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Northwest Corridor
A TRANSPORTATION ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY

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4.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

This chapter provides a description of the existing social, economic, and environmental settings for the area affected by the No Action Alternative and the four build alternatives. Current conditions are described for each resource of concern in the proposed study area. The discussion contains study methodologies, background information, descriptive data, issues, and values that have a bearing on possible impacts, mitigation measures, and on the eventual selection of a recommended alternative.

Probable beneficial and adverse social, economic, and environmental consequences of the alternatives under consideration are described. The impact and mitigation analysis provides a basis for evaluating the comparative merits of the alternatives. Impacts to specific resources in the human and natural environment were evaluated for each build alternative and for the No Action Alternative.

Environmental and socioeconomic resources potentially impacted by the proposed alternatives are analyzed in detail in this chapter. Technical reports used as the basis for determination of resource impacts were prepared and remain in draft form. Many of these technical reports, which fully describe the analysis process, were drafted in 2005 and data may not be as current as in this document. The following technical reports are available up request:

AIR QUALITY

Air Quality Assessment Report, Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. November, 2005. Prepared by Felsburg Holt & Ullevig.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternatives, Development, Evaluation and Screening Report, Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. November, 2005. Prepared by Felsburg Holt & Ullevig.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Financial/Funding Report, Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. October, 2005. Prepared by Felsburg Holt & Ullevig.

EXISTING CORRIDOR CONDITIONS

Existing Corridor Conditions Report, Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. March, 2005. Prepared by Felsburg Holt & Ullevig.

GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Geology and Soils Report, Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. September, 2005. Prepared by RockSol Consulting Group, Inc.

Preliminary Geotechnical Investigation Report for SH 93/Iowa Street Intersection SH 93 Underpass Assessment; Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. September, 2007. Prepared by RockSol Consulting Group, Inc.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Modified Environmental Site Assessment Report, Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. November, 2005. Prepared by ERM Rocky Mountain, Inc.



HISTORIC AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Archeological Inventory of Highway Alternatives, Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. November, 2005. Prepared by Felsburg Holt & Ullevig.

Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. November, 2005. Prepared by Felsburg Holt & Ullevig.

LAND USE

Land Use Report, Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. November, 2005. Prepared by Carter-Burgess, Inc.

NOISE

Noise Impact Assessment Report, Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. November, 2005. Prepared by Felsburg Holt & Ullevig.

PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Paleontological Assessment Report, Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. May, 2006. Prepared by Rocky Mountain Paleontology.

TRANSPORTATION

Congestion Management Report, Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. October, 2005. Prepared by Carter-Burgess, Inc.

Transportation Analysis and Traffic Safety Report, Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. August, 2008. Prepared by Felsburg Holt & Ullevig.

VEGETATION, WILDLIFE AND THREATENED AND/OR ENDANGERED SPECIES

Biological Assessment Report, Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. October, 2005. Prepared by ERO Resources Corporation.

Wildlife and Vegetation Report, Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. October, 2005. Prepared by ERO Resources Corporation.

WATER RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY

Water Resources, Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. November, 2005. Prepared by Felsburg Holt & Ullevig.

WETLANDS

Initial Wetlands Delineation Report, Technical Memorandum for the Northwest Corridor DEIS. November, 2005. Prepared by Carter-Burgess, Inc