

## AGENDA

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### SWEEP ISSUES TASK FORCE MEETING

September 20, 2013

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

CDOT Homestead Conference Room 425C Corporate Circle, Golden

#### **1. Introductions**

#### **2. PPSL Project Overview**

- a. Project background/purpose and need
- b. Current design and operating assumptions
- c. Schedule

#### **3. SWEEP MOU Review**

- a. MOU development and commitments
- b. Implementation process and matrix

#### **4. Current Information and Updates**

- a. Clear Creek SCAP
- b. Twin Tunnels
- c. *A Regional Ecosystem Framework for Terrestrial and Aquatic Wildlife along the I-70 Mountain Corridor in Colorado*
- d. *Guidelines for Improving Connectivity for Terrestrial and Aquatic Wildlife on the I-70 Mountain Corridor*
- e. Updates on location of historic mine works in this segment

#### **5. Role of SWEEP on the PPSL Project**

- a. Identify SWEEP-related issues in this project segment
- b. Develop recommendations through the SWEEP implementation process

#### **6. Implementation Process**

- a. Initial list of issues
- b. Identification of information and data needs

#### **7. Next Steps**

- a. Follow-up activities
- b. Need for an additional meeting

## LIKELY COMPONENTS OF THE PPSL PROJECT (as of 9/11/13)

-  A hybrid cross-section that utilizes the existing pavement width in as many places as possible in the corridor (with an estimate of up to half of the length of the corridor). This may reduce the need for retaining walls, but some retaining walls will still be needed to avoid private property or encroachment into Clear Creek.
-  Minimal widening at either two or three of the eight interchange off-ramp deceleration lanes in the project corridor.
-  Minimal widening at interchange acceleration lanes to include sliver widening at on-ramp tapers.
-  Investigation of modifying the SH 103 bridge rather than replacing it. Also looking to see if we can design something that can be easily expanded in the future for unknown corridor improvements.
-  Trying to minimize the need to widen other bridges.
-  Minimize new signs—maximizing opportunities to use existing bridges for signs.
-  Minimize the inclusion of new emergency refuge areas. The concept is to investigate use of already existing flat areas adjacent to the existing highway and at interchanges.
-  Consider noise walls at locations both north and south of I-70 where residential uses are closest to the travel lanes.
-  Water quality and air quality best management practices where feasible.

Figure 2. Mill Sites, Superfund Operable Units, Remediated Sites, and Highly Mineralized Zones in Central Clear Creek County

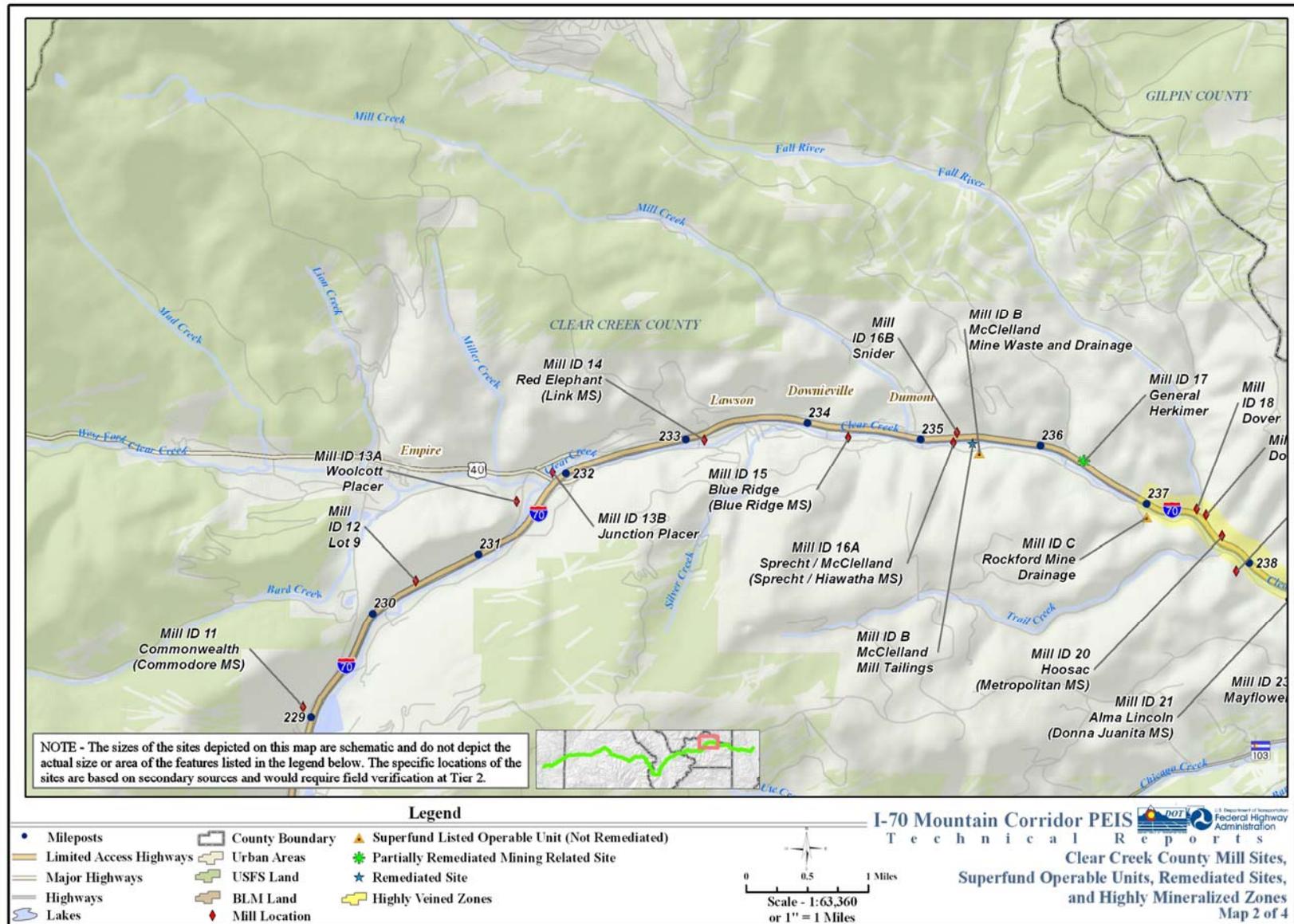


Figure 3. Mill Sites, Superfund Operable Units, Remediated Sites, and Highly Mineralized Zones in Eastern Clear Creek County

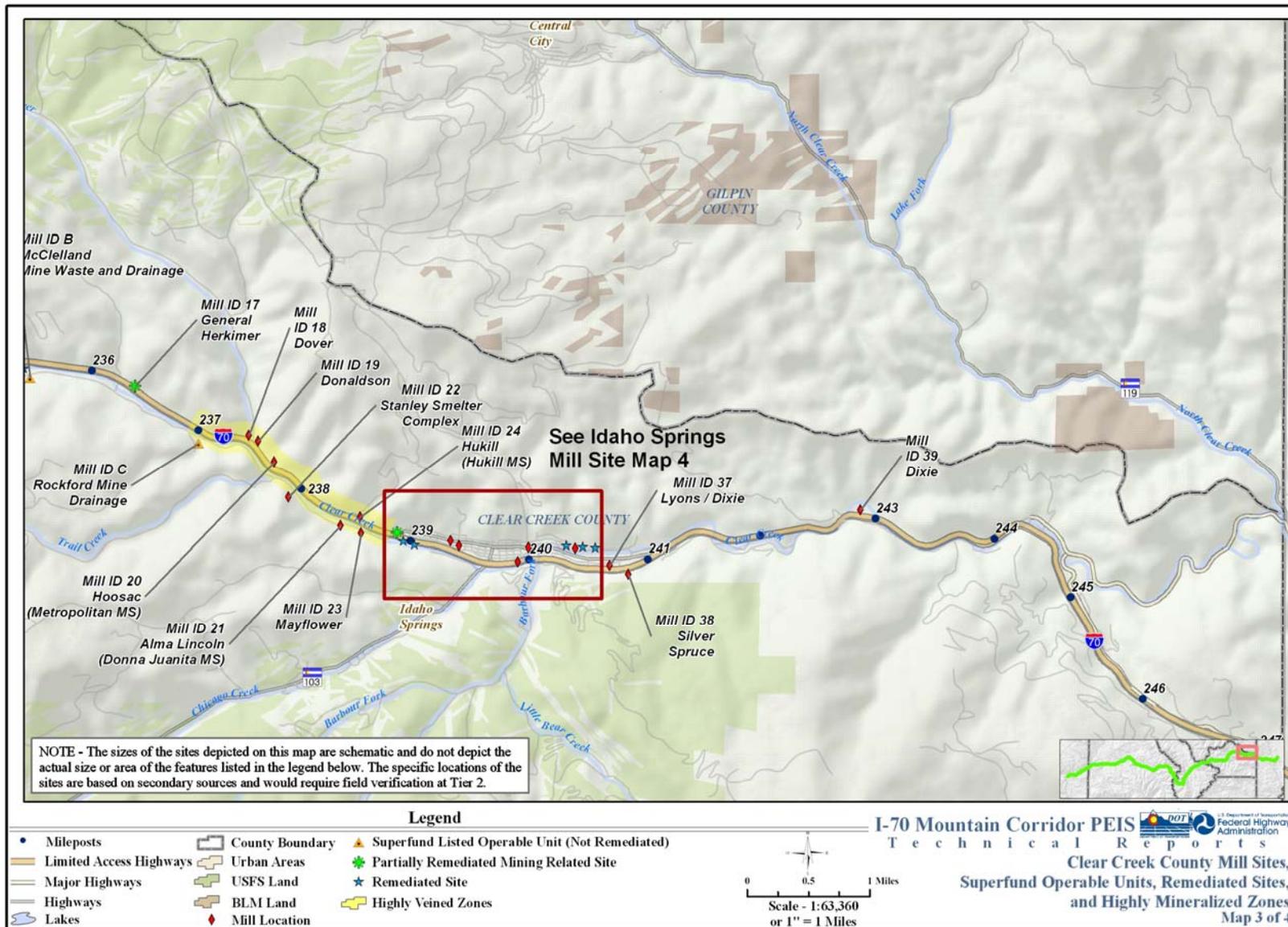
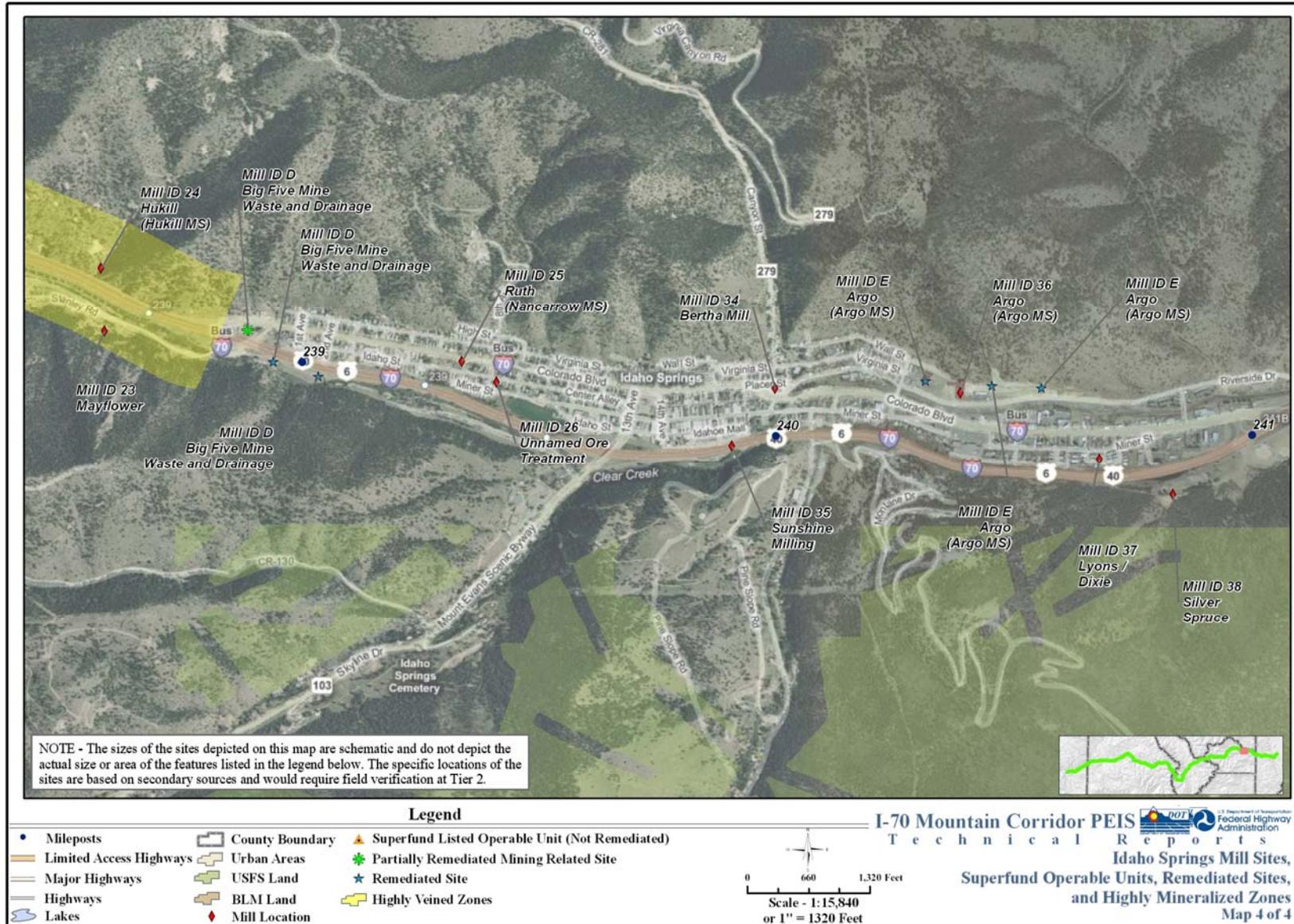


Figure 4. Mill Sites, Superfund Operable Units, Remediated Sites, and Highly Mineralized Zones in Idaho Springs



# SWEEP IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX

The following matrix identifies the primary objective for each of the Issues of Concern identified in the SWEEP MOU and supports policy level mitigation for aquatic resources as it applies to the PPSL Project. The matrix outlines the inputs, considerations, and outcomes needed for project development. This approach is consistent with the Life Cycle Phases and 6-step Process in the CSS Guidance for the I-70 Mountain Corridor.

Water Quality	
<p><b>SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT</b></p> <p><b>Objective</b> Reduce sediment loading in waterways from winter maintenance, erosion, and mine waste.</p> <p><b>Applicable Laws</b> Clean Water Act Section 303(d)</p>	<p><b>Inputs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing water quality monitoring programs</li> <li>Sediment Control Action Plans (SCAPs)</li> <li>Site specific assessments</li> </ul> <p><b>Considerations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the existing SCAP provide strategies to avoid, minimize or mitigate impact to meet the objective?</li> <li>What are the costs and benefits of each strategy?</li> <li>What revisions are needed for the SCAP?</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revise or endorse SCAP</li> <li>Specific sediment management recommendations to meet the standards</li> <li>Identify site specific mitigation strategies</li> <li>Water Quality Management Plan</li> </ul>
<p><b>CLEAN WATER ACT, SECTION 303(D) LISTING OF STREAM SEGMENTS</b></p> <p><b>Objective</b> Reduce non-point source loading impacting stream segments and reduce metals and nutrients loading to meet water quality standards.</p> <p><b>Applicable Laws</b> Clean Water Act CERCLA RCRA</p>	<p><b>Inputs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>303d Listing impairments by segment</li> <li>Gaining /losing segments</li> </ul> <p><b>Considerations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the baseline vs. event driven issues?</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remediation strategies for specific segments</li> <li>Sampling Analysis Protocol (SAP)</li> <li>Initiate site specific consultation with permitting agencies</li> </ul>
<p><b>MINE WORKINGS IN THE I-70 RIGHT-OF-WAY</b></p> <p><b>Objective</b> Avoid intercepting underground mines and remediate contaminate mine water where possible.</p> <p><b>Applicable Laws</b> CERCLA RCRA Clean Water Act</p>	<p><b>Inputs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subsurface/ Geotechnical Analysis</li> <li>Site Specific Avoidance opportunities</li> </ul> <p><b>Considerations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What design/controls are available?</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water Quality design/controls/baselines</li> <li>Mitigation strategies</li> <li>Liability relief memo for specific project</li> </ul>

# SWEEP IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX

Water Quality	
<p><b>HIGHLY MINERALIZED ROCK FORMATIONS WITHIN THE I-70 MOUNTAIN CORRIDOR</b></p> <p><b>Objective</b> Avoid cuts in rock walls that expose entrained heavy metals.</p> <p><b>Applicable Laws</b> CERCLA</p>	<p><b>Inputs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site specific assessments</li> </ul> <p><b>Considerations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What alternatives minimize impacts?</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoidance or mitigation strategies</li> </ul>
<p><b>PREVIOUS CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES USING MINE WASTE AS ROADBED MATERIAL</b></p> <p><b>Objective</b> Avoid disturbing mine waste in mining areas or mine waste previously used as roadbed material.</p> <p><b>Applicable Laws</b> CERCLA RCRA</p>	<p><b>Input</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verify location inventory</li> <li>• Site specific assessments</li> </ul> <p><b>Considerations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What alternatives minimize impacts?</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoidance or mitigation strategies</li> <li>• Liability relief memo for specific project</li> </ul>
Natural Habitat	
<p><b>WETLANDS PROTECTION</b></p> <p><b>Objective</b> No net loss of wetland functions.</p> <p><b>Applicable Laws</b> Clean Water Act Section 404 Executive Order 11990</p>	<p><b>Inputs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wetland location inventory</li> <li>• Site specific assessments</li> <li>• Wetland Functional Assessments</li> <li>• Current guidance and regulations</li> <li>• Coordination with USACE and USEPA</li> </ul> <p><b>Considerations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do unique or highly functioning wetlands exist in project areas?</li> <li>• Will project be subject to USACE Merger Agreement?</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site specific mitigation, preferably within the same watershed</li> <li>• Right-of-way acquisition</li> <li>• Clean Water Act Permit or continued consultation</li> </ul>

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Natural Habitat	
<p><b>AQUATIC SPECIES WITH SPECIAL STATUS DESIGNATION UNDER STATE AND FEDERAL RULE</b></p> <p><b>Objective</b> No further degradation to, and where possible improvement of, stream systems containing species of special designation.</p> <p><b>Applicable Laws</b> Endangered Species Act CDOW Listing Colorado SB 40</p>	<p><b>Inputs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Species habitat inventory</li> <li>• Existing recovery efforts</li> <li>• Section 7 consultation on special status species</li> <li>• Coordination with CDOW and USFWS</li> </ul> <p><b>Considerations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do opportunities exist for project to enhance recovery efforts?</li> <li>• Do fish barriers exist that should be removed or fish passages that should be designed?</li> <li>• Should fish barriers be installed that will protect special status species?</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify possible recovery efforts</li> </ul>
<p><b>AQUATIC SPECIES AS A RECREATIONAL RESOURCE</b></p> <p><b>Objective</b> Protect and improve aquatic systems as significant recreational resources.</p>	<p><b>Inputs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recreational resource inventory within corridor</li> <li>• Project area stream designations</li> <li>• Adopted local plans</li> </ul> <p><b>Considerations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the CDOW have special designation segments within the project area?</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site specific mitigation strategies</li> <li>• Partnerships</li> <li>• Enhancement opportunities</li> </ul>
Information	
<p><b>INFORMATION AND RESEARCH NEEDS</b></p> <p><b>Objective</b> Identify and acquire information germane to watershed health.</p>	<p><b>Inputs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project specific data</li> </ul> <p><b>Considerations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the environmental effects of winter sand/salt procedures on aquatic vegetation?</li> <li>• Are there alternative processes that would better minimize sand/salt deposits in the vicinity of rivers and streams?</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data collection and use</li> </ul>