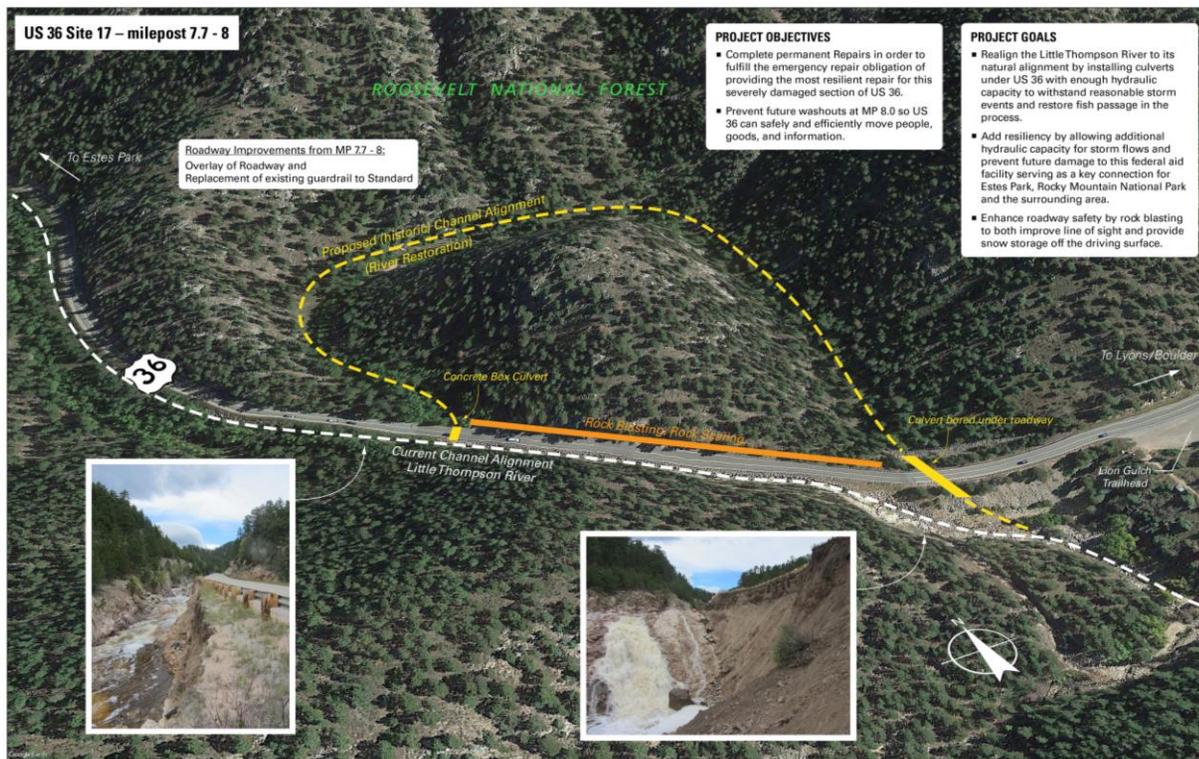




US 36 Milepost 8 Project River Improvements



Restoring the Little Thompson River

This project is designed to put the Little Thompson River back into its natural alignment through Muggins Gulch and honor commitments made with the U.S. Forest Service to return the channel to its historic ecological function.

When US 36 was built, the river was channeled away from Muggins Gulch into the roadside ditch that exists today. This section of the river channel washed out in the 1976 and 2013 floods, causing significant damage to the roadway embankment that resulted in costly repairs and extended closures of a primary route in and out of Estes Park and Rocky Mountain National Park.

New drainage structures being installed as part of this project will return the river to its natural path beneath the highway and minimize erosion damage and highway closures during the next flood.

