eligibility Determinations

Webb Ranch (5LP8461): In our initial identification of the Webb Ranch in 2008, CDOT determined the ranch is significant under National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criterion C for its examples of ranching architecture. Additional research indicates that the Webb Ranch is also significant under NRHP Criterion A for its association with ranching on Florida Mesa.

Webb/Hotter Lateral: In our previous consultation, CDOT identified the Webb/Hotter Lateral as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461). Since that time we have determined that the lateral should be documented as a stand-alone resource with a separate site number. A site and segment number—5LP9256/5LP9256.1—were initially assigned to this resource during previous survey efforts and will be used to identify the feature. Since the lateral extends onto two separate historic ranch properties, we have documented the section of the lateral on the historic Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch as 5LP9256.1, and the segment that extends into the Webb Ranch as 5LP9256.2. A Management Data Form and separate Linear Component Forms were completed to document these segments of the lateral. Although this feature is an irrigation lateral, and most laterals are not individually significant, CDOT has determined that the Webb/Hotter Lateral is significant for its association with two historic ranches—the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) and the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306). Please see the attached site forms for more information.

Effects Determinations

Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306): In our August 2010 consultation for the Revised F Modified Alternative, we did not include an effects determination for this historic ranch, so that information is outlined here. The Revised F Modified Alternative shares a common alignment with the Eastern Realignment Alternative that extends through the northern portion of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan ranch boundary (see attached figure). The presence of this alignment through the open land within the historic

ranch boundary compromises the setting, feeling, and association of the property and results in an *adverse effect*.

Webb/Hotter Lateral (5LP9256.1/5LP9256.2): As noted above, the Webb/Hotter Lateral was previously evaluated as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch and not as an individual property. Following are effects determinations for the ditch based on the three alternatives under consideration:

Eastern Realignment: Approximately 870 feet of segment 5LP9256.1 on the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306) will be directly impacted by the new highway alignment and water in this section would have to be relocated to a siphon. Segment 5LP9256.2 on the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) will not be directly impacted by this alternative. CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the overall Webb/Hotter Lateral because over a quarter of the entire lateral length that is currently an open irrigation feature will be relocated into a siphon.

Revised F Modified: This alternative directly impacts both segments of the lateral. The conceptual centerline curves through the northwest quadrant of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch and will impact 1,423 feet of segment 5LP9256.1. The alternative centerline also curves through the eastern portion of the Webb Ranch and impacts 1,096 feet of segment 5LP9256.2. Portions of these segments will likely be placed in siphon structures. CDOT has determined that this alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the Webb/Hotter lateral since a significant percentage of the overall lateral length will be impacted by these alignments.

Revised G Alternative: The Revised G Alternative will not directly affect segments 5LP9256.1 or 5LP9256.2 of the Webb/Hotter Lateral, which therefore results in *no historic properties affected*.

Co-op Ditch (5LP9257)

Eastern Realignment: In our November 2009 consultation, we indicated that this alternative would affect 190 feet of segment 5LP9257.1, including an existing 30-foot structure under County Road 220; the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred that there would be *no adverse effect* to the ditch. During that consultation, however, we did not discuss an additional feature of the ditch that was identified in the field survey—a narrow, shallow linear depression that parallels the length of the recorded ditch segment on the west side. The Eastern Realignment will likely have a similar impact on this shallow depression since it parallels the ditch segment, but the shallow depression will not be restored to its current appearance. The shallow depression appears to be an abandoned ditch (as noted in the site form) that may have served as a secondary channel to the Co-op Ditch. It was documented on the site form but is not considered part of the eligible ditch resource. CDOT has determined that the initial *no adverse effect* determination to the overall Co-op Ditch is still appropriate.

Revised F Modified, Revised G Alternative: Both of these alternatives will have a direct impact on 488 linear feet of segment 5LP9257.2 of the Co-op ditch as a result of widening the highway from two to four lanes. The ditch will likely be placed in a siphon at this location. Given the overall length of the segment (7,984 feet) and the fact that the segment to be affected currently extends through two culverts where it crosses the highway, CDOT has determined that there will be *no adverse effect* to the Co-op Ditch based on these alternatives.

Craig Limousin Ranch (5LP9307)

Revised F Modified: We previously consulted with the SHPO about this property in August 2010 and determined that the alternative would result in an *adverse effect* to this historic ranch. Since then we have determined that additional land will be required along the western boundary of the property on the curve of the existing US 550 alignment. In this area, the highway will be widened from two to four lanes. A total of 35.6 acres of the Craig Limousin Ranch property will be acquired as part of this alternative. The original determination of *adverse effect* is still appropriate.

Revised G Modified: US 550 will be widened from two to four lanes along the historic ranch boundary and the alternative will require acquisition of 22.7 acres along the western property boundary from County Road 220 to the edge of the property boundary along the US 550 alignment. The acquisition is distributed for slightly over a mile on the ranch's western boundary and ranges from 164 to 211 feet in depth. None of the ranch's buildings will be directly affected by this acquisition; however, open ranch land along the entire western property boundary will be acquired and the widened US 550 alignment will be closer to the ranch buildings. These effects will diminish the setting, feeling, and association of the ranch. Based on this, CDOT has determined that Revised G Modified results in an *adverse effect* to the Craig Limousin Ranch.

This information has been sent concurrently to the Colorado SHPO and other consulting parties identified for the project.

If you elect to submit comments regarding the eligibility and effects determinations outlined herein, we request you do so within 30 days of receipt of these materials, as stipulated in the Section 106 regulations. If you have questions or require additional information in order to complete your review, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,


for Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures

Site Forms, 5LP9256.1, 5LP9256.2
Figures showing alternatives and resources

cc: Kerrie Neet, CDOT Region 5
Stephanie Gibson, FHWA

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



December 9, 2010

Mr. Philip S. Craig
9361 Highway 550
Durango, CO 81303-7862

SUBJECT: Additional Section 106 Consultation, US Highway 160/US Highway 550 Connection, La Plata County

Dear Mr. Craig:

This letter and the attached materials are provided so that you have an opportunity to comment on additional eligibility and effects determinations for the project referenced above. As a Section 106 consulting party for this undertaking, you will be involved in reviewing historic properties issues associated with this undertaking from this point forward. During the present review please consult the attached figures, which provide an overview of the resources and alternatives discussed herein.

Eligibility Determinations

Webb Ranch (5LP8461): In our initial identification of the Webb Ranch in 2008, CDOT determined the ranch is significant under National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criterion C for its examples of ranching architecture. Additional research indicates that the Webb Ranch is also significant under NRHP Criterion A for its association with ranching on Florida Mesa.

Webb/Hotter Lateral: In our previous consultation, CDOT identified the Webb/Hotter Lateral as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461). Since that time we have determined that the lateral should be documented as a stand-alone resource with a separate site number. A site and segment number—5LP9256/5LP9256.1—were initially assigned to this resource during previous survey efforts and will be used to identify the feature. Since the lateral extends onto two separate historic ranch properties, we have documented the section of the lateral on the historic Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch as 5LP9256.1, and the segment that extends into the Webb Ranch as 5LP9256.2. A Management Data Form and separate Linear Component Forms were completed to document these segments of the lateral. Although this feature is an irrigation lateral, and most laterals are not individually significant, CDOT has determined that the Webb/Hotter Lateral is significant for its association with two historic ranches—the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) and the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306). Please see the attached site forms for more information.

Effects Determinations

Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306): In our August 2010 consultation for the Revised F Modified Alternative, we did not include an effects determination for this historic ranch, so that information is outlined here. The Revised F Modified Alternative shares a common alignment with the Eastern Realignment Alternative that extends through the northern portion of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan ranch boundary (see attached figure). The presence of this alignment through the open land within the historic ranch boundary compromises the setting, feeling, and association of the property and results in an *adverse effect*.

Webb/Hotter Lateral (5LP9256.1/5LP9256.2): As noted above, the Webb/Hotter Lateral was previously evaluated as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch and not as an individual property. Following are effects determinations for the ditch based on the three alternatives under consideration:

Eastern Realignment: Approximately 870 feet of segment 5LP9256.1 on the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306) will be directly impacted by the new highway alignment and water in this section would have to be relocated to a siphon. Segment 5LP9256.2 on the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) will not be directly impacted by this alternative. CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the overall Webb/Hotter Lateral because over a quarter of the entire lateral length that is currently an open irrigation feature will be relocated into a siphon.

Revised F Modified: This alternative directly impacts both segments of the lateral. The conceptual centerline curves through the northwest quadrant of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch and will impact 1,423 feet of segment 5LP9256.1. The alternative centerline also curves through the eastern portion of the Webb Ranch and impacts 1,096 feet of segment 5LP9256.2. Portions of these segments will likely be placed in siphon structures. CDOT has determined that this alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the Webb/Hotter lateral since a significant percentage of the overall lateral length will be impacted by these alignments.

Revised G Alternative: The Revised G Alternative will not directly affect segments 5LP9256.1 or 5LP9256.2 of the Webb/Hotter Lateral, which therefore results in *no historic properties affected*.

Co-op Ditch (5LP9257)

Eastern Realignment: In our November 2009 consultation, we indicated that this alternative would affect 190 feet of segment 5LP9257.1, including an existing 30-foot structure under County Road 220; the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred that there would be *no adverse effect* to the ditch. During that consultation, however, we did not discuss an additional feature of the ditch that was identified in the field survey—a narrow, shallow linear depression that parallels the length of the recorded ditch segment on the west side. The Eastern Realignment will likely have a similar impact on this shallow depression since it parallels the ditch segment, but the shallow depression will not be restored to its current appearance. The shallow depression appears to be an abandoned ditch (as noted in the site form) that may have served as a secondary channel to the Co-op Ditch. It was documented on the site form but is not considered part of the eligible ditch resource. CDOT has determined that the initial *no adverse effect* determination to the overall Co-op Ditch is still appropriate.

Revised F Modified, Revised G Alternative: Both of these alternatives will have a direct impact on 488 linear feet of segment 5LP9257.2 of the Co-op ditch as a result of widening the highway from two to four lanes. The ditch will likely be placed in a siphon at this location. Given the overall length of the segment (7,984 feet) and the fact that the segment to be affected currently extends through two culverts where it crosses the highway, CDOT has determined that there will be *no adverse effect* to the Co-op Ditch based on these alternatives.

Craig Limousin Ranch (5LP9307)

Revised F Modified: We previously consulted with the SHPO about this property in August 2010 and determined that the alternative would result in an *adverse effect* to this historic ranch. Since then we have determined that additional land will be required along the western boundary of the property on the curve of the existing US 550 alignment. In this area, the highway will be widened from two to four lanes. A total of 35.6 acres of the Craig Limousin Ranch property will be acquired as part of this alternative. The original determination of *adverse effect* is still appropriate.

Revised G Modified: US 550 will be widened from two to four lanes along the historic ranch boundary and the alternative will require acquisition of 22.7 acres along the western property boundary from County Road 220 to the edge of the property boundary along the US 550 alignment. The acquisition is distributed for slightly over a mile on the ranch's western boundary and ranges from 164 to 211 feet in depth. None of the ranch's buildings will be directly affected by this acquisition; however, open ranch land along the entire western property boundary will be acquired and the widened US 550 alignment will be closer to the ranch buildings. These effects will diminish the setting, feeling, and association of the ranch. Based on this, CDOT has determined that Revised G Modified results in an *adverse effect* to the Craig Limousin Ranch.

This information has been sent concurrently to the Colorado SHPO and other consulting parties identified for the project.

If you elect to submit comments regarding the eligibility and effects determinations outlined herein, we request you do so within 30 days of receipt of these materials, as stipulated in the Section 106 regulations. If you have questions or require additional information in order to complete your review, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,



for Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures

Site Forms, 5LP9256.1, 5LP9256.2
Figures showing alternatives and resources

cc: Kerrie Neet, CDOT Region 5
Stephanie Gibson, FHWA

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



December 9, 2010

Mr. John Antonio, Sr., Governor
Pueblo of Laguna
c/o Laguna Pueblo Tribal Council
Attn: Bob Mooney, NAGPRA Coordinator
P.O. Box 194
Laguna, NM 87026

SUBJECT: Additional Section 106 Consultation, US Highway 160/US Highway 550 Connection, La Plata County

Dear Mr. Antonio:

This letter and the attached materials are provided so that you have an opportunity to comment on additional eligibility and effects determinations for the project referenced above. As a Section 106 consulting party for this undertaking, you were previously involved in the review of eligibility and effects determinations for the Eastern Realignment, Revised F Modified, and Revised G Modified Alternatives. During the present review please consult the attached figures, which provide an overview of the resources and alternatives discussed herein. Please note that this submittal does not involve any Native American sites or features.

Eligibility Determinations

Webb Ranch (5LP8461): In our initial identification of the Webb Ranch in 2008, CDOT determined the ranch is significant under National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criterion C for its examples of ranching architecture. Additional research indicates that the Webb Ranch is also significant under NRHP Criterion A for its association with ranching on Florida Mesa.

Webb/Hotter Lateral: In our previous consultation, CDOT identified the Webb/Hotter Lateral as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461). Since that time we have determined that the lateral should be documented as a stand-alone resource with a separate site number. A site and segment number—5LP9256/5LP9256.1—were initially assigned to this resource during previous survey efforts and will be used to identify the feature. Since the lateral extends onto two separate historic ranch properties, we have documented the section of the lateral on the historic Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch as 5LP9256.1, and the segment that extends into the Webb Ranch as 5LP9256.2. A Management Data Form and separate Linear Component Forms were completed to document these segments of the lateral. Although this feature is an irrigation lateral, and most laterals are not individually significant, CDOT has determined that the Webb/Hotter Lateral is significant for its association with two historic ranches—the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) and the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306). Please see the attached site forms for more information.

Effects Determinations

Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306): In our August 2010 consultation for the Revised F Modified Alternative, we did not include an effects determination for this historic ranch, so that information is outlined here. The Revised F Modified Alternative shares a common alignment with the Eastern

Realignment Alternative that extends through the northern portion of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan ranch boundary (see attached figure). The presence of this alignment through the open land within the historic ranch boundary compromises the setting, feeling, and association of the property and results in an *adverse effect*.

Webb/Hotter Lateral (5LP9256.1/5LP9256.2): As noted above, the Webb/Hotter Lateral was previously evaluated as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch and not as an individual property. Following are effects determinations for the ditch based on the three alternatives under consideration:

Eastern Realignment: Approximately 870 feet of segment 5LP9256.1 on the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306) will be directly impacted by the new highway alignment and water in this section would have to be relocated to a siphon. Segment 5LP9256.2 on the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) will not be directly impacted by this alternative. CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the overall Webb/Hotter Lateral because over a quarter of the entire lateral length that is currently an open irrigation feature will be relocated into a siphon.

Revised F Modified: This alternative directly impacts both segments of the lateral. The conceptual centerline curves through the northwest quadrant of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch and will impact 1,423 feet of segment 5LP9256.1. The alternative centerline also curves through the eastern portion of the Webb Ranch and impacts 1,096 feet of segment 5LP9256.2. Portions of these segments will likely be placed in siphon structures. CDOT has determined that this alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the Webb/Hotter lateral since a significant percentage of the overall lateral length will be impacted by these alignments.

Revised G Alternative: The Revised G Alternative will not directly affect segments 5LP9256.1 or 5LP9256.2 of the Webb/Hotter Lateral, which therefore results in *no historic properties affected*.

Co-op Ditch (5LP9257)

Eastern Realignment: In our November 2009 consultation, we indicated that this alternative would affect 190 feet of segment 5LP9257.1, including an existing 30-foot structure under County Road 220; the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred that there would be *no adverse effect* to the ditch. During that consultation, however, we did not discuss an additional feature of the ditch that was identified in the field survey—a narrow, shallow linear depression that parallels the length of the recorded ditch segment on the west side. The Eastern Realignment will likely have a similar impact on this shallow depression since it parallels the ditch segment, but the shallow depression will not be restored to its current appearance. The shallow depression appears to be an abandoned ditch (as noted in the site form) that may have served as a secondary channel to the Co-op Ditch. It was documented on the site form but is not considered part of the eligible ditch resource. CDOT has determined that the initial *no adverse effect* determination to the overall Co-op Ditch is still appropriate.

Revised F Modified, Revised G Alternative: Both of these alternatives will have a direct impact on 488 linear feet of segment 5LP9257.2 of the Co-op ditch as a result of widening the highway from two to four lanes. The ditch will likely be placed in a siphon at this location. Given the overall length of the segment (7,984 feet) and the fact that the segment to be affected currently extends through two culverts where it crosses the highway, CDOT has determined that there will be *no adverse effect* to the Co-op Ditch based on these alternatives.

Craig Limousin Ranch (5LP9307)

Revised F Modified: We previously consulted with the SHPO about this property in August 2010 and determined that the alternative would result in an *adverse effect* to this historic ranch. Since then we have determined that additional land will be required along the western boundary of the property on the curve of the existing US 550 alignment. In this area, the highway will be widened from two to four lanes. A

total of 35.6 acres of the Craig Limousin Ranch property will be acquired as part of this alternative. The original determination of *adverse effect* is still appropriate.

Revised G Modified: US 550 will be widened from two to four lanes along the historic ranch boundary and the alternative will require acquisition of 22.7 acres along the western property boundary from County Road 220 to the edge of the property boundary along the US 550 alignment. The acquisition is distributed for slightly over a mile on the ranch's western boundary and ranges from 164 to 211 feet in depth. None of the ranch's buildings will be directly affected by this acquisition; however, open ranch land along the entire western property boundary will be acquired and the widened US 550 alignment will be closer to the ranch buildings. These effects will diminish the setting, feeling, and association of the ranch. Based on this, CDOT has determined that Revised G Modified results in an *adverse effect* to the Craig Limousin Ranch.

This information has been sent concurrently to the Colorado SHPO and other consulting parties identified for the project.

If you elect to submit comments regarding the eligibility and effects determinations outlined herein, we request you do so within 30 days of receipt of these materials, as stipulated in the Section 106 regulations. If you have questions or require additional information in order to complete your review, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,


for Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures

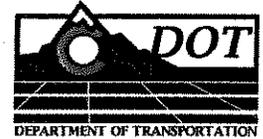
Site Forms, 5LP9256.1, 5LP9256.2
Figures showing alternatives and resources

cc: Kerrie Neet, CDOT Region 5
Stephanie Gibson, FHWA

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9281



December 9, 2010

Mr. Matthew Box, Chairman
Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Attn: Mr. Neil Cloud, Culture Preservation Office
P.O. Box 737
Ignacio, CO 81137

SUBJECT: Additional Section 106 Consultation, US Highway 160/US Highway 550 Connection, La Plata County

Dear Mr. Box:

This letter and the attached materials are provided so that you have an opportunity to comment on additional eligibility and effects determinations for the project referenced above. As a Section 106 consulting party for this undertaking, you were previously involved in the review of eligibility and effects determinations for the Eastern Realignment, Revised F Modified, and Revised G Modified Alternatives. During the present review please consult the attached figures, which provide an overview of the resources and alternatives discussed herein. Please note that this submittal does not involve any Native American sites or features.

Eligibility Determinations

Webb Ranch (5LP8461): In our initial identification of the Webb Ranch in 2008, CDOT determined the ranch is significant under National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criterion C for its examples of ranching architecture. Additional research indicates that the Webb Ranch is also significant under NRHP Criterion A for its association with ranching on Florida Mesa.

Webb/Hotter Lateral: In our previous consultation, CDOT identified the Webb/Hotter Lateral as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch (5LP8461). Since that time we have determined that the lateral should be documented as a stand-alone resource with a separate site number. A site and segment number—5LP9256/5LP9256.1—were initially assigned to this resource during previous survey efforts and will be used to identify the feature. Since the lateral extends onto two separate historic ranch properties, we have documented the section of the lateral on the historic Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch as 5LP9256.1, and the segment that extends into the Webb Ranch as 5LP9256.2. A Management Data Form and separate Linear Component Forms were completed to document these segments of the lateral. Although this feature is an irrigation lateral, and most laterals are not individually significant, CDOT has determined that the Webb/Hotter Lateral is significant for its association with two historic ranches—the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) and the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306). Please see the attached site forms for more information.

Effects Determinations

Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306): In our August 2010 consultation for the Revised F Modified Alternative, we did not include an effects determination for this historic ranch, so that information is outlined here. The Revised F Modified Alternative shares a common alignment with the Eastern Realignment Alternative that extends through the northern portion of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan ranch boundary (see attached figure). The presence of this alignment through the open land within the historic

ranch boundary compromises the setting, feeling, and association of the property and results in an *adverse effect*.

Webb/Hotter Lateral (5LP9256.1/5LP9256.2): As noted above, the Webb/Hotter Lateral was previously evaluated as a feature of the historic Webb Ranch and not as an individual property. Following are effects determinations for the ditch based on the three alternatives under consideration:

Eastern Realignment: Approximately 870 feet of segment 5LP9256.1 on the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch (5LP9306) will be directly impacted by the new highway alignment and water in this section would have to be relocated to a siphon. Segment 5LP9256.2 on the Webb Ranch (5LP8461) will not be directly impacted by this alternative. CDOT has determined that the Eastern Realignment Alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the overall Webb/Hotter Lateral because over a quarter of the entire lateral length that is currently an open irrigation feature will be relocated into a siphon.

Revised F Modified: This alternative directly impacts both segments of the lateral. The conceptual centerline curves through the northwest quadrant of the Schaeferhoff-Cowan Ranch and will impact 1,423 feet of segment 5LP9256.1. The alternative centerline also curves through the eastern portion of the Webb Ranch and impacts 1,096 feet of segment 5LP9256.2. Portions of these segments will likely be placed in siphon structures. CDOT has determined that this alternative will result in an *adverse effect* to the Webb/Hotter lateral since a significant percentage of the overall lateral length will be impacted by these alignments.

Revised G Alternative: The Revised G Alternative will not directly affect segments 5LP9256.1 or 5LP9256.2 of the Webb/Hotter Lateral, which therefore results in *no historic properties affected*.

Co-op Ditch (5LP9257)

Eastern Realignment: In our November 2009 consultation, we indicated that this alternative would affect 190 feet of segment 5LP9257.1, including an existing 30-foot structure under County Road 220; the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred that there would be *no adverse effect* to the ditch. During that consultation, however, we did not discuss an additional feature of the ditch that was identified in the field survey—a narrow, shallow linear depression that parallels the length of the recorded ditch segment on the west side. The Eastern Realignment will likely have a similar impact on this shallow depression since it parallels the ditch segment, but the shallow depression will not be restored to its current appearance. The shallow depression appears to be an abandoned ditch (as noted in the site form) that may have served as a secondary channel to the Co-op Ditch. It was documented on the site form but is not considered part of the eligible ditch resource. CDOT has determined that the initial *no adverse effect* determination to the overall Co-op Ditch is still appropriate.

Revised F Modified, Revised G Alternative: Both of these alternatives will have a direct impact on 488 linear feet of segment 5LP9257.2 of the Co-op ditch as a result of widening the highway from two to four lanes. The ditch will likely be placed in a siphon at this location. Given the overall length of the segment (7,984 feet) and the fact that the segment to be affected currently extends through two culverts where it crosses the highway, CDOT has determined that there will be *no adverse effect* to the Co-op Ditch based on these alternatives.

Craig Limousin Ranch (5LP9307)

Revised F Modified: We previously consulted with the SHPO about this property in August 2010 and determined that the alternative would result in an *adverse effect* to this historic ranch. Since then we have determined that additional land will be required along the western boundary of the property on the curve of the existing US 550 alignment. In this area, the highway will be widened from two to four lanes. A total of 35.6 acres of the Craig Limousin Ranch property will be acquired as part of this alternative. The original determination of *adverse effect* is still appropriate.

Revised G Modified: US 550 will be widened from two to four lanes along the historic ranch boundary and the alternative will require acquisition of 22.7 acres along the western property boundary from County Road 220 to the edge of the property boundary along the US 550 alignment. The acquisition is distributed for slightly over a mile on the ranch's western boundary and ranges from 164 to 211 feet in depth. None of the ranch's buildings will be directly affected by this acquisition; however, open ranch land along the entire western property boundary will be acquired and the widened US 550 alignment will be closer to the ranch buildings. These effects will diminish the setting, feeling, and association of the ranch. Based on this, CDOT has determined that Revised G Modified results in an *adverse effect* to the Craig Limousin Ranch.

This information has been sent concurrently to the Colorado SHPO and other consulting parties identified for the project.

If you elect to submit comments regarding the eligibility and effects determinations outlined herein, we request you do so within 30 days of receipt of these materials, as stipulated in the Section 106 regulations. If you have questions or require additional information in order to complete your review, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson (303-757-9631; daniel.jepson@dot.state.co.us) or Senior Staff Historian Lisa Schoch (303-512-4258; lisa.schoch@dot.state.co.us). Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,



Jane Hann, Manager
Environmental Programs Branch

Enclosures

Site Forms, 5LP9256.1, 5LP9256.2
Figures showing alternatives and resources

cc: Kerrie Neet, CDOT Region 5
Stephanie Gibson, FHWA



HISTORY *Colorado*

December 16, 2010

Jane Hann
Manager, Environmental Programs Branch
Colorado Department of Transportation
Environmental Programs Branch
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Denver, CO 80222

Re: Additional Section 106 Consultation, US Highway 160/US Highway 550 Connection, La Plata County. (CHS #33425)

Dear Ms. Hann,

Thank you for your additional information correspondence dated December 8, 2010 and received by our office on December 9, 2010 regarding the consultation of the above-mentioned project under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106).

After review of the provided information, we concur that segments 5LP.9256.1 and 5LP.9256.2 retain integrity and support the overall eligibility of the entire linear resource 5LP.9256. That you for including the additional area of significance research for the Webb Ranch. We have updated our records. After review of the assessment of adverse effect, we concur with the recommended findings of effects for resources 5LP.9306, 5LP.9256, 5LP.9257, and 5LP.9307.

If unidentified archaeological resources are discovered during construction, work must be interrupted until the resources have been evaluated in terms of the National Register criteria, 36 CFR 60.4, in consultation with this office.

We request being involved in the consultation process with the local government, which as stipulated in 36 CFR 800.3 is required to be notified of the undertaking, and with other consulting parties. Additional information provided by the local government or consulting parties might cause our office to re-evaluate our eligibility and potential effect findings.

Please note that our compliance letter does not end the 30-day review period provided to other consulting parties. If we may be of further assistance, please contact Amy Pallante, our Section 106 Compliance Manager, at (303) 866-4678.

Sincerely,

Edward C. Nichols
State Historic Preservation Officer



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Colorado Division

December 16, 2010

12300 W. Dakota Avenue, Suite 180
Lakewood, CO 80228
720-963-3000
FAX: 720-963-3001

Mr. Edward H. Pappas
Dickinson Wright, PLLC
38525 Woodward Avenue, Suite 2000
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

SUBJECT: US Highway 550 and 160 Connection, La Plata County, Colorado

Dear Mr. Pappas:

I write in response to your letter of October 26, 2010 to the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), in which you addressed a comment to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) regarding whether the comments in the letter would be disregarded under 36 CFR 800.5(c)(1). Your comments have been noted and will be considered as the project progresses.

While your letter did not contain any objections to the determination of eligibility and the finding that certain alternatives would adversely affect eligible sites, it did offer extensive comments regarding the treatment of eligible sites. Should we move forward on an alternative causing adverse effects to eligible sites, a mitigation plan will be prepared and you will be provided a copy for review and comment. The information you provided in your letter of October 26, 2010 will also be considered.

Sincerely,

John M. Cater
Division Administrator

CC: Maryann Blouin, FHWA
Dan Jepson, CDOT EPB
Kerrie Neet, CDOT Region 5

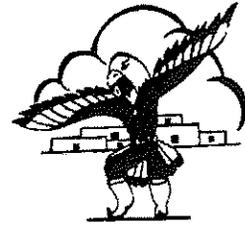




PUEBLO OF LAGUNA

P.O. BOX 194

LAGUNA, NEW MEXICO 87028



(505) 552-6598

(505) 552-6654

(505) 552-6655

Office of:

The Governor

The Secretary

The Treasurer

January 4, 2011

Ms. Jane Hann
Manager
Environmental Programs Branch
State of Colorado
Department of Transportation
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Shumate Building
Denver, Colorado 80222

Dear Ms. Hann:

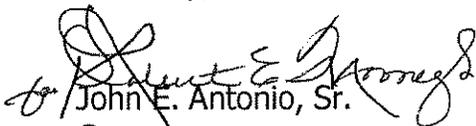
RE: US Highway 160/US Highway 550 Connection, La Plata County

The Pueblo of Laguna appreciates your consideration to comment on the possible interests your projects may have on any traditional or cultural properties.

The Pueblo of Laguna has determined that the undertaking WILL NOT have a significant impact at this time. However, in the event that any new archaeological sites are discovered and any new artifacts are removed, we request to be notified to review items. We also request photographs of items. According to our unpublished migration history, our ancestors journeyed from the north through that area and settled for periods of time before traveling to our present location. Therefore, the possibilities of some findings may exist.

We thank you and your staff for the information provided.

Sincerely,



John E. Antonio, Sr.

Governor

Pueblo of Laguna



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Colorado Division

January 29, 2011

12300 W. Dakota Ave., Suite 180
Lakewood, Colorado 80228
720-963-3000
Fax 720-963-3001

Mr. Reid Nelson, Director
Office of Federal Agency Programs
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Ste. 803
Washington, DC 20004
Attn: Carol Legard

SUBJECT: Documentation for Finding of Adverse Effect, Colorado Department of Transportation Project FC-NH (CX) 160-2(48), US Highway 550 Connection to US 160 Farmington Hill, La Plata County, Colorado

Dear Mr. Nelson:

Transmitted herewith is the Documentation for Finding of Adverse Effect (DAE) for the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) project referenced above. Three alignment alternatives are currently under consideration for this project; as such, the enclosed documentation describes the historic and archaeological resources that will be adversely affected by each of the alternatives. We will notify your office once a preferred alternative has been selected.

FHWA is submitting this Documentation for Finding of Adverse Effect pursuant to the Advisory Council regulations, 36 CFR 800.6(a)(1). In accordance with the process set forth in the regulations, mitigation measures have been identified and are outlined under Item 5 of the Documentation.

The Council previously agreed to participate in the Section 106 consultation process for this undertaking. Therefore, we are submitting these materials to fulfill the documentation requirements outlined in 36 CFR 800.11(e).

If you have questions regarding the enclosed DAE or the project in general, please contact CDOT Senior Staff Archaeologist Dan Jepson at 303-757-9631, or FHWA Environmental Program Manager Stephanie Gibson at 720-963-3013.



File: Webb Ranch

H: Admin/Correspondence/FY2011/Gibson_Reid_Documentation for Finding of Adverse Effect US Hwy 550 to US160_Jan29_mf

Sincerely yours,


for John M. Cater
Division Administrator

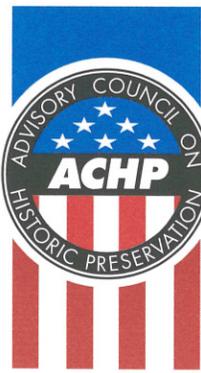
Enclosures: Copy of DAE

cc: Letter Only

Dan Jepson, CDOT Environmental Programs Branch

Stephanie Gibson, FHWA Colorado Division

Bill Hanson, Operations Engineer, FHWA Colorado Division



Preserving America's Heritage

February 8, 2011

Mr. John Cater
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Colorado Division
12300 W. Dakota Ave., Suite 180
Lakewood, CO 80228

RE: *Documentation for Finding of Adverse Effect
Colorado Department of Transportation Project FC-NH(CX) 160-2(48)
US Highway 550 Connection to US 160 Farmington Hill, La Plata County, Colorado*

Dear Mr. Cater:

On January 31, 2011, we received from FHWA documentation supporting a Finding of Adverse Effect for the proposed US Highway 550 Connection to US 160 Farmington Hill project in La Plata County, Colorado. We appreciate your providing us with report, which was submitted to in accordance with Section 800.11(e) of the regulations (36 CFR Part 800) implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 USC 470f). As a participant in consultation, we have reviewed the documentation and we concur with your finding that the three alternatives discussed in the report would have an adverse effect on historic properties.

In April 2009, we received a letter from FHWA stating that FHWA and CDOT were preparing a Section 4(f) analysis to determine whether a feasible and prudent avoidance alternative exists for the US550/160 connection. To date, we have not yet seen this analysis, and believe it may shed light on why only the three alternatives were reviewed in the submitted documentation. As we previously noted, the Section 4(f) analysis may be used to document FHWA's consideration of alternatives in the Section 106 review process as well, although it is important that the SHPO, ACHP, and other consulting parties have an opportunity to offer comments and suggestions on the alternatives intended to avoid historic properties or minimize harm. The submitted report offers no explanation regarding how FHWA and CDOT arrived at the three alternatives: Eastern Alignment; Revised F Modified Alternative; and Revised G Modified Alternative.

In 2008, Mr. Thomas McNeill, representing the owners of the Web Ranch, recommended a number of possible alternatives in the existing right-of-way of US550 west of the Ranch that would avoid most, if not all, of the adverse effects detailed in your Finding of Effects report. Were any alternatives in the existing right-of-way considered by FHWA? Are they included in the Section 4(f) analysis? If not, why? If so, please provide the consulting parties with the relevant documentation supporting FHWA's decision to move forward with only three alternatives, all of which will adversely affect archaeological and historic ranching properties, including the Web Ranch.

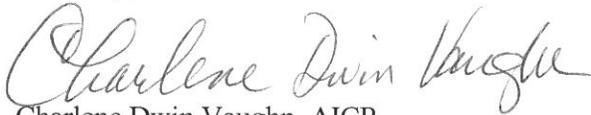
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 803 • Washington, DC 20004
Phone: 202-606-8503 • Fax: 202-606-8647 • achp@achp.gov • www.achp.gov

In keeping with the ACHP's regulations at 36 CFR 800.6(a)(3), FHWA should provide documentation of its finding of effects to all consulting parties, including any Indian tribe that attaches religious and cultural significance to identified properties, subject to the confidentiality provisions of 36 CFR 800.800.11(c). FHWA should ensure that all Section 106 consulting parties receive this documentation in a timely manner and be afforded an opportunity to share their views prior to CDOT's selection of a preferred alternative for the undertaking. In light of concerns expressed by the property owners and the potential for litigation, we encourage you to continue the Section 106 consultation and discuss the alternatives and the resolution of adverse effects as early as possible. If FHWA, in coordination with CDOT, intend to use its alternatives analysis under Section 4(f) to document the consideration of alternatives required for the completion of Section 106, it should be completed in consideration of the views of all Section 106 consulting parties.

Thank you for providing us the Finding of Adverse Effects report. We look forward to continuing working with you in the Section 106 review process for this undertaking, and to receiving the additional documentation requested above. If you have any questions regarding our recommendations, please feel free to contact Carol Legard, our FHWA Liaison, at 202-606-8522 or via email at clegard@achp.gov.

Sincerely,



Charlene Dwin Vaughn, AICP
Assistant Director
Federal Permitting, Licensing, and Assistance Section
Office of Federal Agency Programs

From: Schoch, Lisa [Lisa.Schoch@dot.state.co.us]
Sent: Thursday, February 24, 2011 2:52 PM
To: Jankowski, Paul; Neet, Kerrie; Gibson, Stephanie P
Cc: Jepson, Daniel
Subject: Western Realignment Alternative
Attachments: West Alt (Email) File Search Results.pdf

Hi everyone:

A file search for the proposed Western Realignment Alternative was completed in 2009 (see attached pdf file), and at that time Dan Jepson indicated that were we to complete an intensive-level inventory for that alignment, it's likely that additional historic properties would be identified.

With regard to the railroad along the Animas River-- two segments of which were identified in the 2009 file search (5LP2581.3/5LP2581.4-- preliminary research indicates that the railroad is the Farmington Branch of the Denver & Rio Grande Western that extended from Durango to Farmington, NM. It was initially constructed in 1905, was abandoned in the late 1960s , and materials were removed in the early 1970s. That said, there are seven segments of the railroad identified in the OAHP Compass database, suggesting that there are still some materials left along the railroad alignment to document. Resource 5LP2581.4, for example, is identified as a railroad trestle. (Although evidence indicates it has been largely destroyed).

Because this is a linear resource that extends well outside of our project area, we would assume that the entire railroad is significant for its historical associations, and would need to conduct field survey on the segment within the APE for the Western Realignment Alternative to determine if it has the integrity to support the significance of the overall railroad. Even if there is no integrity to the railroad segment in the APE, we'd still treat the entire railroad as an eligible resource, an approach that is consistent with how we evaluate all linear resources in consultation with SHPO. So, pending an intensive-level survey, the RR would qualify for Section 4(f) protection.

If you need additional information, let me know.

Thanks
Lisa

Lisa Schoch, Senior Historian
Environmental Programs Branch
Colorado Department of Transportation
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Denver, CO 80222
303-512-4258

From: [Jepson, Daniel](#)
To: [Cross, Steven;](#)
cc: [Neet, Kerrie; Archuleta, Edward;](#)
Subject: Western Realignment Alternative File Search Results
Date: Wednesday, December 02, 2009 9:54:00 AM
Attachments: [Western Alternative File Search Results.pdf](#)
[Western Alternative File Search Data.pdf](#)

Steven –

Attached are two files containing historic properties file search results for the Western Realignment Alternative, per your request. The first file contains a May 22, 2009 Email I sent to Kerrie and Ed that generally outlines the data, as well as a portion of the Loma Linda 7.5' USGS quadrangle showing the locations of each site (site numbers highlighted in yellow). All other site locations appear to be well outside the corridor and any associated Area of Potential Effects we might establish for the alternative. The second file is a tabular version of the site info that contains general legal locations and National Register eligibility determinations; I don't have these coordinates in shape files.

Please note that in the May Email I indicated the presence of 11 sites either within or near the proposed Western Realignment corridor, whereas the data table attached here references 12 sites. I didn't previously include historic site 5LP5652 in that total (located adjacent to existing US 160 west of the US 550 intersection), but it's listed here since possible improvements to US 160 associated with this alternative could impact it.

Please let me know if you have questions—thanks –

Dan

Jepson, Daniel

From: Jepson, Daniel
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2009 10:05 AM
To: Neet, Kerrie
Cc: Archuleta, Edward; Wolff, Greg
Subject: US 550 Western Alternative File Search Results

Kerrie –

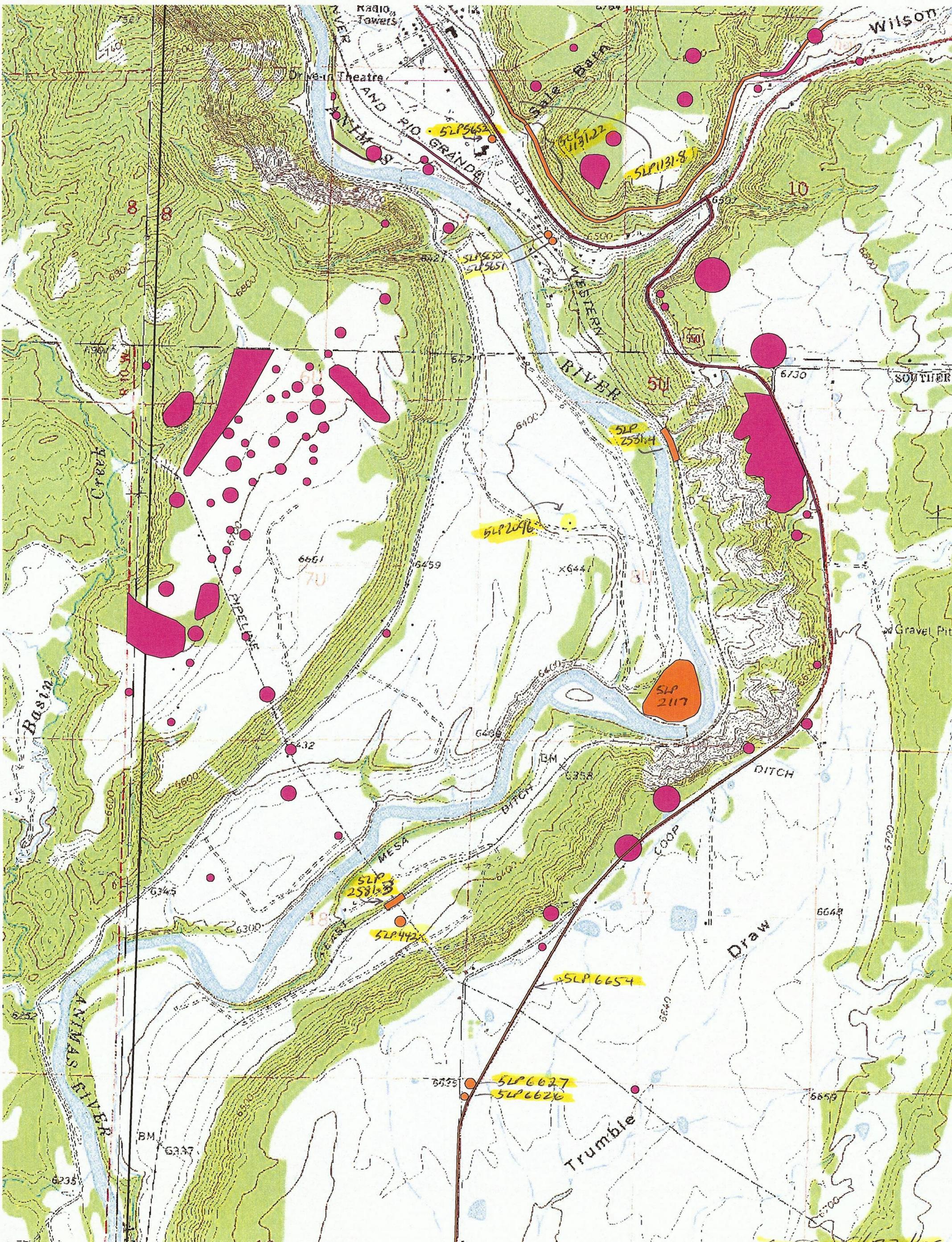
Per your request a historic properties literature/file search for the Western Alternative corridor has been conducted through the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. Dozens of archaeological and historic sites have been previously documented in the legal sections bisected by the alignment, but only a relative handful of resources—a total of 11—are located within or very near the alternative proper. Of those 11, *four* are historic residences (all determined not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places); *one* is US Highway 550 itself (evaluated as “field” not eligible [therefore not “official” determination]); *five* are segments or individual features of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad grade (of which one has been determined NRHP eligible and one is “field eligible,” two are not eligible, and one [a wooden bridge trestle] has no eligibility recommendation at all, though it’s referenced as having been “destroyed”). The *remaining resource*, a prehistoric isolated find discovered during the survey for a materials pit related to an early incarnation of the Animas/La Plata project in the 1980s, is also not eligible.

Based on the records search results I would hypothesize that additional historic properties as defined under the Section 106 regulations, in particular prehistoric archaeological sites, would be located within the APE we would establish for the Western Alternative were we to conduct a field inventory. At this point, however, very little of note is known to exist within or immediately adjacent to the alignment.

Please contact me with questions about the file search or our results –

Dan

Tracking:



6/27/09

**US 550/160 Western Realignment Alternative
Known Historic Properties Data**

Site No.	Site Type	NRHP Eligibility	Legal Loc.
5LP442	Prehistoric camp	Officially Not Eligible	T34N, R9W, S. 18
5LP1131.8	D&RGW Railroad segment	Officially Eligible	T34N, R9W, S. 10
5LP1131.22	D&RGW Railroad segment	Officially Not Eligible	T34N, R9W, S. 9
5LP2096	Isolated Find	Field Not Eligible (by definition, isolates are not eligible)	T34N, R9W, S. 8U
5LP2581.3	D&RGW- Farmington Branch segment	Officially Not Eligible	T34N, R9W, S. 18
5LP2581.4	D&RGW trestle	None	T34N, R9W, S. 8U
5LP5650	Historic residence	Officially Not Eligible	T34N, R9W, S. 9
5LP5651	Historic residence	Officially Not Eligible	T34N, R9W, S. 9
5LP5652	Historic granary	Officially Not Eligible	T34N, R9W, S. 9
5LP6626	Historic residence	Officially Not Eligible	T34N, R9W, S. 20
5LP6627	Historic residence	Officially Not Eligible	T34N, R9W, S. 20
5LP6654	US Highway 550	Field Not Eligible	T34N, R9S, S. (various)

