

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge

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*Public Scoping Report*





Rocky Flats  
National Wildlife Refuge

Public Scoping Report

January 2003

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## **Introduction**

The future Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) was established on December 28, 2001, when President George W. Bush signed the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge Act of 2001 (Refuge Act)<sup>1</sup>. As directed in the Refuge Act, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) will accept administrative jurisdiction over most of the Rocky Flats site, currently administered by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). This transfer will take place following certification of site cleanup and closure by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The Refuge Act also directed that the Service develop a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for the future Refuge. Service policy requires that CCPs be prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Service has chosen to proceed directly in preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this CCP. The draft EIS will analyze several different Refuge management alternatives including a proposed action and a no-action alternative for the effects on people and the environment. The proposed action will be prepared as the draft CCP and will be integrated with the draft EIS. Following public comment, analysis, and response, the final CCP will represent the preferred alternative only, and it will provide long-range guidance for the management of Rocky Flats. The CCP will direct wildlife conservation, management and wildlife-dependent recreation at the Refuge for the next 15 years.

## **Public Scoping Activities**

The public scoping process is an important component of the CCP/EIS project. During this phase of the project, the Service sought input from the public and interested organizations and agencies to help direct the CCP/EIS process. This helped identify specific opportunities, issues, concerns and ideas related to the management of the future Refuge. A copy of the Rocky Flats NWR Public Involvement Process is included in Appendix A.

The Service used various methods to solicit guidance and feedback from interested citizens, organizations, and government agencies. These methods included public scoping meetings, public agency scoping meetings, briefings and presentations, issue-specific focus group workshops, as well as letters, email and telephone calls. Each of these methods is described in detail in the following sections.

The scoping process began with informal public agency consultations in February 2002. On July 23, 2002 Service staff met with the Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments (RFCLOG).

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<sup>1</sup> Signed as Title XXXI subtitle F of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002.

The RFCLOG is a coalition of seven local governments (Boulder County, Jefferson County, City and County of Broomfield, and the cities of Arvada, Boulder, Westminster, and Superior).

The formal scoping period for the general public began on August 23, 2002, with the publication of a Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register. The NOI (Appendix B) notified the public of the Service's intent to begin the CCP/EIS process, set the dates for public scoping meetings, and solicited public comments. As stated in the NOI, the scoping period ended on October 31, 2002. Comments received after October 31, 2002 are not considered in this document, although they will still be considered by the CCP/EIS planning team.

### ***Public Outreach***

Public scoping meetings were conducted on September 9, 10, 11, and 12 in Broomfield, Arvada, Westminster, and Boulder. The following materials were used to inform the public of these meetings. Copies of these materials are included in Appendix C.

### ***Planning Update***

A *Planning Update* was mailed to 889 persons and businesses several weeks before the public scoping meetings. This newsletter, included in Appendix C, outlines the planning process, the draft vision and goals for the Refuge, and the dates, times and locations of the public scoping meetings. Information contained in the *Planning Update* also was announced at RFCLOG and Rocky Flats Citizen Advisory Board (RFCAB) meetings. The *Planning Update* distribution list consisted of individuals and organizations that had previously expressed an interest in Rocky Flats-related issues and were on the RFCAB, the DOE, or Kaiser-Hill (DOE contractor) mailing lists.

### ***Press Release***

A press release announcing the establishment of the Refuge and soliciting participation in the scoping process (Appendix C) was sent to 23 local and national media organizations:

- The Denver Post
- Rocky Mountain News
- Boulder Daily Camera
- Westminster Window
- Golden Transcript
- Arvada Sentinel
- Jeffco Sentinels
- Louisville/Lafayette Times
- Colorado Daily
- KHOW AM 630
- KOA AM 850
- Colorado Public Radio AM 1340
- KUVO Radio
- KYGO Radio
- KOSI Radio
- KXXL Radio
- KALC Radio
- KCFR Radio

- Longmont DTC
- Metro North News
- Boulder County Business Report
- Metro News Network
- KCNC Channel 4
- KDVR FOX 31
- KMGH Channel 7
- KUSA Channel 9
- KWGN WB2
- KCEC Univision Channel 50
- KBCO Radio
- KIMN Radio
- KNUS Radio
- Associated Press
- USA Today
- Washington Post
- Newshour
- Time Magazine
- Energy Daily
- Inside Energy
- Weapons Complex Monitor
- Radwaste Solutions

Several local communities included the details of the press release in their community bulletins.

These communities, and other non-media recipients of the press release included the following:

- City of Westminster
- City of Boulder
- Golden Chamber of Commerce
- City of Lakewood
- City of Thornton
- Town of Louisville
- City of Wheat Ridge
- Broomfield Chamber of Commerce
- Denver City Council
- Denver Metro Chamber
- NW Metro Chamber
- City of Northglenn
- Town of Superior
- Colorado Congressional delegation
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- Colorado Attorney General's Office
- Governor's Office
- Colorado Department of Natural Resources
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments
- Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board

### ***Paid Advertisements***

The Service placed advertisements (Appendix C) in seven newspapers to publicize the project and invite the public to the scoping meetings. Two advertisements (4.25 inch (two columns) x 4 inch) were placed in the Rocky Mountain News (August 27) and Denver Post (August 28).

Larger advertisements (4 inch (two columns) x 8 inch) were placed in the Boulder Daily Camera (August 28), the Westminster Window (August 29), Northglenn/Thornton Sentinel (August 29), Westsider (August 29), and Arvada Sentinel (August 29).

### ***Project Web Site***

The Rocky Flats NWR web site (<http://rockyflats.fws.gov/>) was published for public access during the week of July 21, 2002, and contained information about the public scoping meetings, as well as downloadable versions of all of the available public scoping documents. A copy of the web site is included in Appendix C.

### ***Flyers***

Flyers announcing the public scoping meetings were posted in public buildings in several communities surrounding the Rocky Flats site. A copy of the flyer is included in Appendix C.

### ***Public Scoping Meetings***

The public scoping meetings on September 9, 10, 11, and 12 were a major component of the public scoping process. The purpose of these meetings was to solicit public concerns and planning ideas that will be considered in the CCP/EIS. Meetings were held at four locations (Table 1).

**Table 1. Public Scoping Meetings.**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Broomfield	September 9	Broomfield Recreation Senior Center	7:00 – 9:00 pm	5 public/8 agency
Arvada	September 10	Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities	6:30 – 8:30 pm	11 public/10 agency
Westminster	September 11	West View Recreation Center	12:30 – 2:30 pm	10 public/11 agency
Boulder	September 12	Boulder Community Senior Center	6:30 – 8:30 pm	38 public/10 agency

### ***Meeting Format***

Following a brief welcome and introduction, Service staff made a 15-minute presentation that outlined the following points:

- Description of the Service and the purpose of the Refuge System
- Key points of the legislation establishing Rocky Flats NWR
- Natural features at Rocky Flats (slide show)
- CCP and EIS process
- Project schedule

At several points during the introduction and presentation, Service staff and the facilitator explained that neither the CCP/EIS nor the meetings themselves were intended to address issues related to the cleanup and closure of Rocky Flats. However, DOE representatives were available at all of the meetings to answer any cleanup related questions.

Following the presentation, the facilitator asked the participants to write down any questions, concerns, or ideas on note pads that were distributed during the presentation, and then post their notes on boards arranged according to topic.

For the second part of the scoping meeting, participants were then asked to break into small working groups (7 to 10 people) according to topic area that they were most interested in and wanted to discuss first. The facilitator explained that each group was encouraged to eventually move on to other topics. Each working group had a Service staff or planning team member to facilitate the group discussion and write down the ideas, issues, and concerns of group members.

The small working group format was chosen to allow interaction and dialogue among the members of the public, and to be inclusive of all of the participants. This format allowed many participants to generate ideas, questions and concerns that they had about qualities and issues to be addressed in the CCP/EIS. Refer to Appendix D for a summary of the comments that came out of these meetings and other elements of the scoping process.

### ***Meeting Summaries***

*Broomfield, September 9, 2002* — The Broomfield scoping meeting was attended by five members of the public. Following the presentations by Service staff, the meeting participants began an open discussion about Rocky Flats issues and concerns. Due to the small meeting size, small working groups were not necessary. Several members of the public expressed their concerns about cleanup and contamination issues, but declined to participate in the open discussion and immediately left the meeting.

*Arvada, September 10, 2002* — The Arvada scoping meeting was attended by 11 members of the public. Following the presentations by Service staff, meeting participants were arranged into working groups to discuss issues and concerns related to Rocky Flats. Several working groups were formed. While a full range of issues was discussed, most of the comments related to public use, infrastructure, and wildlife.

*Westminster, September 11, 2002* — The Westminster scoping meeting was attended by ten members of the public. This meeting was scheduled in the afternoon to offer a venue for members of the public that may find an afternoon meeting more convenient, and to minimize conflicts with evening events and memorials related to the September 11, 2001 attacks. During the introduction, Dean Rundle, Refuge Manager, thanked those present for participating in the democratic process, and asked for a moment of silence to commemorate a Service staff member who was killed in the attacks. Following the introduction and presentations, several working

groups were formed. While a full range of topics was discussed, a majority of the comments were related to public use, infrastructure, and cleanup and contamination issues.

*Boulder, September 12, 2002* — The Boulder scoping meeting had the largest attendance of any of the scoping meetings, with 38 members of the public. Following introductions and presentations by Service staff, several meeting participants expressed their desire to have the meeting follow an open hearing format rather than break into working groups. The facilitator and Service staff declined to change the meeting structure, but offered to consider a public hearing in the future. Several working groups were convened, and each working group had two Service staff members to facilitate the discussion and take notes. A full range of issues was discussed within the working groups, though the majority of the comments were related to public use, vegetation management, and cleanup and contamination issues.

### ***Public Agency Consultation***

Beginning in early 2002, Service staff met with representatives from communities, agencies, and businesses that may have an interest in the Rocky Flats CCP/EIS process. The purpose of these meetings was to brief the stakeholders on the planning process, and solicit their comments and concerns for the scoping process.

### ***Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments (RFCLOG)***

Between February 6 and April 12, 2002, Dean Rundle and Laurie Shannon met individually with each member local government of the RFCLOG. All the local governments had questions about the process of developing the Memorandum of Understanding between DOE and the Service in addition to the planning process. Copies of the Service's policy on Planning and Compatibility were distributed. The meetings and the main issues discussed are summarized as follows.

*City of Westminster* — (February 6, 2002). Westminster is looking forward to wildlife habitat, open space, and trails. Water quality is a key concern for Westminster, Thornton, and Northglenn. The city is interested in the establishment and location of a Cold War Museum, and considers Building 60 to be a good location for a Visitor Center. A copy of the Transition Memo between the U.S. Army and the Service for Rocky Mountain Arsenal was requested. Westminster wants to support the Service in accomplishing the mission and purposes of the Refuge, particularly in funding for the CCP and future management.

*City of Arvada* — (February 8, 2002). The appearance and configuration of perimeter fencing is a key concern. Regional economy is important, as most of the people who currently work at Rocky Flats live in Arvada. The city is interested in the transition of the site from DOE to the

Service. Arvada requested a copy of the transition memo between the U.S. Army and the Service for Rocky Mountain Arsenal. The representatives for the City of Arvada extended their support for the future Refuge and planning process. The city has a community newsletter that can be used to advertise public meetings.

*City of Boulder* — (February 13, 2002). The City of Boulder expressed interest in any regional trail connections that might occur, specifically in the northwest quadrant of the Refuge, and other recreational uses. Boulder's policy regarding grazing and recreation was discussed. The city offered to provide mapping of Boulder open space areas and background on the Lindsay family. Representatives provided information on the archaeology of the area. The Colorado Division of Wildlife's proposal to reintroduce sharp-tailed grouse on lands north of the future Refuge was also discussed.

*Town of Superior* — (February 27, 2002). Superior is interested in issues related to prescribed burning and wildland fire control. They would need to be convinced that prescribed fire is safe. The town representatives did not think that a separate public meeting for Superior was necessary.

*City and County of Broomfield* — (March 4, 2002). Broomfield expressed concern about potential impacts to their drinking water supply in Great Western Reservoir from Rocky Flats. The area around Great Western Reservoir is currently closed to recreation, and the reservoir may be expanded. Broomfield needs to be able to maintain its ditch to move Coal Creek water across the site. Information on Broomfield's water rights and how the water supply is diverted around Rocky Flats was provided. The discussion included off-site contamination, the possibility of a trail along a future regional transportation corridor, and prairie dog relocation. Broomfield has not taken a hard look at fire issues yet but did express a concern about wildland fire control in the future and what kind of interagency agreements might be needed for response efforts. Education of the citizens will be crucial. They stated that it could be a long time before people are comfortable with the open space plans as it relates to Rocky Flats.

*Jefferson County* — (April 4, 2002). The future transportation corridor and how it may or may not affect Indiana Street was a key concern for representatives from Jefferson County. A non-profit group has been set up to study the potential alignment of a corridor. The City of Golden does not support a huge transportation corridor through Golden. Jefferson County suggested that people like to use open space areas and the county supports public use of open space. The issue of a hunting program was discussed, and in general, representatives were not opposed to a hunting program. The county is interested in trail linkage. They would like to see a trail to the

Lindsay Ranch and preservation of the local heritage. They explained that the Rocky Flats area is popular for equestrian recreation. The county supports prescribed fire. They did not think that there was a need for a public meeting in Golden and thought a meeting location in Arvada would be sufficient. The Refuge Revenue Sharing Act and what it means to Jefferson County also was discussed.

*Boulder County* — (April 12, 2002). The meeting with Boulder County included a representative from the City of Boulder. The main concerns for Boulder County are open space and residual contamination. Boulder County supports the use of prescribed burns on county lands but has serious concern about prescribed fire on the future Refuge. They could support burning if they were assured that burn areas were not contaminated or fires could not escape to contaminated areas. They expressed concerns about escaped burns, whether plants are uptaking radioactive contamination, and potential health effects from fire. One representative supports the idea of a wildlife sanctuary with no public use and the potential reintroduction of bison. While Boulder's open space lands are heavily used by the public, previous surveys have indicated that open space users support preservation of wildlife habitat. An evolving ecosystem should be recognized in the plan. The county feels that mineral rights should be acquired.

*RFCLCLOG Subcommittee* — On July 23, 2002, the Rocky Flats Planning Team met with a RFCLCLOG subcommittee formed for the CCP process. The purpose of this meeting was to inform the subcommittee of the planning process, and solicit their input, questions, and concerns.

Following introductions and a discussion about the purpose of this project, Service staff presented the Draft Vision and Goals for the Refuge. The facilitator then had the RFCLCLOG subcommittee members list out the issues with which they are concerned or have questions. These issues included integration with existing land uses and open space, water quality, wildlife habitat, access and public use, cultural resources, fire management, mineral rights, the Refuge boundary, transportation, and contamination. The ensuing discussion focused on mineral rights, fencing, the Memorandum of Understanding between the Service and DOE regarding transfer of the property and what areas would be transferred, contamination issues, and the role of the CCP/EIS in cleanup and closure decisions.

### ***Native American Tribes***

Representatives from the Arapaho Tribe, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma, Northern Cheyenne Tribe, the Ute Indian Tribe Business Council, Southern Ute Tribe, and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe were contacted by the Service to solicit their input for the scoping process.

The Service has received responses from several tribes and will work closely with them during the planning process. The Service did not receive any scoping comments from the tribes.

### ***Public Agency Meeting***

On August 19, 2002, the Service hosted a meeting for representatives from various state and federal agencies that may be interested in the future management of the Rocky Flats site. The following agencies were represented:

- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
- City of Westminster
- Colorado Attorney General's Office
- Colorado Department of Agriculture
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- Colorado Department of Transportation
- Colorado Division of Minerals and Geology
- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- Colorado Geological Survey
- Colorado Historical Society
- Colorado State Parks
- Denver Regional Council of Governments
- Federal Aviation Administration
- Governor Owens' Office
- Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments
- State Land Board
- Senator Allard's Office
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Urban Drainage and Flood Control District
- Xcel Energy

Following introductions, Service staff explained some aspects of the legislation that established the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge. Service staff also explained the phases of the CCP/EIS process, including the scoping process. The ensuing discussion focused on integration of the Refuge with surrounding land use and open space, water rights, access and public use, wildlife, cultural resources, fire, mineral rights, boundary and fencing issues, the adjacent state-owned land, transportation, contamination, utility corridors, Jefferson County Airport, and drainage issues.

### ***Briefings and Presentations***

Service staff met with representatives from nearby municipalities or other stakeholder organizations. These meetings were intended to inform these stakeholders about the CCP/EIS process, answer any questions about the project, and gather any issues or concerns. These meetings are described below.

*City of Golden* — On August 26, 2002, Dean Rundle, Refuge Manager, met with Golden representatives. Golden’s primary concern is the proposed northwest transportation corridor. Golden supports the re-use of the Rocky Flats site as a National Wildlife Refuge, and supports safe public access to the future Refuge and trail connections to other open space parks. They expressed that the Lindsay Ranch should be preserved, that it might make sense to have a visitor’s center on site, and that they support the protection of private property rights but would also support efforts to protect Refuge habitats from surface gravel mining.

*City of Louisville* — On September 4, 2002, Mr. Rundle met with Louisville representatives. They expressed that Louisville supported preserving the open space values of Rocky Flats and the Refuge legislation. Louisville supports resource preservation and would prefer that Refuge lands are not subjected to mining. Louisville does not oppose the concept of using fire in grassland management, but would need more assurance that burning would not release contaminants into the air and environment. Louisville would like to see cleanup levels that allow safe public access, and support connections to regional trail systems. However, they do not feel that the Refuge should be an intensive recreation area.

*Church Ranch Company* — On September 23, 2002, Mr. Rundle met with Mr. Charlie McKay and Ms. Kandi McKay, owners of the Church Ranch Company and the lands adjoining Rocky Flats to the west and south. Mr. McKay has significant property rights associated with Rocky Flats, including water and mineral rights. Mr. McKay expressed concerns about fence maintenance, migration of threatened and endangered species onto his land, coyotes preying on calves, prairie dog depredations, and other issues.

*City of Thornton* — On October 25, 2002, Mr. Rundle met with representatives for the City of Thornton. Thornton’s main concern is water quality in Standley Lake, sediments in the containment ponds, and long-term stewardship. Thornton is not concerned about public use or the use of prescribed fire, and would probably support the acquisition of mineral rights to protect the future Refuge from surface mining.

*City of Northglenn* — On October 28, 2002, Mr. Rundle spoke with representatives of the City of Northglenn’s Department of Public Works. The city’s representative conveyed that Northglenn’s primary issue is water quality protection in Standley Lake. The city feels strongly that all detention ponds on site should be maintained, and that existing wetlands be maintained in their current state, and not restored or converted.

*City of Lafayette* — On October 29, 2002, Mr. Rundle met with representatives for the City of Lafayette. Lafayette would like to see the planning process address regional trail connectivity, trails within the Refuge, and the acceptance of unwanted prairie dogs from other jurisdictions. Lafayette has no immediate concerns about clean up levels, prescribed fire, fire management, or water quality.

#### ***Rocky Flats Citizen Advisory Board***

The Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board (RFCAB) was formed in 1993 to provide independent, community-based recommendations on the cleanup of Rocky Flats. The Board is comprised of approximately 25 individuals representing a diversity of views and interests from the community around Rocky Flats. Service staff attends monthly RFCAB meetings and have been available to answer questions and clarify issues related to the Rocky Flats NWR and the CCP/EIS process.

#### ***Other Consultations***

*Rocky Flats Cold War Museum* — (January through May 2002). Service staff attended regular meetings to update the group on the status of the Refuge.

*North Jeffco Area Group (NJAG)* — (February and May 2002). Service staff attended NJAG meetings to answer questions regarding the Refuge.

*State Government* — (March 2002). Service staff met with officials to discuss the public involvement process, mining and other issues. Agencies included the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Governor and Attorney General's offices, and the Colorado Department of Natural Resources.

#### ***Focus Groups***

Six focus group meetings were held on October 28, 29, and 30, 2002. The purpose of the focus group meetings was to convene a forum to better explore key issues, as well as the potential management alternatives and their potential implications. Participants were invited because of their knowledge of a particular subject. Issues and recommendations provided by focus group participants have been compiled in Appendix D and are discussed in the *Summary of Scoping Comments* section. These meetings were open to members of the public invited to observe these meetings, but not participate directly in discussions. A copy of the invitation extended to public scoping meeting attendees is included in Appendix C.

Focus groups were convened around the following topics: Recreation; Environmental Education; Public Perception/Public Information: Managing a NWR in the Context of Remediation and Contamination; Trails; Vegetation Management; and Wildlife Management. These topics are

described below. All focus group meetings were held at the Jefferson County Airport Terminal building.

### ***Recreation***

The focus group on recreation met on October 28 at 9:00 A.M. The nine participants represented the Service, parks and open space departments of local governments, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, and trails, equestrian, and wildlife photography interests. The focus group discussion was centered on trail connectivity with surrounding open space, trail/wildlife interactions, wildlife viewing, the benefits and drawbacks to hunting on the site, undeveloped recreational opportunities, education about the history of the site, and quality of the recreation experience.

### ***Environmental Education***

The environmental education focus group met on October 28 at 1:00 P.M. The 12 participants included environmental education coordinators from local open space departments, Colorado State Parks, the Service, and other organizations, as well as a representative from Boulder Valley Public Schools. The focus group discussion focused on how the Service can target different audiences with their programs, how to address concerns about the history of the site, and how to structure effective programs that reach diverse audiences. Focus group participants discussed the importance of partnerships, promoting the uniqueness of the site, understanding of safety issues on the site, and the need to have infrastructure be driven by program needs. They also stressed the importance of fostering a positive impression of the Refuge through public outreach prior to developing environmental education programs.

### ***Public Perception/Public Information: Managing a NWR in the Context of Remediation and Contamination***

This focus group met on October 29 at 9:00 A.M. Six people participated, representing the Service, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, the RFCLOG, the DOE, and a private consultant. The discussion centered on current perceptions of Rocky Flats and a general mistrust of government officials and their statements about risk. Participants stressed the importance of gaining the public's trust by providing credible information about risk, and allowing the public to decide what levels of risk are acceptable. They noted the importance of educating and involving the public. They also stressed the importance of keeping the public informed about public agency involvement and responsibilities.

### ***Trails***

The trails focus group met on October 29 at 1:00 P.M. The nine participants represented city and county parks and open space organizations, Colorado State Parks, Boulder County Transportation, and the Service. Topics of discussion included trail connections and access points, permitted uses, the need for a regional vision for trails, wildlife habitat needs, and cleanup and remediation issues.

### ***Vegetation Management***

The focus group discussing vegetation management met on October 30 at 9:00 A.M. The 13 participants included representatives from Colorado State Extension Service, the University of Colorado, the Colorado Natural Heritage Program, City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks, the Colorado Department of Agriculture, Colorado Division of Wildlife, North Jeffco Area Group, Kaiser Hill, ESCO Associates, and the Service. Most of the discussion focused around the vegetation communities on site, the benefits and drawbacks of grazing and prescribed fire as management tools, the potential impacts of trails and recreational use, weed management, retaining a wide range of management tools, and the need for partnerships and collaboration.

### ***Wildlife Management***

The wildlife management focus group met on October 30 at 1:00 P.M. The 12 participants included the Colorado Division of Wildlife, several open space departments, Colorado State University, Boulder County Nature Association, ERO Resources, and Service staff. The discussion focused on issues related to hunting, wildlife habitat concerns related to trails, water, and weed management, the potential impacts of trails on Preble's meadow jumping mouse, wildlife movement and corridors, and species reintroduction.

## **Scoping Results**

### ***Methods for Comment Collection and Analysis***

Comments, questions and concerns about the future Rocky Flats NWR were collected by the Planning Team through public meetings, focus groups, letters, email, and other methods as described in the *Public Scoping Activities* section. Outreach materials are included in Appendix C.

During the course of the public scoping process, the planning team received 1,881 comments from the public or other stakeholders. Every comment was considered and grouped by topic area. The objective of the scoping process is to gather the full range of comments, questions and concerns that the public has about the future Rocky Flats NWR. For this reason, specific

comments, questions or concerns were added to the list of comments only once. It should be noted that public scoping is not a “voting process”; each comment is considered to be of equal importance. A summary list of comments received during the scoping process is included in Appendix D.

Comments from scoping meetings (including public scoping meetings, focus groups, and RFCLOG) were grouped by topic area during and after the meetings. Major topics included public use, cultural resources, real estate, infrastructure, vegetation management, and wildlife management. Other topics that have attracted comments include Refuge operations, cleanup level and remediation issues, and comments on the planning process.

Written submissions came in the form of letters, email, questionnaires and notes from telephone calls. Questionnaires were distributed at the public scoping meetings and could also be downloaded from the project website. A copy of the questionnaire is included in Appendix C. Sixty-two written submissions were received. Thirty-five were from individuals, 15 from organizations, 8 from public governments or agencies, and 4 from private businesses. From these 62 submissions, 421 substantive scoping comments were gathered. Appendix E includes a list of individuals or organizations that submitted written or phone comments, and a summary of their comments.

All written submissions were carefully read and evaluated to determine the specific issues or concerns that were being addressed. Most written submissions contained numerous individual comments relating to one or a few specific qualities, issues, or recommendations. Each specific comment was considered in developing the summary list of comments found in Appendix D.

**Source and Subject of Comments Received**

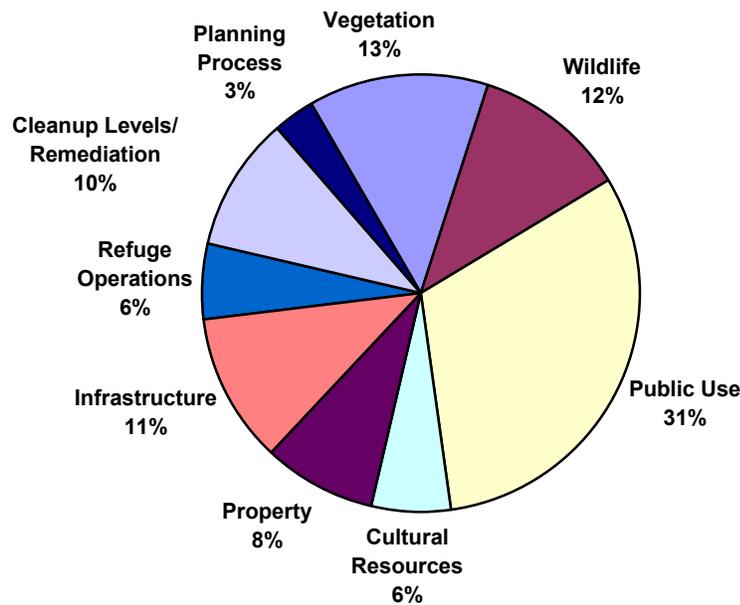
Table 2 provides the number of comments that were gathered from different scoping activities.

**Table 2. Scoping Comments Received by Activity.**

Scoping Activity	Comments Received
Public Scoping Meetings	667
Written Submissions	421
Focus Group Meetings	625
Public Agency Consultations	168
TOTAL	1,881

### **Comments Received by Topic Area**

The following chart illustrates the general topic of comments received. Comments received from the focus group meetings are omitted from these calculations because the focus group discussions were already targeted towards specific topic areas.



### **Summary of Scoping Comments**

Based on the scoping comments that are listed in Appendix D, this section provides a summary of the qualities, issues and recommendations that were obtained during the scoping process. The following descriptions represent a general summation of the range of comments that were received, and the topics that they addressed.

#### ***Vegetation Management***

*General*—General comments about the qualities of vegetation at Rocky Flats included the unique and intact biotic communities, the native prairie grasses, and the tall upland shrubland. General issues related to vegetation management included preservation of the xeric tallgrass prairie community, restoration of native communities, grazing, and managing vegetation within the regional context.

General recommendations regarding vegetation management at Rocky Flats included the following:

- Active management to enhance and restore native plant communities
- Monitoring, evaluation and adaptive management
- Consideration of all management tools (grazing, fire, herbicides, etc.)
- Managing to protect and restore rare or imperiled plants
- Consideration of the effects of prairie dogs on plant communities

*Fire* — Issues related to fire and fire management included public interest in prescribed fire and the risk or fear of airborne contamination due to fire. Other issues included alternatives to burning, the objectives for burning, negative effects on wildlife, wildland fire control, and the risk of wildfires in the absence of prescribed fire.

Comments about fire management contained recommendations ranging from no burning, some burning in uncontaminated areas, to general statements supporting fire as a grassland management tool. Other recommendations included the ecological benefits and drawbacks to fire, the natural fire cycle (7 to 10 years), and considerations for planning prescribed burns.

*Weed Control* — Qualities related to weed control included the resilience and resistance of the site to weeds. Issues related to weed control included tools such as grazing, herbicides, and biological weed controls, and sources of weeds such as mined or disturbed areas, and horse manure.

Recommendations for weed control included methods such as herbicides, biological control, fire, and cultural and mechanical methods such as grazing and hand-pulling. Other specific comments recommended the use of various weed management tools, requiring manure catchers on horses, keeping trails out of weed-free areas, and developing an integrated weed management plan.

### ***Wildlife Management***

Wildlife qualities identified include the grassland, wetland and riparian habitats, the Rock Creek area in general, the Preble's meadow jumping mouse, songbirds, and diverse butterfly species.

General wildlife management issues included the protection of certain wildlife species and their habitat, the potential reintroduction of various species (including the plains sharptail grouse, pronghorn, bison, badgers and wolves), the impacts of Refuge wildlife on adjacent landowners, wildlife migration corridors, and wildlife impacts on sensitive vegetation. Issues related to prairie dogs included the relocation, Refuge carrying capacity, burrowing, and problems associated with contaminated areas. Issues related to the Preble's meadow jumping mouse include its habitat

requirements, habitat preservation, impacts from public use or management activities, and impacts from reduced water supply. Other specific wildlife issues include mule deer populations and carrying capacity, chronic wasting disease, West Nile virus, and the impacts of hunting on species reintroduction efforts. Wildlife management recommendations include:

- Use of underpasses and fencing to accommodate safe movement corridors
- Relocation of prairie dogs from nearby developing areas
- Consideration of impacts of burrowing species on or near areas with residual contamination
- Ensuring suitable habitat for reintroduced species
- Retaining and enhancing raptor habitat
- Coordination with wildlife managers on surrounding lands
- Consideration of wildlife needs in designing trails

### ***Public Use***

*General* — Many of the general comments related to public use addressed the scenic and recreational qualities of the site, and recommended that the Service focus on scientific research, wildlife-dependent recreation, conservation, and the purpose of the Refuge.

*Trails* — Comments about qualities related to trails included trail opportunities on the site and connections to trails on surrounding lands. The main trail issues include the impacts of trails on wildlife and natural resources, off-site connections, and constraints to trail placement in areas where residual contamination would remain. Recommendations for trails at Rocky Flats NWR include the following:

- Trail location, construction, and design (loop trails, soft/hard surface, ADA compatibility)
- Sensitivity to wildlife and natural resource impacts
- Connections to surrounding trail systems
- Intended use of trails (hiking only, horses, bikes)
- Trail planning, funding and management (trail planning grants, coordination with transportation plans, security and enforcement)

*Public Access* — Comments about public use and access raised issues about the types of permitted access, or whether access to the site should be permitted at all. Other issues included what activities may be permitted such as hiking, biking, horses, and dog walking, types of hunting allowed (if any), handicap accessibility, the timing/hours of access, seasonal closures,

and the impacts of public use on refuge resources. Specific recommendations about public use and access include:

- A full range of access from no public access to open access to a variety of public uses
- Modes of access to the site, including foot, horse, bike, car, bus, and light rail
- Safe access within the site, based on contamination levels
- A full range of hunting recommendations from no hunting to different types of hunting
- Whether dogs should be permitted on site
- Managing access through trail design, fencing, signage, and carrying capacity

*Recreational Facilities* — Issues related to recreational facilities at Rocky Flats centered on the development, location and existence of a visitor’s center, and whether a Cold War Museum should be on site. Other recreational facility issues included vehicular access, and future use of the existing firing range.

Recommendations for recreational facilities at Rocky Flats included construction of various features (interpretive overlooks, parking, motorized vehicle loop, and restroom facilities), levels of development, and the location and design of a visitor’s center (if any).

*Environmental Education and Interpretation* — Issues related to environmental education and interpretation focused on regional needs for education programs, public perceptions of site safety, and facility needs. Recommendations included types of programs (geology, weather, plant and animal conservation, ecological restoration, and history), the need to reach surrounding communities, and the need to develop programs prior to facilities, and providing information about residual contamination to enable visitors to make informed choices for themselves.

### ***Cultural Resources***

The cultural resource qualities identified during the scoping process include the Lindsay Ranch, Native American resources, and the historical significance of the site. Cultural resource issues identified in the scoping comments included the importance of the Lindsay Ranch and whether to preserve it, and how the legacy of the Cold War can be remembered at Rocky Flats.

Recommendations related to the Lindsay Ranch included whether to preserve the site and comments on how or if the public should access the site. While some comments recommended restricting access and allowing the public to view it from a distance, others preferred using the Lindsay Ranch as a picnic or rest area. Recommendations related to Cold War remembrance at Rocky Flats included retaining key structures in the Industrial Area, and the construction of a monument to honor former site employees.

## ***Property***

*General* —General comments related to property included consideration of the final configuration of lands that are transferred from DOE to the Service, the relationship of the Refuge with adjacent private and state-owned (Section 16) lands, and potential opportunities for land acquisitions and trades. Other general comments pertained to the impact that the Refuge would have on the regional road system.

*Mineral Rights* —Comments about mineral rights reiterated the presence of privately owned mineral rights on the Refuge property and the potential for those areas to be mined. Other issues included the impacts that mining would have on the Refuge, the potential to restore mined areas, and the compatibility of surface mining with the vision, goals and mission of the Refuge.

Recommendations related to mineral rights ranged from accommodating private mineral rights to acquiring them. Several comments recommending the acquisition of mineral rights emphasized the need to acquire them from willing sellers.

*Transportation Corridor* —Comments about a future transportation corridor along the eastern edge of the Refuge related to the consideration of regional impacts, the transfer of the right-of-way to other government entities, potential air quality impacts, and the compatibility of the corridor with the draft Refuge vision and goals. Recommendations related to the transportation corridor were given:

- Plan for a 300-foot right-of-way or a narrower corridor
- Plan for a 50-foot wide corridor
- Impacts from the future development of the corridor on site resources
- Impacts of the transportation corridor on the regional environment
- Alternatives to the transportation corridor

## ***Infrastructure***

*General* —General issues related to Refuge infrastructure included the future use of internal roadways, the location and nature of parking areas, the location of restricted areas, staffing issues, and the overall appearance and character of the Refuge. Specific recommendations included not building additional roads or powerlines, use or removal of existing infrastructure, maintaining existing roads as firebreaks, minimizing light pollution and other aesthetic impacts from facilities, and gas wells on the Refuge.

*Fencing/Signage* —Issues related to fencing and signage included the outer boundary of the site and the public image of the boundary, measures to keep visitors away from any contaminated

areas, and appropriate fencing for the wildlife species on the Refuge. Recommendations related to fencing and signage ranged from no fences to a fully enclosed site covered with a giant mesh. Specific recommendations include clearly directing visitors away from areas where they are not permitted, and minimizing the aesthetic impacts of fencing.

*Water Resources* — Scoping issues related to water resources at Rocky Flats included the potential absence of water for facilities and operations, reduced impermeable surfaces, subsequent impacts on natural resources due to reduced runoff, measures to retain water quality, the retention of existing ponds, and the protection of surface water rights held by other entities.

### ***Refuge Operations***

This topic includes various issues related to Refuge management and administration, including collaboration with other jurisdictions, management methods and philosophies, funding, and staffing. Specific refuge operations comments included issues related to integration of the site into regional planning efforts, coordination and integration with nearby landowners and communities, site funding issues, law enforcement and maintenance staffing, and impacts to Jefferson County's tax base.

Recommendations related to refuge operations include:

- Identifying management priorities before budgeting for them
- Long-term funding for stewardship and operations
- Funding levels that can support planning goals
- Keeping a resident manager on site,
- Management philosophy emphasizing monitoring, evaluation and adaptive management
- Building relationships with local governments and area tribes
- Educating the public about the differences in management between the Refuge and nearby open space

### ***Cleanup Levels and Remediation***

One quality related to cleanup level and remediation issues identified in the scoping comments was the opportunity to study the effects of contamination. Scoping issues related to contamination at Rocky Flats included cleanup levels that are safe for public access, coordination between the Refuge planning effort and the cleanup record of decision, mistrust of the DOE and their contractors with respect to contamination levels, re-suspension and dispersal of contamination due to Refuge management activities, and the reliable communication of risk to the public. Recommendations about contamination issues include:

- Allowing an independent and reliable assessment of risk

- Building trust and convincing citizens that the site is safe for human access
- Minimizing potential danger to the public
- Identifying contaminated areas
- Testing deer carcasses for contamination
- Providing personal protections for staff and visitors
- Acknowledging and addressing public concerns
- Using the latest exposure risk data and clean-up technologies
- Conducting on-going monitoring
- Using phytoremediation to draw contaminants from the soil

### ***Planning Process***

During the scoping process, the Service received comments about the process itself. These comments were considered by the Service, but will not be addressed in the CCP/EIS.

Qualities identified in the comments about the Refuge planning process included support for the re-use of the site as a National Wildlife Refuge, and a statement that the public scoping meetings were a productive step. General issues about the planning process included the opportunities for public discussion and comment at the public scoping meetings, concerns about the implications of the “proposed trails” shown on land use maps, concerns about political manipulation of the process, and the appropriateness of the site for a National Wildlife Refuge. Recommendations about the planning process include:

- Working with RFCAB and other community groups
- Coordinating with other planning efforts
- Outreach for public meetings
- Public meeting format — providing an open forum
- Planning process timeframe and opportunities for public involvement
- Environmental viewpoints at focus groups
- Convenience of focus groups for citizen participation
- Extending the EIS scoping period and conducting additional meetings
- Conducting a field trip for stakeholders

### **Significant Issues to be Considered in the CCP/EIS Process**

Based on the qualities, issues and recommendations identified in the scoping comments, as well as guidance from the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act, the NEPA, and the

Service's planning policy, the planning team has selected seven significant issues that will be addressed in the CCP/EIS:

1. Vegetation Management
2. Wildlife Management
3. Public Use
4. Cultural Resources
5. Property
6. Infrastructure
7. Refuge Operations

### ***Rationale for Selecting Significant Issues***

The planning team considered every comment received during the public scoping process. These comments were grouped for consideration into relevant topics and subtopics, as described in the *Summary of Scoping Comments* section. Based on guidance from NEPA and Service Planning Policy, the planning team determined which topics would constitute significant issues, and which were outside the scope of the planning process. Issues that are deemed to be significant are typically those issues that are within the Service's jurisdiction, suggest different actions or alternatives, and will influence the Service's decision. Issues identified in the scoping process that were not considered to be significant issues are described in the *Issues Outside the Scope of Refuge Planning* section.

### ***Significant Issues***

*Vegetation Management* — Rocky Flats contains xeric tallgrass prairie, riparian and wetland communities, and other shrub and grassland communities. Preservation and restoration of these communities, including noxious weed management, fire management and grazing, are important issues in the planning process.

*Wildlife Management* — Rocky Flats provides habitat for a variety of wildlife including deer, migratory birds, raptors, prairie dogs and the threatened Preble's meadow jumping mouse. Preservation and enhancement of habitat for these species as well as population management and species reintroductions are important issues in the planning process.

*Public Use* — Rocky Flats provides potential opportunities for wildlife-dependent public use and recreation. The types of public uses that might be permitted such as hiking, biking, equestrian use, wildlife observation, education, interpretation and hunting, as well as the trails, visitor's center and other facilities and programs that are needed to support these uses, are important issues in the planning process.

*Cultural Resources* — Rocky Flats contains several types of cultural resources, including the Lindsay Ranch and the site’s Cold War heritage. Preservation and recognition of these resources is an important issue in the planning process.

*Property* — Privately owned mineral rights and a transportation right-of-way are issues that will influence the future condition, use, and configuration of the site. Management strategies and recommendations related to these topics are important issues in the planning process.

*Infrastructure* — Rocky Flats contains a significant amount of infrastructure including roads, fences, water management structures, and water supply. Some of this infrastructure is likely to change prior to Refuge operation. These and other infrastructure issues are important issues in the planning process.

*Refuge Operations* — Rocky Flats and its resources are ecologically and socially significant. Management of these resources in ways that are effective for their preservation, are financially responsible, and are integrated with surrounding communities is an important issue in the planning process. Managing the future Refuge in the context of residual contamination is also an important issue.

## **Issues Outside the Scope of the CCP/EIS Process**

Several issues that were identified during the scoping process were not selected for detailed analysis in the CCP and EIS. In accordance with NEPA requirements, the Service identified and eliminated from detailed study the topics and issues that are not significant, discussing those issues only briefly. These issues, and the rationale for not selecting them as Significant Issues, are described below. These issues are:

1. Cold War Museum
2. Cleanup Levels and Remediation

*Cold War Museum* — Some scoping comments addressed whether a Cold War Museum should be located on the Refuge, and whether the museum should be co-located with a visitor’s center. The Refuge legislation states it is DOE’s responsibility to determine if a museum would be established and where it would be located. The CCP/EIS process will not address whether or not the museum should be established. If during the planning process, DOE determined that a museum should be established and a joint partnership either on or off Refuge lands was determined to be mutually beneficial, any agreed partnership would be addressed in the CCP/EIS.

*Cleanup Levels and Remediation* — Several comments addressed issues related to existing contamination at the Rocky Flats site and the extent and reliability of remediation efforts. These issues will not be addressed in the CCP/EIS. Instead, these issues are being addressed in the Rocky Flats cleanup process administered by DOE, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. The Service and the DOE are developing a memorandum of understanding that will, among other things, identify which areas will be transferred to the Service and which areas will be retained by DOE for the purposes of monitoring and/or remediation. The transfer of land from DOE to the Service will not occur until the Environmental Protection Agency certifies that the cleanup and closure at Rocky Flats has been completed. The Service will address management of its jurisdictional land in the context of residual contamination and analyze how refuge management corresponds to DOE’s jurisdictional controls.

## Summary of Future Actions

The valuable information that has been gathered during the scoping process will assist the Service in the development of alternatives for the Draft CCP/EIS. Table 3 outlines the schedule for developing the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge CCP/EIS.

**Table 3. Rocky Flats CCP/EIS Planning Schedule.**

Planning Stage	Timeframe	Public Involvement Opportunities
1. Preplanning	Completed	
2. Public Involvement and Scoping	Completed	Public Scoping Meetings – September, 2002
3. Review Vision Statement and Goals and Draft Proposed Action	Nov. 2002 – Dec. 2002	
3. Develop and Analyze Alternatives	Jan. 2003 – May 2003	Public Meetings – Alternative Plans/ Draft Proposed Action Spring/Summer, 2003
4. Prepare Preliminary Draft CCP/EIS	June 2003 – Jan. 2004	
5. Prepare Public Draft CCP/EIS	Feb. 2004 – June 2004	Public Meetings – Draft Plans Summer, 2004
6. Final CCP/EIS and Record of Decision	July 2004 – Dec. 2004	Public Celebration – Final Plan December, 2004

Although the formal scoping period has passed, there will be two additional opportunities for official public involvement before completion of the Final CCP/EIS. At anytime during the planning process, the Service welcomes any comments from the public.

For information and updates about the planning process, please visit the project website at <http://rockyflats.fws.gov>. Additional comments, questions or concerns, at any time during the planning process, can be directed to:

Rocky Flats NWR  
Comprehensive Conservation Plan  
Attn: Laurie Shannon, Planning Team Leader  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Building 121  
Commerce City, CO 80022  
Phone: 303/289-0980  
Fax: 303/289-0579  
Email: [rockyflats@fws.gov](mailto:rockyflats@fws.gov)



**Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge  
Comprehensive Conservation Plan  
Building 121  
Commerce City, CO 80022  
303/289 0980  
rockyflats@fws.gov**

**<http://rockyflats.fws.gov>**

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
<http://www.fws.gov>  
<http://www.r6.fws.gov/larp>**

**For Refuge Information  
1 800/344 WILD**

**January 2003**



**APPENDIX B —  
NOTICE OF INTENT**



**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department has submitted the proposal for the collection of information, as described below, to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). The Notice lists the following information: (1) The title of the information collection proposal; (2) the office of the agency to collect the information; (3) the OMB approval number, if applicable; (4) the description of the need for the information and its proposed use; (5) the agency form number, if applicable, (6) what members of the public will be affected by the proposal; (7) how

frequently information submissions will be required; (8) an estimate of the total number of hours needed to prepare the information submission including number of respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response; (9) whether the proposal is new, an extension, reinstatement, or revision of an information collection requirement; and (10) the name and telephone number of an agency official familiar with the proposal and of the OMB Desk Officer for the Department.

This Notice also lists the following information:

*Title of Proposal:* Application for Commitment to Guarantee Mortgage-Backed Securities.

*OMB Approval Number:* 2503-0001.

*Form Numbers:* HUD-11704.

*Description of the Need for the Information and its Proposed Use:* The HUD Form 11704 is used by Ginnie Mae Mortgage-Backed Securities (MBS) issuers to apply for commitment authority to guarantee mortgage-backed securities.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit.

*Frequency of Submission:* On occasion.

	Number of respondents	Total annual responses	×	Hours per response	=	Burden hours
Reporting burden .....	297	1,188		0.25		297

*Total Estimated Burden Hours:* 297.  
*Status:* Extension of a currently approved information collection.

**Authority:** Section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 35, as amended.

Dated: August 16, 2002.

**Wayne Eddins,**

*Departmental Reports Management Officer,  
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 02-21491 Filed 8-22-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4210-72-M**

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

[Docket No. FR-4730-N-34]

**Federal Property Suitable as Facilities To Assist the Homeless**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development, HUD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This Notice identifies unutilized, underutilized, excess, and surplus Federal property reviewed by HUD for suitability for possible use to assist the homeless.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** August 23, 2002.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Mark Johnston, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Room 7262, 451 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20410; telephone (202) 708-1234; TTY number for the hearing- and speech-impaired (202) 708-2565, (these telephone numbers are not toll-free), or call the toll-free Title V information line at 1-800-927-7588.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with the December 12, 1988 court order in *National Coalition of the*

*Homeless v. Veterans Administration*, No. 88-2503-OG (D.D.C.), HUD publishes a Notice, on a weekly basis, identifying unutilized, underutilized, excess and surplus Federal buildings and real property that HUD has reviewed for suitability for use to assist the homeless. Today's Notice is for the purpose of announcing that no additional properties have been determined suitable or unsuitable this week.

Dated: August 15, 2002.

**Mark R. Johnston,**

*Deputy Director, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs.*

[FR Doc. 02-21231 Filed 8-22-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4210-29-M**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

**Notice of Intent To Prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge, Golden, CO**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) intends to gather information necessary to prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and its implementing regulations.

A CCP will be prepared for the future Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) located in Jefferson County,

Colorado. The purpose of the CCP is to describe the future conditions of the Rocky Flats NWR and provide long-term guidance and management direction to achieve the refuge's purpose and restore its ecological integrity.

In the EIS, the Service will describe and evaluate a range of reasonable alternatives and the anticipated impacts of each. This information will be used in the draft CCP for the Rocky Flats NWR. The Service is furnishing this Notice in compliance with Service CCP policy to advise other agencies and the public of its intentions and to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to be considered in the planning process.

**DATES:** Public scoping meetings will be held in surrounding communities in September 2002. Written scoping comments must be received by October 31, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments and inquiries should be directed to Rocky Flats NWR Comprehensive Conservation Plan, Attn: Laurie Shannon, Planning Team Leader, Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR, Building 111, Commerce City, Colorado 80022. Comments also may be mailed electronically to [rockyflats@fws.gov](mailto:rockyflats@fws.gov). The Draft and Final CCP, Draft and Final EIS, Record of Decision, and final rule will be available for viewing and downloading at <http://rockyflats.fws.gov/>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Laurie Shannon, Planning Team Leader (see address above) at (303) 289-0980, or Fax (303) 289-0579.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Service has initiated Comprehensive Conservation Planning for the future Rocky Flats NWR in Jefferson County, Colorado. Each national wildlife refuge

has specific purposes for which it was established and for which legislation was enacted. Those purposes are used to develop and prioritize management goals and objectives within the National Wildlife Refuge System mission and to guide those public uses proposed for the Refuge. The planning process is a way for the Service and the public to evaluate management goals and objectives for the best possible conservation of this important wildlife habitat, while providing for wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities that are compatible with each Refuge's establishing purposes and the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System. The Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge Act of 2001 mandates that the refuge will be managed for the purposes of: (1) Restoring and preserving native ecosystems; (2) providing habitat for, and population management of, native plants and migratory and resident wildlife; (3) conserving threatened and endangered and candidate species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973; and 4) providing opportunities for compatible scientific research.

The Federal Government acquired 2,519 acres of the 6,300-acre Rocky Flats site in 1951 for use as a nuclear weapons production facility. The remaining acreage was acquired in 1974–1976. In 1992, the mission of the Rocky Flats site changed to site cleanup and closure in a manner that is safe, environmentally and socially responsible, physically secure, and cost-effective. The majority of the site has generally remained undisturbed since its acquisition, and provides habitat for many wildlife species, including a resident, federal-listed threatened species. Within the site is a rare xeric tallgrass prairie plant community. Establishing the site as a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System will promote the preservation and enhancement of its natural resources for present and future generations.

By Federal law, all lands within the National Wildlife Refuge System are to be managed in accordance with an approved CCP. A CCP describes the desired future conditions of the refuge and provides long-range guidance and management direction to accomplish the purposes of the refuge, contribute to the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, and meet other relevant mandates. The planning process will consider many elements including habitat and wildlife management, wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities, environmental education, and other wildlife-dependent uses. Public input into this process is essential. The Service is requesting

input for issues, concerns, ideas, and suggestions for the future management of Rocky Flats NWR. Anyone interested in providing input is invited to respond to the following three questions:

(1) What makes the Rocky Flats NWR special or unique to you?

(2) What problems or issues do you want to see addressed in the CCP?

(3) What are your recommendations for future management of Rocky Flats NWR?

The above questions were designed to stimulate thinking about Rocky Flats and its future management. The Service invites any relevant comments or ideas and does not require that participants provide any specific information. Comments received by the planning team will be used as part of the planning process.

An opportunity will be given to the public to provide input at public meeting to scope issues and concerns. These public scoping meetings will be held in nearby communities in September 2002. The meetings will take place in facilities meeting accessibility requirements outlined in the Americans with Disabilities Act. Citizens with disabilities that may require accommodation to participate in or to understand the meeting, should contact Laurie Shannon, Refuge Planner, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service at (303) 289–0980 at least one week in advance so arrangements for accommodations can be made. Comments also may be submitted anytime during the planning process by writing to the above addresses.

The environmental review of this project will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), NEPA Regulations (40 CFR 1500–1508), and other appropriate Federal laws and regulations, and Service policies and procedures for compliance with those regulations. All comments received from individuals on Service EISs become part of the official public record. Requests for such comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, NEPA (40 CFR 1506.6(f)), and other Departmental and Service policy and procedures. When requested, the Service generally will provide comment letters with the names and addresses of the individuals who wrote the comments. However, the telephone number of the commenting individual will not be provided in response to such requests to the extent permissible by law. Additionally, public comment letters are not required to contain the commenter's name, address, or any other identifying information.

Dated: July 31, 2002.

**John A. Blankenship,**

*Acting Regional Director, Region 6, Denver, Colorado.*

[FR Doc. 02–21505 Filed 8–22–02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310–55–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Geological Survey

#### Technology Transfer Act of 1986

**AGENCY:** U.S. Geological Survey.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed Cooperative Research & Development Agreement (CRADA) negotiations.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Geological Survey (USGS) is contemplating entering into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with the American Geological Institute to develop and distribute USGS GIS database information in a variety of educational mediums.

**INQUIRIES:** If any other parties are interested in similar activities with the USGS, please contact Beth Duff, Business Development Office, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 500, Reston, Virginia, 20192, phone: (703) 648–4621.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is submitted to meet the USGS policy requirements stipulated in Survey Manual Chapter 500.20.

Dated: August 8, 2002.

**Robert A. Lidwin,**

*Acting Associate Director for Geography.*

[FR Doc. 02–21516 Filed 8–22–02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310–Y7–M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Geological Survey

#### Technology Transfer Act of 1986

**AGENCY:** U.S. Geological Survey.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed Cooperative Research & Development Agreement (CRADA) negotiations.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Geological Survey (USGS) is contemplating entering into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with Pixxures, Inc. to develop spatial data Internet deployment technologies which allow Internet publication of aerial imagery.

**INQUIRIES:** If any other parties are interested in similar activities with the USGS, please contact Beth Duff, Business Development Office, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 500, Reston, Virginia 20192, phone: (703) 648–4621.

**APPENDIX D —  
SUMMARY LIST OF COMMENTS**



## Appendix D. Summary List of Comments

This list contains a summary of the explicit comments that were gathered during the various scoping activities, including public scoping meetings, public agency consultation, focus group meetings, and written comments. A total of 1,881 individual comments were collected during the scoping process. This list is a summary of explicit comments and does not include multiple occurrences of the same substantive comment.

### Vegetation Management

#### General

<p><b>Qualities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prairie grasses that have never been plowed</li> <li>• Upland shrub community</li> <li>• Unique biotic communities and wildlife populations</li> <li>• Good example of intact ecosystem</li> <li>• Opportunity to merge vegetation and management near metro area</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate research opportunities</li> <li>• Existing plans for adjacent managed lands</li> <li>• Restoration of native ecosystems</li> <li>• Habitat fragmentation by roads and utility corridors</li> <li>• Appropriate sites for soil disturbing activities and prescribed fire (re: contamination)</li> <li>• Methods, intensity and purpose of grazing (if any)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active management including fire, stream restoration, weed control and road closures</li> <li>• Maintain and restore natural habitats and ecosystem</li> <li>• Consider a full range of vegetation conditions</li> <li>• Create vegetated patches in a creative way</li> <li>• Introduce Ute Ladies'-Tresses Orchid</li> </ul>	

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conserve natural prairie ecosystem</li> <li>• Emphasize monitoring, evaluation, and adaptive management</li> <li>• Study prescribed burning and grazing as management tools</li> <li>• Manage to protect plants and plant communities ranked by CNHP as imperiled or critically imperiled</li> <li>• Restore disturbed areas</li> <li>• Coordinate with Boulder’s grassland conservation plan</li> <li>• Continue ecological monitoring</li> <li>• Vegetation Management Planning process should be thorough and addresses the public’s concerns</li> <li>• Preserve processes that will sustain native vegetation</li> <li>• Consider potential effects of prairie dogs on vegetation</li> <li>• Study grasslands in surrounding areas</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grazing by domestic animals is inappropriate</li> <li>• Create habitat patches</li> <li>• Consider a range of vegetation conditions</li> <li>• Set measurable objectives for management tools</li> <li>• Use the best science available for vision, goals and measurable outcomes</li> <li>• Use trails for fire breaks</li> <li>• Short grasses are resistant and resilient</li> <li>• Industrial area will need attention –restoration</li> <li>• Focus on management goals</li> <li>• Do not limit management tool box – grazing, fire, herbicides, etc.</li> <li>• Retain man-made wetlands to provide watershed protection</li> <li>• Scientific resource – treat it carefully</li> <li>• Goal should be habitat management</li> </ul> |
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**Fire**

***Qualities***

- Benefits of fire, including weed control and regeneration

***Issues***

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|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire management</li> <li>• Fire will generate significant public interest</li> <li>• Level of contamination that is acceptable to burn</li> <li>• Risk/fear of airborne contamination</li> <li>• Objectives of prescribed burning</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public perception of risk</li> <li>• Risk of wildfires</li> <li>• Effects of fire on invertebrates</li> <li>• Alternatives to burning</li> <li>• Air monitoring</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

### ***Recommendations***

- No burning
- Fire is important for grassland management
- Do not rule out controlled burns
- Some localized burning in uncontaminated areas is ok
- Study fire history and how it has shaped current resources
- Fire is a bad idea
- Err on the side of caution
- Do not oppose prescribed burns for weed management
- Use controlled fire to remove wildfire fuel, which can choke vegetation
- Natural fire cycle is about 7-10 years
- Accidental or natural fires will occur
- Use prescribed fire to minimize uncontrolled wildfires
- Allow communities to review and comment on Vegetation Management Plan and Standard Operating Procedures for prescribed burns
- Unique time to promote fire as a management tool, due to summer fires
- Trails and roads can serve as firebreaks
- Educate surrounding communities prior to prescribed fires
- Develop partnerships for research on burning
- Can't do research and burns simultaneously
- Propose burn and non-burn areas
- Manage for low-smoke fires
- Manage controlled burns well to retain credibility
- Grazing may have more particle emissions than burning
- Can result in spread of weeds if managed poorly
- Burn wetlands to promote orchids
- Fire can be used to move wildlife
- Consider impacts from burning due to contamination
- Independent study of fire and contamination

### ***Weed Control***

#### ***Qualities***

- Unique site for its resilience and resistance to weeds

#### ***Issues***

- Non-native species management
- Integration with adjacent open space
- Identification of weed species
- Grazing for vegetation management
- Herbicide spraying
- Wildlife species reintroduction (grouse) may hamper weed control efforts
- Spread of weeds due to ground disturbance
- Use of insect biological weed controls
- Weeds in mining areas
- Weed dispersal due to horses

#### ***Recommendations***

- Aggressively manage weeds
- Prevent and manage invasive species
- Study effects of weeds/non-native plants on native plant community
- Use natural methods to control weeds
- Use full range of pest management tools
- No biological weed control
- Continue current noxious weed control program
- Include grazing and burning
- Continue use of manual weed management and goat herds
- Minimal use of herbicides
- Develop an integrated weed management plan
- Use minimum-security inmates for weed control w/ protective equipment and informed consent
- Use early season grazing to control warm season weeds
- Use spring grazing to control cheat grass
- Require horse manure catchers
- Keep trails out of weed-free areas
- Grazing and fire are both useful tools but can also cause damage

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## Wildlife Management

### *Qualities*

- Contiguous with more than 50,000 acres of open lands
- Habitat in Rock Creek area
- Shortgrass/tallgrass habitat
- Preble's meadow jumping mouse
- Songbirds
- Wetlands and riparian areas
- Unusually rich diversity of butterfly species

### *Issues*

- Wildlife resources that need protection
- Restoration and protection of threatened and endangered species
- Species reintroduction – sharp-tail grouse, bison, badgers, pronghorn, wolves
- Reintroduction of federally listed species
- Impacts of public use on wildlife
- Historic wildlife use
- Migration of threatened and endangered species onto private land
- Impacts of wildlife (coyotes, deer) on adjacent landowners
- Chronic wasting disease
- Migration corridors – where? - fencing, preventing road kill
- Relocation of prairie dogs from developing areas
- Prairie dog carrying capacity
- Prairie dogs and contamination
- Waterfowl use and management in ponds
- Wildlife impacts on sensitive vegetation
- Healthy mule deer population size
- Protection and enhancement of raptor habitat
- Impact of mouse on trail development
- Impact of hunting on species reintroduction
- Preble's mouse/habitat requirements post-closure
- Preble's mouse management
- Preble's habitat in ditches
- Impacts to Preble's from changes in ground and surface water flows
- FWS will be held to a very high standard regarding Preble's impacts
- Elk migration onto site
- West Nile Virus – ponds and wetlands
- Adjacent housing impacts
- Impacts of adjacent Wind Technology Center on migratory birds
- West Nile Virus and mosquito control

### *Recommendations*

- Address restoration, protection, and enhancement of habitat
- Identify significant problems which may affect wildlife
- Allow wildlife to be as natural as possible
- Develop wildlife and habitat database
- No wildlife use
- Educate public on hunting as a management tool
- Allow safe place for prairie dogs
- No prairie dogs
- Coordinate any hunting with surrounding wildlife managers
- Riparian areas should be protected for all species
- Use trails to manage wildlife
- Create habitat before introducing species
- Retain and enhance raptor habitat
- Trails can disturb raptors feeding on prairie dogs
- Trails may increase predation on Preble's mouse
- Do not allow wildlife underpasses to become trail linkages

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|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allow scientific research on the effects of contamination on wildlife</li> <li>• Wildlife fences to prevent road kill</li> <li>• Tunnels under surrounding roads for wildlife passage</li> <li>• Integrate wildlife corridors with trail planning</li> <li>• Preserve raptor nests during nesting periods</li> <li>• Should not be used as a dumping ground for unwanted prairie dogs or other animals</li> <li>• Do not introduce burrowing species (prairie dogs) to the site</li> <li>• Work with Open Space staff to maximize integration</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design appropriate underpasses for different species</li> <li>• Try to connect Preble’s habitat across drainages; off-site</li> <li>• Wildlife are sometimes less disturbed by cars</li> <li>• Reintroduce a sustainable sharptail grouse population</li> <li>• Prioritize among wildlife uses</li> <li>• Inviolate wildlife sanctuary</li> <li>• Coordinate with Northwest Parkway planning</li> <li>• Adaptation of wildlife is natural</li> </ul> |
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**Public Use**  
**General**

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| <b>Qualities</b>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proximity to large metropolitan area</li> <li>• Beautiful view of mountains and Standley Lake</li> <li>• Natural beauty</li> <li>• Could serve as recreational cornerstone of region</li> <li>• Visual benefits on and off site</li> <li>• Opportunity for solitude</li> </ul> |  |
| <b>Issues</b>   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary purpose is wildlife conservation</li> </ul>  |  |
| <b>Recommendations</b>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serve large urban population</li> <li>• Provide quality wildlife-dependent recreation</li> <li>• Create sense of ownership and support</li> <li>• Prioritize scientific needs</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Don’t lose sight of refuge mission</li> <li>• Consider family recreation needs</li> <li>• Remember compatibility issues</li> <li>• Refuge experience is a starting point</li> </ul> |

**Trails**

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| <b>Qualities</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nexus of several regional trail systems</li> <li>• Excellent trail opportunities – views, terrain and wildlife</li> <li>• Regional attraction - interconnected trails, 3.5 million visitors to Boulder open space</li> <li>• Trails are the most popular activity in Colorado (70% of rec. uses)</li> </ul> |

- Opportunity to define regional trail vision

***Issues***

- Explore how public and wildlife can coexist
- Off trail recreation can increase vulnerability to weed dispersal, wildlife displacement, and habitat fragmentation
- Criteria for trail design
- Integration/connection with surrounding trail systems
- High demand for bicycle and horse trails in surrounding parks/open spaces
- Constraints from residual contamination
- Soil disturbance constraints
- Erosion and water quality
- Impact of Preble’s mouse protections on trail construction
- Spread of weeds due to trails
- Direct and indirect wildlife impacts
- Connections with adjacent Arvada parcel
- Trail funding options
- Seasonal trail closures for wildlife
- Trail connections across/under highways
- Trail along transportation corridor (Indiana)
- Using existing two-track roads for trails
- Indiana and SH 93 not safe for bikes

***Recommendations***

- Trail system is essential within Rocky Flats
- Trails that benefit visitors, minimize environmental impacts
- Trails secondary to wildlife needs
- Refuge purpose suggests limited trails
- Keep trails out of riparian areas
- Trails should avoid sensitive areas
- Provide loop trails
- Not a regional trail hub
- Perimeter trails better for wildlife
- Create trails for wildlife observation
- Let good science dictate where and for who
- Make trails go where people want them to go
- Appropriate trails across site, not just perimeter
- Safe and pleasant trails
- No trails next to highways
- Wheelchair access to trails
- Create good bike and rollerblade trails
- Consider horse trails
- Segregate hiking and biking trails
- Don’t need a lot of trail miles
- Provide trails only to unique resources/sites
- If safe, would like to see hiking and mountain biking trails
- Segregated trails for different users
- Open some trails to bikes
- Provide north-south trail along eastern part of Refuge
- Consider implications of Arvada development
- Place trails near water
- Use current access points/roads for paved trail
- Surrounding communities need to agree on locations and linkages
- Trail underpasses
- Design trails will to limit dispersed use
- Plant trees and put in benches near trails
- Prohibit off-trail vehicle, horse, bike and foot travel
- Consider multiple trails for separate users
- Linkages to current and future trail systems
- Develop trail connection between Rocky Flats and Two Ponds NWR
- Link Front Range Trail to Visitor’s Center
- Regional linkages seem premature – not all pieces are in place
- Trail users best unpaid security
- Trails can help manage people
- Rocky Flats should not be a trail hub
- Create adopt-a-trail program
- Let science dictate where and for who
- Consider regional state trails planning grant
- Link trail plans with highway plans
- Coordinate linkages with uses
- Trails should support interpretive needs
- Connect with visitors center/museum

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hiking-only trails – unmet need</li> <li>• If bikes allowed, hiking-only trails ok</li> <li>• Educate trail users to avoid conflicts</li> <li>• Soft surface trails – crusher fines</li> <li>• Connect to Colorado Hills/Great Western OS trails</li> <li>• Coordinate and integrate key north/south and east/west trail corridors</li> <li>• Consider existing trails in Boulder and Jefferson Counties</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No trails planned west of SH 93</li> <li>• Research use of existing two-track roads in Preble’s habitat</li> <li>• Trails need to be 100 meters from riparian habitat</li> <li>• Roads may not be the best for trails due to grade/materials</li> <li>• Keep trails on top of ridge lines</li> <li>• Consider impacts of Refuge users on other jurisdictions</li> </ul> |
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**Public Access**

**Qualities**

- (none stated)

**Issues**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How much access and what type</li> <li>• Types of permitted uses, including hunting, fishing, ORV use, hiking, biking, equestrian use</li> <li>• Dogs permitted?</li> <li>• Multi-use pressures threaten the vision of restoration and preservation</li> <li>• Activities should be carefully managed to prevent degradation of ecosystem processes</li> <li>• Hunting – integration with surrounding sites that do not allow hunting</li> <li>• Hunting is an unmet need</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any special restrictions associated with hunting</li> <li>• Compatibility of recreation with weed management</li> <li>• Timing/ hours of access – compatibility with wildlife viewing</li> <li>• Impacts of different human uses</li> <li>• Compatibility of hunting and environmental education</li> <li>• Compatible uses given proximity to metro area</li> <li>• ADA accessibility</li> <li>• Direct access for future adjacent residents</li> </ul> |
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**Recommendations**

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|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allow public access</li> <li>• Allow no public access</li> <li>• Limited access to protect ecosystem</li> <li>• Careful and controlled access</li> <li>• Allow no hunting</li> <li>• Allow hunting on the refuge</li> <li>• Don’t limit the types of hunting opportunities</li> <li>• Implement hunting in a way that is compatible with other uses</li> <li>• Allow no hunting, except for population or disease control</li> <li>• Short-range hunting ok: archery, black powder, etc.</li> <li>• Allow hunting for species other than just deer and elk</li> <li>• Hunting part of social/cultural norm for some</li> <li>• Allow falcon hunting</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study impacts of dogs</li> <li>• Allow field trials for hunting dogs</li> <li>• Prefer environmental education and wildlife observation</li> <li>• Wildlife observation a legitimate and valuable use</li> <li>• Prohibit off-road vehicle use</li> <li>• Educational tours only</li> <li>• Allow pedestrian, equestrian and bike access</li> <li>• Minimum impact use</li> <li>• Determine public access based on extent of cleanup</li> <li>• Safe public access areas should be clearly defined</li> <li>• Restrict public access to dangerous areas</li> <li>• Restrict access to areas that would highly impact wildlife</li> <li>• Considerable pressure to allow public recreational access</li> </ul> |
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- Hunting is not year round
- Educate public about hunting
- Hunting as a management tool only beneficial public use – others have impacts
- Hunting not permitted on nearby open lands
- Hunting is not appropriate in an urban area
- Consider dispersed recreation opportunities
- Guided access and tours
- Consider modes of access
- Provide bike access
- No bike access
- No light rail access
- Provide access by bus
- No access by car
- Cars are useful as viewing blinds
- Allow equal access for hikers, bikes, and horses
- Open refuge to scientific research
- Education and research are important
- Close site to all anthropogenic activities
- Dogs off leash are significant wildlife impacts
- Dogs on leash may impact wildlife observation
- Many dog owners ignore leash laws

- Informed consent form for any human access
- Prohibit access until site is safe
- Manage people through restriction, fences, and trails
- Explain benefits and risks of access
- Educate about proper wildlife viewing
- Consider impacts of observation and photography on wildlife
- Provide undeveloped opportunities
- Everything can cohabitate on 6,000 acres
- Need comprehensive travel management plan
- Walk-in access from Superior
- Bicycling can provide quiet, clean, low impact access for visitor use
- Once a use is permitted, difficult to pull back
- Establish transition areas where management differences are conveyed
- Consider impacts of horse use (weeds, trails, parking)
- Prevent unofficial “backdoor” access
- Limit number of people per day
- Consider seasonal closures
- Access helps develop supportive public and sense of ownership
- Make hours of access reflect dawn and dusk wildlife observation times
- Compare current and future levels of use
- Interested organizations should take some management responsibility
- Close access to site if not managed/maintained properly

## **Recreation Facilities**

### ***Qualities***

- Opportunity for collaboration with Cold War Museum

### ***Issues***

- Visitor center
- Cold War Museum location
- Water supply for visitors center
- Access via the east and/or west entrances
- Existing firing range

### ***Recommendations***

- Set up viewing areas
- Interpretive overlooks
- Develop scenic overlook on Highway 128
- If visitor center built, should be subtle construction
- Visitor Center supported as long as it is a new facility not owned by DOE

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide parking for cars and bikes</li> <li>• Parking lot size and location can drive visitor use/volume</li> <li>• One motorized vehicle loop</li> <li>• Restroom facilities</li> <li>• Co- locate Visitor’s Center with Cold War Museum</li> <li>• Cold War Museum – provide archive for Rocky Flats documents</li> <li>• West entrance for visitor’s center</li> <li>• Visitor Center is not in line with Refuge purpose</li> <li>• No Visitor Center</li> <li>• Visitor Center in conjunction with Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visitor Center should be a multi-purpose facility</li> <li>• Keep visitor center site oriented</li> <li>• Education center is important for surrounding metro area</li> <li>• A kiosk is not enough to serve recreational needs</li> <li>• Arsenal serves as “flagship” visitor center</li> <li>• Ponds would be nice</li> <li>• Do not create something that is not there (fishery)</li> <li>• Firing range fills an unmet community need</li> <li>• Firing range compatible with hunting on refuge</li> <li>• Create a wildlife viewing blind</li> </ul> |
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***Environmental Education/Interpretation***

***Qualities***

- Boulder Valley an opportunity for education because of proximity
- Untouched landscape within urban sprawl
- Opportunity for recreational learning
- Opportunity for mentoring
- Rich cultural history – integrate it!

***Issues***

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Boulder OS guided nature programs are full</li> <li>• Statewide need for high school trips</li> <li>• Public perceptions of site safety</li> <li>• Eldorado Springs SP under-utilized</li> <li>• Division of Wildlife program</li> <li>• Unmet market – day camps, scouts, after school, home schoolers, seniors</li> <li>• Time constraints for teachers</li> <li>• Most school grades take environmental trips</li> <li>• Program follow-up in schools</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spanish/bilingual programs</li> <li>• Time frame for education programs</li> <li>• Partnerships – School of Mines, Naropa, Urban Wildlife Partnership, Earth Storage, Chatfield</li> <li>• Facility needs (bathrooms, shelter, water, conference room, etc)</li> <li>• In -school programs are expensive</li> <li>• Organized site tours</li> <li>• Teacher training</li> <li>• Over development of educational and interpretive sites</li> </ul> |
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***Recommendations***

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide educational and interpretive opportunities</li> <li>• Interpretation opportunities both on and off site</li> <li>• Set up weather measuring devices for education</li> <li>• Provide geological education</li> <li>• Provide rattlesnake hill and ant hill</li> <li>• Put Refuge in Colorado context</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tie-in to refuge via website or class work</li> <li>• Use to inform residents about ecosystem functions</li> <li>• Well developed program can apply to all schools</li> <li>• Blend environmental and social science programs – provide balance</li> <li>• Need outreach to parents</li> <li>• Need outreach to school boards</li> </ul> |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Show how different groups are connected to the site</li> <li>• Share USFWS successes, including Arsenal</li> <li>• Collaborate with other agencies/jurisdictions on environmental education</li> <li>• Keep kids and day trips out of there</li> <li>• Educate why things are done or not done</li> <li>• Provide educational tours based on stewardship management, history, and wildlife</li> <li>• Focus educational programs on native plant/animal species and their conservation</li> <li>• Implement volunteer program on site</li> <li>• Provide historical/archaeological interpretation</li> <li>• Educate the public to the reduced post-closure risks of the site</li> <li>• Educate on wildlife and contamination</li> <li>• Involve students in remediation</li> <li>• Need programs for older students (data collection on resources, prebles, etc.)</li> <li>• Need a good website</li> <li>• Create ambassador program for community outreach</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need outreach to surrounding communities</li> <li>• Need proactive approach to issues</li> <li>• Convey that access is restricted to certain areas</li> <li>• May need complex education plan – different partnerships, audiences, programs, etc.</li> <li>• Focus on unique characteristics of site</li> <li>• Consider changing site name</li> <li>• Begin with public perception – move slow</li> <li>• Develop programs before facilities</li> <li>• Define difference between interpretation and environmental education</li> <li>• Teach about grassland education, weed mitigation, and ecological restoration</li> <li>• Look at other grassland education programs</li> <li>• Loop trail for education programs</li> <li>• Need multiple trails to disperse groups on site</li> <li>• Avoid the “build it and they will come” trap</li> <li>• Need very clear outline</li> <li>• Piggyback on other agencies</li> </ul> |
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## Cultural Resources

### *Qualities*

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|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historic Lindsay Ranch</li> <li>• History of nuclear weapons production</li> <li>• Rocky Flats is an important part of our history</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Native American resources</li> <li>• Historical significance of site</li> </ul> |
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### *Issues*

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preserving the history of the site</li> <li>• Lindsay Ranch – how to preserve the history it represents</li> <li>• Stabilizing cultural resources – Lindsay Ranch</li> <li>• Addressing Lindsay Ranch protection and access simultaneously</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lindsay Ranch type structures are increasingly rare along Front Range</li> <li>• Lindsay Ranch is of local interest, not national significance</li> <li>• Native American history, cultural significance</li> <li>• Tribute to the legacy of the Cold War</li> </ul> |
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***Recommendations***

- Preserve Lindsay Ranch
- Keep people away from Lindsay Ranch
- View Lindsay Ranch from a distance
- Create a picnic or rest area at Lindsay Ranch
- Begin Lindsay Ranch preservation efforts immediately
- Allow nature to take its course at Lindsay Ranch
- Offer historic and interpretive tours to Lindsay Ranch
- Explore retaining key structures for landmarks
- Construct Honor Wall to honor former employees
- Preserve historical memory of site – cold war and reminder of need to protect human health and environment from residual contamination

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**Property**

***General***

***Qualities***

- (none stated)

***Issues***

- Lands to be transferred from DOE to USFWS
- Section 16 – can it be included in Refuge, compensation, mineral rights, land trade potential
- The area between highway 93 and the Refuge

***Recommendations***

- Consider implications of Arvada’s development
- Buffer adjacent private lands
- Add state land to Refuge
- Acquire strip of land between Refuge and Highway 93

***Mineral Rights***

***Qualities***

- (none stated)

***Issues***

- Federal government does not own mineral rights
- Possibility of on-site surface mining
- Mining conflicts with draft vision and goals and Refuge mission
- Effect of refuge designation on mineral rights and easements
- Effect on land to west of RF along Highway 93
- Effect on state land – Section 16

- Restoration potential of gravel mining areas to benefit Refuge
- Refuge and surface mining not compatible
- How mineral rights will affect decisions about which lands are ultimately transferred to the Service
- Mineral rights – acquisition possibilities
- Oil and gas drilling

***Recommendations***

- Include and restore mined areas
- Subjugate mining rights through compensatory negotiation
- All mineral rights should be acquired
- Work with willing sellers to secure mineral rights
- Address mineral rights fairly
- Allow future access to private mineral rights
- Clarify ownership and assess viability of mineral right ownership

***Transportation Corridor***

***Qualities***

- (none stated)

***Issues***

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|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plans for transportation corridor</li> <li>• NEPA requirements for transportation corridor (regional impacts)</li> <li>• Timing and method of transfer of Indiana Right-of-way to CDOT or others</li> <li>• Compatibility of transportation corridor with draft vision and goals for the refuge</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future road improvements in area</li> <li>• Impact of Refuge on regional road system</li> <li>• Air pollution due to increased traffic</li> <li>• Wildlife migration, noise, and air quality impacts</li> </ul> |
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***Recommendations***

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preserve 300-foot right-of-way for transportation corridor</li> <li>• Identify and minimize impacts of transportation corridor on Refuge resources</li> <li>• Develop standards to determine impacts of transportation corridor</li> <li>• Provide mitigation measures for impacts due to transportation corridor</li> <li>• Consider effects of transportation corridor on off-site resources (streams, viewsheds, wildlife corridors, etc.)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider impacts and alternatives to transportation corridor, including no corridor</li> <li>• Consider alternative right-of-way (ROW) widths and identify narrowest possible ROW</li> <li>• Address effects of transportation corridor on regional environment</li> <li>• Plan for a narrower transportation corridor (no more than 50 feet)</li> <li>• 300-foot transportation corridor not necessary</li> </ul> |
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## Infrastructure

### General

<b>Qualities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(none stated)</li></ul>	
<b>Issues</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Placement of roads and pathways</li><li>Location of restricted areas</li><li>Future of the east and west entrances</li><li>Northwest Parkway – impacts, coordination</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Location and nature of parking lots</li><li>Appearance/character of refuge</li><li>Visible scars from roads and utilities</li></ul>
<b>Recommendations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Minimize light pollution</li><li>Keep and use existing roads</li><li>No additional roads, powerlines, etc.</li><li>Leave existing roads as fire breaks</li><li>Install sprinkler system to control fire</li></ul>	

### Fencing/Signage

<b>Qualities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(none stated)</li></ul>	
<b>Issues</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Internal and external fencing and signage</li><li>Boundary fences/signs</li><li>Appropriate fencing for species on refuge</li><li>Fencing and signs to keep people out of contaminated areas</li><li>How the outside boundaries will be marked</li><li>Fencing – public image of refuge boundary</li></ul>	

***Recommendations***

- Incorporate good fences and good fence maintenance
- No signs or fences that mark the site as “blighted”
- Fencing should maintain rural character
- No fences
- Facilitate big game movement
- Don’t interrupt wildlife movement with fences
- Fully enclosed site with radiation signs on fence
- Fence – minimize aesthetic impacts
- Convey that the site is a regional asset
- Do not sacrifice refuge quality and safety with fencing
- Minimize fencing
- Simple messages in signs
- Pay attention to what you are not saying
- Control traffic-send people where you want them to go
- Be clear about what is restricted, where, and why
- Need to fence adjacent cattle out

***Water Resources***

***Qualities***

- (none stated)

***Issues***

- Retention of ponds not required for cleanup
- Measures to maintain/restore water quality and quantity
- Lack of water for visitor’s center and other facilities
- Minimum flow for Rock Creek
- Future hydrologic conditions
- Protection of surface water rights held by others
- Lack of water rights owned by DOE
- Availability of water for wildfire control
- Water quality issues – Standley Lake, Woman Creek

***Recommendations***

- Allow access to private water rights (ditches and canals)

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***Refuge Operations***

***Qualities***

- (none stated)

**Issues**

- Preservation of rare resources – xeric tall grass, mouse, cultural, historic – sharing and protection
- Relationships with other existing ecosystem or watershed planning efforts
- Integration with adjacent and regional open spaces
- Integration with adjacent developed lands, or privately owned open lands subject to development
- Loss of tax revenue for Jefferson County
- Character of site after closure
- Partnerships with local communities and open space programs
- Available funding for resource conservation and DOE’s long-term stewardship obligations
- Intergovernmental agreements for emergency response
- Funding for appropriate staffing
- Security staffing
- Law enforcement and maintenance

**Recommendations**

- Identify priority items before assigning budgets to them
- Emphasize monitoring, evaluation, and adaptive management
- Build relationship with area tribes
- Regional economy is important
- Continue to work with local governments
- Community outreach
- Lots of management due to location
- Educate public on the difference between refuge management and adjacent open space
- Staffing- single resident manager is cost effective

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## Cleanup Levels and Remediation

**Qualities**

- Opportunity to study effects of contamination

**Issues**

- Contamination
- Full characterization of site
- Possibility of undetected radiation hot spots
- Safe cleanup levels for public access
- Underground process and transfer lines
- Re-suspension of radionuclide particles
- Effect of residual contamination on wildlife and potential bioaccumulation in animals
- Contamination of known carcinogens
- Contamination is long-lived in the environment
- Long-term stewardship
- Bio-magnification
- Chemicals will outlive responsible agencies
- Impacts of wildlife (prairie dogs) on contamination
- Reclamation strategy to inform environmental restoration
- Mistrust of DOE and their contractors
- Past environmental crimes that have not been properly investigated
- Independence and competency of Citizens Advisory Board
- Conflicts of interest within the state health department
- Competency of state health department

- Spread of contamination through wildlife
- Matching the locations and levels of residual contamination to the designated uses and the level of access
- Coordination with the cleanup decision making and progress on the cleanup record of decision
- Interface between Refuge and DOE – controlled areas
- CCP is not a cleanup document – cleanup trumps refuge
- Support long-term study of site

- Distrust of government and their statements about risk
- Perception of risk and accountability
- Responsibility of DOE to communicate risk
- Internal and external communication needs
- DOE controls on capped and covered areas
- On-going testing and evaluation
- Impacts to wildlife are poorly understood

### ***Recommendations***

- Consider effects on human environment
- Cover site with protective mesh and sprinkler system
- Provide risk assessment for those concerned about radiation in soil
- Citizens need to be convinced that the site is safe
- Do not separate nuclear waste and wildlife refuge issues
- Study phytoremediation to draw contaminants from the soil
- Mark perimeter of site with signs indicating past use and contamination
- Consider refuge to be called a “Restricted Access Nuclear National Wildlife Refuge”
- No commercialization or promotion of site
- Require personal protective equipment for all humans on site
- Test carcasses of deer killed for disease or population control
- Complete aerial gamma surveys of site
- Ensure continuous monitoring
- Display all available information about contamination
- Allow independent review of contamination levels
- Minimize potential danger to public
- Can not discuss refuge issues without clear understanding of cleanup levels
- Take a prudent approach to potentially harmful health effects
- All remediation infrastructure should be clearly marked and identified
- Utilize latest exposure risk data and clean-up technologies
- Purge all technically incompetent people from the decision-making process
- Purge from the process all people with conflicts of interest
- All final decisions should be reviewed by competent, independent, civilian review board
- Scientifically develop risk levels for different users

- Educate the public on where we are now and who’s responsible for what (DOE, FWS, etc.)
- Educate on history, contamination, and resources – signs, programs, etc.
- Educate and involve the public
- Focus outreach on each level of concerned citizens
- Build trust of community – acknowledge that all are concerned
- Comprehensive community outreach and education
- Communicate about similar sites
- Address community issues
- Don’t forget what is out there
- Ask public about trade-off decisions about risk
- Consider credibility of risk information
- Provide good, clear, and reliable information about risk so public can make own choices
- Education about risk should not come from DOE
- Need independent spokesperson to community
- Trail signs that say “don’t dig anywhere”
- Create robust stewardship program
- Create advisory groups
- If risk doesn’t limit use then communicate USFWS standard procedures in alternatives
- Alternatives need to clearly state which areas will be reassessed following cleanup
- The public will trust a person more than an entity
- Acknowledge that everybody is equally concerned
- Don’t pretend site history never happened
- Dialogue with past generations for information and stories
- Final decisions should be reviewed by an independent board

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## Planning Process

### *Qualities*

- Public scoping meetings were a productive step – generated thoughtful discussion between and among citizens and agency staff

### *Issues*

- Appropriateness of site for NWR
- Concern about whether “proposed trails” on land use maps represent plans for the site
- Public discussion and comment opportunities at meetings
- Prioritization of goals
- Political maneuvering undermining public concerns

### *Recommendations*

- FWS continue to work with RFCAB and other community groups
- More dialogue about the future infrastructure needs of the Refuge
- Allow plan to mesh with other county-level planning efforts
- Need better outreach for public meetings
- Would like an open forum at public meetings
- More substantive presentations at meetings
- Allow for questions during presentations at meetings
- Should not have pre-selected comment categories at meetings
- EIS overly-rushed
- Opportunities for public involvement are overly constrained
- Scoping process has not been adequate
- Focus groups do not represent environmental viewpoints
- Focus groups not convenient for citizen participation
- Focus groups – address issue of managing a contaminated wildlife refuge
- Conduct a field trip for stakeholders
- Interest groups should meet with land managers early in the process
- Provide a set of aerials to stakeholders at meetings
- Extend EIS scoping period
- Close the site and stop planning
- Conduct additional public scoping meetings
- Meetings should allow substantive oral comments
- Week of September 11 a poor week to hold meetings
- Use trained facilitators/note takers for small groups at meetings
- Do not create a plan that cannot be achieved (through resources)
- Support re-use of the site as a NWR
- Develop a 50-year vision for the site



**APPENDIX E —  
SUMMARY OF WRITTEN COMMENTS**



## Appendix E. Summary of Written Comments

Author	Date	Summary of Comments
Ron Jones No address (email)	8/26/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memories of site in 1940's</li> <li>• Access to refuge by light rail would have major consequences</li> <li>• Limit light pollution</li> <li>• Educational opportunities including rattlesnake hill and ant hills</li> </ul>
Charles McKay Church Ranch 10050 Wadsworth Blvd. Westminster, CO 80021	9/3/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mineral rights are privately owned by various parties</li> <li>• Do not impair access to these minerals</li> </ul>
Charles McKay Church Ranch 10050 Wadsworth Blvd. Westminster, CO 80021	9/4/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjacent grazing activities</li> <li>• Coyote impacts on adjacent calves</li> <li>• Impacts from Rocky Flats deer herd on range land</li> </ul>
Charles McKay Church Ranch 10050 Wadsworth Blvd. Westminster, CO 80021	9/4/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue noxious weed control</li> <li>• Keep proper fence design and maintenance in mind</li> <li>• Do not introduce prairie dogs</li> <li>• Do not want endangered species on adjacent property</li> </ul>
Charles McKay Smart Reservoir and Irrigation, Inc. 10050 Wadsworth Blvd. Westminster, CO 80020	9/4/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family owns water rights, ditch rights and water storage rights</li> <li>• Do not hamper access to water rights</li> </ul>
Len H. Carpenter Wildlife Management Institute 4015 Cheney Drive Fort Collins, CO 80526	9/5/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proximity to metropolitan area</li> <li>• Serve large urban human population while maintaining natural habitats</li> <li>• Provide educational opportunities</li> <li>• Prevent and manage invasive species</li> <li>• Identify appropriate research opportunities</li> <li>• Plans should be independent of budget process</li> <li>• Identify priorities before assigning budgets to them</li> <li>• Identify educational and interpretive opportunities/partnerships</li> <li>• Specify the effect of expanded public use on wildlife</li> <li>• Address habitat/species restoration, protection and enhancement</li> <li>• Identify significant problems that may impact wildlife</li> <li>• Prioritize monitoring and adaptive management</li> <li>• Address restoration of threatened and endangered species</li> <li>• Address development of scientific database</li> <li>• Provide for quality wildlife-dependent recreation</li> <li>• Consider plans for adjacent managed lands</li> <li>• Address active management to benefit wildlife</li> <li>• Address methods, intensity and purpose of grazing</li> <li>• Address maintenance of water quality and quantity</li> <li>• Address relationship with existing ecosystem or watershed efforts</li> <li>• Address fire management and vegetation management</li> </ul>

<p>Ann J. Lockhart 2332 Eudora St. Denver, CO 80207</p>	<p>9/9/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Views of mountains and Standley Lake</li> <li>• Set up viewing areas</li> <li>• Provide risk assessment for contamination</li> <li>• Provide parking for cars and bikes and bus access</li> <li>• Consider wheelchair access to trails</li> <li>• Set up weather measuring devices</li> <li>• Create good bike and rollerblade trails</li> <li>• Consider horse trails</li> <li>• Plant trees and put in benches near trails</li> <li>• Co-locate visitor’s center with Cold War Museum</li> <li>• Could have bird watching, photography, and other classes/lectures</li> <li>• No hunting unless for certain circumstances</li> <li>• Collaborate with other agencies and organizations</li> <li>• Preserve Lindsay Ranch but keep people away</li> </ul>
<p>Paul Kilburn, President Jefferson County Nature Association 6695 Terry Court Arvada, CO 80007</p>	<p>9/10/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refuge is centered in a much larger wild open space area</li> <li>• Encourage use of burning and grazing for tallgrass prairie</li> <li>• Include and restore mined areas</li> </ul>
<p>Paula Elofson-Gardine Susan Elofson-Hurst Environmental Information Network, Inc. P.O. Box 280087 Lakewood, CO 80228</p>	<p>9/10/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designate as “Restricted Access Nuclear Reserve”</li> <li>• Site has been CERCLA and RCRA site for over 15 years</li> <li>• Some areas will not be cleaned up</li> <li>• Restrict access for perpetuity</li> <li>• No commercialization, promotion, hiking trails, or tours</li> <li>• Contamination extremely long lived in environment</li> <li>• Re-suspension of particles is an extreme health hazard</li> <li>• Require personal protective equipment</li> <li>• Wildlife are “radiologically hot”</li> <li>• Test carcasses of killed wildlife</li> <li>• Permanent moratorium on burning</li> <li>• Conduct aerial gamma surveys</li> <li>• Minimize use of herbicides</li> <li>• Attachment: Actinide Concentrations in Cattle Grazing Near the Rocky Flats Plant</li> <li>• Attachment: Rocky Flats – Not a Park and Recreation District</li> <li>• Attachment: Rocky Flats and the Haystack Fire</li> <li>• Attachment: Living within a Radioactive Fallout Zone</li> <li>• Attachment: Stop the Nuclear Brushfires</li> <li>• Attachment: Rocky Flats Liability Disclaimer (Suggested)</li> <li>• Attachment: Notes for a meeting with EPA, 9/22/00</li> </ul>
<p>Martha Bushnell, Ph.D. 502 Ord Drive Boulder, CO 80303-4732</p>	<p>9/11/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibit public access until site is pristine</li> <li>• Allow for scientific research on contamination</li> </ul>
<p>Jyoti Wind/CCNWI PMB 371, 1705 14<sup>th</sup> St. Boulder, CO 80302</p>	<p>9/12/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No human involvement on site</li> <li>• No access for environmental education</li> <li>• Should be closed down with radiation signage on perimeter fences</li> </ul>

Lynn Segal 538 Dewey Ave. Boulder, CO 80304	9/12/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No human or wildlife use because of contamination</li> <li>Enclose the site in a fine mesh</li> <li>Install a sprinkler system to control fire</li> <li>No fire under any condition</li> <li>Vulnerability of insects used in weed control to contamination</li> </ul>
Anonymous	9/12/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunity to study long term effects of contamination</li> <li>Close the site and stop planning</li> <li>Do not ever allow public access</li> </ul>
Anonymous	9/12/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contamination</li> <li>Public access will be fatal</li> </ul>
Lee Carlson No address (telephone call)	9/12/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Should existing ponds be retained?</li> </ul>
Nancy Lee 1520 Lodge Ct. Boulder, CO 80303	9/12/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hunting should not be allowed</li> <li>Allow a safe place for prairie dogs</li> </ul>
LeRoy Moore, Ph.D. Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center P.O. Box 1156 Boulder, CO 80306	9/12/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revised 9/16/02 – same topics</li> <li>Site is badly contaminated and should be managed as such</li> <li>Entire site is contaminated to some extent</li> <li>Site has not been thoroughly characterized, or is incomplete</li> <li>Undetected hot spots of various contaminants</li> <li>Thorough cleanup is not planned or intended</li> <li>Plutonium constitutes a permanent danger</li> <li>Plutonium at Rocky Flats may reach humans</li> <li>Impacts to wildlife are poorly understood</li> <li>No public access</li> <li>Perimeter should be marked to indicate danger</li> <li>Research the effects of contamination</li> <li>Attachment: 1993 Letter from F. Ward Whicker, CSU</li> </ul>
Mark Testa 3011 Broadway #11 Boulder, CO 80304	9/13/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep kids and day trips out of there</li> </ul>
Suzanne Webel 5735 Prospect Road Longmont, CO 80503	9/13/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nexus of regional trail systems</li> <li>Trail opportunities and design</li> <li>Co-existence of wildlife and trails</li> <li>Make large loop trails</li> <li>Connect with other trail systems</li> <li>No trails next to highways</li> <li>Pedestrian/equestrian/bike access</li> <li>Open site to public access</li> </ul>
Kandi McKay Church Ranch 10050 Wadsworth Blvd. Westminster, CO 80021	9/13/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prioritized public uses: hunting, interpretation, photography, fishing, wildlife observation, and environmental education</li> </ul>
S. Aeoghegan P.O. Box 3011 Boulder, CO 80307	9/15/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safe cleanup levels</li> <li>Site not appropriate for wildlife refuge</li> <li>Site is contaminated by chemicals that will outlive charge of USFWS</li> <li>No public use</li> <li>Allow the public to speak</li> </ul>

<p>Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board – Technical Review Group 9035 Wadsworth Parkway, Suite 2250, Westminster, CO 80021</p>	<p>9/19/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study relocation, carrying capacity, impacts of prairie dogs</li> <li>• Study tunnels under roads for wildlife movement</li> <li>• Determine public access</li> <li>• Consider an independent review of site to determine access</li> <li>• Study phytoremediation at the site</li> <li>• Study how lack of water will shape facilities</li> <li>• Ensure monitoring in the buffer zone</li> <li>• Consider use of grazing and prescribed burning</li> <li>• Study fire history</li> <li>• Study fencing</li> <li>• Establish vegetation management needs</li> <li>• Study effects of residual contamination on wildlife</li> <li>• Study effect of mineral rights</li> <li>• Study extent and nature of contamination</li> <li>• Develop vision of site in 50 years</li> <li>• Study coordination of trail with other jurisdictions</li> <li>• Study whether to allow hunting</li> <li>• Research permitted recreational activities</li> </ul>
<p>Anne Fenerty No address (email)</p>	<p>9/20/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of outreach for public meetings</li> <li>• Poor timing of public meetings</li> <li>• Public meeting format not conducive to free and open exchange of information</li> <li>• Consideration of contamination issues on site</li> <li>• Requirements under NEPA to consider effects on the human environment</li> </ul>
<p>Cynthia Cody Director, NEPA Program U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8 999 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 300 Denver, CO 80202-2466</p>	<p>9/25/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Wildlife first” mission</li> <li>• Multi-use pressures threaten vision of restoration/preservation</li> <li>• Carefully manage activities that could degrade habitat</li> <li>• Minimize spread of noxious weeds</li> <li>• Prohibit off-trail travel</li> <li>• Subjugate mineral rights</li> <li>• Wildlife health – contamination</li> <li>• EPA will be assured of site’s safety</li> </ul>
<p>Robert Poeschl 3100 Broadway #307 Boulder, CO 80304</p>	<p>9/26/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not open to tours or the general public</li> <li>• Site is contaminated by known carcinogens</li> <li>• Let me know when next public hearing is scheduled</li> </ul>
<p>Eric Vogelsberg Boulder Area Trails Coalition PMB 201 1705 14<sup>th</sup> Street Boulder, CO 80302</p>	<p>10/1/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trail system within Rocky Flats is essential</li> <li>• Concern that “proposed trails” shown on Surrounding Land Use maps are outside of Refuge</li> <li>• Create trails component within Rocky Flats</li> <li>• Provide north-south/east-west trail connections</li> <li>• At least, a trail loop within Rocky Flats should be created</li> <li>• Trails should allow equestrians, bicyclists, and hikers</li> <li>• Attachment: Letter to Sen. Allard</li> </ul>
<p>Karl Johanson No address (email)</p>	<p>10/2/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wildlife sanctuary is ok</li> <li>• No public access</li> </ul>
<p>Wes McKinley 9635 County Road 44 Walsh, CO 81090</p>	<p>10/2/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Past environmental crimes have not been properly investigated</li> <li>• Dangerous to allow public access</li> <li>• Undeveloped wildlife refuge is appropriate</li> </ul>

Dr. Peter Rickards DPM 2672 4000N Twin Falls, ID 83301	10/2/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oppose any public access</li> <li>• Contamination can be resuspended by wind</li> <li>• Warnings to keep out public</li> </ul>
Jeffery Eggleston, Chair Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board 9035 Wadsworth Parkway, Suite 2250 Westminster, CO 80021	10/2/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study fencing and signs to protect public from contamination</li> <li>• Consider placement of roads and pathways</li> <li>• Effect of refuge on mineral rights</li> <li>• Effect of refuge on adjacent lands</li> <li>• Restore native ecosystems</li> <li>• Study effects of weeds and non-native species</li> <li>• Study prescribed burning, grazing and fire history</li> <li>• Study effect of residual contamination on wildlife</li> <li>• Study and monitor contamination on site</li> <li>• Study safe areas for public access</li> <li>• Study phytoremediation</li> <li>• Study constructed wildlife corridors</li> <li>• Look at potential connections for trails</li> <li>• Consider access for hunting, off-road vehicles, fishing, hiking, biking, horses and dirt bikes</li> <li>• Provide educational tours</li> <li>• Develop a 50-year vision of the site</li> <li>• Preserve Lindsay Ranch</li> <li>• Study prairie dog relocation</li> <li>• Study water supply for visitors center</li> <li>• Continue to work with RFCAB/ other community groups</li> </ul>
Steven E. Davis Rocky Flats Cold War Museum 4131 Spy Glass Lane Niwot, CO 80503	10/3/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential opportunities for collaboration</li> <li>• Preserve Lindsay Ranch</li> <li>• Stabilize Lindsay Ranch buildings</li> <li>• Cold War Museum planning efforts</li> </ul>
Ruth Schommer No address (email)	10/4/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Would like natural trails for walking and riding</li> <li>• No hunting on refuge</li> </ul>
Unknown (web submission)	10/8/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hunting by Service for population control only</li> <li>• Hunting dangerous in urban area</li> <li>• Should not become Prairie dog dumping ground</li> <li>• Trails for educational tours only</li> <li>• Cold War Museum with Visitors Center would be a good feature</li> </ul>
Lennard Zinn 7437 S. Boulder Road Boulder, CO 80303	10/12/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Would like to see bicycle trails</li> <li>• Believe bicycle trails are compatible with intent of Refuge</li> </ul>
Joe Richardson 2370 Point of Pines Drive Boulder, CO 80302	10/12/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Would like to see a trail network open to mountain bikes</li> <li>• Mountain bike access would reduce pollution and traffic</li> </ul>
Chris Echelmeier 4587 Tally Ho Trail Boulder, CO 80301	10/15/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unclear whether mountain biking, dogs and equestrian use will be allowed</li> <li>• Support a trail system and mountain biking</li> </ul>

Greg Marsh President Rocky Flats Cleanup Commission 7700 W. 61 <sup>st</sup> Ave., Suite 12 Arvada, CO 80004	10/15/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morality of the proper degree of cleanup</li> <li>• Lack of independent oversight and quality control</li> <li>• Apply newest exposure risks and cleanup technologies</li> <li>• No meaningful independent oversight</li> <li>• Citizens Advisory Board and CDPHE are incompetent</li> <li>• Conflicts of interest among responsible agencies</li> <li>• Purge all technically incompetent people from process</li> <li>• Purge people with conflicts of interest from the process</li> <li>• Have final decisions reviewed by independent board</li> <li>• No independent environmental audit has been completed</li> <li>• Site must be closed to all anthropogenic activities</li> <li>• Attachment: Trust for America's Health Update</li> <li>• Attachment: Public Citizen press releases</li> <li>• Attachment: Science News article</li> <li>• Attachment: 1987 Denver Post editorial cartoon</li> <li>• Attachment: Resume - CDPHE Radiation Control Director</li> </ul>
Steve Gunderson Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment 4300 Cherry Creek Drive South Denver, CO 80246-1523 (email)	10/16/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleanup/Refuge interface</li> <li>• Need for a reclamation strategy to inform restoration</li> <li>• Consider mouse/habitat requirements post-closure</li> <li>• Implement long-term DOE use restrictions/fencing</li> <li>• Consider the status of mineral and water rights</li> </ul>
Donna Diamond 1001 E. Moorhead Circle Boulder, CO 80305	10/21/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not support public recreational use</li> </ul>
Erin Geegan No address (email)	10/21/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not trust that land will ever be cleaned up</li> <li>• No public access unless it is safe</li> <li>• Protect current and future generations from exposure</li> </ul>
Suzanne Webel, President Boulder County Horsemen's Association P.O. Box 19601 Boulder, CO 80308-2601	10/21/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a network of safe, off-road trails</li> <li>• Rocky Flats in unique regional trail context</li> <li>• Trails and wildlife can coexist</li> <li>• Concerned that "Proposed trails" on Surrounding Land Use map shown on other jurisdictions</li> <li>• Connect to trail systems outside of Refuge</li> <li>• Would like a field trip and aerial photos for stakeholders</li> </ul>
Tom Scrimgeour 810 Alpine Ave. Boulder, CO 80304	10/22/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trail system is essential</li> <li>• Would like bicycle and equestrian access</li> <li>• Question hunting</li> <li>• Is hunting compatible with environmental education?</li> </ul>
Sue Butcher 4120 Gilpin Drive Boulder, CO 80303	10/24/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider access for cycling, birdwatching, hiking, and horseback riding</li> <li>• Trail design can accommodate different users</li> </ul>
Puneet Pasrich No address (email)	10/24/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hope to have mountain bike access</li> </ul>

<p>John Giezentanner 10551 W. 105<sup>th</sup> Ave. Westminster, CO 80021</p>	<p>10/24/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ecosystem, habitat and scenic qualities</li> <li>• Important connection between other open space</li> <li>• What public access and use would be compatible?</li> <li>• Location of trails to maximize user experience while minimizing wildlife impacts</li> <li>• Close sensitive areas to public use</li> <li>• Visitor's center/museum location?</li> <li>• Protect wildlife and habitat</li> <li>• Allow only non-consumptive public use</li> <li>• Develop partnerships with communities</li> <li>• Safety should not be a big issue</li> <li>• Keep public out of hazardous areas</li> <li>• No fencing around refuge</li> <li>• Trails should not be paved</li> <li>• Prohibit road building, hunting, and off-road vehicle use</li> <li>• Visitor center construction should be subtle</li> </ul>
<p>Barbara Taylor 853 Deer Trail Road Boulder, CO 80302</p>	<p>10/24/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open space and wildlife qualities</li> <li>• Consider future uses and management</li> <li>• Interest groups should work with process</li> <li>• Consider multiple trails and separate users</li> <li>• Recruit volunteer stewards</li> <li>• People should take responsibility for management</li> <li>• Better to close site than allow it to be trashed</li> <li>• Should be a monument to cold war heritage</li> </ul>
<p>Nathan Bufe 901 Miami Way Boulder, CO 80305</p>	<p>10/26/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleanup seems to be inadequate</li> <li>• Prohibit access until it is safe</li> </ul>
<p>Scott Hoover Northeast Regional Manager Colorado Division of Wildlife 6060 Broadway Denver, CO 80216</p>	<p>10/29/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for hunting on the Refuge</li> <li>• Believe that hunting is compatible with other uses</li> </ul>
<p>Tom Marshall Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center P.O. Box 1156 Boulder, CO 80306</p>	<p>10/29/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request that scoping period be extended, and additional public meetings held</li> <li>• Public should be able to give substantive oral comments</li> <li>• Scoping process has not been adequate</li> <li>• Week of Sept. 11 was a poor week for meetings</li> <li>• Presentations on Sept. 12 were sparse with no opportunity for clarifying questions</li> <li>• Meeting structure did not allow substantive public input</li> <li>• Residual contamination was not addressed</li> <li>• Small group facilitators and note takers not trained</li> <li>• Comments not always</li> <li>• Adequacy of scoping process</li> <li>• Public meeting format</li> <li>• Contamination</li> </ul>

<p>Michael C. Bestor City Manager City of Golden 911 Tenth Street Golden, CO 80401</p>	<p>10/30/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and minimize effects of transportation corridor on Refuge resources and the region as a whole</li> <li>• Avoid impacts to critical habitat for threatened species</li> <li>• Conserve plant and wildlife habitats on Refuge</li> <li>• Ensure environmental health in the Refuge</li> <li>• Identify actions to mitigate impacts from transportation corridor</li> <li>• Avoid impacts to wetlands and floodplains</li> <li>• Review the impacts of and alternatives to transportation corridor</li> <li>• Provide guidelines to minimize effects of transportation improvements</li> <li>• Develop standards to determine impacts of corridor, mitigation measures, and effects to offsite resources</li> <li>• Consider narrowest practicable right-of-way</li> <li>• Develop a complete inventory of resources</li> <li>• Effects of transportation corridor on regional environment</li> <li>• Assess effects of transportation corridor on regional environment</li> <li>• NEPA requires full assessment of regional impacts of entire highway</li> <li>• Assess impacts of highway on Refuge, Golden and mountain backdrop</li> <li>• Plan for a smaller corridor</li> <li>• Consider type of transportation project for corridor</li> <li>• Transportation corridor unnecessary for regional needs</li> <li>• 300-foot corridor not necessary for regional needs</li> <li>• Impacts from freeway would conflict with vision and goals</li> <li>• Highway would affect migration, noise, and air quality</li> </ul>
<p>Dorian Brown Director of Public Works City and County of Broomfield One DesCombes Drive Broomfield, CO 80020</p>	<p>10/30/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerned mineral rights have not been addressed</li> <li>• Mining conflicts with draft vision and goals</li> <li>• Address post-closure water supply</li> <li>• Do not support prairie dog/burrowing species reintroduction</li> <li>• Funding is a key issue for Service and DOE stewardship</li> <li>• Work with surrounding governments</li> <li>• Continue ecological monitoring</li> <li>• Require routine ecological surveys</li> <li>• Preble’s meadow jumping mouse protection</li> <li>• Do not oppose prescribed burns for weed management</li> <li>• Ensure thorough public process for Vegetation Management Plan and burning procedures</li> <li>• Public education about reduced risks</li> <li>• Preserve the Lindsay Ranch</li> <li>• Remind future generations of residual contamination needs</li> <li>• Visitor Center should be new, multi-purpose facility</li> <li>• Residual contamination should be clearly identified</li> <li>• Public access should be clearly defined</li> <li>• Communicate with surrounding governments</li> <li>• Would like more dialogue about future infrastructure needs</li> <li>• Clarify future of intergovernmental agreements</li> <li>• Determine how goals will be prioritized</li> </ul>

David Meldman No address (email)	10/30/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allow public access if areas tested safe for humans</li> <li>• Establish hiking and biking trails in safe areas</li> <li>• Test snow to determine current contamination levels</li> </ul>
Dan Grunig Executive Director Bicycle Colorado (need address)	10/31/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include a trail system</li> <li>• Provide equal access for all trail users</li> <li>• Consider of existing trails in nearby areas</li> </ul>
Ken Fellman, Mayor Lorraine Anderson, Councilmember City of Arvada P.O. Box 8101 8101 Ralson Road Arvada, CO 80001-8101	10/31/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public scoping meetings were a productive step in process</li> <li>• Primary issues are public access and trail linkages</li> <li>• Two Ponds a good example of collaboration</li> <li>• Would like trail connection between Rocky Flats and Two Ponds</li> <li>• Would like a regional approach to public access</li> <li>• Minimize fencing, but do not sacrifice quality or safety</li> <li>• Appearance of refuge will reflect on Arvada</li> <li>• Firing range provides an unmet community need</li> <li>• Support Visitor's center near existing center</li> </ul>
Gary Sprung Senior National Policy Advisor International Mountain Bicycling Association P.O. Box 7578 Boulder, CO 80306	10/31/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerned about anti-bicycling attitudes</li> <li>• Purpose of Refuge is wildlife conservation</li> <li>• Bicycling can provide quiet, non-polluting, low impact transportation for wildlife-dependent uses</li> <li>• Request that open some future trails to bicycles</li> <li>• Many refuges prohibit bicycling with little analysis</li> <li>• Can provide significant professional and volunteer resources for trail construction and maintenance</li> <li>• Consider impacts of bikes next to other uses</li> <li>• Support hiking-only trails</li> <li>• Can assist in educating trail users about cooperating</li> </ul>
Kirk Cunningham Conservation and Water Quality Chair Sierra Club Rocky Mountain Chapter Indian Peaks Group P.O. Box 724 Boulder, CO 80306-0724	10/31/02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concur with comments from Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center</li> <li>• EIS process seems overly rushed</li> <li>• Public input opportunities are constrained</li> <li>• Environmental viewpoint not represented at focus group meetings</li> <li>• Contamination data are incomplete and substandard</li> <li>• Considerable pressure to allow public recreation access</li> <li>• What wildlife resources need protection from humans?</li> <li>• What are impacts on identified resources from human use?</li> <li>• Display all information about contamination</li> <li>• Perform and independent study of contamination levels</li> </ul>

<p>Deborah French Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board 9035 Wadsworth Parkway, Suite 2250, Westminster, CO 80021</p>	<p>10/31/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information gathered from public comment hotline and website: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Elaine Nemeth, Arvada: No public access, should be for wildlife, not the public</li> <li>- Anonymous caller: Citizens should have access, but no hunting. Include bike trails and wildlife photography.</li> <li>- Anonymous writer: Refuge should not allow unwanted prairie dogs</li> <li>- Anonymous writer, Boulder County: Provide trails and access, at least around perimeter</li> <li>- Nathan Bufe, Boulder County: Cleanup seems to be inadequate, prohibit access until it is safe</li> <li>- Anonymous caller: Provide horse trails</li> <li>- Elaine Mongeaux, Golden: Would like horse trails</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Online survey results</li> </ul>
<p>William R. Toor, Mayor City of Boulder P.O. Box 791 Boulder, CO 80306-0791</p>	<p>10/31/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinated grassland management could help achieve regional conservation goals</li> <li>• Unique biotic communities contiguous with over 50,000 acres of open space</li> <li>• Mineral extraction presents significant threat to ecosystems</li> <li>• Mining would increase spread of weeds</li> <li>• Prebles mouse can be impacted by changes in water flows</li> <li>• Support acquisition of mineral rights</li> <li>• Support additional groundwater monitoring</li> <li>• Recommend a integrated weed management plan</li> <li>• Concerned about use of biological weed controls</li> <li>• Manage to protect imperiled plant communities</li> <li>• Ensure restoration and revegetation of disturbed areas</li> <li>• Consider fire and grazing</li> <li>• Research re-suspension of contamination from fire or other activities</li> <li>• Coordinate with City's grassland management plan</li> <li>• Tallgrass prairie is important, support rare butterflies</li> <li>• Collaboration on Prebles mouse conservation</li> <li>• Collaboration on plains sharp-tailed grouse reintroduction</li> <li>• City has no position on bison or pronghorn reintroduction</li> <li>• City supports protection of adjacent lands outside of Refuge</li> <li>• Trail connections can benefit visitors and minimize impacts</li> <li>• Control public access to minimize danger to public</li> <li>• Interested in working at cross-boundary issues</li> </ul>
<p>Doug Grinbergs P.O. Box 17455 Boulder, CO 80308</p>	<p>10/31/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disappointed in public meeting format – did not include public discussion and comment opportunity</li> <li>• Don't separate nuclear waste dump and wildlife refuge</li> <li>• Citizens need to be convinced that site is safe</li> <li>• Mistrust of DOE and their partners in crime</li> <li>• Fires are a bad idea – decide on the site of caution</li> <li>• Moot to discuss refuge issues without a clear understanding of final cleanup</li> </ul>

<p>Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners 100 Jefferson County Parkway Golden, CO 80419</p>	<p>10/31/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate with other County planning efforts</li> <li>• Encouraged by Service lead and progress to date</li> <li>• Believe in need for transportation corridor</li> <li>• Preservation of 300-foot right-of-way is essential</li> <li>• Work with Open Space staff to maximize integration of wildlife corridor with adjacent lands</li> <li>• Multi-purpose trails are key to connections</li> <li>• Key linkages include trails across the site</li> <li>• Integrate key north-south/east-west trail corridors</li> <li>• Lindsay Ranch will increase in interpretive value</li> <li>• Balance access to Lindsay Ranch with preservation</li> <li>• Lindsay Ranch preservation should commence immediately</li> <li>• Visitor's Center/Museum is a tribute to Cold War legacy</li> <li>• Explore the retainment of key site structures/landmarks</li> <li>• Do not rule out prescribed fire for weed control</li> <li>• Fairly address mineral rights</li> <li>• County supports acquisition from willing seller</li> <li>• Not opposed to controlled hunting</li> </ul>
<p>Tom Tobiassen No address (web submittal)</p>	<p>10/31/02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider modes of access other than automobile</li> <li>• Consider trails and bike paths</li> <li>• Would like a place to bike/walk/jog</li> </ul>
<p>Karen Falls No address (web submission)</p>	<p>Date unknown</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider an Honor Wall to honor former employees</li> <li>• Included design ideas</li> </ul>

