

CESWA-CO-R-SC

SUBJECT: Public Meeting, Section 404 Action No. CO-OYT-0638

actually building a levee between the pond, the lake, the water and that parking lot. It's already silting in and we've got to do something to protect that building and parking lot. So would there be a chance to build a levee, maybe. By building that levee, maybe that would reduce the full need to drop that spillway and still get some water retention and safety at the same time.

Secondly, I think a big point that I have tried to make is that the golf course is an open space. The way that the creek has been channelized down through that golf course. I would like to see, and it was addressed a little bit, in using that golf course as a place for the 100-year flood to go. When the waters are really, really high, if there is some way we can dissipate the water depth or water flow, water energy, into that golf course. It would obviously have to do some landscaping or some reshaping of banks in the golf course but it might make the golf course more challenging. I think we are all aware that the Red Wing Sanctuary and that real steep channel in Wagner Park are probably going to have to be used for some detention facilities as well. That's just going to end up being the name of the game.

If we can just all keep in mind the overall connectedness that everything is going to have to go through in this drainage, I think that will be really positive.

As far as the LOP process, it was the Division's understanding that the LOP process would be formulated into a chapter into the Drainage Criteria Manual. From talking to Bruce [Goforth], that's just sort of the understanding I've had that was just the next phase of the LOP. After that phase, I think a lot of people are going to be satisfied. I'm sure he'll address that in his comments. For everybody else's knowledge, that is one thing that the Division will [fade out]."

b. Paragraph 3h, Phil Weinert: "I would like to comment on one thing you just said. That is the concept of utilizing the golf course as an energy, if you will, absorption area. There is a beautiful example in a downstream project from Chatfield in Littleton used parklands, recreation areas in that same manner in a very mutually beneficial manner in which the Corps was able to now take an area that was devoted to flood incident contribution in terms of energy absorption. What that did was then to eliminate the need to allow the traditional channelization. This was admittedly under a different district but presumably the Corps would accept something that is a good idea regardless of where it is. In that case, parklands and I'm not sure if a golf course was involved, but certainly a lot of recreational areas were basically committed to inundation in terms of the 100-year event. Which means for most of the time, it's an area that is available for public use but it's also calculated in the development of the drainageway so that then other less acceptable

or less desirable alternatives can be avoided. So philosophically, I think that's a very good approach. Whether that applies in this particular drainage basin, I don't know. I would like to encourage that if that's possible."

Response by Bruce Thorson: "I just want to point out something in regard to that idea, Phil. I wish somebody from Park and Rec [Dept.] was here to respond better than me, but we've had some meetings with them and I don't recall whether they [fade out], yes, I think Scott Simpson, the manager of the golf course. Their concern is this and our concern in the study has certainly been one of trying to look at multi-use facilities. If we got some parks and stuff, that's the thing that we should be looking at. Unfortunately in this particular situation, what we've got is we don't have a park. We have a public golf course that is a private enterprise trying to make money. Their primary concern with doing anything through the golf course is that you create the minimum amount of impacts, year around, to the golfing public. That relates directly to trying to use that as a multi-use flood conveyance/detention facility other than basically what we've got existing there now. I just bring that up because I think that is their position and we've had to consider that in the development of this planning and alternatives that relate to that.

Weinert: "The only thing I'm saying, is it's been proven, it was proven in the case of the downstream project at Chatfield, that entities such as for-profit, commercial enterprises benefited. Everybody benefitted from it. Maybe psychologically it's a difficult thing to convince someone who thinks only in terms of maximum number of contact hours or maximum or golfers on the course that that's the case. But it is the case, that if handled appropriately, and the Corps is particularly good at this sort of thing, working with local enterprises that they can benefit. Although it may not be obvious to them initially."

Response by Thorson: "I think it kind of depends on the specific golf course too. Because, Patty Jewett may be a different situation than we're talking about a Valley Hi. At least in talking to Park and Rec, Valley Hi is more of a beginner type facility and they want to put as many people through there as they can. Whereas Patty Jewett is more of the upscale, nice facility, with aesthetic treatment and environmental concerns and everything like that. There is just a difference as to where we're at here I think. Basically, I'm trying to relate what we've heard from them."

Response by Clyde Pikkaraine: "I guess what it really gets back to the discussions with them too is, we have proposed something downstream of Chelton - to widen that out and create an area. Upstream of Chelton, you'd be getting into wiping out a couple holes. The lake itself has been a question every since we

started this study. We're kind of at the point where we've made a compromise and we want to see what people say about that."

Response by Bob Adamczyk: "I would like to mention that I've spent quite a bit of time with their maintenance people. We've walked the course and discussed some of the drainage problems out there. I don't think they would be overly concerned if we had the 100-year flood and the flood went through the golf course. They have a regular nuisance problem in terms of soggy areas, grass won't grow, they have a driving range they can't use because the water is up too high. We're trying to eliminate some of those daily nuisance problems that they have, operating problems [fade out]. That's why we propose, for example, lowering the water level 1-2 feet. Because that's all it needs to dry out the surface and use it. I don't think 1 or 2 feet is going to change the whole character of the environment [fade out]."

Response by Carlson: "I guess, I think it is just the way I'm envisioning how that's going to be lowered 1 or 2 feet."

Response by Adamczyk: "Let me continue also. That area receives a lot of subsurface water. That's why they call it Spring Creek: there is a lot of seepage out of that north bank. Plus we have a major tributary which comes from Airport and goes south along [fade out] which has a lot of water which goes through there every time it rains. Plus, we were considering diverting some of the water from Spring Creek to the uphill side or upstream side of the bridge, keeping it saturated on the north side. The golf course people don't have any particular feelings one way or the other as to whether it should be an open water lake or it should be a marshland. It's the Audubon Society that has a lot of interest in bird watching [fade out]. Park and Rec Department wants to work with you people in that respect. but we also have a major concern about property damage and flooding [fade out]. We are trying to balance all these concerns and satisfy everyone. There is going to have to be some sort of compromising to get the final result. That's what we are trying to do [fade out]. Trying to satisfy hydrology and hydraulics, the environment and the golf course concerns as best we can."

Weinert: "Let me just suggest that there may very well have existed in Red Wing Sanctuary, the golden opportunity to do all of that without any adverse effects. In fact, quite the contrary, there are a lot of beneficial effects. This is one of the rare occasions. We have 18 acres we would love to be inundated and from what I've heard tonight and what I know from previous several years exposure to concerns about this drainageway and this drainage basin, that the sooner we can get to the point where all the principals involved can say, "yes, we're going to create a detention structure in Red Wing," the better. It would be better for the golf course downstream, it would be better for everybody. I'm speaking for the facilitated

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SUBJECT: Public Meeting, Section 404 Action No. CO-OYT-0638

process to get to that point if possible. Our little meager 2-foot structure that I will proceed with, as I see, is certainly a very temporary but first step towards realization of what really should be done. The sooner it can be done, I think, the sooner a lot of problems can be solved.

c. Paragraph 3i, Alan Morrice: "[garbled] this is primarily, I guess, an alternative selection stage, phase, or milestone in the study. For the most part, the things that I've seen look good. Generally speaking, the incorporation of the detention, however the peak flows will be higher than they are now ultimately, which poses some concerns to that reach. I also have concerns for erosion in that reach, how it's controlled while still minimizing the impact for one of the few decent riparian zones in the basin. But hopefully through the upcoming finalization of plans, those minor details, if you will, will be ironed out. I think the concepts here are good."

d. Paragraph 3j, Gary Conover: "I haven't followed along with all of the process and I think the message has gotten communicated through Phil [Weinhert]. Let me reiterate, our board of directors has discussed this opportunity and we are encouraged that site could use more water on it. We've lost a lot of wetland, maybe all of it. It is now almost re-establishing itself in the bottoms of those channels. But if a detention facility could be designed there where water is continuously on the site, not just collected and released and then dry. In the dry periods where in fact enough water is retained there, a dam or ponding situation, yes, that's a desirable situation from our point of view there."

5. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

6. The enclosed written comments were provided after the public meeting and within the comment period and are part of the meeting record.

a. El Paso County Department of Public Works letter dated August 24, 1992.

b. City of Colorado Springs Systems Development Administrator interoffice memorandum dated September 2, 1992.

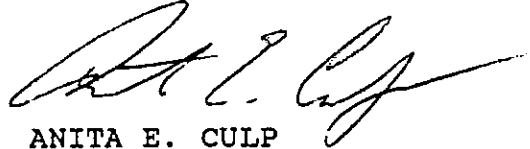
c. Colorado Division of Wildlife letter dated September 2, 1992.

CESWA-CO-R-SC

SUBJECT: Public Meeting, Section 404 Action No. CO-OYT-0638

d. Environmental Protection Agency letter dated September 9, 1992.

e. U. S. Fish and Wildlife letter dated September 8, 1992.



ANITA E. CULP
Senior Project Manager

5 Encl:

1. Attendance List
2. Ltr - El Paso
3. Memo - Colo Spgs
4. Ltr - CDOW
5. Ltr - EPA
6. Ltr - FWS

Enclosure 1

ATTENDANCE LIST
PUBLIC MEETING FOR CO-OYT-0638

Anita Culp
Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 294
Pueblo, CO 81002-0294

Jim Townsend
Corps of Engineers
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Pueblo, CO 81002-0294

Alan Morrice
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Dept. of Public Works
3105 North Stone
Colorado Springs, CO 80907

Bob Adamczyk
City of Colorado Springs
City Engineering Div.
P.O. Box 1575 (m.c. 435)
Colorado Springs, CO 80901

Bruce Thorson
City of Colorado Springs
City Engineering Div.
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Ruth Lewis Carlson
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2126 N. Weber
Colorado Springs, CO 80907

Tony Gurzick
Colorado Div. of Wildlife
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Colorado Springs, CO 80907

Gary Conover
Aiken Audubon
P.O. Box 75
Colorado Springs, CO 80901

Phil Weinert
Aiken Audubon
15590 Castegate Court
Colorado Springs, CO 80921

DONALD F. SMITH
MANAGER ENGINEERING DIVISION

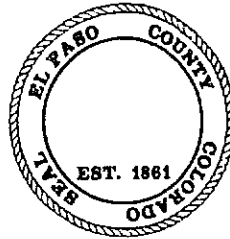
MERVIN M. CASEY
SYSTEMS SUPERVISOR

WILLIAM O. CERDA
INSPECTION SUPERVISOR

CARL R. McCLELLAN
SURVEY SUPERVISOR

ALAN B. MORRICE
STORM WATER

DAVID M. WATT
DESIGN ENGINEER



MAX L. ROTHSCHILD, P.E.
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

EL PASO COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

ENGINEERING DIVISION

3105 N. STONE AV.
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80907

PHONE (719) 520-6840
FAX (719) 520-6878
24hr. MSG. (719) 520-6460

August 24, 1992

Bob Adamczyk
Engineering Division
City of Colorado Springs
30 S. Nevada Ave., Ste. 403
P.O. Box 1575
Colorado Springs, CO. 80901-1575

RE: Spring Creek Drainage Basin Planning Study

Dear Mr. Adamczyk:

In reference to our previous conversation regarding the study referenced above, I have reviewed the draft report and have the following comments to relay.

I realize that the draft report includes the analysis of various alternatives and presents a recommended alternative for further refinement as part of the preliminary design phase of the study; however some concerns exist based upon the present draft. In looking specifically at the stream reach between Fountain Creek and Las Vegas Street it appears that the improvements presently proposed will not be sufficient to keep the erosion potential of the creek in check. In addition to the drop structures proposed near the Las Vegas Street crossing and isolated bank grading, there needs to be additional grade control structures and/or more substantial bank erosion protection provided. Velocities will be in excess of 10 feet per second. Additional selectively located improvements will enhance creek stability while still achieving a minimization of impact to existing wetland and riparian areas. Having a more stable flood plain may actually enhance the quality and quantity of habitat areas.

Regarding the proposed replacement of the Las Vegas Street Bridge, it should be recognized that the existing facility is adequate for existing 100 year runoff and the replacement is to facilitate future increased runoff and creek configurations. This should be considered when allocating costs for its replacement relative to present County policy.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding these matters or if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alan B. Morrice".

Alan B. Morrice, P.E.
Stormwater Management Supervisor

cc: Donald F. Smith
Clyde Pikkaraine, P.E.



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COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

COLORADO SPRINGS

SEP 04 1992

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

Date: September 2, 1992

To: Robert Adamczyk, Senior Civil Engineer

From: Gary P. Rombeck, Systems Development Administrator

SUBJECT: SPRING CREEK DRAINAGE BASIN PLANNING STUDY

Upon review of the Public Notice Permit Application No: CO-OYT-0638, we have found the Environmental Evaluation and favored alternatives to be appropriate measures in protecting the Wastewater Collection System. However, we feel it would be in the best interest of the customers we serve within this basin to make a statement under Proposed List of Categories of Activities or Proposed Special Conditions that Protection of Existing and Future Utility, Drainage and Transportation Systems be a stated goal. Through the document this is implied but not specifically expressed.

Addition of this goal would be appreciated. Contact me if you have any specific questions related to this project.

STATE OF COLORADO
Roy Romer, Governor
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Perry D. Olson, Director
6060 Broadway
Denver, Colorado 80216
Telephone: (303) 297-1192

REC'D SEP 2 1992

REFER TO



*For Wildlife—
For People*

Lt. Colonel Michael J. DeBow
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 1580
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103-1580

September 2, 1992

RE: Permit Application CO-OYT-0638, Letters of Permission Process and List of Categories of Activities for the City of Colorado Springs's Drainage Basin Planning Study for the Spring Creek Basin.

Dear Colonel DeBow:

The Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) assessment of the LOP and LCA issues as referenced above is provided in two parts as follows:

I. Letters of Permission - Until the August 10, 1992 Public Notice referenced above, and for a period of at least 8 months, the Division has been unable to obtain confirmation from the Corps as to whether the LOP process would be pursued as an option to the Individual 404 Permitting process. During this time, the Division has repeatedly asked that the Corps require the City of Colorado Springs to fulfill its agreement to add an Environmental Criteria Chapter to the existing Drainage Basin Criteria Manual as a condition of LOP adoption. This agreement was reached in conference with the City, the Corps, EPA, USFWS and CDOW more than a year ago.

The Division does not feel it is appropriate to proceed with the LOP process in a vacuum of information as to final process and/or compliance with the environmental requirements agreed upon. If the LOP process is to be implemented, the Division requests that the Corps produce a "final" LOP outline or form, and that the City of Colorado Springs be required to produce the chapter in question by a set date, say January 1, 1993. Also, to maintain the spirit of the LOP agreement, the Corps should require that the List of Application Items Needed for Project (Final) Design be made a formal requirement of LOPs now under consideration.

Assuming this issue can be quickly resolved, the Division offers the following comments specific to the Spring Creek Drainage Basin Study:

1. URS has done a good job through the "Environmental Evaluation" format by identifying various habitat types by acreage. Further, the format showing specific impacts and recommended mitigation by alternative treatment, provides the necessary information for the agencies to assess the pros and cons of each alternative from an environmental perspective.

2. The "Proposed Special Conditions" section gives the agencies many of the environmental protection/mitigation measures desired where major disturbances to drainage ways cannot be avoided.

3. The "List of Application Items Needed for Project (final) Design" should be required, as they specifically apply to this drainage basin.

4. For CDOW comments by reach, please see a copy of my July 1991 letter(attached) providing this information. However, to reiterate certain key points, I am providing the following:

a. Redwing Bird Sanctuary should be further scrutinized as a potential retention/detention site. At the very least, a large drop structure or small dam should be located at the lower end of the sanctuary to provide for aggradation within the stream channels, and to return this area to a "wet" hydrologic state similar to that which once attracted wetland bird species. Small drop structures should be placed intermittently within the channel to facilitate this recovery process.

b. Valley Hi Golf Course offers great potential for retention/detention, with the goal of holding waters to "historic" flows. Meanders, ponds, etc. will provide sediment and stilling basins to control impacts to Valley Hi Lake below. This can be accomplished within a 100yr. flood perspective without damage to major structures, houses, businesses, etc. Its a natural! One of the few available.


c. Valley Hi Lake should be dredged or otherwise "improved" via levees to accommodate more water/flood capacity lost by the lake acting as a sediment basin for the Red Wing Bird Sanctuary. If the spillway is lowered, headcutting will occur carrying heavy sediment loads downstream into the Circle to Union stretch.

d. The Circle to Union stretch is now being built following intensive study and project design as part of the Hwy. 24 Bypass effort. This stretch will be seriously compromised, or ruined as a flood control and mitigation area, if sediments are allowed to flow downstream unimpaired.

The forgoing leads to a final point. While breaking this or any other drainage into stretches may facilitate planning and administration of drainage decisions, fee structures, etc., we must not lose sight of how all stretches will function as a whole. Flood waters will cause undue impacts downstream if not properly controlled upstream.

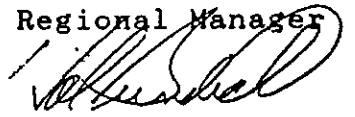
If you have any questions regarding CDOW comments, please call me at 719-473-2945, ext. 224.

Sincerely,



Bruce Goforth
Sr. Wildlife Biologist

Approved by



Ronald P. Desilet
Regional Manager

cc: Sarah Fowler, EPA
Bill Noonan, USFWS
Anita Culp, COE
Robert T. Adamczyk, CS



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VIII

999 18th STREET - SUITE 500
DENVER, COLORADO 80202-2466

EJK

JMT

638w

SEP 9 1992

Ref: 8WM-WQ

Colonel Michael J. DeBow
District Engineer
Albuquerque Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 1580
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103-1580

Re: Public Notice No. CO-OYT-0638
Letter of Permission
Spring Creek

Dear Colonel DeBow:

We have reviewed the referenced public notice and Spring Creek Drainage Basin Study for authorization of a Letter of Permission for activities associated with channel treatments in the Spring Creek drainage in El Paso County, Colorado.

Our review included Agency participation in field reviews and meetings on the drainage basin study process. It appears that the recommended alternatives (Spring Creek DBPS Section V) to proposed channel treatments for Spring Creek have incorporated less damaging alternatives and we concur with recommended treatments with one exception.

We are concerned that the proposed and recommended alternative for the Valley Hi Lake (i.e., lowering spillway) may result in significant direct and indirect impacts to waters of the United States, including wetlands. Besides the potential direct loss of 19 acres of wetlands in Valley Hi Lake, significant impacts could occur in downstream areas due to resuspended sediments (potential water quality impacts) and deposition of large amounts of sediment in the wetland mitigation site for Highway 24 impacts. We believe that additional information is necessary to adequately demonstrate that lowering the spillway (with construction of a low flow channel adjacent to the lake) is the least damaging practicable alternative.

Potential mitigation costs of the expected wetland loss (direct and unquantified indirect adverse impacts) must be considered when evaluating practicable alternatives. Will it be possible to replace this wetland acreage concurrent with channel treatments and within the drainage? We recommend that the City continue to evaluate dredging, increased spillway capacity, and/or dam elevation to address detention opportunities on-site.

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The Environmental Protection Agency believes that the increased coordination and cooperation between the applicants and permitting/resource agencies has resulted in generally responsible environmental decisions making. The drainage basin planning process has required a significant increase in federal staff support. In this continued spirit of cooperation, we request that the City of Colorado Springs complete their agreement to add an environmental criteria section to the existing Drainage Basin Criteria Manual. We believe that this commitment by the City of Colorado Springs was an essential component of EPA's agreement to participate in the LOP process. If this commitment is not honored in the near future, a meeting may be necessary to reevaluate the LOP process.

Provided that the City fully evaluates practicable alternatives for potential treatments of Valley Hi Lake, including conceptual mitigation plans, and provides this analysis for our review and comments, we will not object to the recommended alternatives as described in the Spring Creek DBPS. However, without further analysis of practicable alternatives for this design point we cannot concur with the recommended alternative for Valley Hi Lake. If you have any questions concerning these comments or recommendations, please contact Sarah Fowler at (303) 293-1575.

Sincerely,



Dale Vodehnal, Chief
Water Quality Management Branch

cc: Bernardo Garza, USFWS
Bob Owen, CWQCD
Bruce Goforth, CDOW
Anita Culp, COE Pueblo



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE FISH AND WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT

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Golden, CO 80401

Phone (303) 231-5280

FTS 554-5280

FWE/CO: COE-Denver/Omaha FAX (303) 231-5285
Mail Stop 65412

SEP 08 1992

Michael J. DeBow, Lieutenant Colonel
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Albuquerque District
P.O. Box 1580
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103-1580

RE: Public Notice No. 0638, City of Colorado Springs, Spring
Creek Drainage Basin Alternatives Study Evaluation for the
Letter of Permission Process

Dear Colonel DeBow:

Based on the authority conferred to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et. seq.) and the Fish and Wildlife Service Coordination Act (48 Stat. as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et. seq.), the Service offers the following comments which constitute the report of the Department of the Interior on the subject Public Notice.

As requested by the Corps of Engineers, the Service reviewed the subject Notice to evaluate alternatives and provide comments on the current recommended plan found in Section V of the June 9, 1992, draft of the Spring Creek Drainage Basin Planning Study (DBPS). It is clear that progress has been made with regard to providing quantification of vegetative cover types and environmental impacts by channel treatment type. Also, the qualitative descriptions of channel condition and environmental values by reach was very helpful.

In general, the Spring Creek DBPS adequately presents likely impacts associated with various potential alternatives (treatments). The document will provide a useful base from which to select a final approach for Spring Creek.

Mitigation cost is an item which the Service believes is critical for inclusion into the cost analysis for treatment types. Costs of implementing required mitigation need to be included as a project cost, such as material or land acquisition. This is required to estimate the true overall monetary costs of the project.

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The recommended plan found in Section V of the Spring Creek DBPS is headed in the right direction. The reach-by-reach descriptions of existing and proposed conditions are accompanied by discussion of structural, economic, environmental, and sociological constraints. This format was quite helpful for following the logic used to select the recommended approach. Brief comments by reach follow. Given the conceptual nature of the project at this time, our discussion will not be detailed.

Fountain Creek to Union Boulevard

The recommendation to compromise towards the "no treatment" approach for this reach is welcome. The combination of grade control, vegetative erosion protection, building setbacks, and minimal hard lining exemplifies the type of approach which should be applied to all undeveloped or partially developed drainages.

Union Boulevard to Circle Drive

Channel work in this reach is covered under the Colorado Department of Transportation Highway 24 bypass project's Individual Section 404 permit.

Circle Drive to Valley Hi Lake

This reach is already confined in a trapezoidal concrete channel. The transition from this reach to the downstream reach needs to ensure that velocities are reduced as much as possible.

Valley Hi Lake

The Service concurs with the Colorado Division of Wildlife (Division) that lowering the spillway will (1) reduce downstream water quality and (2) reduce the wetland area by a lowered water table. An alternative to lowering the spillway which does not lower the water table needs to be found.

Valley Hi Lake to Airport Road

The Division recommended use of the Valley Hi Golf Course to hold flood waters and provide sediment control. We endorse this approach and recommend it be investigated further.

Airport Road to Red Wing Sanctuary

This reach is controlled by a concrete channel. Few options for modifications exist. The transition structure to Valley Hi Lake needs to ensure that velocities are reduced before entering the downstream reach.

Red Wing Sanctuary

Channel modifications in this reach need to be designed to restore the wetland hydrology of the sanctuary. Restoration and enhancement of this area should be a major goal of the DBPS.

Red Wing Sanctuary to Bijou Street

Use of vegetation to reduce bank erosion should be used to the maximum extent in this reach.

In its comment letter on this Public Notice, the Division inquired into the status of the City's Environmental Criteria Chapter. The Service is likewise interested in completion and implementation of this chapter and supports the Division's recommended timeframe for chapter completion.

The Service appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments. If we can be of further assistance, please contact Bill Noonan of the Colorado Field Office at (303) 231-5280.

Sincerely,



LeRoy W. Carlson
Colorado State Supervisor

cc: CDOW, Colorado Springs, CO (Attn: Bruce Goforth)
EPA, Denver (Attn: Sarah Fowler)
FWS/FWE, Salt Lake City
CDOH, Denver (Attn: Bob Owen)
Official File
Reading File



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ALBUQUERQUE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 1580
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87103-1580
FAX (505) 786-2770

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

January 28, 1993

Construction and Operations Division
Regulatory Branch

RECEIVED
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT/ENGINEERING
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO.

FEB 3 1993

Mr. Bob Adamczyk
City Engineering Division (m.c. 435)
City of Colorado Springs
P.O. Box 1575
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901-1575

Dear Mr. Adamczyk:

A preliminary Section 404(b)(1) alternatives review has been completed for the Spring Creek Drainage Basin Planning Study (DBPS) and proposed List of Categories of Activities (LCA) No. CO-OYT-0638. The enclosed table summarizes our review.

In order for the List of Categories of Activities to meet the 404(b)(1) Guidelines, the DBPS selected alternative must be either the least environmentally damaging alternative or other less environmentally damaging alternatives must be unavailable when considering cost, technology, and logistics in light of project purposes. The enclosure gives a ranking of drainageway alternatives by adverse environmental impact, a synopsis of the Corps conclusion at this point on availability or practicableness of alternatives, and alternatives for which we have insufficient information for an evaluation.

Please provide us with additional data or explanations about alternatives so we can continue the guidelines review. Should you have any questions please feel free to write or call Ms. Anita Culp at (719) 543-9459.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Meehan, P.E.
Chief, Construction and Operations
Division

Enclosure

Copy Furnished with Enclosure:

Ms. Sarah Fowler
EPA (8WM-WQ)
999 18th St., Suite 500
Denver, CO 80202-2466

Mr. Bernardo Garza
US Fish and Wildlife Service
730 Simms Street, Room 292
Golden, Colorado 80401

Mr. Bruce Goforth
Colorado Div. of Wildlife
2126 N. Weber Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80907

SUMMARY OF PRELIMINARY 404(b)(1) GUIDELINES ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS FOR
CO-OYT-0638 LCA/LOP and DBPS for Spring Creek

The alternative selected for the basin (by reach) consists of:

- General and Environmental Measures - Wetlands and natural areas would be mitigated on site and, in a few cases, off site.
- Reach 16-14 - grade control and bank reshaping with soft lining in a few locations and hard bank lining at the Las Vegas Street and Hancock Expressway Bridges
 - Reach 14-12 - closed culvert, hard bank lining, and soft bank lining as authorized by individual Section 404 permit
 - Reach 12-10 - replace existing hard bank and bottom lining with closed culvert
 - Design Point 10 - lower spillway
 - Reach 10-7 - grade control, buried hard bank lining in portions, bank reshaping, and soft bank lining
 - Reach 7-6 - grade control
 - Design Point 6 - detention pond, grade control, and spot hard bank lining
 - Reach 6-4 - grade control, buried hard bank lining, bank reshaping, and soft bank lining
 - Reach 4-3 - reconstruct hard bank lining and energy dissipation
 - Reach 14A to North - grade control and soft bank lining
 - Reach 13A to North - closed culvert
 - Reach 10C-10B - bank reshaping, hard bank lining and soft bottom lining
 - Reach 10A to Chelton Drive - no change
 - Reaches 6A-6B and 6B-6C - no change
 - Reach 13A-M4 - no change

Alternatives Considered in draft DBPS:

- A - No Bank Lining
- B - No Bottom Lining
- C - Bank Reshaping
- D - Detention Upstream
- E - Soft Bank Lining
- F - Soft Bottom Lining
- G - Grade Control
- H - Hard Bank Lining
- I - Hard Bottom Lining
- J - Habitat Enhancement
- K - Recreation Enhancement: trails and/or parks

Ranking:

Tentative ranking of alternatives from least to most environmentally damaging.

Additional Alternatives Considered by Corps:

- 2 - Channel realignment
- 3 - Closed conduits

- (1) A - No Bank Lining
- (2) B - No Bottom Lining
- (3) C - Bank Reshaping
- (4) D - Detention Upstream
- (5) E - Soft Bank Lining
- (6) F - Soft Bottom Lining
- (7) G - Grade Control
- (8) H - Hard Bank Lining
- (9) I - Hard Bottom Lining
- (10) 2 - Channel realignment
- (11) 3 - Closed conduits
- (not ranked) J - Habitat Enhancement
- (not ranked) K - Recreation Enhancement: trails and/or parks

Sufficient Information on

Alternatives:

Alternatives for which there is enough information at this time to show they are either available, not available, or will be decidedly more environmentally damaging.

(A/B) No Bank and No Bottom Linings - This is existing for some reaches. For some of these reaches, leaving the channel in this state would not address flooding or flood erosion problems; would cause minor, moderate, or major environmental damage from ongoing erosion; or is not logistically feasible because of adjacent development.

(C) Bank Reshaping - Preferred alternative in some reaches. In some reaches, this alternative would not address flood erosion problems, is not logistically feasible because of adjacent development, or would cause moderate environmental damage from ongoing erosion. For Design Point 10, this alternative includes raising the dam, enlarging the spillway, and no action on the dam. These sub-alternatives would cause minor to major environmental damage.

(D) Detention Upstream - This is existing for one reach and the preferred alternative for some reaches. In some reaches, this alternative would have no or small changes in flood flows, would initially and moderately disturb riparian vegetation, or is not logistically feasible because of lack of available sites.

(E/F) Soft Bank and Bottom Linings - One or both is the preferred alternative in some reaches. In some reaches, this alternative would not address flood erosion, is not logistically feasible because of adjacent development, or would result in minor or major environmental damage from initial loss of riparian vegetation.

(G) Grade Control - Preferred alternative in some reaches. In some reaches, this alternative would result in minor environmental damage from initial loss of riparian vegetation.

(H/I) Hard Bank and Bottom Lining - This is existing for some reaches and one or both is the preferred alternative for some reaches. For some reaches, this alternative would result in minor or major environmental damage from loss of riparian vegetation,

(2) Channel Realignment - This alternative is existing for some reaches. In some reaches, this alternative would result in major environmental damage from loss of riparian vegetation.

(3) Closed Conduits - This alternative is existing for some reaches and preferred for some reaches. In some reaches, this alternative would result in moderate or major environmental damage from loss of riparian vegetation.

Insufficient Information:

Alternatives for which there is some or no information at this time to show they are either available, not available, or will be decidedly more environmentally damaging.

(C) Bank Reshaping - Additional information needed for sub-alternative of lowering the spillway for Design Point 10. Although information provided indicates minor direct environmental impacts, secondary impacts could result in major environmental damage.

(D) Detention Upstream - Additional information needed for Reaches 10A-7, 14A to North, 13A to North, and 10C-10B.

(F) Soft Bottom Lining - Additional information needed for Reach 10A-7.

(G) Grade Control - Additional information needed for Reaches 13A to North and 10C-10B.