

Lower Blue River Cooperative Management Plan



Public Review Draft

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Chapter 1: Introduction and Background

1.1 Proposed Action

The following stakeholders propose to develop and implement a plan to guide the future management of the Lower Blue River:

- Private Landowners along the Blue River Corridor
- Bureau of Land Management
- United States Forest Service
- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Summit County
- Grand County

In addition to the above list, organizations such as Trout Unlimited, Colorado Whitewater Association, and Blue Valley Sportsmen's Club have provided valuable input towards the development of this plan.

1.2 Purpose and Need

The Lower Blue River stretches approximately 15 miles across Summit and Grand Counties from Green Mountain Reservoir to its confluence with the Colorado River. The river corridor supports a great diversity of natural resources, including wildlife, fisheries, vegetation and soils; and such diverse land uses as agriculture, rangeland, habitat conservation, residential use and recreation. In the past decade, recreational pressure on the river has steadily increased, due in part to private land management efforts to improve the fishery, and in part to the floatboating opportunities the river provides to residents of nearby urban centers. This recreational pressure has resulted in issues that include detrimental impacts to natural resources, conflicts with private landowners, and diminishing quality of recreational values and experiences. There is a need to protect and preserve the Lower Blue River Corridor and its natural resources. The purpose of this plan is to:

1. Establish a policy for setting administrative guidance for management of recreational use on the Lower Blue River. This policy must reflect a strategy for preserving the Lower Blue River corridor, protect outstanding resource values, and be consistent with the mission and vision as approved by the stakeholders (pp 4 & 5)
2. Develop methods to ensure consistency and coordination between jurisdictional agencies and stakeholders in regulating and managing public recreational use of the Blue River.
3. Create a framework for continued cooperation between county, state and federal agencies, private landowners and the recreational community, with an emphasis on protecting the Lower Blue River corridor.
4. Support Federal agency planning efforts, including BLM's Resource Management Planning process and USFS's Forest Planning Process.
5. Complement and enhance county and state programs.

This plan is supplemental to other efforts in the Lower Blue River such as fisheries management, water quality and quantity programs and the management efforts of private landowners.

This plan would function as a pilot program during which monitoring data and records would be reviewed and analyzed, and would serve as the basis for an adaptive management approach to managing the Lower Blue River Corridor. This dynamic plan would continue to provide for the changing needs of recreational users, private landowners, and natural resource responses in a dynamic river system. It is the intent of this plan that each revision be collaborative, involving private landowners, recreational users, federal, state and local governments, all working together to meet the goal of resource protection. The success of this plan would set a precedent for whether cooperative, coordinated resource management is feasible in a complex river system like the Lower Blue, with such diversity of land ownership and interests. Monitoring and documentation will play a key role in the planning process, not only for making management decisions, but for assessing how well the final plan achieves its stated purpose and need.

1.3 History of the Planning Effort

In early 2005, an initial group of stakeholders met to discuss concerns over protection of the Lower Blue River Corridor. From that initial meeting, many individuals, private landowners, NGOs, agencies and other organizations have contributed towards the development of this strategic framework for protection of the Lower Blue.

1.4 Mission and Vision

A common mission and vision for the planning process was developed by a working committee, approved and adopted by the stakeholders of the Lower Blue in April of 2007, and modified in November of 2007. The vision and mission help to guide the planning process, as well as provide commonality for all stakeholders throughout planning and implementation efforts.

Mission

Maintain the special character of the Lower Blue River, protect its natural resources, manage appropriate public recreational activities at sustainable levels, minimize conflicts between all river users and protect the rights of private landowners.

Vision

- Develop a unified management strategy
- Protect the special character of the river, especially its: tranquility, solitude, wildlife, quality fishing, water quality and wildness
- Provide continued public recreational use of the Lower Blue River
- Prevent overcrowding and loss of quality experience
- Minimize conflicts between recreational users and between recreational users and private landowners
- Protect private landowners' rights while allowing for public access and use
- Provide a sustainable program for management
- Inform users regarding risks and responsibilities
- Protect pristine nature and scenic qualities of Green Mountain Canyon for future generations

1.5 Issue Statements

In order to implement an effective management plan, the stakeholders of the Lower Blue identified and approved in April of 2007, and modified in November of 2007, a list of specific management issues that needed to be addressed in the plan:

1. Recreational use trends point to inevitable future problems on the Lower Blue River, as experienced on other western rivers.
2. There is no unified management strategy or a single entity managing the Lower Blue River.
3. Successful decision making will require data and information on recreational use, fisheries and other natural resources.
4. There is certainty of overcrowding, competition for limited recreation opportunity, and loss of a quality experience if something is not done now.
5. There are growing conflicts between floaters and private landowners.
6. Illegal outfitting appears to be a problem and needs to be addressed.
7. Resource damage from recreation use and variable river flows is increasing.
8. There is a need to define the best approaches for management of the river in consideration of variable river flows.
9. There are no known funding sources for recreation management.
10. There is a need to define and manage recreation access to a reasonable degree.

1.6 Policies Affecting Management

Land management along the Lower Blue River consists of a diverse set of land managers, including Bureau of Land Management (BLM), United States Forest Service (USFS), Summit County, Grand County and several private landowners. This mix of land ownership results in different policies and perspectives regarding management of the river corridor's land, vegetation and wildlife resources. This land ownership pattern also results in disproportionate investments in management, as private land accounts for nearly 70% of bed and banks along the entire river corridor from Green Mountain Dam to the confluence with the Colorado River. The BLM is the next largest owner with over 17% of bed and banks (Figure 1). The following list summarizes the diverse ownership, policies and management issues within the Lower Blue River corridor:

BLM

The BLM is currently revising its Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the Kremmling and Glenwood Springs field offices. The final Environmental Impact Statement is due to be completed in 2009. This plan will guide the BLM management for the next 20 years. Several recreation management decisions must be made through this RMP process. All public lands will either be managed as extensive recreation management areas (ERMA) or as special recreation management areas (SRMA). Special Recreation Management Areas are geographic areas which are managed for specific recreation outcomes, an identified recreation demand, and intensive recreation management. In SRMAs, recreation will be the primary management goal and specific recreation management actions will be identified in the RMP. An Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA) is a geographic area that does not focus on the recreation demand. Recreation management objectives in ERMA's include: protecting public health and safety, reducing user conflict and protecting resources. The management prescriptions for ERMAs will

be to protect health and human safety and to reduce user conflict. Recreation will not be a primary management goal.

Rivers which have been determined to be eligible for wild and scenic river status will be recommended as suitable or not suitable. The Lower Blue River has been determined to be eligible as wild and scenic. BLM can choose to adopt the Lower Blue River Cooperative Management Plan and manage the Lower Blue as either an SRMA or an ERMA. These decisions will be made in the RMP revision.

USFS

The national forest land adjacent to the Blue River (below the Green Mountain Dam) is within the Dillon Ranger District of the White River National Forest. In the 2002 White River National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (2002 Revision), the area was designated to be managed under the 5.41 management prescription – Elk and Deer Winter Range. Under this prescription, deer and elk winter ranges are managed to provide adequate amounts of quality forage, cover and solitude for deer, elk and other species. These are areas where multiple-use principles are applied to emphasize habitat management for deer and elk. Human activities (such as recreation) are managed so that deer and elk can effectively use the area.

The Forest Plan contains the following forest-wide goals:

- Improve the capability of the national forests to provide diverse, high quality outdoor recreation opportunities.
- Through the active promotion of partnerships with state and local governments, private parties, and organizations, encourage, establish, and sustain a diverse and well-balanced range of recreational services and facilities on the forest.

A forest-wide guideline directs management activities to be consistent with the recreation opportunity spectrum (ROS) class. The ROS class for this management area is semi-primitive / non-motorized. The setting for this class is characterized by a predominantly natural-appearing environment where interaction between recreation users is low, but there is often evidence of other users. On-site controls or restrictions may be present, but are subtle. Motorized use is not permitted.

Bureau of Reclamation

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) owns Green Mountain Reservoir, Green Mountain Dam and Green Mountain Power plant. Reclamation policies affecting management of the Lower Blue River include: daily operational releases from the reservoir/power plant to the river; annual maintenance schedules at the dam and power plant; and, in the unlikely event of an emergency, specific emergency response protocols that may include closing access to the Lower Blue River at Green Mountain Dam.

CDOW

The Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) is the responsible agency for protecting, preserving, enhancing, managing and maintaining the wildlife resources within the Blue River corridor as well as all of Colorado. The CDOW actively manages wildlife through wildlife surveys and monitoring for both aquatic and terrestrial species along the Blue River, fish stocking, gathering user input, and setting and enforcing wildlife laws.

The Blue River is designated as Gold Medal waters by the CDOW. Gold Medal waters are the highest quality cold water habitats and have the capability to produce quality size trout. This

stretch of the Blue River addressed in this Blue River Management Plan is also designated as catch and release for all trout, and a fly and lure only water.

Summit County

Summit County holds a lease from the Bureau of Reclamation on property below Green Mountain Reservoir for the period of 1993 – 2043. Both the Bureau of Reclamation and Summit County have environmental concerns with existing structures on this property that may contain hazardous materials. Issues with erosion control and noxious weeds have prompted additional concerns.

Grand County

Grand County is currently in the process of developing a Stream Management Plan (SMP) to help describe preferred flows and restoration opportunities for watersheds in Grand County that are protective of the fisheries, water users needs and aquatic-related values associated with riparian corridors of the Fraser and Upper Colorado River. Two general flow conditions are being considered together in order to develop a preferred flow for the SMP: environmental flows to address aquatic issues and physical habitat requirements of fisheries, and flow conditions for water users.

Private Landowners

Based on collected information and the input of biologists, hydrologists, engineers, and land planners, significant improvements to physical river habitat have been implemented on private land along the lower reaches of the Blue River. Over a period of 14 years roughly 7.5 miles of river fish habitat was improved, including the restoration of inactive oxbows and side channels. Fields that were formerly in agricultural production were restored to riparian/wetland areas with an emphasis on sustainable vegetative diversity.

These changes in the management goals of private landowners have since expanded beyond only one or two private landowners, and a cooperative “river based” approach has taken hold. Adjacent landowners along the river corridor have adopted the desire to manage the trout fishery in the river, and by working together these landowners have implemented sustainable projects to enhance the integrity of the environment, available recreation, and legal access. Since the abundance of new habitat in the river is still checked by the presence of whirling disease, stocking of hatchery-reared fish is essential. However, through investments in habitat reclamation, fish rearing and cooperative projects, fish production on private land on the Blue River has increased from 30-70 lbs per acre to 200-300 lbs per acre.

1.7 Physical Setting

Historic

The Blue River corridor is located in Summit and Grand Counties in the Northern Rocky Mountains of Colorado. The corridor begins at the outflow of Green Mountain Dam and flows north over 15 miles to its confluence with the Colorado River just south of Kremmling. The river below Green Mountain Reservoir is presently defined largely by a natural river corridor, including the channel and adjacent riparian area. Restoration efforts by private landowners have included the placement of multiple on-channel water storage impoundments, comprising 5,337 acres of storage which is engaged in residential, agricultural, and recreational uses. The corridor

includes 2 public bridge river crossings, 2 private bridge river crossings, multiple low water crossings, miles of river proximate roads and fences, 7 major water diversions, and many irrigation ditches.

Over the past 125 years this river channel and its riparian zone have gradually transitioned from largely agricultural use to a mix of residential, agricultural and recreational use. This transition has required a tremendous investment in land use changes, stabilization and enhancement of agricultural operations, and restoration of fisheries, wildlife, riparian and wetland habitats.

Along the river corridor, 2 subdivisions have become established with numerous houses constructed along the cliffs overlooking the river. Four houses and a barn and corrals are built immediately adjacent to the river on private land, and 2 campgrounds provide recreational opportunities to the members of both home owners associations.

Agricultural Practices:

The Lower Blue River corridor has a long history of agricultural production, similar to all fertile valleys across the West. Homesteaders claimed numerous farmsteads along the river from Green Mountain Dam to the confluence with the Colorado River. Many were later consolidated into larger ranches that focused primarily livestock and hay production. Several old cabins and “shepherd shrines,” are still present, serving as historic reminders of the importance of agriculture in the colonization of this area.

Livestock grazing has been a principal component of agricultural practices along the river on both private and public lands. Grazing management has improved along the river corridor with advances in the science of rangeland management.

Land Ownership

The initial 3.5 miles of the river flows through Green Mountain Canyon to Spring Creek Road. This stretch is predominantly managed by the Forest Service with some BLM and privately owned shoreline. Below Spring Creek Road, the majority of the shoreline is private, with some parcels of BLM (Figures 1 & 2).

The land ownership patterns of the river corridor from Green Mountain Dam to the confluence with the Colorado River are 69% private and 31% public shoreline. This land ownership pattern has resulted in predominately private investment in land and river management throughout the corridor.

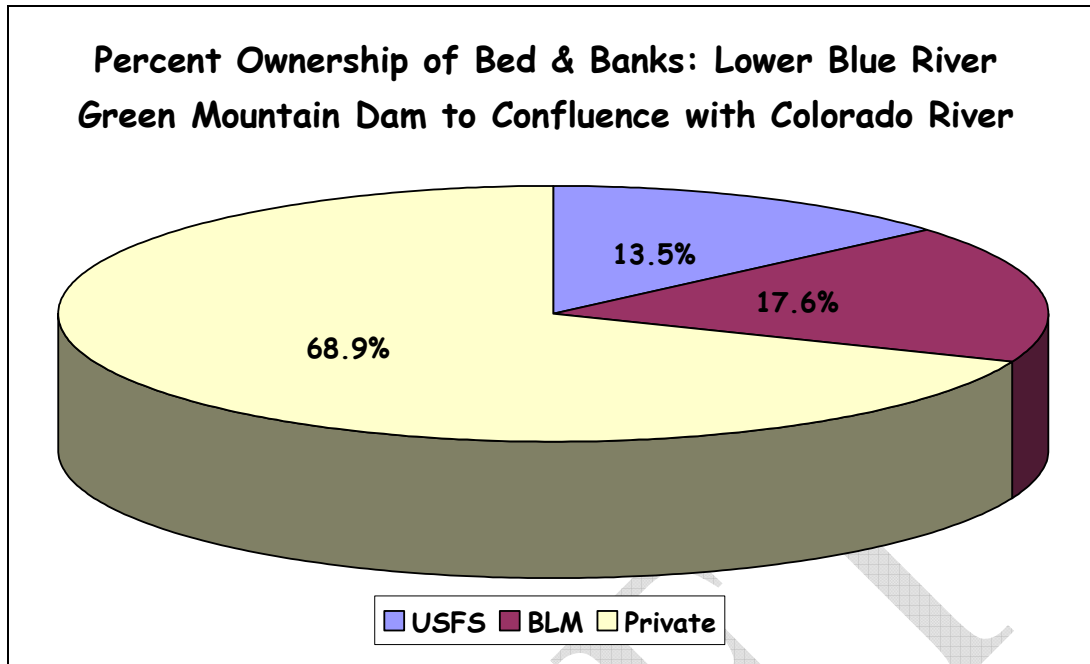


Figure 1: Percentage of the total bed and banks of the Lower Blue by ownership, from Green Mtn. Dam to the confluence with the Colorado River.

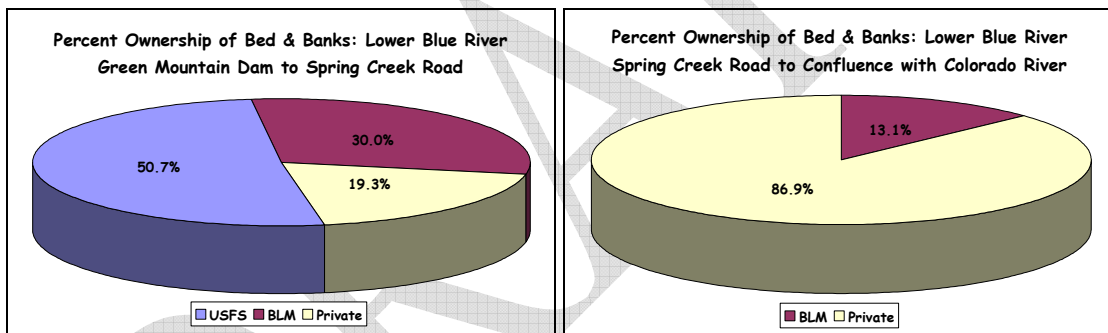


Figure 2: Percentage of the total bed and banks of the Lower Blue by river segment.

River Morphometry

Immediately downstream of the dam for approximately 3 miles the river runs down a steep gradient through Green Mountain Canyon, an entrenched channel with high valley confinement. The canyon then abruptly opens into a gentler gradient, with moderate channel entrenchment and less valley confinement. Much of this lower corridor is bound on one side of the river by nearly vertical canyon walls and on the other side by a small floodplain, though many stretches flow through wide floodplains on both sides of the river. The overall width of the riparian area varies from virtually zero in the canyon to approximately ½ mile wide.

The river channel and its substrate can be classified as a typical western “free stone” river. Substrates in the channel are comprised of predominately small to large cobbles with occasional small to large boulders. Banks that comprise the river channel are generally 4'-5' high, with numerous channel bars and point bars. Most banks are moderately vegetated with vigorous plants, though some exposed banks exist along the continuum. Due to the influence of Green Mountain Dam, natural flooding is not common and woody debris does not play an essential role

as substrate for biologic production or physical habitat in the channel. Historic operation of the river channel has caused alterations to the channel that are not optimal for aquatic habitat stabilization and fisheries production. These flows have caused some areas of the channel to laterally widen while it has caused other areas to down cut and entrench. The same flows have affected the particle distribution/ conveyance patterns filling in pools and creating wide, flat riffle areas. Small areas of midstream channel bars and braiding exist.

River Flows

The reservoirs located on the Blue River operate in conjunction with other reservoirs in the Upper Colorado River system, providing storage for state, federal, municipal and private water ownership/ agreements downriver. The operation of these reservoirs includes trans-basin diversion, and this must be considered in the context of how the Lower Blue functions, as water requirements in other basins will effectively reduce the availability of water in the Blue River Basin. During normal periods of high flows, such as spring runoff of winter snowmelt, the natural flows of the Lower Blue actually diminish as water is stored in the reservoir system. Stored water is then released during periods that typically are natural periods of lower flows, based on the need to satisfy downstream consumptive and non-consumptive use (ie. during the irrigation season). Water storage rights as well as calls for water releases into the river are based on a system of prior appropriation, thus making the seniority of any water right significant in the legally recognized water hierarchy that defines river flows.

Though there are state-owned water rights held by the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) specifically designed “to preserve the environment of the river to a reasonable degree,” these decrees for instream flow rights are generally junior to the majority of water rights that determine flows in the Lower Blue River. This diminishes the ability of CWCB’s instream flow rights to protect the river. Subsequently, calls for water for multiple uses downstream will change the natural periodicity, frequency, and intensity of flows in the lower Blue River. The range of flows will extend from as low as 60 CFS during the winter months to as high as 2,000 CFS (Figure 3). Daily fluctuations have ranged from record lows of 10 CFS to record highs of 4,000 CFS. Often, calls for water downstream can result in dramatic changes in flow of several hundred CFS within a 24-hr period.

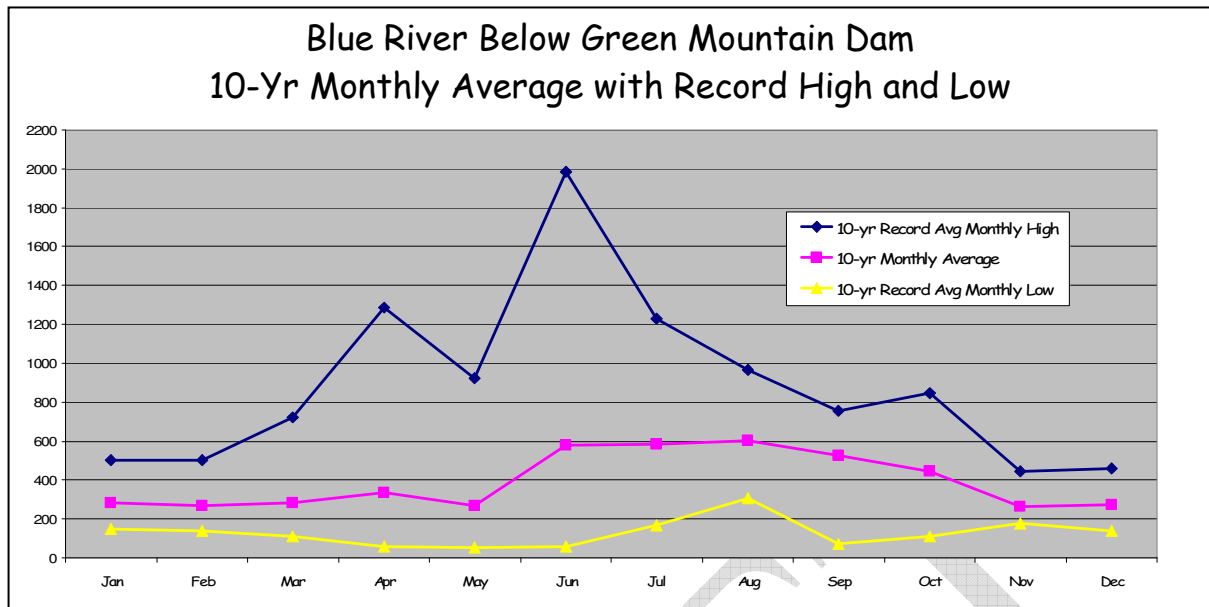


Figure 3: Chart showing the 10-yr average monthly flow in the Lower Blue River, with the record high and record low average monthly flow (<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis>, Accessed January, 2007). Period of record is from 1996 – 2005.

Vegetation

Vegetation along the Blue River corridor includes a variety of plant communities, from predominantly conifer associations in Green Mountain Canyon, to willow / cottonwood dominated communities along the extensive floodplains that occur along the middle and lower reaches of the river. This biodiversity resource includes approximately 560 acres of a narrowleaf cottonwood / water birch community that is ranked as vulnerable throughout its range of occurrence, and imperiled within the State of Colorado (Colorado Natural Heritage Program [CNHP], 2006). Due to the fact that this community occurs entirely on private land, this management plan is one of the only options that can support private land efforts to protect and enhance this resource.

One of the primary threats to biodiversity is the presence and spread of invasive species. Canada thistle is prominent along the entire river corridor, on both private and federal lands. Also present are isolated patches of musk thistle and houndstongue. Yellow Toadflax is an extremely aggressive noxious weed and is present at the Green Mountain Put-in, presenting a high risk of spreading due to its proximity to the river, and its exposure to high numbers of recreationists. Currently, private landowners treat thistles and houndstongue with chemical applications, and some biological control methods have been introduced for Canada thistle. However, cooperative efforts aimed at both prevention as well as control stand a much better chance of success.

Fisheries

The Blue River is designated Gold Medal, Wild Trout waters by the Colorado Wildlife Commission within Green Mountain Canyon, which is managed for self propagating brown trout. The Colorado Division of Wildlife has assisted the resident fish population through stocking in this area of the river on a number of occasions over the last two decades. Brown trout populations are presently good to excellent, reaching approximately 150 lbs per acre in the canyon. Fish production is even higher downstream of the canyon on private land, but does not

reach such high levels without significantly more intervention. Initial population studies done 14 years ago found total fish standing crops of 30-70 lbs per acre, of which trout comprised roughly 70% of observed fish. Small numbers of rainbow trout were present with little evidence of natural reproduction. Further studies verified the Colorado Division of Wildlife's suspicions that whirling disease was present in this river system, representing a significant biological limiting factor to wild trout management. Another limiting factor was physical habitat availability, specifically deep pools that provided resident trout refuge during critical periods of low flows (summer and winter). Analysis was not conclusive, but separation of the river channel from its floodplain due to flow changes, agricultural production and bank manipulation was also considered debilitating. Analysis of aquatic macroinvertebrates in the channel illustrated good to excellent conditions in the river, suggesting consistently good water quality.

In the last two decades as the development of river based recreation has increased in this corridor there have been additional challenges to the sustainability of both fish and wildlife populations. As mentioned, sustainability of rainbow and cutthroat trout in the river fish community requires stocking of hatchery reared fish due to the introduction of whirling disease. Recently, an infestation of "Rock snot" algae (*Didymosphenia germinata*) which is impacting the aquatic macroinvertebrate production and aesthetic quality of this river corridor was identified. Aquatic macroinvertebrates represent the basis of the food chain for resident fisheries. This organism is rapidly distributed by contact and adhesion to recreational equipment causing some private landowners to restrict transport of recreation equipment into or out of their properties.

Wildlife

The river corridor also supports a diverse array of wildlife species, from big game mammals such as white-tail and mule deer, to neo-tropical, migratory birds. Predators include black bear, mountain lion, bobcat and coyote. Elk also frequent the river bottom, particularly during the late fall and winter months. Shiras moose have been frequent, though transitory visitors, although their presence is becoming increasingly more common. Many species of waterfowl take advantage of food and cover provided by the river, as well as the development of waterfowl habitat by private landowners.

The river also provides important nesting and winter habitat for bald eagles. Two nesting pairs of bald eagles have taken up residence along the river corridor on private land, of which both successfully raised at least one chick during the 2006 season. Otters have also been seen along the lower reaches of the Blue River, from the confluence up to Beaver Creek on private land. Bald eagle was recently de-listed for protection under the Endangered Species Act, though they are still federally protected under the U.S. Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. River otter is a Colorado-listed threatened species. Both of these species have established within the corridor primarily based on the abundance of fish available for foraging.

Viewshed

The viewshed is the visual corridor of the river, or the landscape that recreationists and private landowners are able to see along the Lower Blue River. The appearance of the viewshed, including topography, vegetation, and human infrastructure, is important as this influences the river experience for both recreational visitors and residents. For the recreational user, minimal evidence of human presence increases feelings of isolation and wildness (the view from the river). For the private landowner, minimal human intrusion increases the feeling of solitude and privacy (the view of the river).

The visual corridor begins in Green Mountain Canyon, below the dam, and includes some of the best views from the river. High, vertical canyon walls feature unique geologic characteristics, including a large intrusive complex that forms a Christmas tree pattern in the Mesozoic sedimentary matrix. Conifer forests of Douglas fir, juniper and pine add to the sense of isolation. Anthropogenic impacts to the scenery are limited by the rugged topography, and include Green Mountain Dam itself, two irrigation diversions, a fishing cabin and several houses in the subdivision that lies along the East rim near the end of the canyon.

Just before the river crosses Spring Creek Road, the canyon opens into a broader floodplain that provides a more pastoral setting for the remainder of the river corridor. A long history of agriculture has preserved open space while also establishing a different kind of scenery that includes hayfields and pastureland, irrigation structures, old homesteads, roads and fences. Because this stretch of the river is predominantly private land, several residences are visible from the river, including a subdivision along the bluff overlooking the river just north of Spring Creek Road, and several homes along the banks of the river owned by two other private landowners.

Additional impacts to the visual corridor include the presence and spread of invasive species. Noxious weeds such as Canada thistle and yellow toadflax, bark beetles including Rocky Mountain pine beetle, Didymo (rock snot algae), and whirling disease all affect what both residents and visitors see along the visual corridor, and detract from the experience each expects when living or recreating along the Lower Blue River. Cooperative management of the natural resources that form the basis for the values of the visual corridor would help to ensure that these values do not disappear.



Chapter 2: Needs, Constraints and Opportunities

The second chapter of this plan is intended to provide background information on the Lower Blue River, assess the current status of management to identify management needs and constraints, and identify where management can be improved to meet the vision and mission stated above. Under each of the following sections, one or two guiding principles are stated. These are intended to assist in guiding the development of more specific goals, as well as decisions for present and future actions. A guiding principle statement thus sets the broad administrative base for an organization's management, which goals and objectives reflect and define as actions.

2.1 River Capacity

A definition of river capacity is critical to planning efforts as it would be used to help set management parameters for recreational use, as well as set a baseline of use against which potential impacts to natural resources would be measured. Capacity, or the river corridor's capability to support floating, fishing and camping, can be defined and measured in several different ways, including:

- *Physical Carrying Capacity*: refers to the amount of use that can occur before the physical and natural resources of the corridor begin to deteriorate.
- *Facility Carrying Capacity*: refers to the actual amount of physical space available for recreational use of the Lower Blue River. This space would primarily refer to available parking at put-ins and take-outs.
- *Social Carrying Capacity*: refers to the level of use beyond which the recreational values associated with the river begin to deteriorate. These values may refer to recreational outcomes, or the experiences and benefits of recreational activities, as well as the expectations of private landowners. Determining social carrying capacity is complicated by different interpretations of these values, where a private landowner who purchases land along the river values a different kind of experience than a recreational user.
- *Managerial Carrying Capacity*: integrates the various types of carrying capacity stated above to set a level of use that balances impacts to the natural resources of the river, the recreational experience of the user, and the rights of private landowners.

In addition to the above considerations, other factors that help to define carrying capacity include:

- Access points (outlined in section 2.2) constrict recreational use to a few concentration points along the entire river
- Statutes and common law that define trespass
- Variability of flow levels have the effect of defining or creating physical and legal constraints on activities

Recreational use along the Lower Blue has been steadily increasing in recent years with changes in local demographics and an increasing demand for recreational opportunities. A large portion of this demand is attributable to the close proximity of the river to the Greater Denver Metro

Area, which is approximately 1.5 hours away, as well as Silverthorne, Vail and other popular destination towns for recreational activities. Determining a carrying capacity for the Lower Blue would require defining how current and historical recreational use impacts the river's natural resources, how it influences the recreational outcomes (experiences) of users, and how it affects private landowners along the river. In order to make an informed decision on setting carrying capacity, information on several key indicators will be required for each of these three factors. The following table (Table 1) lists goals for each factor, taken from the mission statement and issue statements. For each goal is a list of indicators that would reflect how increasing recreational pressure influences those goals. Finally, a list of tools offers methods for collecting information on those key indicators. This information will become essential in the planning process by providing a baseline by which to make decisions on setting carrying capacities and determining recreational use types and levels of use.

Factor	Goal	Indicator(s)	Tools
Natural Resources	Healthy Fishery	Size and age class of fish # fish/mile or # fish/ acre Whirling disease prevalence Macroinvertebrates Public catch rates Biomass Estimates	Electro-fishing surveys Creel census Aquatic monitoring Flows/water temps Fish stocking
	Abundant Wildlife	Presence of key spp: bald eagle, otter Reproduction rates Spp & # waterfowl	Photo documentation
	Healthy Vegetation & Riparian Zones	Didymo (rock snot algae); abundance & spread Weeds; abundance, trends	Photo-points Mapping Aquatic monitoring Riparian monitoring
Recreational Outcomes	Sustainable Quantity of Use	# Users Type of Activity Limits of Acceptable Change	Vehicle counts (put-ins, take-outs) Craft counts Pvt angler catch rates Public angler catch rates
	High Quality of Experience	Satisfaction with experience Experience vs. expectations Experience vs. activities Conflicts with other users	On-site surveys Mail-in surveys Floater logs Log comments
Private Landowners	Prevent Trespass	Increase/decrease (trend) in incidence of trespass Damage to private land resources Enforcement actions	Record all cases of trespass Photo documentation Determine recreational flow regimes
	High Quality of Experience	Pvt landowner catch-rates, activity types, attitudes in relation to recreational use of river	Pvt landowner surveys

Table 1: The table above lists three factors that would be affected by a change in carrying capacity along the Lower Blue River. For each factor is a list of primary goals and indicators of how carrying capacity influences those goals, along with tools for gathering information on indicators.

Based on the above needs and opportunities, the following guiding principle will help to determine management actions that address river capacity:

Guiding Principle: To manage the Lower Blue River for levels of recreational activities that meet the expected experience and benefits of private landowners and recreational users, while maintaining the integrity and sustainability of the river corridor's natural resources as stated in the mission and vision of this plan.

2.2 Access

For the purposes of this plan, access refers to entry or exit points to the river corridor for general public recreationists.

Current Public Access

Current public access to the Lower Blue River to put-in or take-out a floating craft is provided at 4 areas (See Appendix A):

1. Green Mountain Dam Put-in: the only put-in for all crafts for floating the Lower Blue, the site is part of a 50-year lease held by Summit County from the Bureau of Reclamation. The site is unimproved, and the boat ramp is steep (Figure 4).
2. Spring Creek Take-out: a take-out only, for rafts and kayaks. The site is located on the west side of the Spring Creek Bridge river crossing approximately 3.5 miles downriver from the put-in and is part of a by-permission-only agreement with the private landowner. Currently, use of the take-out requires no fee.
3. Yust Take-out: a take-out only, for rafts and kayaks. The site is located on private land approximately 12.7 miles downriver from the put-in, and approximately .21 miles downriver of Trough Road Bridge river crossing. The take-out is part of a by-permission-only agreement with the private landowner. Currently, use of the take-out requires no fee.
4. Confluence Take-out: a take-out for floaters coming down the Blue River, this point also serves as a kayak put-in for kayakers wishing to run white-water in Gore Canyon on the Colorado River. This site is managed as a put-in / take-out by the BLM, with an improved parking lot and restroom facilities. Currently, use of the take-out requires no fee.

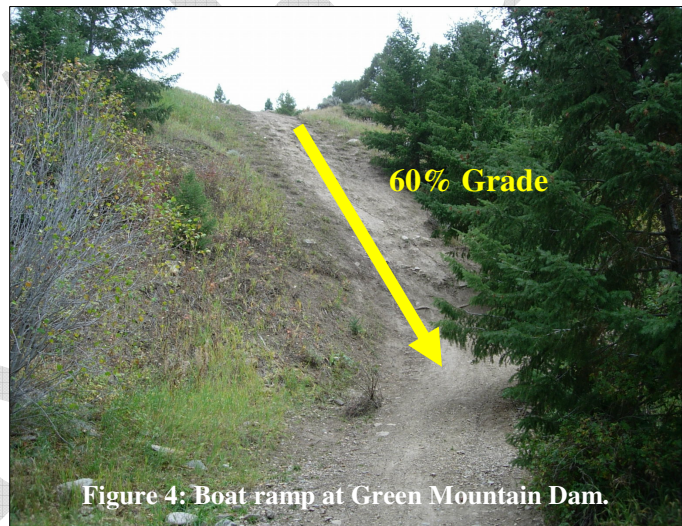


Figure 4: Boat ramp at Green Mountain Dam.

Walk-in access to the public provides additional access in the following areas:

1. Green Mountain Dam
2. BLM access from Highway 9 to within approximately ¼ mile of the river, approximately .6 miles south of Spring Creek Road.
3. BLM access from the Trough Road, approximately 1.1 miles southwest of the Trough Road Bridge river crossing, via a native surfaced road to within approximately .3 miles.

Currently, the only put-in for the Blue River is at Green Mountain Dam. Parking is limited, and the boat ramp is steep and unimproved. Boats can take out at Spring Creek Take-out, which is primarily used by kayakers who are targeting the white water in the canyon. Private landowner management of the fisheries below the bridge has provided high quality fishing opportunities, of which float-fishermen frequently take advantage by floating on through to the Yust Take-out.

Based on the above needs and opportunities, the following guiding principle will help to determine management actions that address river access:

Guiding Principle: To provide adequate and safe access for recreational use while controlling access points to the Lower Blue River.

2.3 Parameters of Use

In order to preserve the natural resources present in the Lower Blue River Corridor according to the vision and mission, management of the river would require setting parameters for the number of users, the seasonality of use, the types of crafts and activities allowed, and acceptable flows for floating and fishing. Historically, no guidelines have been in place to manage or control the amount of use or the types of use that occurred along the river corridor as there was little need for managing low levels of use. In light of current rising trends in recreation over the last ten years, however, this lack of management has raised concerns about the potential impacts of recreational pressure on the Lower Blue River's environment. An increase in conflicts among recreational users has become an issue, particularly between wade fishermen and floaters. This conflict affects the quality of both the fishing and floating experience on the river. Growing recreational use across private land has also lead to trespass issues and conflicts with private landowners, as well as impacts to privately managed fisheries. It is these concerns that have prompted the development of this management plan.

In order to achieve the vision and mission stated in Section 1.4, as well as address the issues in Section 1.5, parameters of use would need to be determined, including:

- a. Appropriate flow regimes for specified activities
- b. Appropriate recreational activities as well as appropriate types of boat crafts
- c. Appropriate levels of use, including the number of crafts per unit time and group size
- d. Seasons of use
- e. Seasons of no use

Based on the above needs and opportunities, the following guiding principle will help to determine management actions that address parameters of use:

Guiding Principle: Establish parameters of recreational use that are fair to property owners and all users of the river corridor, while meeting the vision and mission of this plan.

2.4 Impacts from Recreational Use

There are many potential impacts to the natural resources of the river corridor from increasing and un-managed recreation, particularly at concentration points such as put-ins and take-outs. Soil erosion has already become an issue in high-traffic areas such as the Green Mountain Dam

put-in and Yust Take-out. Un-sanitized boats, boots and fishing equipment pose a threat of introducing invasive species and parasites from other recreational areas. User conflicts, such as disputes between wade fisherman and floaters, are already a problem both in the canyon and across private land. Cultural sites are at risk of damage, such as in the case of vandalism in the old company houses below Green Mountain Dam. A consistent and heightened presence of human activity can also disturb wildlife, particularly during critical times of the year such as when bald eagles and resident trout are nesting or breeding. Risks to public safety also increase with increasing public recreation, as people become more agitated or venturesome in attempts to avoid or minimize contact with other humans.

The management plan would focus on providing a certain quality of experience for recreational users, while still minimizing any negative impacts from this use. This is an important concept as it will dictate the approach management will take in gathering information and making decisions. For instance, where a family may be looking for a large group float down the river, another group may be looking for the chance to catch fish in quiet solitude, while still a third may be looking for the thrill of intermediate level white water. All three activities are rafting, but each is a very different experience.

Based on the above needs and opportunities, the following guiding principles will help to determine management actions that address natural resources and land management, and recreational impacts:

Guiding Principle: Protect and enhance the high quality of the Lower Blue River Corridor's natural resources, including its recreational opportunities and the rights of private landowners, as stated in the mission and vision.

Guiding Principle: Manage recreational use through a management program and using appropriate law enforcement in order to protect natural resources and achieve the mission and vision of this plan.

2.5 Public Information

Typically, recreationists and private landowners require three types of information:

1. Informational
2. Interpretive
3. Regulatory

Information can be a powerful tool to influence the actions and opinions of all river users, and so can have an indirect effect on impacts to resources. Currently, no program is in place to provide information to river users beyond published fishing regulations provided by the Colorado Division of Wildlife. A management plan would need to determine specific objectives for the kind of information to be provided and the target audience.

- Background Information
 - Restoration projects and completed corridor enhancement projects
 - Natural history and wildlife people are likely to see
 - Natural resources and wildlife management

- The value of the river corridor and existing partnerships for protection
- Interpretive Information
 - Floater log comments
 - Summarized recreational use data
 - Fishing and fish handling ethics
 - River courtesy
- Regulatory Information
 - Flows – acceptable levels, current levels
 - Acceptable crafts and activities
 - Maps with take-outs and put-ins, river and land ownership, trails, etc.
 - Permitting process and fees

In addition to identifying a target audience, the distribution of public information should also consider methods to encourage the target audience to actually read the information. This may include choosing an appropriate medium for distribution (internet, brochures, maps with photographs, etc.) as well presenting information that is relevant, relatable, and easy to convey.

Based on the above needs and opportunities, the following guiding principle will help to determine management actions that address public information:

Guiding Principle: Provide appropriate kinds and amounts of information to encourage safety, protect natural resources, enhance the quality of the recreational experience, and support the goals of private landowners as stated in the mission and vision. Information would not be used to promote increased use of the Lower Blue River.

2.6 Portal Management and Law Enforcement

Currently, limited management exists at the Green Mountain Dam put-in, and no consistent monitoring of traffic in or out. Recreational use traffic in the canyon is not monitored, though there has been some data collection at the Yust take-out, including car counts and on-site surveys. Management and monitoring of put-ins and take-outs is essential, as these are natural control points for law enforcement as well as the most effective contact points between recreational users and law enforcement or river managers.

Based on the above needs and opportunities, the following guiding principle will help to determine management actions that address portal management and law enforcement:

Guiding Principle: Manage the use of the river corridor, particularly at put-ins and take-outs, to enhance the recreational experience and protect natural resources as stated in the mission and vision.

2.7 Safety

The Lower Blue River is considered a class 2 and class 3 rapids within Green Mountain Canyon. Floating the Lower Blue River does require competent boating skills in order to navigate safely through the canyon waters and maneuver over irrigation diversions and weirs that cross private land. Self-reliance and the ability to deal with emergency situations are skills that can be

developed and should be promoted as part of the responsible use of the Lower Blue River corridor.

No special rescue and emergency services are currently provided for the Lower Blue River. The river is not frequently or commonly patrolled by law enforcement or authorities, although private landowners provide a regular presence through their own land management activities. Emergency response is dependent on the ability of recreationists to handle emergency situations and to call for emergency assistance.

Response to emergency situations is limited in Green Mountain Canyon, where roads provide direct access to the river at only two points before Spring Creek Road. The remainder of the Lower Blue is readily accessible by roads that parallel the river along nearly its entire length to the confluence, though nearly all of these roads lie on private land. There are currently no communication systems available, and mobile phone service is available only in patches along the river below Spring Creek Road.

2.8 Limited Use Entry

The management actions necessary for the implementation of this plan, once identified, would require funds for both planning and implementation. Many other special use areas throughout the state and the Western U.S. charge user fees in order to carry out management actions that help to ensure protection of the river corridor, maintain the unique quality of every user's experience and ensure the safety of river users. Historically, no fee has been requested for support of the Lower Blue River. If a fee system were implemented, collected fees would either go into a grant entities general fund, or into a special use management fund, from which funds would be allocated to law enforcement, portal management, permit processing, restoration projects, education programs, etc. The permitting process would need to be fair and consistent, as well as comply with the mission and vision of this plan.

For example, the BLM has been collecting special use fees on the Upper Colorado River since 1999 under the authority of Fee Demo (now the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act). The current fee is \$3 per day per vehicle at both Pumphouse and Radium recreation sites. The fee provides the user with developed boat ramps, trash removal, permanent toilets, picnic tables, interpretive information, road maintenance, parking, drinking water at Pumphouse, and ranger presence. User fees collected are all put directly back into the sites where the money is collected. Recent improvements to the Upper Colorado Fee Sites include rest-room replacements and upgrades to ADA (American Disability Act) compliance and a complete rebuild of the Radium Campsite. User survey data indicates little to no objection to the current fee system. Annually, fees are used to pay for river rangers, rest-room supplies and maintenance, trash removal, campground maintenance, river cleanup, road maintenance, water system maintenance and testing supplies, etc.

Guiding Principle: Establish a limited use entry program to fairly manage recreational use of the Lower Blue River and provide support for management activities along the river corridor, as stated in the vision and mission of this plan.

Chapter 3: Alternatives and Management Actions

Alternatives Considered

A set of alternative courses of action were considered in the collaborative development of a management plan, which includes the writing of this document. Each alternative is briefly described below.

Alternative A: No Action Alternative

Under an alternative of no action, recreational use along the river corridor would continue to function unmanaged according to the status quo. Based on historical observation, it is reasonable to assume that public recreational use would likely continue along current rising trends. Risks to the no action alternative include potential damage to natural resources, potential impacts to recreational experiences and benefits, conflicts among recreationists, and continued conflicts with private landowners. Additionally, a no action alternative may default a course of action to another entity or organization, where input from members of the current stakeholder group may or may not be taken into consideration.

Alternative B - Proposed Action: Collaborative Development of a Management Program

Under this alternative, a management plan would be prepared and implemented through a collaborative process. This alternative is recommended because of its cooperative nature, its previous success in defining a common vision and mission, and its proactive approach. Risks to the proposed action alternative include a lack of agreement on management actions, a lack of funding to support proposed management actions, or a lack of feasibility in carrying out proposed management actions in a completed management plan.

Management Actions – For Proposed Action Alternative B

A successful management plan would require setting goals and management actions that can be reasonably implemented in a timely manner. The proposed management program and actions devised in the management plan are intended to address the vision and mission of the plan, and would apply the following concepts:

Guiding Principle – a plan or set of principles designed to influence and govern decisions for present and future actions. A guiding principle statement thus sets the broad administrative base for an institution’s management, which goals and objectives reflect and define as actions.

Goal – a statement directing a course of action for the attainment of a desired, long-term end.

Management Action – a specific method, activity or plan of action that can be used to achieve an identified goal within a stated policy.

The primary guiding principle for the Lower Blue River management plan is to adhere to the approved mission and vision statements in Section 1.4 while working to resolve the issues stated in Section 1.5. Alternative B would protect and enhance the corridor’s environmental attributes, including wildlife, biodiversity and geology, while also enhancing the river’s potential for quality fishing and floating.

Each management action would also include a designation of the party or parties responsible for carrying out that action, as agreed upon by the stakeholders group. A target date of completion and a cost will also accompany each action to ensure that it is both carried through and funded. Finally, each management action would also receive a priority ranking score from 1 – 5, with 1 being highest priority. This ranking would be based on the urgency of that management action within the timeline, its importance to the success of the plan, or its necessary completion before other management actions can be completed. This score would allow the development of an implementation timeline, as well as a calculation of needed funds within the context of that timeline.

3.1 River Capacity

Guiding Principle

To manage the Lower Blue River for levels of recreational activities that meet the expected experience and benefits of private landowners and recreational users, while maintaining the integrity and sustainability of the river corridor’s natural resources as stated in the mission and vision of this plan.

Alternative A: No Action Alternative

Under the no action alternative, river capacity would remain unmanaged and continue to be maintained at the status quo. It is likely that both the integrity and sustainability of the corridor’s natural resources as well as the expected experiences and benefits to the public would suffer as river capacity is met and exceeded without management of the area.

Alternative B - Proposed Action: Collaborative Development of a Management Program

Goal 3.1.1: Define a **Managerial** Carrying Capacity that encompasses facility, social and physical carrying capacity. This number will be used to set parameters of use for recreation on the Lower Blue River.

Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.1.1.1.				

Goal 3.1.2: Use a definition of managerial carrying capacity as the determining factor to manage level of use.

Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.1.2.1.				

3.2 Access

Guiding Principle

To provide adequate and safe access for recreational use while controlling access points to the Lower Blue River.

Alternative A: No Action Alternative

Under the no action alternative all access points, including the put-in and all take-outs, would remain in their current condition, and would be subject to any impacts from un-managed use. This would not offer any protection of natural resources at access points, would not enhance safety along the corridor, and would not achieve the guiding principle of providing adequate access for appropriate levels of recreation.

Alternative B - Proposed Action: Collaborative Development of a Management Program

Goal 3.2.1: Control, maintain and improve access points to accommodate recreational pressure and contribute to a quality recreational experience.				
Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.2.1.1.				
Goal 3.2.2: Maintain existing access points to minimize impacts to natural resources including erosion, propagation of invasive species, littering, etc.				
Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.2.2.1.				
Goal 3.2.3: Preserve & support private property rights.				
Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.2.3.1.				

3.3 Parameters of Use

Guiding Principle

Establish parameters of recreational use that are fair to property owners and all users of the river corridor, while meeting the vision and mission of this plan.

Alternative A: No Action Alternative

Under the no action alternative, recreational use would continue unmanaged according to the status quo. Stakeholders are concerned that continued unmanaged recreation would damage the corridor’s natural and recreational attributes, and enhance trespass concerns between recreationists and private landowners.

Alternative B - Proposed Action: Collaborative Development of a Management Program

Goal 3.3.1: Determine reasonable parameters of use that may be approved by the stakeholders, can be used to manage recreational use impacts to natural resources, and are fair and lawful to private landowners and recreationists.

Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.3.1.1.				

Goal 3.3.2: Maintain active and ongoing participation by stakeholders in the management of recreation, and adjust river use parameters as appropriate.

Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.3.2.1.				

3.4 Natural Resources and Land Management

Guiding Principle

Protect and enhance the high quality of the Lower Blue River Corridor’s natural resources, including the rights of private landowners and its recreational opportunities, as stated in the mission and vision.

Alternative A: No Action Alternative

Under the no action alternative, management of natural resources would continue according to the status quo, with private landowners, land and resource management agencies operating independently of each other. While this option would provide some type of land management, the lack of cohesion from the parties working independently detracts from the stakeholders’ ability to protect and enhance the quality of the corridor’s natural and recreational resources.

Alternative B - Proposed Action: Collaborative Development of a Management Program

Goal 3.4.1: Work cooperatively with public agencies and private landowners to identify and adopt land management tools and methods that protect and enhance natural resources.				
Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.4.1.1.				
Goal 3.4.2: Control disease and control nuisance and invasive species.				
Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.4.2.1.				
Goal 3.4.3: Protect and enhance natural resources, including fisheries, wildlife, vegetation, wetland and riparian health, particularly as they relate to recreational impacts.				
Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking

3.4.3.1.				
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Goal 3.4.4: Preserve the viewshed and riparian community by establishing guidelines for development along the river corridor.				
Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.4.4.1.				

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3.5 Recreational Use Impacts

Guiding Principle

Manage recreational use through a management program and use law enforcement in order to protect natural resources and achieve the mission and vision of this plan.

Alternative A: No Action Alternative

Under the no action alternative, recreation on the river corridor would continue unmanaged according to the status quo. Without management of recreation use, the corridor’s natural resources are threatened by increased volume of traffic, as is the quality of the recreational experience.

Alternative B - Proposed Action: Collaborative Development of a Management Program

Goal 3.5.1: Provide recreational opportunities that do not damage or diminish the special character of the Lower Blue River or its natural resources.

Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.5.1.1.				

Goal 3.5.2: Provide recreational opportunities that match the desired experience of both private landowners and recreational users.

Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.5.2.1.				

Goal 3.5.3: Manage recreational uses to minimize the aesthetic impacts to landowners and recreational users.

Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.5.3.1.				

3.6 Public Information

Guiding Principle

Provide appropriate kinds and amounts of information to protect natural resources, encourage safety, enhance the quality of the recreational experience, and support the goals of private landowners as stated in the mission and vision. Information would not be used to promote increased use of the Lower Blue River.

Alternative A: No Action Alternative

Under the no action alternative, additional information on the river corridor, its use and misuse, or safety concerns would not be provided to the public beyond what is already available from local agency offices or web sources. The Working Group believes greater public knowledge of the issues would help to better protect and enhance the corridor’s attributes.

Alternative B - Proposed Action: Collaborative Development of a Management Program

Goal 3.6.1: Provide necessary information to public and private recreational users.				
Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.6.1.1.				
Goal 3.6.2: Keep landowners informed of regulations and opportunities for their involvement in meeting management goals.				
Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.6.2.1.				
Goal 3.6.3: Provide interpretation, education and information that: 1) helps protect and interpret cultural and natural resources, 2) protects private landowner’s rights, and 3) enhances the visitor’s experience 4) encourages user responsibility				
Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of	Cost	Priority

		Completion		Ranking
3.6.3.1.				

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3.7 Portal Management and Law Enforcement

Guiding Principle

Manage use of the river corridor, particularly at put-ins and take-outs, to enhance the recreational experience and protect natural resources as stated in the mission and vision.

Alternative A: No Action Alternative

Under the no action alternative, no law enforcement would assist in managing access points. The use of the put-in and take-outs would continue according to the status quo, and no additional management would be provided beyond current efforts. The quality of the recreational experience, as well as the protection of the corridor’s natural resources, would not be protected in this alternative.

Alternative B - Proposed Action: Collaborative Development of a Management Program

Goal 3.7.1: Manage recreational use fairly and efficiently to minimize impacts to natural resources.				
Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.7.1.1.				

Goal 3.7.2: Manage recreational use fairly and efficiently to preserve the quality of the recreational experience on the Lower Blue.				
Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.7.2.1.				

3.8 Limited Use Entry

Guiding Principle

Establish a limited use entry program to fairly manage recreational use of the Lower Blue River and provide support for management activities along the river corridor, as stated in the vision and mission of this plan.

Alternative A: No Action Alternative

Under the no action alternative, no program for managing recreational use on the river would be initiated. Use of the river would continue according to the status quo and the protection of the river corridor’s natural resources, as well as the quality of the recreational experience would not be protected in this alternative.

Alternative B - Proposed Action: Collaborative Development of a Management Program

Goal 3.8.1: Identify a program to manage recreational use along the Lower Blue River by employing a limited use entry system based on the use parameters as developed in Section 3.3.

Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.8.1.1.				

Goal 3.8.2: Develop an evaluation and review process to make this a cooperative and adaptive planning process.

Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.8.2.1.				

Goal 3.8.3: Recognize and identify funding needs and potential funding sources for administration of a limited use entry program.

Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.8.3.1.				

Goal 3.8.4: Identify responsibilities for administration of a limited use entry program, including a lead entity as well as cooperating

entities.				
Management Action(s)	Responsible Parties (Lead Entity in BOLD)	Target Date of Completion	Cost	Priority Ranking
3.8.4.1.				

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4.1 Jurisdictional Agency

(Incomplete)

4.2 Jurisdiction Authority

(Incomplete)

Adoption of this management plan is sanctioned by:

1. Jurisdictional Agency Authority (See 1996 Smith River Plan, pp. 10 – 11)
2. Management/Law Enforcement Authority
3. Legislative Authority

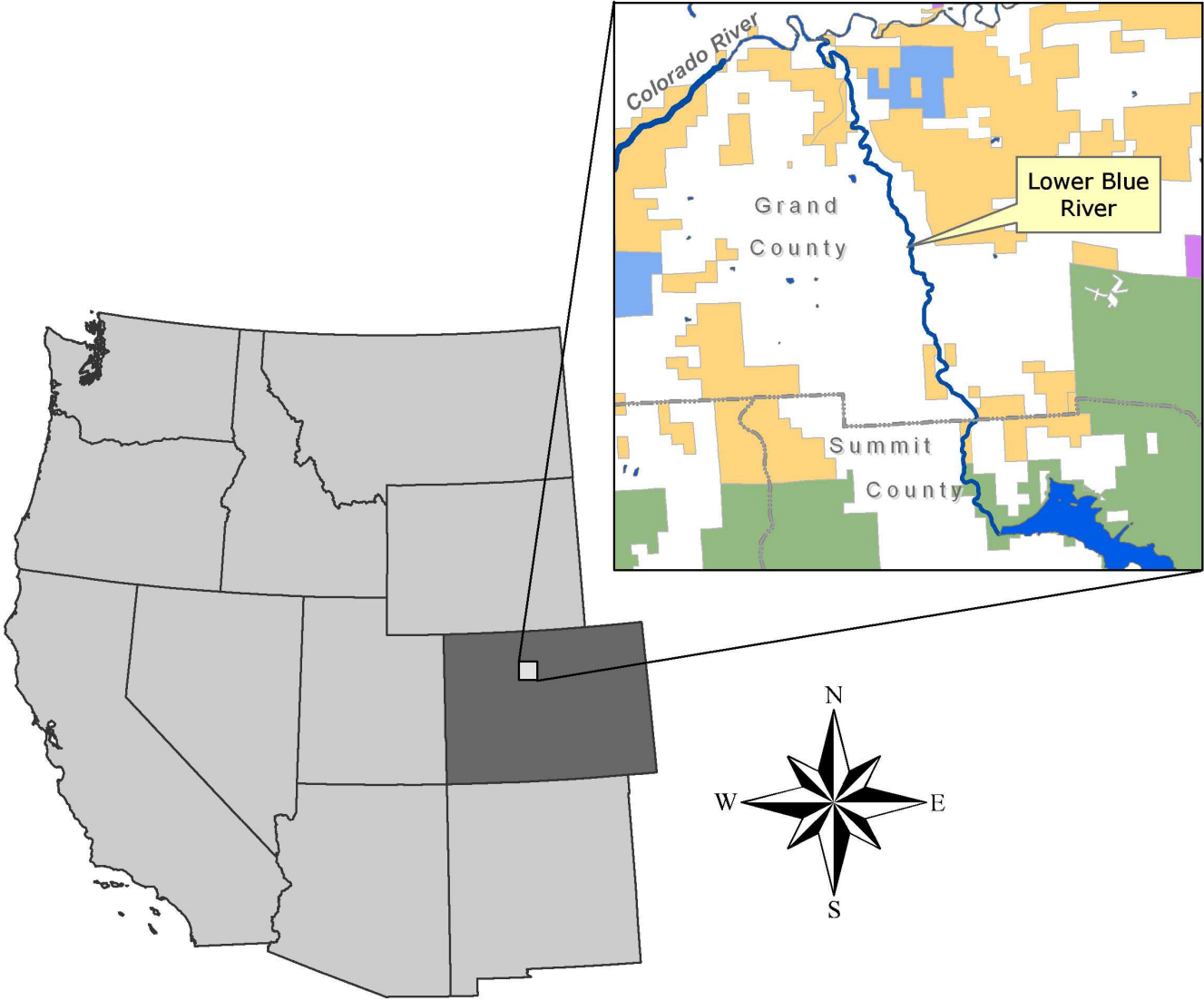
4.3 Funding Opportunities

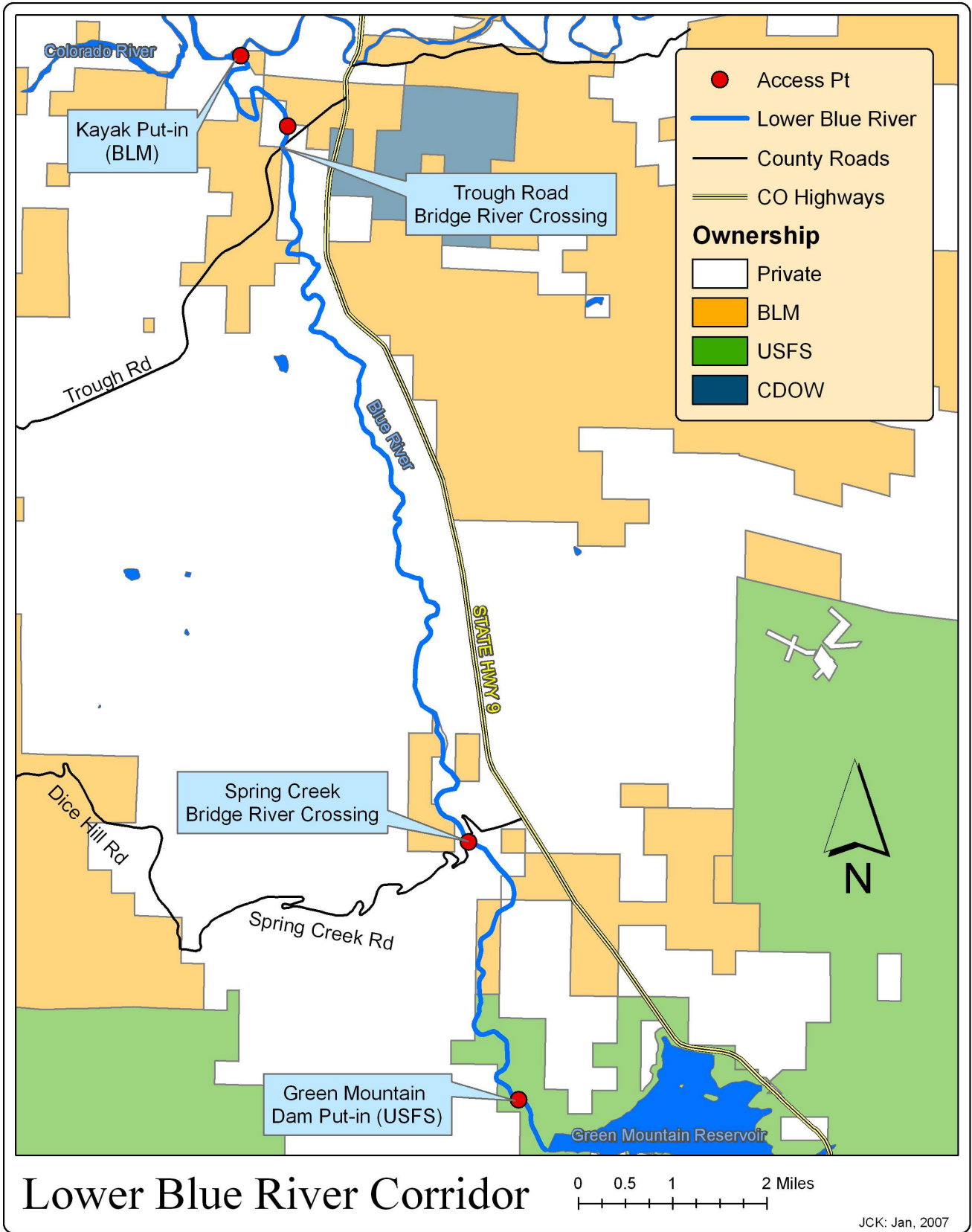
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Appendix A

Mapping & Support Graphics





Appendix B

Lower Blue River **Limited Use Entry Program and Use Parameters**

(Incomplete)

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Appendix C

References

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