



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Colorado Ecological Services



IN REPLY REFER TO:
FWS/R6/ES CO

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Western Slope:
445 W. Gunnison Avenue
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Grand Junction, Colorado 81501-5711

TAILS: 06E24000-2018-TA-0811

May 14, 2018

Steve Hunsinger
Olive Real Estate Group
102 North Cascade Avenue, Suite 250
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903
steveh@oliverereg.com

Dear Mr. Hunsinger:

Thank you for your March 23, 2018, report requesting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) review of the proposed development of your property on the southwest corner of Old Ranch Road and Otero Drive in El Paso County, Colorado. Portions of the property supports habitat for the Preble's meadow jumping mouse (*Zapus hudsonius preblei*) that will be affected by development.

Based on the information you provided and the Service's understanding of the project, local conditions, and current information, it doesn't appear that "take" of the Preble's mouse from the project is reasonably certain to occur because the development footprints identified, with the exception of Lot 1, which may or may not see additional development are outside of habitat. Should additional development occur on Lot 1, additional review may be necessary. Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act as amended (16 USC 1531 et seq.) prohibits any action that would likely result in "take" of a listed species (take is defined by the Act as to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound kill, trap, capture, or collect or attempt to engage in any such conduct of listed species). Should changes to the proposed project occur or if new information indicates that the project may result in the take of a listed species, you may want to contact the Service.

We appreciate the opportunity to review your request for technical assistance. Should you have any questions, please contact Alison Michael at 303 236-4758 or alison_michael@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

Ann Timberman

5/14/2018

for Drue L. DeBerry
Colorado and Nebraska Field Offices Supervisor