

### 8.2.7 Water-based Recreation

Channelization associated with highway construction may have enhanced the conditions for rafting and kayaking in Clear Creek by increasing depth and velocity of stream flow (Figure 8-2). Habitat improvement structures have been established within Clear Creek, however, the functionality and benefit of these structures to aquatic resources is unknown.

## 9.0 CLEAR CREEK STREAM SEGMENT 7: WEST OF IDAHO SPRINGS TO WEST OF TWIN TUNNELS

SS 7 begins at a point immediately west of Idaho Springs (MP 238.5) and extends eastward to a point immediately west of the Twin Tunnels (MP 242.1) (Figure 9-1). The following issues and potential receptors have been identified for SS 7:

### Water Quality

- Historical Mining (Mineral) Influences
- Adjacent Land Use
- Highway-related Construction, Operation and Maintenance Activities
- Sedimentation

### Hydrology/Hydraulics/Stream Morphology/Floodplains

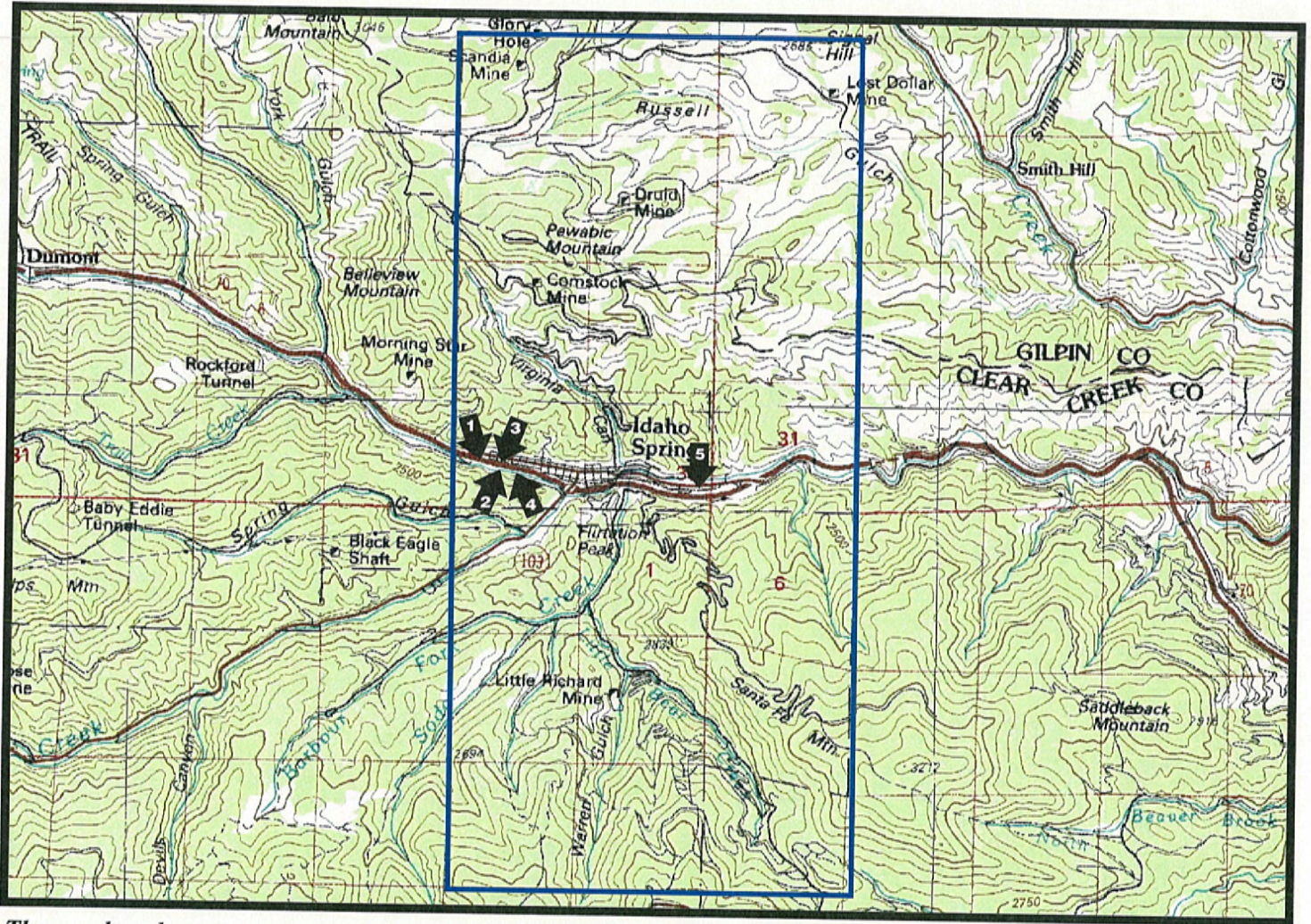
- Channelization/Downcutting

### Wetland and Riparian Ecosystems

- Highway-related Construction, Operation and Maintenance Activities
- Habitat Reduction and Fragmentation

### Aquatic-dependent Communities

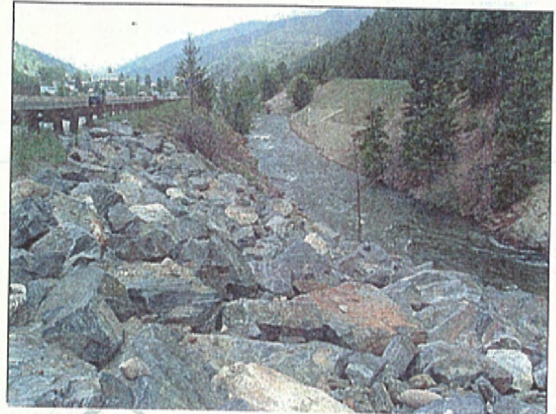
- Sedimentation
- Channelization
- Water-based Recreation



The numbered arrows correspond to the photographs on Figure 9-2



**1** *Rafting and Kayaking Opportunities.* Class 5 rapids located on Clear Creek immediately upstream from Idaho Springs.



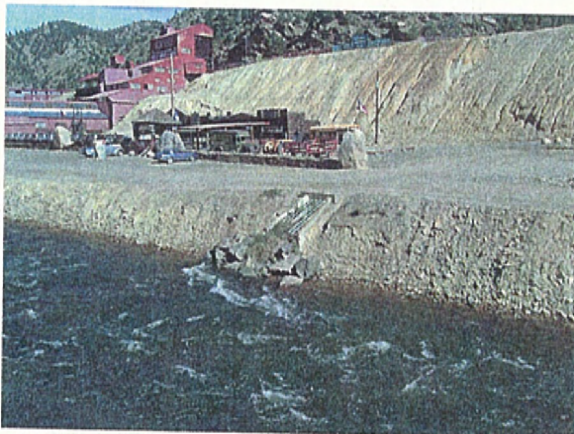
**2** *Channelization.* Clear Creek at Idaho Springs.



**3** *Release of Metals from Historic Mining.* Big Five Mine adit seepage adjacent to I-70 in Idaho Springs.



**4** *Channelization.* Clear Creek at Idaho Springs.



**5** *Sedimentation/Channelization/Release of Metals.* Clear Creek adjacent to Argo Mine.

**FIGURE 9-2**  
**I-70 PEIS SWEEP**  
**Stream Segment 7**  
**Clear Creek County**