

## Grant Gurnee

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**From:** San Miguel, George L <george\_sanmiguel@fws.gov> on behalf of San Miguel, George L  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 25, 2020 8:55 AM  
**To:** Grant Gurnee  
**Subject:** Determination Request for ESA-listed species on the Waterbury PUD Filings 1 & 2 project

Hello Grant,

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed the documents associated with the Waterbury Planned Unit Development Project, Filings 1 & 2 site, near Falcon, CO.

The Ute ladies'-tresses orchid is unlikely to occur as the project site is situated between 6,918 and 6,950 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.

The Preble's meadow jumping mouse is not known to occur on the project site due to:

- o The absence of habitat required to support the life requisites of the species;
- o Negative trapping results (i.e., Trapped – Not Found) reported by USFWS adjacent to the project site;
- o 4.16 mile distance from the closest CPW "Potential" occupied Preble's mouse habitat;
- o 9.97 mile distance from the closest USFWS Designated Critical Habitat; and
- o The lack of viable habitat connection corridors from known, occupied habitat to the project site.

Therefore, the Service has no concerns with this project resulting in impacts to species listed as candidate, proposed, threatened, or endangered.

We also want to let you know that Drue DeBerry has moved to the Regional Office, so no longer receives ESA section 7 consultation request. Therefore, just sending your future requests to ColoradoES@fws.gov is sufficient. We appreciate your efforts to ensure the conservation of threatened and endangered species. Thank you for contacting us and please let me know if you have any further questions.

*George L. San Miguel*

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