



STOR Committee Meeting Agenda

October 27th, 2022: 2 – 4PM

Hybrid Meeting

For STOR Committee Members & Guests: This meeting will be held in-person at the Blackstock Government Building (221 North Wisconsin Street, Gunnison, CO 81230).

For the General Public: The meeting will also be held virtually on Zoom at the following link:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86117827825?pwd=U0lJS2thMmdvQ1dkRDFvT2c1bWh6QT09>

Meeting Goals:

- To appoint the next chair of the STOR Committee
- To continue the conversation about management of the RV Dump Station in the Town of Crested Butte
- To discuss potential solutions to the Snodgrass Trail access conflicts
- To introduce the Central Colorado Outdoor Recreation Partnership

2:00 pm **Call to Order & Agenda Preview** – *Kim Schappert (Committee Vice-Chair)*

2:05 pm **STOR Committee Chair Appointment** – *Cathie Pagano (Gunnison County)*
- **Supporting Document:** [STOR Charter \(page 4 at this link\)](#)

2:20 pm **Town of Crested Butte: RV Dump Station** – *Joey Carpenter (Town of Crested Butte)*
- **Supporting Document:** RV Dump Station Presentation PDF (attachment)

2:45 pm **Snodgrass Trail Closure** – *Dave Ochs (Crested Butte Mountain Bike Association)*
- **Supporting Document:** [Snodgrass Maps PDF \(attachment\)](#)

2:55 pm **Gunnison Wildlife Data & Recreation Impacts to Wildlife** – *Kevin Blecha (Colorado Parks & Wildlife)*

3:25 pm **Planning for Wildlife Tools** – *Cindy Williams (Envision Chaffee County)*
- **Supporting Document:** [Planning for Wildlife Tools PDF \(attachment\)](#)

4:00 pm **Adjourn**



CRESTED BUTTE RV DUMP STATION DISCUSSION

OCTOBER 27, 2022

STOR COMMITTEE BRIEF



OVERVIEW

1. May 17, 2021 – Town Council Directed staff to re-open the RV Dump Station for a two-year period to allow time to develop and implement a regional solution for the RV dump station.
2. Sustainable Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Committee (STOR) – RV Dump Station sub-committee did not identify an alternative location for the facility.
3. Town Council plans to make a decision regarding the future of the RV Dump Station at the 11/21 meeting.

CONTEXT & BACKGROUND

IN-TOWN ASSESSMENT

Facility Requirements

- “Station” Must be served by High and Consistent Wastewater Flows
 - Not Typical Waste / High Concentration of Solids
 - No Alternative Location Available
- Tank style with limited utilities and water
 - No Alternative Site Available

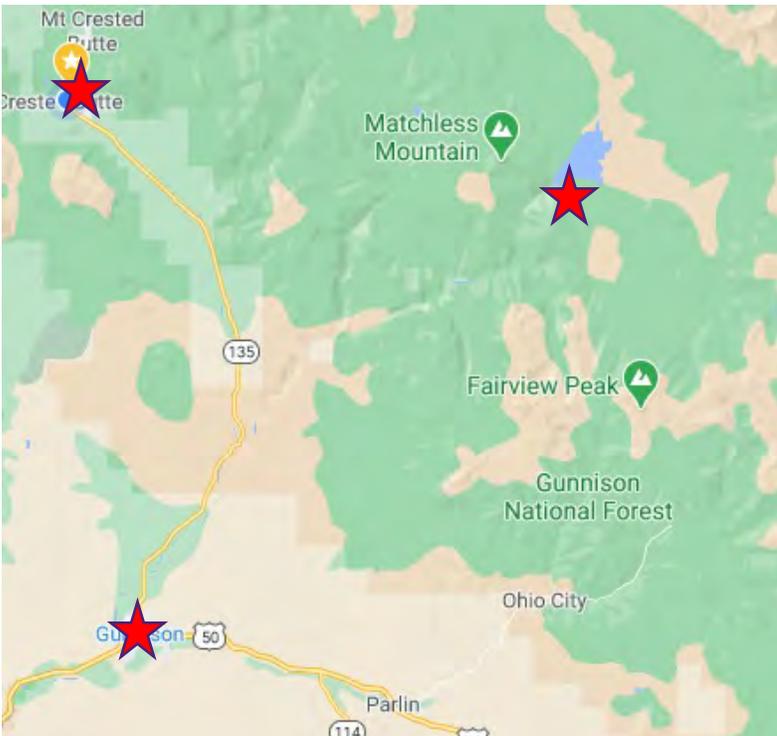
In Town Options

- Close the Facility
- Alternative Configurations of Current Facility



CONTEXT & BACKGROUND

REGIONAL ASSESSMENT



STOR Sub-Committee Findings (Consultation w/ CDPHE)

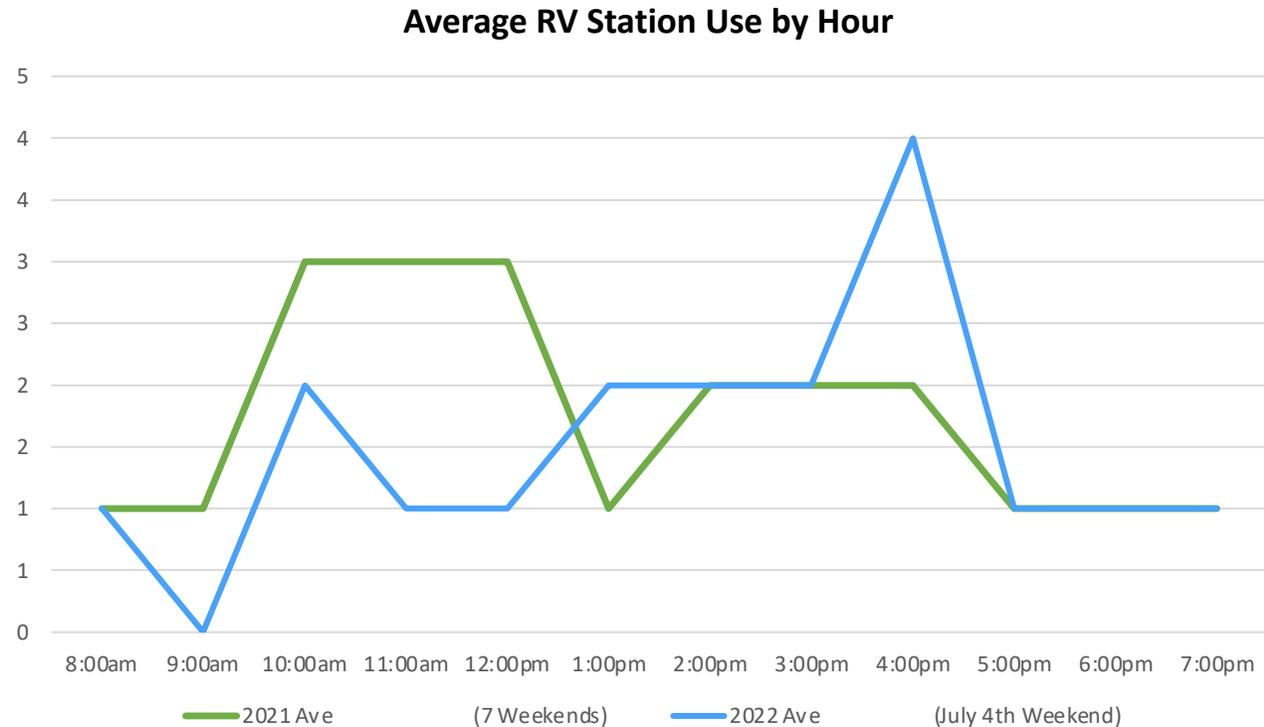
- Maintain Current location + Operation - Preferred
- Station “nearby” – with adequate flow (does not exist)
 - Town utility extension to Whetstone necessary
 - Need Land
 - County Coordination + permission
 - CDOT requirements + permit
 - **COSTLY**
- Tank style with limited utilities and water (example: Riverland)
 - Need land, infrastructure, & ongoing operations
 - **COSTLY**
- Close CB Facility with no replacement - Not supported

CONTEXT & BACKGROUND

OPERATIONS & DEMAND

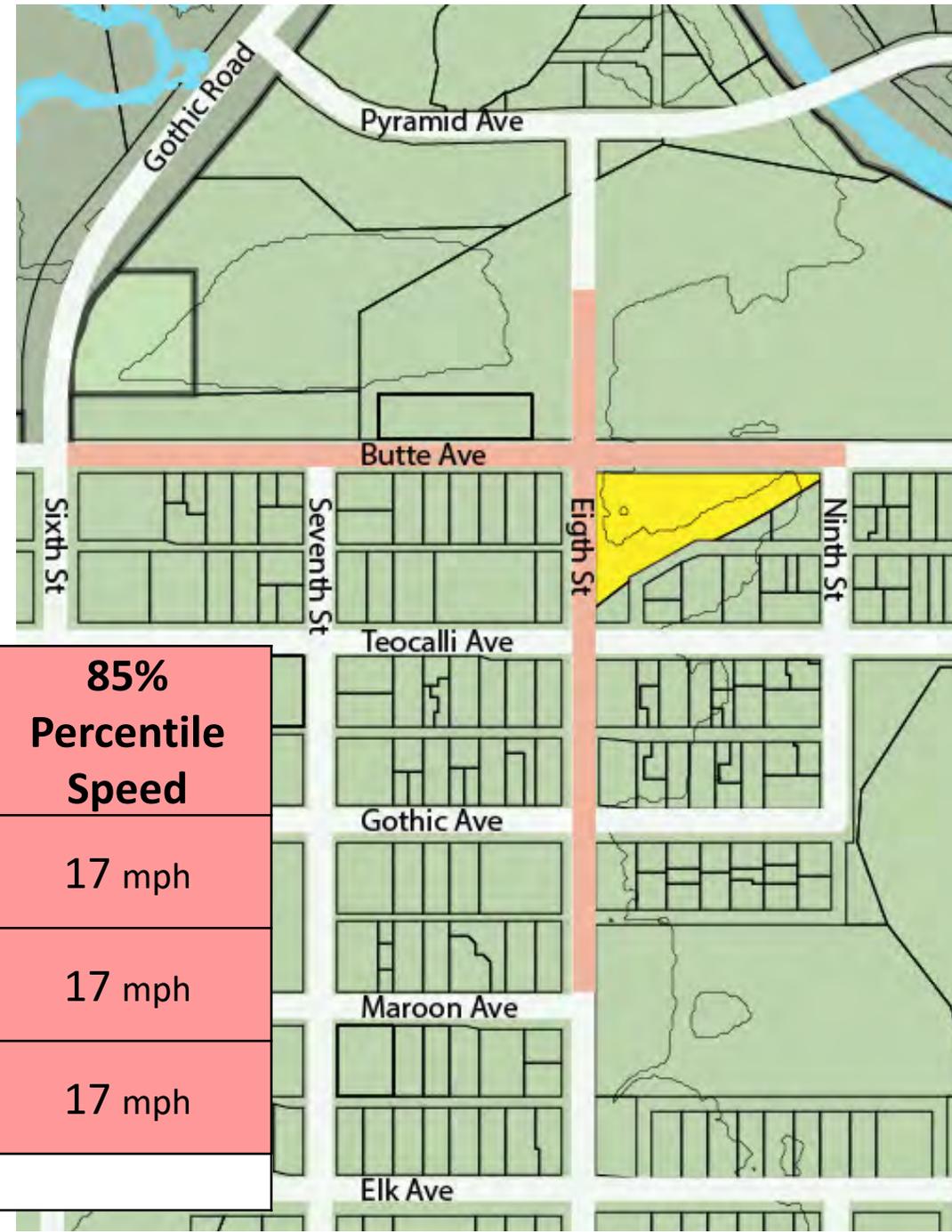
- 2021 – Average 22 per day with a peak of 28
(June 19th-21st, July 23rd- 25th, and July 30th-Aug 1st)
- 2022 – Average 16 per day with a peak of 20
(July 1st-July 4th)

	2021 Ave (7 Weekends)	2022 Ave (July 4th Weekend)
8:00am	1	1
9:00am	1	0
10:00am	3	2
11:00am	3	1
12:00pm	3	1
1:00pm	1	2
2:00pm	2	2
3:00pm	2	2
4:00pm	2	4
5:00pm	1	1
6:00pm	1	1
7:00pm	1	1
Total	22	16



CONTEXT & BACKGROUND

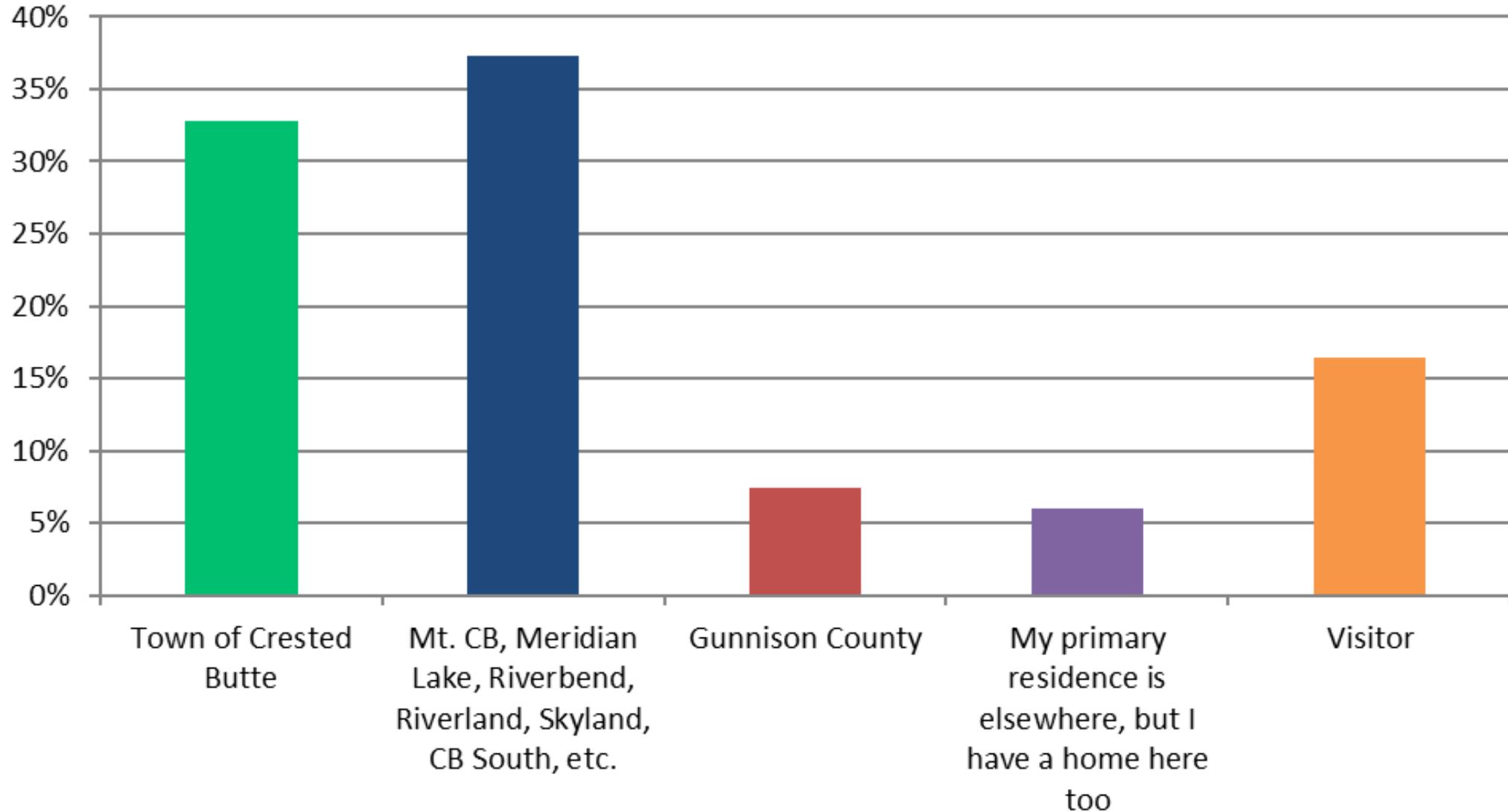
TRAFFIC SPEEDS



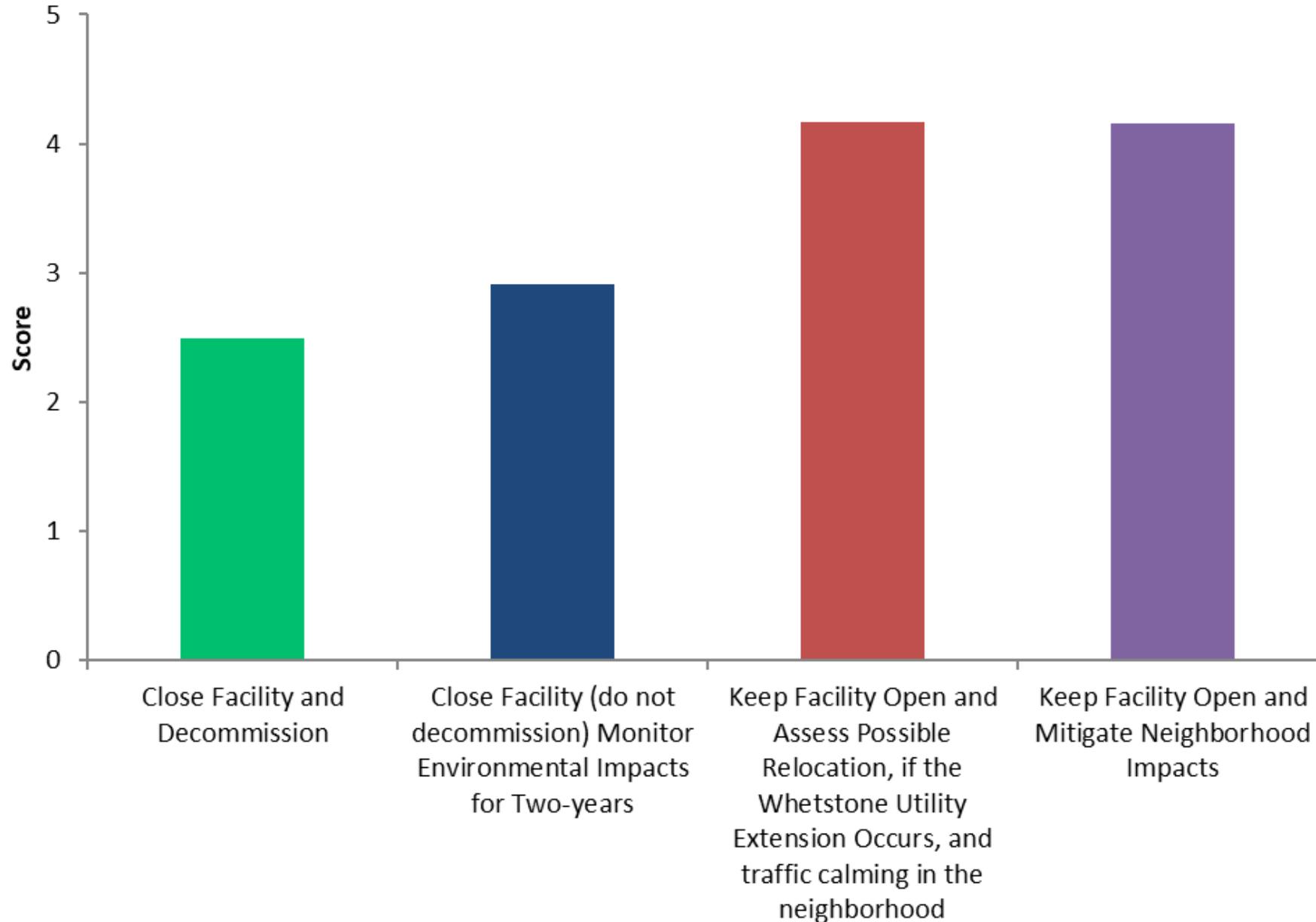
	Average Daily Traffic	Average Speed	Max Speed	Min Speed	85% Percentile Speed
Butte Avenue July 2021	535 ADT	14 mph	25 mph	6 mph	17 mph
Butte Avenue July 2022	430 ADT	14 mph	28 mph	4 mph	17 mph
Eighth Street July 2022	756 ADT	14 mph	24 mph	4 mph	17 mph

COMMUNITY SURVEY OCTOBER 7-16, 2022

Survey Participants (67)

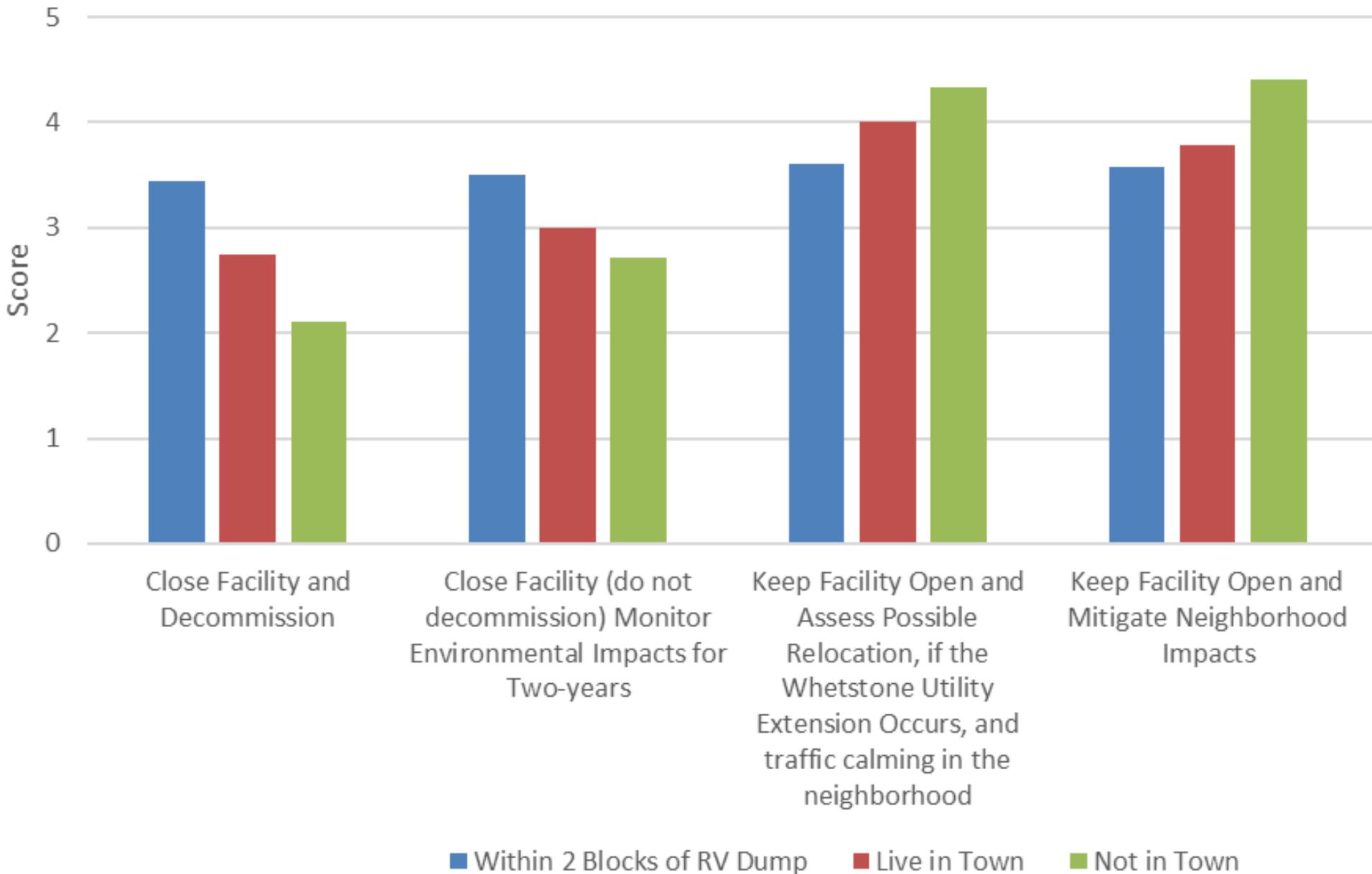


COMMUNITY SURVEY



ALL RESPONDENTS (67)

COMMUNITY SURVEY ALTERNATIVES RANKING



ALL RESPONDENTS (67)

BROKEN OUT BY GROUP

CLOSE & DECOMMISSION

Ensure Neighborhood Quality of Life: **YES**
Strengthen Environmental Stewardship: **NO**
Fiscal Prudence: **YES**

CLOSE (2-YEARS) & MONITOR IMPACTS

Ensure Neighborhood Quality of Life: **IMPROVED**
Strengthen Environmental Stewardship: **UNLIKELY**
Fiscal Prudence: **NO**

**KEEP OPEN W/ TRAFFIC CALMING
& ASSESS POSSIBLE RELOCATION
IF THE WHETSTONE UTILITY
EXTENSION OCCURS**

Ensure Neighborhood Quality of Life: **IMPROVED**
Strengthen Environmental Stewardship: **YES**
Fiscal Prudence: **TBD**

KEEP OPEN & MITIGATE IMPACTS

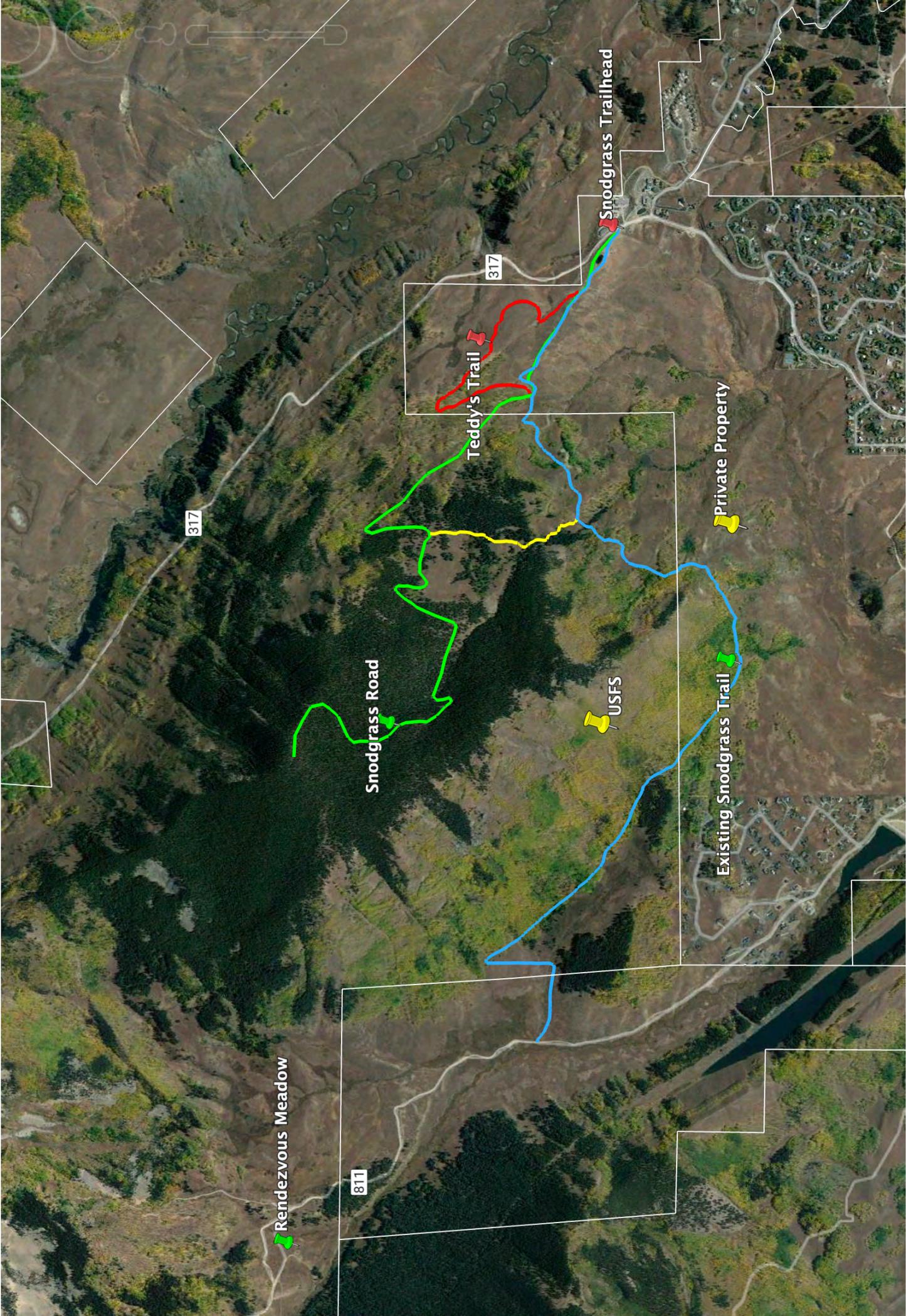
Ensure Neighborhood Quality of Life: **IMPROVED**
Strengthen Environmental Stewardship: **YES**
Fiscal Prudence: **YES**

NEXT STEPS

Council Discussion and Decision (November 21st)

Questions or comments?

Email planning@crestedbutte-co.gov



Snodgrass Trailhead

317

Teddy's Trail

Private Property

317

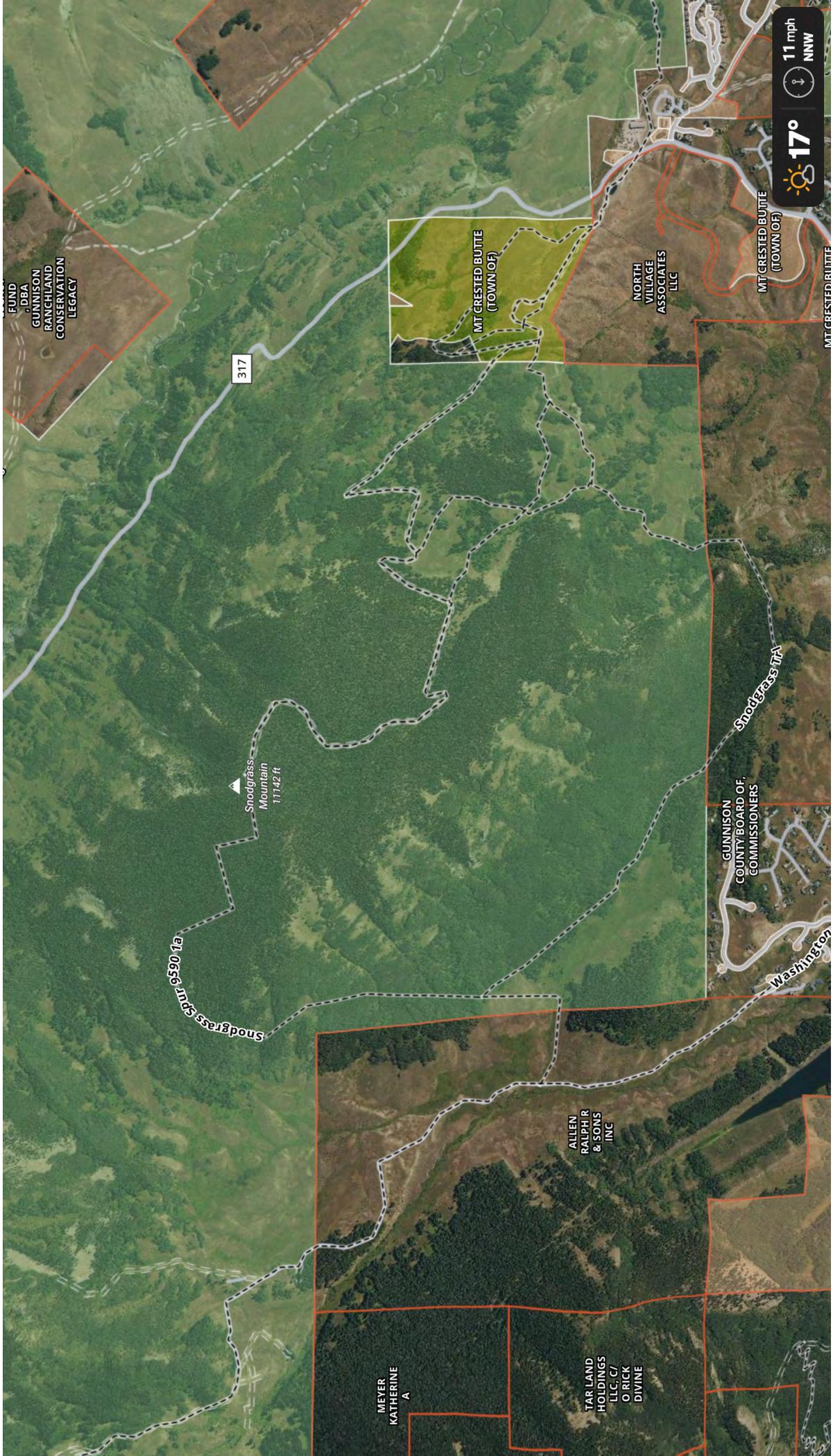
Snodgrass Road

USFS

Existing Snodgrass Trail

Rendezvous Meadow

811



FUND
DBA
GUNNISON
RANCHLAND
CONSERVATION
LEGACY

317

MT CRESTED BUTTE
(TOWN OF)

NORTH
VILLAGE
ASSOCIATES
LLC

MT CRESTED BUTTE
(TOWN OF)

11 mph
NNW

17°

Snodgrass
Mountain
11142 ft

Snodgrass Summit 6590 1a

Snodgrass TTA

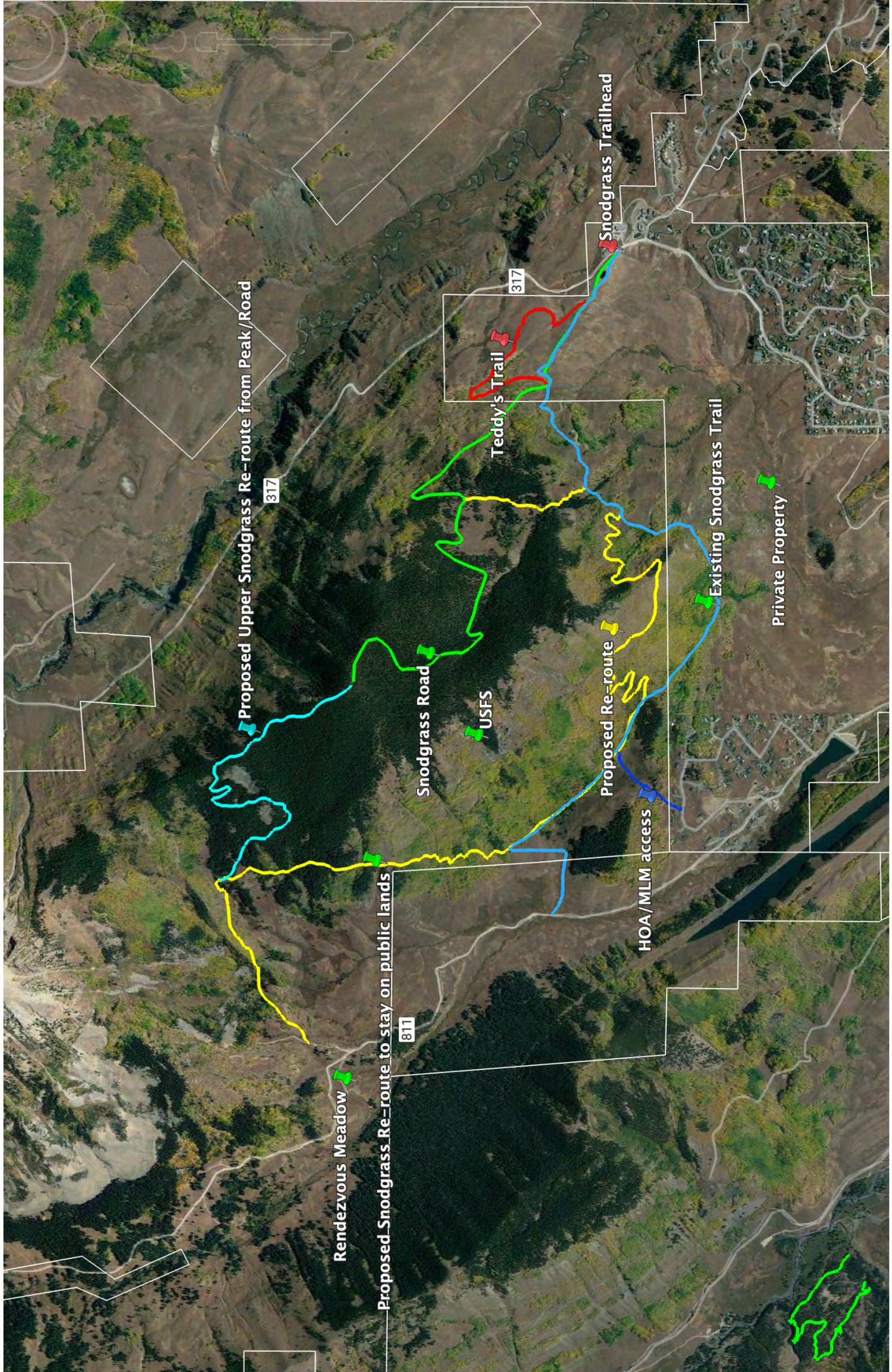
GUNNISON
COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS

Washington

ALLEN
RALPH R
& SONS
INC

MEYER
KATHERINE
A

TARLAND
HOLDINGS
LLC C/ O
RICK
DIVINE



Proposed Upper Snodgrass Re-route from Peak/Road

317

Teddy's Trail

Snodgrass Trailhead

317

Existing Snodgrass Trail

Private Property

Snodgrass Road

USFS

Proposed Re-route

HOA/MLM access

Proposed Snodgrass Re-route to stay on public lands

811

Rendezvous Meadow



Town of Poncha Springs
"The Crossroads of the Rockies"



National Forest Foundation



BUENA VISTA &
SALIDA



SALIDA COLORADO
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE TOOLS

Agenda

Big Picture

Wildlife Populations and Recreation

The Planning for Wildlife Tools – step by step

How the Planning for Wildlife Tool is being used

Q&A

PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE

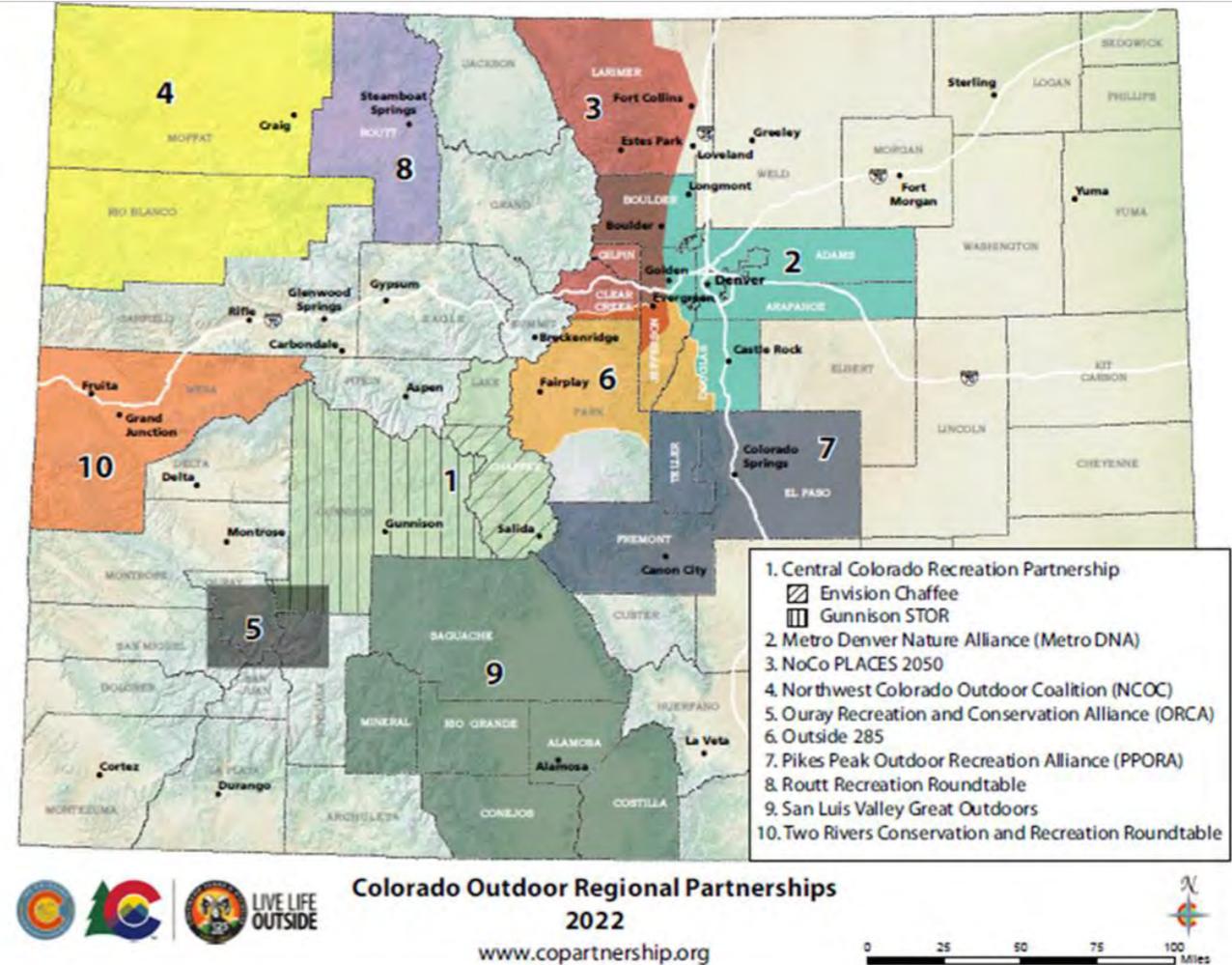
The Big Picture Envision, Rec Plan, Regional Plans

**Chaffee County
Outdoor Recreation
Management Plan**

June 2021

CHAFFEE RECCOUNCIL

Colorado Outdoor Regional Partnerships Progress 5-year timeline



PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE

WILDLIFE AND RECREATION

PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE

Community Priorities

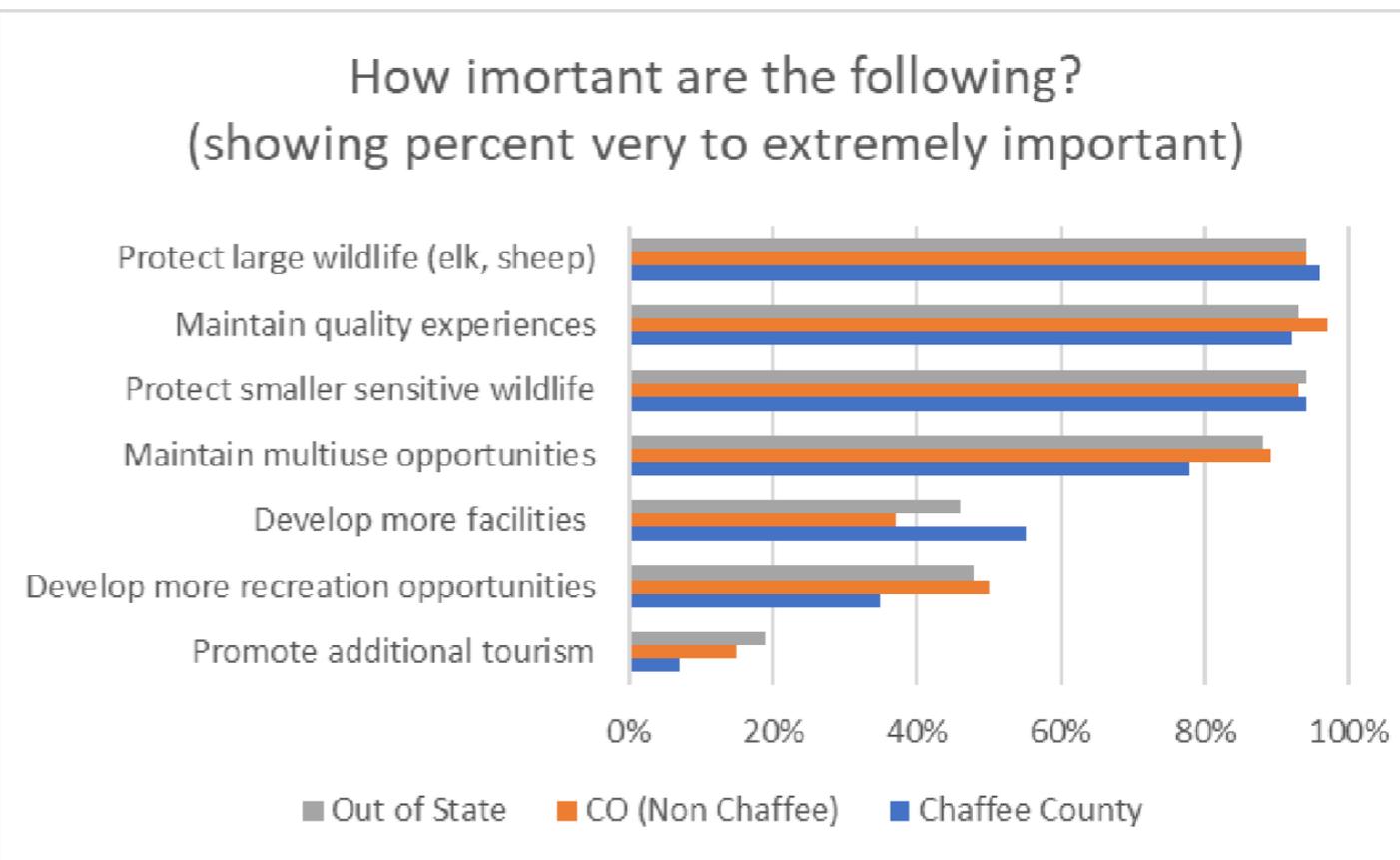
Envision Visions

Common Ground Ballot Measure Professional Polling

Chaffee Rec Survey Data – 3800 respondents, 41 states

Economic Data

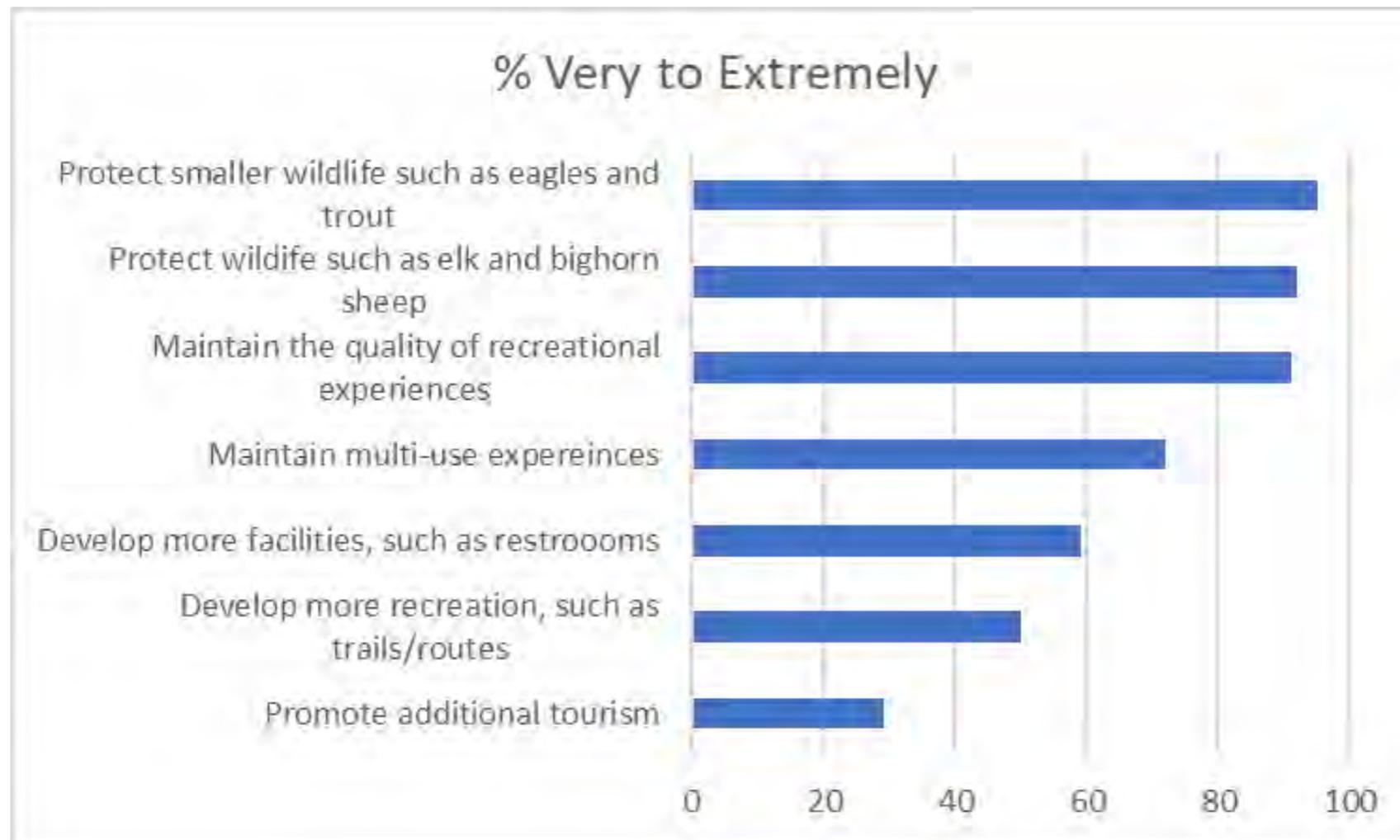
Preserve Water Quality	88%
Protect Community From Wildfire	86%
Protect Forests	83%
Conserve Lands that Protect Water	83%
Preserve Natural Areas	80%
Protect Wildlife Habitat	76%
Preserve Working Ranches and Farms	69%
Manage Public Lands to Maintain Quality of Recreation	64%
Improve Trails to Decrease Erosion	60%
Maintain River/Trails Access	58%
Increase Trash Collection in Recreation Areas	56%
Provide More Bathrooms at Recreation Sites	46%
Provide More Recreation Access to Accommodate Use	37%
Connect Trails to Trail Networks	25%



PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE

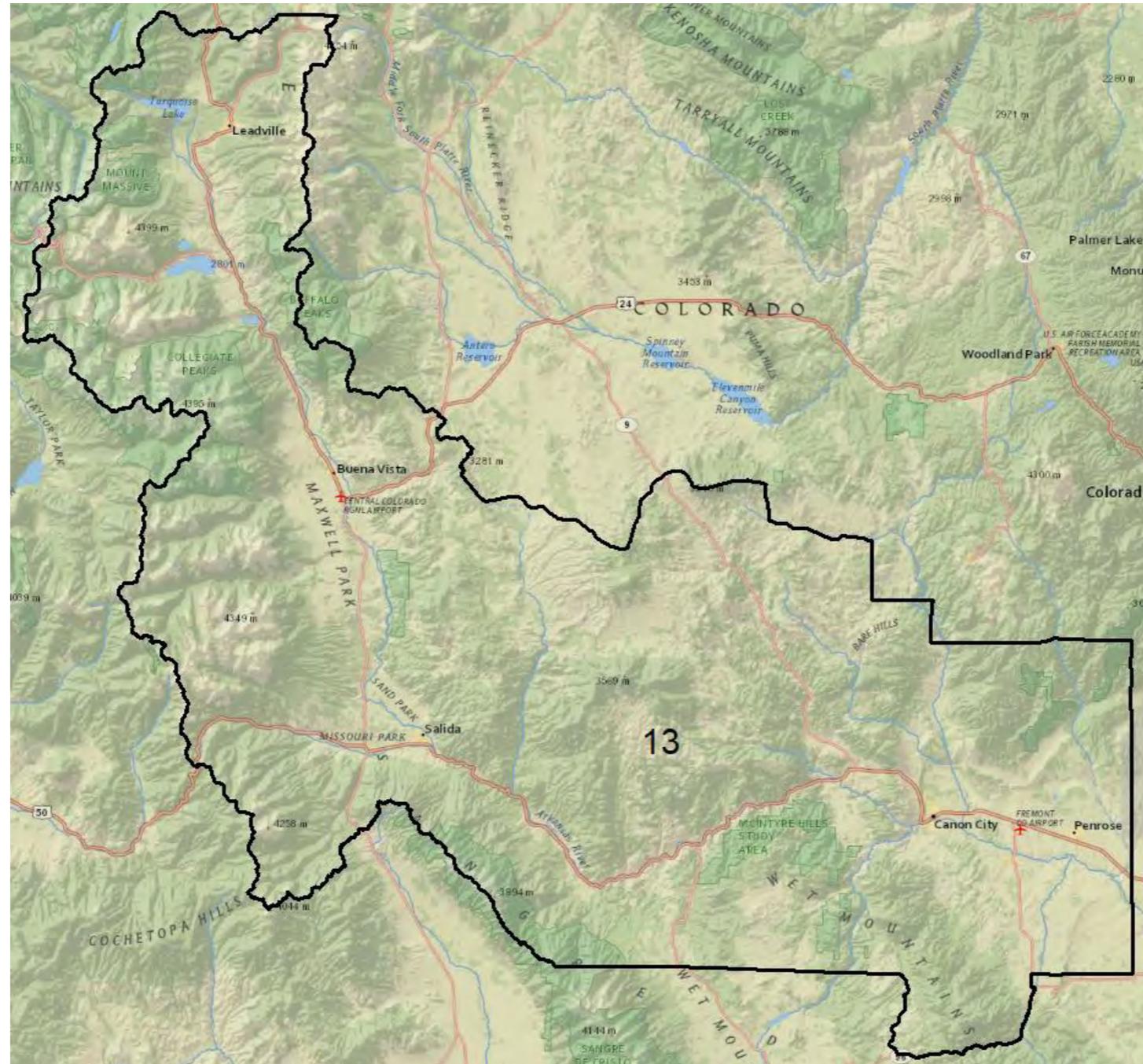
Lake County Community Wildfire and Recreation Survey, 2021 (488 respondents)

As recreation expands in Lake County, how important are the following?



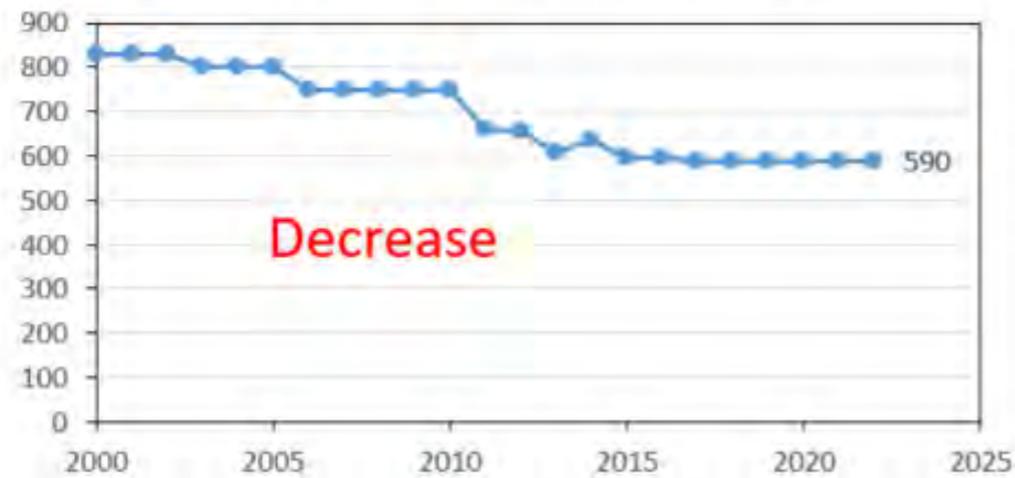
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Upper Arkansas Ungulate Population Data 2000-2022

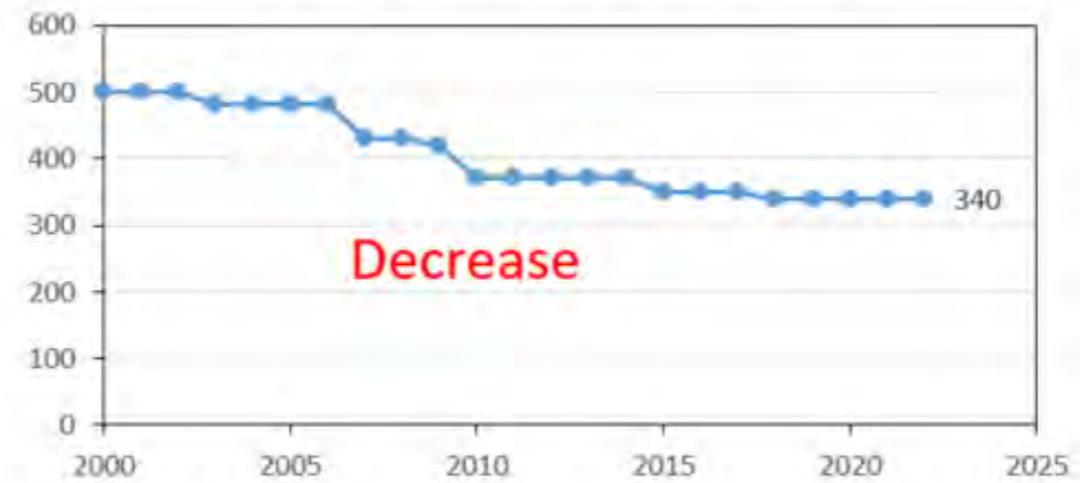


PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE

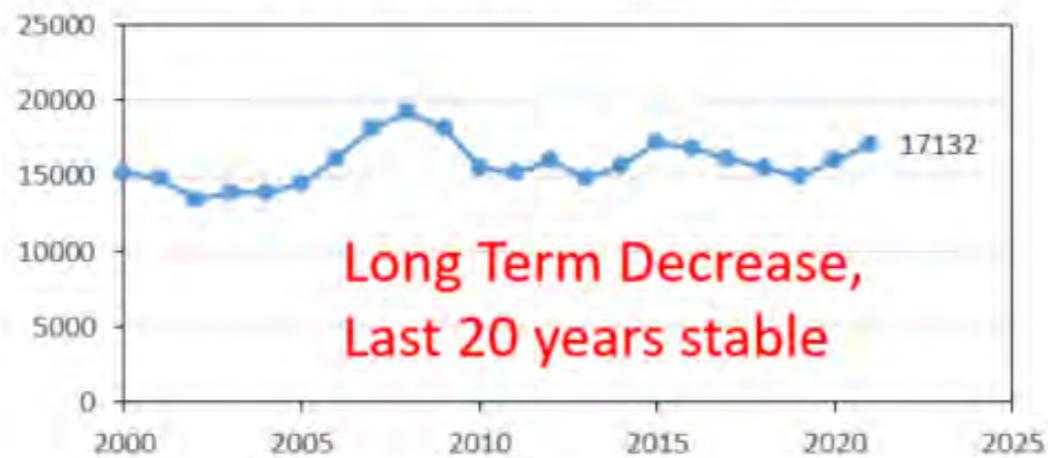
Big Horn Sheep Population Data



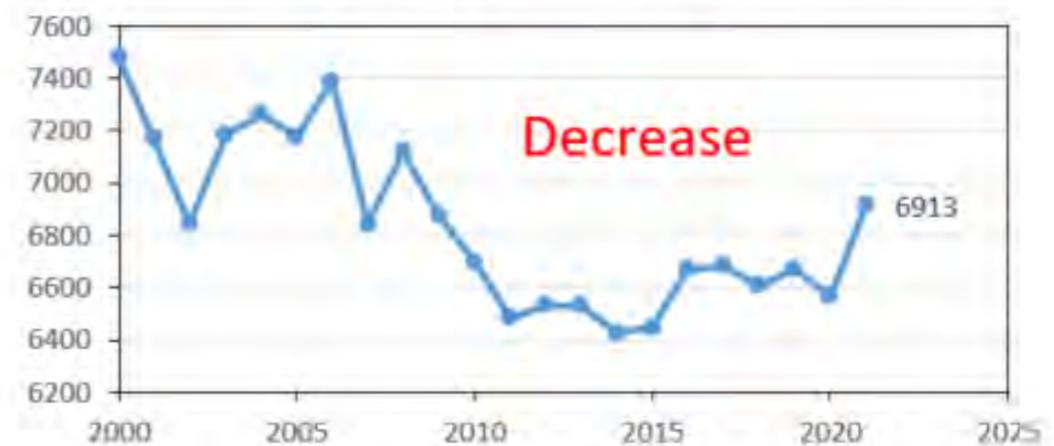
Mountain Goat Population Data



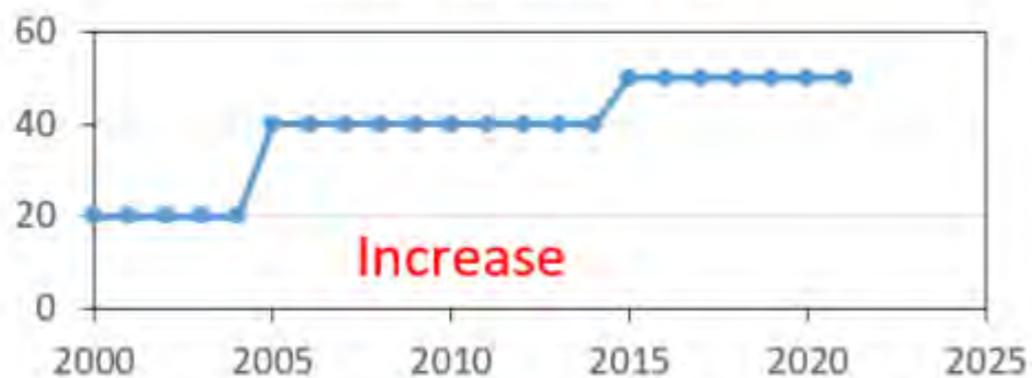
Mule Deer Population Data



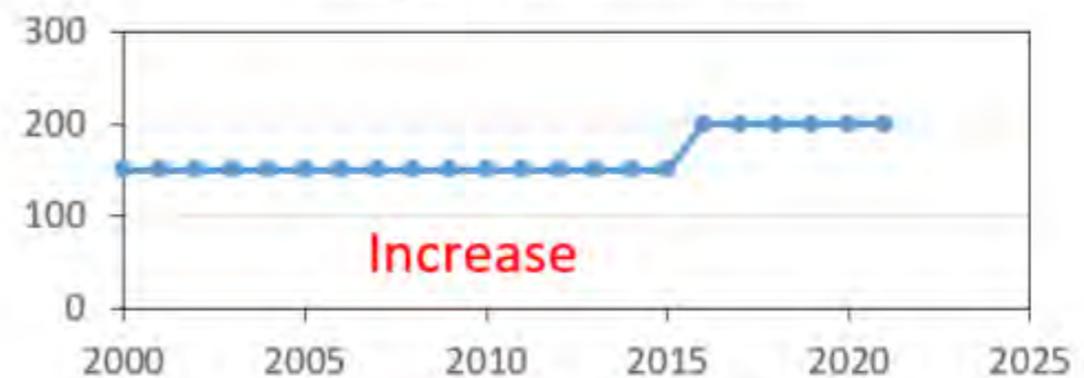
Elk Population Data



Moose Population Data



Pronghorn Population Data

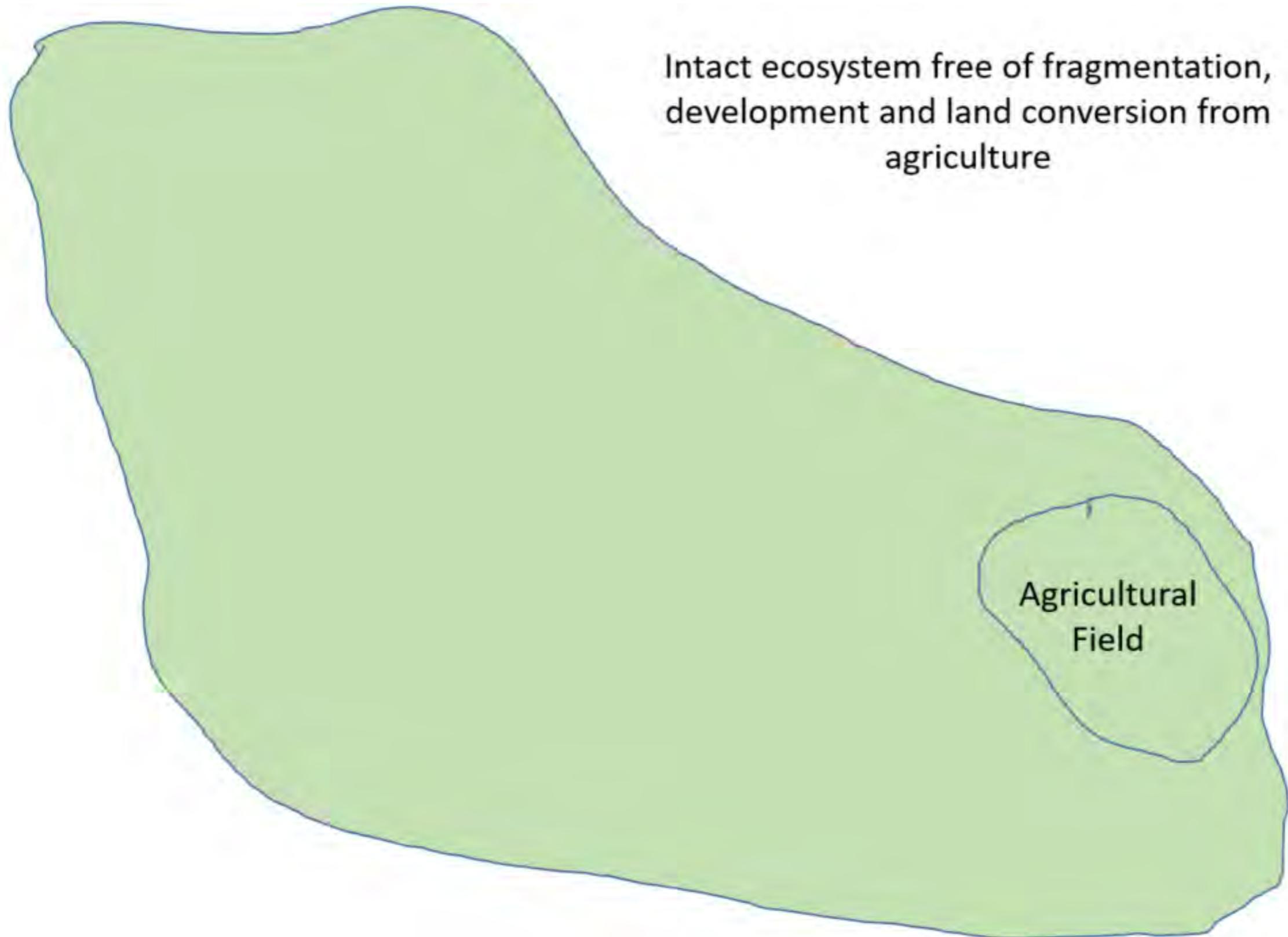


Boreal Toad sharp decline, raptors stable, data limited on others

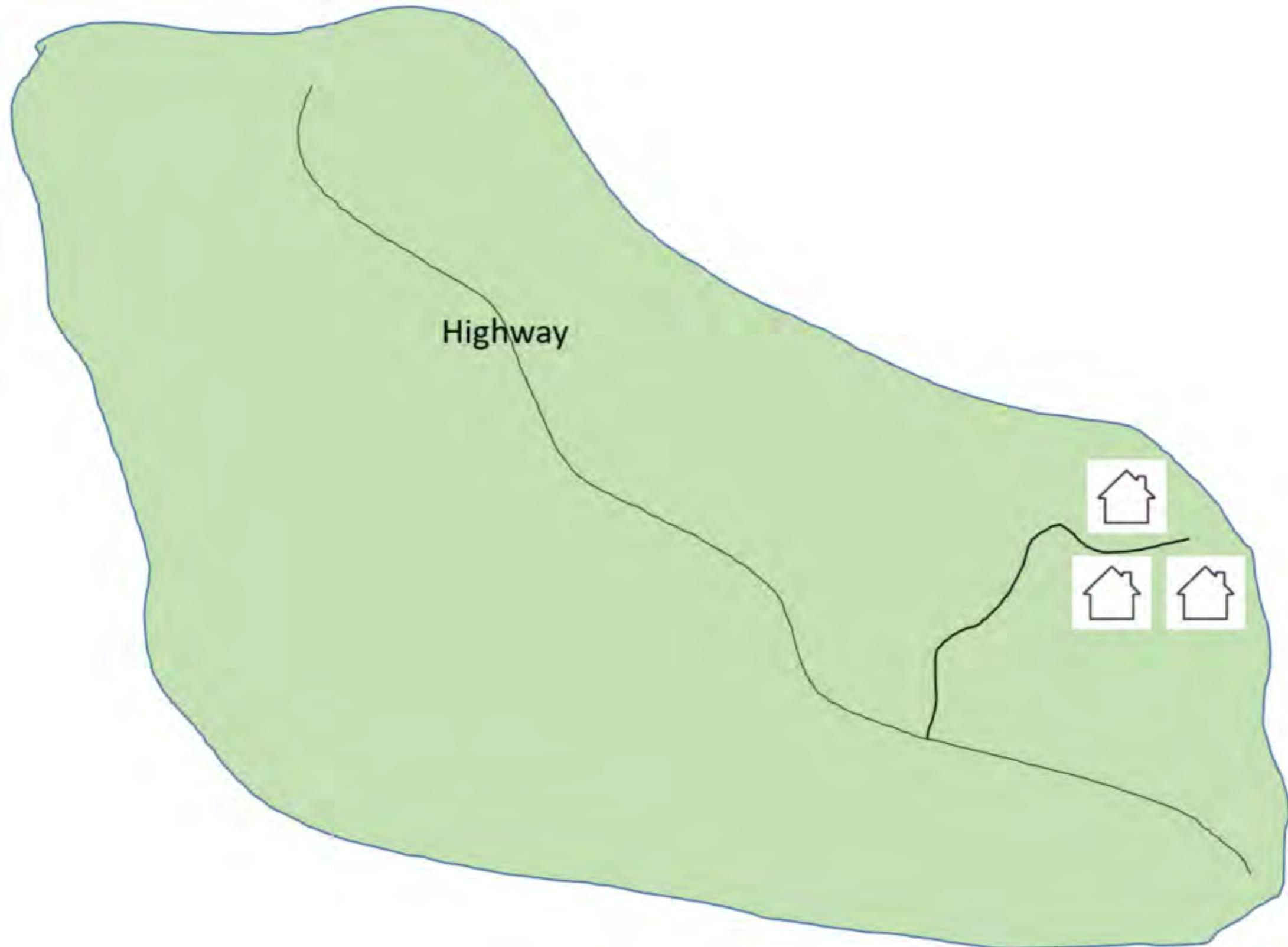
Impacts on Wildlife



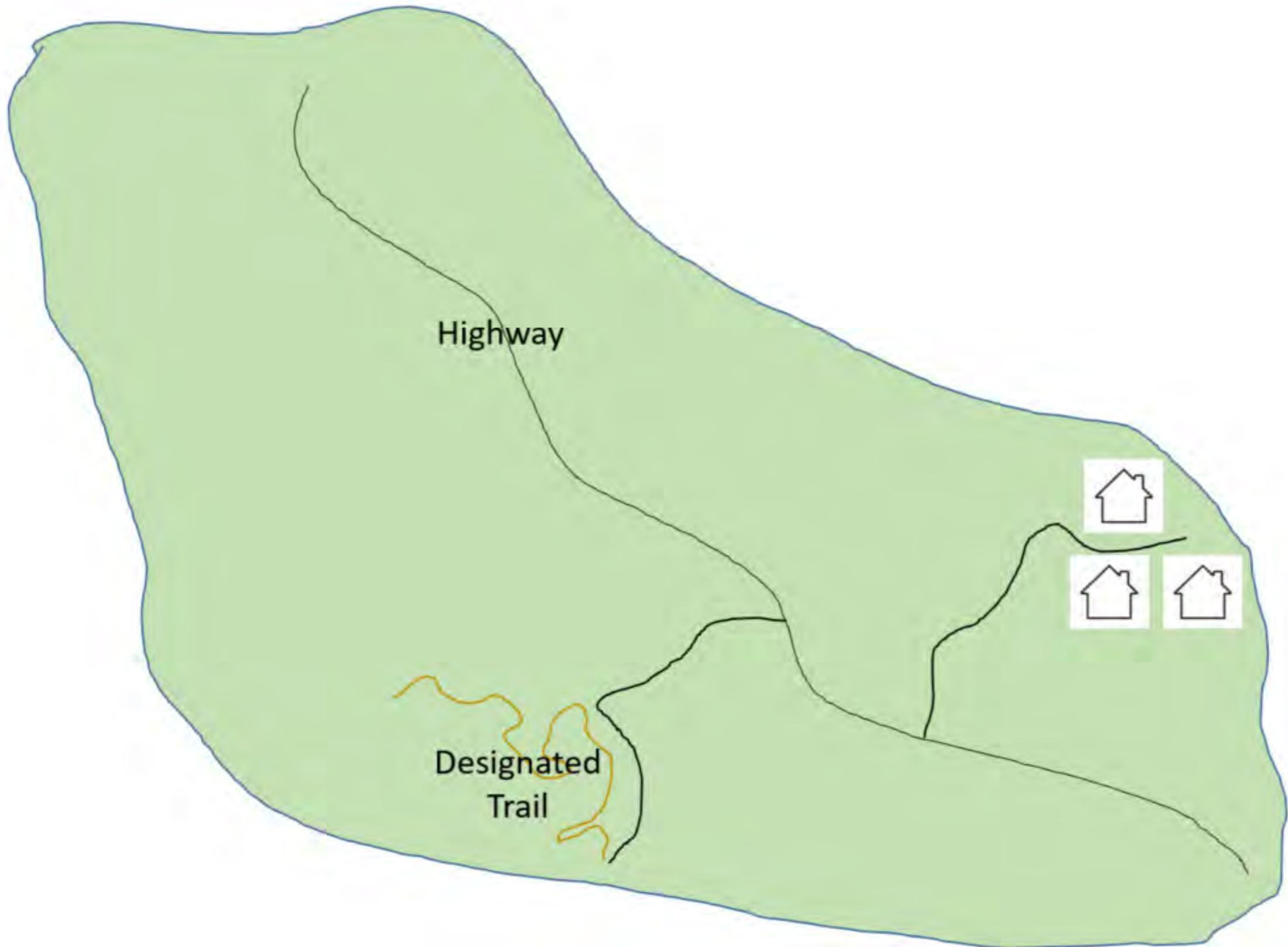
PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE



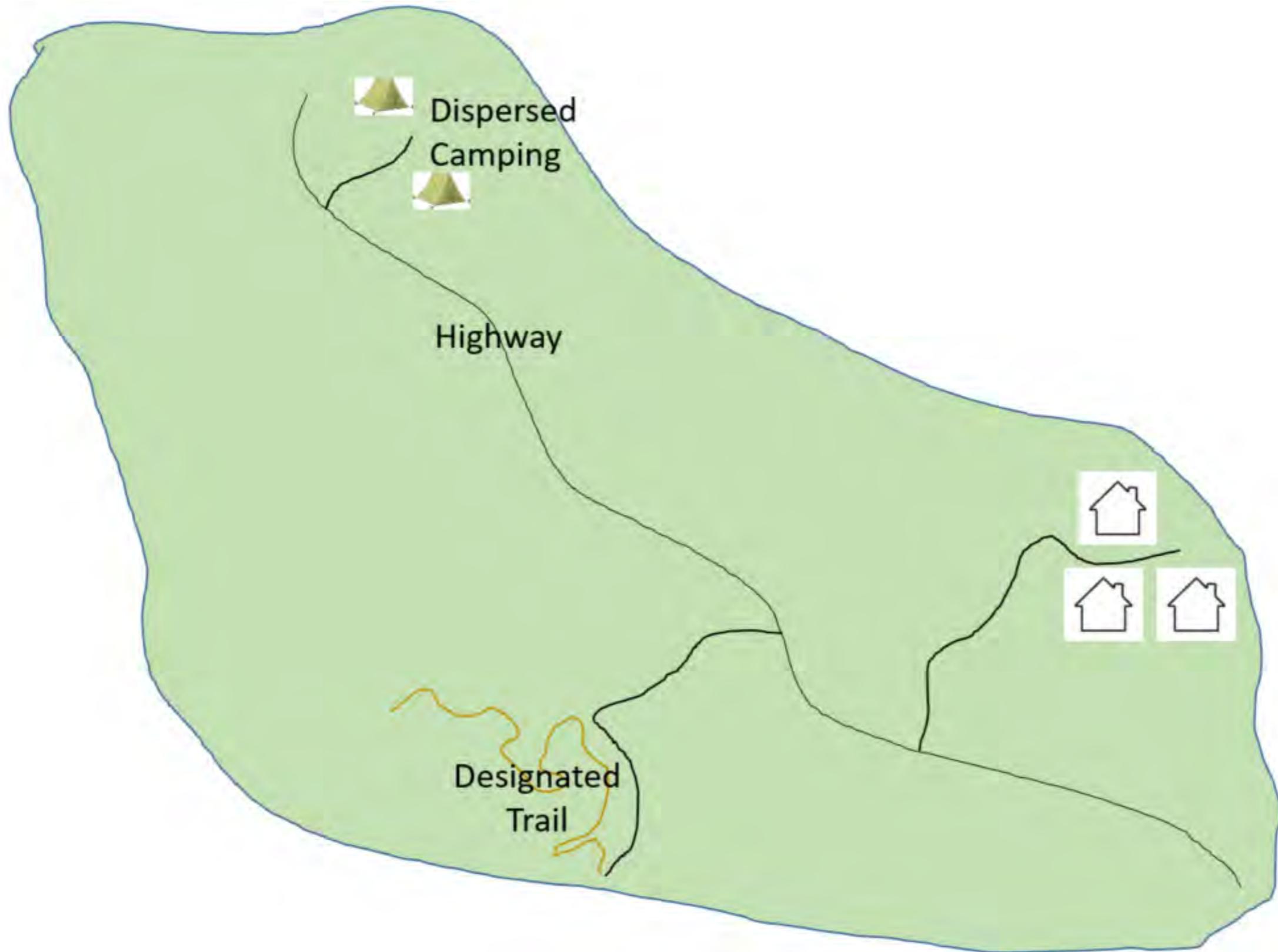
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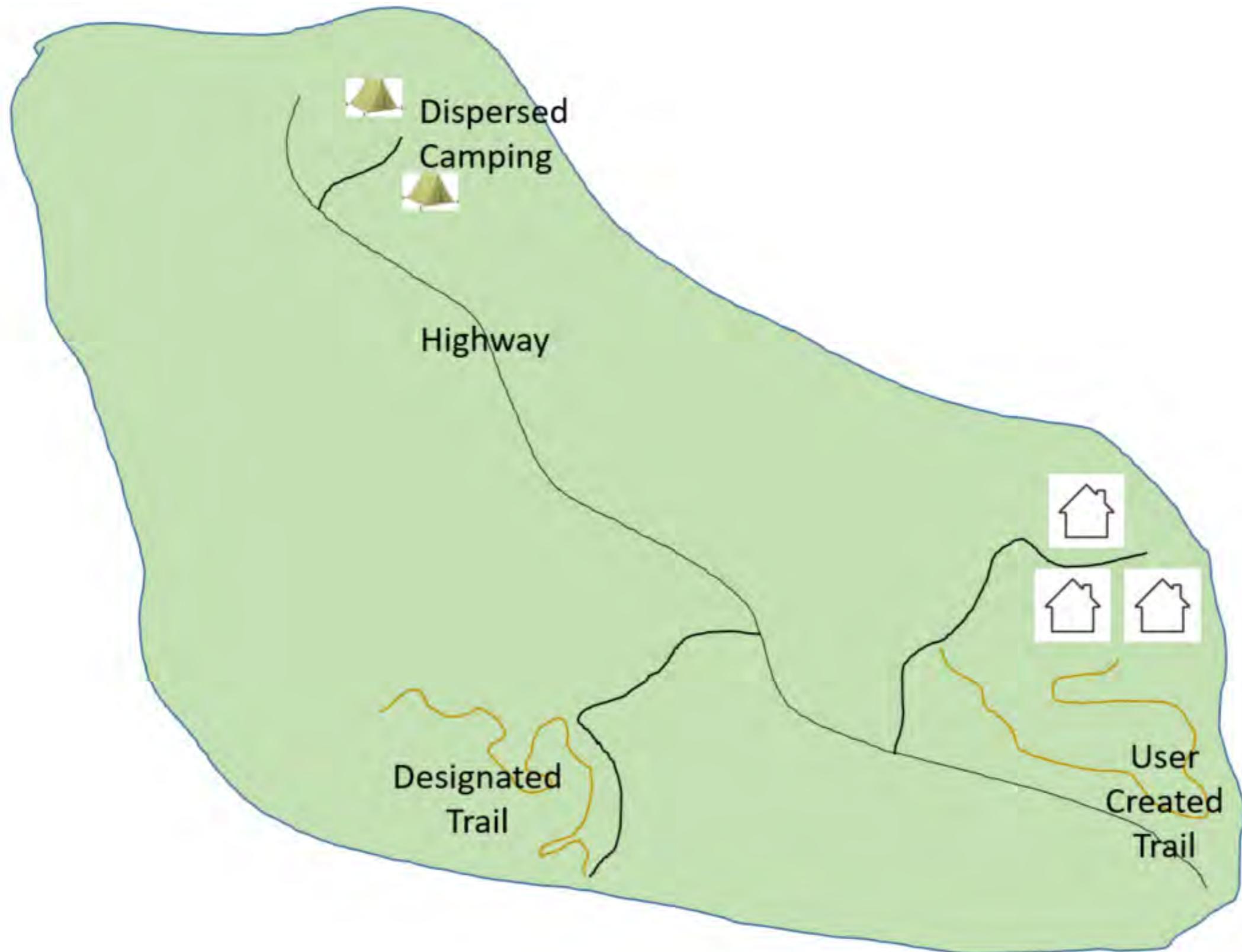
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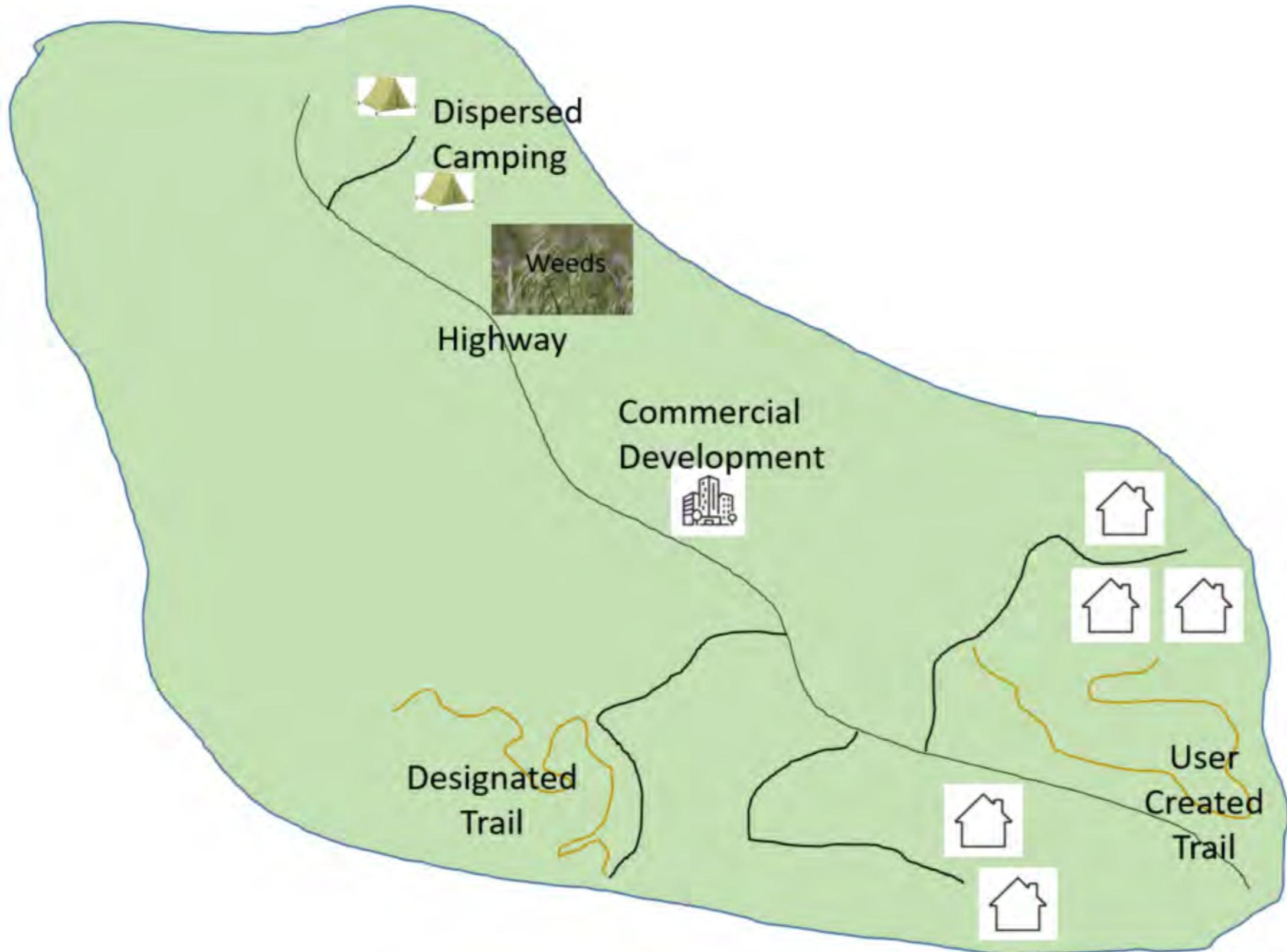
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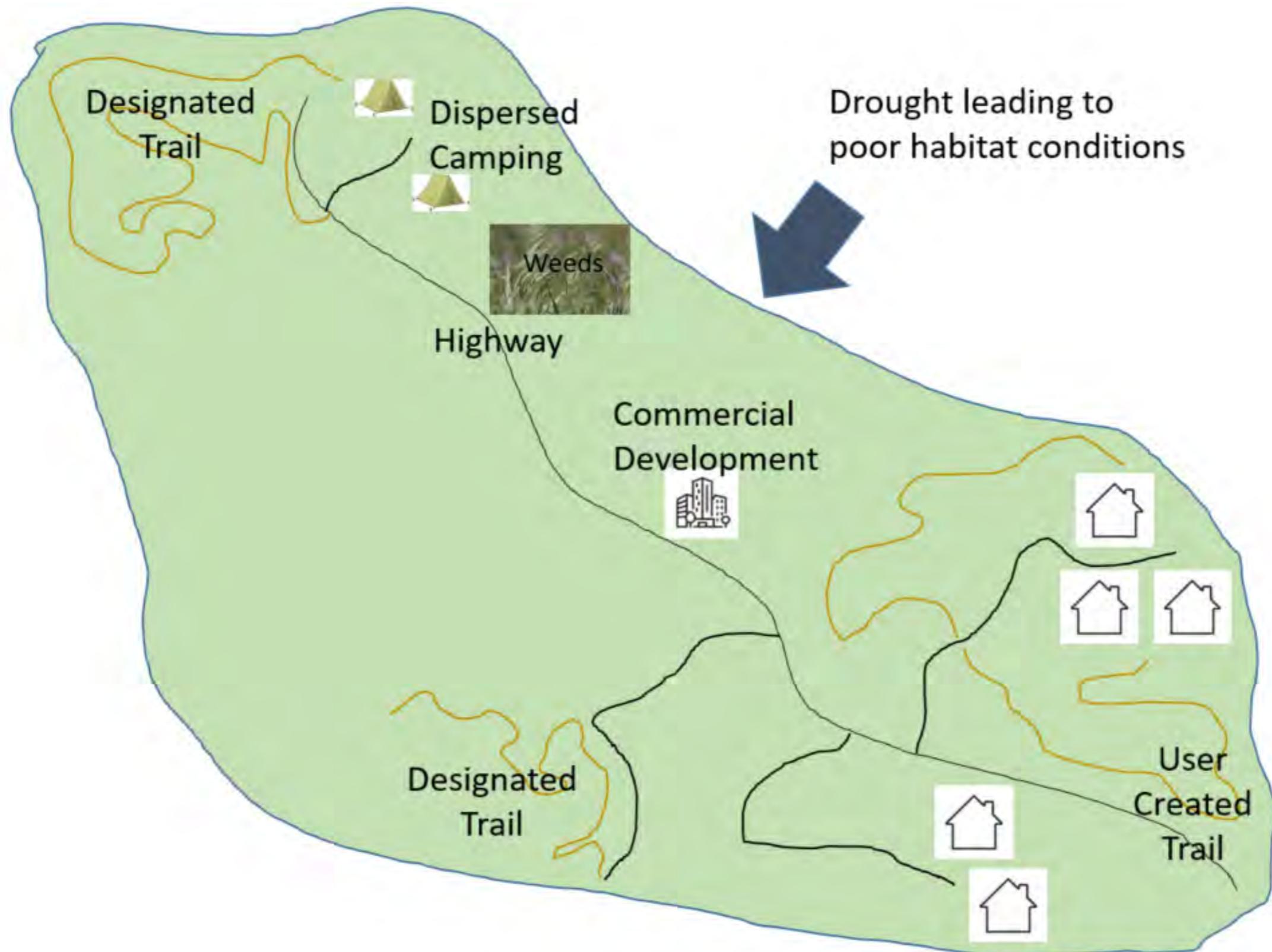
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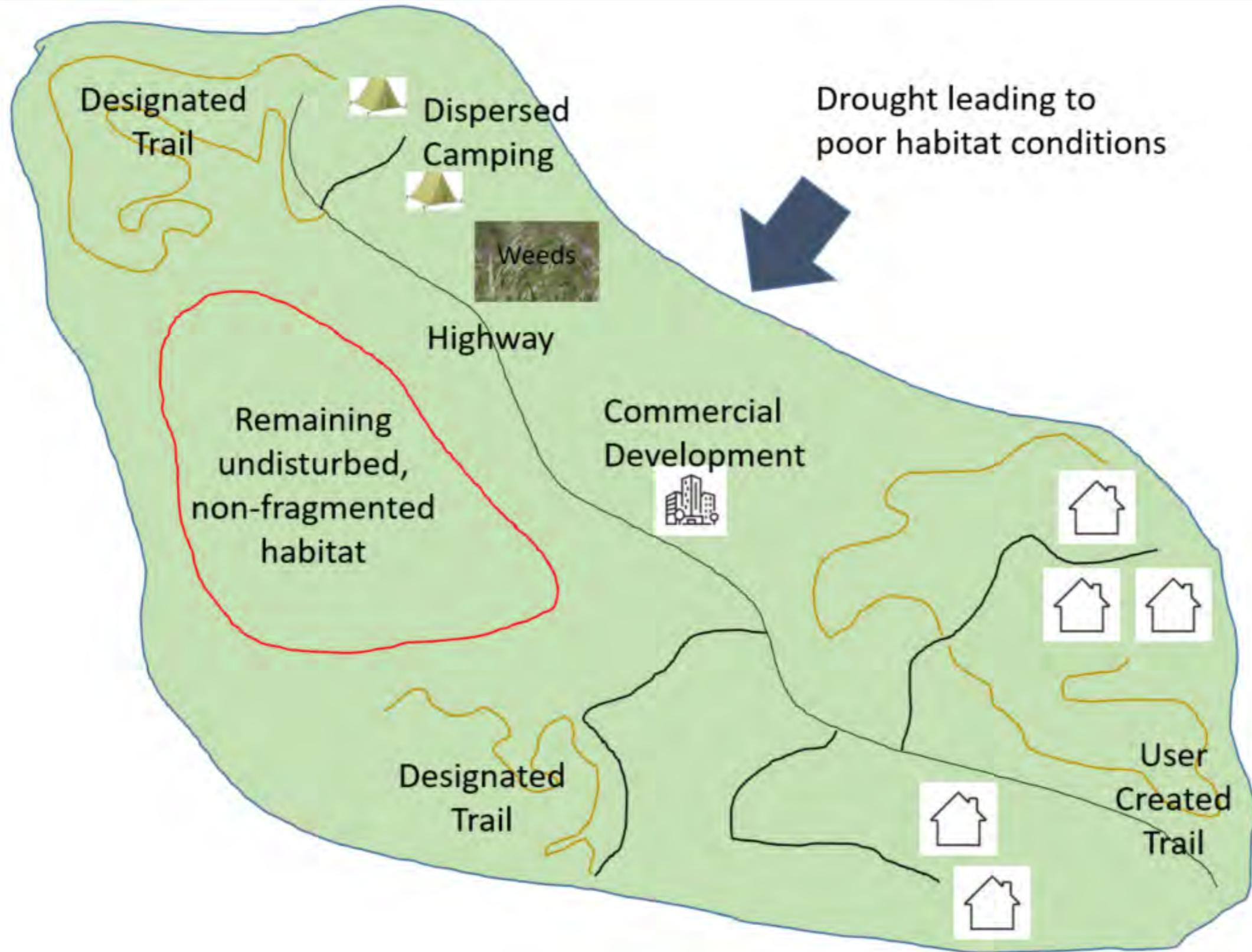
PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE



PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE



PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE



Increased Desire for Outdoor Recreation



Recreation and Wildlife-Research

- Taylor and Knight 2003
- George and Crooks 2006
- Hammitt et al. 2015
- Naylor et al. 2009
- Losos et al. 1995
- Czech et al. 2000
- Cordell et al. 2012
- Courtemanch et al. 2014
- Stanowich et al. 2008
- Preisler et al. 2013
- Rowland et al. 2000
- Wisom et al. 2018
- Phillips and Alldredge 2000
- Shively et al 2005

WILDLIFE RESPONSES TO RECREATION AND ASSOCIATED VISITOR PERCEPTIONS

AUDREY R. TAYLOR¹ AND RICHARD L. KNIGHT²

¹Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado 80523 USA

Abstract. Outdoor recreation has the potential to disturb wildlife, resulting in energetic costs, impacts to animals' behavior and fitness, and avoidance of otherwise suitable habitat. Mountain biking is emerging as a popular form of outdoor recreation, yet virtually nothing is known about whether wildlife responds differently to mountain biking vs. more traditional

ELK REPRODUCTIVE RESPONSE TO REMOVAL OF CALVING SEASON DISTURBANCE BY HUMANS

KIRK J. SHIVELY,^{1,2} Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523, USA
A. WILLIAM ALLDREDGE,³ Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523, USA
GREGORY E. PHILLIPS,⁴ Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523, USA

Abstract: We evaluated elk (*Cervus elaphus*) reproductive success following removal of human disturbance during calving season, by comparing data from 2 segregated groups of free-ranging elk (control and treatment) from 1 pre-disturbance year, 2 disturbance years, and 2 post-disturbance years. Treatment-group elk were subjected to sim-

Nonmotorized recreation and motorized recreation in shrub-steppe habitats affects behavior and reproduction of golden eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*)

Robert J. Spaul  | Julie A. Heath 

Department of Biological Sciences and Raptor Research Center, Boise State University, Boise, ID, USA

Abstract

Different forms of outdoor recreation have different spatiotemporal activity patterns

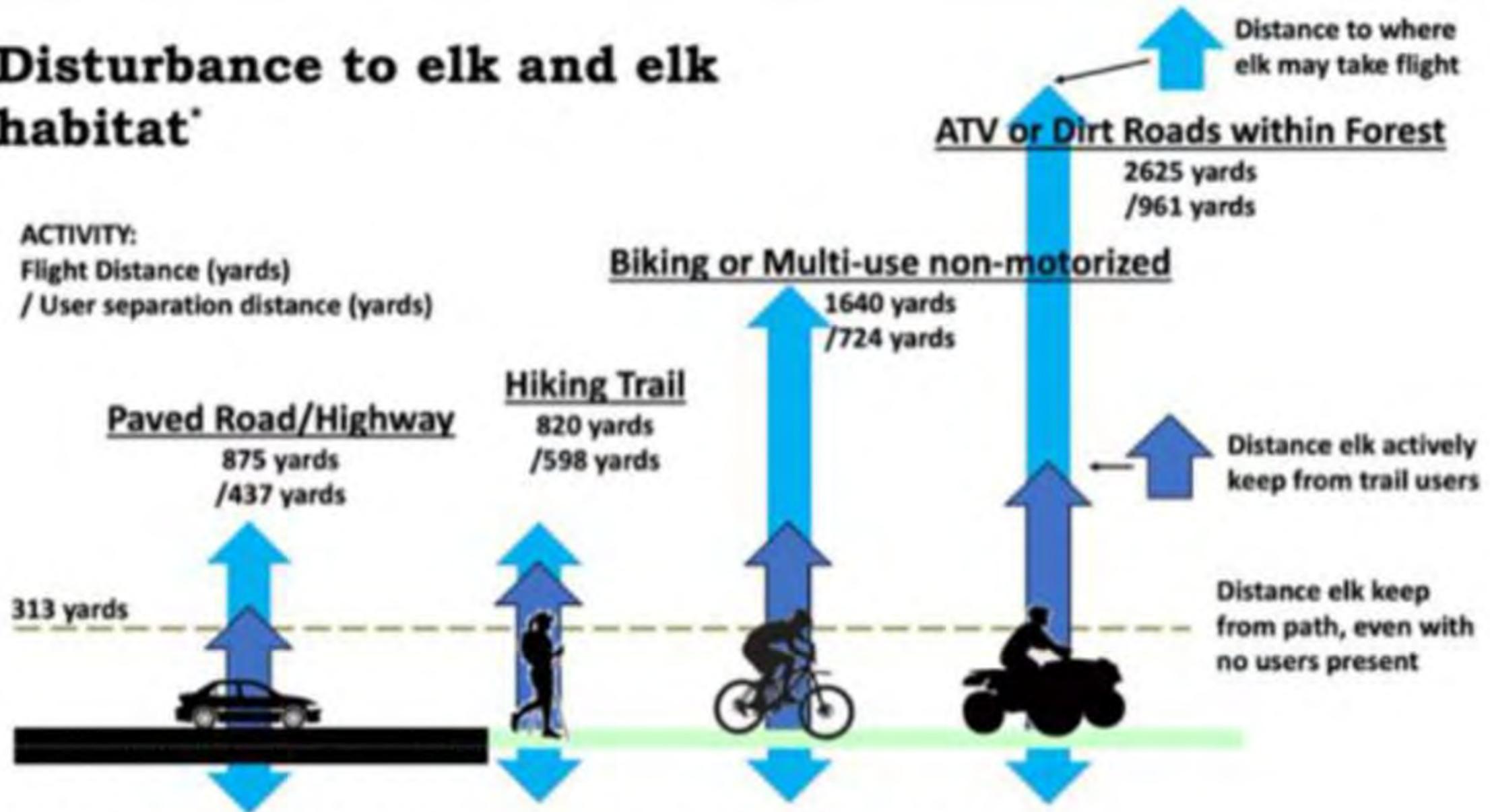
Impacts of Recreation on Wildlife

- Displace wildlife
- Alter Habitat Use and Behavior
- Relocate from high quality habitat to lower quality
- Greater energy expenditure from frequent flight responses
- Increased vigilance reducing foraging opportunities
- Shift behaviors to avoid periods of high human activity
- Fragments habitat
- Reduces available habitat-leading to changes in animal physiology, reproduction, survival, and potentially population trends.

Wisdom et al. 2018

Disturbance to elk and elk habitat*

ACTIVITY:
Flight Distance (yards)
/ User separation distance (yards)



*based on studies performed by US Forest Service, State of Oregon, and Federal Highway Administration

It isn't just big game.....

Nonmotorized recreation and motorized recreation in shrub-steppe habitats affects behavior and reproduction of golden eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*)

Robert J. Spaul | Julie A. Heath

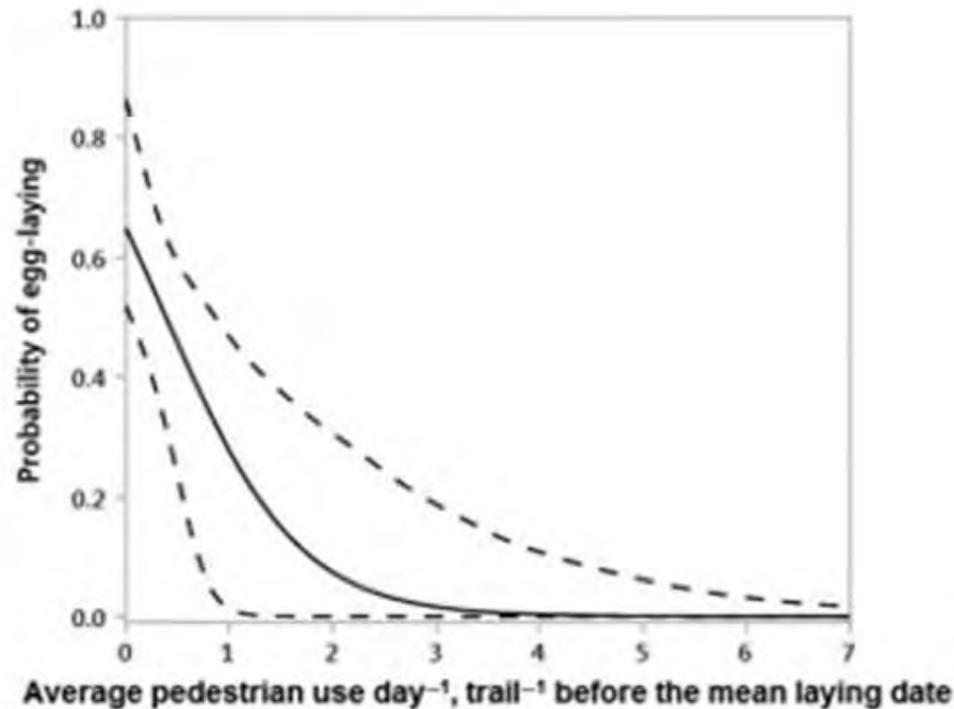


FIGURE 4 The relationship between average pedestrian use day⁻¹, trail⁻¹ before the mean laying date (PreLay_Ped), and the probability of a golden eagle pair laying eggs at occupied territories (n = 41), with solid line for model prediction, and dashed lines for 85% CIs. The probability of egg-laying was inversely related to early season pedestrian use.

Rare Plants and pollinator habitat



Erosion and sedimentation impact wetlands and riparian systems

PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE

A collaborative effort to “sustain and enhance local wildlife pops” includes:

- Vegetation treatment dovetailed with wildfire fuels mitigation
- Highway crossings
- Habitat enhancement projects
- Manage new recreation development for the least impact
- Manage current recreation for lower impact
- Regional recreation planning
- Connect wildlife tools/policy to Land Use Code
- Protect critical habitats (winter, production, wetlands)
- Appropriate hunting and predator management
- Private lands protection

BUT we need a shared tool to support collaborative work...

What happens if we continue as is?

- Local and regional declines

PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE

Who



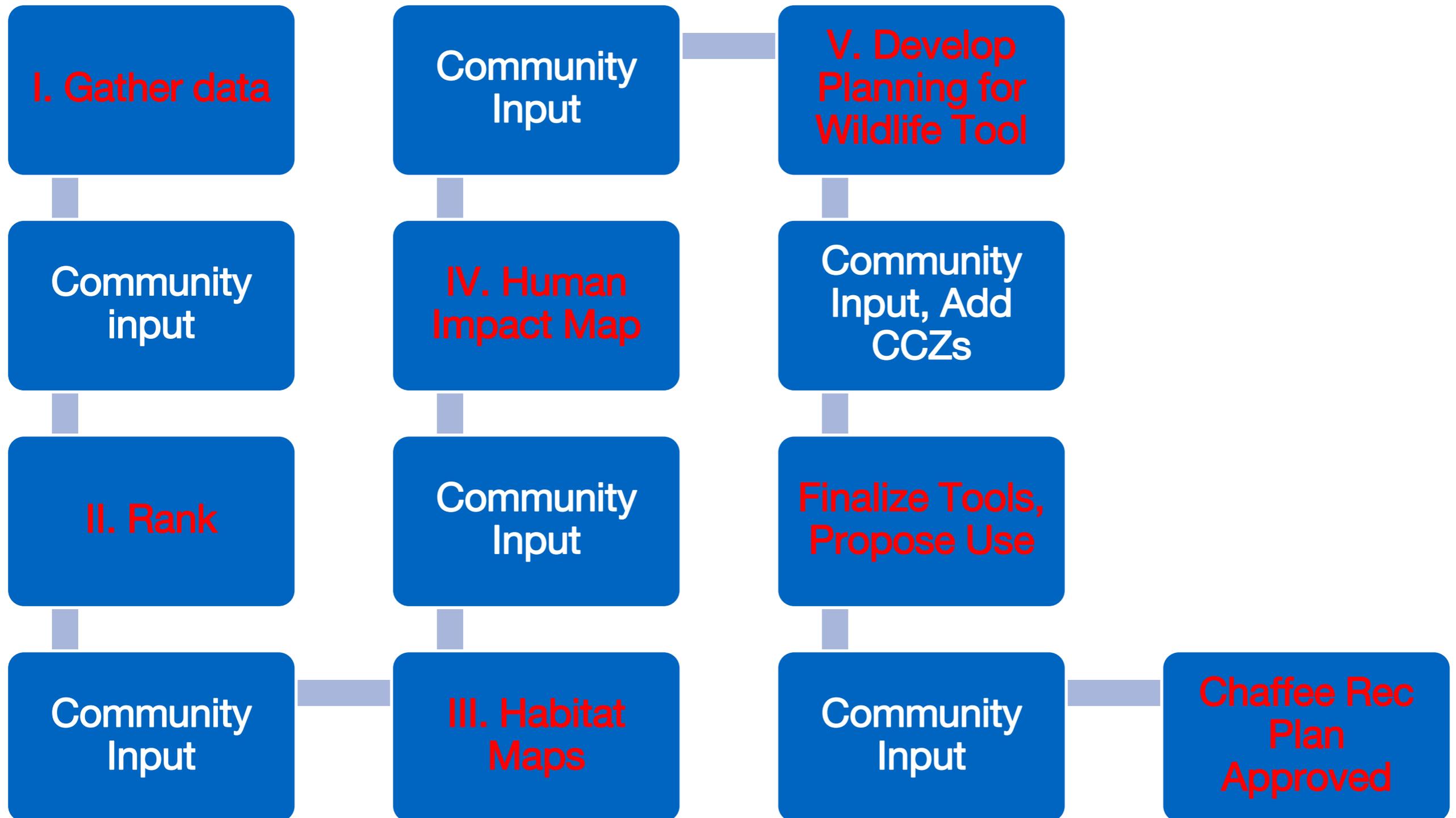
COLORADO FOREST
RESTORATION INSTITUTE



Colorado Natural
Heritage Program

PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE

The Process



DEVELOPING THE PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE TOOLS

Step I – Gather Wildlife Habitat Data

44 Species considered. Multiple habitats considered

Example – Raptors USFS Data

- * Nest Sites used

Example for Elk – CPW Data

- * Production Areas
- * Winter Range
- * Severe Winter Range
- * Migration Corridors

Example – Burrowing Owl

- * Insufficient data

Step II – Rank

What Species-Habitats are Most Important and Most Sensitive

Each species-habitat rated based on

1. Rarity
2. Population Trend
3. Economic Contribution
4. Specificity of Data (do we know where they live?)
5. Evidence-Based Sensitivity to Recreation
e.g. Elk Production Areas vs. general range

Community Input

- Include more “small” species – pollinators, birds, small mammals
(Caddisfly added)
- * Support for rating system

DEVELOPING THE PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE TOOLS

Step I and II: 33 Habitats for 20 species prioritized and ranked

Habitat	Component importance scores					Total
	Population Trend	Economic	Rarity	Specificity	Sensitivity & Evidence	
Bighorn sheep production areas	5	2	3	5	5	20
Elk production areas	4	5	1	5	5	20
Boreal toad breeding sites	5	1	4	5	4	19
Mule deer severe winter range	3	4	2	5	5	19
Susans purse-making caddisfly PCA	4	1	5	5	4	19
Mule deer winter concentration areas	3	4	2	4	5	18
Townsend's big-eared bat PCA	4	1	4	5	4	18
Elk severe winter range	4	5	1	5	2	17
Bald eagle nests	2	1	5	5	4	17
Bighorn sheep winter range	5	2	3	3	3	16
Elk winter concentration areas	4	5	1	4	2	16
Mountain goat production areas	5	2	2	3	4	16
Bat occurrence points	4	1	4	3	4	16
Ptarmigan winter range	3	2	4	4	3	16
Golden eagle nests	2	1	3	5	5	16
Northern goshawk nests	2	1	4	5	4	16
Prairie falcon nests	2	1	4	5	4	16
Bighorn sheep migration corridors	5	2	2	2	2	15

DEVELOPING THE PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE TOOLS

Step I and II: 33 Habitats for 20 species prioritized and ranked

Prairie falcon nests	2	1	4	5	4	16
Bighorn sheep migration corridors	5	2	3	3	2	15
Elk migration corridors	4	5	1	3	2	15
Brandeggee wild buckwheat PCAs	3	1	5	4	2	15
Arkansas canyon stickleaf PCAs	3	1	5	4	2	15
Osprey nests	2	1	3	5	4	15
Peregrine falcon nests	2	1	3	5	4	15
Fishable streams	2	5	1	4	2	14
Fishable waterbodies	2	5	1	4	2	14
Mule deer migration corridors	3	4	2	3	2	14
Elk winter range	4	5	1	1	2	13
Bighorn sheep habitat (generic)	5	2	3	1	1	12
Black Bear Fall Concentration	2	2	1	4	3	12
Lynx corridors	2	1	5	3	1	12

DEVELOPING THE PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE TOOLS

Step I and II - Species NOT included

Table 8: Species that were considered but not included in the final assessment.

Species	Reason Excluded	Species	Reason Excluded
American marten	Lack of accurate GIS data, habitat similar to Canada lynx and reflected as such	Gunnison prairie dog	Lack of accurate GIS data.
American pika	Lack of accurate GIS data, habitat similar to White-tailed ptarmigan	Gunnison sage grouse	Located outside of Chaffee County
American white pelican	Located in nearby Reservoirs	Hog nosed skunk	Lack of accurate GIS data
Black swift	REMOVE - One location reflected on assessment	Little brown myotis	Lack of accurate GIS data
Brewers sparrow	Lack of accurate GIS data for this species	Loggerhead shrike	Lack of accurate GIS data
Brown-capped rosy-finch	Lack of accurate GIS data, habitat similar to White-tailed ptarmigan	Lewis' woodpecker	Habitat found throughout Cottonwood Galleries of Chaffee County
Burrowing owl	Lack of accurate GIS data, habitat tied to prairie dog colonies	Mexican spotted owl	No locations in Chaffee County have been found
Ferruginous hawk	Lack of accurate GIS data	Northern harrier	Habitat found throughout grasslands of Chaffee County
Flammulated owl	Lack of accurate GIS data	Northern leopard frog	Lack of accurate GIS data.
Fringed myotis	Lack of accurate GIS data	Olive-sided flycatcher	Habitat found widespread throughout Chaffee County
Greenback cutthroat trout	Lack of accurate GIS data. Unclear taxonomy.	Uncompahgre fritillary butterfly	No known locations in Chaffee County

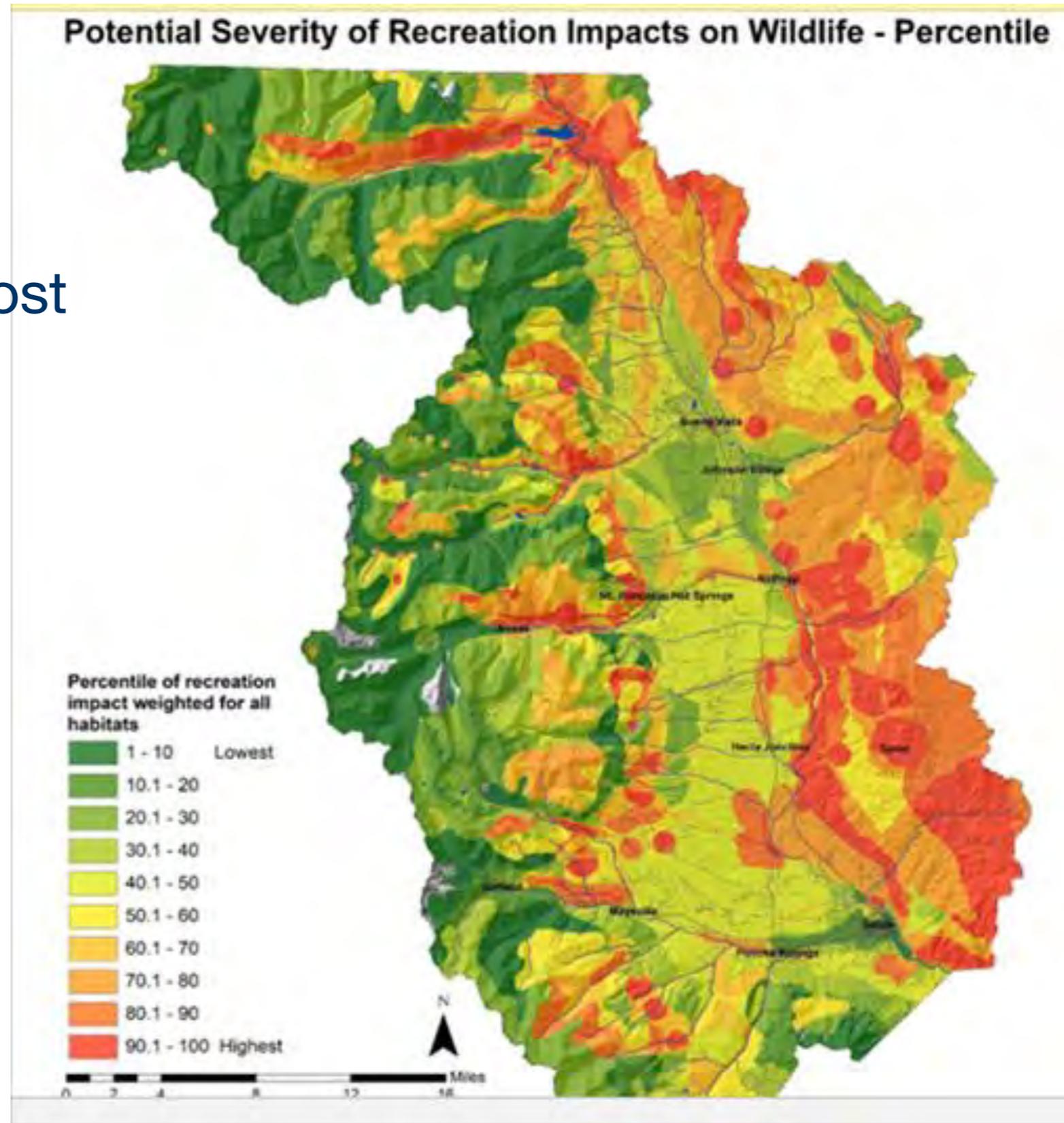
DEVELOPING THE PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE TOOLS

Step III

Ranked Habitat Map

Most Important and Most Sensitive Habitat for the most species

33 Habitats Combined
As ranked

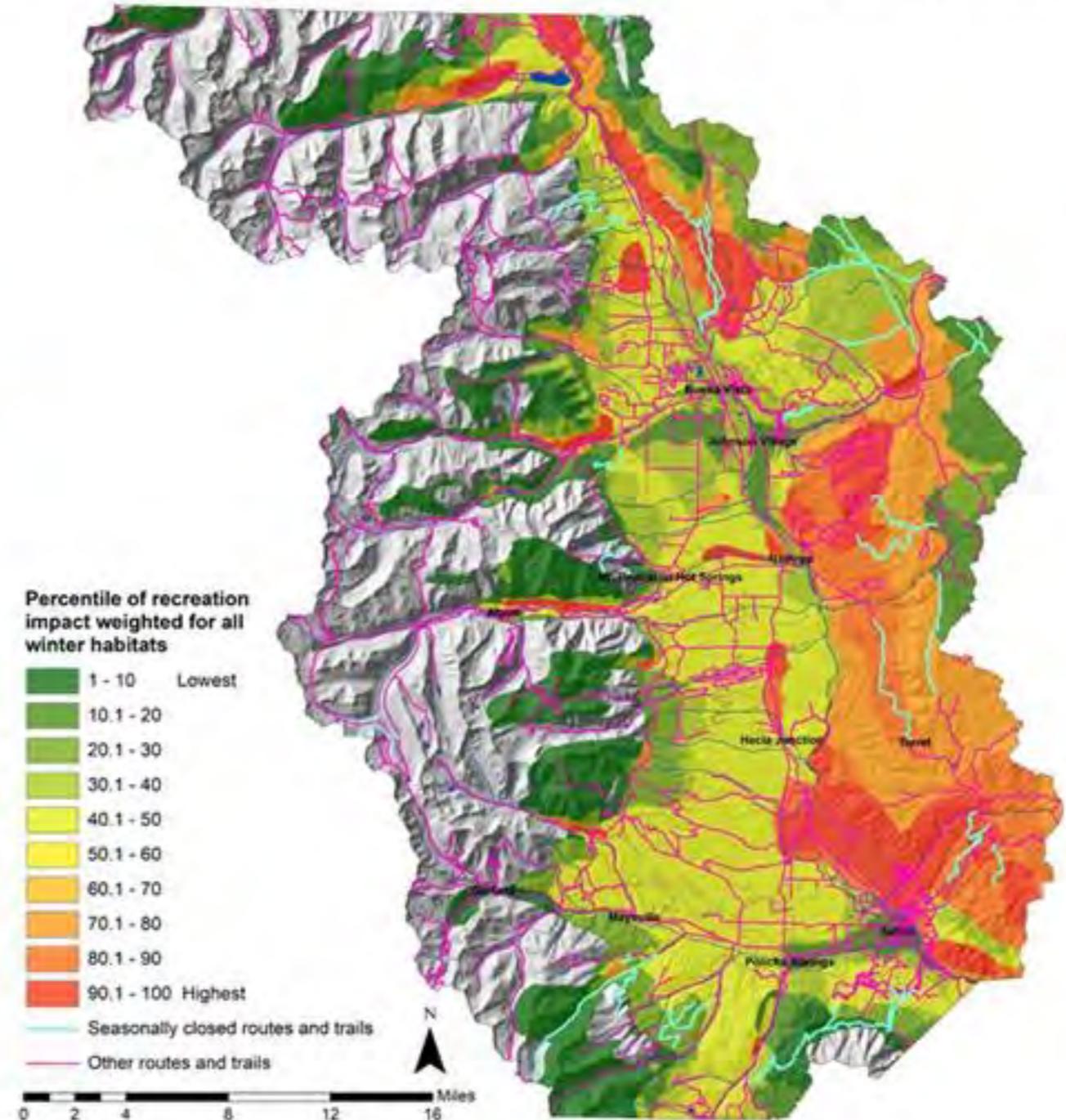
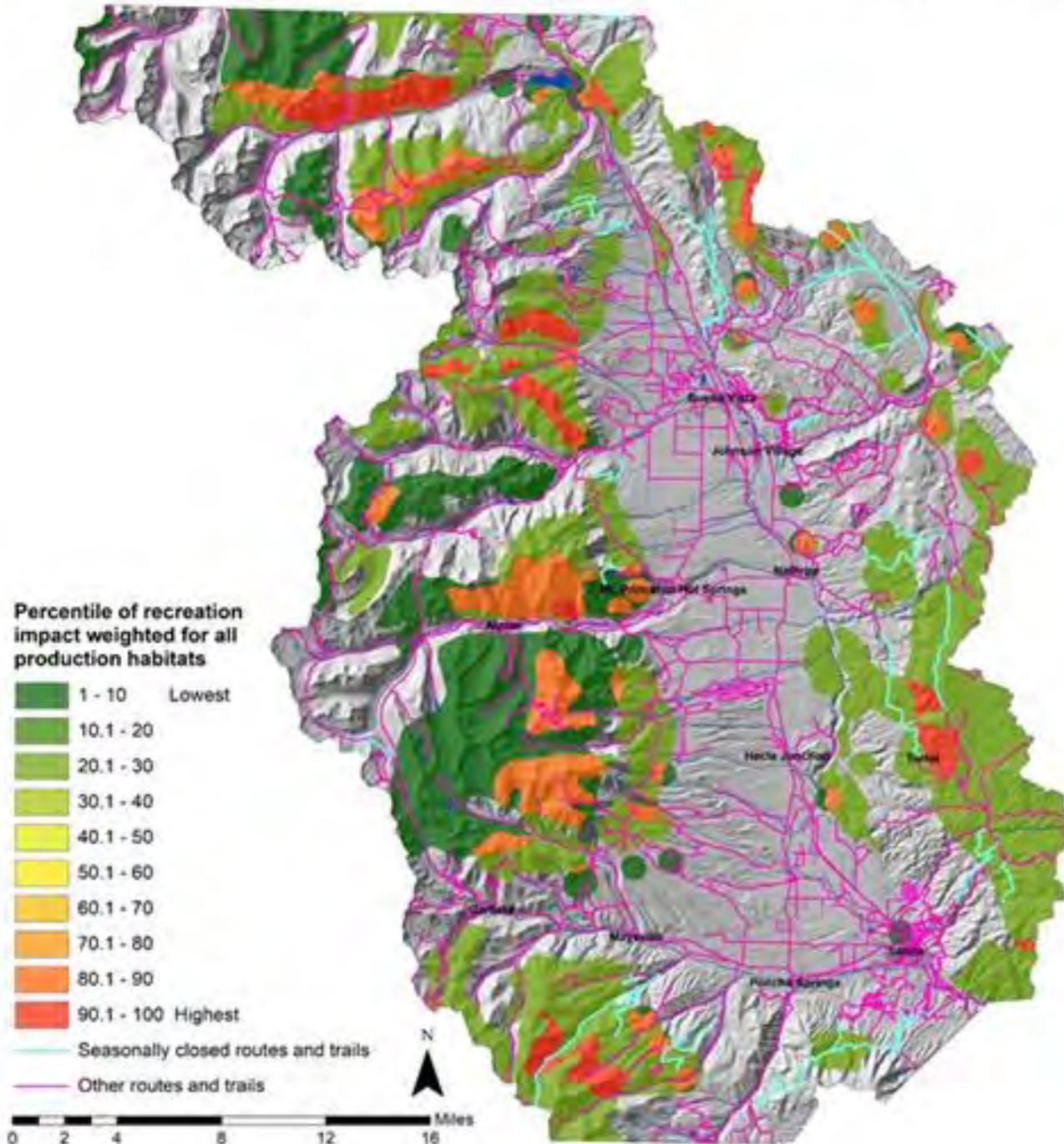


DEVELOPING THE PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE TOOLS

Step III Ranked Habitat Map – Winter and Production

Potential Severity of Recreation Impacts on Wildlife Production Areas

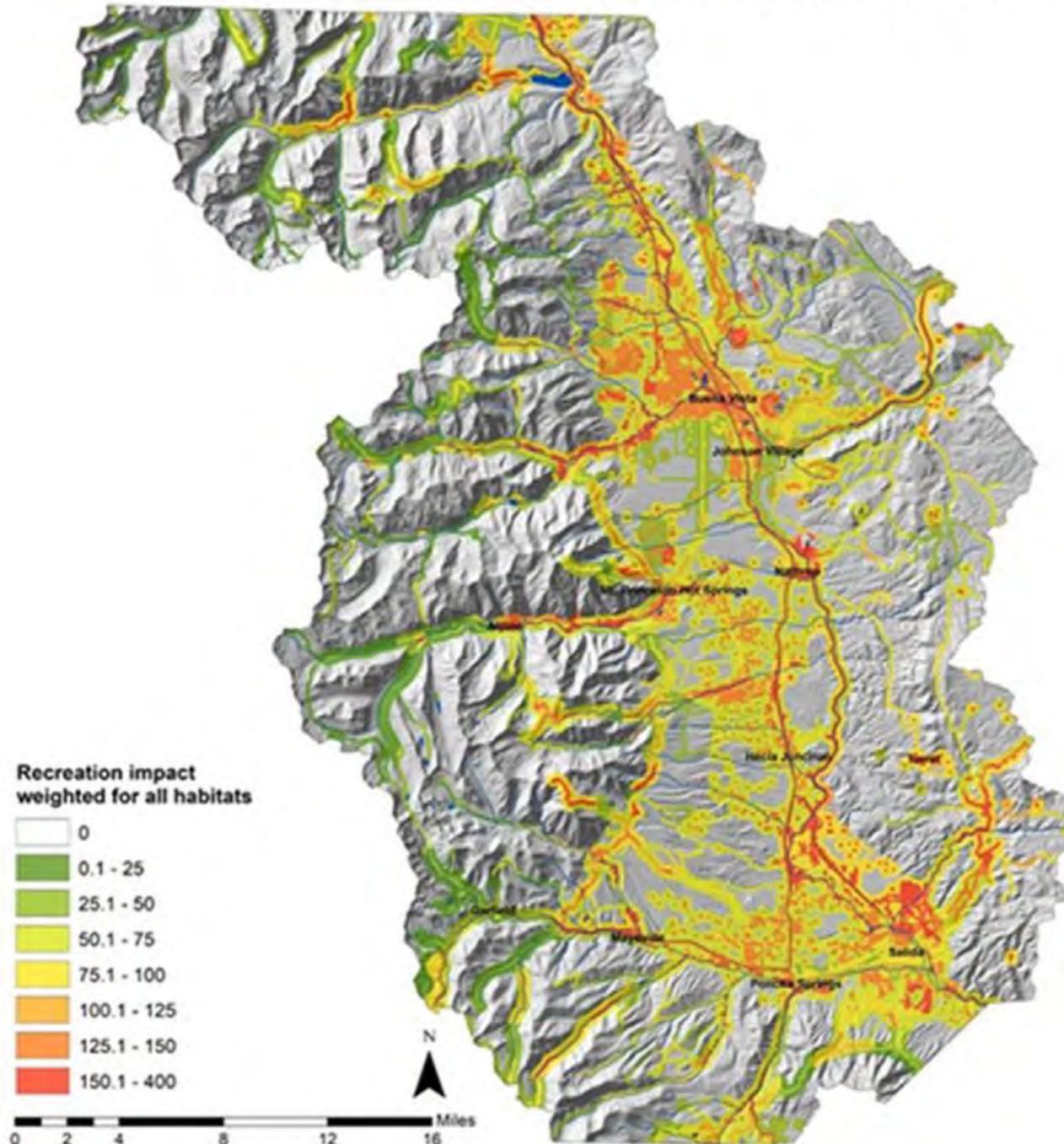
Potential Severity of Recreation Impacts on Wildlife Winter Habitat



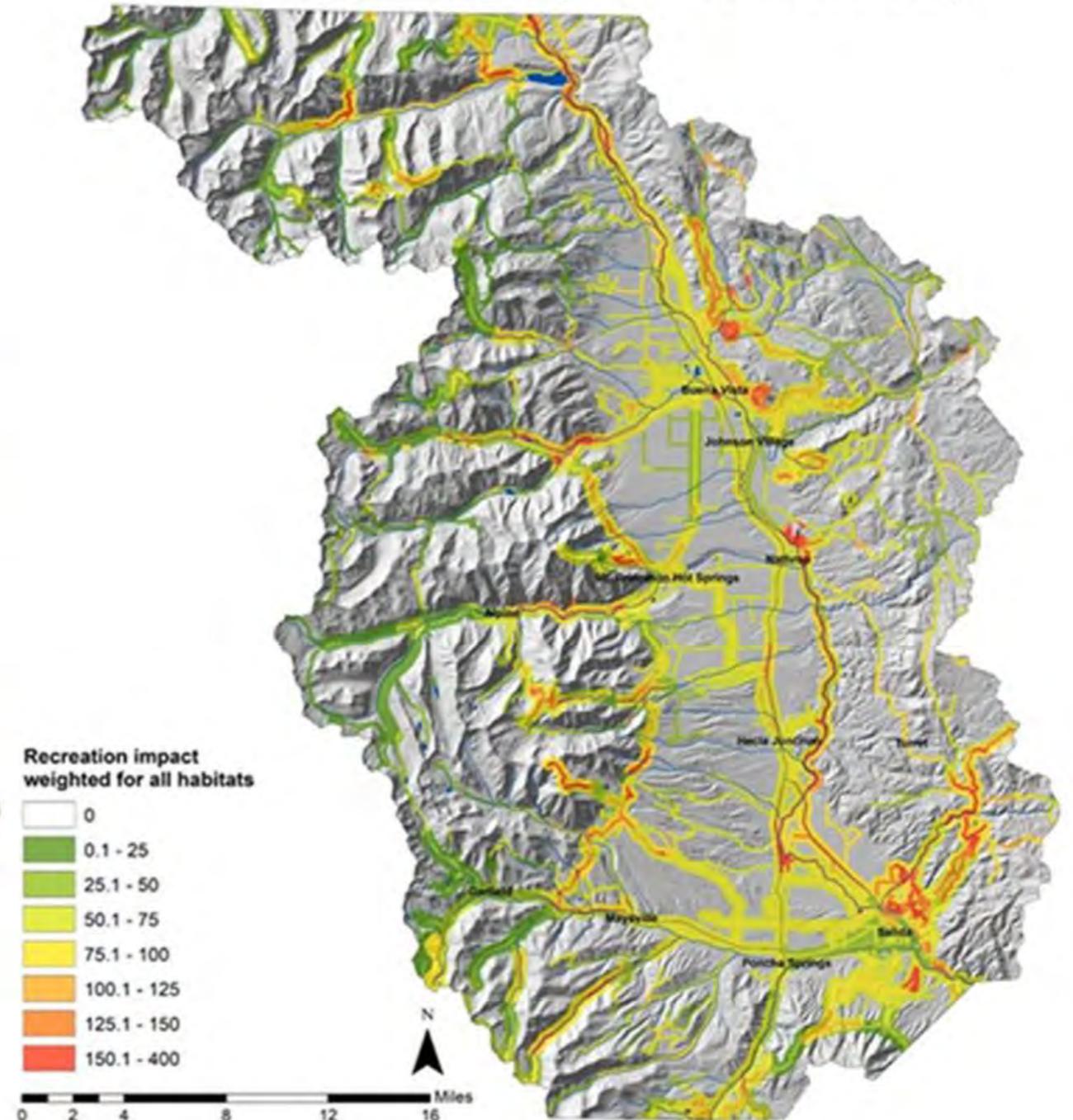
DEVELOPING THE PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE TOOLS

Step IV Current Human Impact

Current recreation impact - including non-rec

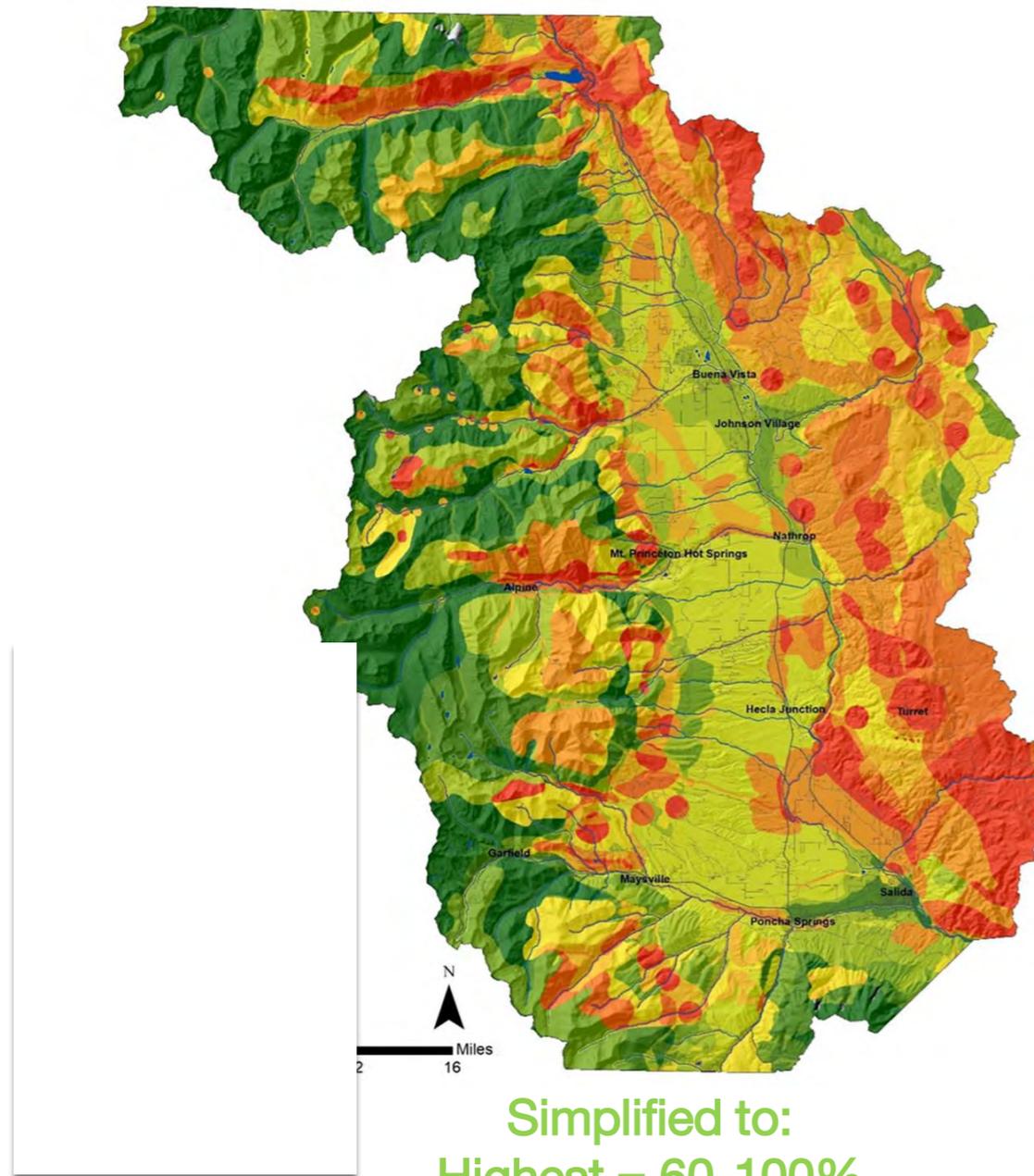


Current recreation impact - recreation only

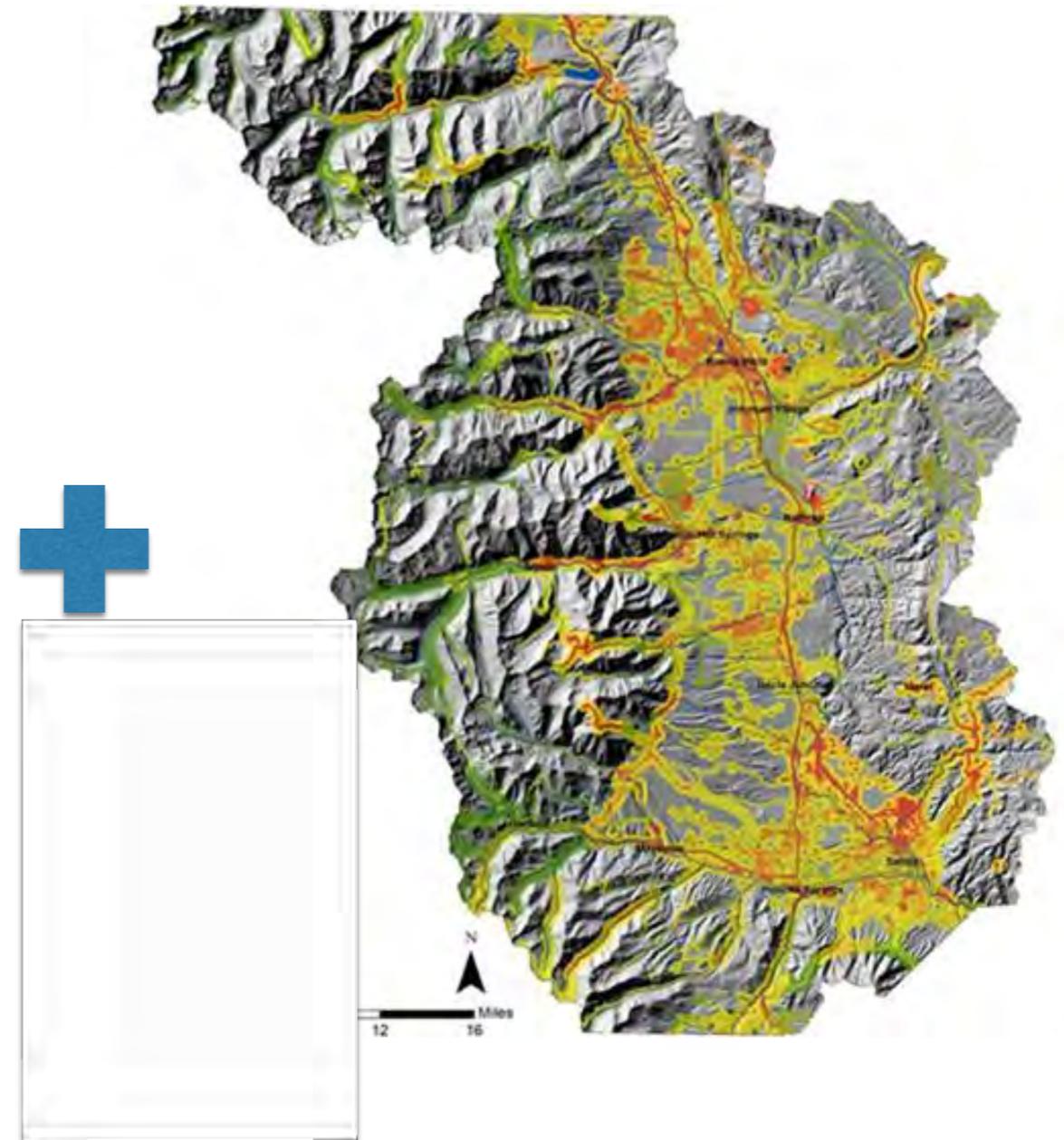


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Step V – Where is the most important AND undisturbed habitat?
Combine current impact with habitat

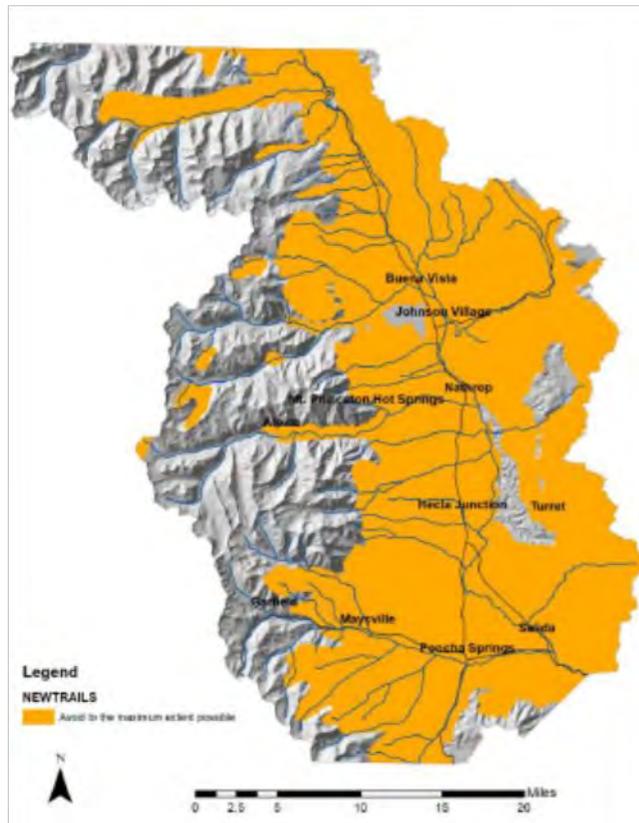


Simplified to:
Highest = 60-100%
High = 20-60%
Lower = 0 to 20%

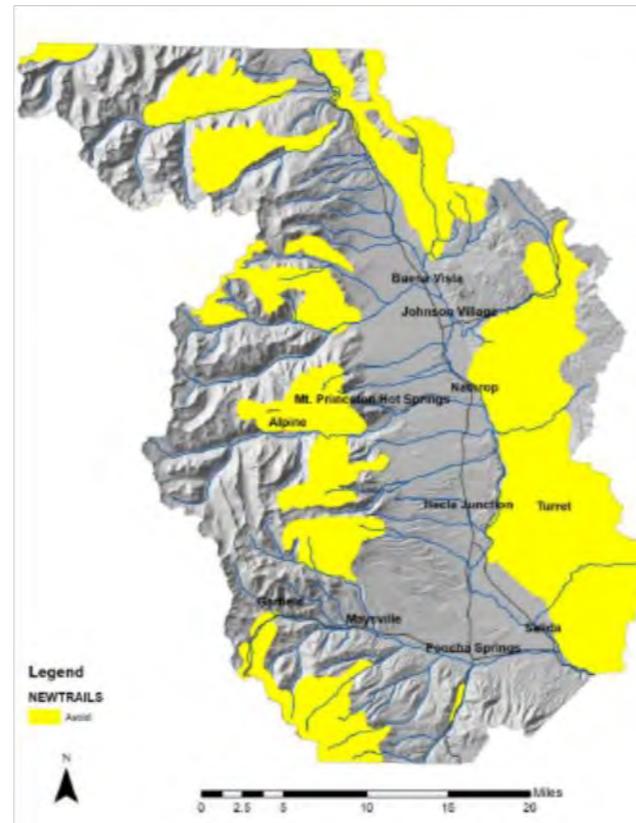


Step V Community Input and Cross Check

Avoid to Max Extent



Avoid



Recreation Planning for Wildlife Tool

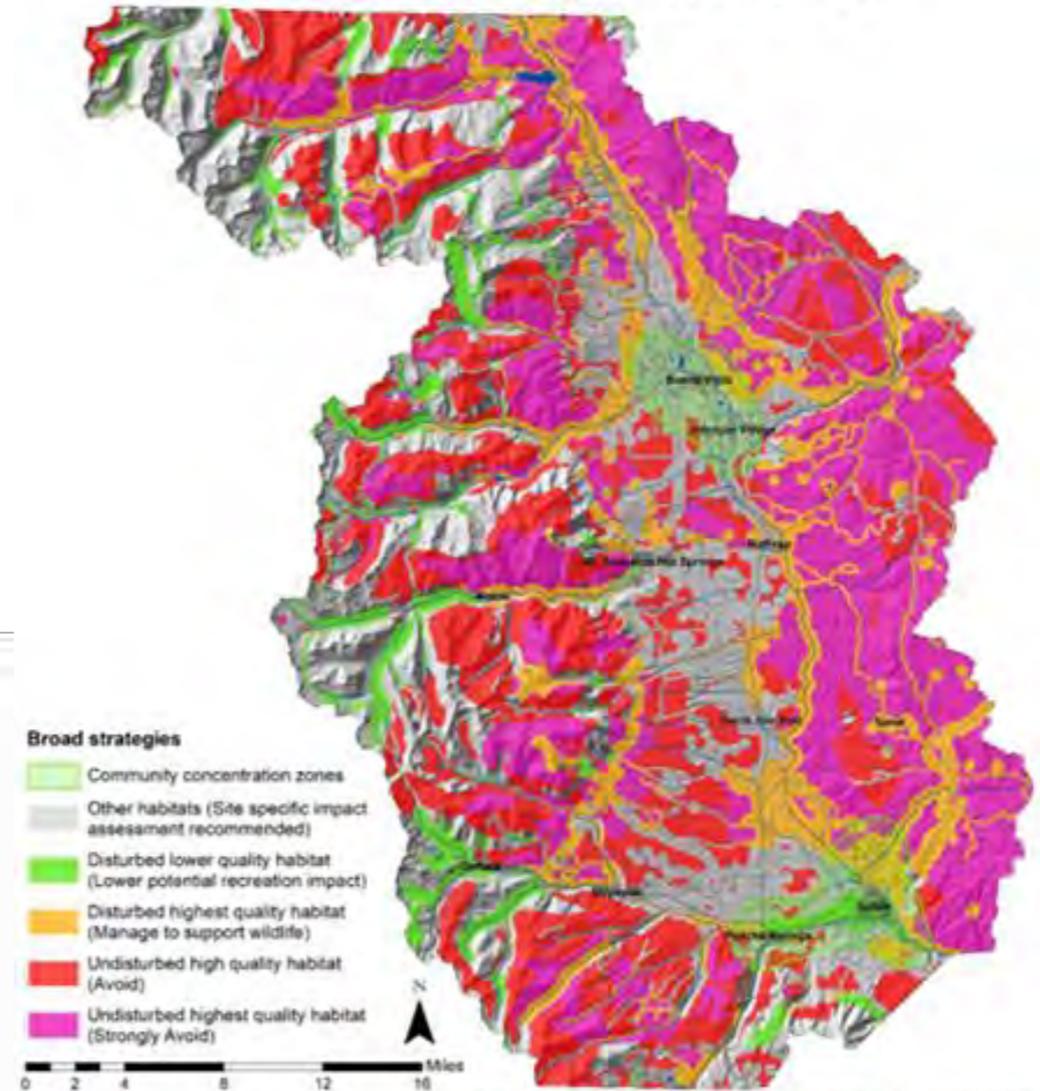


Figure 18: Broad recreation management strategies. Highest quality = 60-100 percentiles (top 40%) of potential

DEVELOPING THE PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE TOOLS

Formal 30 Day Community Comment (600 comments)

Soften Draft Rec plan language

From: effectively managing recreation for wildlife will mean saying “no” to rec development in red/purple zones

To: effectively managing recreation for wildlife will mean discouraging new recreation development in purple/red zones, except that required to address critical needs.

PC Approval at Public Meeting

How is the model being used?

- Chaffee County is using the model:
 - Trails System and Conservation Plan
 - Ops to improve existing trails / decrease impact
 - Camping Planning
 - County LUC
 - CPW Comments to Planning Commission
- Tool available on CODEX
- Expansion to Lake and Gunnison

Discussion