

Knowledge Break Series

Take a short break to learn something new



CLIMATE **SMART**

FUTURE *Ready*

CSFR Focus Areas & Action Teams

5 year Plan (2024-2029) Addressing Climate Risks
through Mitigation & Adaptation



Built Environment,
Circular Economy,
Businesses & Jobs

Mobility of People,
Goods, and Services

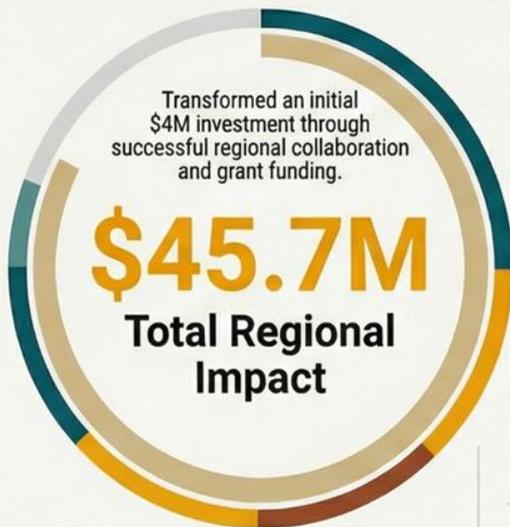
Natural Environment,
Water, and Agriculture

What is the County's Approach and Role?

- Zoom out and look beyond local government boundaries to what is happening in our County and region
- Consider sustainable (environmental, economic, and social) needs and impacts
- Discover gaps and overlaps
- Nurture and enhance partnerships
- Align priorities as much as possible

CSFR 2025 Impact & 2026 Vision

2025 Impact: Regional Success



150% 
Minimum Return on Investment
Every \$1 invested by the County generates at least \$2.50 in community benefit.

 **Land Conservation**
6,569
Acres Conserved

 **Landfill Diversion**
10,547
Mattresses Diverted

 **Wildfire Resilience**
457
Home Assessments Completed

 **3,366**
Volunteer Hours Contributed
Dedicated community members completed 34 major actions to improve regional climate resilience.

2026 Vision: The Path Forward

 **Expanding EV Infrastructure & Water Security**
Expanding the charging network and developing frameworks for regional drought response.

 **Building Economic Resilience**
Scaling green workforce training and programs to help small

 **Regional Water-Sharing Frameworks**
Turning the 2024 Water Master Plan into active programs for agricultural and municipal users



www.larimer.gov/csfr

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LARIMER COUNTY: NATURAL RESOURCES



POUDRE RIVER RESTORATION & RESILIENCE – RIVER BLUFFS OPEN SPACE

FEBRUARY 24, 2026



BACKGROUND

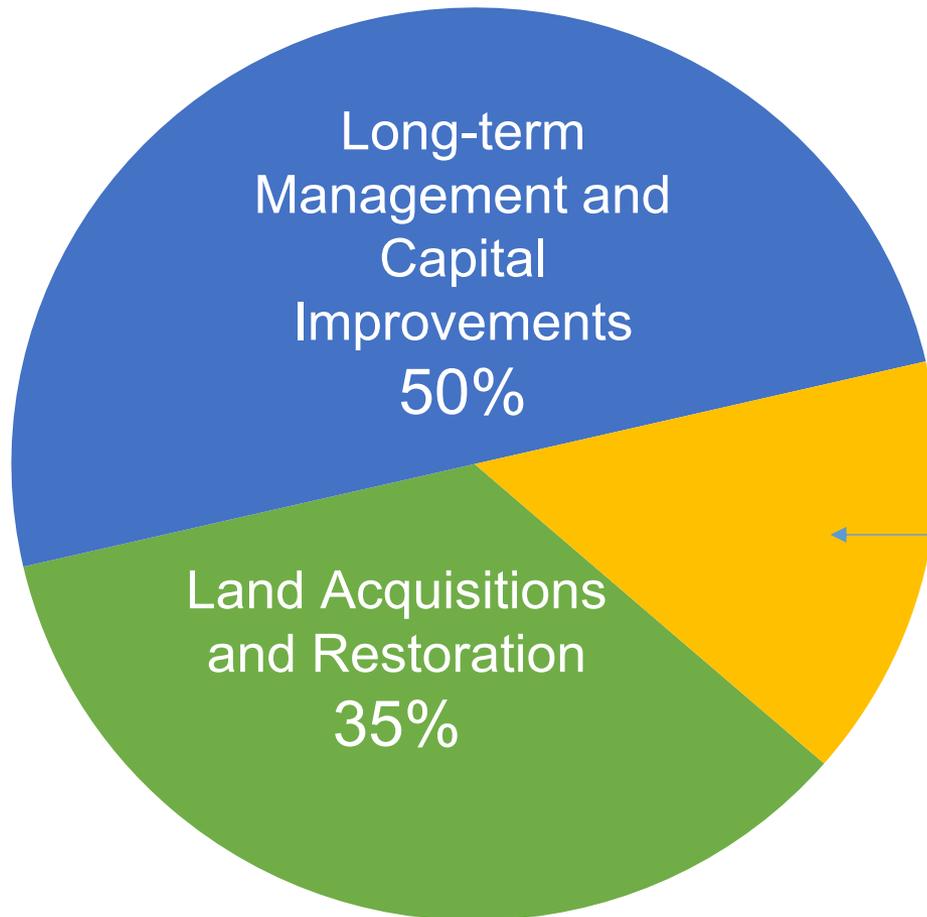
Mission: *Connect People,
Nature & Place*

Vision: *Healthy
Landscapes, Healthy
People*

- Manage 18 open spaces for nature-based public access
- Hold 60 conservation easements



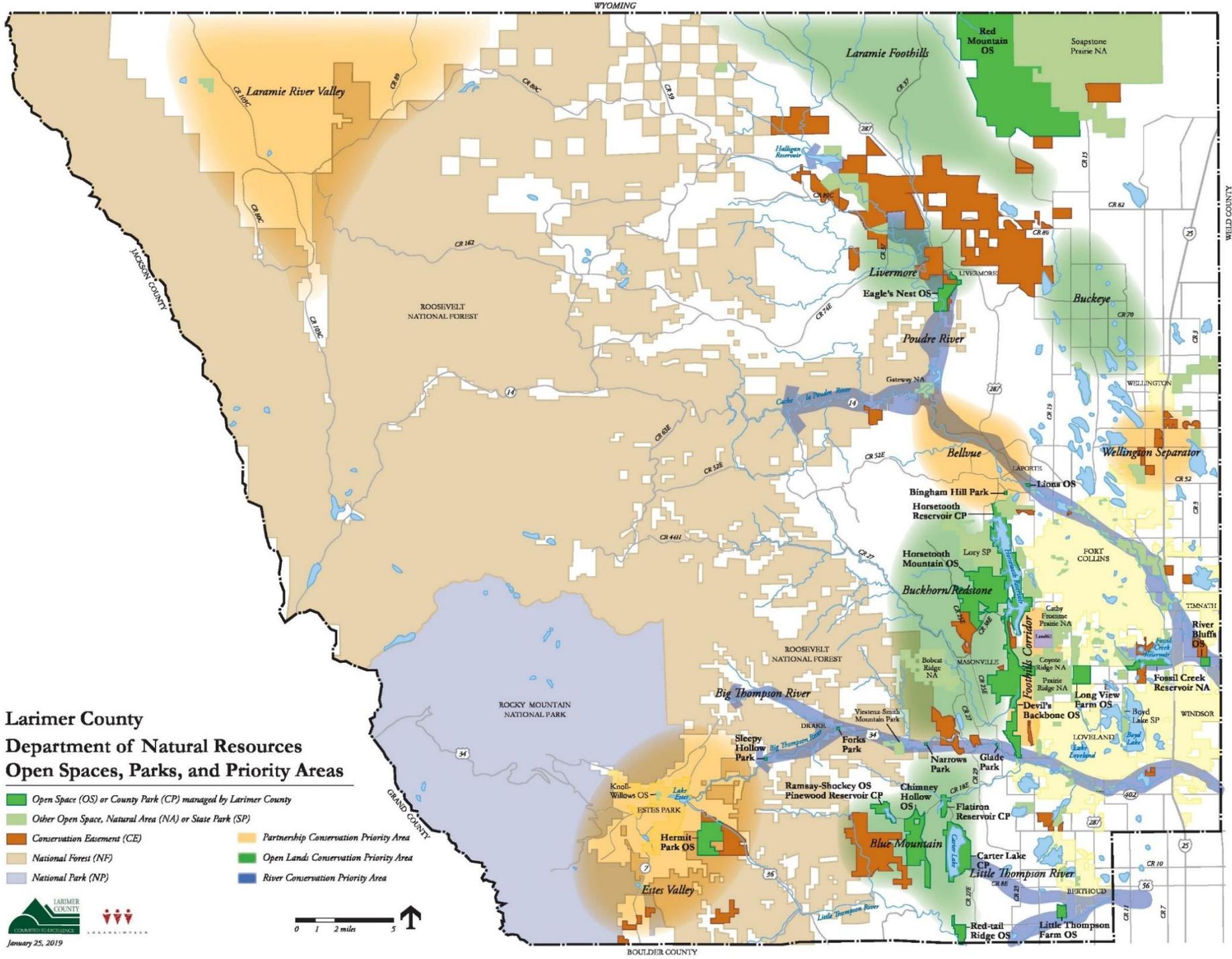
SALES TAX ALLOCATION 2019-2043



The two main categories and/or Improvements to BOR Reservoir Parks
15%

Larimer County Department of Natural Resources Open Spaces, Parks, and Priority Areas

- Open Space (OS) or County Park (CP) managed by Larimer County
- Other Open Space, Natural Area (NA) or State Park (SP)
- Conservation Easement (CE)
- National Forest (NF)
- Partnership Conservation Priority Area
- Open Lands Conservation Priority Area
- National Park (NP)
- River Conservation Priority Area



WYOMING

JACKSON COUNTY

WELD COUNTY

GRAND COUNTY

BOULDER COUNTY

RESTORATION BENEFITS

Benefits:

- **Habitat** – native plant species, pollinators, biodiversity
- **Soils** – rebuild soil structure, stability and resiliency; C sequestration
- **Water** – water rights re-directed to instream flows, wetland creation
- **Agricultural** – native vegetation can be leased for livestock grazing
- Matches **LC climate strategy and State Water Plan** goals

River Bluffs Open Space & Poudre River Trail



River Bluffs Trailhead

0.2



S CR3

Poudre River
0.7

Cache La Poudre River

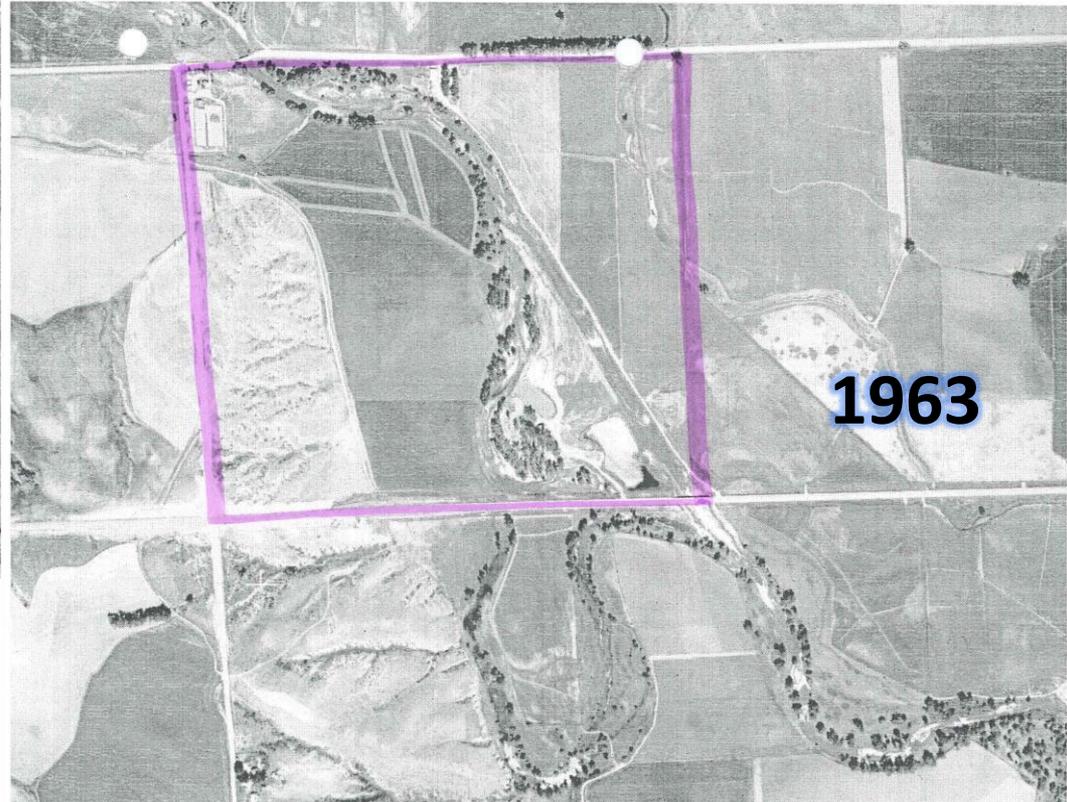
0.5 miles

HISTORY

1950



1963



PRE-PROJECT



PRE-PROJECT CONDITIONS



PRE-PROJECT CONDITIONS



PRE-PROJECT CONDITIONS



PRE-PROJECT CONDITIONS



FUNDING PARTNERSHIP

Grant funding:

- \$ 1,311,158 – DOLA - CDBG-DR
- \$ 153,670 grant – CPW - Wetlands for Wildlife
- \$ 100,000 – GOCO - Habitat Restoration

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Restore a healthy, resilient, & functioning river

- Improve riparian and aquatic habitat
- Create additional wetlands
- Re-connect main channel to floodplain
- Install in-channel features
- Promote bank stabilization
- Establish natural sediment transport cycles

PROJECT DESIGN



POST-PROJECT CONDITIONS

Before



After



POST-PROJECT CONDITIONS

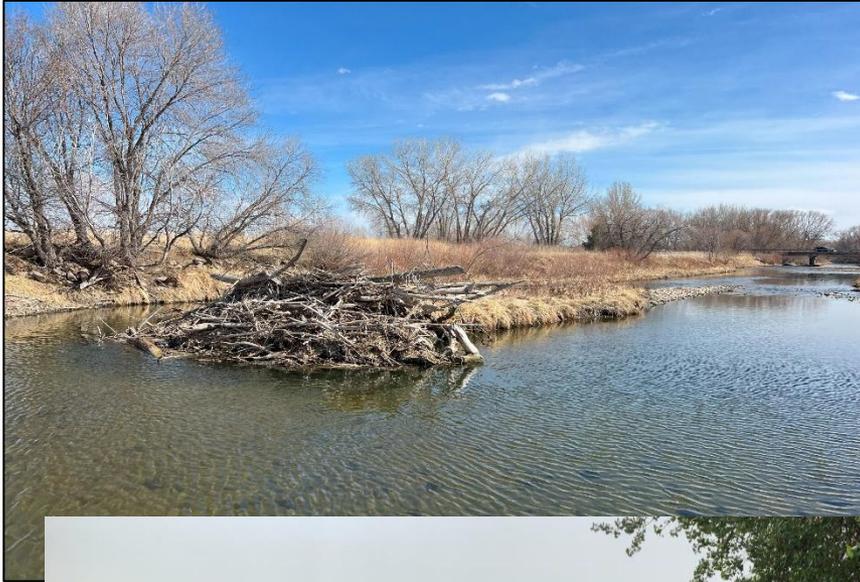
Before



After



POST-PROJECT CONDITIONS



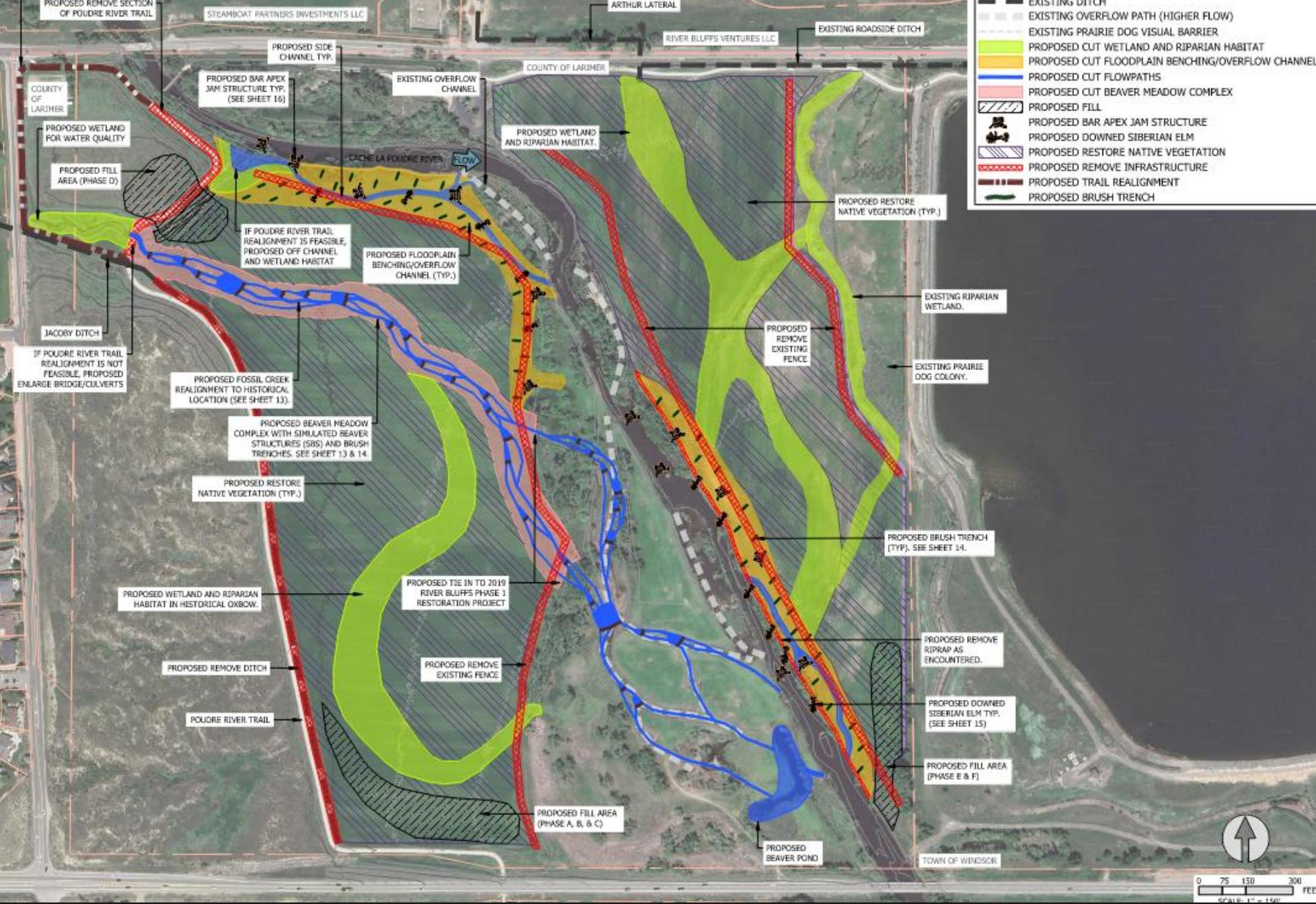
FUTURE RESTORATION

River Bluffs Open Space – Poudre River corridor

Goal: Restore hayfield to native wetland/riparian and grassland habitat

Outcomes

- Riparian and wetland creation (support most biodiversity but comprise < 2% of county land cover).
- Improved habitat for native species (pollinators, native fish, grassland birds, amphibians – all currently in decline)
- Transition to rangeland agricultural use.
- Enhanced use of water rights to instream flows, wetland creation, recharge wetlands that benefit ag, livestock water.
- Carbon sequestration and soil health



- EXISTING DITCH
- EXISTING OVERFLOW PATH (HIGHER FLOW)
- EXISTING PRAIRIE DOG VISUAL BARRIER
- PROPOSED CUT WETLAND AND RIPARIAN HABITAT
- PROPOSED CUT FLOODPLAIN BENCHING/OVERFLOW CHANNEL
- PROPOSED CUT FLOWPATHS
- PROPOSED CUT BEAVER MEADOW COMPLEX
- PROPOSED FILL
- PROPOSED BAR APEX JAM STRUCTURE
- PROPOSED DOWNED SIBERIAN ELM
- PROPOSED RESTORE NATIVE VEGETATION
- PROPOSED REMOVE INFRASTRUCTURE
- PROPOSED TRAIL REALIGNMENT
- PROPOSED BRUSH TRENCH

PROPOSED REMOVE SECTION OF Poudre RIVER TRAIL

STEAMBOAT PARTNERS INVESTMENTS LLC

ARTHUR LATERAL

RIVER BLUFFS VENTURES LLC

EXISTING ROADSIDE DITCH

COUNTY OF LARIMER

PROPOSED SIDE CHANNEL TYP.

EXISTING OVERFLOW CHANNEL

PROPOSED BAR APEX JAM STRUCTURE TYP. (SEE SHEET 16)

PROPOSED WETLAND FOR WATER QUALITY

PROPOSED FILL AREA (PHASE D)

JACOBY DITCH

IF Poudre RIVER TRAIL REALIGNMENT IS NOT FEASIBLE, PROPOSED ENLARGE BRIDGE/CULVERTS

CACHE LA POUDE RIVER

PROPOSED WETLAND AND RIPARIAN HABITAT.

IF Poudre RIVER TRAIL REALIGNMENT IS FEASIBLE, PROPOSED OFF CHANNEL AND WETLAND HABITAT

PROPOSED FLOODPLAIN BENCHING/OVERFLOW CHANNEL (TYP.)

PROPOSED RESTORE NATIVE VEGETATION (TYP.)

EXISTING RIPARIAN WETLAND.

EXISTING PRAIRIE DOG COLONY.

PROPOSED FOSSIL CREEK REALIGNMENT TO HISTORICAL LOCATION (SEE SHEET 13).

PROPOSED BEAVER MEADOW COMPLEX WITH SIMULATED BEAVER STRUCTURES (SBS) AND BRUSH TRENCHES. SEE SHEET 13 & 14.

PROPOSED RESTORE NATIVE VEGETATION (TYP.)

PROPOSED BRUSH TRENCH (TYP.). SEE SHEET 14.

PROPOSED WETLAND AND RIPARIAN HABITAT IN HISTORICAL OXBOW.

PROPOSED TIE IN TO 2019 RIVER BLUFFS PHASE 1 RESTORATION PROJECT

PROPOSED REMOVE DITCH

PROPOSED REMOVE EXISTING FENCE

PROPOSED REMOVE RIPRAP AS ENCOUNTERED.

PROPOSED DOWNED SIBERIAN ELM TYP. (SEE SHEET 15)

PROPOSED FILL AREA (PHASE E & F)

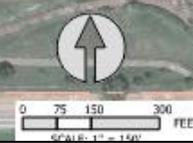
PROPOSED BEAVER POND

PROPOSED REMOVE RIPRAP AS ENCOUNTERED.

PROPOSED DOWNED SIBERIAN ELM TYP. (SEE SHEET 15)

PROPOSED FILL AREA (PHASE A, B, & C)

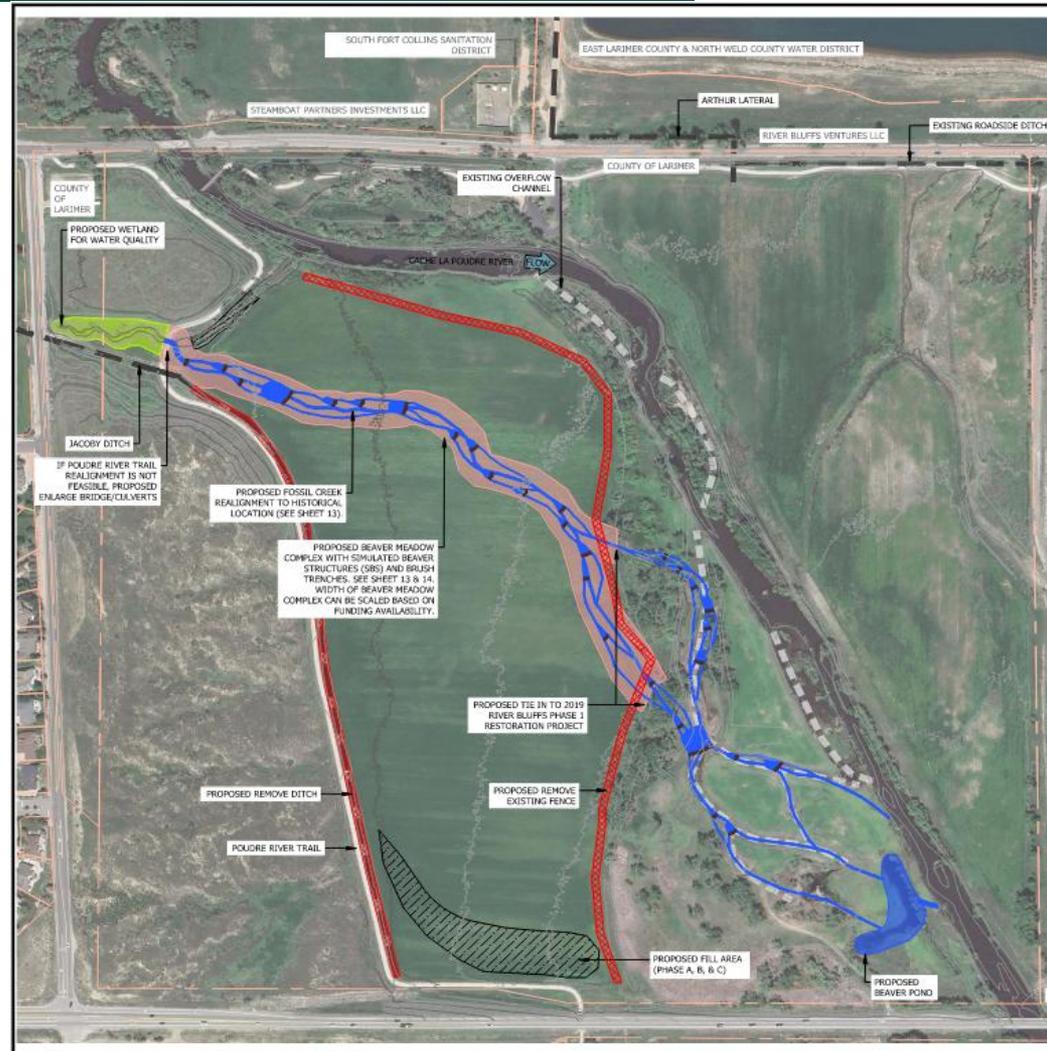
TOWN OF WINDSOR



2026-27 PHASE

Outcomes

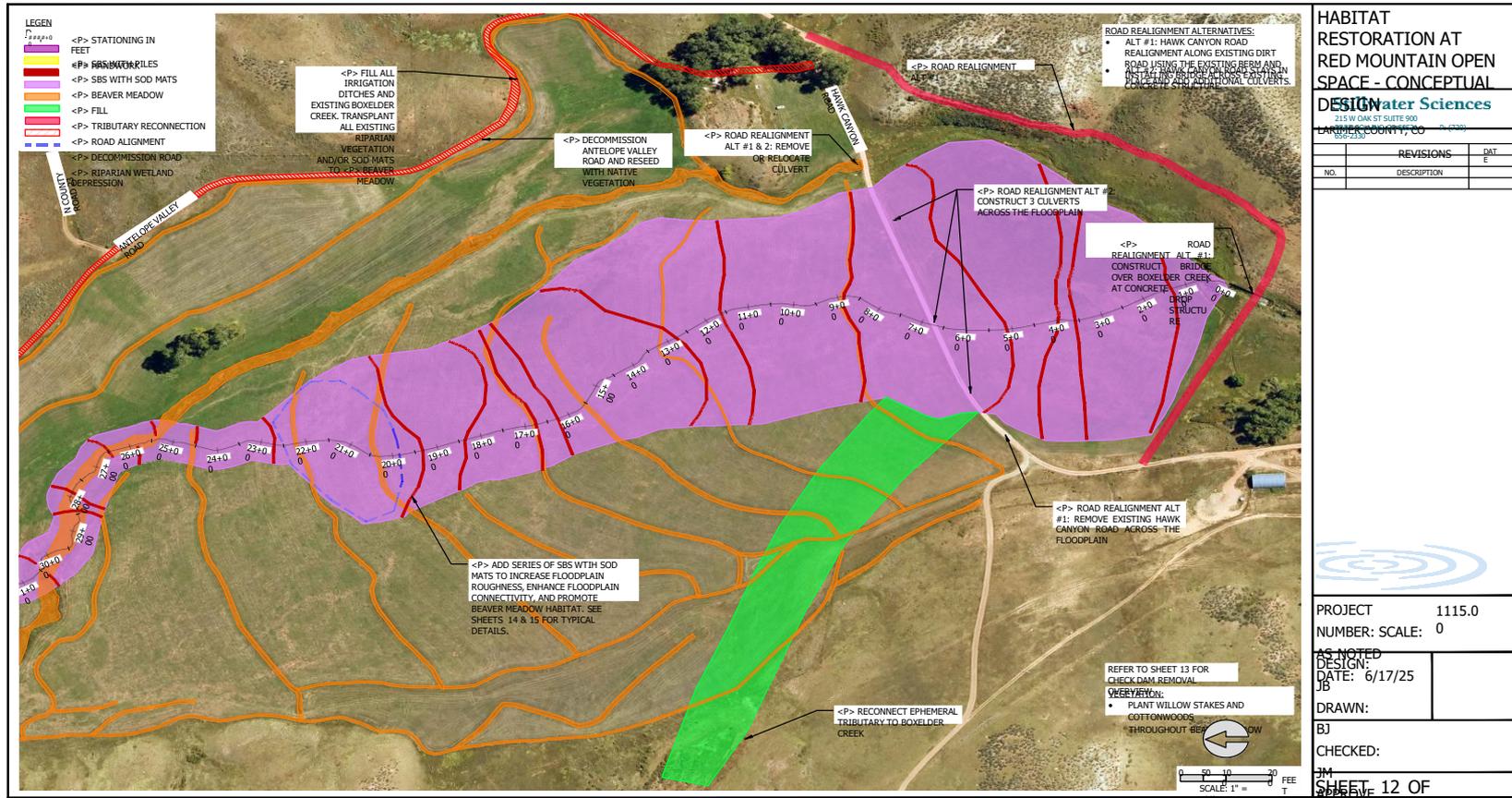
- Riparian and wetland creation
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FUTURE RESTORATION

Red Mountain Open Space - Boxelder Creek corridor

Goal: Restore hayfield and connect 1 mile of stream channel/riparian habitat



Questions?

