

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/20/2023 6:48:41 PM

First name: Mac

Last name: Kobza

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments are following rapid review of Preliminary Environmental Assessment and knowledge of regional aquatic and terrestrial wildlife. For road crossings, prioritize AOP culvert designs, to support listed Lake Chub migration and aquatic habitat. To significantly improve riparian, wetland, and fen health, increased and focused efforts must be included for both recreating beaver dam benefits, and supporting beaver reintroduction to key watershed areas. Details for this Plan seem to provide enhanced habitat quality for most aquatic life in the planning area if followed and if monitored post-construction. Also, any temporary roads built must be aggressively decommissioned and law enforcement must patrol and issue citations for illegal access for a period after decommissioning. Many local partners understand the devastating effects of unmanaged roadways and social trails on front range forests and habitats. A significant network of illegal social trails exists throughout the planning area and should be decommissioned as part of the work in restoring the form and function of the ecosystems under consideration. As the project spans 20 years of work, adaptive management to changing conditions is imperative and must use the best available information to inform 5-year objects and other long-term goals. As the best and last example of functional, roadless area in Boulder County, North St. Vrain RNA and adjacent zones must be carefully managed for ecosystem health in balance with other goals and include planning for removing social trails and temporary access roads at completion. It is understood that a wide range of project partners are acknowledging ecosystem health as a priority in this project, in coordination with fire risk reduction to infrastructure. I thank you for taking a well balanced and science-driven approach to this Plan.