



# Historic Properties

## Types of Impacts

Impacts to historic properties are referred to as adverse effects. Adverse effects occur when an action or “undertaking” directly or indirectly alters the characteristics of a historic property that qualify it for inclusion in the National Register.

- The types of adverse effects that could occur from implementation of Action Alternatives generally include:
  - Physical destruction or damage
  - Change of use or physical features of a property’s setting
  - Visual, atmospheric, or audible intrusions
- Based on currently identified properties, between 46 and 68 historic properties could be directly affected by one or more of the Action Alternatives.
- The Preferred Alternative would directly affect between 55 and 65 historic properties, most (39 to 46) of which are treated as eligible for the National Register but require further evaluation.
- Additional properties are affected by the change in setting in the Corridor or visual/noise intrusions.



Eisenhower-Johnson Memorial Tunnel in June 1973 shortly after opening



Mission-style building in Idaho Springs



Johnny Bull Mine west of Silver Plume

## Mitigation Strategies

The lead agencies signed two Programmatic Agreements, one general and one specific to issues of concern to Native American tribes. These agreements specify mitigation strategies for historic properties and outline how historic properties will be treated in each of the following steps in the historic property assessment process:

- Determining the area of potential effect
- Identifying historic properties within the Area of Potential Effect
- Determining effects to historic properties from the Proposed Action (and alternatives).
- Resolving adverse effects by agreeing upon mitigation measures with consulting parties.

Full text of the Programmatic Agreements is available in Appendix B of the PEIS.

The lead agencies will implement program-level and project-level mitigation strategies outlined in the programmatic Agreements, along with other more detailed mitigation strategies, best management practices, and measures specific to each project’s impacts during Tier 2 processes.

The lead agencies will also adhere to any new laws and regulations that may be in place when Tier 2 processes are underway.