

Appendix 2

USFWS Coordination





BIO - ENVIRONS
 114 N Boulevard, Ste 206
 Gunnison, Colorado 81230
 970.641.8749 P
 tim.bioenvirons@gmail.com

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

NO CONCERNS
 CONCUR NOT LIKELY TO ADVERSELY AFFECT
 NO COMMENT

New Tech *12/15/15*
 WESTERN COLORADO SUPERVISOR (DATE)

*TCAIS: 06E24100-
 2016-TA-0070*

December 3, 2015

FWS
 Attn. Ann Timberman
 445 W Gunnison Ave, Suite 240
 Grand Junction, CO 81501

Dear Ms. Timberman:

We are requesting information on endangered, threatened, or candidate species in the vicinity of a proposed runway and taxiway improvement project at the Aspen/Pitkin County Airport located in Section 3 of Township 10S, Range 85W, and Sections 27 and 34 of Township 9S, Range 84W 6th P.M., (39° 13' 24.8" N, 106° 52' 1.5" W). The Aspen/Pitkin County Airport is requesting this information for preparation of their Environmental Assessment documents.

By way of past correspondence, in 2009 we requested review and confirmation regarding endangered, threatened, or candidate species in the vicinity of a proposed runway extension at the Aspen/Pitkin County Airport in the same vicinity as the current project. We received a letter dated August 6, 2009 from FWS concurring that no adverse effect on identified species would occur. That letter is attached.

We recently visited the FWS ECOS critical habitat website and found that no critical habitat was identified in Pitkin County. However, we would like to confirm that no further consultation with the FWS is required at this time.

We have also conducted field investigations associated at the project site in September of 2015 and did not observe any threatened, endangered or candidate species or critical habitat within or in the vicinity of the project area.

We are also requesting confirmation of our findings based on current FWS protocol regarding this investigation.

We appreciate your timely response to this request. If you have any additional comments at this time, we would very much appreciate your input. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Tim Lapello
 Bio-Environs

RECEIVED

DEC 09 2015

Ecological Services
 Grand Junction, CO

Bio-Environs
114 N Boulevard Ste. 206
Gunnison, Co. 81230
970.641.8749
bioenvirons@gunnison.com

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CONCUR NO EFFECT
<input type="checkbox"/>	CONCUR NOT LIKELY TO ADVERSELY AFFECT
<input type="checkbox"/>	NO COMMENT
<i>Patricia S. Gelatt</i> 8/6/09	
WESTERN COLORADO SUPERVISOR	(DATE)

RECEIVED

AUG 06 2009

Ecological Services
Grand Junction, CO

August 3, 2009

USFWS
Attn. Patricia Gelatt
764 Horizon Drive, Building B
Grand Junction, CO 81506-3946

Dear Ms. Gelatt:

We are requesting information on endangered, threatened, or candidate species in the vicinity of a proposed runway extension at the Aspen/Pitkin County Airport located in Section 3 of Township 10S, Range 85W, and Sections 27 and 34 of Township 9S, Range 84W 6th P.M., (39° 13' 24.8" N, 106° 52' 1.5" W). The Aspen/Pitkin County Airport is requesting this information for preparation of their Environmental Assessment documents.

We originally requested this information with a letter in April, 2008. Based on a phone conversation on October 2, 2008 the USFWS directed us to visit the USFWS ECOS critical habitat website. The USFWS indicated that if critical habitat was identified within the project area we were directed to proceed with further consultation. Based on information provided by the website, no critical habitat was identified in Pitkin County and further consultation with the USFWS was not required at that time.

We have also conducted field investigations at the project site in July of 2008 and did not observe any threatened, endangered or candidate species or critical habitat within or in the vicinity of the project area.

Based on several phone conversations and guidance provided by Mr. Terry Ireland of the USFWS Grand Junction, Colorado office, we have also conducted further research through the review of a re-evaluation titled *Wildlife Resources and Threatened and Endangered Species-Technical Report, State HWY 82/ Entrance to Aspen, Environmental Reevaluation*. This re-evaluation of wildlife resources was completed in February 20, 2007 in association with a CDOT project to expand State HWY 82 in the Aspen/Pitkin County Airport area. Portions of the highway expansion are adjacent to the Aspen/Pitkin County Airport, and therefore include similar habitat and associated plant communities that are common to the State Hwy 82 corridor. The CDOT report concludes that there will be no impacts to threatened and endangered or candidate species associated with the Hwy 82 expansion.

We have also consulted via a phone conversation with Mr. Phil Nyland, a Wildlife Biologist with the White River National Forest Service, regarding any effects to the Canada lynx in this area. Mr. Nyland requested that we refer to the aforementioned CDOT report and review the results documented in the report. In this report Mr. Nyland

states that he does not believe "that the work within the State Highway 82 corridor would present (sic) affect the Canada lynx or its habitat".

Based on these findings, we are requesting your concurrence that there will be no impacts to federally Threatened, Endangered or Candidate species associated with the proposed runway extension at the Aspen/Pitkin County Airport.

We appreciate your timely response to this request. If you have any additional comments at this time, we would very much appreciate your input. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Lapello". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "T".

Tim Lapello
Bio-Environs



U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Aviation
Administration

Northwest Mountain Region
Denver Airports District Office
26805 East 68th Avenue, Suite 224
Denver, CO 80249-6361

August 2, 2017

Ms. Ann Timberman
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Western Colorado Ecological Service Field Office
445 West Gunnison Avenue, Suite 240
Grand Junction, CO 81501-5711

Dear Ms. Timberman:

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) would like to request informal consultation under the Endangered Species Act for the proposed improvement projects at the Aspen/Pitkin County Airport (ASE) in the City of Aspen, Pitkin County, Colorado.

Pitkin County, as owner and operator of ASE, is proposing to reconfigure Runway 15/33 and improve the terminal building (Attachment A):

- Runway 15/33 Reconfiguration
 - Shift the runway 80 feet to the west;
 - Widen the runway from 100 feet to 150 feet;
 - Realign the perimeter road, Owl Creek Road, and Owl Creek Bike Path;
 - Relocate navigational aids (NAVAIDs) and runway/taxiway lighting;
 - Rescind Pitkin County's wingspan and aircraft weight restriction policy;
 - Piping of Owl Creek within ASE property; and
 - Amending flight procedures to accommodate shift in runway location.
- Terminal Improvements
 - Construction of replacement terminal and associated parking;
 - Re-configure the terminal roadway and recirculation roadway;
 - Integrate the new terminal with public transit;
 - Relocate ancillary facilities, such as rental car facilities;
 - Demolition of existing terminal;
 - Expanding the commercial aircraft apron; and
 - Construction of a noise barrier along the general aviation apron.

The following species could be found in the project area: Canada Lynx (*Lynx canadensis*); North American Wolverine (*Gulo gulo luscus*); Mexican Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis lucida*); Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*); Bonytail Chub (*Gila elegans*); Colorado Pikeminnow (*Ptychocheilus lucuis*); Greenback Cutthroat Trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki stomias*); Humpback Chub (*Gila cypha*); Razorback Sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*); and the Ute Ladies'-tresses (*Spiranthes diluvialis*). However, a field survey conducted in September 2015 confirmed that none of these species occur in the project area and confirmed the absence of suitable habitat.

The FAA has therefore determined that the project will have No Effect on endangered or threatened species. The FAA respectfully requests the US Fish and Wildlife Service to provide written concurrence with our effect determinations. If you have any comments, questions, or concerns regarding the analyses and conclusions used to determine the potential effects of the proposed project on ESA resources, or have any questions regarding the project, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kandice Krull', with a large, sweeping underline.

Kandice Krull
Environmental Protection Specialist
Kandice.krull@faa.gov
303-342-1261

Enclosures

Appendix A

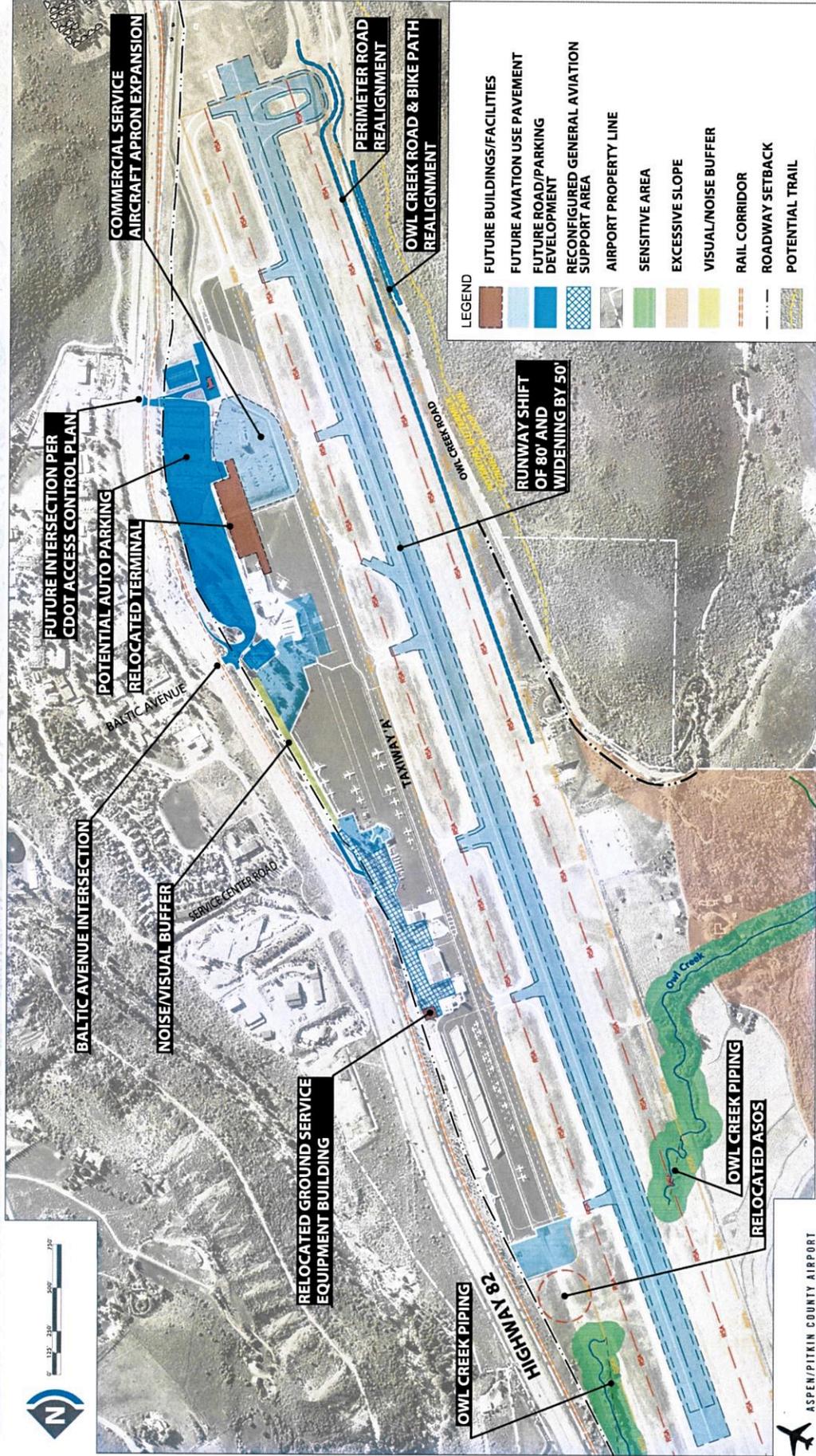


Figure 1 Proposed Projects



Appendix B



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