

Glenwood Canyon Rest Areas Project: PLT/TT Meeting #2

Meeting Date: 10/23/2025 1:00 PM

Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Participants:

CDOT

Craig Hurst
Lisa Schoch
Rob Levinson
Marcella Broussard
Stacia Sellers
Roland Wagner
Joshua Cullen
Kayla Chenery

City of Glenwood Springs

Rodney Tarullo

FHWA

Julian Gonzalez

USDA

Marcus Dreux
State Patrol
Eric Gentry

Jacobs

Laura Meyer
Sandy Beazley
Lauren Suer
Clark and Enersen
Brian McCracken
Shane Boyle

Meeting Notes:

- Introduction of new PLT/TT members
- Project activity updates
- **Rafting coordination update**
 - Sandy and Rob met with Hattie Johson with American Whitewater.
 - Rafting in the canyon happens year round, with summer being the busiest season.
 - Hattie indicated the biggest concern will be access, primarily at Grizzly Creek, although there is an outfitter that uses Bair Ranch as a takeout/pick up point.
 - Given the limited information regarding construction timing and access constraints, specific outreach to the rafting community is not necessary at this time. Once these details are better developed, outreach is recommended if project activities are likely to affect boaters.
 - The project team will continue to track this and report back to the PLT/TT on the coordination needs.
- **Wildlife coordination update**
 - Bekah met the project team in the field. She recommends the removal of

existing fruit trees as these are wildlife attractants. This can result in human/wildlife interactions or wildlife vehicle collisions as animals cross the highway to access the fruit. There have been four bears killed so far this year by vehicles in the vicinity of the No Name Rest Area, which has several fruit trees.

- Lisa asked if the trees were part of the original site plan during construction, if so effects to the trees would need to be considered.
- The project team see if landscaping is in the historic context, if not, Lisa Schoch to look at the as-builts from the original construction.
- The project team will consider replacement of these trees but need to determine how many there are and the potential effects from their removal.
- Based on input from Dan Soucy, Jacobs biologist, there are several trees at the No Name Rest Area, but he was unsure about Bair Ranch and Grizzly Creek. He noted the other challenge at the No Name Rest Area is that wildlife crosses I-70 at grade, creating a much higher risk for wildlife vehicle collisions compared to Bair Ranch and Grizzly Creek, where the highway is elevated on a structure.
- Consider wildlife friendly lighting.
- New lights will be dark sky compliant, and therefore more wildlife life friendly than the existing lighting.
- Consider adding more bear-proof trash cans.
- Bekah and Josh discussed the inadequacy of current trash cans, which are not fully bear-resistant and are not emptied frequently enough, leading to bears accessing trash and commercial drivers leaving litter.
- Bekah and Josh too coordinate further and Josh to coordinate with CDOT Maintenance to see if trash removal practices can be modified.
- The project team to consider additional trash cans with an improved bear proof design.

○ **Environmental team update**

- The aquatic resources delineation has been completed. One feature, a wetland, was delineated at the No Name Rest Area. An outfall is proposed in this area, the project team will determine if avoidance is possible.
- The habitat assessment is complete, with no critical habitat present and the likelihood of federally listed species being in the project area low.
- There are minor populations of noxious weeds at all rest areas.
- CPW had previously indicated the presence of raptors in the canyon. Bald

eagles are in the canyon annually but will use different nest locations year-to-year. Laura noted that pre-construction surveys will be completed and that CDOT can coordinate with CPW ahead of these surveys to see where known eagle nests are located that season.

○ **Site assessments**

- Brian McCracken and Shane Boyle from Clark and Enerson presented detailed findings from their civil and building assessments.
- Key takeaway – based on the site assessment the scope of work will be building remodels as opposed to building replacements.
- In general, the scope of work will include repaving parking areas and addressing ADA-compliance needs, replacing interior and exterior lighting, adding tamper resistant stalls, replacing fixtures, window and skylight repair and replacement as needed, and replacing mechanical systems.
- See attached presentation for site by site details
- Historic preservation standards
- Lisa advised the team to consult the Secretary of Interior Standards for Rehabilitation for any modifications to historic features, especially for exterior elements, and provided resources to guide effect determinations under Section 106. Lisa provided the document to the project team:
<https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1739/secretary-standards-treatment-historic-properties.htm>
- The team will best match existing appearances when exterior building elements are replaced.
- Recreational path and access impacts:
- Sandy and Rodney discussed the need to minimize disruption to the Glenwood Canyon Recreation Path during construction by scheduling work during shoulder seasons and planning detours to maintain access.

○ **Water treatment facility upgrades**

- Sandy and Marcella provided an update on the water treatment facility upgrades at the rest areas, noting that design and environmental processes are complete and CDPHE permits have been obtained.
- CDOT is scheduling the water treatment facility upgrades and rest area remodels to coincide with the rest area remodels to minimize closures and disruptions.
- PLT/TT Meeting #3 will include additional details about the water treatment upgrades.

○ **CSS Process**

- Sandy presented draft evaluation criteria based on core values and stakeholder input, and outlined next steps including revising criteria to incorporate historic standards, soliciting feedback from absent stakeholders, and advancing design development (see attached presentation).
- Draft evaluation criteria:
- The team developed screening criteria aligned with safety, community, environment, accessibility, historic context, and sustainability, including minimizing construction disruptions, maintaining access, and enhancing wayfinding.
- Lisa recommended referencing the Secretary of Interior Standards in the evaluation criteria for historic and aesthetic considerations, which the team agreed to incorporate. Sandy to update draft criteria.

○ **Next Steps and Open Discussion**

- Lisa and Laura discussed the need for detailed documentation of rest area features for Section 106 consultation, emphasizing the importance of describing individual elements such as buildings, landscaping, and site features to inform effect determinations. This will occur as part of the NEPA and Section 106 process.
- Documentation of Rest Area Features:
- Lisa suggested that, although eligibility determinations are not required, the Section 106 materials should include descriptions of all rest area elements, including buildings, site features, and landscaping, to provide context for assessing project effects.

○ **ACTION ITEMS:**

No	Item	Responsibility	Status	Deadline
1	Send recent wildlife incident and trash statistics at No Name rest area to Josh, who will coordinate with CDOT Maintenance.	Bekah Cass, CPW Josh Cullen, CDOT	Ongoing	
2	Send Secretary of Interior standards documentation link to Brian McCracken and design team for reference in remodel planning	Lisa Schoch, CDOT	Done	n/a

3	Revise project evaluation criteria to explicitly include Secretary of Interior standards for historic and aesthetic considerations.	Sandy Beazley, Jacobs	Done	n/a
4	Determine if tree plantings/landscaping were noted in the historic context.	Laura Meyer and Liz Blackwell, Jacobs	Ongoing	Prior to PLT/TT Meeting #3