I-70 Mountain Corridor CSS SWEEP Working Group Meeting 5-21-08

Attendees: Bill Andree/CDOW

Shane Briggs/CDOW Carl Chambers/USFS

Jeff Crane/Colorado Watershed Assembly Mike Crouse/Clear Creek Consultants

Lynne Deibel/USFS
Paula Durkin/CDOT
Jon Ewert/CDOW
Tom Fresques/BLM

Gary Frey/Colorado Trout Unlimited

David Fulton/Eagle River Watershed Council

Christine Hirsch/USFS

Dikran Kashkashian/Colorado Trout Unlimited

Julia Kintsch/SREP Peter Kozinski/CDOT Carol Kruse/USFS Alison Michael/USWFS

Ben Moline/Coors Brewing Company Pat Noyes/Pat Noyes & Associates

Jeff Peterson/CDOT Rebecca Pierce/CDOT

Ed Rapp/Clear Creek County

Kendall Ross/CDOW

Jo Ann Sorensen/Clear Creek County

Gary Spinuzzi/CDOT

Chuck Stearns/Town of Georgetown

Dylan Taylor/SREP Tim Tetherow/JF Sato Mark Weinhold/USFS Paul Winkle/CDOT

Greg Zimmerman/Colorado Watershed Assn.

DATE: May 21, 2008

LOCATION: Silverthorne Pavilion

Introduction

Peter Kozinski told the group the original SWEEP group worked on policy level mitigations for the PEIS. The purpose of reconvening the SWEEP group is to develop a guidance policy to be used for future decisions made for projects along the I-70 corridor. This include a memorandum of understanding outlining stakeholder commitments for coordination, and list of strategies, not project specific recommendations, to be used in Tier 2 studies.

Goals, Outcomes and Actions

The group reviewed the goal:

Improve or enhance water resources 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. Water resources include: water quality, wetland and riparian ecosystems, fisheries, aquatic-dependent communities, and recreational opportunities.

The group agreed the goal should include protection. The goal will be revised to read:

Improve, enhance and <u>protect</u> water resources 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. Water resources include: water quality, water supply, wetland and riparian ecosystems, fisheries, aquatic-dependent communities, recreational opportunities and other ecological services.

Discussion of SWEEP Outcomes and Actions

The group suggested that the Outcomes and Actions could be rearranged to go in order of action.

The MOU should reference the ALIVE MOU. The two MOUs need to work together.

The group would like to see educating the public about the value of water resources as an Action Item.

The group is concerned about mitigating impacts beyond the limits of a given project and would like to see this added to the Action Items. This would include existing as well as future impacts.

It was suggested that mitigation strategies be developed for each life cycle phase of a project and that a commitment be made to maintaining mitigations. The group would like language included in the PEIS that links it to the SWEEP recommendations and any memorandum of understanding developed through this process.

The group will be sent an email when the document: *An Inventory of I-70 Mountain Corridor Water Resource-Related Issues for Clear Creek Eisenhower Tunnel to Floyd Hill* has been uploaded to the I-70 CSS Project website: http://www.i70css.com.

Presentation on Southern Rockies Ecosystem Project

Julia Kintsch announced that SREP & CDOT have been awarded a grant to study aquatic and terrestrial mitigation along the I-70 Mountain Corridor from Evergreen to Dotsero. They will be doing field work and data collection over the summer and will have a preliminary analysis sometime in the fall. Julia would like to keep the SWEEP group informed and feels the working group would benefit from their research.

Working Group Membership

The group suggested adding a stakeholder from the following groups:

USFS Arapahoe Roosevelt Forest - Fisheries representative NWCOG - Lane Wyatt Blue River Watershed – Karn Stiegelmeier

Establish Meeting Schedule

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 17th at the Silverthorne Pavilion from 1:00 – 3:30.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.