

SWEEP Working Group

(Stream and Wetland Ecological Enhancement Program)

Goal:

Improve, enhance, and protect water resources and ecological services in the I-70 Corridor by including mitigation and/or enhancements in advance of and during project development, project design, project construction, and system operations and maintenance, and maintaining those mitigations or enhancements into the future. Water resources include: water quality, wetland and riparian ecosystems, fisheries, aquatic-dependent communities, water supply, and recreational opportunities

Outcomes/Actions:

Develop an MOU establishing the management framework to assure the protection of water resources throughout the life cycle of projects in the I-70 Corridor

Develop appropriate language for inclusion in the PEIS to link to the MOU and SWEEP recommendations

Establish the framework for ongoing coordination between stakeholders

Develop recommendations for mitigation and/or enhancement for the streams, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs in the I-70 Corridor as appropriate

To the extent practicable, consider past, present, and future impacts from I-70 corridor development

Establish the framework for updating and revising recommendations

Identify mechanisms to support these recommendations

Identify information needed to protect water resources and identify and support opportunities to collect and evaluate that information

Develop a process to ensure participation of all stakeholders in the commitment of resources

Develop recommendations for public education to support the goals of SWEEP

ALIVE Working Group

(A Landscape Level Inventory of Value Ecosystem Components)

Goal:

Increase the permeability of the I-70 Corridor to terrestrial and aquatic species to provide and maintain long-term protection and restoration of wildlife linkage areas, improve habitat connectivity, and preserve essential ecosystem components.

Outcomes/Actions:

Develop a program of cooperation for implementation of corrective actions to solve permeability problems identified in the linkage interference zones (LIZs).

Establish the framework for ongoing coordination between stakeholders

Establish the framework for updating and revising recommendations

Work cooperatively to maximize effective and efficient use of limited resources

Identify opportunities to construct wildlife passages as early as possible

Identify opportunities to combine and streamline the process for multiple projects

Develop a process to ensure participation of all MOU Parties and other stakeholders in the commitment of resources

Develop mechanisms that focus resources on results

Identify other stakeholders with jurisdiction or ownership affected by the Corridor that may be involved in implementing the recommendations

Identify programs or actions that would result in the long-term protection, restoration, or enhancement of wildlife habitat or habitat connectivity

Identify funding mechanisms and opportunities for potential partnerships