



# Natural Features and Wetland Report for the Grandview Reserve Project in El Paso County, Colorado

April 10, 2020

**Prepared for:**

4 Site Investments  
1271 Kelly Johnson Blvd., Ste. 100  
Colorado Springs, CO 80920

**Prepared by:**



1455 Washburn Street  
Erie, Colorado 80516  
(p): 970-812-3267

Project Number: 2018-15-1



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## LIST OF ACROYNMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AMSL	above mean sea level
Applicant	4 Site Investments
CCRs	Codes, Covenants and Restrictions
CDA	Colorado Department of Agriculture
CNHP	Colorado Natural Heritage Program
COGCC	Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
CPW	Colorado Parks and Wildlife
CWA	Clean Water Act
Ecos or ecos	Ecosystem Services, LLC
JD	Jurisdictional under the Clean Water Act
Non-JD	Non- jurisdictional under the Clean Water Act
PMJM	Preble's meadow jumping mouse
Report	Natural Features and Wetland Report
Site	Grandview Reserve
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
NTCHS	National Technical Committee for Hydric Soils
NWI	National Wetland Inventory
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
WOUS	Waters of the United States

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Ecosystem Services, LLC (Ecos or ecos) was retained by 4 Site Investments (Applicant) to perform a natural resource assessment for the proposed Grandview Reserve project (Project) and to prepare this Natural Features and Wetland Report (Report).

The contact information for the Applicant and ecos representatives for this Report is provided below:

### Applicant

Peter Martz  
4 Site Investments  
1271 Kelly Johnson Blvd., Ste. 100  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80920  
Phone: 719-492-1993  
pmartzlrg@comcast.net

### Agent

Grant E. Gurnée, P.W.S.  
Ecosystem Services, LLC  
1455 Washburn Street  
Erie, Colorado 80516  
Phone: (970) 812-6167  
grant@ecologicalbenefits.com

## 1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Report is to identify and document the natural resources, ecological characteristics and existing conditions of the Project site (Site); identify potential ecological impacts associated with Site development; and provide current regulatory guidance related to potential development-related impacts to natural resources. The specific resources and issues of concern addressed in this Report are in conformance with the El Paso County requirements (refer to Section 2.0), and include:

- Mineral and Natural Resource Extraction;
- Vegetation;
- Wetland Habitat and Waters of the U.S.
- Weeds;
- Wildfire Hazard;
- Wildlife;
- Federal and State Listed, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species; and
- Raptors and Migratory Birds.

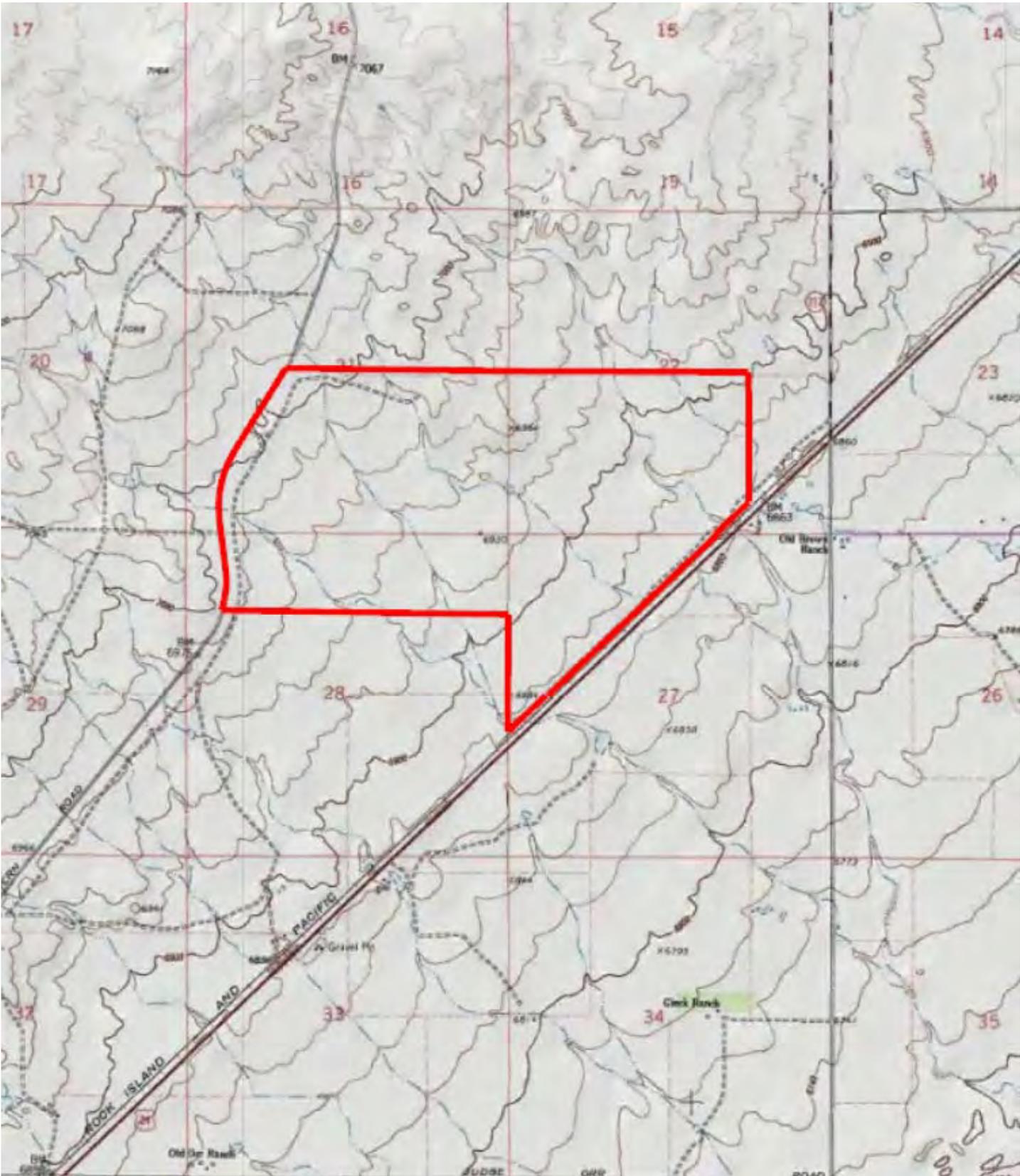
## 1.2 Site Location and Project Description

The Site is located in the Falcon/Peyton area of El Paso County and is bounded along the north by 4 Way Ranch Phase I, along the south by Waterbury, along the southeast by Highway 24, and along the west by Eastonville Road. There are no existing structures, roads, or other infrastructure on the Site. The Site is located approximately 4.14 miles southwest of Peyton, 4.16 miles northeast of Falcon and 4.66 miles south of Eastonville, in El Paso County, Colorado. The Site is generally located within the south ½ of Section 21, south ½ of Section 22, the north ½ of Section 27, and the north ½ of Section 28, Township 12 South, Range 64 West in El Paso County, Colorado. The center of the Site is situated at approximately Latitude 38.98541389 north, -104.55472222 east (refer to Figure 1).

The Applicant proposes to develop the 768.2-acre Site as a mixed use residential and commercial community with the total number of units ranging from 2,496 to 3,261 as summarized below:

<b>Table 1 – Land Use Summary</b>						
<b>Land Use Category</b>	<b>Acreage</b>	<b>Acreage %</b>	<b>Density Units/Acre</b>		<b>Units</b>	
			<b>Min.</b>	<b>Max.</b>	<b>Min.</b>	<b>Max.</b>
Institutions	16.9 acres	2.2%	NA	NA	NA	NA
Low Density Residential	136.4 acres	17.8%	1	2	136	272
Medium Density Residential	258.4 acres	33.6%	3	4	775	1033
Medium-High Density Residential	68.6 acres	8.9%	6	8	411	548
High Density Residential	117.4 acres	15.3%	10	12	1174	1408
Commercial	17.0 acres	2.2%	NA	NA	NA	NA
Open Space <sub>1</sub>	132.5 acres	17.2%	NA	NA	NA	NA
Rex Rd. & Collector	21.0 acres	2.7%	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>768.2 acres</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>
Note 1: Open Space includes: Detention Ponds, Drainage Corridors, General Open Space & Easements and R.O.W. Buffers of Eastonville Road and Highway 24						

Please refer to Figure 2.



USGS 7.5 min. Quad: Falcon  
Latitude: 38.985713°N  
Longitude: -104.552854°W  
Section 21, 22, 27 & 28, Township 12 South, Range 64 West



**Land Use Summary**

LAND USE CATEGORY	ACREAGE	ACREAGE %	MIN. DU/AC	MAX. DU/AC	MIN. UNITS	MAX. UNITS
INSTITUTIONS	16.9 ac.	2.2%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LOW DENSITY	136.4 ac.	17.8%	1	2	136	272
MEDIUM DENSITY	258.4 ac.	33.6%	3	4	775	1033
MED. - HIGH DENSITY	68.6 ac.	8.9%	6	8	411	548
HIGH DENSITY	117.4 ac.	15.3%	10	12	1174	1408
COMMERCIAL	17.0 ac.	2.2%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
OPEN SPACE	132.5 ac.	17.2%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
REX & COLLECTOR	21.0 ac.	2.7%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>768.2 ac.</b>	<b>100%</b>			<b>2496</b>	<b>3261</b>

\*OPEN SPACE INCLUDES: DETENTION, DRAINAGE CORRIDORS, GENERAL OPEN SPACE AND EASEMENTS, AND R.O.W./BUFFER OF EASTONVILLE RD. & HWY 24

**LEGEND**

- POCKET PARK - APPROXIMATE LOCATION
- DETENTION - APPROXIMATE LOCATION
- PROPOSED TRAIL

SKETCH PLAN - DRAFT 4-09-20

**GRANDVIEW RESERVE**

FALCON, CO



All map data should be considered as preliminary in need of verification, and subject to change. This plan is conceptual in nature and does not represent any regulatory approval. Plans are subject to change.

## 2.0 METHODOLOGY

Ecos performed an office assessment in which available databases, resources, literature and field guides on local flora and fauna were reviewed to gather background information on the environmental setting of the Site. We consulted several organizations, agencies, and their databases, including:

- Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) Noxious Weed List;
- Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP);
- Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) GIS Online;
- Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW);
- El Paso County Master Plan;
- El Paso County, Sub-Area Plan (provided by Client);
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA);
- Google Earth current and historic aerial imagery;
- Survey of Critical Biological Resources, El Paso County, Colorado;
- Survey of Critical Wetlands and Riparian Areas in El Paso and Pueblo Counties, Colorado;
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual;
- USACE 2010 Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual: Great Plains Region;
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) PLANTS Database;
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Region 6;
- USFWS National Wetland Inventory (NWI);
- USFWS IPaC database search; and
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).

Ecos also reviewed pertinent, site-specific background data provided by 4 Site Investments and their consulting Team, including: topographic base mapping, site development plans, and other data pertinent to the assessment.

Ecos reviewed, and incorporated the requirements of the following regulations into, this Report:

- 1) Chapter IV. Zoning Regulations, Section 35.13 – Development Requirements for Mineral and Natural Resource Extraction Operations;
- 2) Chapter V. Subdivision Regulations:
  - a. Section 51.5 – Wildlife Hazard and Vegetation Reports; and
  - b. Section 51.6 – Streams, Lakes, Physical Features and Wildlife Habitats.
- 3) Chapter 6 - General Development Standards:
  - a. Section 6.3.3 - Wildfire Protection and Wildfire Mitigation;
  - b. Section 6.3.7 - Noxious Weeds;

- c. Section 6.3.8 – Wetlands; and
  - d. Section 6.3.9 – Wildlife.
- 4) Chapter 8 - Subdivision Design, Improvements and Dedications:
- a. Section 8.4.2 Environmental Considerations:
    - i. Item A.4. – Threatened and Endangered Species Compliance; and
    - ii. Item B.1. - Hazards
      - 1. 100-year floodplain as identified by the applicant, review agency, or the Floodplain Administrator; and
      - 2. Wildfire hazards as identified on the County and State wildfire hazard inventory or maps.
- 5) El Paso County Master Plan: Pertinent Maps and descriptors to append all of the topics, regulations and guidance referenced above, including:
- a. Wetland Habitat Maps and descriptors; and
  - b. Wildlife Habitat Maps and descriptors.

Following the collection and review of existing data and background information, ecos conducted a field assessment of the Site to identify any potential impacts to natural resources associated with the Project. Field reconnaissance concentrated on identification of wetland habitat, waters of the U.S., wildlife habitat (including habitat suitable to support threatened and endangered wildlife) significant topographic features, noxious weeds and vegetation. Wetland habitat and waters of the U.S. boundaries, wildlife habitat, major vegetation communities, and significant weed stands were sketched on topographic and aerial base maps and located using a hand-held Global Positioning System as deemed necessary. Representative photographs were taken to assist in describing and documenting Site conditions and potential ecological impacts.

The office and onsite assessment data, the pertinent El Paso County regulations outlined above, and Natural Resource Assessment and Wetland report examples used in previous County land development review submittals (provided by El Paso County) were used in the preparation of the Report.

### **3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING**

The Site is located in the Southwestern Tablelands Ecological Region (Chapman et al, 2006), which is primarily comprised of sub-humid grassland and semiarid rangeland. More specifically, the Site is located in the Foothills Grassland sub-region (26j) which contains a mix of grassland types with some small areas of isolated tallgrass prairie species that are more common much farther east. The proximity to runoff and moisture from the Front Range and the more loamy, gravelly, and deeper soils are able to support more tallgrass and midgrass species than neighboring ecoregions. Big and little bluestem, yellow indiagrass and switchgrass occur, along with foothill grassland communities. The annual precipitation of 14 to 20 inches tends to be greater than in regions farther east. Soils are loamy, gravelly, moderately deep, and mesic. Rangeland and pasture are common , with small areas of cropland. Urban and suburban

development has increased in recent years, expanding out from Colorado Springs and the greater Denver area.

### **3.1 Topography**

The Site is generally characterized as gently sloping from northwest to southeast with four ephemeral drainages (prairie sloughs) present, two of which are discontinuous and two are tributary to Black Squirrel Creek offsite. Naturally undulating swales drain toward the sloughs, which contain wetlands in low areas and dry areas where alluvial deposits have formed. Site topography ranges from a high elevation of 7020 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) in the northwestern corner to a low elevation of 6860 feet above AMSL where the northeastern tributary exits the Site on the east boundary along Highway 24; for a total elevation drop of 160 feet. An ill-defined and undulating hill, which is likely an eroded remnant bluff, is present in the north-central portion of the Site. Refer to Figure 3 for the Topographic Map.

### **3.2 Soils**

Ecoss utilized the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service Web Soil Survey (USDA, NRCS, 2020) to determine if hydric soils are present within the Site, as this data assist in informing the presence/absence of potential wetland habitat regulated under the Clean Water Act. The soils data were also utilized to supplement the field observations of vegetation, as the USDA provides correlation of native vegetation species by soils types. Please refer to Appendix A for the USDA Soil Map and additional information.

Blakeland loamy sand (Map Unit #8), Columbine gravelly sandy loam (Map Unit #19) and Stapleton sandy loam (Map Unit #83) are listed by the NRCS as hydric soils that are found in swales and depressions. Hydric soils are defined by the National Technical Committee for Hydric Soils (NTCHS, 1994) as soils that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part. Under natural conditions, these soils are either saturated or inundated long enough during the growing season to support the growth and reproduction of hydrophytic vegetation.

If soils are wet enough for a long enough period of time to be considered hydric, they should exhibit certain properties that can be easily observed in the field. These visible properties are indicators of hydric soils. The indicators used to make onsite determinations of hydric soils are specified in *Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in the United States* (USDA, NRCS, 2010).

Additional, detailed soil data for the Project are presented in the Soils & Geology Report that will be included in the Project submittal.



### 3.3 Vegetation

The vegetation within the Site is primarily comprised of shortgrass prairie with wetland vegetation in the swales and sloughs (Figure 4). The shortgrass prairie is dominated by little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), blue grama (*Bouteloua gracilis*), and buffalograss (*Bouteloua dactyloides*) with occasional associative grass and forb species including western wheatgrass (*Pascopyrum smithii*), yellow Indiangrass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), Canada wildrye (*Elymus canadensis*), needle and thread (*Hesperostipa comata*), switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), Western yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), broom snakeweed (*Gutierrezia sarothrae*), fringed sage (*Artemisia frigida*), Prickly pear (*Opuntia* spp.), and prairie aster spp. (*Symphyotrichum* spp.). Occasional patches of snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*) and Wood's rose (*Rosa woodsii*) occupy the transitional areas between uplands and wetlands. A few, single plains cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*) occur along the drainages. The Site is heavily grazed and there are weeds scattered throughout, including Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), Scotch thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*), Russian thistle (*Salsola kali*), common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*), and yellow toadflax spp. (*Linaria vulgaris*).

Hydrophytic vegetation (wetland vegetation) is present within the swales and sloughs (refer to Section 3.4.2).



Figure 4

### 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Waters of the U.S.

#### 3.4.1 Methodology

Ecos utilized the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) Wetlands Mapper (USFWS 2020a); Colorado Wetland Inventory Mapping Tool (CNHP, 2018); historic and current Google Earth aerial photography; USGS 7.5-minute topographic mapping; and detailed Project topographic mapping to screen the Site for potential wetland habitat and waters of the U.S. Additionally, ecos performed a jurisdictional delineation to identify the Waters of the United States (WOUS), including wetlands.

The mapping data above were proofed during the filed assessment and a wetland delineation was conducted to determine the presence/absence of potential WOUS, including wetland habitat. Once a feature was verified to be present, ecos determined whether it is a jurisdictional wetland/waters under the Clean Water Act. The USACE, wetland delineation methodology was employed to document the 3 field indicators (parameters) of wetland habitat (i.e., wetland hydrology, hydric soils and a predominance of hydrophytic vegetation as explained in the *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual* (Environmental Laboratory, 1987) and supplemented by the Regional Supplement to the *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual: Western Mountains, Valleys and Coast Region (Version 2)* (USACE, 2010). The wetland delineation was surveyed by the project team surveyor

Consistent with the NWI and Colorado Wetland Inventory Mapping Tool (Figure 5) and topographic mapping, the wetland/waters delineation revealed the presence of four drainages with the potential to support wetland habitat (Figure 6). Two of the drainages (i.e. northeast Drainage D and southwest Drainage A) were determined to be jurisdictional, and support predominantly palustrine emergent wetland (PEMC1) habitat with minor occurrences of palustrine scrub-shrub (PSS) and palustrine forested (PFO) species along their fringes. The central Drainage C and south-central Drainage B were investigated found to be discontinuous, prairie sloughs that are non-jurisdictional, “isolated” features, as verified by the USACE (Appendix B). Please refer to Figure 5 for a composite of the NWI and CNHP Wetland and Riparian Areas mapping, to Figure 6 for the ECOS Wetland and Waters Sketch Map, and to Appendix B for the USACE Non-Jurisdictional Verification email.

#### 3.4.2 Field Assessment Findings

The results of the onsite assessment for each of the four onsite drainages is summarized below, with an explanation of the field indicators (parameters) of wetland habitat/waters that were observed, and an explanation as to whether ecos determined each feature was jurisdictional or non- jurisdictional under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (as verified by the USACE). Jurisdictional features are mapped on Figure 6.

- 1) Jurisdictional wetland habitat and waters of the U.S.
  - a. PEMC1 Wetland Habitat – Northeast Drainage D is classified as a Palustrine Emergent, Persistent, Seasonally Flooded wetland (PEMC1). Wetland Area A is tributary to Black Squirrel Creek off of the Site to the southeast. It is dominated by Nebraska sedge, redtop, clustered field sedge, three-square bulrush, swordleaf rush, soft-stem bulrush, poverty rush, Baltic rush, and watercress. Other species were present, including water mint, sporadic patches of sandbar willow, cutleaf evening primrose, fireweed, curly dock, and water milfoil, and snowberry, wild licorice and Wood’s rose along the high banks. Soil samples indicate the presence of field indicators of hydric soils (organic horizon from 0-2 inches, 10YR4/2 clay loam from 2-9 inches, 10YR4/1 clay loam from 9-14 inches, and 10YR5/1 sandy clay from 14-18+ inches). Sustaining hydrology was evident as flowing water is present within a defined channel and saturated soils are present at the surface and throughout the floodplain, including groundwater driven side-slope seepage. This area meets all 3 parameters for jurisdictional wetland habitat.
  - b. PEMC1 Wetland Habitat – Southwest Drainage A is classified as a Palustrine Emergent, Persistent, Seasonally Flooded wetlands (PEMC1 Wetland Area D is tributary to Black Squirrel Creek off of the Site to the southeast. It is dominated by Nebraska sedge, clustered field sedge, swordleaf rush, redtop, poverty rush, Baltic rush, and pussytoes. Other species were present, including soft-stem bulrush, three-square bulrush, smartweed, saltgrass, foxtail barley, water mint, scouring rush, wild geranium, watercress, narrowleaf cattail, and snowberry, wild licorice and Wood’s rose along the high banks. Sporadic occurrences of sandbar willow, crack willow and plains cottonwood were present. Soil samples indicate the presence of field indicators of hydric soils (10YR2/2 loamy clay from 0-6 inches, 10YR4/2 sand from 6-12 inches, 10YR4/1 sand from 12-16 inches, and 10YR4/1 clayey sand from 16-18+ inches). Sustaining hydrology from groundwater seepage was evident as saturated soil is present at or within 8-12 inches of the ground surface. These areas meet all 3 parameters for jurisdictional wetland habitat.
- 2) Non-Jurisdictional, Isolated Wetlands - The central Drainage C and south-central Drainage B were investigated found to be discontinuous, prairie sloughs with reaches that are upland swales; they exhibited upland “breaks” in which they did not exhibit defined bed or bank (Figure 6); and they were also found to be “isolated” as they did not connect with downstream WOUS. Patches of PEMC1 Wetland exists in these drainages that exhibits the same characteristics of other wetlands on site and meets all 3 parameters for jurisdictional wetland habitat. However, they are clearly disconnected from Black Squirrel Creek by uplands that do not exhibit a defined bed or bank. Therefore, these drainages are isolated, non-jurisdictional features and as such were not delineated.

### **3.4.3 Summary of Jurisdictional and Non-Jurisdictional Wetlands and Waters**

Jurisdictional Habitat – Northeast Drainage D and southwest Drainage A (refer to Figure 6) are jurisdictional wetland habitat and WOUS as they are tributary to the jurisdictional habitat in Black Squirrel Creek. These natural features meet the criteria that the USACE uses to assert jurisdiction, as they are:

- Non-navigable tributaries of traditional navigable waters that are relatively permanent where the tributaries typically flow year-round or have continuous flow at least seasonally (e.g., typically three months); and
- Wetlands that directly abut such tributaries.

Non-Jurisdictional Areas – The central Drainage C and south-central Drainage B are considered non-jurisdictional. They do not meet the criteria that the Corps uses to assert jurisdiction, as they are not:

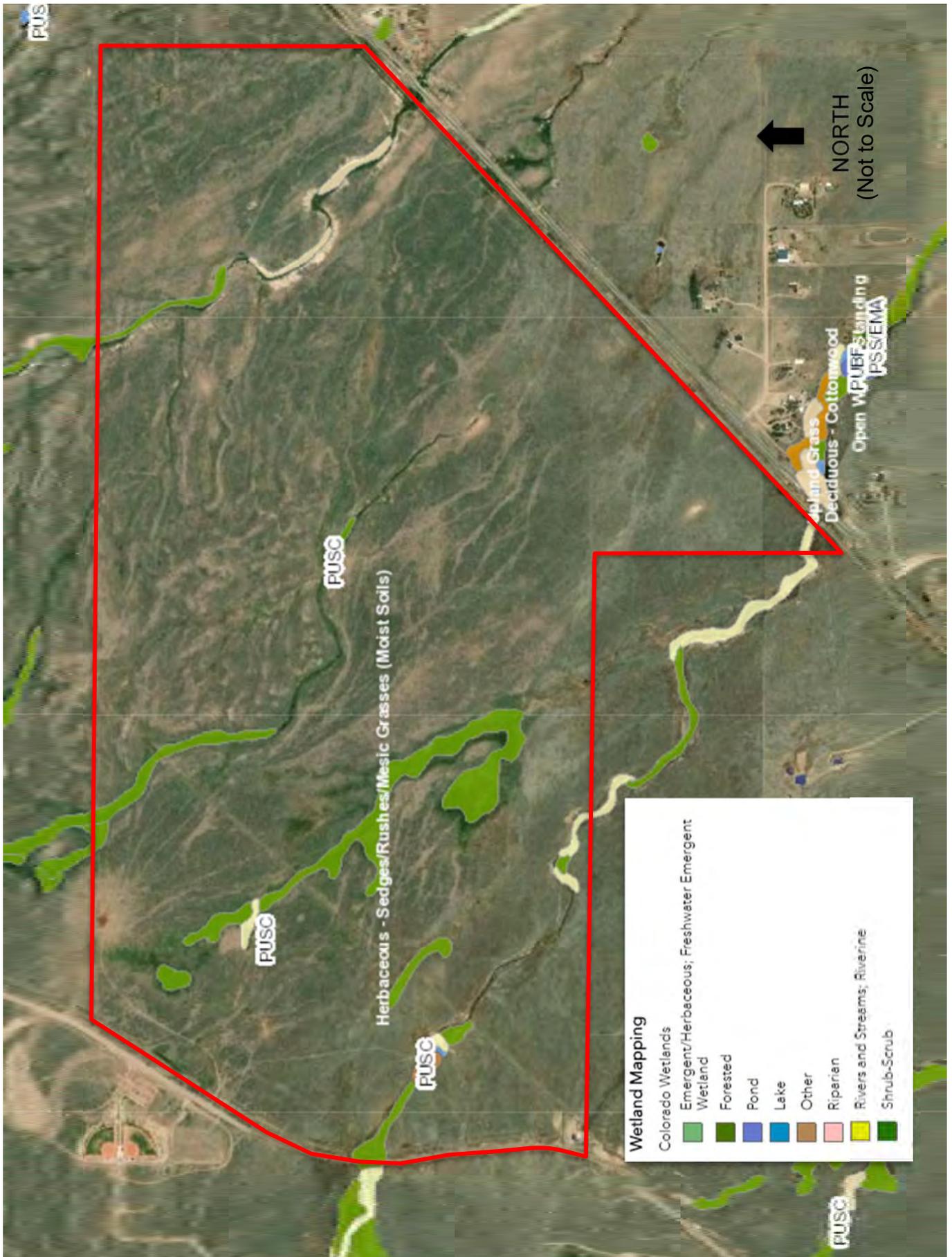
- Traditional navigable waters;
- Wetlands adjacent to traditional navigable waters;
- Non-navigable tributaries of traditional navigable waters that are relatively permanent where the tributaries typically flow year-round or have continuous flow at least seasonally (e.g., typically three months); and
- Wetlands that directly abut such tributaries.

Furthermore, Drainages B and C are not considered “tributaries”, as “a tributary includes natural, man-altered, or man-made water bodies that carry flow directly or indirectly into a traditional navigable water.” These drainages are ephemeral swales or erosional features (e.g., gullies, small washes characterized by low volume, infrequent, or short duration flow) over which the Corps does not assert jurisdiction.

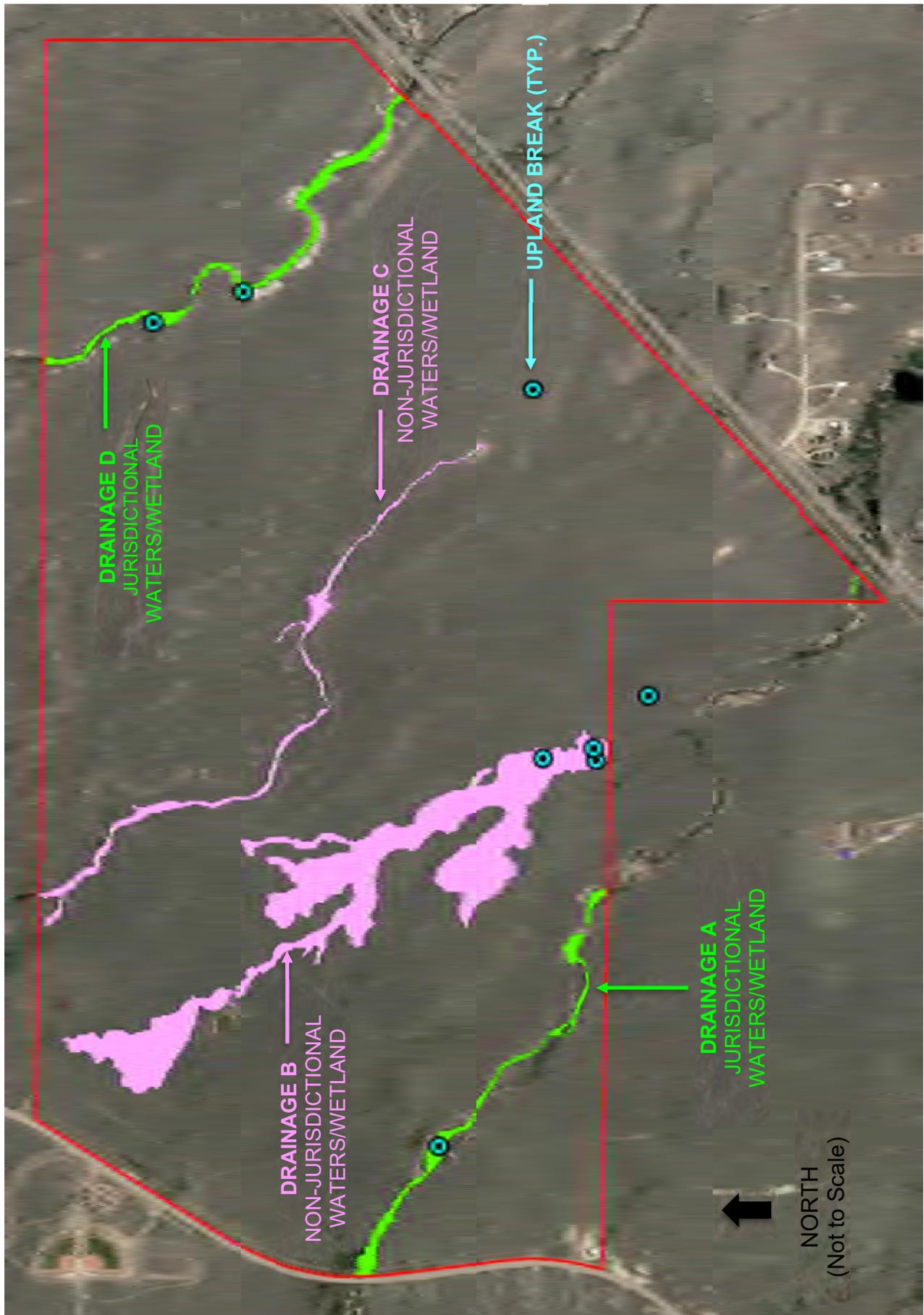
### **3.4.4 Verification by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

On July 5, 2019 the USACE provided an email to Ecos to confirm our findings of non-jurisdiction for Drainages B and C. Note that we did not request a jurisdictional determination of Drainages A and D as we have documented them to be jurisdictional. An excerpt of the USACE response from Tony Martinez, Regulatory Program Manager for the Albuquerque District, Southern Colorado Regulatory Branch of the USACE is copied below, and the original email is contained in Appendix B.

“Based on the information provided in the attached email and our site visit on June 21, 2019 our office concurs with your observations that central Drainage C and south-central Drainage B are isolated and are located entirely upland therefore, we conclude that No permit is required.”



SOURCE: USFWS, National Wetland Inventory & CNHP, Colorado Wetland Inventory



SOURCE: Ecosystem Services, LLC On-site Delineation, 10-11-18

## 3.5 Weeds

### 3.5.1 Regulatory Background

The Colorado Department of Agriculture maintains a list of noxious weed species (CDA, 2020a) and works with counties to manage noxious weeds. Weed management on Site must follow County requirements, including the “El Paso County Noxious Weeds and Control Methods” report (El Paso County, 2015b).

There are four CDA categories of noxious weeds:

- List A: Rare noxious that are designated for eradication statewide.
- List B: Discretely distributed noxious weeds that must be eradicated, contained, or suppressed, depending on their location, to stop their continued spread.
- List C. These species are well-established in Colorado. Species management plans are designed to support the efforts of local governing bodies to facilitate more effective integrated weed management. The goal of such plans is not to stop the continued spread of these species, but to provide additional education, research, and biological control resources to jurisdictions that choose to require management of List C species.
- Watch List Species are those may pose a potential threat to the agricultural productivity and environmental values. The Watch List is intended to serve advisory and educational purposes only. Its purpose is to encourage the identification and reporting of these species to the Commissioner in order to assist in determining which species should be designated as noxious weeds.

### 3.5.2 Noxious Weed Survey Results

Weed species on the Site were very limited, sporadic and dispersed; and as such, no large patches were identified or mapped by ecos.

No noxious weed species on the Colorado Department of Agriculture List A or the Watch List (CDA, 2020a) were observed on the Site.

Three List B noxious weed species (CDA, 2020a) were observed on the Site:

- Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*);
- Scotch thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*)
- yellow toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*).

One List C noxious weed species (CDA, 2020a) were observed on Site:

- common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*).

### 3.5.3 Noxious Weed Management Plan

All of the List B species on the Site are designated for suppression (CDA, 2018a). The Colorado Noxious Weed Act defines suppression as “*reducing the vigor of noxious weed populations within an infested region, decreasing the propensity of noxious weed species*”

to spread to surrounding lands, and mitigating the negative effects of noxious weed populations on infested lands.” Suppression efforts may employ a wide variety of integrated management techniques. Per the El Paso County Noxious Weed and Control Methods document (El Paso County, 2018a): *“The most effective way to control noxious weeds is through Integrated Pest Management (IPM). IPM incorporates weed biology, environmental information, and available management techniques to create a management plan that prevents unacceptable damage from pests, such as weeds, and poses the least risk to people and the environment. IPM is a combination of treatment options that, when used together, provide optimum control for noxious weeds; however, IPM does not necessarily imply that multiple control techniques have to be used or that chemical control options should be avoided.*

- *Prevention: The most effective, economical, and ecologically sound management technique. The spread of noxious weeds can be prevented by cleaning equipment, vehicles, clothing, and shoes before moving to weed free areas; using weed-free sand, soil, and gravel; and using certified weed free seed and feed.*
- *Cultural: Promoting and maintaining healthy native or other desirable vegetation. Methods include proper grazing management (prevention of overgrazing), re-vegetating or re-seeding, fertilizing, and irrigation.*
- *Biological: The use of an organism such as insects, diseases, and grazing animals to control noxious weeds; useful for large, heavily infested areas. Not an effective method when eradication is the objective but can be used to reduce the impact and dominance of noxious weeds.*
- *Mechanical: Manual or mechanical means to remove, kill, injure, or alter growing conditions of unwanted plants. Methods include mowing, hand pulling, tilling, mulching, cutting, and clipping seed heads.*
- *Chemical: The use of herbicides to suppress or kill noxious weeds by disrupting biochemical processes unique to plants.”*

The following information provides general measures to prevent introducing new weeds and spreading existing weeds during construction:

Prior to Construction:

1. Create a native habitat restoration and weed control plan for the Open Space areas. Since there is such dense knapweed mixed with other weeds along the Creek, total re-vegetation of some areas may be necessary. One option in the weediest areas would be to remove the top three to six inches of topsoil and replace it with topsoil from the non-weedy short grass prairie north of the Creek that will be developed. If topsoil can be transferred directly, or is only briefly stockpiled, then re-seeding may not be needed. Planning topsoil management ahead of construction may decrease costs for weed control, restoration, and grading.

2. Biological control is a low cost and non-invasive way to begin controlling weeds. Optimum results take 3-5 years. Contact the Colorado Department of Agriculture Request-A-Bug program at 970-464-7916 to reserve insects, determine the species/quantity needed, and discuss release schedules (CDA, 2020b). At a minimum, species should be introduced to control the knapweed. Biological control may also be available for yellow toadflax, musk thistle, and Canada thistle; with the dense patches of yellow toadflax in the northwest corner of the Site being the highest priority of these three.
3. Reduce grazing overall. Eliminate cattle grazing in knapweed-infested areas, unless using grazing for weed control. Cattle will eat young knapweed prior to bolting but avoid it once the plant matures and develops spines. Thus, targeted grazing can reduce knapweed, but prolonged heavy grazing increases it. Cattle grazing in areas of diffuse knapweed twice in spring may decrease seed by 50%. If cattle are being used for weed control, grazing should consist of two, 10-day intervals in the spring when diffuse knapweed is bolting and about 6 to 12 inches tall (see CSU, 2013). Grazing may reduce the efficacy of biological control.
4. Develop a mowing program to control weeds. This will be most effective for the large areas of common mullein, but may also be used for Canada thistle, musk thistle, and cheatgrass. Mowing in the knapweed areas may reduce the efficacy of biological control for this species.

During construction staging:

1. Fence off all the open space areas to prevent vehicles from driving through them and spreading knapweed, etc. to new areas (Note: fencing will also prevent unpermitted wetland impacts and likely be required by the stormwater management plan).
2. Designate a minimal number of vehicle crossings of the Open Space areas. Construct crossings with weed free soil so that noxious weed seeds are not tracked into new areas.

During construction:

1. Prior to any grading of the non-weedy areas on the slopes north of the Creek, salvage the top six inches of topsoil so that it can be used to construct vehicle crossings and for re-vegetation of natural areas. If possible, immediately move soil to re-vegetation areas. If soil must be stockpiled, minimize the time in order to maintain native seed viability. Excess topsoil may be used for development areas.
2. Do not move weedy soil to new areas within the Site or import weedy soil from other Sites.
3. Control weeds within staging areas and along construction access roads on an ongoing basis.

4. Noxious weeds are most likely to become established in areas where the native vegetation and soil have been disturbed by construction. Thus, maintaining and then quickly re-establishing desirable vegetation post-construction will minimize weed infestations. Desirable vegetation may consist of native plant communities or landscaped areas.

The Site development plan should include measures to prevent introducing new weeds and spreading existing weeds during construction (including prevention measures above). Following construction, the Homeowner’s Association (HOA) will be responsible for weed control. Weed management recommendations for the species observed on the Site are summarized in Table 2. Refer to the El Paso County “Noxious Weed and Control Methods” booklet for additional detail (El Paso County, 2018a).

<b>TABLE 2 – NOXIOUS WEED MANAGEMENT SUMMARY</b>		
<b>Species</b>	<b>Occurrence</b>	<b>Management<sup>1,2,3</sup></b>
<b>LIST B<sup>4</sup></b>		
Canada thistle ( <i>Cirsium arvense</i> )	Uncommon and dispersed.	Mowing combined with herbicide treatment. Mow every 10 to 21 days during the growing season to prevent seeding. Spot treatment with herbicide will likely be needed in open space areas.
Scotch thistle ( <i>Onopordum acanthium</i> )	Uncommon and dispersed.	No known biological control agents effective against Scotch thistle. Any physical method that severs the root below the soil surface prior to seed production will kill the plant. Properly dispose of flowering cut plants, as seeds can mature and become viable. Spot treatment with herbicide will likely be needed in open space areas.
Yellow toadflax ( <i>Linaria vulgaris</i> )	Uncommon and dispersed.	Difficult to control; control when infestations are small. Biological control is available and recommended, particularly in the northwest corner where this species is most abundant. Spot treatment with herbicide will likely be needed in open space areas.
<b>LIST C</b>		

TABLE 2 – NOXIOUS WEED MANAGEMENT SUMMARY		
Species	Occurrence	Management <sup>1,2,3</sup>
Common mullein ( <i>Verbascum thapsus</i> )	Uncommon and dispersed.	Reduce grazing to increase density of other vegetation. Mow in the bolting to early flowering stage to reduce seed production. Use herbicide to kill existing rosettes. Hand-pulling is effective, but likely not feasible for such large areas. Establish other vegetation and minimize disturbance to prevent existing seeds from sprouting in bare soil.

<sup>1</sup>Refer to the El Paso County “Noxious Weed and Control Methods” booklet for additional detail (El Paso County, 2018a).

<sup>2</sup>When using herbicides, always read and follow the product label to ensure proper use and application.

<sup>3</sup>If near water or wetlands, only use herbicides and formulations approved for use near water.

<sup>4</sup>All of the List B species on the Site are designated for suppression (Colorado Code of regulations, 2018).

### 3.6 Wildfire Hazard

The stated purpose and intent of the 2018 El Paso County Development Standards” for “Fire Protection and Wildfire Mitigation” is to ensure that proposed development is reviewed for wildfire risks and adequate fire protection. No permit or approval associated with development, construction or occupancy shall be approved or issued until the provisions of these standards are satisfied.

The El Paso County Wildfire Hazard Map is based on the existing vegetation and classifies the grassland areas that comprise the Site as “Low Hazard – Non Forested”. [Note: the Vegetation Map required to be referenced in the current Land Development Code is not available, therefore we used the most current map (Figure 7).] “Wildland areas” include land shown as “High Hazard – Forested” or areas identified as such in the “Wildland Fire Risk and Hazard Mitigation Plan.” Since the Site does not include forested (high hazard) areas, it is not subject to the wildland areas requirements and does not requires the preparation of a Wildland Fire and Hazard Mitigation Plan.

### 3.6.1 Fire Protection

#### Falcon Fire Protection District

A portion of the Site is located within the jurisdiction and boundaries of the Falcon Fire Protection District (FFPD). The portion of the Site within the boundaries of the Falcon Fire Protection District is that portion west of the North/South section line beginning at the intersection of Highway 24 and Curtis Road. The Falcon Fire Department (Fire Department) has provided a letter for the previous iteration of this Project dated October 15, 2018 (Appendix C) to confirm its commitment to provide fire suppression, fire prevention, emergency rescue, ambulance, hazardous materials and emergency medical services (collectively, "Emergency Services") to the applicable portion of the Site, subject to the following conditions:

- All new construction, renovations or developments within the Fire Department's jurisdiction must comply with the applicable fire code and nationally recognized life-safety standards adopted by the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners and the FFPD's Board of Directors, as amended from time to time;
- All development, water and construction plans must be reviewed and approved by the Fire Department for compliance with the applicable fire code and nationally recognized life-safety standards prior to final plat or construction permit being issued; and,
- All development or construction projects shall meet the fire code and nationally recognized standards' pertaining to fire protection water. Please note that approved and inspected fire cisterns are permitted by the Fire Department in an attempt to help the property owner/developer meet these requirements.

**Note:** A new letter from FFPD will be obtained for the current iteration of this Project prior to Preliminary Plan submittal.

The three staffed FFPD stations are located as follows:

- Station 1, 12072 Royal County Down Road, Peyton (1.94 miles from Site)
- Station 3, 7030 Old Meridian Road, Peyton (4.21 miles from Site)
- Station 4, 2710 Capital Drive, Colorado Springs, CO (9.95 miles from Site)

One unstaffed station is located as follows:

- Station 2 located at 14450 Meridian Road (4.16 miles from the Site).

The closest station to the Site entrance is Station 1. Equipment at Station 1 includes an engine, a water tender (water truck), a brush truck, an AMR ambulance, a utility truck, and a command vehicle (FFPD, 2018). Equipment at the second closest station, Station 2, includes a 4-wheel drive engine, a water tender, and a brush truck.

#### Peyton Fire Protection District

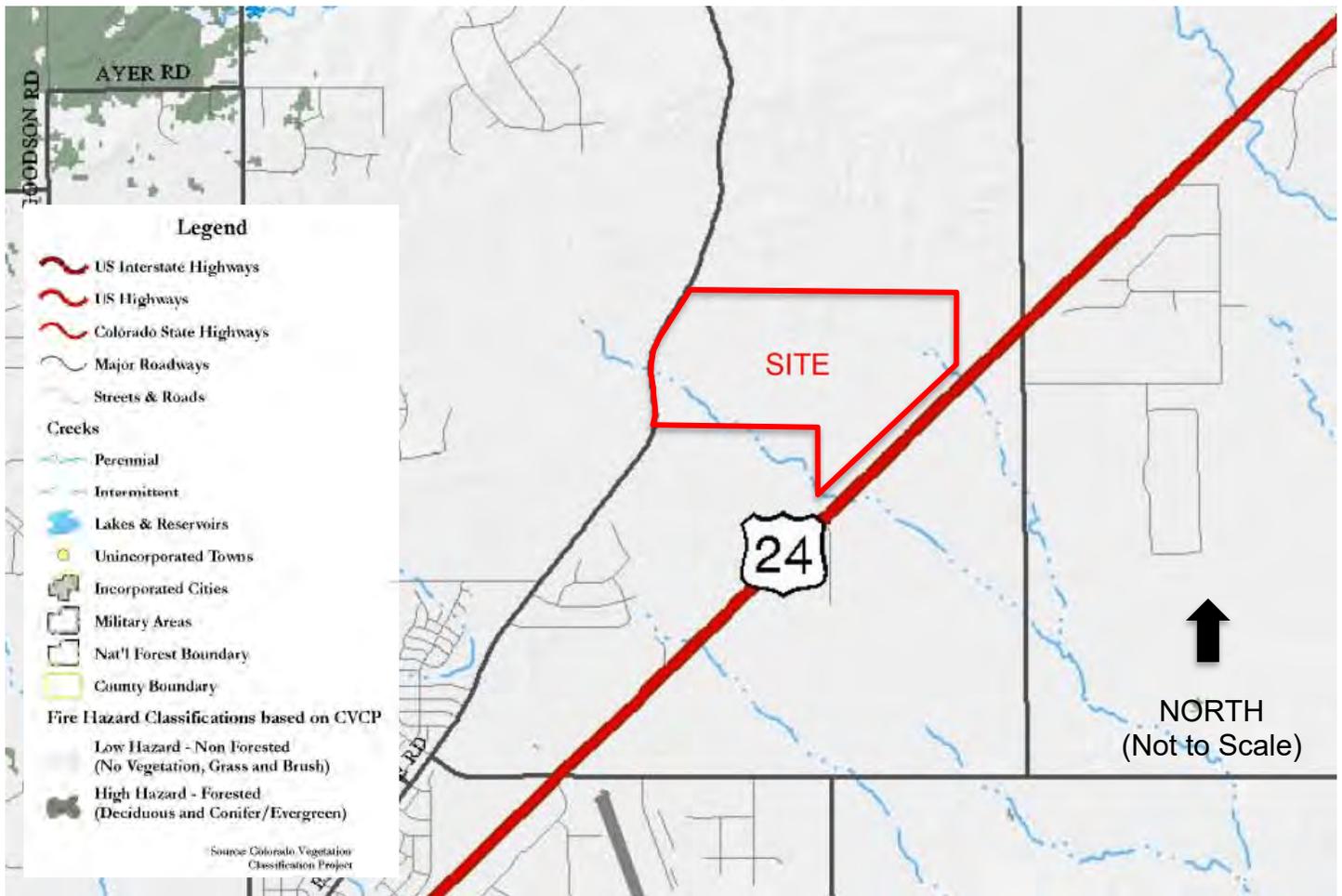
Peyton Fire Protection District (PFPD) will serve that portion of the Site east of the North/South section line beginning at the intersection of Highway 24 and Curtis Road.

The PFPD has provided a letter for the previous iteration of this Project dated October 30, 2018 (Appendix C) to confirm its commitment to provide fire prevention and suppression, emergency rescue, emergency medical and emergency hazardous materials response services (collectively, "Emergency Services") to the applicable portion of the Site, subject to the following conditions:

- All new construction, renovations or developments within the Fire Department's jurisdiction must comply with the applicable fire code and nationally recognized life-safety standards adopted by the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners and the PFPD's Board of Directors, as amended from time to time;
- All development, water and construction plans must be reviewed and approved by the PFPD for compliance with the applicable fire code and nationally recognized life-safety standards prior to final plat or construction permit being issued; and,
- All development or construction projects shall meet the fire code and nationally recognized standards' pertaining to fire protection water. Approved and inspected fire cisterns are permitted by the PFPD in an attempt to help the property owner/developer meet these requirements .

**Note:** A new letter from PFPD will be obtained for the current iteration of this Project prior to Preliminary Plan submittal.

PFPD is a paid/volunteer fire department located at 13665 Railroad Street, Peyton, Colorado, which is 4.26 miles from the Site. PFPD covers 110 square miles and has an ISO rating of 8B.



SOURCE: El Paso County, Colorado Wildfire Hazards (Based on CVCP Indicators), Map, 2007

### Colorado Vegetation Classification Project (CVCP) Indicator Groupings

#### Low Hazard - Non Forested

- No Vegetation:*
- (1) Urban/Built Up
  - (6) Barren Land
  - (8) Riparian
  - (9) Water
  - (11) Residential
  - (12) Commercial
  - (61) Rock
  - (6101) Talus Slopes & Rock Outcroppings
  - (62) Soil

- Grass:*
- (21) Dryland Agriculture
  - (22) Irrigated Agriculture
  - (3102) Grassland
  - (3104) Grass/Forb Mix
  - (3111) Sparse Grass/Blowouts
  - (3304) Grass/Misc. Cactus Mix
  - (3307) Grass/Yucca Mix
  - (7102) Alpine Grass Dominated
  - (7103) Alpine Grass/Forb Mix
  - (7401) Subalpine Grass/Forb Mix
  - (83) Herbaceous Riparian

- Brush:*
- (3201) Sagebrush Community
  - (3202) Slatbrush Community
  - (3203) Greasewood
  - (33) Shrub/Grass/Forb Mix
  - (3301) Sagebrush/Grass Mix
  - (3302) Rabbitbrush/Grass Mix
  - (4202) Xeric Mountain Shrub Mix
  - (4203) Mesic Mountain Shrub Mix
  - (4205) Upland Willow/Shrub Mix
  - (72) Subalpine Shrub Community
  - (82) Shrub Riparian
  - (8201) Willow

#### High Hazard - Forested

- Deciduous:*
- (4201) Gambel Oak
  - (5101) Aspen
  - (5102) Aspen/Mesic Mountain Shrub Mix
  - (81) Forested Riparian
  - (8101) Cottonwood

- Conifer/Evergreen:*
- (4101) Pinyon-Juniper
  - (4102) Juniper
  - (4301) FJ-Oak Mix
  - (4303) FJ-MNT Shrub Mix
  - (4304) Sparse FJ/Shrub/Rock Mix
  - (4305) Sparse Juniper/Shrub/Rock Mix
  - (5201) Ponderosa Pine
  - (5202) Engelmann Spruce/Fir Mix
  - (5203) Douglas Fir
  - (5204) Lodgepole Pine
  - (5207) Spruce/Lodgepole Pine Mix
  - (5208) Bristlecone Pine
  - (5209) Ponderosa Pine/Douglas Fir Mix
  - (5211) Limber Pine
  - (5213) Lodgepole/Spruce/Fir Mix
  - (5214) Fir/Lodgepole Pine Mix
  - (5215) Douglas Fir/Engelmann Spruce Mix
  - (5301) Spruce/Fir/Aspen Mix
  - (5302) P. Pine/Gambel Oak Mix
  - (5303) Ponderosa Pine/Aspen Mix
  - (5304) Douglas Fir/Aspen Mix
  - (5306) Lodgepole Pine/Aspen Mix
  - (5307) Spruce/Fir/Lodgepole/Aspen Mix
  - (5308) P. Pine/Mountain Shrub Mix
  - (5309) P. Pine/Aspen/Mesic Mountain Shrub Mix

### 3.7 Wildlife Communities

The stated purpose and intent of the “El Paso County Development Standards” section on wildlife is to ensure that proposed development is reviewed in consideration of the impacts on wildlife and wildlife habitat, and to implement the provisions of the Master Plan (El Paso County, 2018b). Ecos has determined that the wildlife impact potential for development of the Site is expected to be low.

The Site currently provides poor to moderate habitat for wildlife. There are two primary vegetation types on the Site, including shortgrass prairie and wetlands.

The project would develop most of the shortgrass prairie, however the drainages and adjacent short grass prairie would be preserved as Open Space. A noxious weed management plan will be implemented per State and County requirements to improve wildlife habitat; and a native plant re-vegetation plan for the Open Space is recommended to provide additional benefit to wildlife habitat.

The habitat preferences of the observed species are reflective of the habitat on Site. Two species of raptors were observed and appear to either be residents or frequent hunters to this Site: ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*) and great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*). Sandhill crane (*Grus canadensis*) were observed flying over during their migration, although they are not likely to utilize the Site. Prairie species such as jackrabbit (*Lepus townsendii*), pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*), black-tailed prairie dog (*Cynomys ludovicianus*) and thirteen-lined ground squirrel (*Ictidomys tridecemlineatus*) were present. The remaining species are considered generalists and included mourning doves (*Zenaida macroura*) and American crows (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*). The Site provides very limited tree nesting habitat for raptors; however, ferruginous hawks may also use ground nests. No existing nest sites for any raptors were noted during the Site visit.

The Site provides habitat for mammals including rodents, antelope, and carnivores. The site provides foraging and breeding habitat for predators such as coyote and fox. The Site also provides good habitat for reptiles but limited habitat for amphibians due to the lack of persistent standing and flowing water. No other species were observed by ecos during our field assessment.

The Site contains no Wildlife Refuges or Hatcheries according to the USFWS IPaC Trust Resources Report (USFWS, 2020b) (Appendix D).

### 4.0 FEDERAL LISTED SPECIES

A number of species that occur in El Paso County are listed as candidate, threatened or endangered by the USFWS (USFWS, 2020b) under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Ecos compiled the Federally-listed species for the Site in Table 3 based on the Site-specific, USFWS IPaC Trust Resources Report we ran for the Project (Appendix D); and our onsite assessment. Ecos has provided our professional opinion regarding the

probability that these species may occur within the Site and their probability of being impacted by the Project.

The likelihood that the Project would impact any of the species listed below is very low to none. Most are not expected occur in the Project area or on the Site; nor will they be affected by the indirect effects of the project. The Preble’s meadow jumping mouse is discussed in more detail below because there is USFWS designated Critical Habitat in the County.

<b>TABLE 3 - FEDERAL LISTED SPECIES ASSESSED FOR THE PROJECT</b>			
<b>Species</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Habitat Requirements and Presence</b>	<b>Probability of Impact by Project</b>
<b>FISH</b>			
Greenback cutthroat trout ( <i>Oncorhynchus clarki stomias</i> )	Threatened	Cold, clear, gravely headwater streams and mountain lakes that provide an abundant food supply of insects.	None. Suitable habitat does not exist on the Site.
Pallid sturgeon ( <i>Scaphirhynchus albus</i> )	Endangered	Water-related activities/use in the N. Platte, S. Platte and Laramie River Basins may affect listed species in Nebraska.	None. The proposed project is not in the watershed for any of the listed river basins.
<b>BIRDS</b>			
Least tern ( <i>Sternula antillarum</i> )	Endangered	Water-related activities/use in the N. Platte, S. Platte and Laramie River Basins may affect listed species in Nebraska.	None. The proposed project is not in the watershed for any of the listed river basins.
Mexican spotted owl ( <i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i> )	Threatened	Mature, old-growth forests of white pine, Douglas fir, and ponderosa pine; steep slopes and canyons with rocky cliffs. The closest USFWS designated Critical habitat is over 15 miles southwest of the Site in mountainous terrain.	None. Suitable habitat does not exist on the Site.

**TABLE 3 - FEDERAL LISTED SPECIES ASSESSED FOR THE PROJECT**

Species	Status	Habitat Requirements and Presence	Probability of Impact by Project
Piping plover <i>(Charadrius melodus)</i>	Threatened	Water-related activities/use in the N. Platte, S. Platte and Laramie River Basins may affect listed species in Nebraska.	None. The proposed project is not in the watershed for any of the listed river basins.
Whooping crane <i>(Grus americana)</i>	Endangered	Water-related activities/use in the N. Platte, S. Platte and Laramie River Basins may affect listed species in Nebraska.	None. The proposed project is not in the watershed for any of the listed river basins.
<b>MAMMALS</b>			

**TABLE 3 - FEDERAL LISTED SPECIES ASSESSED FOR THE PROJECT**

Species	Status	Habitat Requirements and Presence	Probability of Impact by Project
<p>Preble's meadow jumping mouse <i>(Zapus hudsonius preblei)</i></p>	<p>Threatened</p>	<p>Inhabits well-developed riparian habitat with adjacent, relatively undisturbed grassland communities, and a nearby water source. Well-developed riparian habitat includes a dense combination of grasses, forbs and shrubs; a taller shrub and tree canopy may be present. Has been found to regularly use uplands at least as far out as 100 meters beyond the 100-year floodplain.</p>	<p>None. Unlikely to occur on Site due to: 1) the absence of habitat required to support the life requisites of the species; 2) negative trapping results reported by USFWS adjacent to the Site; 3) 10.22-mile distance from closest CPW "Potential" Occupied Habitat (west/northwest of the Site in Colorado Springs); 4) 6.5-mile distance from closest USFWS Critical Habitat (southwest of the Site along Black Squirrel Creek in Colorado Springs); and 5) lack of habitat connection corridor from known habitat to the Site.</p>
<p><b>PLANTS</b></p>			

**TABLE 3 - FEDERAL LISTED SPECIES ASSESSED FOR THE PROJECT**

Species	Status	Habitat Requirements and Presence	Probability of Impact by Project
Ute ladies'-tresses orchid <i>(Spiranthes diluvialis)</i>	Threatened	Primarily occurs along seasonally flooded river terraces, sub-irrigated or spring-fed abandoned stream channels or valleys, and lakeshores. May also occur along irrigation canals, berms, levees, irrigated meadows, excavated gravel pits, roadside borrow pits, reservoirs, and other human-modified wetlands.	Very Low. Unlikely to occur as the Site is situated between 6,860 and 7,020 feet above mean sea level, which is higher than the 6,500-foot elevation limits documented for the species and recommended for conducting surveys by the USFWS.
Western prairie fringed orchid <i>(Platanthera praeclara)</i>	Threatened	Occurs in tallgrass prairie in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Oklahoma. Upstream depletions to the Platte River system in Colorado and Wyoming may affect the species in Nebraska.	None. The proposed project will not alter or deplete flows to the South Platte.

#### **4.1 Preble’s meadow jumping mouse**

##### **4.1.1 Natural History**

The Preble's meadow jumping mouse (PMJM) is a small mammal approximately 9-inches in length with large hind feet adapted for jumping, a long bicolor tail (which accounts for 60% of its length), and a distinct dark stripe down the middle of its back, bordered on either side by gray to orange-brown fur (USFWS, 2016). This largely nocturnal mouse lives primarily in the foothills of southeastern Wyoming, and south to Colorado Springs, along the eastern edge of the Front Range of Colorado. PMJM are true hibernators. They usually enter into hibernation in September or October and emerge in May of the following spring.

PMJM typically inhabits areas characterized by well-developed plains riparian vegetation with relatively undisturbed grassland and a water source in close proximity (Armstrong et al. 1997). PMJM regularly range into adjacent uplands to feed, hibernate, and avoid flooding. Radio-tracking studies conducted by CPW have documented PMJM using upland habitat adjacent to wetlands and riparian areas (Shenk and Sivert 1999).

#### **4.1.2 Threats**

Threats to PMJM and their habitat include habitat alteration, degradation, loss, and fragmentation resulting from human land uses including urban development, flood control, water development, and agriculture. Habitat destruction may impact individual PMJM directly or by destroying nest sites, food resources, and hibernation sites; by disrupting behavior; or by forming a barrier to movement. Invasive non-native and noxious weeds can alter habitat and decrease its value.

#### **4.1.3 Critical Habitat**

Critical habitat is specific areas identified by the USFWS as being essential to the conservation of PMJM (USFWS, 2016). In determining which areas to designate as critical habitat, the USFWS must use the best scientific and commercial data available and consider physical and biological features (primary, constituent elements) that are essential to conservation of the species, and that may require special management consideration and protection. The primary constituent elements for the PMJM include those habitat components essential for the biological needs of reproducing, rearing of young, foraging, sheltering, hibernation, dispersal, and genetic exchange. Thus, critical habitat includes riparian areas located within grassland, shrub land, forest, and mixed vegetation types where dense herbaceous or woody vegetation occurs near the ground level, where available open water exists during their active season, and where there are ample upland habitats of sufficient width and quality for foraging, hibernation, and refugia from catastrophic flooding events. Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act prohibits destruction or adverse modification of a critical habitat by any activity funded, authorized, or carried out by any Federal agency, and Federal Agencies proposing actions affecting areas designated as critical habitat must consult with the USFWS on the effects of their proposed actions, pursuant to Section 7(a)(2) of the Act.

#### **4.1.4 Potentially Occupied Range**

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) mapped areas of “potential” PMJM occupied range (CPW, 2005). The occupied range mapping is based on known occurrences of PMJM (i.e., trapping data) and mapped riparian vegetation (i.e., potential habitat that was not necessarily trapped or verified). For each known PMJM location, a one-mile buffer is applied to riparian areas both upstream and downstream. This includes both the main channel and side channels. Additionally, a 100-meter lateral buffer is applied which, in general, represents foraging and hibernaculum habitat. This buffer serves as a general guideline. Site specific topographic and vegetative features may increase or decrease the area considered locally as foraging and hibernaculum habitat. Where riparian vegetation maps don't exist, the stream centerline is buffered laterally by 100 meters.

#### **4.1.5 Summary**

PMJM are very unlikely to occur on the Site or be affected by the Project due to:

- 1) the absence of onsite habitat required to support the life requisites of the species;
- 2) negative trapping results reported by USFWS adjacent to the Site;
- 3) 10.22-mile distance from closest CPW “Potential” Occupied Range (west/northwest of the Site in Colorado Springs);
- 4) 6.5-mile distance from closest USFWS Critical Habitat (southwest of the Site along Black Squirrel Creek in Colorado Springs); and
- 5) lack of a habitat connection corridor from known habitat to the Site.

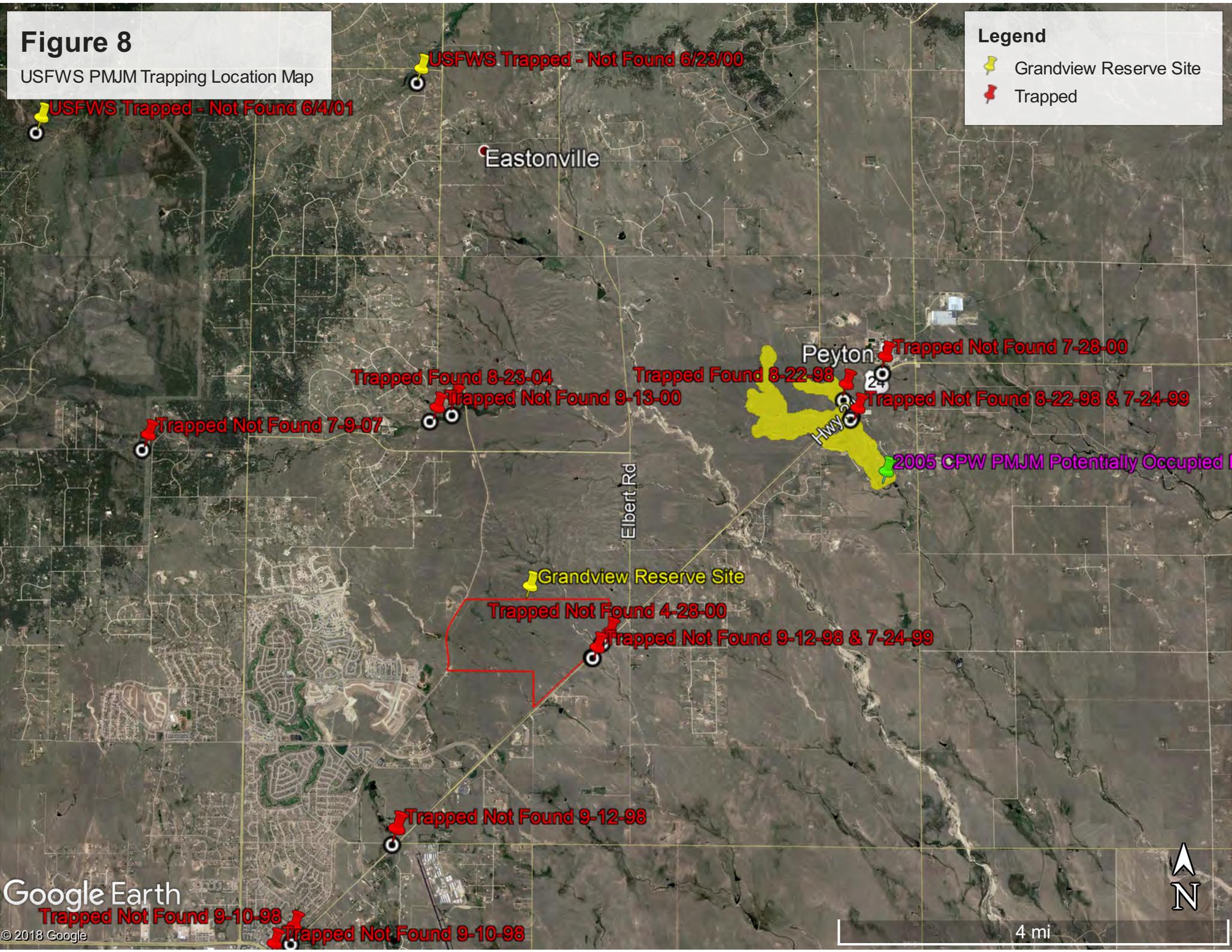
Refer to Figure 8 – USFWS PMJM Trapping Map and Figure 9 – PMJM Habitat Map.

# Figure 8

USFWS PMJM Trapping Location Map

**Legend**

- Grandview Reserve Site
- Trapped



Google Earth

© 2018 Google



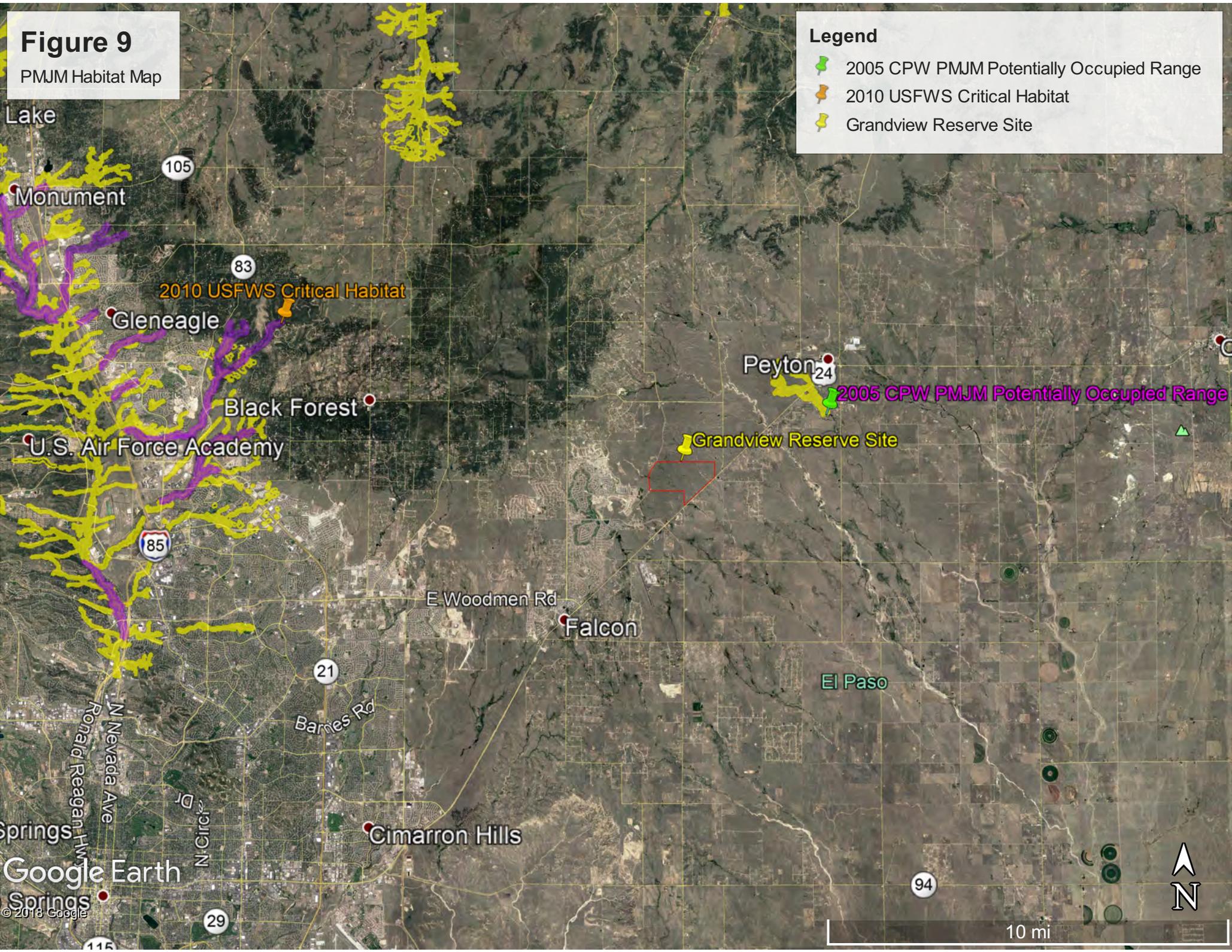
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**Figure 9**

PMJM Habitat Map

**Legend**

-  2005 CPW PMJM Potentially Occupied Range
-  2010 USFWS Critical Habitat
-  Grandview Reserve Site



## **5.0 RAPTORS AND MIGRATORY BIRDS**

Raptors and most birds are protected by the Colorado Nongame Wildlife Regulations, as well as by the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act and/or the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. No raptor nests have been mapped within one mile of the Site (COGCC, 2020). No raptor nests were observed during the site visit. However, the short grass prairie and wetland habitats are valuable nesting and foraging habitat for birds.

## **6.0 SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS**

### **6.1 Mineral and Natural Resource Extraction**

The previous project engineer researched the records of the El Paso County Clerk and Recorder and established that there is not a mineral estate owner on the Site (Appendix E). **This research will be replicated for this current iteration of the Project and provided prior to Preliminary Plan submittal.** However, Mineral or Natural Resource Extraction will not occur as a part of this Project, and no associated impacts to habitat will occur.

### **6.2 Vegetation**

There are two main types of vegetation on Site; wetlands and short-grass prairie. Long-term cattle grazing has degraded vegetation by increasing weeds (although mild) in many areas and severely reducing woody riparian vegetation along the drainages. Direct negative impacts to vegetation will result from the construction of roads, trails, and homes; and indirect negative impacts will result such as spreading weeds to new areas or alteration of wetland hydrology. Since the project will preserve the onsite drainages and an open space area, there is good potential to improve vegetation in these areas. The following recommendations are intended to minimize negative impacts and increase positive impacts:

1. Create a habitat restoration and management plan for the drainages and Open Space areas that begins as soon as possible, continues through construction, and is taken over and implemented by the Metropolitan District following construction.
2. Increase native vegetation in the disturbed shortgrass prairie areas by seeding with native species. Another option would be to spread ~1" of salvaged topsoil obtained/stockpiled from any non-weedy shortgrass prairie area that would be impacted by infrastructure construction, such as roads and associated disturbances, and use it in undisturbed areas.
3. Include requirements in the Codes, Covenants and Restrictions (CCRs) to preserve native vegetation and minimize non-native landscaping and irrigation.
4. Implement a stormwater management system that does not significantly increase flows into the drainages and prepare a natural channel stabilization plan for all drainages.

### 6.3 Wetland Habitat and Waters of the U.S.

Drainages A and D are both jurisdictional WOUS, including adjacent wetlands; therefore, potential regulatory impacts to these drainages are discussed below:

Drainage A is located between Parcels E and F (Medium Density) along the west side; and Parcels C, D and G (Medium Density) along the east side. The Sketch Plan (Figure 2) illustrates an Open Space buffer along both sides of the drainage that will assist in ameliorating the effects of residential runoff. This buffer area should be planted with multi-story palette of native upland and riparian species to supplement the regrowth and regeneration of previous woody vegetation (now that grazing has been removed), provide shading to regulate pH and water quality, and assist in stabilizing the streambanks. Given that Parcels E and F are proposed to be accessed via the Waterbury project to the south, it does not appear that a road crossing of Drainage A will be necessary. Utility lines will need to cross Drainage A to get service to all lots; however, this impact may be avoided by bringing utilities into Parcels E and F from Waterbury or boring beneath the drainage. A Detention Pond is proposed along the downstream, west side of the drainage that will require an outfall into the drainage. However, with proper location and alignment, impacts for this outfall should be minimal and primarily restored in-place.

Drainage D is located between Parcels Q (Low Density), R (Medium Density) and M (Medium-High Density) along the west side; and Parcels N (Medium Density) and P (Low Density) along the east side. The Sketch Plan (Figure 2) illustrates an Open Space buffer along both sides of the drainage that will assist in ameliorating the effects of residential runoff. This buffer area should be planted with multi-story palette of native upland and riparian species to supplement the regrowth and regeneration of previous woody vegetation (now that grazing has been removed), provide shading to regulate pH and water quality, and assist in stabilizing the streambanks. A road crossing is proposed over the upstream reach of Drainage D that may cause impacts to WOUS and wetlands; however, these impacts may be significantly reduced if a free-span bridge is used. Utility lines will need to cross Drainage D to get service to all lots; however, this impact may be avoided running the lines beneath the proposed road crossing or by boring beneath the drainage. Three Detention Ponds are proposed along the drainage, one upstream and two downstream, all of which will require outfalls into the drainage. However, with proper location and alignment, impacts for these outfalls should be minimal and primarily restored in-place.

All Drainages: Project phasing should be used to avoid Site-wide, over-lot grading and related impacts from runoff, erosion and pollutant discharge into the drainages. Given the proposed density of development, strategic stormwater control before, during and after construction will be required to avoid these impacts and associated channel incision and streambank degradation. Stormwater runoff from streets and impervious surfaces should be treated via vegetated swales, separators, (e.g., “Stormceptors” or similar oil and sediment separators) and/or the proposed detention basins prior to discharge into the drainages.

## **6.4 Weeds**

Weeds observed on Site included three List B noxious weed species and one List C noxious weed species (CDA, 2018a). Suppression is required for all List B species. Site development typically causes weeds to increase due to increased earth disturbance and new weeds being brought in (on vehicles and shoes, in soil and fill material, in landscaping supplies, etc.). The following recommendations are intended to minimize negative impacts and increase positive impacts:

1. Introduce biological control agents for weed control as soon as possible.
2. Implement an integrated noxious weed management plan that begins as soon as possible, continues through construction, and is taken over and implemented by the Metropolitan District following construction. Control of List B species should be the highest priority, particularly knapweed.
3. Include requirements in the CCRs that landowners manage weeds on their property per the Colorado Noxious Weed Act and El Paso County guidelines.
4. Prohibit importation of fill dirt and landscaping material from other locations unless it is certified as weed free.

## **6.5 Wildfire Hazard**

The Site is comprised entirely of herbaceous prairie and wetland vegetation designated as “Low Hazard – Non Forested” and has no forested (high hazard) areas (Figure 7). Therefore, it is not subject to the wildland areas requirements and does not require the preparation of a Wildland Fire and Hazard Mitigation Plan.

## **6.6 Wildlife Communities**

The impact to wildlife is similar to that for vegetation. Species that occur in wetland and riparian habitat are expected to benefit from Open Space protection. Implementation of the stormwater management plan will assist in protecting water quality in the drainages, to ameliorate development impacts on aquatic wildlife species. Many shortgrass prairie specialist species avoid areas with buildings, overhead powerlines, and trees; thus, the project is expected to have the most significant negative impact on these species. The following, additional recommendations are intended to reduce impacts to wildlife:

1. Limit the use of herbicides, pesticides, and fertilizers as they can negatively impact aquatic wildlife species.
2. Minimize the installation of fencing. When fencing is needed, use wildlife friendly fences or include specific wildlife crossings along fence lines. Pronghorn are of particular concern because they do not jump over fences and can be injured by barbed-wire fences.
3. Road crossings over the drainages should be designed to enable wildlife underpass and allow use of the drainages as movement corridors to reduce collisions with vehicles.

4. Dogs should be kept in fenced pens and be leashed when on walks. At least one designated off-leash area for dogs should be provided, as this will increase compliance with leash rules in other areas.
5. Cats should not be allowed outdoors because they kill birds and native rodents. Cats may also be eaten by foxes and coyotes.

### **6.7 Federal Listed Species**

The Site is not located within any USFWS designated critical habitat or known occupied habitat for federally designated threatened or endangered species, including the Preble's meadow jumping mouse. Therefore, no direct or indirect impacts to federally designated threatened or endangered species are expected to occur from the Project.

### **6.8 Raptors and Migratory Birds**

The Project is expected to have minimal impacts on raptors and migratory birds. Preservation of Open Space along the drainages will likely have a positive impact on the birds that use this habitat. The project is expected to have slight negative impact on shortgrass prairie birds due to habitat alteration and increased disturbance by people, dogs, and cats. Negative impacts can be minimized by following the recommendations in the vegetation and wildlife sections.

## **7.0 REGULATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **7.1 Clean Water Act**

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act prohibits the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. (including wetland habitat) without a valid permit. Ecos identified jurisdictional wetland habitat and WOUS along Drainages A and D. However, the majority of the WOUS and wetlands on the Site will be set aside and included in Open Space with buffers; and no jurisdictional wetlands or waters will occur within private lots. Therefore, it is evident that impact minimization has been incorporated since the early stages of the design process. Any proposed impacts to WOUS or wetlands resulting from road or utility crossings, stormwater outfalls, channel stabilization, grading operations or other associated development disturbances should be avoided or minimized to the extent feasible. 4 Site Investments will need to obtain Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 Permit authorization from the USACE prior to construction to authorize development-related impacts. At the Sketch Plan phase, detailed data are not available to assess cumulative impacts and assign the type of 404 Permit that may be applicable. However, if feasible, the cost and timeframe associated with the Project may be minimized if cumulative impacts are avoided and minimized to the extent that they meet the requirements for Nationwide Permit 29 for Residential Developments.

### **7.2 Endangered Species Act**

The Site is not located within any USFWS designated critical habitat or known occupied habitat for federally designated threatened or endangered species, including the

Preble's meadow jumping mouse. Therefore, no direct or indirect impacts to federally designated threatened or endangered species are expected to occur from the Project. Therefore, 4 Site Investments is not required to initiate consultation with the USFWS under the ESA. A "Clearance Letter" dated May 25, 2019 was obtained from the USFWS for the previous iteration of this Project that concurred with ecos' findings and "cleared" the entire Site (refer to Appendix F).

**Note:** 4 Site Investments will obtain an updated Clearance Letter from USFWS prior to Preliminary Plan submittal.

### **7.3 Migratory Bird Treaty Act & Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act**

No raptor nests have been mapped within one mile of the Site (COGCC, 2020) and no migratory bird nests were observed within the Site during ecos' assessment. However, given the transitory nature of these species ecos recommends a nesting bird inventory immediately prior to construction to identify any new nests within the Site or within the CPW recommended buffers of the Site. If these species are found to be present, construction activities should be restricted during the breeding season near any newly identified nests.

### **7.4 Colorado Noxious Weed Act**

In order to ensure Project compliance with the Act, the Noxious Weed Management Plan referenced in Section 3.5.3 of this Report should be implemented, and further site-specific weed management should be implemented on an ongoing basis, starting as soon as feasible.

## 8.0 REFERENCES

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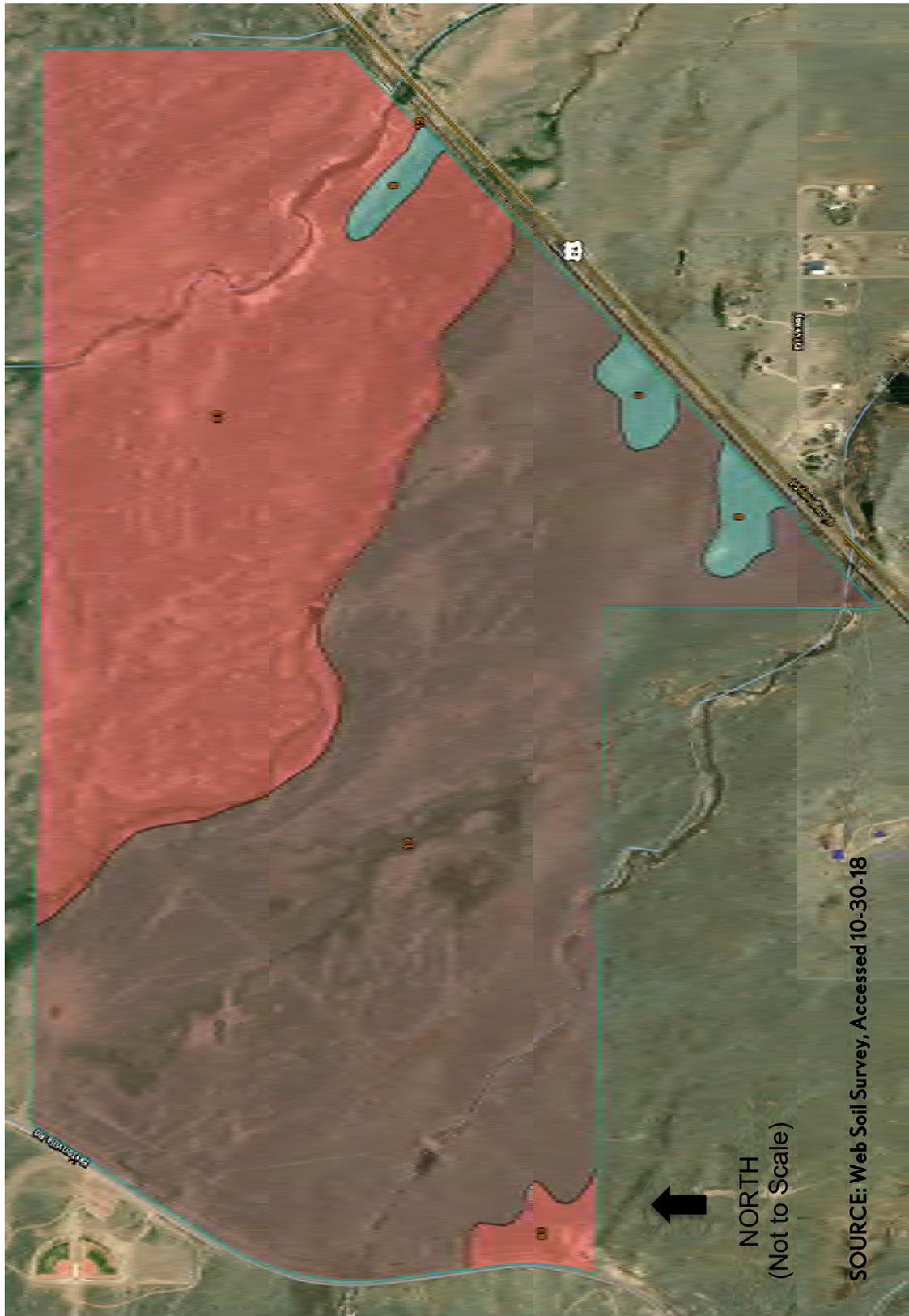
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**Appendix A**  
**USDA Soil Data**



Summary by Map Unit — El Paso County Area, Colorado (CO625)

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
8	Blakeland loamy sand, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Blakeland loamy sand, 1 to 9 percent slopes	17.5	2.3%
19	Columbine gravelly sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Columbine gravelly sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	428.6	55.8%
83	Stapleton sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Stapleton sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	322.2	41.9%
<b>Totals for Area of Interest</b>			<b>768.3</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Appendix B**  
**USACE Verification Email**

**From:** [Martinez, Joseph A CIV USARMY CESPA \(US\)](mailto:Joseph.A.Martinez@usace.army.mil)  
**To:** [Grant Gurnee](mailto:Grant.Gurnee@ecologicalbenefits.com)  
**Subject:** RE: [Non-DoD Source] FW: Grandview Reserve Project - Request for Verification of Non-JD Drainages (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Date:** Friday, July 5, 2019 1:58:43 PM

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CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Mr. Gurnee,

Based on the information provided in the attached email and our site visit on June 21, 2019 our office concurs with your observations that central Drainage C and south-central Drainage B are isolated and are located entirely upland therefore, we conclude that No permit is required.

If you should have any questions, please contact me at (719).600.8641.

Respectfully,

Tony Martinez, R.E.M.

Regulatory Program Manager | U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers | Office: (719) 600.8641 | Email: joseph.a.martinez@usace.army.mil

Albuquerque District  
Southern Colorado Regulatory Branch  
201 West 8th Street, Suite 350, Pueblo Colorado 81003

Visit our Web Site at: <http://www.spa.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory-Program-and-Permits/>

-----Original Message-----

From: Grant Gurnee [<mailto:grant@ecologicalbenefits.com>]  
Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2019 2:21 PM  
To: Martinez, Joseph A CIV USARMY CESPA (US) <Joseph.A.Martinez@usace.army.mil>  
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] FW: Grandview Reserve Project - Request for Verification of Non-JD Drainages

Hi Tony –

Here is the email I sent Van on May 20, 2019.

I hope you received my calendar invitation to meet at 10:30 this Friday (June 21) at the intersection of Stapleton Road and Hwy. 24.

Thank you,

Grant

From: Grant Gurnee <grant@ecologicalbenefits.com <<mailto:grant@ecologicalbenefits.com>>>  
Sent: Monday, May 20, 2019 10:23 AM  
To: Truan, Van A SPA <van.a.truan@usace.army.mil <<mailto:van.a.truan@usace.army.mil>>>  
Cc: Peter Martz <pmartzlrg@comcast.net <<mailto:pmartzlrg@comcast.net>>>; Mike Bramlett <mbramlett@jrengineering.com <<mailto:mbramlett@jrengineering.com>>>; Jon Dausvardis <jon@ecologicalbenefits.com <<mailto:jon@ecologicalbenefits.com>>>

Subject: Grandview Reserve Project - Request for Verification of Non-JD Drainages  
Importance: High

Hello Van –

Ecoss would like to request the Corps' formal concurrence regarding the non-jurisdictional status of Drainages B and C on the Grandview Reserve Site in El Paso County (refer to Section 3.4 and additional information in the attached report). Please let us know if you would like to schedule a site visit to review these drainages with us.

Summary:

The central Drainage C and south-central Drainage B were investigated found to be discontinuous, prairie sloughs with reaches that are upland swales; they exhibited upland "breaks" in which they did not exhibit defined bed or bank (Figure 6 in attached report); and they were also found to be "isolated" as they did not connect with downstream WOUS. Patches of PEMC1 Wetland exists in these drainages that exhibits the 3 parameters for jurisdictional wetland habitat. However, they are clearly disconnected from Black Squirrel Creek by uplands that do not exhibit a defined bed or bank. Therefore, ecos determined that these drainages are isolated, non-jurisdictional features – pending Corps verification.

Thank you,

Grant

Grant Gurnée, P.W.S.

Owner – Restoration Ecologist

ecosystem services LLC

(o): 970-812-ECOS (3267)

(c): 303-746-0091

(w): Blockedwww.ecologicalbenefits.com <Blockedhttp://www.ecologicalbenefits.com/>

(e): grant@ecologicalbenefits.com <<mailto:grant@ecologicalbenefits.com>>

P Life is like a river...we all must learn to adapt to the challenges of dynamic equilibrium

**Appendix C**  
**Commitment Letters to Provide Fire and Emergency Services**

# FALCON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Administration Office  
7030 Old Meridian Road  
Falcon, Colorado 80831  
Business Number: 719-495-4050 Business Fax: 719-495-3112



October 15, 2018

4 Site Investments, LLC  
1271 Kelly Johnson Blvd, Suite 100  
Colorado Springs, CO 80920

**Re: Conditional Commitment to Provide Emergency Services  
Property: A portion of 4 Way Ranch- Phase 2**

Based upon the information you have provided, a portion of the above-referenced real property is located within the jurisdiction and boundaries of the Falcon Fire Protection District ("Fire Department"). The portion within the boundaries of the Falcon Fire Protection District is that portion west of the North/South section line beginning at the intersection of Highway 24 and Curtis. By this letter, the Fire Department confirms its commitment to provide fire suppression, fire prevention, emergency rescue, ambulance, hazardous materials and emergency medical services (collectively, "Emergency Services") to the property within the District boundaries, subject to the following conditions:

- ☒ All new construction, renovations or developments within the Fire Department's jurisdiction must comply with the applicable fire code and nationally recognized life-safety standards adopted by the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners and the Fire Department's Board of Directors, as amended from time to time;
- ☒ All development, water and construction plans must be reviewed and approved by the Fire Department for compliance with the applicable fire code and nationally recognized life-safety standards prior to final plat or construction permit being issued; and,
- ☒ All development or construction projects shall meet the fire code and nationally recognized standards' pertaining to fire protection water. Please note that approved and inspected fire cisterns are permitted by the Fire Department in an attempt to help the property owner/developer meet these requirements.

Please do not hesitate to call the fire administration office or me for further information between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

Sincerely,  
Trent Harwig  
Fire Chief/Administrator

# PEYTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## Administrative Offices

141 Union Boulevard, Suite 150  
Lakewood, Colorado 80228-1898  
Tel: 303-987-0835 · 800-741-3254  
Fax: 303-987-2032

October 30, 2018

4 Site Investments, LLC  
1274 Kelly Johnson Blvd., Suite 100  
Colorado Springs, CO 80923

### **Re: A portion of 4 Way Ranch – Phase 2 (the “Project”) – Fire Protection to Serve Letter**

To Whom It May Concern:

Based upon the provided information, a portion of the above-referenced Project is located within the jurisdiction and boundaries of the Peyton Fire Protection District (the “District”). The portion within the boundaries of the District is that portion east of the North/South section line beginning at the intersection of Highway 24 and Curtis Road.

The District is able to provide fire prevention and suppression, emergency rescue, emergency medical, and emergency hazardous materials response to the portion of the Project that is within the District service area, subject to the following conditions:

- All new construction, renovations, or developments within the District’s jurisdiction must comply with the applicable fire code and nationally recognized life-safety standards adopted by the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners and the District’s Board of Directors, as amended from time to time;
- All development, water, and construction plans must be reviewed and approved by the District for compliance with the applicable fire code and nationally recognized life-safety standards prior to final plat or construction permit being issued; and
- All development or construction projects shall meet the fire code and nationally recognized standards pertaining to fire protection water. Approved and inspected fire cisterns are permitted by the District in an attempt to help the property owner/developer meet these requirements.

If additional information is required, please contact our administrative office at 303-987-0835. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ashley B. Frisbie  
District Manager

cc: Patrick Palacol, District President  
Jeffery Turner, Fire Chief

**Appendix D**  
**USFWS IPaC Trust Resources Report**

# IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

## Location

El Paso County, Colorado



## Local office

Colorado Ecological Services Field Office

☎ (303) 236-4773

📠 (303) 236-4005

MAILING ADDRESS

Denver Federal Center

P.O. Box 25486

Denver, CO 80225-0486

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

134 Union Boulevard, Suite 670  
Lakewood, CO 80228-1807

<http://www.fws.gov/coloradoES>

<http://www.fws.gov/platteriver>

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

# Endangered species

**This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.**

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population, even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species<sup>1</sup> and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries<sup>2</sup>).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

1. Species listed under the [Endangered Species Act](#) are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information.
2. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

## Mammals

NAME

STATUS

Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse *Zapus hudsonius preblei* Threatened  
There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat.  
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4090>

## Birds

NAME	STATUS
Least Tern <i>Sterna antillarum</i> This species only needs to be considered if the following condition applies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Water-related activities/use in the N. Platte, S. Platte and Laramie River Basins may affect listed species in Nebraska.</li></ul> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8505">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8505</a>	Endangered
Mexican Spotted Owl <i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8196">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8196</a>	Threatened
Piping Plover <i>Charadrius melodus</i> This species only needs to be considered if the following condition applies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Water-related activities/use in the N. Platte, S. Platte and Laramie River Basins may affect listed species in Nebraska.</li></ul> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039</a>	Threatened
Whooping Crane <i>Grus americana</i> This species only needs to be considered if the following condition applies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Water-related activities/use in the N. Platte, S. Platte and Laramie River Basins may affect listed species in Nebraska.</li></ul> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758</a>	Endangered

## Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Greenback Cutthroat Trout <i>Oncorhynchus clarkii stomias</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2775">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2775</a>	Threatened

Pallid Sturgeon *Scaphirhynchus albus*

Endangered

This species only needs to be considered if the following condition applies:

- Water-related activities/use in the N. Platte, S. Platte and Laramie River Basins may affect listed species in Nebraska.

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7162>

## Flowering Plants

NAME

STATUS

Ute Ladies'-tresses *Spiranthes diluvialis*

Threatened

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2159>

Western Prairie Fringed Orchid *Platanthera praeclara*

Threatened

This species only needs to be considered if the following condition applies:

- Water-related activities/use in the N. Platte, S. Platte and Laramie River Basins may affect listed species in Nebraska.

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1669>

## Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS AT THIS LOCATION.

## Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>1</sup> and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act<sup>2</sup>.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.

2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/managed-species/birds-of-conservation-concern.php>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/project-assessment-tools-and-guidance/conservation-measures.php>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/nationwidestandardconservationmeasures.pdf>

THERE ARE NO MIGRATORY BIRDS OF CONSERVATION CONCERN EXPECTED TO OCCUR AT THIS LOCATION.

**Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.**

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) and/or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

**What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?**

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [AKN Phenology Tool](#).

**What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?**

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

**How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, migrating or present year-round in my project area?**

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may refer to the following resources: [The Cornell Lab of Ornithology All About Birds Bird Guide](#), or (if you are unsuccessful in locating the bird of interest there), the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology Neotropical Birds](#)

[guide](#). If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

### What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

### Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

### What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

### Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or

minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

## Facilities

### National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS AT THIS LOCATION.

### Fish hatcheries

THERE ARE NO FISH HATCHERIES AT THIS LOCATION.

### Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

This location overlaps the following wetlands:

FRESHWATER POND

[Palustrine](#)

RIVERINE

[Riverine](#)

A full description for each wetland code can be found at the [National Wetlands Inventory website](#)

**Data limitations**

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

### **Data exclusions**

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tubercid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

### **Data precautions**

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

**Appendix E**  
**Mineral Estate Owner Certification**



**Appendix F**  
**ESA Clearance Letter from the USFWS**



## United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Ecological Services  
Colorado Field Office  
P.O. Box 25486, DFC (65412)  
Denver, Colorado 80225-0486



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
TAILS: 06E24000-2019-TA-0460

**MAR 25 2019**

Mr. Jon Dauzvardis, P.W.S.  
Grant E. Gurnée, P.W.S.  
Ecosystems Services  
1455 Washburn Street  
Erie, Colorado 80516

Dear Mr. Dauzvardis and Mr. Gurnée,

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) received your letter and habitat evaluation report on February 5, 2019, regarding the 4 Sites Investments proposed Grandview Reserve residential subdivision in El Paso County, Colorado. You requested concurrence that the proposed action would have no effect on listed species including the Ute-ladies'-tresses orchid (*Spiranthes diluvialis*) (ULTO), and Preble's meadow jumping mouse (*Zapus hudsonius preblei*) (Preble's mouse). These comments have been prepared under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et. seq.).

The proposed action consists of the proposed development of a 768-acre residential community including 184 single-family multi-acre lots, streets, utilities, and open space areas between the towns of Falcon and Peyton. The project site is located on gently sloping and mildly undulating prairie dissected by four unnamed intermittent drainages which support limited wetland habitat. Two of these swale were preliminarily determined to contain jurisdictional wetlands and waters of the United States under the Clean Water Act pending US Army Corps of Engineers verification. Most of the upland acres would be developed while the drainage swales would be left as open space. The proposed project has no Federal nexus at this time.

The action area under consideration is located within the species' ranges for the Preble's mouse and ULTO, both of which rely on healthy riparian habitat.

The current condition of the riparian zones are not favorable for supporting Preble's mouse. The site photos in the report's appendices show a lack of cover from tall herbaceous or woody species. The considerable distance of unsuitable and disconnected habitat to the nearest known

population would indicate that it is unlikely that Preble's mice are present within the action area.

Based on the information provided in your letter including area photos and project maps, the Service agrees that it is unlikely that the proposed project would result in "take" of the Preble's mouse. The project area does not occur within critical habitat for the Preble's mouse.

Although the project area's riparian habitats have been impacted by livestock grazing and invasive plants, even heavy grazing is not certain to preclude a site from supporting ULTO. The project area has not yet been surveyed for ULTO during the flowering season. Thus, it is not certain that ULTO is absent. The Grandview Reserve subdivision would be located between 7020 and 6860 feet above mean sea level, which is higher than the 6500-foot elevation recommended for conducting ULTO surveys.

You have indicated in your report that at Grandview Reserve, livestock grazing will cease, a landscape restoration program will begin for the areas to be retained as open space, a stormwater management plan would be developed to protect water quality and provide consistent flows to the drainage swales, and an in-season survey for ULTO shall be conducted for all wetland areas to be impacted, including road and trail crossings, utility installation areas, and stormwater outfalls. Such measures could have beneficial effects to ULTO if the species is present. The Service agrees that the proposed project would not affect ULTO if it is not present where construction activities would intersect wetland and riparian sites. However, ULTO needs three consecutive years of surveys to conclude presence or absence. Application of the above conservation measures as planned for the project, and best management practices would most effectively conserve the riparian habitats in the absence of enough surveying. The Service recommends careful consideration of the means by which invasive species are controlled, native herbaceous and woody species are selected and seeded and/or planted, stormwaters are released into the swales, and public access is managed. If future surveys reveal the presence of ULTO population(s) in the project area, additional consultation with this office would be recommended to further consider site-specific conservation measures.

Based on the information provided in your letter, including area photos and project maps, the Service agrees that the proposed project is unlikely to negatively impact ULTO because the project area is located at an elevation higher than where the species would be expected to occur.

If any additional species that are Federally-listed, proposed for Federal listing, or candidate for Federal listing are found in the project area, if critical habitat is designated in the project area, or if new information becomes available that reveals that the action may impact such species in a manner or to an extent that was not previously considered, this office should be contacted to determine if further ESA consultation will be required.

We appreciate your efforts to ensure the conservation of threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. If you have questions or comments related to this issue, please contact George San Miguel of this office at 303-236-4752.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Drue DeBerry', written in a cursive style.

Drue DeBerry  
Colorado and Nebraska Field Supervisor

Reference: Projects\ElPasoCounty\_Grandview\_FWSconcur

**Appendix G**  
**Professional Qualifications**



## RESUME

**Grant E. Gurnée, P.W.S.**

*Owner/Managing Partner  
Senior Restoration Ecologist  
Professional Wetland Scientist  
Fisheries and Wildlife Biologist*

**AREAS OF EXPERTISE:**

- Project Management for Complex, Environmental Regulatory and Restoration Projects
- Habitat Assessment, Surveys, Planning, Permitting, Restoration Design, Construction Oversight & Monitoring for:
  - Aquatic, Wetland and Riparian Habitat, and Wildlife Habitat
  - Threatened & Endangered Species, Special Status Species, and Species of Concern
  - Nesting Birds & Raptors
  - Natural Areas, Open Space, Trails and Environmental Education Facilities
  - Conservation and Resource Mitigation Banks
- Natural Resources/Environmental Regulatory Compliance
- Construction Oversight & Best Management Practices
- Grant Funding Support for Conservation and Restoration Projects
- Expert Witness Testimony

**EDUCATION:**

- MCRP, Environmental Planning and Law Program, Rutgers University, 1994
- Bachelor of Science, Biology, Richard Stockton College of N.J., 1984

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:**

- 2008-Present: Owner, Managing Partner and Senior Restoration Ecologist  
Ecosystem Services, LLC, Erie, Colorado
- 1999-2011: Ecological Restoration Group Manager  
Walsh Environmental Scientists and Engineers, LLC, Boulder, Colorado
- 1994-1999: Vice President and Consulting Division Manager  
Aquatic and Wetland Company, Boulder, Colorado
- 1987-1994: Ecological Assessment Group Manager  
Killam Associates, Millburn, New Jersey
- 1989 – 1994: Owner and Ecologist, Westhill Environmental, Colonia, NJ
- 1986-1987: Project Manager, Connolly Environmental, Denville, New Jersey
- 1985-1986: Biological Technician/Team Lead, EA Engineering Science and Technology, Forked River Field Station, New Jersey

**CONTINUING EDUCATION:**

- Navigable Waters Protection Rule (NWPR) USEPA Webcast - 2020
- Colorado Stream Restoration Network, Stream Restoration Body of Knowledge Seminar Series – 2014 to 2019
- Stream Functions Pyramid Workshop, Denver, CO - 2014
- Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Wetland Plant Identification - 2014
- Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Ecological Integrity Assessment for Colorado Wetlands - 2013
- FACWet – Functional Assessment of Colorado Wetlands - 2010, 2012 and 2013
- Natural Treatment System Design and Implementation, Southwest Wetlands, Phoenix, AZ - 1995
- Continuing Education in Coastal and Wetland Ecology, Rutgers University, 1985 – 1994

## **CERTIFICATIONS:**

- Professional Wetland Scientist, Certification (#559), Society of Wetland Scientists Certification Program, 1995
- Certified Wetland Delineator, Army Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineator Certification Program, 1993
- Wetland Mitigation Planning and Design Certification, Environmental Concern, Sparks, MD, 1992
- Certified Ornithologist, Marine Biologist, Aquatic Biologist and Ecologist for the preparation and certification of Environmentally Sensitive Areas Protection Plans, N.J. Dept. of Environmental Protection and Energy, 1988
- Wetland Delineation and Regulatory Certification, National Wetland Science Training Institute, 1988

## **PROTECTED SPECIES SURVEYS AND HABITAT ASSESSMENTS:**

- Ute-ladies' tresses orchid and Colorado butterfly plant
- Preble's meadow jumping mouse
- Nesting birds and raptors, including burrowing owls
- Swift fox and bobcat
- Boreal toad
- Pine Barrens and grey tree frogs
- Freshwater, estuarine and marine surveys for native fish
- Western Tiger Salamander
- Terrestrial and sea turtles

## **EXPERIENCE SUMMARY:**

Mr. Gurnée is a founder and managing partner of Ecosystem Services, LLC (ecos), a design-build, ecological planning and design firm that is the culmination of his life's work and passion for restoring and conserving the natural world. Grant is a certified Professional Wetland Scientist with over 36 years of experience in wetland ecology, restoration ecology, wildlife and fisheries biology, environmental planning, and regulatory compliance. Prior to ecos Grant established the Ecological Restoration Group at Walsh Environmental and was the Vice President in charge of the Consulting & Design Division for Aquatic and Wetland Company, the first design-build-grow firm in Colorado. Mr. Gurnée utilizes his diverse field assessment and hands-on experience to bring a unique and pragmatic, big-picture perspective to projects from conceptual planning through implementation. Grant's environmental planning and law education combined with his regulatory compliance experience make him one of the leading experts in the Intermountain West in Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act issues. He enjoys teaching and furthering the science and art that comprise the field of restoration ecology. As such, Grant has published and presented papers and technical manuals, and lectured nationally and internationally at educational programs that further the understanding of aquatic, wetland, riparian and Threatened and Endangered (T&E) species habitat assessment and restoration. Mr. Gurnée has also been called upon to provide expert reports, expert witness testimony and liaison representation in complex regulatory compliance matters.

## **RELEVANT PROJECT EXPERIENCE:**

The following is a sampling of select projects and clientele that Grant has successfully completed or is currently involved in:

### **Habitat Assessment and Regulatory Compliance**

- **Cinemark Preliminary Habitat Assessment and Jurisdictional Assessment, Colorado Springs, CO** – ecos was hired by Classic Consulting Engineers and Surveyors to perform a Preliminary Habitat Assessment (PHA) and Jurisdictional Assessment of waters of the U.S. (WOUS) under the Clean Water Act (CWA) for Cinemark property within Colorado Springs, Colorado. The PHA included an assessment and mapping of vegetation, noxious weeds, Federal and State Listed Candidate, T&E Species, Wildlife Species of Concern (including Raptors), Waters of the U.S. and Wetland Habitat, Floodplains, and Cultural, Archeological and Paleontological Resources. The PHA Report summarizes ecos' Site assessment findings and includes the mapping of all ecological constraints and cultural resources, a preliminary jurisdictional status determination of all potential wetland habitat and WOUS under the CWA, a summary of ecological opportunities and constraints, and provides regulatory guidance to assist in planning and implementing the future development of the site.

- **Morning Fresh Dairy Farm Clean Water Act Jurisdictional Assessment, Bellvue, CO** – ecos was retained by Otis, Bedingfield & Peters, LLC to assist the Morning Fresh Dairy Farm in determining the jurisdictional status of onsite drainages under the CWA, including the assessment of onsite and offsite, downstream connections to Waters of the United States.
- **4 Way Ranch Assessment & Regulatory Compliance Report, El Paso County, CO** - ecos was retained by 4 Way Ranch to perform a natural resource assessment for their Phase 2 development, and to prepare a Natural Features Wetland, Wildfire, Noxious Weeds & Wildlife Report (Report) pursuant to El Paso County environmental review regulations. The purpose of the project was to identify and document the natural resources, ecological characteristics and existing conditions of the Site; identify potential ecological impacts associated with Site development; and provide current regulatory guidance related to potential development-related impacts to natural resources, including: Mineral and Natural Resource Extraction; Vegetation; Wetland Habitat and WOUS; Noxious Weeds; Wildfire Hazard; Wildlife; Federal and State Listed Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species; and Raptors and Migratory Birds.
- **Banning Lewis Ranch, Colorado Springs, CO** – ecos was hired by Norwood Homes to perform a PHA for the Banning Lewis Ranch (BLR), an 18,000-acre property within El Paso County, Colorado that will double the size of Colorado Springs once it is developed. The PHA included an assessment and mapping of vegetation, noxious weeds, Federal and State Listed Candidate, T&E Species, Wildlife Species of Concern (including Raptors), Waters of the U.S. and Wetland Habitat, Floodplains, and Cultural, Archeological and Paleontological Resources. The PHA Report summarizes ecos' Site assessment findings and includes the mapping of all ecological constraints and cultural resources, a preliminary jurisdictional status determination of all potential wetland habitat and WOUS under the CWA, a summary of ecological opportunities and constraints, and provides regulatory guidance to assist in planning and implementing the future development of the BLR. Norwood and their planning team, in association with ecos, are currently uploading and interpreting all of the ecos Site assessment mapping into their base GIS layers to inform future site planning and recommend proactive measures to conserve wildlife and wetland habitat, pristine prairie and ephemeral creeks, floodplains, and significant cultural resources.
- **Clean Water Act Jurisdictional Assessment of El Guique Mine in Estaca, New Mexico** – Ecos assisted Espanola Transit Mix, LLC (ETM) in their assessment at the El Guique Mine in Estaca, New Mexico (Site) by determining the potential jurisdictional status of onsite drainages and other waters under the CWA. We reviewed available background information and base mapping to gain a better understanding of the Site and the adjacent offsite area and prepared an overlay of potential WOUS on Google Earth aerial Imagery for mark-up and notation in the field. Ecos then conducted a field assessment to review Site conditions, and potential offsite, downstream connections to WOUS, and particularly the presence of a Significant Nexus to the Rio Grande, a TNW. We drafted a Technical Memorandum summarizing the methodology employed, the results of the field assessment, the rationale under the CWA for all areas deemed to be excluded or non-jurisdictional and illustrated the locations of potential jurisdictional and non-jurisdictional features identified in the field on Google Earth aerial imagery.
- **Bellvue Pipeline Project, BMP Facilitator, Larimer County, CO** – ecos was retained by the City of Greeley as Best Management Practices (BMP) Facilitators to provide pre-construction documentation post-construction oversight of pipeline reclamation processes. Essential responsibilities include meeting with landowners prior to construction to facilitate project understanding and post-construction outcomes; to document landowner needs and wants relative to project goals and land use; to document and monitor pre- and post-construction reclamation and maintenance requirements; and to ensure the contractors maintain compliance with all state and federal laws, county regulations, and Greeley construction and restoration specifications.
- **Encana Oil and Gas (USA), Denver Julesburg Basin, CO** – Encana hired ecos to assess their ecological constraints, recommend means and methods to avoid, minimize and permit unavoidable impacts; and to mitigate, restore and prepare ecological management plans for their drilling and pipeline operations in the Denver Julesburg basin. Grant's role on the team is to perform site assessments, research background data, and prepare assessment reports and mapping data that can be utilized by Encana's project managers to proactively track ecological resources before issues arise. In addition to client consultation, Ecos is responsible for tracking drill site schedules, constraints, restoration and management efforts in a data base and reporting said information to Encana's project manager on a regular basis.
- **Georgetown Lake, Georgetown, CO** –ecos was hired to perform an onsite assessment of ecological resources and prepare a summary report to describe the physical/ecological characteristics of the Project

area and evaluate the potential effects of the construction of a loop trail project on environmental issues and species of concern to support a GOCO grant application. Items evaluated and documented, include site location/ownership, general site characteristics, current land use, proposed impacts, possible effects on Federal– and State-listed T&E animal and plant species, unique or important wildlife, water quality, water bodies, wetlands, and floodplains, stormwater runoff, sedimentation, soil erosion, and invasive species. The assessment report also included mitigation measures, project benefits, and environmental compliance recommendations under applicable regulatory programs.

- **Site Assessments for General Vegetation Cover and T&E Species Presence/Absence** – ecos was retained by JADE Consulting, LLC to perform the assessment of two future development sites located in Lafayette and Yuma, Colorado. We performed a desk-top assessment to identify existing site characteristics and screen the potential presence/absence of federally-listed T&E species and followed up with onsite assessments to verify our preliminary findings. Our findings and recommendations were summarized in a Technical Memorandum in which we determined that no further assessment or regulatory compliance actions are required.
- **The Cove Assessment & Regulatory Compliance Report, El Paso County, CO** - ecos was retained by Lake Woodmoor Development, Inc. to perform a natural resource assessment for The Cove development, and to prepare a Natural Features Wetland, Wildfire, Noxious Weeds & Wildlife Report (Report) pursuant to El Paso County environmental review regulations. The purpose of the project was to identify and document the natural resources, ecological characteristics and existing conditions of the Site; identify potential ecological impacts associated with Site development; and provide current regulatory guidance related to potential development-related impacts to natural resources, including: Mineral and Natural Resource Extraction; Vegetation; Wetland Habitat and Waters of the U.S.; Noxious Weeds; Wildfire Hazard; Wildlife; Federal and State Listed Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species; and Raptors and Migratory Birds.
- **Jurisdictional Determination Request for Banning Lewis Ranch, Villages 1 and 2 Residential Development, El Paso County, CO** - ecos was retained by Oakwood Homes, LLC to review a 2014 Jurisdictional Boundary Delineation and determine if a portion of the wetlands and waters within the site could be deemed non-jurisdictional under the Clean Water Act (CWA) based on their “isolated” status. Following data review, ecos arranged a field assessment with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to review site conditions, and potential offsite, downstream connections to waters of the U.S. (WOUS), and particularly the presence of a Significant Nexus to Traditional Navigable Waters TNW). Ecos and the Corps agreed that several of the intermittent drainages on the suite are not jurisdictional under the CWA, as they are not: 1) a TNW or wetland adjacent to a TNW; 2) a Relatively Permanent Water (RPW) or a wetland directly abutting an RPW with perennial or seasonal flow; 3) a tributary to a TNW; or 4) a direct tributary to a downstream WOUS as the feature loses its bed and banks. The Corps submitted ecos’ findings to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and they concurred and issued an Approved Jurisdictional Determination stating that the drainages were indeed “isolated” features exempt from the CWA.
- **Bellvue Pipeline Project, CWA and ESA Regulatory Negotiation, Larimer County, CO** – ecos assisted the City of Greeley from 2011 through 2014 in their negotiations with the Corps to facilitate review and verification of the Project under CWA, Nationwide Permit 12 (NP12) in 2014. Grant aided the City during Corps meetings, field visits and teleconferences; in coordinating with the Corps and the technical experts on the Corps Common Technical Platform (CTP) team; and in utilizing the CTP Poudre watershed data to assess the probability of Project-specific impacts. Grant also provided regulatory and technical support to the City for the CWA, Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) Supplement for the Project from 2014 through the USACE’s 2017 issuance of the “removal of capacity conditions for the Northern and Fort Collins segments” placed on the 2014 NP12. His tasks included performing Impact Avoidance Evaluations, providing historical context and data from the initial work performed for the City on this Project, assisting a Team of multi-disciplinary professionals in the preparation of Impact Assessment Reports, meeting with the City to discuss overall regulatory strategy, assisting with the preparation of the cover letter to transmit the PCN Supplement to the USACE, and assisting with discussions and presentations to the USACE during their review and processing of a Minimal Effects Determination for the Project. Mr. Gurnée also assisted Greeley in their negotiations with the FWS to facilitate review and consultation for the Northern Segment of the Project under Section 7 of the ESA. Grant led the field assessment with FWS, identification and prioritization of potential PMJM habitat mitigation sites, development of a conceptual design for the selected PMJM habitat mitigation sites, and preparation of the Biological Assessment

Addendum and Habitat Mitigation Plan. Grant also aided the City during agency review and approval of the FWS Biological Opinion by utilizing his relationships with the FWS, and extensive experience of ESA regulations, policies and precedents.

- **Appraisal Support Documentation Report for the 1st Bank Parcel, Colorado Springs, CO** - ecos was retained by 1st Bank Holding Company to perform a Preble's meadow jumping mouse (PMJM) habitat assessment, mitigation cost analysis and conceptual lot layout for the approximate 9.4-acre 1st Bank Parcel (Site) situated south of the Gleneagle residential development and north of the current Northgate Open Space along Smith Creek in Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- **South Boulder Canon Ditch Maintenance, CWA Exemption Determination, Erie, CO** – ecos assisted the Town of Erie in exempting their proposed ditch maintenance project by performing an assessment of site conditions, submitting the assessment report to the Corps, and verifying that said project is exempt pursuant to Section 404(f) of the CWA.
- **Endangered Species Act (ESA) Compliance Documentation for the Pinon Lake tributary CLOMR Application, Forest Lakes Filing 2B in El Paso County, Colorado** – ecos performed an assessment to document the absence of federally-listed T&E species and their habitat and prepared a report for FEMA that documents that the proposed CLOMR action will not result in a “take” of T&E species.
- **Gleneagle Infill Development Assessment & Regulatory Compliance Report, El Paso County, CO** - ecos was retained by G & S Development, Inc. to perform a natural resource assessment for the proposed Gleneagle Infill Development at the former Gleneagle Golf Course, and to prepare a Natural Features and Wetland Report (Report) pursuant to El Paso County environmental review regulations. The purpose of the project was to identify and document the natural resources, ecological characteristics and existing conditions of the Site; identify potential ecological impacts associated with Site development; and provide current regulatory guidance related to potential development-related impacts to natural resources, including: Mineral and Natural Resource Extraction; Vegetation; Wetland Habitat and Waters of the U.S.; Weeds; Wildfire Hazard; Wildlife; Federal and State Listed Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species; and Raptors and Migratory Birds. As part of the Project, ecos obtained an Approved Jurisdictional Determination from the Corps.
- **North Fork at Briargate Habitat Evaluation and ESA Compliance, Colorado Springs, CO** - ecos performed a habitat evaluation on behalf of High Valley Land Co., Inc. and La Plata Communities to support informal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) under the ESA for potential effects to the Federally-listed, threatened PMJM from the proposed North Fork development, Filings 3 through 7 at Briargate.
- **C Lazy U Preserves Natural Resource Inventory and Conservation Easement Documentation, Grand County, CO** – ecos is assisting the C Lazy U Preserves in assessing and documenting the conservation values of the 980-acre site known as C Lazy U Preserves near Granby, CO such that the site may be protected under Conservation Easements (CE's) held by The Nature Conservancy. The purpose of the CE's is the long-term preservation of the scenic, open space, agricultural, significant natural habitat, native vegetation, rare plant communities, riparian, and wetland values of the Property. ecos staff completed the Easement Documentation Reports Phase 1 of the CE's in 2006, Phase 2 in 2007, and Phase 3 in 2015.
- **Seaman Water Management Project, Riparian-Wetland Technical Support** - Mr. Gurnée supported Greeley in the NEPA EIS process by reviewing riparian and wetland technical reports prepared by the Corps CTP team, and providing comments to assist the City in their formal review and response to the Corps. He also provided technical and regulatory support for CWA and ESA (PMJM habitat) assessment, consultation, and compensatory mitigation planning and design.
- **City of Louisville, City of Westminster, Jefferson County and Town of Monument** – ecos performed numerous wetland habitat, wildlife, MBTA and T&E species habitat ecological assessments, wetland delineations, and Clean Water Act Section 404 and Endangered Species Act Section 7 Permits and mitigation plans for counties, municipalities and quasi- municipalities, including Highway 42 and 96th Street realignment, Jim Baker Reservoir, Standley Lake Protection Project, Triview Metro District Preble's and wetland habitat mitigation planning.
- **ARCO Clark Fork River Basin Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site, Anaconda, MT** – Grant and his Team performed wetland delineation, functional assessments, and impact analysis over a 200 square mile area affected by historic mining practices and current remedial actions required by an EPA consent decree.

- **ARCO Clark Fork River Basin Milltown Reservoir Superfund Site, Missoula, MT** – Mr. Gurnée and his Team performed wetland delineation, functional assessments, and impact analysis of proposed remedial actions that will remove metal laden sediments from the site prior to dam removal.
- **C-Lazy-U and Horn Ranch Environmental Assessments, Granby, CO** – Mr. Gurnée and his Team performed an assessment of ecological opportunities and constraints in the aquatic, riparian, wetland and threatened and endangered species habitat along the Colorado River for the development and enhancement of fishing/resort ranch amenities.
- **Village at Avon, Avon, CO** – Grant and his Team performed a wetland delineation and prepared CWA Section 404 permitting for the town center expansion and low-density ranchette development.

### Protected Species Surveys and Habitat Assessments

- **Golden Eagle Monitoring at Meadow Park in Lyons, CO** - ecos was retained by the Town of Lyons (Town) to perform the monthly monitoring of the Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) nest sites at Meadow Park, to prepare monthly Monitoring Summary Memorandum following each event, and to prepare and submit annual reporting to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) associated with the *Lyons Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit #MB82833B-0, Eagle Take Associated With But Not The Purpose Of An Activity* (Take Permit).
- **Nesting Birds, Raptors and Burrowing Owls** – Grant has completed over 100 pre-construction nesting surveys and numerous monitoring surveys for raptors and burrowing owls. His projects include pipeline rights-of-way, housing and commercial development projects, stream and river restoration projects, wind and solar farm projects, and oil and gas projects along the Front Range of Colorado, as well as projects in the Pine Barrens of southern New Jersey. His avian experience includes golden eagle nest monitoring; barred owl roost and nest monitoring, and call playback inventory; and multi-species raptor surveys.
- **Native Plants** - Grant has completed numerous pre-construction and monitoring surveys for Ute ladies' tresses orchid and Colorado butterfly plant since 1994. His projects include pipeline rights-of way, mined land reclamation projects, housing and commercial development projects, stream and river restoration projects, wind and solar farm projects, and oil and gas projects along the Front Range of Colorado.
- **Threatened, Endangered and Candidate Species** – Grant trained with the leading expert, Robert Stoecker, PhD, in 1994 and 1995 to gain an understanding of the soon to be listed, Preble's meadow jumping mouse, a threatened species; and since that time, he has completed numerous surveys, habitat assessments, and ESA consultations. He has also performed night-time Swift fox surveys at windfarm sites in southern CO and Boreal toad surveys in northern CO. Prior to relocating to CO Grant performed numerous surveys in N.J., including bobcat surveys to assist in protecting the Pyramid Rock Natural Area; Pine Barrens and gray tree frog surveys, and native Pine Barrens fish surveys with his mentor, Dr. Rudy Arndt; and Eastern box turtle surveys. He also assessed migration routes and alternative mitigation measures for sea turtles that were being impacted by the Garden State Parkway.

### Wetland Mitigation and Habitat Restoration

- **Park Creek Mitigation Bank, Fort Collins, CO** – ecos was retained by Burns and McDonnell to assess, map, and prepare preliminary mitigation design of aquatic, wetland, riparian and terrestrial habitat in support of a mitigation banking prospectus. Upon completion and acceptance of the prospectus by the USACE, ecos has been tasked to manage the baseline assessment of the site, including groundwater testing, topographic surveys, and hydrology; prepare a detailed habitat design for inclusion in mitigation banking instrument; as well as coordinate design-build process with a selected nursery and contractor.
- **Front Range Mitigation and Habitat Conservation Bank** – ecos is assisting Restoration Systems, LLC (RS), the Bank Sponsor, with the assessment, planning and design of the Front Range Umbrella Bank for Aquatic Resource Mitigation & Habitat Conservation (Bank). This “umbrella” Bank is intended to provide habitat mitigation for projects along the entire Front Range of Colorado. The **ecos/RS** Team is in the process of securing viable sites in the major watersheds along the Front Range; and recently submitted the Draft Prospectus for the establishment of the Bank to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District, Southern Colorado Regulatory Office and Omaha District, Denver Regulatory Office.
- **Lions Park Poudre River CWA and ESA Mitigation Site** - ecos assisted Greeley in developing and constructing an advance river and wetland mitigation site at Lions Park in LaPorte, Colorado that may be used for future CWA impacts in the Poudre River watershed. We also prepared a conceptual design for Preble's meadow jumping mouse habitat that will be used to support ESA consultation. ecos assessed the

site, prepared the designs, and coordinated review with Greeley, Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife, Larimer County Parks and Open Lands and Larimer County Engineering Department. The mitigation site provides compensatory mitigation for impacts to wetland and waters of the U.S. under the CWA and will also provide compensation for PMJM habitat under the ESA. This mitigation project entails development of mitigation measures including bioengineered streambank stabilization, fishery habitat enhancement, riparian and wetland habitat restoration and PMJM habitat enhancement.

- **Bellvue Transmission Line Project, Preliminary Compensatory Mitigation Plan (PCMP)** - Mr. Gurnée was the Project Manager for the preparation of the Preliminary Compensatory Mitigation Plan (PCMP) for the Bellvue Transmission Line Project. Built upon preferred strategies in the 2008 Corps Compensatory Mitigation Rules, the PCMP leverages a broad strategy to ensure mitigation success and employs a watershed approach to select and prioritize compensatory mitigation (CM) measures that will best mitigate adverse environmental effects. It is intended to support a Corps determination of minimal adverse effect and allow verification of the Northern Segment of the Project under Nationwide Permit 12. Grant led the Team during the watershed assessment of the Poudre River, identification and prioritization of potential CM and preservation sites, development of a Pilot Watershed Plan, and conceptual design of priority CM sites. The PCMP has been submitted to the Corps for review and approval.
- **Flatirons Parcel Riparian and Wetland Habitat Restoration Project** – Grant assisted Greeley in developing a multiple use project at the Flatirons Parcel, a gravel quarry site in Greeley, Colorado. The site is being decommissioned over the next decade and offers great potential to create a system of ponds connected via a naturalized stream that discharges into the Poudre. The concept design incorporates recreation opportunities that are tied into the Poudre River Trail, a passive park, and the development of wetland, riparian and wildlife habitat.
- **Ruby Pipeline Wetland, Riparian and Waterbody Mitigation and Restoration Plan, WY, UT, NV AND OR** - Mr. Gurnée was the lead restoration ecologist and wetland scientist for the 675-mile, Ruby Pipeline; a natural gas pipeline traversing four states. He was the lead for the preparation of Wetland Mitigation, Riparian and Waterbody Restoration Plans under the CWA, BLM regulations and state equivalent programs. The plans included regulatory guidelines, requirements, and processes; and ecoregion specific restoration plans. The plans detailed specifications for the basis of design, construction, and revegetation; outlined performance criteria, maintenance and monitoring methods for the restoration of approximately 460 acres of temporary wetland impacts.
- **River Point, Sheridan, CO** - Mr. Gurnée was the project manager and lead restoration ecologist for the team that assessed, permitted and designed the natural and aesthetic features of this Brownfields project. The project included a naturalized water quality swale and riverfront improvements which complement the aesthetics and ecology of the South Platte River corridor. The swale was designed to mimic the form and function of a tributary stream, providing passive water treatment with native wetland and riparian vegetation, as well as flood attenuation with instream structures and grade control. The project utilized natural, “bio-engineering” and “bio-technical” techniques to repair and maintain channel and stream bank stability, and native vegetation to enhance and restore habitat. This project also addressed the interface of proposed restaurants, a regional greenway trail, and the river through planning and design of nature trails, interpretive nodes and overlooks/access features that will function to both stabilize banks and help connect people with the river.
- **Caribou Peat Bog Restoration, Nederland, CO** – Grant performed the impact assessment, prepared native plant community design, planting cost estimate, and on-the-ground oversight of restoration volunteers to restore a high-altitude peat bog disturbed by an illegal off-road-vehicle “mudfest”.
- **Opportunity Ponds Operational Unit, Anaconda, MT** - Mr. Gurnée was the project manager and lead restoration ecologist providing technical support to Atlantic Richfield/British Petroleum at a Superfund site in the Upper Clark Fork River basin in Montana between 1995 and 2008. Services included wetland delineation and functional assessment of over 3,000 acres of wetland, stream and pond habitat; design of stream and wetland habitat mitigation projects; and permitting/compliance services. The largest project within the Superfund site was the Opportunity Ponds, a 908-acre wetland, stream and wildlife habitat creation project. The project will result in the largest freshwater mitigation project in the U.S; and is intended to mitigate for historic wetland/waters impacts from Anaconda Mining Company operations and current impacts resulting from remedial actions associated with the Superfund cleanup process.
- **The Club at Flying Horse Golf Course, Colorado Springs, CO** – On behalf of Classic Communities, Grant and his Team assessed wetland habitat, recommended impact avoidance and minimization

measures, and prepared the Section 404, CWA permit for a 1500-acre mixed use development and Weiskopf golf course. The project aesthetic and mitigation measures included the design of native prairie roughs, meandering stream channels and native wetland meadows within the golf course. Extra wetland mitigation was created to serve as a private mitigation bank for the client.

- **Maloit Park, Minturn, CO** - Grant was the project manager and restoration ecologist for the Maloit Park Restoration Project, which was necessitated by the accidental release of mine slurry that contaminated the soils and vegetation of critical wetland habitat at the confluence of Cross Creek and the Eagle River. The project included the assessment of the site, the collection of native wetland seed (that was adapted to site conditions); the selection of appropriate replacement soil; the design of the restoration grading and planting plans; and oversight during the soil replacement, grading and planting phases. Mr. Gurnée also provided follow-up monitoring and reporting to ensure the successful establishment of the wetland habitat.
- **Department of Energy, Private Mitigation Bank, Westminster, CO** - Mr. Gurnée provided the project assessment, design, permitting, mitigation banking instrument negotiation with the Corps and EPA, and construction supervision of a 12-acre wetland mitigation bank for the Department of Energy in Westminster, CO. The project provides compensatory mitigation for impacts associated with the Rocky Flats clean-up and remediation project. It should be noted that this was the first private mitigation bank negotiated in Colorado, and as such it assisted in setting the precedent for future negotiations.
- **Saudi Arabia Coastal Wetland Restoration** - Mr. Gurnée assisted in the restoration planning for 67 square kilometers (41 square miles) of high salt marsh (sabhka) impacted by Gulf War oil spills.

### **Aquatic, Wetland, and Riparian Habitat Design**

- **Saint Vrain Creek Reach 3 Phase 2 Flood Recovery and Restoration, Boulder County, CO** - ecos is part of the Design Team assisting Boulder County Parks & Open Space (BCPOS) with the restoration, repair and enhancement of the Phase 2 reach of the Saint Vrain Creek in rural Boulder County, which was damaged by the 2013 floods. Our role on the project includes: 1) desktop and field assessment to inventory and document the characteristics of the stream reach and riparian corridor (e.g. stream/in-stream features, vegetation, wildlife habitat); identifying and locating significant habitat features within the areas of proposed construction; identifying potential sources of native plant materials for restoration; and identifying areas of opportunity within the breach repair work areas for native vegetation, wetland, PMJM, and fishery habitat restoration; and delineate wetland habitat and waters of the U.S. in all areas of proposed/potential construction-related impact; 2) vegetation community and wildlife habitat restoration design and fish passage design parameters; 3) permitting and compliance under the CWA and ESA; 4) construction oversight for restoration construction; and 5) monitoring and reporting project success/establishment to BCPOS, stakeholders, the Corps, FWS and the State of Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) under the (the Grant funding agency under the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBGDR) Resilience Planning Program grant.
- **Big Thompson River Flood Recovery and Restoration, Loveland, CO** - ecos is currently part of a multi-disciplinary team assisting the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) with assessment, design, and construction of the Big Thompson between Rossum and Wilson Drives which are majority-owned by the City of Loveland and Loveland Ready-mix. As with all the flood recovery projects ecos has worked on, we produced 30%, 60% and 100% design plans, construction cost estimates, and specifications guiding soil development/enrichment; upland, riparian, and wetland seeding and planting; and numerous bioengineering techniques aimed at restoring the river and making it more resilient to future flood events. This project is aimed at completion in the summer of 2019.
- **Saint Vrain Creek Reach 3 Flood Recovery and Restoration, Boulder County, CO** - ecos was part of the Design Team assisting BCPOS with the restoration, repair and enhancement of the reach of the Saint Vrain Creek from Highway 36 downstream to Hygiene Road in rural Boulder County, which was damaged by the 2013 floods. Our role on the project included: 1) desktop and field assessment to inventory and document the characteristics of the stream reach and riparian corridor (e.g. stream/in-stream features, vegetation, wildlife habitat); identifying and locating significant habitat features within the areas of proposed construction; identify potential sources of native plant materials for restoration; and identify areas of opportunity within the breach repair work areas for native vegetation, wetland, PMJM, leopard frog and fishery habitat restoration; and delineate wetland habitat and waters of the U.S. in all areas of proposed/potential construction-related impact; 2) vegetation community and wildlife habitat restoration design and fish passage design parameters; 3) permitting and compliance under the CWA, ESA and

NHPA; 4) construction oversight for restoration construction; and 5) monitoring and reporting project success/establishment to BCPOS, stakeholders, the Corps, FWS and the State of Colorado DOLA under the CDBGDR Resilience Planning Program grant.

- **Bohn Park Flood Recovery Design, Town of Lyons, CO** – ecos is part of the Design Team assisting the Town with the restoration, repair and enhancement of Bohn Park in Lyons, which was damaged by the 2013 floods. Ecos role is to assess and design the natural restoration of the vegetation communities and habitat along St. Vrain Creek and riparian corridor; and to support the project design by acquiring permits/approvals and maintaining regulatory compliance under the CWA, ESA and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The final design will address goals and priorities associated with the Parks Flood Recovery Planning Process, FEMA Project Worksheets and Project Scopes, the Lyons Recovery Action Plan (LRAP), associated Program Development Guides (PDG's), existing Town master plans, comprehensive plans and other relevant documentation and studies.
- **James Creek Post-Flood Restoration, Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG), Jamestown, CO** – ecos was part of the LWOG and Boulder County Department of Transportation Team responsible for preparing the 30-60% design package for James Creek Reach 16 as identified in the Left Hand Creek Watershed Master Plan. ecos performed pre- and post-flood plant community assessment; developed revegetation goals and objectives, the basis of design, monitoring protocols, and revegetation plans in accordance with Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) 30% Guidelines. Specific resources and issues of concern addressed by ecos, included federal and state listed candidate, threatened and endangered species, wildlife species of concern (including raptors), fisheries and fish passage, native plant communities, and management of noxious weeds, all in concert with geomorphic, hydrology and hydraulic analysis and design prepared by other team members.
- **Saint Vrain Creek Restoration and Floodplain Resiliency Plan, Lyons, CO** – ecos is part of the design-build team intent on restoring the St. Vrain Creek corridor in the Town of Lyons that was damaged during the September 2013 flood event. The goal of the project is to create a more resilient floodplain and natural channel condition that will alleviate future threats to the community, reestablish floodplain connectivity, stabilize banks, and restore aquatic, wetland and riparian habitat that was wiped out during the flood. Grant is responsible for CWA, ESA, Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act permitting; as well as developing the plant communities and revegetation strategies needed to restore aquatic and riparian structure and functions within the corridor that support fish, wildlife, recreation, and help the town regain the ecological benefits and economic value they receive from outdoor enthusiasts.
- **Bellvue Raw Water Ponds Riverbank Restoration, Bellvue, CO** – The 2013 flood on the Poudre River altered the course of the river and severely eroded a bank nearly causing a breach of the City of Greeley's raw water ponds – their main municipal water supply. The goal of the project was to stabilize the bank to protect the ponds and to create riparian habitat for the Preble's meadow jumping mouse, a federally listed threatened and endangered species. Jon was responsible for preparing bioengineering design plans and specifications that include soil/cobble encapsulated lifts, stream barbs to deflect flows away from the bank, and harder, biotechnical design of soil/riprap and stream bed scour protection measures to prevent erosion and further undermining and sloughing of the bank. Design plans included specification of native plant materials and various techniques to restore cottonwood forest and willow habitat to further stabilize the bank.
- **Poudre River Pipeline Crossing at Kodak, Windsor, CO** – ecos role on the project was to assess restoration potential, techniques, and prepare design plans and performance specifications to reclaim a pipeline corridor across the lower Poudre River where the City of Greeley had to replace 3 major water supply lines. ecos also provided oversight during the construction of site and riverbank stabilization and restoration measures following installation of the pipelines.
- **Lions Park Poudre River Restoration Plan, Laporte, CO** – ecos role on the project was to assess habitat conditions; gather, compile and analyze field survey data; and to prepare the mapping and mitigation design plans for the Lions Park PMJM habitat and the Poudre River Bank Stabilization Plans. We designed and executed the technical drawings for the structural components of the habitat, ensuring that the proposed riparian plant community, habitat structures (brush piles), and bioengineered streambank stabilization measures will create the conditions that alleviate the current habitat fragmentation; support the life requisites of the PMJM; and enhance the overall health of the Poudre River fishery.

- **C Lazy U Ranch, Willow Creek Fishery Enhancement Plan, Granby, CO** - Mr. Gurnée was the lead fisheries biologist and wetland ecologist for the assessment and design of this project. The project entailed 2 miles of instream and riparian cover habitat aimed at enhancing water quality through increased bank stability, improving aquatic habitat and angling opportunities, and providing long-term stability to the reach given existing land-use constraints, and ongoing ranching activities. Bank-side improvements included wetland mitigation design to support ranch impacts, detailed seeding and planting plans indicating site-specific plant and seed locations, life zones, and species palettes according to hydrologic, soil, and aspect conditions. Grant was the regulatory lead, consulting with the Corps under Section 404 of the CWA.
- **Edwards Eagle River Restoration Project, Edwards, CO** – Grant was the senior wetland ecologist and fisheries biologist for the Edwards Eagle River Restoration Project (Project); which is roughly 1.5 miles long covering an area of 168 acres of floodplain along the Eagle River in the heart of the Edwards community. The project utilized indigenous materials and methods to naturally integrate habitat structure in the landscape context. He provided grant funding support; stream, riparian, wetland and fisheries habitat assessment, planning and design; and construction oversight services to the Eagle River Watershed Council for the Project. He assisted the ERWC in facilitating the public process associated with developing stakeholder support and gaining funding through the Eagle Mine Natural Resources Damage Fund. The Project was awarded over \$2,000,000 in grant funding; \$1,400,000 of which was from the Eagle Mine NRDF. The total project cost is projected at \$4,300,000.
- **Gypsum Creek Fisheries Enhancement, Gypsum, CO** - Mr. Gurnée was the lead fisheries biologist and restoration ecologist for the instream and riparian habitat assessment, design, permitting and implementation of habitat improvements along Gypsum Creek. Project treatments included both instream and bankside treatments. Instream treatments served to improve deep-water habitat, create flow separation or concentration zones, increase low flow sinuosity, provide instream cover, improve adult fish habitat, create nursery areas, and enhance spawning opportunities. Bankside treatments for aquatic habitat improvements included creation or enhancement of overhead cover; provision of protective cover; and enhancing shading, cooling, and nutrient cycling functions. Bank protection treatments served to correct localized bank instabilities and reduce bank erosion and the potential for sediment deposition downstream. The Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) commented that, “The Gypsum Creek project was implemented in such a low impact manner that you cannot tell that construction had occurred in the area.”
- **Cache La Poudre River Removal Action, Fort Collins, CO** - On behalf of the City of Fort Collins, Mr. Gurnée led negotiations between the EPA, stakeholders and the City regarding riverine, riparian and wetland regulatory and restoration design standards during the removal and remediation of a contaminated reach of the Poudre River. He also provided design review and revision, as well as construction oversight to ensure successful implementation of the instream and streambank restoration along the 0.50 mile, highly visible reach of the river near downtown Fort Collins.
- **TZ Ranch, Elk Hollow Creek Fishery Habitat Enhancement Plan, Saratoga, WY** - ecos performed the assessment and design of the Elk Hollow Creek Project, which included instream and riparian habitat improvements aimed at increasing bank stability, improving aquatic habitat and angling opportunities, and providing long-term stability to the reach. Instream improvements included drop structures, plunge pools, deep pools, riffles and spawning habitat. Bank improvements included seeding and planting plans for native wetland and riparian species. Grant was the regulatory lead, consulting with the Corps under Section 404 of the CWA and the Wyoming Department of Fish and Game. ecos also provided construction oversight and native plant installation services to ensure the successful implementation of the Project.
- **Brush Creek Fishery Enhancement Plans, Saratoga, WY** – Grant assisted in the preparation of access and staging plans, design plans and details, and performed on-site construction oversight of instream and riparian habitat enhancements and bioengineered bank stabilization for a 3-mile reach of Brush Creek. The purpose of the project is to enhance fish, bird and wildlife habitat and use these resources to facilitate education and improve the recreational experience of Ranch guests.
- **Brush Creek Ranch Pond Creation Plans, Saratoga, WY** – ecos provided design-build services including site optimization selection; excavation, grading, drainage and revegetation plans; and construction oversight for a 0.30-acre fishing pond. The pond design included an innovative undercut bank design incorporating a framework of trees supporting transplanted, native sod; which provided excellent fish habitat.
- **Boulder Creek Fishery Enhancement and Pond Creation Project, Boulder, CO** - Grant was the lead fisheries biologist and restoration ecologist for this project along a private reach of South Boulder Creek

adjacent to City of Boulder, Eldorado Canyon Open Space. His tasks included instream and riparian habitat assessment, design of instream and pond fishery habitat and riparian enhancement measures and permitting and consultation. Grant was also the regulatory lead, consulting with the FWS regarding PMJM habitat and with the Corps under Section 404 of the CWA.

- **Stream and Floodplain Restoration at A.T. Massey Coal Mining Facility, KY** - Grant was the Project Manager, fisheries biologist and restoration ecologist for the technical team tasked with assessment and restoration of 26 miles of stream corridor following the accidental release of 250 million gallons of coal slurry into two separate drainages in eastern Kentucky. He was the first ecologist to respond after the spill to ensure that fisheries, stream and riparian habitat restoration objectives were incorporated into the selected cleanup measures. As such, Grant devised a “triage” categorization and remediation system for all affected reaches that minimized impacts to sensitive aquatic and riparian habitat based on the site-specific level of cleanup and remediation required. In addition to instream and bank restoration and stabilization, comprehensive riparian corridor restoration was a major component of the project. Grant was the regulatory and permitting lead and coordinated permits and approval with EPA, Corps and State agencies.
- **Roaring Fork Golf and Fishing Club, Basalt, CO** - Mr. Gurnée was the lead fisheries biologist and restoration ecologist for the assessment, design, permitting and construction supervision of a native trout stream (1 mile) with associated wetland complexes (3 acres). The trout stream was created as an amenity and functional fly-fishing challenge for this fishing component of the Roaring Fork Club; and the associated wetland and riparian habitat were created to naturalize the stream and provide compensatory mitigation for impacts associated with the development of the club facilities. Grant was the regulatory and permitting lead and coordinated permits and approval with Corps and CDOW.
- **Spring Creek Wetland Mitigation, Colorado Springs, CO** – Grant and his team generated wetland and creek creation plans that integrated required mitigation into a high density, “new urban” development. The design emphasized re-utilization of urban storm water to sustain wetlands, use of indigenous plants, construction materials, and natural geomorphic relationships.
- **Tobacco Island Project, Kansas City, MO** - Grant was the lead fisheries biologist and restoration ecologist on a multi-disciplinary Team for the Corps, Tobacco Island Project - a portion of the Missouri River Bank Stabilization and Navigation, Fish and Wildlife Mitigation Project. Project tasks included assessment and conceptual design of measures aimed at reconnecting floodplain and riparian habitat to a reach of the Missouri River near Kansas City. He prepared preliminary designs of channel and backwater wetlands; provided regulatory analysis under Section 404 of the CWA; and assisted in the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.
- **San Miguel River Corridor Restoration Plan** - Mr. Gurnée was the lead restoration ecologist, planner and designer for phase 1 of the San Miguel River Corridor Restoration Plan, which included a 1-mile reach through Town. He and his team assisted the Town of Telluride in applying for and winning approximately \$500,000 in Natural Resource Damage Assessment Fund money from the State of Colorado. The money, along with other funding, was utilized for final design and construction of the project which included instream habitat, streambank restoration, riparian and wetland restoration, trails and parks. Grant was responsible for leading all public meetings, regulatory negotiation and permitting; assisted the Town with grant funding; and provided construction oversight services.
- **High Altitude Stream Restoration at Copper Mountain Resort, CO** - Grant was the lead ecologist for the restoration of an alpine stream and enhancement of associated wetland and riparian habitat situated within tundra habitat atop Union Peak at Copper Mountain Resort. Grant performed the assessment, design, permitting, and construction oversight for one of the highest altitude stream restoration and wetland mitigation projects in Colorado (approximately 11,500 feet above sea level). Innovative bioengineering and construction techniques were designed and adapted to this sensitive environment to minimize construction-related impacts and maximize environmental benefits.

#### **Threatened & Endangered Species Consultation & Habitat Restoration**

- **Jackson Creek Land Company PMJM and Wetland Mitigation, Colorado Springs, CO** – ecos has been performing PMJM habitat biological assessments, conservation, mitigation planning and design throughout its range since 1994. Among numerous other private land developers in the Colorado Springs areas, ecos is currently assisting the Jackson Creek Land Company and Triview Metropolitan District with the implementation of physical habitat preservation and mitigation measures, including shortgrass prairie,

upland hibernaculum, and riparian habitat restoration. We are also assisting the client with construction oversight and maintaining regulatory compliance during the implementation of the phased mitigation plans.

- **The Farm (formerly Allison Valley Ranch), Colorado Springs, CO** – Mr. Gurnée performed the habitat assessment and mapping; and prepared ESA, Section 7 and CWA, Section 404 consultation documents as required by the FWS and Corps, including mitigation construction documents, specifications, on-site layout of plant communities and construction supervision aimed at restoring wetland and riparian habitat occupied by Preble's meadow jumping mouse. Ecos is currently assisting the owner with construction oversight for habitat restoration and native planting.
- **Advance Mitigation for PMJM Habitat** – ecos is assisting a private client in identifying, assessing, prioritizing and designing advance mitigation sites for PMJM habitat in the North Fork and main stem of the Cache la Poudre River.
- **TriView Metropolitan District ESA and CWA Permit Resolution, Monument, CO** - Mr. Gurnée represented the TriView Metropolitan District (TriView) and Phoenix Bell as the lead consultant to resolve outstanding compliance issues related to a joint ESA, Section 7 Consultation and CWA, Section 404 Permit. Grant lead negotiations amongst the various landowners, TriView and the Town to resolve compliance issues related to PMJM and wetland habitat, such that development may proceed in this core area of the town. Upon resolution and agreement of the stakeholders, he led the negotiations with the FWS and Corps to formally amend the Biological Opinion and 404 Permit. Once the approvals were amended, Grant lead the planning and design of PMJM and wetland habitat to meet mitigation requirements under the ESA and CWA.
- **Bernardi Residential Property, Eldorado Canyon, Boulder, CO** – ecos consulted with the Corps and FWS to document and fulfill regulatory requirements for a residential home construction project in PMJM, wetland and riparian habitat. Mr. Gurnée coordinated with the FWS and Corps and obtained approvals under ESA, Section 7 and CWA, Section 404. He prepared all consultation documents, including the Biological Assessment, mitigation plan, and construction documents and specifications. Grant is leading the on-site layout of plant communities and construction supervision, aimed at restoring wetland and riparian habitat occupied by the PMJM.
- **Northgate Boulevard Realignment, Colorado Springs, CO** – Mr. Gurnée performed the habitat assessment and mapping; and coordinated and prepared ESA, Section 7 and CWA, Section 404 consultation documents as required by the FWS and Corps, including mitigation construction documents, specifications, on-site layout of plant communities and construction supervision aimed at restoring wetland and riparian habitat occupied by Preble's meadow jumping mouse.
- **Jefferson County Highways and Transportation Department Gunbarrel Bridge Replacement, Oxyoke, CO** - ecos staff consulted with the Corps, FWS, CDOT, and the FHWA to document regulatory requirements for a bridge replacement project in PMJM, wetland and riparian habitat. He and his Team produced a CDOT Wetland Finding Report, Biological Assessment, acquired a Section 404 Permit and Biological Opinion (Section 7 of the ESA), and then implemented habitat mitigation improvements at the site.
- **Northgate Project, Colorado Springs, CO** - As project manager, Mr. Gurnée led the team in the assessment, permitting and regulatory negotiation (Section 404 of the CWA and Section 7 of the ESA) for the project which included the planning, design and construction supervision of a precedent setting, "joint" mitigation plan for 60 acres of wetland, riparian and PMJM habitat.

## Ecological Master Planning

- **Sundance Trail Guest Ranch, Larimer County, CO** – ecos is currently assisting a local guest ranch in the assessment of natural resources and site features, and the development of site plans to balance natural habitat and aesthetic values with the expansion of guest facilities and services.
- **Sand Creek Channel Improvements Stability Analysis at Indigo Ranch, Colorado Springs, CO** - ecos was retained to perform an analysis of channel stability under proposed development conditions for a 1.17-mile reach of Sand Creek. Ecos utilized existing vegetation composition data, density and height within the Project reach as a basis; and compared the 10-year and 100-year storm event modelling data (specifically flow velocity, flow depth and shear stress) to reference literature to provide a professional opinion regarding the future stability of the channel under developed conditions. The analysis of channel stability for the proposed Project assumes a bioengineering and biotechnical approach that preserves and enhances the existing vegetation, as well as substrate cohesion and stability, within the channel and its

streambanks. The Stability Analysis will likely serve as a benchmark study for the City of Colorado Springs to use to preserve other naturally stable channels.

- **Uncompahgre River Corridor Master Plan, Montrose, CO** – Grant and his Team assessed the character, condition and quality of aquatic, wetland and riparian habitat along a 10-mile rural and urban corridor of the Uncompahgre River through the City of Montrose. Habitats were then rated, ranked, prioritized and master planned for their preservation potential and integration in to the parks, recreation and trail system. The master plans form the foundation for the City to focus environmental stewardship, tourism and generate riverfront economic development with a focus on the river – the major asset of the Community.
- **Brush Creek Stewardship and Enhancement Plan, Saratoga, WY** – Mr. Gurnée managed the assessment of a 12,000-acre, private ranch near Saratoga, Wyoming and the preparation of the Ranch Stewardship Plan (Plan). The Plan includes land and resource stewardship goals, objectives, and implementation action items; including ranch-wide master planning of the trail and recreational systems, design of the Brush Creek riparian corridor trail, and restoration/fisheries habitat enhancement of Brush Creek. Trail and recreation planning and design focused on universal access, habitat sensitivity, environmental education, and wildlife observation opportunities and unique landscape experiences.

### **Environmental Assessment and Impact Studies**

- **NEPA EA for Eagle County Airport Runway Expansion, Eagle County, CO** - Grant was project manager and senior ecologist for an Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for a proposed 1000-foot runway expansion and ILS installation at the Eagle County Airport, west of Vail, Colorado. Critical issues addressed included noise, ecological, and public opinion considerations. Grant conducted the work under FAA guidance requirements for EAs.
- **NEPA EA for the Avon Interstate 70 Interchange** - Mr. Gurnée was project manager and senior ecologist for this NEPA EA. He performed environmental assessment and data compilation work for construction of a new CDOT interchange and associated development on Interstate 70. This included evaluating T&E Species; a wetlands inventory; a cultural/archeological resources survey; noise and air pollution modeling and studies; and reviewing soils, meteorology, geologic hazards, and other impacts.
- **Raritan River Wetland Inundation Impact Study, N.J.** - Grant's work on the preparation and processing of the first Individual Permit under the New Jersey Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act of 1987 included a precedent setting wetland inundation study. This study shaped the N.J. Department of Environmental Protection's policy regarding the need to assess hydrologic impacts during wetland permit reviews.

### **Construction Oversight and Plant Installation**

- **St. Vrain Creek Reach 3 Flood Recovery and Restoration, Lyons, CO** – Ecos performed construction lay-out and observation during the implementation of the restoration and enhancement of 0.60-acre of riparian Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse Habitat (PMJM) along the St. Vrain River.
- **2013 Flood and 2014 Runoff Events, Damage Restoration, Cache la Poudre River, CO** - ecos performed the construction oversight of 3 flood and runoff damage restoration projects along the Cache la Poudre River for the City of Greeley, including the Bellvue Treatment Plant Raw Water Ponds Restoration, the Kodak Pipeline Crossing Restoration and the Watson Lake Pipeline Crossing Restoration.
- **Lions Park CWA and ESA Mitigation Site** - ecos performed the construction oversight for an advance river and wetland mitigation site at Lions Park in LaPorte, Colorado.
- **TZ Ranch, Elk Hollow Creek Fishery Habitat Enhancement Plan, Saratoga, WY** - ecos performed the construction oversight for the Elk Hollow Creek Project.
- **Brush Creek Ranch Fishery Enhancement Plans, Saratoga, WY** – Mr. Gurnée assisted in the construction oversight for a 3-mile reach of Brush Creek to improve fisheries and outdoor recreation experiences for guests of the Ranch.
- **C Lazy U Ranch, Willow Creek Fishery Enhancement Plan, Granby, CO** - Grant assisted in the construction oversight for this fishery habitat, channel stabilization and streambank restoration project.
- **Standley Lake Protection Project, Westminster, CO** – Mr. Gurnée performed construction oversight of a 12-acre created emergent wetland that he and his Team designed to fulfill CWA mitigation requirements and bring closure to the City's drinking water protection project.

- **Caribou Peat Bog Restoration, Nederland, CO** – Grant prepared native plant community design, planting cost estimate, and on-the-ground oversight of volunteers to restore a high-altitude peat bog disturbed by an illegal four-wheel drive “mudfest”.
- **Department of Energy Wetland Mitigation Bank, Westminster, CO** – Mr. Gurnée provided construction supervision of the grading and planting of a 12-acre wetland mitigation bank that he and his Team designed for the Department of Energy.
- **ARCO Lower Area One and Butte Reduction Works, Butte, MT** – Grant performed construction observation and supervision of temporary labor crews to plant a passive treatment wetland designed to absorb heavy metals from groundwater.

### **Natural Treatment System Design**

- **Natural Treatment Wetlands, Butte, MT** - Mr. Gurnée and his Team performed the assessment and design of the ARCO Lower Area One and Butte Reduction Works passive treatment wetlands. These natural treatment systems were situated within two units of a reclaimed superfund site to treat heavy metals in surface and groundwater.
- **Natural Treatment Wetlands, Avondale, AZ** – Grant and his Team performed the assessment and design of a constructed wetland system to treat surface water and inject/recharge the municipal well system for the City of Avondale, AZ. This system successfully alleviated a well moratorium necessitated by a contaminated groundwater aquifer.

### **PUBLICATIONS:**

- Giordanengo, John H., Randy Mandel, William Spitz, Matthew Bossler, Michael Blazewicz, Steven Yochum, Katie Yagt, William LaBarre, Grant Gurnée, Robert Humphries and Kelly Uhing. 2016. Living Streambanks, A Manual of Bioengineering Treatments for Colorado Streams. Submitted to the State of Colorado, Colorado Water Conservation Board Denver, Colorado. Submitted by AloTerra Restoration Services, LLC, and Golder Associates, Inc.
- Gurnée, Grant E. 1998. Wetland Revegetation Techniques chapter in Native Plant Revegetation Guide for Colorado, Caring for the Land Series, Volume III. A joint publication of the Colorado Natural Areas Program, Colorado State Parks, and Colorado Department of Natural Resources. Denver, Colorado.
- Gurnée, Grant E. 1995. Optimizing Water Reclamation, Remediation and Reuse with Constructed Wetlands. Environmental Concern Wetland Journal, Summer 1995 Issue. Environmental Concern, Inc. St. Michaels, Maryland.

### **PRESENTATIONS & INSTRUCTION:**

- Gurnée, Grant E., 2016. Clean Water Act, Section 404 Permits for Flood Recovery Projects. Presented at the Colorado Stream Restoration Network (CSRN) conference in Longmont, CO on March 23, 2016.
- Gurnée, Grant E., 2016. Endangered Species Act Consultation for Flood Recovery Projects. Presented at the Colorado Stream Restoration Network (CSRN) conference in Longmont, CO on March 23, 2016
- Gurnée, Grant E., 2010. Stream Corridor/Bioengineering Round Table. Presented at the Colorado Riparian Association (CRA) Sustaining Colorado Watersheds Conference. October 5 - 7, 2010. Vail, Colorado.
- Gurnée, Grant E. and Greg A. Fentchel, 2009. Stream Corridor/Bioengineering Workshop. Presented at the Colorado Riparian Association (CRA) Sustaining Colorado Watersheds Conference. October 7 - 9, 2009. Vail, Colorado.
- Gurnée, Grant E. and Scott J. Franklin, 2008. Section 404 Individual Permits: Negotiating the Application and Follow-up Process. Presented at the CLE International, Colorado Wetlands Conference. May 8 – 9, 2008. Denver, Colorado.
- Gurnée, Grant E. and Julie, E. Ash, P.E., 2007. Edwards Eagle River Restoration Project. Presented at the Colorado Riparian Association (CRA) Sustaining Colorado Watersheds Conference. October 5 - 7, 2009. Breckenridge, Colorado.
- Gurnée, Grant E. 2000. Natural Treatment Alternatives for Surface Discharges, Surface Runoff, and Mined Land Reclamation. Presented at the International Mining Technology Seminar. September 13 – 15, 2000. Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, Brazil.

- Gurnée, Grant E. 1999. Wetland Mitigation: Considering Mitigation Requirements in the Project Planning Process. Presented at the Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Wetlands & Mitigation Banking Conference. October 21 & 22, 1999. Denver, Colorado.
- Hoag, Chris, Hollis Allen, Craig Fischenich and Grant Gurnée. Assistant instructor for a Bioengineering Workshop sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Waterways Experiment Station and the U.S. Department of Agriculture – Aberdeen Plant Materials Center. September 1998. Carson City, Nevada.
- Hoag, Chris and Grant Gurnée. 1998 Glancy Riparian Demonstration Project. Assistant instructor for a hands-on bioengineering workshop on the Carson River. September 1998 near Dayton, Nevada.
- Gurnée, Grant E. 1998. Stream and Wetland Restoration Successes and Failures: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly. Presented at the Colorado Riparian Association (CRA) Restoring the Greenline Conference. October 16, 1998. Salida, Colorado.
- Gurnée, Grant E. 1998. Save Our Streams, Wetland Conservation and Sustainability Workshop. Lead Instructor of wetland assessment and restoration course presented with the Izaak Walton League. April 21 & 22, 1998. Boulder, Colorado.
- Windell, Jay, and Grant Gurnée. 1998. Creation of a Stream, Riparian and Wetland Ecosystem: Tributary to the Roaring Fork River, Basalt, Colorado. Presented at the American Society of Civil Engineers, Wetlands Engineering & River Restoration Conference. March 23 – 27, 1998. Denver, Colorado.
- Gurnée, Grant E. 1998. A Case Study: Department of Energy's Wetland Mitigation Bank at Standley Lake. Presented at the Continuing Legal Education (CLE) International, Colorado Wetlands Conference. January 27 – 29, 1998. Denver, Colorado.
- Gurnée, Grant E. 1997. Wetland Mitigation: Design and Implementation via the Design/Build/Grow Process. Presented at the International Erosion Control Association, Erosion & Sediment Control Workshop. November 19, 1997. Northglenn, Colorado.
- Gurnée, Grant E. and Gary Bentrup. 1996. Wetland and Riparian Protection Strategies. Presented at the Sierra Club, Regional Growth Strategies Conference, "New Perspectives and Strategies to Preserve Mountain Communities." February 16 – 17, 1996. Glenwood Springs, Colorado.
- Gurnée, Grant E. 1994. How to Recognize and Deal with Wetland Regulation Issues. Presented at the Continuing Legal Education (CLE) International, 3rd Annual Western Agricultural and Rural Law Roundup. June 23-25, 1994. Fort Collins, Colorado.

**AWARDS:**

- Colorado Landscape Contractors Award, Sand Creek Enhancement Project – 2000

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:**

- Association of State Wetland Managers (ASWM)
- Society of Wetland Scientists (SWS)
- Environmental Concern (EC)

**RESUME****Jon Dausvardis, M.L.A, P.W.S.**

*Owner/Managing Partner  
Senior Restoration Ecologist  
Landscape Architect  
Wetland Ecologist*

**AREAS OF EXPERTISE:**

- Vegetation Inventories and Mapping
- Habitat Assessment, Functional Assessment and Wetland Delineation
- Aquatic, Wetland, and Riparian Restoration Ecology, Planning and Design
- Landscape Ecology, Planning and Landscape Architecture
- Conservation and Resource Mitigation Bank Support Services
- Grant Funding Support for Conservation and Restoration Projects
- Open Space and Trail Planning, Design and Habitat Management
- Construction Oversight & Best Management Practices
- AutoCAD, Mapping, Presentation Graphics

**EDUCATION:**

- Master of Landscape Architecture, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, 1995
- Bachelor of Science, Environmental Design, University of Missouri, Columbia, 1991
- Architecture Study, Harvard University Graduate School of Design, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1989

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:**

- 2008-Present, Owner/Manager and Senior Restoration Ecologist, Ecosystem Services, LLC, Erie Colorado
- 2000 – 2011, Senior Restoration Ecologist, Walsh Environmental Scientists and Engineers, LLC, Boulder, Colorado
- 1997 – 2000, Restoration Ecologist, Construction Supervisor, Aquatic and Wetland Company, Boulder, Colorado
- 1996-1997, Landscape Architect, Design Studios West, Denver, Colorado
- 1995-1996, Landscape Architect, Wenk Associates, Denver, Colorado
- 1994-1995, Graduate Researcher, ALCOA – Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas
- 1994, Johnson County Parks and Recreation Department, Shawnee Mission, Kansas
- 1992-1994, Grounds Maintenance Superintendent, Brazos County, Texas

**CONTINUING EDUCATION:**

- Stream Functions Pyramid Workshop, Denver, CO - 2014
- Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Wetland Plant Identification - 2014
- Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Ecological Integrity Assessment for Colorado Wetlands - 2013
- FACWet – Functional Assessment of Colorado Wetlands - 2010, 2012 and 2013
- ESRI, ARC View Geographic Information System (GIS) Training, 1996
- Bicycle Planning and Facilities Training, 1994
- AutoCAD Drafting and Design, Self-taught, 1991

**CERTIFICATIONS:**

- Professional Wetland Scientist Certification (# 1699), Society of Wetland Scientists Certification Program, 2004

## EXPERIENCE SUMMARY:

Mr. Dauzvardis is a founder and managing partner of Ecosystem Services, LLC (**ecos**), an ecological planning and design business dedicated to the restoration, enhancement and creation of aquatic, wetland and riparian habitat. Jon is a certified Professional Wetland Scientist with over 25 years of experience working in the fields of landscape architecture and ecological restoration in Colorado, Wyoming, Texas, Kansas and the Intermountain West. Jon's academic and professional work history in housing design and construction, community planning, architecture, landscape architecture, ecological planning and restoration is unique and makes him a valuable and multi-faceted asset to his company, clients and their projects. His diverse knowledge and skills in landscape planning, habitat design, bioengineering, and hands-on experience demonstrate that he can easily negotiate between art and science, man-made and natural systems, generalities and detail, and from concept to construction. Jon takes a practical and realistic approach to problem solving, concentrating on broad scale ecological master planning simultaneously with fine scale design of aquatic, wetland, riparian and terrestrial habitats. As a restoration ecologist, Jon specializes in restoring and enriching habitat structure, stability and health and how to manage landscapes and natural systems so that they function, change, and respond positively over time. Jon's strengths are rooted in his understanding of natural and landscape processes; finding design solutions that integrate the needs of people, wildlife, and visual quality; sustaining ecosystem goods and services; and integration of nature-based recreation and environmental education programs and facilities.

## RELEVANT PROJECT EXPERIENCE:

Mr. Dauzvardis has been an essential team lead and player in hundreds of habitat assessments; permitting efforts; master plans; and aquatic, wetland, and riparian habitat design and mitigation projects. The following is a sampling of select projects and clientele that Jon has successfully completed or is currently involved with:

### Habitat Assessment and Regulatory Compliance

Mr. Dauzvardis routinely performs ecological site and resource impacts assessments, jurisdictional wetland determinations and functional assessments to assist clients in site planning, design, and permitting processes. Assessment methods established by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Colorado Department of Transportation among others are used to assess habitat elements and screen sites for threatened and endangered plants and animals, wetlands, migratory birds and other wildlife. Jon stresses habitat impact avoidance and minimization to preserve a site's ecological benefits and to minimize regulatory constraints, timing and permitting costs. Jon has performed a multitude of site assessments, delineations and prepared permits, including but not limited to the following notable projects as well as others listed throughout this resume:

- **Banning Lewis Ranch, Colorado Springs, CO** – ecos was hired by Norwood Homes to perform and ecological assessment of wetlands, Sand Creek, Jimmy Camp Creek and its tributaries; and provide regulatory guidance for the Banning Lewis Ranch (BLR), an 18,000-acre site that will double the size of Colorado Springs. Part of Jon's work on the project included mapping and buffer recommendations on how to best conserve pristine prairie and sandy creeks that are highly susceptible to degradation caused by urbanization.
- **Bellvue Pipeline Project, Larimer County, CO** – ecos was retained by the City of Greeley as Best Management Practices (BMP) Facilitators to provide pre-construction documentation post-construction oversight of pipeline reclamation processes. Essential responsibilities include meeting with landowners prior to construction to facilitate project understanding and post-construction outcomes; to document landowner needs and wants relative to project goals and land use; and to document and monitor pre- and post-construction reclamation and maintenance requirements.
- **Georgetown Lake, Georgetown, CO** –ecos was hired to prepare an office level assessment report of ecological resources to describe the physical/ecological characteristics of the Project area and evaluate the potential effects of the construction of a loop trail project on environmental issues and species of concern to support a GOCO grant application. Items evaluated and documented, include site location/ownership, general site characteristics, current land use, proposed impacts, possible effects on Federal– and State-listed T&E animal and plant species, unique or important wildlife, water quality, water bodies, wetlands, and floodplains, stormwater runoff, sedimentation, soil erosion, and invasive species. The assessment report also included mitigation measures, project benefits, and environmental compliance recommendations under applicable regulatory programs.

- **Appraisal Support Documentation Report for the 1st Bank Parcel, Colorado Springs, CO** - ecos was retained by 1st Bank Holding Company to perform a Preble's meadow jumping mouse (PMJM) habitat assessment, mitigation cost analysis, and conceptual lot layout for the approximate 9.4-acre Parcel located adjacent to the Northgate Open Space along Smith Creek. Jon was responsible for preparing the lot layout, existing habitat aerial photo interpretation/delineation, proposed conceptual mitigation, and quantification of impacts and associated mitigation to ascertain appraisal value of the site if it were to be developed.
- **Encana Oil and Gas (USA), Denver Julesburg Basin, CO** – Encana hired ecos to assess their ecological constraints, recommend means and methods to avoid, minimize and permit impacts; and to mitigate, restore and prepare ecological management plans for their drilling and pipeline operations in the Denver Julesburg basin. Jon's role on the team is to perform site assessments, research background data, and prepare assessment reports and mapping data that can be utilized by Encana's project managers and geographic information systems (GIS) department to proactively track ecological resources before issues arise. In addition to client consultation, Jon is responsible for tracking drill site schedules, constraints, restoration and management efforts in a data base and reporting said information to Encana's project manager on a regular basis.
- **Tollgate Creek Riparian and Wetland Habitat Assessment, Aurora, CO** – Jon performed high level aerial photo interpretation and delineation of riparian and wetland habitat along Toll Gate Creek and East Toll Gate Creek from confluence with Sand Creek upstream to East Hampden Avenue. The delineation was performed in Google Earth and imported into AutoCAD by digitizing riparian and wetland habitat zones. Once complete, the data was turned over to the project engineer to incorporate into a Drainage Master Plan for the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District (UDFCD).
- **Eagle River Meadows Ecological Inventory and Strategic Wetland Action Plan, Edwards, CO** – Mr. Dausvardis delineated, assessed, and provided an analysis of potential adverse effects to wetlands within a complex site adjacent to the Eagle River. Jon also developed a strategic process and decision making tool to determine avoidance, minimization, low impact development (LID), and mitigation measures in support of a County Sketch Plan application for a Multi-use Health Care Community.
- **Mesa County Colorado Riverfront Trail, Grand Junction, CO** – Jon performed wetland delineation, jurisdictional determination, Section 404 Permitting; and prepared wetland mitigation plans to construct approximately two miles of regional trail along the north side of the Colorado River between the James M. Robb and the Colorado River State Park at Corn Lake.
- **ARCO Upper Clark Fork River Basin Superfund Site Functional Wetland Assessment, MT** – Between 2000 and 2008, Jon managed the assessment team and performed extensive wetland delineation, GPS surveying, functional assessments, and impact mapping and analysis covering a 200 square mile Superfund Site affected by historic mining practices. Assessments were done in preparation for soil remediation of heavy metals, capping of tailings ponds, sediment and dam removal, and implementation of compensatory wetland mitigation plans required under a consent decree. Assessment areas included the Anaconda Smelter, Old Works, Opportunity Ponds, and Milltown Reservoir.
- **Jefferson County Highways & Transportation Department Gunbarrel Bridge Replacement, Oxyoke, CO** – Jon consulted with the USACE, USFWS, CDOT, and the FHWA to document regulatory requirements. Produced a CDOT Wetland Finding Report, Biological Assessment, Preble's meadow jumping mouse and wetland mitigation plans, and helped acquire a Section 404 Permit and Biological Opinion.
- **Pole Canyon Wind Farm, Babcock and Brown, Huerfano County, CO** – Assessed and prepared critical issues analysis and County 1041 Permit application for a 125-megawatt wind farm and associated transmission lines located on a 5,800-acre site. The project included detailed site assessments to document the presence or absence of potential development constraints and site-specific ecological conditions as well as preparation of permit maps, plot plans, and environmental analyses, alternatives analysis, and mitigation measures.
- **Dalton Property Wetland Assessment, Longmont, CO** – Provided site assessment, regulatory analyses, and developed a restoration plan for critical riparian and wetland habitat along Left Hand Creek in Boulder County, CO.
- **Colowyo Coal Mine Wetland Delineation, Meeker, CO** – Delineated 1.5 miles of jurisdictional waters and wetlands in preparation for wetland mitigation design along West New Goodspring Creek.
- **Lafarge Northbank Resources Gravel Pit Wetland Assessment, Rifle, CO** – Delineated and acquired a jurisdictional determination from the USACE for complex tailwater and riparian wetlands along the

Colorado River. Prepared gravel pit reclamation plans aimed at providing suitable shallow-water lake edge wetlands to serve as compensatory wetland mitigation.

- **Jefferson County Highways & Transportation Department Highway 73 Expansion, Conifer, CO** – Performed presence/absence study, habitat assessment and documentation of wetlands, Migratory Birds, State Species of Concern, and federally listed T&E Species including Bald eagle, Preble's meadow jumping mouse, the Pawnee montane skipper butterfly and Colorado butterfly plant along a one-mile corridor of highway.
- **Flying Horse Ranch and the Club at Flying Horse Golf Course, Colorado Springs, CO** – Conducted an assessment of wetland habitat, impact avoidance and minimization and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act permitting for a 1500-acre mixed use development and Weiskopf golf course design being implemented by Neiber Golf.
- **C-Lazy-U and Horn Ranch Environmental Assessments, Granby, CO** – Performed site assessment of ecological opportunities and constraints of aquatic, riparian, wetland and threatened and endangered species habitat along the Colorado River for the development and enhancement of fishing/resort ranch amenities.
- **Village at Avon, Avon, CO** – Delineated wetlands and prepared a Section 404 Permit for the town center expansion and low-density ranchette development.
- **Residential Developers and Realtors** – Performed numerous wetland and T&E species habitat ecological assessments, wetland delineations, and prepared Clean Water Act Section 404 Permits and mitigation plans for residential developers and realtors, including: 4 Site Investments, Nor'wood, Proterra Properties, Denver Transit Oriented Development Fund, La Plata Communities, Windsor Ridge Homes, Clearwater Communities, Schuck Corporation, Equinox Land Group, DR Horton, Melody Homes, Standard Pacific Homes, Gateway American Properties, Zephyr Real Estate Company, Lowell Development Partners, and Palmer-McAlister, Classic Communities, Stoll Properties, Karen Bernardi, Colorado Commercial Builders, Terra Visions, Smith Creek Holdings, Picolan, Realty Development Services, Northgate Properties.
- **Commercial and Industrial Developers** - Performed numerous wetland and T&E species habitat ecological assessments, wetland delineations, and prepared Clean Water Act Section 404 Permits and mitigation plans for commercial and industrial developers, including: Atira Group, Leadership Circle, Ridgeway Valley Enterprises, Morley Companies, HF Holdings, Regency Centers, Miller-Weingarten, Gulf Coast Commercial Development, Traer Creek, Mountain Property Associates, Morley Golf, Executive Consulting, Inc.
- **Architectural and Engineering Companies** – Jon has performed numerous wetland and T&E species habitat ecological assessments, wetland delineations, and prepared Clean Water Act Section 404 Permits and mitigation plans for A&E firms, including: William Guman and Associates, JVA, Beyers Group, Engineering Analytics, Classic Consulting Engineers, J3 Engineering, DHM Design, Del-Mont Consultants, JW Nakai and Associates, Nolte and Associates, JR Engineering, Hyrdosphere, Executive Consulting Engineers, Muller Engineering, Farnsworth Group.
- **Counties, Municipalities, Metro Districts and Quasi-Public Institutions** – Mr. Dauzvardis has performed numerous wetland and T&E species habitat ecological assessments, wetland delineations, and prepared Clean Water Act Section 404 Permits and mitigation plans for counties, municipalities, and quasi-public institutions, including: City of Louisville Highway 42 and 96<sup>th</sup> Street realignment, City of Westminster Jim Baker Reservoir and Standley Lake Protection Projects, Jefferson County Highway 73 and 67 Improvement Projects, Todd Creek Village Metro District, Town of Monument/Triview Metro District, Boulder Community Hospital, and City of Fort Collins Regulatory Fact Sheets Preparation Project, Todd Creek Village Metro District on-call consultant, Three-lakes Water and Sanitation District, City of Greeley,
- **Educational Institutions** – Performed numerous wetland and T&E species habitat ecological assessments, wetland delineations, and prepared Clean Water Act Section 404 Permits and mitigation plans for educational institutions, including: Colorado Mountain College - Steamboat Springs, The Classical Academy – Colorado Springs, and Coal Ridge High School – Rifle.
- **Wind Energy Developers** – Performed numerous wetland and T&E species habitat ecological assessments, wetland delineations, and critical issues analyses for wind development projects, including: Cedar Creek Windfarm – Weld County, CO, Wheatland Windfarm – Platte County, WY, Silver Mountain Windfarm – Huerfano County, CO, Pole Canyon Windfarm, Huerfano Count, CO.

- **Mining Companies** – Performed wetland and T&E species habitat ecological assessments, wetland delineations, and critical issues analyses for mining companies, including: Brannan Sand and Gravel Company, Lafarge and Kennecott Coal.

## Ecological Master Planning

- **Jackson Creek Land Company PMJM and Wetland Mitigation, Colorado Springs, CO** – ecos has been performing Preble's meadow jumping mouse (PMJM) habitat biological assessments, conservation, mitigation planning and design throughout its range since 1994. Among numerous other private land developers in the Colorado Springs areas, ecos is currently assisting the Jackson Creek Land Company and Triview Metropolitan District with the implementation of physical habitat conservation and mitigation measures, including shortgrass prairie, upland hibernaculum, and riparian habitat restoration. Jon is responsible for mapping, design assessment and restoration plan preparation.
- **Park Creek Mitigation Bank, Fort Collins, CO** – ecos was retained by Burns and McDonnell to assess, map, and prepare preliminary mitigation design of aquatic, wetland, riparian and terrestrial habitat in support of a mitigation banking prospectus. Upon completion and acceptance of the prospectus by the USACE, ecos has been tasked to manage the baseline assessment of the site, including groundwater testing, topographic surveys, and hydrology; prepare a detailed habitat design for inclusion in mitigation banking instrument; as well as coordinate design-build process with a selected nursery and contractor. Jon has been responsible for the mapping and preparation of design documents and will co-manage construction and long-term monitoring to help our client meet their performance criteria and sell bank credits.
- **Front Range Umbrella Mitigation Bank, CO** – ecos was retained by Restoration Systems, a nationally renowned wetland mitigation banking firm, to help identify and prepare conceptual design plans for mitigation banking sites to establish the Front Range Umbrella Mitigation Bank (Bank). The purpose of the Bank is to provide compensatory mitigation credits for unavoidable, permitted impacts to aquatic, wetland, riparian, upland, wildlife, and threatened and endangered (T&E) species habitat regulated under the Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts; and to restore, enhance and preserve valuable natural resource functions at degraded mitigation sites within multiple watersheds along Colorado's Front Range. Currently, the Bank is developing banks sites that serve the Cache la Poudre, St. Vrain, Upper South Platte, Fountain and Upper Arkansas watersheds. Jon's primary role on the team is to perform functional habitat assessments; prepare mapping and graphics of baseline and future conditions; grading and plant community design based on hydrologic, hydraulic, and geomorphic modelling and engineering; and communicate with landowners and stakeholders regarding the process, technicalities, and outcomes.
- **Sand Creek Channel Improvements Stability Analysis at Indigo Ranch, Colorado Springs, CO** - ecos was retained to perform an analysis of channel stability under proposed development conditions for a 1.17 mile reach of Sand Creek. Ecos utilized existing vegetation composition data, density and height within the Project reach as a basis; and compared the 10-year and 100-year storm event modelling data (specifically flow velocity, flow depth and shear stress) to reference literature to provide a professional opinion regarding the future stability of the channel under developed conditions. The analysis of channel stability for the proposed Project assumes a bioengineering and biotechnical approach that preserves and enhances the existing vegetation, as well as substrate cohesion and stability, within the channel and its streambanks. The Stability Analysis will likely serve as a benchmark study for the City of Colorado Springs to use to preserve other naturally stable channels.
- **Brush Creek Ranch Stewardship Plan, Saratoga, WY** – Brush Creek Ranch Stewardship Plan, Fishery Enhancement and Bank Stabilization, Saratoga, WY – Mr. Dauzvardis managed the organization, generation and graphic design of the Ranch Stewardship Plan. Jon assessed and prepared stewardship goals, objectives, and implementation action items, including ranch-wide master planning of the trail and recreational systems and design of the Brush Creek riparian corridor trail. Trail and recreation planning and design focused on universal access, habitat sensitivity, environmental education, wildlife observation opportunities and unique landscape experiences. Simultaneously with the master plan, Jon developed revegetation plans to support geomorphic stream alterations and bank stabilization to enhance the creek fishery. Jon was responsible for the design and supervised construction of a cold-water pond to be used by novice anglers to learn the art and experience the pleasure of catching trout.
- **Town of Erie, Comprehensive Plan, Parks Recreation Open Space and Trails Master Plan, and Natural Areas Inventory, Erie, CO** - As a former 8-year Member, Chair, and Vice Chair of the Town Erie

Open Space and Trails Advisory Board (OSTAB) and an Erie resident and small business owner, Jon has an intimate knowledge of Erie's political and physical landscape and public processes. During his tenure on OSTAB, Jon actively participated in the writing and development of the Town's guiding documents. Jon authored the Open Space Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan which eventually was codified in the Town's Unified Development Code (UDC). Jon was the key commenter on the content, analysis and synthesis of the of the Open Space and Trail Chapters and Mapping that was adopted with the Town's first Parks Recreation Open Space and Trails Master Plan (PROST). Jon guided the process used in the development of the Erie Natural Areas Inventory (ENAI) to identify and design a habitat condition, quality and restoration rating and ranking system of significant natural areas throughout the Town's 49-square mile planning area.

- **Uncompahgre River Corridor Master Plan, Montrose, CO** – Jon was responsible for the development of an ecological master plan focusing on the Uncompahgre River as a natural asset for eco-tourism and the generation of riverfront economic development. Mr. Dauzvardis was responsible for assessing the character, condition and quality of aquatic, wetland and riparian habitat; and developing a rating, ranking, land acquisition prioritization system, and associated mapping aimed at the preservation and integration of open space and habitat within the City's parks, recreation and trail system.
- **Ruby Pipeline Wetland, Riparian and Waterbody Mitigation and Restoration Plan, WY, UT, NV and OR** – Jon was responsible for assisting with the generation of a Comprehensive Wetland Mitigation Plan outlining Clean Water Act regulatory guidelines, requirements, and processes. Jon developed an eco-region specific restoration plan for a 675-mile natural gas pipeline specifying the basis of design, construction, revegetation, maintenance, performance criteria, and monitoring means and methods for restoring approximately 460 acres of temporarily impacted riparian and wetland habitat.
- **Dry Creek Regional Urbanization Area, Weld County, CO** – Mr. Dauzvardis performed an ecological inventory and prepared the assessment report for a 6,000-acre Regional Urbanization Area (RUA); and a 1000-acre multi-use site development in un-incorporated Weld County. Subsequent phases included establishing ecological policy, goals, and objectives for the study area that will assist the County in the refining their first ever Comprehensive Plan.
- **City of Broomfield I-25 Subarea Environmental Guidelines, Broomfield, CO** – Jon drafted development sensitivity design and ecological sustainability standards.
- **McStain Development Corporation, Mountain Village III Master Plan, Loveland, CO** – Conducted concept planning for recreational and environmental interpretation facilities focusing on lake and wetland habitat features of the community.
- **Estes Park Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Estes Park, Larimer County, CO** – Teamed with town planning staff in producing a county-wide land use plan using GIS as a public involvement/participation tool.
- **San Miguel River Park Corridor Master Plan, Telluride, CO** – Prepared park, trail, wetland and riparian corridor master plan and design for the San Miguel River Park Corridor. Jon prepared illustrative plan graphics that assisted the Town in applying for and winning approximately \$500,000 in Natural Resource Damage Assessment Fund money from the State of Colorado, which was used for final design and implementation.
- **South Platte River Wildlife and Recreation Corridor Plan, Denver, CO** – Designed the Zuni Riverfront Park and planned the wildlife and recreation corridor between I-25 and 8<sup>th</sup> Street near Mile High Stadium. Prepared, steered and presented graphics that the City and County of Denver Mayor's Commission (Wellington Webb) and the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District used to help sell the project to the public and federal funding sources in Washington D.C.
- **Historic Arkansas River Walk, Pueblo, CO** – Coordinated and steered the design and presentation of riparian, aquatic, and palustrine wetlands in the HARP Natural Area. Designed environmental Education Park to include outdoor classroom, access, and multi-thematic interpretive nodes.
- **Pueblo Natural Resources and Environmental Education Council Plan, Pueblo, CO** – Designed the identity and jointly produced strategic natural resource based environmental education plan for Pueblo County (PNREEC). The plan helped build consensus among multiple private and governmental agencies and stakeholders on funding, conservation, restoration, and enhancement priorities throughout the County.
- **Aluminum Company of America (ALCOA) Huisache Cove Master and Design Plan Master of Landscape Architecture Thesis, Port Lavaca, TX** – Served as environmental consultant in researching and generating wildlife habitat restoration plan and multi-functional landfill cap redesign incorporating

coastal prairie, lacustrine, palustrine, estuarine wetlands, passive recreation, bird watching and ecological interpretation facilities on an industrial superfund clean-up site.

### **Aquatic, Wetland, and Riparian Habitat and Mitigation Design:**

- **Big Thompson River Flood Recovery and Restoration, Loveland, CO** - ecos is currently part of a multi-disciplinary team assisting the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition (BTWC) with assessment, design, and construction of the Big Thompson between Rossum and Wilson Drives which are majority-owned by the City of Loveland and Loveland Ready-mix. As with all the flood recovery projects ecos has worked on, Jon produced 30%, 60% and 100% design plans, construction cost estimates, and specifications guiding soil development/enrichment; upland, riparian, and wetland seeding and planting; and numerous bioengineering techniques aimed at restoring the river and making it more resilient to future flood events. This project is aimed at completion in the summer of 2019.
- **Saint Vrain Creek Reach 3 Flood Recovery and Restoration, Boulder County, CO** - ecos is part of the multi-disciplinary team assisting Boulder County Parks & Open Space (BCPOS) with resilient design for the restoration of Reach 3 of the Saint Vrain Creek (from Highway 36 downstream to Hygiene Road) that was damaged by the 2013 floods. Jon's role in the project includes: 1) desktop and field assessment to inventory and document the characteristics of the stream reach and riparian corridor (e.g. in-stream features, vegetation, wildlife habitat); identify and locate significant habitat features within the areas of proposed construction; identify potential sources of native plant materials for restoration; and identify areas of opportunity within the reach that require native vegetation, wetland, PMJM, leopard frog and fishery habitat restoration; and delineate wetland habitat and waters of the U.S. in all areas of proposed/potential construction-related impact; 2) vegetation community and wildlife habitat restoration design; 3) permitting and compliance under the CWA, ESA and NHPA; and 4) construction oversight of restoration construction activities. This project was completed in the summer of 2018.
- **Bohn Park Flood Recovery and Restoration, Town of Lyons, CO** – ecos is part of the Design Team assisting the Town with the restoration, enhancement and stabilization of Bohn Park which was damaged by the 2013 floods. Ecos role is to assess, design, and prepare design-bid-build specifications for the natural restoration of the vegetation communities and habitat along South St. Vrain Creek that have been incorporated in to the landscape architecture of Bohn Park, the Towns largest and most used recreational asset. This project was completed in the spring of 2018.
- **Fourmile Creek Flood Recovery and Restoration, Boulder County, CO** – ecos was part of the Fourmile Watershed Coalition design-build team tasked with restoring flood-damaged properties that were prioritized in the watershed master plan. Jon generated seeding and planting plans, performance notes, cost estimates, and co-managed construction oversight in collaboration with the executive director of the Watershed Coalition. This project was completed in the summer of 2017.
- **James Creek Post-flood Restoration, Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group (LWOG), Jamestown, CO** – ecos was part of the LWOG Team responsible for preparing the 30-60% design package for James Creek Reach 16 as identified in the Lefthand Creek Watershed Master Plan. ecos performed pre- and post-flood plant community assessment; developed revegetation goals and objectives, the basis of design, monitoring protocols, and revegetation plans according to Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery 30% Guidelines. Specific resources and issues of concern addressed by ecos, included federal and state listed candidate, threatened and endangered species, wildlife species of concern (including raptors), fisheries and fish passage, native plant communities, and management of noxious weeds.
- **Saint Vrain Creek Flood Recovery and Restoration, Town of Lyons, CO** – ecos is part of a design-build team tasked with restoring the St. Vrain Creek corridor in the Town of Lyons that was damaged during the September 2013 flood event. The goal of the project is to work with the Town and affected land-owners to create a more resilient floodplain and natural channel condition that will help alleviate future threats to the community, reestablish floodplain connectivity, stabilize banks, and restore aquatic, wetland and riparian habitat that was wiped out during the flood. Mr. Dauzvardis is responsible for developing the plant communities and revegetation strategies needed to restore aquatic and riparian structure and functions within the corridor that support fish, wildlife, recreation, and help the Town regain the ecological benefits and economic value they receive from outdoor enthusiasts. This project was completed in the summer of 2016.

- **Plum Creek Mitigation Bank, Sedalia, CO** – ecos was retained by Restoration Systems to prepare conceptual design plans for the Plum Creek Mitigation Bank Site that is currently under consideration by the Chatfield Reservoir Mitigation Company (CRMC). The purpose of the Site is to provide compensatory mitigation credits for unavoidable, permitted impacts to wetland, PMJM and bird (target resources) habitat regulated under the CWA and ESA; and to restore, enhance and preserve natural resource functions. Jon has guided agency and CRMC staff on tours of the Site; performed plant community mapping, baseline EFU assessment for PMJM, and FACWet assessment of wetlands. Jon was responsible for mapping, interpretation, and quantification of historic and existing habitat on the site. Jon prepared Conceptual Design Plans for resource mitigation including channel geomorphology, PMJM and wetland habitat setting the stage for post-mitigation calculations of EFU's.
- **Bellvue Raw Water Ponds Riverbank Restoration, Bellvue, CO** – The 2013 flood on the Poudre River altered the course of the river and severely eroded a bank nearly causing a breach of the City of Greeley's raw water ponds – their main municipal water supply. The goal of the project was to stabilize the bank to protect the ponds and to create riparian habitat for the Preble's meadow jumping mouse, a federally listed threatened and endangered species. Jon was responsible for preparing bioengineering design plans and specifications that include soil/cobble encapsulated lifts, stream barbs to deflect flows away from the bank, and harder, biotechnical design of soil/riprap and stream bed scour protection measures to prevent erosion and further undermining and sloughing of the bank. Design plans included specification of native plant materials and various techniques to restore cottonwood forest and willow habitat to further stabilize the bank.
- **Poudre River Pipeline Crossing at Kodak, Windsor, CO** – Jon's role on the ecos team was to assess restoration potential, techniques, and prepare design plans and performance specifications to reclaim a pipeline corridor across the lower Poudre River where the City of Greeley had to replace 3 major water supply lines. Flooding on the Poudre River in 2013 and 2014 temporarily suspended construction of the pipeline. Jon will oversee site stabilization and restoration measures once all 3 pipelines have been installed.
- **Lions Park Poudre River Restoration Plan, Laporte, CO** – Jon's role on the ecos team was to assess habitat conditions; gather, compile and analyze field survey data; and to prepare the mapping and mitigation design plans for the Lions Park PMJM habitat and the Poudre River Bank Stabilization Plans. Jon simultaneously designed and executed the technical drawings for the structural components of the habitat, ensuring that the proposed riparian plant community, habitat structures (brush piles), and bioengineered streambank stabilization measures will create the conditions that alleviate the current habitat fragmentation; support the life requisites of the PMJM; and enhance the overall health of the Poudre River fishery.
- **St. Vrain River Riparian Corridor Enhancement, Lyons, CO** – Jon designed, managed and led the construction of the Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse Habitat (PMJM) enhancement project along the St. Vrain River. Jon worked in coordination with the project sponsor and Director of the Town of Lyons, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Events Department to implement required mitigation within a passive greenway park along the St. Vrain. Jon's role included riparian/PMJM mitigation site identification and habitat assessment; and design; and implementation of riverbank stabilization and riparian habitat enhancement measures.
- **Brush Creek Fishery Enhancement Plan, Saratoga, WY** – Prepared access, staging and design plans, details and performed on-site construction oversight of instream and riparian habitat enhancements and bioengineered bank stabilization along a 3-mile reach of Brush Creek. The purpose of the project is to enhance fish, bird and wildlife habitat and use these resources to facilitate education and improve the recreational experience of Ranch guests. Access routes were planned so that they can be easily converted to trails to avoid repetitive impacts to high quality habitat and productive pastures.
- **St. Vrain River Riparian Corridor Enhancement, Lyons, CO** – Jon is the lead Landscape Architect for the restoration and enhancement of Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse Habitat (PMJM) along the St. Vrain River. Jon and ecos are working in coordination with the Town of Lyons, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Events team to implement this restoration project within a passive park area along the St. Vrain. Jon's tasks include riparian/PMJM habitat assessment; PMJM site location and habitat design; and implementation of riverbank stabilization and riparian habitat enhancement measures.
- **TZ Ranch, Elk Hollow Creek Fishery Habitat Enhancement Plan, Saratoga, WY** - ecos performed the assessment and design of the Elk Hollow Creek Project, which included instream and riparian habitat

improvements aimed at increasing bank stability, improving aquatic habitat and angling opportunities, and providing long-term stability to the reach. Instream improvements included drop structures, plunge pools, deep pools, riffles and spawning habitat. Bank improvements included seeding and planting plans for native wetland and riparian species. Jon was the lead on the generation of design-build plans and provided construction oversight of instream structure and native plant installation.

- **Brush Creek Ranch Pond Creation Plan, Saratoga, WY** – Prepared below grade pond excavation, grading, drainage and revegetation plan for a 0.30-acre fishing pond, followed by on-site field layout and surveying, wetland sod transplanting, submerged aquatic habitat and construction support of heavy equipment operators. The pond was designed to be a self-sustaining, cold water fishery that supports all components of the aquatic food-chain and incorporates all necessary life requisites for trout; and provide fishing opportunities during high water in Brush Creek.
- **Edwards Eagle River Restoration Project, Edwards, CO** – Assessment, planning, native plant community design and construction oversight of aquatic, wetland, riparian habitat along 1.5 mile reach and 168-acres of floodplain along the Eagle River utilizing indigenous materials and methods that naturally integrate habitat structure in the landscape context. Planning and design included trails, boat launch, boardwalks, overlooks, and interpretive sign systems and thematic content.
- **Boone Property, Boulder Creek Fishery Enhancement Project, Boulder, CO** – Performed site assessment and identified instream and overhead cover habitat to enhance fish habitat along a short reach of Boulder Creek adjacent to City of Boulder, Eldorado Canyon Open Space.
- **C-Lazy-U Ranch Willow Creek Fishery Enhancement Plan, Granby, CO** – Assessed and prepared design plans for 2 miles of instream and overhead cover habitat aimed at enhancing water quality through increased bank stability, improving aquatic habitat and angling opportunities, and providing long-term stability to the reach influenced ongoing ranching activities. Bank-side improvements include detailed seeding and planting plans indicating site-specific plant and seed locations, life zones, and species palettes according to hydrologic, soil, and aspect conditions.
- **Colowyo Coal Mine Wetland Creation Plan, Meeker, CO** – Performed wetland mitigation site feasibility assessment and design of 2.2-acres of created wetland benches along a 1.5-mile reach of the West New Goodspring Creek.
- **Uncompahgre River Wetland Creation and Streambank Stabilization, Montrose, CO** – Mr. Dauzvardis developed a Clean Water Act Individual Section 404, alternatives analysis and mitigation plans that successfully defrayed public descent and offset unavoidable impacts related to the River Landing Retail Development Project. Once approved by the USACE, the project turned a degraded, gravel-mined portion of the floodplain into functional and aesthetic riparian habitat that is now enjoyed by the public via a segment of trail that Mr. Dauzvardis designed. Two acres of riparian and “backwater” wetland habitat were strategically created along the Uncompahgre River to ensure reliable hydrologic connectivity and support of the designed wetland plant community. Nearly 350 lineal feet of severely degraded stream bank was stabilized using a naturalized bio-engineering approach that incorporated soil, native seed, erosion control blanket, shrubs, trees, and strategically located river boulders and logs to restore the riparian habitat, create fish habitat and redirect scouring flows away from the once barren bank.
- **River Point at Sheridan Brownfield Redevelopment, Sheridan, CO** – Designed and oversaw the construction of a “bio-engineered” and “bio-technical” vegetative landfill cap system and water quality swale that drains to the South Platte River. Jon was responsible for integrating the swale in to the River Point at Sheridan commercial redevelopment and the City of Englewood Golf Course renewal – renamed to the Broken Tee Golf Course.
- **Broken Tee Golf Course Flood Protection, City of Englewood, CO** – Oversaw the construction of a biotechnical subsurface stabilization and flood protection system (under-armor) designed to ensure that the woodland golf course tees, fairways and greens in the South Platte River floodplain are not compromised by flood scour. Designed and implemented bioengineered bank stabilization and under-armor on Bear Creek that was essential for protecting tees and greens. Jon was responsible for disproving the jurisdictional status of artificially supported wetlands via a groundwater monitoring system.
- **Lafarge Northbank Resources Gravel Pit Wetland Design, Rifle, CO** – Jon asses DMG requirements and prepared gravel pit reclamation plans aimed at providing suitable shallow-water wetlands and islands within the pit closure area to serve as compensatory mitigation for wetland impacts associated with mine operations adjacent to the Colorado River.

- **Leach Creek Stream Enhancement, Grand Junction, CO** – Designed stream corridor enhancements for a ½-mile section of Leach Creek that was channelized and used as an irrigation canal. Enhancements were designed to restore natural channel form and function, improve the aquatic environment, and provide mitigation for jurisdictional impacts permitted under the Nationwide Permit program. This project is being used as a model and replicated along other reaches of Leach Creek
- **Castro Property Wetlands and Wildlife Ponds, Beulah, CO** – Performed the site assessment, feasibility analysis, water resource and minor dam design, native plant design, landscape architecture, and supported the water rights application needed to create shallow water wetland habitat for amphibians, waterfowl, migrating bird and ungulates, and deep water habitat for trout at a sub-alpine elevation of 9000 feet. Project included development of a spring, creation of a creek and a mechanical water circulation and aeration system to support the aquatic, wetland, and riparian ecosystem. Organized, supervised and participated in a volunteer planting effort.
- **Jefferson County Gunbarrel Bridge Replacement, Oxyoke, CO** – Developed construction plans and specifications and oversaw construction of wetland and Preble’s mouse habitat mitigation to enhance weedy and degraded wetland and Preble’s mouse habitat along Gunbarrel Creek, a tributary to the upper South Platte River near Deckers, CO.
- **Coal Creek Bank Stabilization, Erie, CO** – Assessed, permitted, designed and performed construction oversight of bio-engineered/bio-technical bank stabilization and wetland creation associated with the Vista Parkway bridge crossing over Coal Creek in Erie, CO. The project involved pulling back vertical banks and restoring native wetland, riparian, and short grass prairie habitat.
- **Spring Creek Wetland Mitigation, Colorado Springs, CO** – Generated wetland and creek creation plans that integrated required mitigation into a high density, “new urban” development. The design emphasized re-utilization of urban storm water to sustain wetlands, use of indigenous plants, construction materials, and natural geomorphic relationships.
- **Sulphur Gulch, Parker, CO** – Developed a naturalized sculpted concrete drop structure design, planting and bio-engineering plans for a highly visible, urbanizing reach of a sandy creek through the center of the Town of Parker.
- **Skylark Creek Restoration Plan, Kremmling, CO** – Designed and performed construction oversight of aquatic, wetland and riparian plant community, and trail system along a historic side channel of the Upper Colorado River on a private fishing ranch.
- **ARCO Opportunity Ponds Wetland Mitigation Design, Anaconda, MT** – Jon generated the design of a 908-acre complex of wetlands and terrestrial habitat required to meet the Consent Decree and the functional assessment criteria established during the wetland assessment process mentioned previously. The design is currently being implemented. Once complete, the grading, drainage, hydrology, and revegetation strategy used to create wetlands from massive soil borrow pits will potentially be the largest inland, freshwater wetland mitigation project in the United States.
- **Northgate Boulevard Realignment, Colorado Springs, CO** – Coordinated and prepared ESA Section 7 and CWA Section 404 consultation documents as required by the USFWS and USACE, including mitigation construction documents, specifications, on-site layout of plant communities and construction supervision aimed at restoring wetland and riparian habitat occupied by Preble’s meadow jumping mouse.
- **Northgate PMJM and Wetland Mitigation Plan, Colorado Springs, CO** – Mr. Dauzvardis was an instrumental member of multidisciplinary team responsible for delineating wetlands, preparing ESA Section 7 and CWA Section 404 assessment, impact analysis and consultation documents as required by the USFWS and USACE. As the lead designer, Jon was responsible for the design of over 80 acres of wetland, riparian, and grassland habitat utilized as primary and secondary habitat for Preble’s Meadow Jumping Mouse, a Federally-listed threatened species. Jon prepared mitigation construction documents, specifications, onsite layout of plant communities and supervised construction for this precedent setting mitigation plan designed to offset impacts to critical habitat over a 1200-acre site.
- **Martin County Coal Corporation, Inez, KY** – Mr. Dauzvardis bioengineered and performed on-the-ground triage of two stream corridors, consisting of 26 miles, impacted by a coal slurry spill that originated from a mountaintop mine reservoir used to hold liquefied coal dust. Jon identified and documented critically imperiled stream banks and human settlements, and then designed, coordinated, led and supervised local crews during the implementation of specified floodplain, bioengineered bank stabilization, and reforestation efforts.

- **Uncompahgre River Restoration and Park Corridor, Ouray, CO** – Jon designed and performed construction oversight of the restoration and reclamation of one mile of upland, riparian and wetland habitat left barren by historic placer mining. The major challenge presented by this project was a lack of soil, organic matter and nutrients to sustain vegetation. This constraint was addressed by amending the soil with humate and planting and seeding riparian vegetation to initiate natural succession and bioaccumulation of matter, assisted by an irrigation system that injected organic fertilizer and microbes (mycorrhiza) in to the substrate.
- **Burlington Mine Remediation, Jamestown, CO** – Preparation and management of specification package, best management practices (BMPs), and revegetation design for mine waste capping and closure.
- **Powder River Coal Company – Porcupine Creek Restoration, Douglas, WY** – Designed and supervised the construction of this post mine wetland/creek restoration project. Following the pit closure, reclamation specialists reestablished the original location and geomorphic relationships of the creek using historic aerial photography using a trapezoidal channel cross-section design. Jon adapted the design creating grading and wetland planting plans that mimic the landform, natural lateral and longitudinal channel tilt, and plant communities that are indigenous to ephemeral creeks in the shortgrass prairie landscapes of eastern Wyoming.
- **Sand Creek Corridor Habitat Enhancement at Bluff Lake, Denver, CO** – Prepared plant community, bioengineering and bank stabilization design. Prepared visualization graphics to present and receive design approval.
- **Intrawest Resort Development, West Ten Mile Creek, Copper Mountain Village, CO** – Prepared vegetation community and concept design of village base streamside recreational amenities.

#### **Construction and Plant Installation:**

- **St. Vrain River Riparian Corridor Enhancement, Lyons, CO** – Jon managed construction and implementation of the restoration and enhancement of 0.60-acre of riparian Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse Habitat (PMJM) along the St. Vrain River.
- **Standley Lake Protection Project, Westminster, CO** – Designed and supervised construction of a 0.50-acre created emergent wetland to fulfill final mitigation requirements of the USACE and bring closure to the City's drinking water protection project.
- **Caribou Peat Bog Restoration, Nederland, CO** – Prepared native plant community design, planting cost estimate, and on-the-ground oversight of volunteers to restore a high-altitude peat bog disturbed by an illegal four-wheel drive "mudfest".
- **Department of Energy (DOE) Wetland Mitigation Bank, Westminster, CO** – Construction supervision of grading and planting plans of a 12-acre wetland mitigation bank design for the Department of Energy.
- **ARCO Lower Area One and Butte Reduction Works, Butte, MT** – Performed construction observation and supervision of temporary labor crews to plant a passive treatment wetland designed to absorb heavy metals from groundwater.
- **Colorado Department of Transportation Mitigation Bank, Limon, CO** – Performed in-field planting design and supervised local labor to complete a 10-acre wetland mitigation bank designed by CDOT to offset future wetland impacts in the transportation region.
- **Irvine Ranch Water District – San Joaquin Wetland Treatment System, Irvine, CA** – Planting superintendent of a wetland designed to be used as tertiary wastewater treatment facility and waterfowl refuge.

#### **PRESENTATIONS & INSTRUCTION:**

- Dauzvardis, Jonathan B. 2008. Preserving the Ecological Services of Willow Cuttings. Research presented at the Colorado Riparian Association (CRA) Sustaining Colorado Watersheds Conference. October 2, 2008. Vail, Colorado.
- Dauzvardis, Jonathan B. 2006. Water Pollution and Wetland Plant Tolerance to Various Ph Levels. Classroom instruction with Elementary Students. Flagstaff Academy Charter School. February 2, 2006. Longmont, Colorado.
- Dauzvardis, Jonathan B. 2006. Soil Erosion and Habitat Destruction. Classroom instruction with Elementary Students. Flagstaff Academy Charter School. January 26, 2006. Longmont, Colorado.

- Dauzvardis, Jonathan B. 2004. Wetland and Wildlife Habitat Restoration, Opportunity Ponds, Anaconda, Montana. Poster Presentation at Ecological Restoration Conference. October, 2003. Orlando, Florida.
- Dauzvardis, Jonathan B. 2003. Application of Landscape Ecology Principles to Mine Remediation and Wetland Creation: An Ecological Restoration Seminar using a Case Study of the Opportunity Ponds Wetlands Plan, Anaconda, Montana. Presented at the University of Colorado, Denver. November, 2003. Denver, Colorado.
- Dauzvardis, Jonathan B. 2000. Endangered Species Act Issues: Incorporating the ESA into Mitigation Projects. Presented at the Continuing Legal Education (CLE, International) Colorado Wetlands Conference. September 18, 2000. Denver, Colorado.

**AWARDS:**

- Colorado Landscape Contractors Award, Sand Creek Enhancement Project – 2000
- Colorado Landscape Contractors Award, Skylark Creek Restoration Project – 1998
- Colorado American Society of Landscape Architects, Research, and Communications – 1997
- Texas American Society of Landscape Architects Honor Award – 1995
- Texas A&M Landscape Architecture Faculty Award – 1995

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:**

- Town of Erie, Colorado Open Space and Trails Advisory Board (OSTAB) - As a former member and chair of the Town of Erie Open Space and Trails Advisory Board (OSTAB), Mr. Dauzvardis routinely collaborated with Town Administrator, Community Planning, Public Works, and Parks and Recreation Directors and Staff, and advised the Board of Trustees on all matters related to the goals, objectives, prioritization, acquisition, conservation, and the management of open space and trails throughout a 49-square mile planning area. Jon's 8-year experience on the OSTAB translates to an intimate knowledge of public processes.
- Society of Wetland Scientists (SWS)