



February 18, 2019

2019-TA-0510

Drue DeBerry  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Colorado Field Office  
Denver Federal Center (MS 65412)  
PO Box 25486  
Denver, Colorado 80225

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE	
<input type="checkbox"/> NO CONCERNS	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONCUR NOT LIKELY TO ADVERSELY AFFECT	
<input type="checkbox"/> NO COMMENT	
<i>for</i> <u>Leslie Elwood</u>	<u>5-14-19</u>
Drue DeBerry	DATE
Colorado and Nebraska Field Supervisor	

Re: Threatened and Endangered Species Habitat Assessment— Grandwood Ranch Development Preble’s Endangered Species Assessment, El Paso County, Colorado

Dear Mr. DeBerry:

ERO Resources Corporation (ERO), on behalf of Grandwood Enterprises, LLC, is requesting technical assistance under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) regarding federally listed threatened, endangered, and candidate (T&E) species for the construction of Grandwood Ranch Development (project) along Jackson Creek in El Paso County, Colorado.

**Background**

Grandwood Enterprises, LLC retained ERO to conduct a habitat evaluation for T&E species for Grandwood Ranch Development located north of the intersection of Higby Road and Colonial Park Drive in Monument, El Paso County, Colorado (project area; Figure 1). On June 1, 2018, Nolan Hahn and Anna Hennage, biologists with ERO, surveyed the project area for T&E species and natural resources (2018 site visit).

The project must comply with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) by ensuring that the project does not have significant adverse impacts on federally listed threatened or endangered species. Preble’s meadow jumping mouse (Preble’s) is listed as threatened under the ESA and has been captured in nearby areas of the South Platte River.

**Federal Nexus**

There is a federal nexus under U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) regulations. ERO evaluated the area for the presence of wetlands following Corps methodology and determined that Jackson Creek and its surrounding wetlands are considered jurisdictional waters of the U.S.

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