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STATE OF COLORADO
DEPARTMENT OF LAW

**Natural Resources and
Environment Section**

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AGENDA

Colorado Natural Resources Trustees Meeting
September 26, 2014, 1:00pm to 3:00pm
Location: AGO Room 1C

Open Session

1. Approval of Minutes from February 2014 Meeting and from June 2014 Meeting – 5 minutes
2. Rocky Mountain Arsenal Recovery Fund – Northeast Greenway Corridor (NGC) Presentations (David Banas, Susan Newton, Ed Perkins, Members of the NGC) – 40 minutes

Executive Session

3. Rocky Mountain Arsenal Recovery Fund – NGC Project Proposals – 45 minutes
 - a. Adams County - South Platte Acquisition
 - b. Aurora - Triple Creek
 - c. Bluff Lake Nature Center – Bluff Lake Dam
 - d. Brighton - Ken Mitchell Open Space
 - e. Commerce City - Second Creek
 - f. Denver - Northside Park
 - g. Denver - Westerly Creek
 - h. Environmental Learning for Kids – Montebello
 - i. Groundwork Denver - Platte Farm Open Space
 - j. Sand Creek Regional Greenway - Bird Habitat

Open Session

4. Decision Items Regarding Rocky Mountain Arsenal Recovery Fund – 30 minutes
 - a. Adams County - South Platte Acquisition
 - b. Aurora - Triple Creek
 - c. Bluff Lake Nature Center – Bluff Lake Dam
 - d. Brighton - Ken Mitchell Open Space
 - e. Commerce City - Second Creek
 - f. Denver - Northside Park
 - g. Denver - Westerly Creek
 - h. Environmental Learning for Kids – Montebello
 - i. Groundwork Denver - Platte Farm Open Space
 - j. Sand Creek Regional Greenway - Bird Habitat

**Minutes of Meeting
Colorado Natural Resource Trustees
February 27, 2014**

In attendance:

TRUSTEES

John Suthers, Attorney General

Bob Randall, DNR

Martha Rudolph, CDPHE

STAFF and OTHERS

Casey Shpall, DAG, NR

David Banas, AGO, NR

Emily Jackson, AGO, NR

Jennifer Robbins, AGO, NR

Rob Eber, AGO, NR

Joe Montoya, AGO

Susan Newton, CDPHE

Gary Baughman, CDPHE

Ken Vogler, CDPHE

Dan Huse, CDPHE

Alex Davis, DNR

Mark Viera, DNR

Doug Jamison, CDPHE

Paul Frohardt, NEGC

Kate Kramer, NEGC

Hillary Merritt, Trust for Public Lands

Justin Spring, Trust for Public Lands

Gordon Robinson, Denver

Mike Bouchard, Denver

Rex Raymond, Meridian Institute

John Huyler, Meridian Institute

Stacie Gilmore, Environmental Learning for Kids

Don Summers, PSS

Jeff Edson, Bluff Lake

Jeff Lamontague, Bluff Lake

Ray Ehrenstein, Overland Neighborhood Assn.

Ronnie Crawford, Overland Neighborhood Assn.

Jack Unruh, Overland Neighborhood Assn.

John Suthers called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m., Thursday, February 27, 2014. The meeting's purpose was to brief the Trustees on the current status and issues relating to NRD sites and to request direction and/or approval for various actions.

Mr. Suthers requested approval of the October 8, 2013 meeting minutes. Mr. Randall moved to approve the minutes, and Ms. Rudolph seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously

approved.

West Creek Pre-Assessment Update

Jennifer Robbins updated the Trustees regarding the West Creek site. The preassessment letter between Groendyke and DOI has been extended through June 2014 and Groendyke has been reimbursing the State and federal government for the preassessment work accordingly. Staff is still working to determine if there is actual damage to quantify.

Suncor NRD Update

Emily Jackson informed the Trustees the judge had asked some questions regarding the proposed Consent Decree and after receiving satisfactory answers, Suncor Consent Decree had been signed that morning and Ms. Jackson provided the Trustees with copies of the CD.

Mr. Suthers asked if changes in the hydrology were a result of last year's flooding. Mr. Vogler responded the flooding did not cause any significant changes to warrant changes in the Consent Decree.

Shattuck

Jeff Shoemaker/Greenway Foundation and Gordon Robinson/Denver Parks gave an update of progress for the Shattuck projects. Jack Unruh of the Overland Neighborhood Association made a statement regarding how happy the neighborhood was with the planned improvements.

Mike Bouchard provided a Power Point presentation regarding the South Platte River Vision detailing the work to be done to improve hydrology and enhance habitat opportunities for the Overland River work. In addition, he spoke of improvement to Grant Frontier and Pasquinel's Parks, including excavation and expansion of floodplain and riparian areas. Along with the NRD monies granted by the Trustees, they have additional monies from 18 different sources and their goal is to open the Parks in 2015.

Mr. Suthers asked if the September floods impacted the plan and Mr. Bouchard responded that all the engineering had taken into account flooding events. In the event of flooding on the scale of last September's flood, they would probably have to make a few repairs, but expanding the flood plains should take care of normal flood events. Mr. Shoemaker added all of the projects have a flood plan component to them.

Ms. Rudolph commended the group for a job well done.

Legislative Funding for OPA Cases

Casey Shpall informed the Trustees she attempted to draft legislation to modify the NRD fund account in order to investigate OPA sites, but needed more input from staff involved in the Tipping Fee program. Ms. Rudolph did not know why the process had been stalled and Mr. Suthers stated he thought a second attempt to draft the legislation needed to be ready for the next

legislative session.

Cotter Update and Request to Expand Funds

Ken Vogler updated the Trustees on the status of the Cotter Phase II NRD projects completion. At the end of the Phase II projects there is approximately \$17,000 remaining and the Canon City Metropolitan District has requested using the residual funds to acquire more property or easements to expand trails to connect some of the Phase II project areas. Since the request is consistent with the Phase II plan for NRD at Cotter, staff recommends funds be authorized for this purpose.

Ms. Rudolph made the motion to approve the expenditure and Mr. Randall seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by the Trustees.

Uravan Update and Request to Expand Funds

Doug Jamison reported on the Uravan mine cleanup project stating the work as planned had been finished and there was currently \$270,000 remaining in the Uravan NRD fund. Mr. Jamison requested the Trustees approve the use of the remaining funds for additional restoration of abandoned mines in the same project area. Specifically to remove mine wastes from intermittent drainages flowing through the project sites and stabilize mine wastes with vegetation to minimize wind and water erosion.

Mr. Suthers asked if there was any reason to believe the remaining funds were the result of some work not being done and Mr. Jamison, said no.

Mr. Randall asked Mr. Jamison to explain the nexus between the Lucky Dog mine project and the Dolores Ranch. I am not sure what exactly was discussed in response to this question except that the request to use these funds was for the similar purpose that was originally approved under the original NRD trustee resolution and the area in which these funds would be used is in an area adjacent to the original approved area at the Uravan Mill Site near Naturita Colorado.

Mr. Randall then moved and Ms. Rudolph seconded a motion to approve the request and to sign a resolution to that effect. The resolution was then signed.

NRD Guidance Document

Susan Newton and David Banas presented the draft NRD guidance for the Trustees review and comment.

Mr. Suthers commented he would like to see some kind of disclaimer on the guidance document stating it is guidance only and not an official administrative procedure.

Mr. Randall agreed with Mr. Suthers and also pointed out the guidance should clearly state when something is a requirement by statute or regulation and when the decision is discretionary. Mr. Randall suggested staff do an annotated version of the guidance making it clear what is statutory

or regulatory, and identifying the source.

Mr. Suthers asked the guidance be revised and re-circulated and thanked staff for a job well done.

Rocky Mountain Arsenal Foundation Fund

Montbello Revised Proposal

Gordon Robinson outlined the new proposal stating that only 4.5 acres would be restored and subject to a conservation easement. The remaining acre (of the original 5.5 acres approved for NRD monies) would house a building for the environmental learning center.

Mr. Suthers questioned whether this new proposal fit the criteria for NRD funding and asked if the Trustee could just approve acquisition of the 4.5 acres and then the Environmental Learning group could buy the remaining acre with matching funds and build their center.

Mr. Randall stated the new proposal did not really match what was first proposed.

Mr. Suthers said the Trustees needed to discuss the whole issue in depth during the executive session.

Rocky Mountain Arsenal Recovery Fund

RMA Recovery Fund, Re-payment of NRDs Litigation Expenses

Paul Frohardt, now representing the Northeast Greenway Corridor (NGC) spoke to the Trustees regarding a new proposal for repaying the litigation costs. The proposal would allocate repayment obligations proportionally among the Recovery Fund proponents – the five governmental jurisdictions and the four NGOs. The NGC, after much discussion, decided this approach made the most sense. The NGOs, in particular, Bluff Lake Nature Center, have raised concerns, but said they are willing to live with a contractual agreement if the Trustees approve the project.

Mr. Suthers asked who the four NGOs are and Mr. Frohardt responded it was Bluff Lake, Sand Creek, Groundworks Denver and Environmental Learning for Kids.

Mr. Frohardt went on to say the issue of repayment to the legislature will take another five to seven years and the parties believe it is better to move forward now and find a way to pay back the fund as quickly as possible.

Mr. Suthers asked who would not be able to come up with the repayment funds and Mr. Frohardt was unsure, but stated he was fairly certain the governmental agencies could come up with funds, but was not sure about the NGOs. Although none of the groups really wanted to wait five to seven years to begin their projects.

Mr. Randall asked how much of the monies would need to come out of the projects for repayment and Mr. Frohardt responded it would be seven to eight percent.

Mr. John Huyler of the Meridian Institute presented a proposed schedule for the repayment plan to the Trustees.

RMA Recovery Fund, Reconsideration of Designation

Mr. Don Summer appeared before the Trustees to request they reconsider has project for NRD funding. The project was previously denied funding because there was no specific location or sufficient details.

The Trustees decided to discuss the proposal in Executive Session.

Executive Session

John Suthers noted the next agenda items were subject to attorney-client privilege, and therefore called for an executive session pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(3)(a)(II). At 4:04 p.m. Mr. Randall moved, and Ms. Rudolph seconded a motion to begin executive session, and the vote was unanimously approved to allow the Trustees to discuss privileged topics concerning the Rocky Mountain Arsenal's Recovery Fund and Foundation Fund as well as reconsideration for an additional project. Such discussion, being attorney-client privileged, is authorized under C.R.S. section 24-6-402(3)(a)(II) and C.R.S. section 24-6-402(d.5)(1)(B). The executive session was digitally recorded. No other business was conducted, no minutes were taken.

At 4:50 p.m. the executive session was unanimously ended by motion from Mr. Randall and seconded by Ms. Rudolph whereupon executive session was ended. Ms. Shpall noted for the record the Trustees discussed legal issues concerning Rocky Mountain Arsenal Foundation and Recovery Funds, the new proposal for the Montbello project and a discussion of whether to reconsider the proposal by Mr. Summer during executive session.

Following the Executive Session, Mr. Suthers directed staff to ask for more details on the Montbello project and stated the Trustees were unwilling to approve the new project without a revised proposal. The Trustees also declined to entertain any new proposals at this time.

Ms. Rudolph moved to approve the proposal by the NGC regarding repayment and the motion was seconded by Mr. Randall. This motion was unanimously adopted by the Trustees.

Whereupon, a motion was made by Ms. Randall to end the Trustee meeting and was seconded by Mr. Randall. The meeting concluded at 4:57 p.m.

**Minutes of Meeting
Colorado Natural Resource Trustees
June 17, 2014**

In attendance:

TRUSTEES

John Suthers, Attorney General

Bob Randall, DNR

Martha Rudolph, CDPHE (by telephone)

STAFF and OTHERS

Casey Shpall, DAG, NR&E

David Banas, AGO, NR&E

David Kreutzer, AGO, NR&E

Kendall Griffin, AGO, NR&E

Susan Newton, CDPHE (by telephone)

Gary Baughman, CDPHE (by telephone)

Ed Perkins – CPW (by telephone)

Lance Carpenter – CPW (by telephone)

Hillary Merritt, Trust for Public Lands (by telephone)

Justin Spring, Trust for Public Lands (by telephone)

Tim Wohlgenant, Trust for Public Lands (by telephone)

Gordon Robinson, Denver (by telephone)

John Huyler, Meridian Institute (by telephone)

Utsarga Bhattarai, Meridian Institute (by telephone)

Jolynn Crownover, Environmental Learning for Kids (by telephone)

Kristina Opre, Environmental Learning for Kids (by telephone)

Lauri Dannemiller, Denver (by telephone)

Gary Wardle, Brighton (by telephone)

The conference call started at 11:28 AM

John Suthers called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM.

John Suthers requested staff brief the Trustees on the status of the first agenda item, Denver's Montebello project.

David Banas explained that in July of 2012, the Trustees had approved a number of Foundation Fund projects. Denver had proposed some significant changes to its Montebello land acquisition project. The Trustees had met several times with Denver and asked some questions about the project, which Denver had answered. Mr. Banas pointed out that staff had supplied the Trustees with several of the projects as submitted over time, as well as various letters of support from the community and community leaders.

Mr. Suthers noted the current proposal was different than originally tendered , which had included 5.5 acres, a water feature, and certain wildlife values. Now the proposal includes a large building, no retention pond, and is significantly smaller. Mr. Suthers also noted the strong community support for the project.

Ms. Dannemiller with Denver Parks and Rec thanked the Trustees for their consideration of the project and explained why it fit the Trustees mission of funding restoration projects. She noted the changes were only slight, Denver's Mayor and others strongly supported the project, and the project would compensate the community for decades of damage caused by the Rocky Mt. Arsenal. She asked that technical missteps not be held against the community.

Mr. Suthers said some of the problems with the project came to light only because the Trustees had insisted on a conservation easement. The proponents had not come forward with the changes on their own, and had not been straightforward with the Trustees.

Mr. Robinson, with Denver, said the problem had been miscommunication between Environmental Learning for Kids and Denver and that it was still a good project.

Ms. Dannemiller of Denver Parks & Rec said the conversation easement issue was about whether Denver could hold one, not that Denver was trying to obfuscate project goals. She said withholding money for the project would unfairly punish the community for Denver's mistakes.

Robert Randall noted the original request was for \$500,000 for 5.5 acres, with the pond, now that it was only 4.5 acres and no pond, was the request for money still the same \$500,000?

Denver staff indicated there was no change in the request for the amount of money, and that Denver had secured at least a one-to-one match of funds, including GOCO grants and two private foundations.

Mr. Randall noted that going from 5.5 acres to 4.5 acres changed the restoration value of the project.

Martha Rudolph asked questions about the stormwater retention pond, the owner of the pond, and whether Denver's proposed use of the water had any water rights implications.

Mr. Robinson replied that Denver had hoped to acquire the pond from the owner but that had not worked out and the owner was eager to work with Denver to re-grade the pond so as to add to the project. Mr. Robinson asked the Trustees to note other projects had also changed over time, but were still funded. The site has little ecological value now, and short-grass prairie is the best possible ecological use of the property.

Tim Wohlgenant of Trust for Public Lands said the pond would still be part of the learning center, it would be weeded and maintained by ELK.

Mr. Suthers asked for further public comment and hearing none ended the Montebello project conversation. Mr. Suthers asked that staff brief the Trustees on the next agenda item, the West Creek NRDs claim.

David Banas reminded the Trustees a Grondyke truck had spilled 8,000 gals of fuel into West Creek as it ran along Bureau of Land Management property. The Trustees had directed staff to join BLM in performing a preliminary assessment of natural resources injuries. He further explained Grondyke had agreed to pay for the assessment, and a contract was given to the BLM's NRDs contractor for that purpose.

Mr. Banas explained the contractor's injuries assessment had come back lower than anticipated, at \$97,000. Grondyke was informed of the amount and they immediately offered to settle, pending working out details of the settlement agreement. Staff felt like they did not have authority to settle the claim, just perform a preliminary assessment.

Following some Trustee questions, Mr. Banas explained that Grondyke would pay State costs of initially responding to the spill, and that settlement money would go to the BLM in part because all injuries were joint injuries, and the BLM has a fund set up to receive NRDs that would be spent in cooperation with the State. Restoration projects would include creek enhancement.

Susan Newton explained that creek restoration had been the basis for the injuries assessment setting the \$97,000 value, and that the BLM had committed to jointly administering the damages.

Mr. Banas requested any approval of settlement have a settlement range equal to ten percent of the injuries value for purposes of settlement negotiations.

Vote: The Trustees unanimously voted to approve the settlement.

Mr. Suthers requested comments from staff with the City of Brighton on the Eagle Preserve project, listed as the third agenda item.

Mr. Banas explained that DNR holds the money for Foundation Fund projects, and in writing the contract and reviewing the conservation easement, Brighton wanted a 3-acre envelope exclusion from the conservation easement for a parking lot and other amenities. This is a 7% change to the total project size. DNR felt like this was a big enough change to require Trustee approval.

Gary Wardle from Brighton Parks and Rec explained that Adams County wanted to ensure public access to public spaces, and the 3 acre envelope would be used for about 0.5 acres of development, to include a 25 space parking lot, toilet facilities, and a few picnic benches. The easement also provides for easement access to neighboring properties by other

landowners. Mr. Wardle indicated he had approval of all NGC members but for Aurora who he was waiting to hear back from.

Mr. Suthers called for a motion to approve the change to the Eagle Preserve project, conditional upon receiving approval from the NGC as a whole. Mr. Randall so moved.

Vote: the vote was unanimous in favor of approving the change.

John Suthers noted the next agenda items were subject to attorney-client privilege, and therefore called for an executive session pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(3)(a)(II). At Noon, Mr. Randall so moved, and Ms. Rudolph seconded the motion to begin executive session, and the vote was unanimously approved to allow the Trustees to discuss privileged topics concerning the Montebello project and to receive legal advice on privilege and waiver issues surrounding how much feedback staff should give Recovery Fund proponents.

Executive Session

Public Session Continued

Casey Shpall noted the conversation during the executive Session was limited to agenda items 4 and 6, and no formal actions were taken.

Mr. Suthers called for a motion on the Montebello project.

Ms. Rudolph stated that this had been a difficult matter to work through, and understand, even after it had come back to the Trustees for a third time. After some questions and answers, there were difficulties with the application, and the maps of the project have changed significantly several times. Setting those concerns aside, Ms. Rudolph indicated the intent of the project was good, and that putting a park into an urban area for environmental and educational purposes was to be commended. However, she noted this particular parcel was not well situated for the goal of natural resources restoration, given its commercial surroundings and small size. Ms. Rudolph moved not to approve funding for this project at this time.

Mr. Randall seconded the motion.

Mr. Suthers noted it was a difficult issue, and that he was willing to put aside problems with the initial proposal size and retention pond. He agreed with Ms. Rudolph that it did not seem like a good wildlife or short grass prairie project.

Vote: unanimous vote in favor of denying money to the Montebello project.

Whereupon, a motion was made by Mr. Randall to end the Trustee meeting and was seconded by Ms. Rudolph. The meeting concluded at approximately 1:05 PM.



Recovery Fund Proposals

Presentation to the Colorado Trustees September 26, 2014

Today's Presentation

- Brief Background
- Quick Overview of Recovery Fund Proposal Development Process
- The Ten Recovery Fund Proposals
- Conclusion and Request

Quick Background – The Past

- In the 1980s, the U.S. Army and Shell Oil began a cleanup of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal site
- Restoring natural habitats led to the creation of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge
- The Army and Shell allocated \$27.4 million to restore, replace and acquire resources similar to those injured at the Arsenal
- Two funds were created: the Foundation Fund and the Recovery Fund

The Present - Recovery Fund Working Group Members

- Paul Frohardt, Chair
- Adams County: Roger Harvey
- City of Aurora: Patricia Schuler
- Bluff Lake Nature Center: Jeff Lamontagne
- City of Brighton: Gary Wardle
- City of Commerce City: Mike Brown and Traci Ferguson
- City and County of Denver: Gordon Robertson and Cincere Eades
- Environmental Learning for Kids: Stacie Gilmore
- Groundwork Denver: Wendy Hawthorne
- Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership: Kate Kramer

The Present - Other Support

State Trustee Staff

David Banas, Susan Newton, Ed Perkins,
Alexandra Davis, Lance Carpenter,
David Kreutzer, Kendall Griffin, Monica Sheets

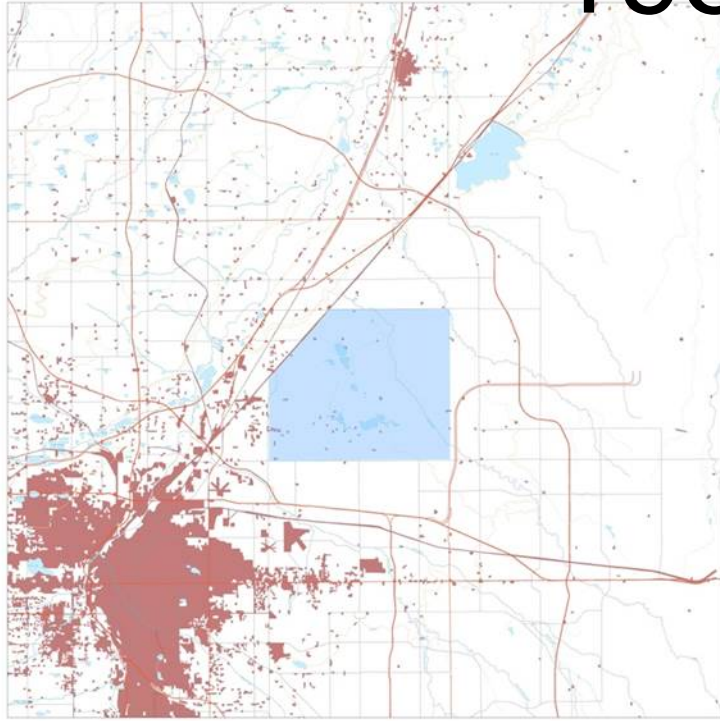
Meridian Institute Team

Rex Raimond, John Huyler, Utsarga Bhattarai,
Holly Dobson

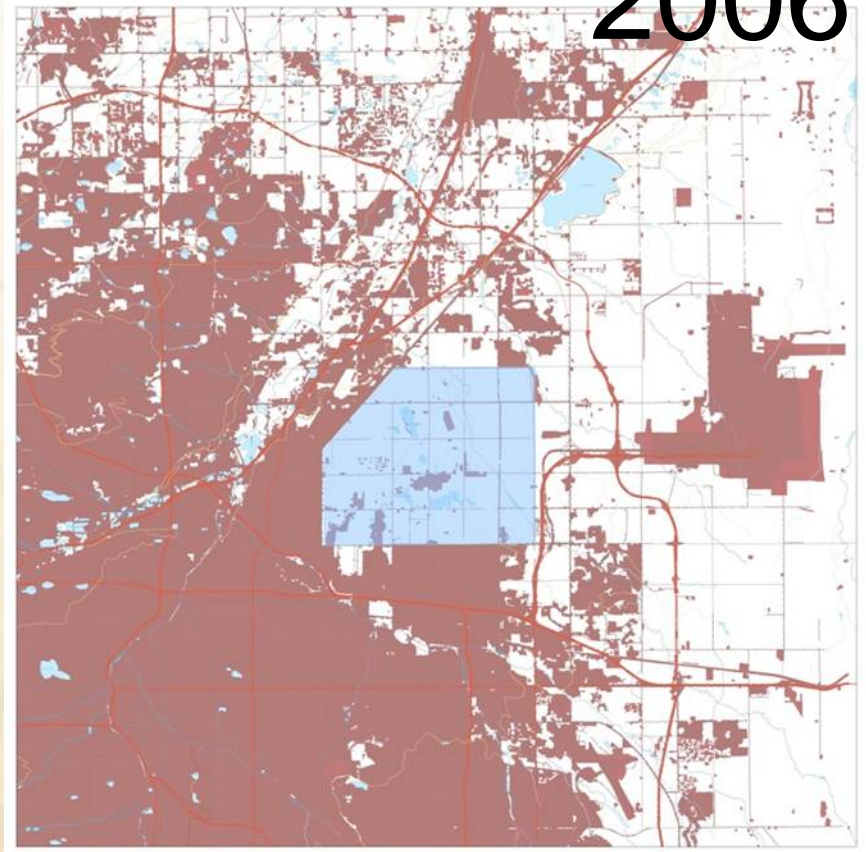
Urbanization Trends

- The Northeast quadrant of the metropolitan area has grown rapidly, in particular during recent years
 - This growth is a challenge for the protection of open spaces and natural areas
-

1930



2006



Growth in urbanized areas

The Recovery Fund Working Group

- Built on the Foundation Fund process
- Used NRD criteria to develop the package of proposals for evaluation by Trustee staff
- Produced a consensus recommendation for the Recovery Fund projects
- Documented its recommendation in an Appendix to the Master Plan
- Many proponents, and Adams County Open Space, provided financial support

Recovery Fund Proposal

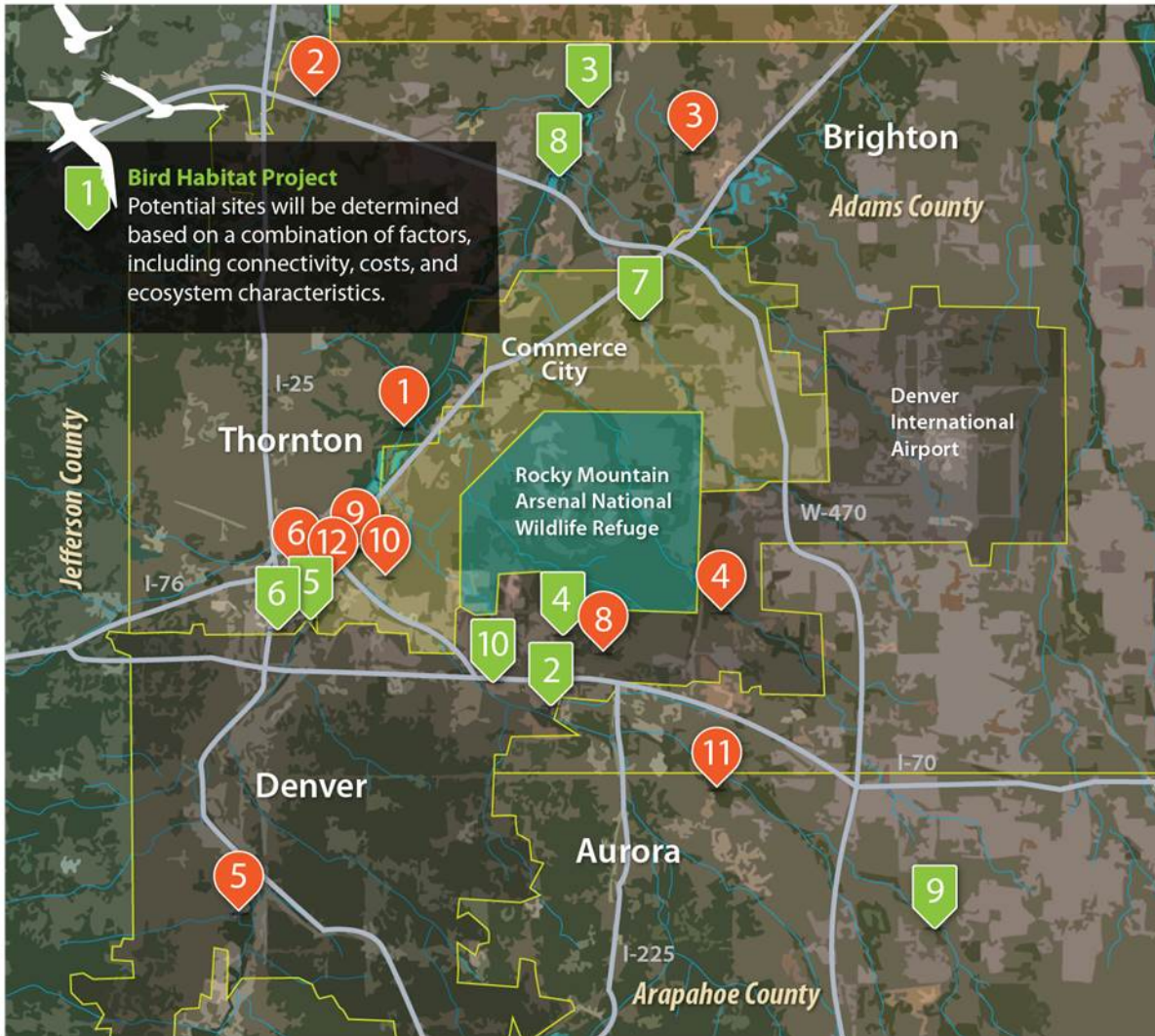
- 10 projects
- Requesting \$17,400,000 from the Recovery Fund, based on agreement to reduce Recovery Fund requests by 7.85%
- Will leverage over \$25 million in additional project investment
- Investment will cover over 1,360 acres and numerous riparian corridors
- Recovery Fund Working Group unanimous recommendation

These 10 Projects

- Enhance the quality of surface and groundwater
- Restore native habitat
- Help protect the South Platte River and its tributaries
- Acquire threatened parcels of land
- Protect ecological connectivity and wildlife migration routes
- Remove invasive plant species
- Build on local initiatives and priorities

The Foundation Fund and Recovery Fund in Aggregate

- 21 projects
- Request \$27,400,000 from the two funds
- Will leverage over \$56 million in additional project investment
- Investment will cover over 2,160 acres and numerous riparian corridors
- Also stimulates economic activity & employment



Foundation Fund Projects

- 1 88th Avenue
- 2 Big Dry Creek
- 3 Eagle Preservation
- 4 First Creek
- 5 Grant Frontier
- 6 Platte Farm Open Space
- 7 Invasive Species Removal*
- 8 Montbello
- 9 Sand Creek 1
- 10 Sand Creek 2
- 11 Triple Creek Greenway
- 12 Heron Pond Water Quality Expansion

Recovery Fund Projects

- 1 Bird Habitat
- 2 Bluff Lake
- 3 Ken Mitchell Open Space
- 4 Montbello Open Space
- 5 Northside Park Conversion
- 6 Platte Farm Open Space
- 7 Second Creek Channel
- 8 South Platte River Acquisition
- 9 Triple Creek Greenway
- 10 Westerly/Sand Creek

*Not displayed in the map



Recovery Fund

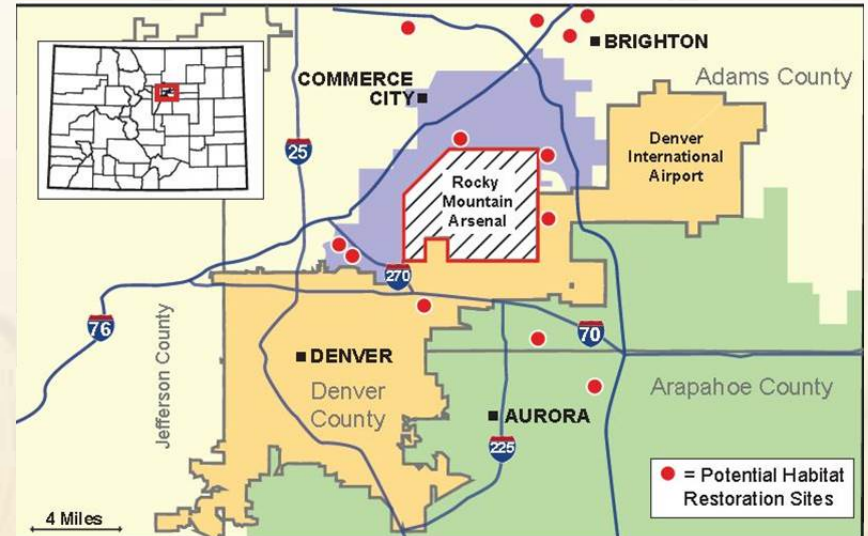
**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 10
PROJECTS**

Restoring Bird Habitat in the Northeast Metro Region

Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership & Environment for the Americas

Goals: Restore shortgrass prairie habitat & increase bird diversity

- Increase shortgrass prairie habitat on over 100 acres within 14 miles of RMANWR
- Monitor restoration success through changes in bird diversity



NRD Request: \$1,000,000

Restoring Bird Habitat in the Northeast Metro Region

Increase diversity of shortgrass prairie plants



Increase diversity of shortgrass prairie birds



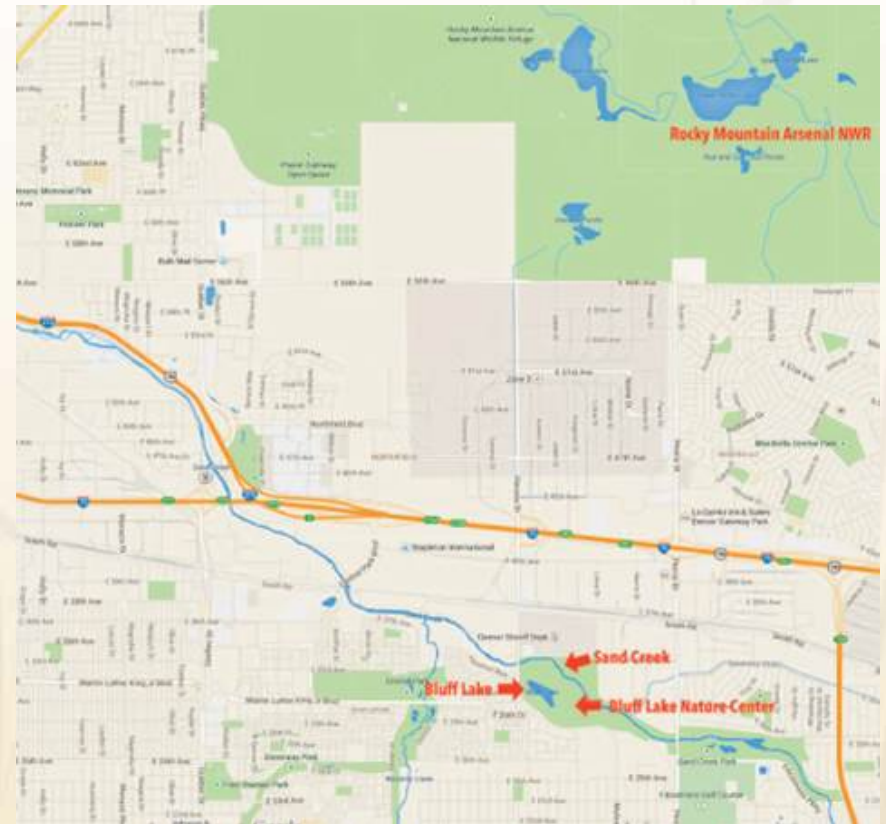
Restore degraded habitat

Monitor changes in both plant and avian diversity

Bluff Lake Aquatic Habitat Improvement

Bluff Lake Nature Center

In order to create the conditions for a year-round lake at Bluff Lake Nature Center (BLNC) and improved associated wetlands habitat, BLNC plans to upgrade its 1890's-era lake by reinforcing the dam on the north side of the lake, installing a clay liner on the bottom of Bluff Lake, extending a recycled water re-use line to the lake, and creating step pools in the adjacent wetlands.



NRD Request: \$657,583

Bluff Lake Aquatic Habitat Improvement



dry lake

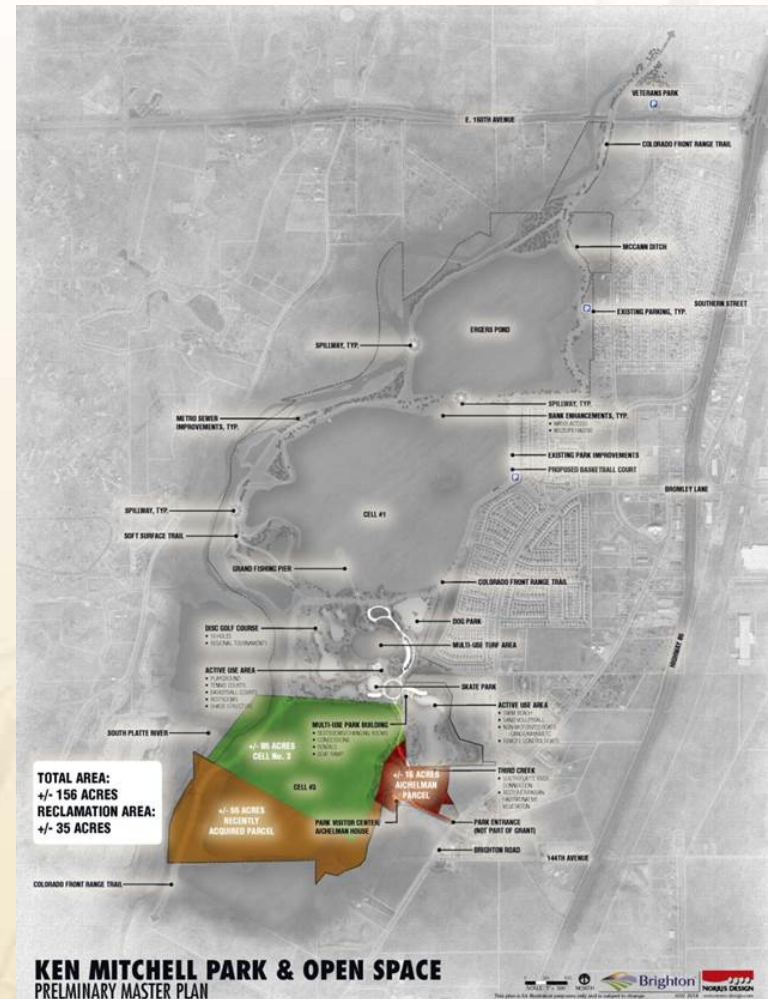


healthy lake

Ken Mitchell Open Space/South Platte River Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project City of Brighton

The City of Brighton is requesting funding from the natural Resource Damages Fund to acquire 16 ± acres of open space land and to complete wildlife habitat restoration to 35 acres of open space land. The open space area has been a gravel mine for the past 25 years. The gravel mining will be completed in 2016 and the City will be restoring the area for wildlife habitat and a trail corridor.

NRD Request: \$1,842,951



Aichelman House / Future Visitor's Center



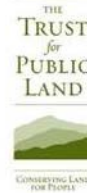
Ken Mitchell Open Space/South Platte River Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project



Montbello Open Space-Trailhead to Refuge Environmental Learning for Kids



PrairieHabitat Area
MONTBELLO OPEN SPACE PARK



Restoring and protecting 4.5 acres of undeveloped land to a shortgrass prairie, invasive weed removal, surface water quality protection, improvement of species diversity and soil quality - returning natural resources to an underserved community.

NRD Request:
\$470,181

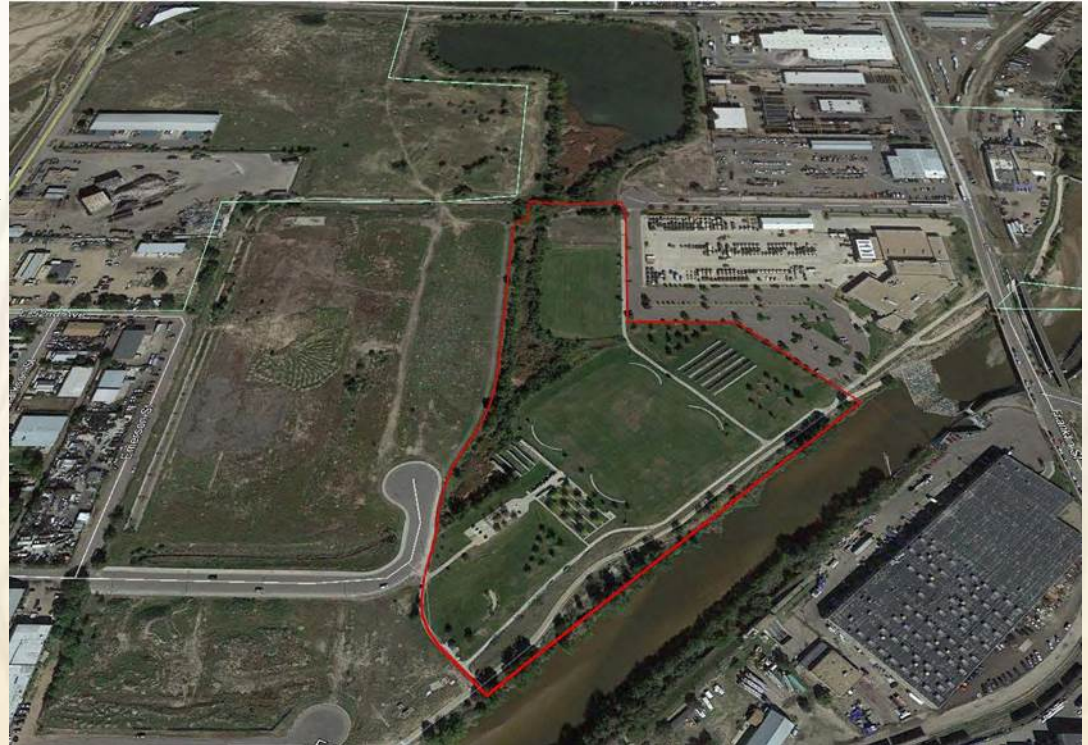
Montbello Open Space-Trailhead to Refuge



Northside Park Conversion & Restoration

City and County of Denver

- Enhance habitat by converting 40% of turf at Northside Park to grassland, riparian and wetland landscapes.
- **NRD request:**
\$805,000



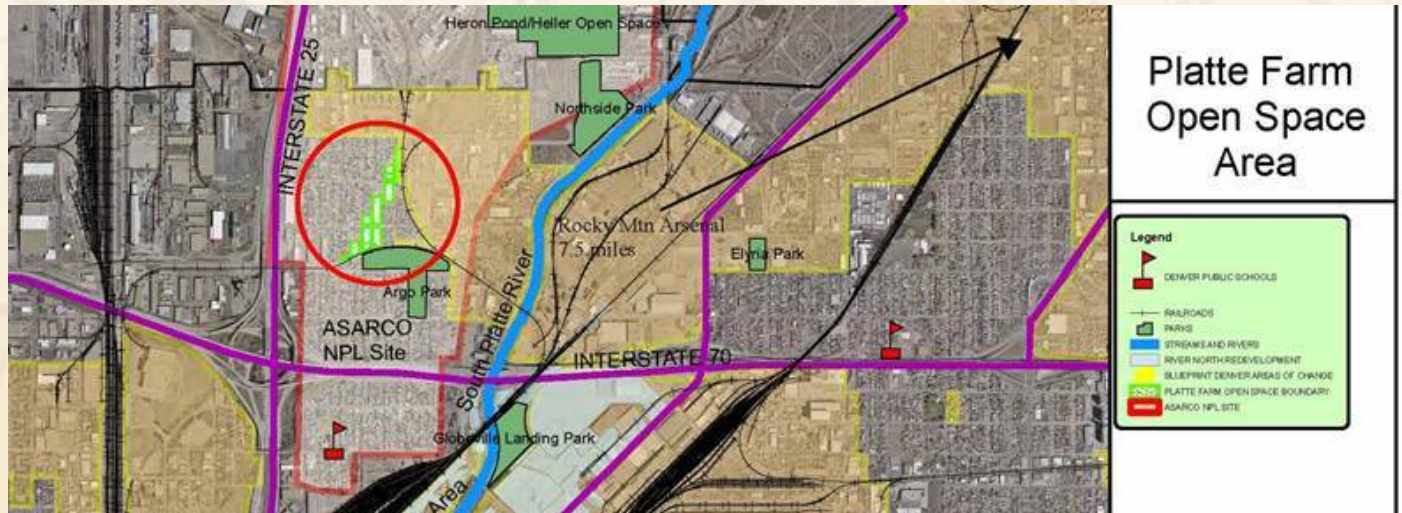
Northside Park Conversion & Restoration



Platte Farm Open Space

Groundwork Denver

- A community-driven project to restore 5.5 acres of currently dilapidated vacant property to a short-grass prairie, removing invasive weeds, improving the soil, and contributing to storm water filtration.
- **NRD Request: \$600,000**



Platte Farm Open Space



PLATTE FARM OPEN SPACE PROJECT OVERVIEW

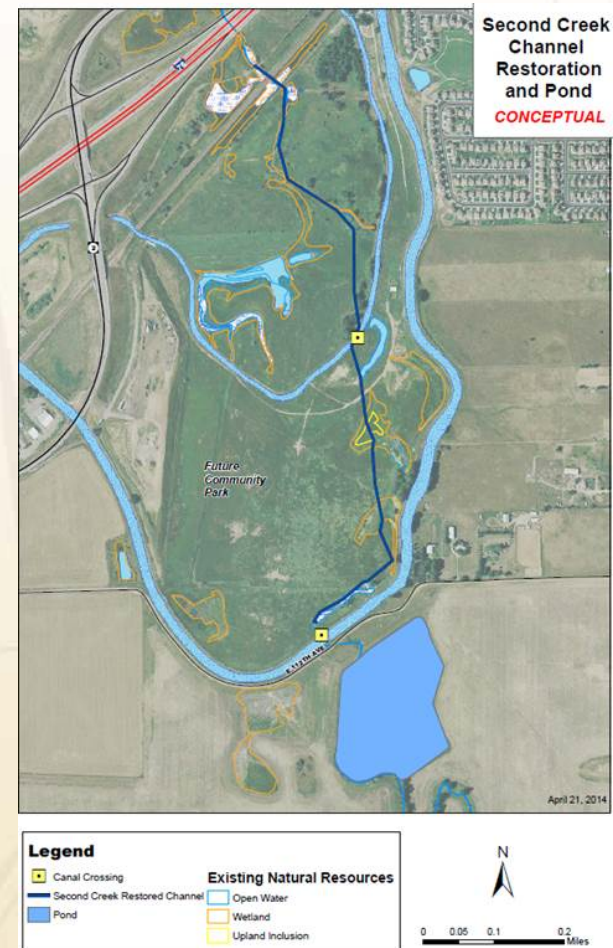
Site Plan Prior to Water Quality Area Construction

02.25.10



Restoration of Second Creek Channel and Creation of Water Quality Pond Commerce City

- Commerce City will create the necessary infrastructure to restore the flows of Second Creek past the O'Brian and Burlington Canals and toward the South Platte River.
- The restoration of the creek channel will result in a high quality riparian habitat, increased groundwater recharging and improved overall water quality.
- The project will also create an associated water quality pond that will provide wetland habitat, recharge ground water, and improve water quality.
- **NRD Request: \$3,350,000**



Restoration of Second Creek Channel and Creation of Water Quality Pond



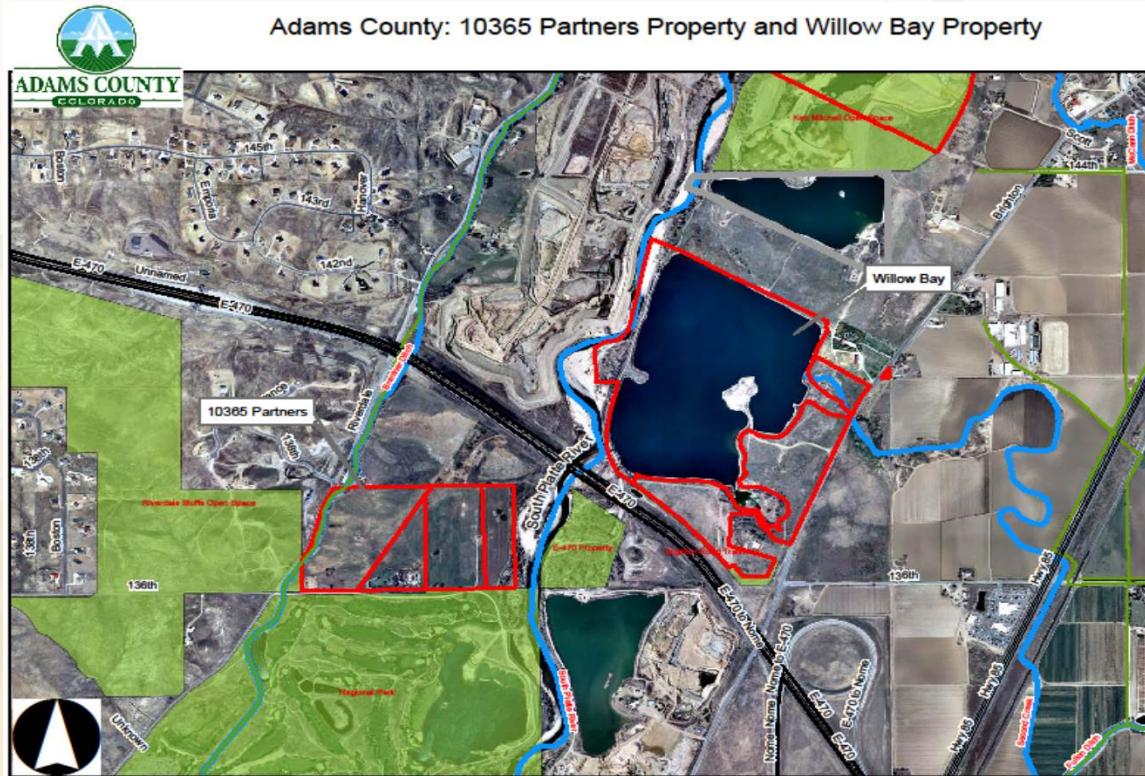
Restoration of Second Creek Channel and Creation of Water Quality Pond



South Platte River Acquisition

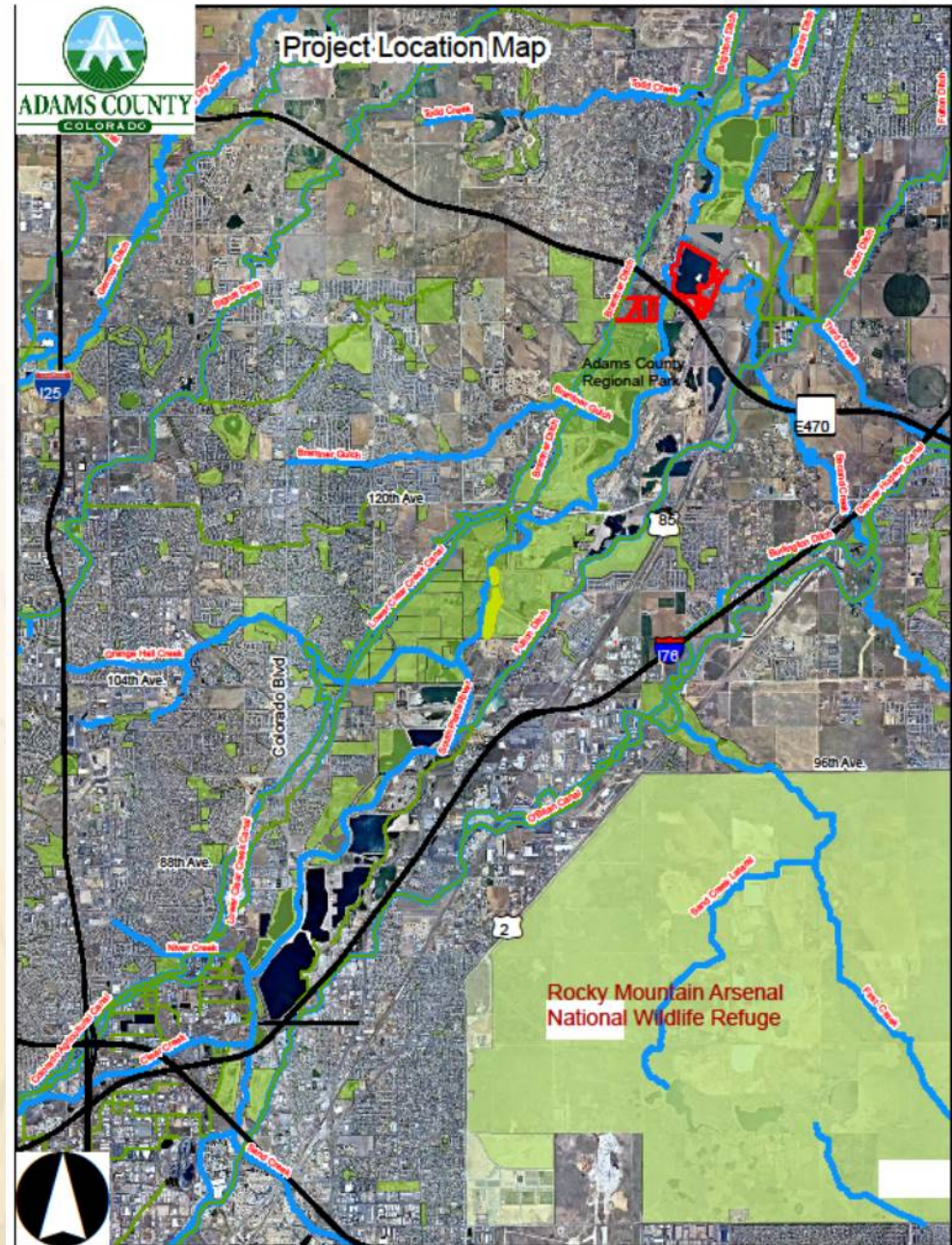
Adams County

- **224 Acre Habitat Purchase - 100 Acre Lake and Irrigated Meadow**
- Floodplain, riparian and wetland habitat adjacent to and abutting the South Platte River.
- **NRD Request: \$4,000,000**



Proximity To RMA and Natural Systems

- 5 Miles North of RMA.
- Adjacent and Abutting South Platte River.
- Contiguous Protected Riparian Habitat Corridor.



South Platte River Acquisition

10365 Partners



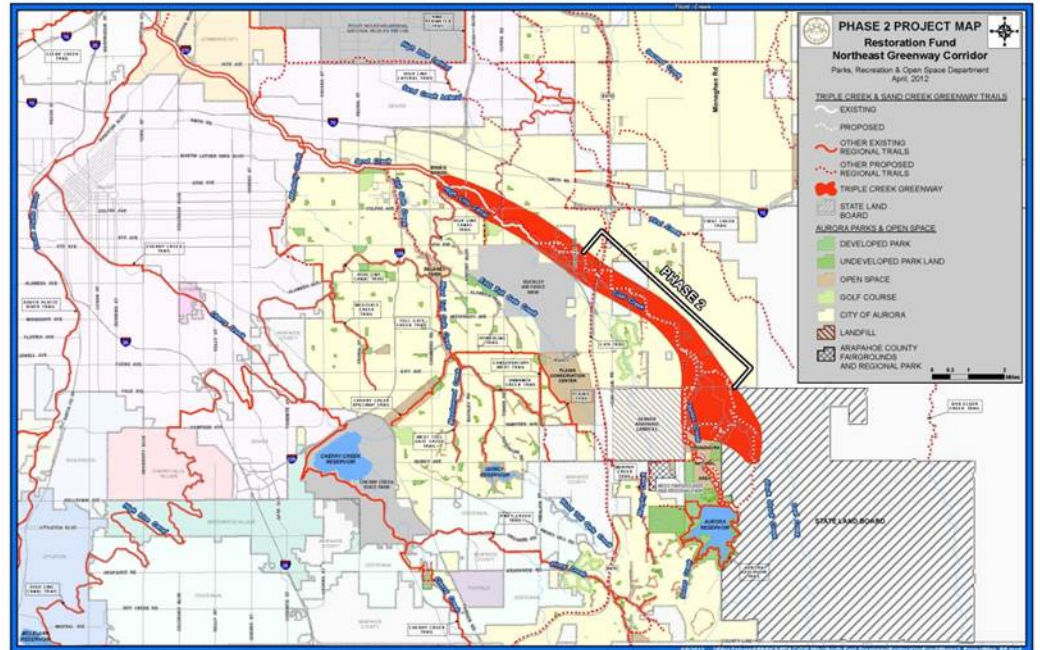
Willow Bay

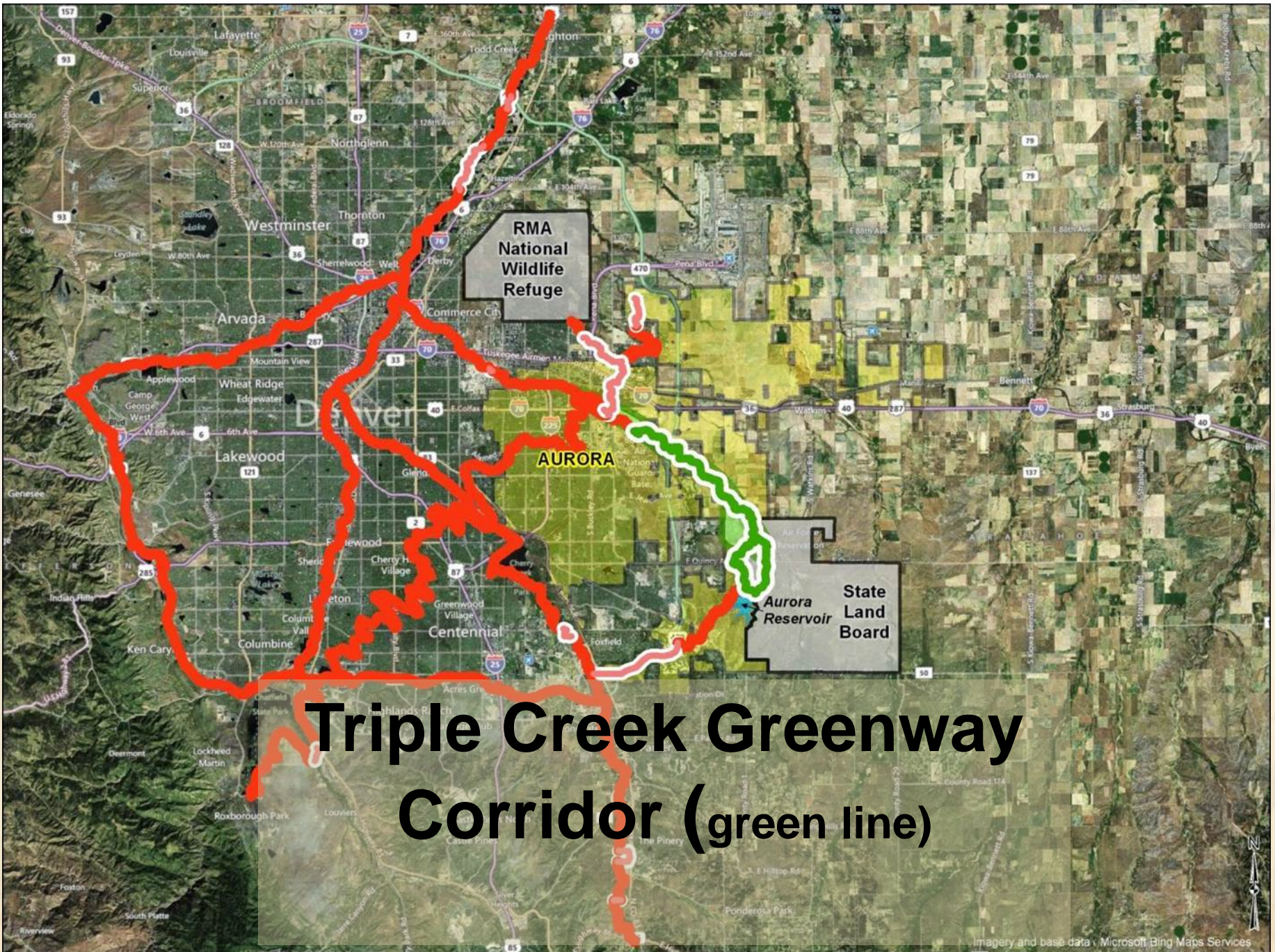


Triple Creek

City of Aurora & Trust for Public Lands

- Acquire two to four properties totaling up to 532 acres along the Triple Creek corridor to protect wildlife habitat
- **NRD request:**
\$4.0 million





RMA
National
Wildlife
Refuge

Aurora Reservoir
State Land Board

Triple Creek Greenway Corridor (green line)

Triple Creek Phase 2



Westerly Creek North Park and Prairie Uplands Park City and County of Denver

- Restore riparian and grassland habitat on 53 acres at Westerly Creek and Prairie Upland Park
- **NRD request:**
\$2,000,000



Westerly Creek North Park and Prairie Uplands Park





Conclusion and Request



Foundation Fund Projects

- 1 88th Avenue
- 2 Big Dry Creek
- 3 Eagle Preservation
- 4 First Creek
- 5 Grant Frontier
- 6 Platte Farm Open Space
- 7 Invasive Species Removal*
- 8 Montbello
- 9 Sand Creek 1
- 10 Sand Creek 2
- 11 Triple Creek Greenway
- 12 Heron Pond Water Quality Expansion

Recovery Fund Projects

- 1 Bird Habitat
- 2 Bluff Lake
- 3 Ken Mitchell Open Space
- 4 Montbello Open Space
- 5 Northside Park Conversion
- 6 Platte Farm Open Space
- 7 Second Creek Channel
- 8 South Platte River Acquisition
- 9 Triple Creek Greenway
- 10 Westerly/Sand Creek

*Not displayed in the map

Request

- The Recovery Fund Working Group respectfully requests that the Trustees approve the allocation of \$17.4 million from the Recovery Fund to support these 10 projects