Comprehensive Creek Planning Initiative

Planning Commission January 15, 2014

Boulder County Flood Recovery

- County Road & Bridge repair (\$100m)
- Debris removal (\$20m+)
- Open Space restoration (\$50m)
- County Building repair (\$2m)
- Flood Rebuilding & Permit Information
 Center (FRPIC)
- Housing and Human Services assistance
- Grant applications
- Comprehensive Creek Planning Initiative

Agenda

- Project Purpose
- Summary of December 2013-January 2014 Community
 Meetings
- Project Framework and Upcoming Activities



Post-Flood Conditions

Creek Channel Changes

- Alignment, elevation, & flow
- Debris

Public and Private Infrastructure Damage

- Roads, bridges, culverts
- Ditches, water delivery structures
- Homes, septic systems

Impacts to Natural
Resources and Habitat
Impacts to Recreational
Uses



Project Purpose

The Boulder County Comprehensive Creek

Planning Initiative is a forum designed to plan the

Creek stabilization and restoration process, thus

enabling public infrastructure

reconstruction, residential rebuilding and private access restoration, and revised floodplain mapping.



Community Meetings

- Priority activity for Planning Initiative
- To engage residents in unincorporated Boulder County in post-flood creek rehabilitation
- To collect information needed to:
 - Identify short-term site specific mitigation measures (hazards)
 - Identify needs for watershed-level, longer term planning

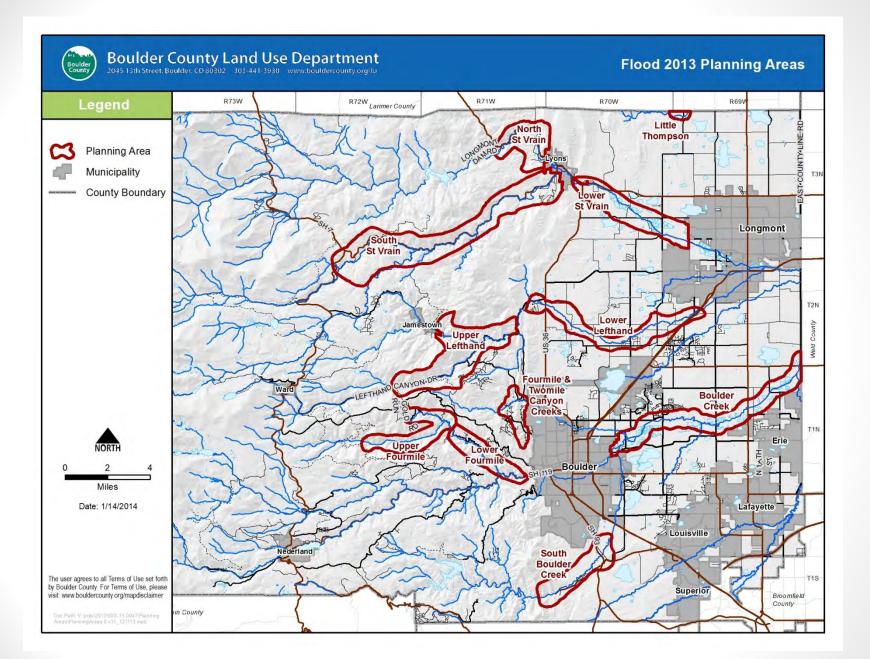


Community Meetings

- Conducted 7 meetings
- December 2013-January 2014
- Organized by geographic areas
- Over 650 participants









Community Meetings: Imminent Hazard Themes

- Debris piles impeding creek flow
- Sediment raising creek elevations, reducing channel capacity
- Other hazard concerns:
 - Channel location
 - Slope stability
 - Blocked culverts
 - Bank erosion, breach potential
 - Bridge vulnerability
 - Tree instability





Community Meetings: Themes

- Other issues
 - Damage to water delivery infrastructure, irrigation needs
 - Capacity of ditches
 - Timing of private bridge & access reconstruction
 - Home reconstruction / buyout
 - Community recovery & character restoration
 - Ecological and natural resources
 - Recreational uses

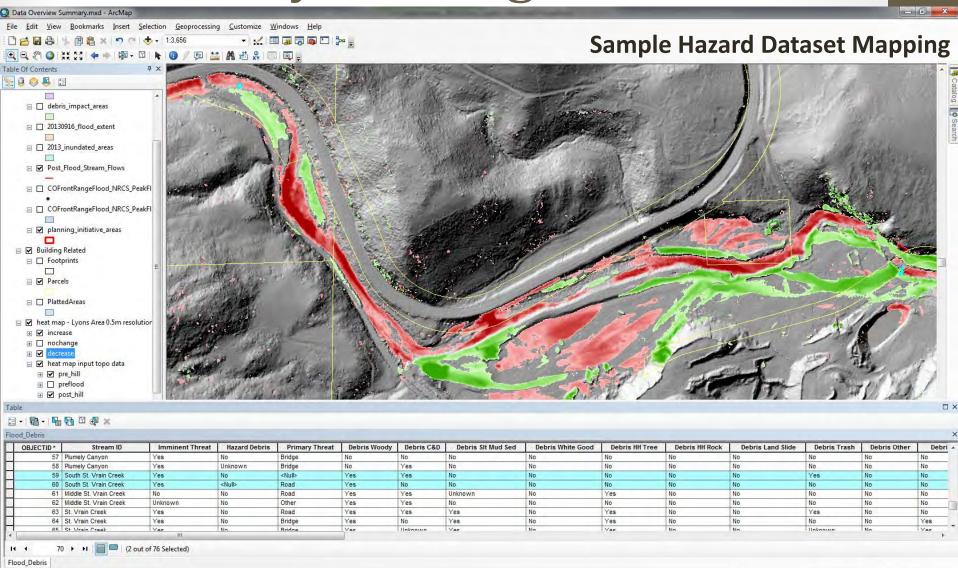




- Meeting documentation translated to data set for GIS mapping purposes
- Added to all data sets that identify, on a location-specific basis, potential hazards/imminent threats
- In house analysis underway to determine threat types and risk-levels (severe, moderate, etc.)



Upcoming field analysis to verify



Sample Hazard Dataset Mapping



- Creek project will facilitate decision-making process to prioritize sites (red-yellow-green, post-April) and determine mitigation response
- Will include feedback loop to Boulder County neighborhoods, communication with downstream communities
- Responsibility for funding and authority for implementation of mitigation projects to be determined

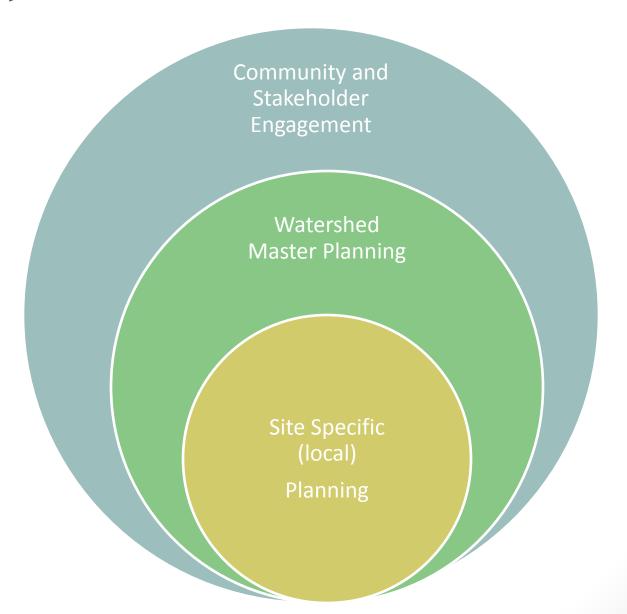


Project Framework & Upcoming Activities

Project Goals

- Engage residents, include input and information in decision-making
- Identify short-term measures for creek stabilization and develop interim policy guidance
- Determine creek alignments
- Identify long-term actions that address future risks and needs
- Identify implementing entities and funding sources for plan actions

Project Framework





Community and Stakeholder Engagement

- County-wide
- Boulder County leadership for public information and community discussion
- Activities
 - Public information and outreach
 - County Flood website
 - Media (traditional, social)
 - Clearinghouse
 - Public forums to discuss creek restoration
 - Public forums for project updates



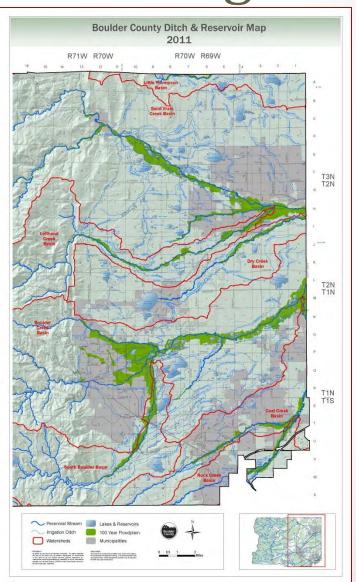
Watershed Master Planning

The St. Vrain and Big Thompson **subbasins** are both within the South Platte **basin**.

Most of Boulder County is in the St. Vrain **subbasin** and within it are 7 **watersheds**:

- St Vrain
- Left Hand
- Dry Creek
- Boulder Creek
 - Fourmile, Fourmile Canyon, Twomile
- South Boulder Creek
- Coal Creek
- Rock Creek

A small portion of the north end of Boulder County is in the Big Thompson **subbasin**.

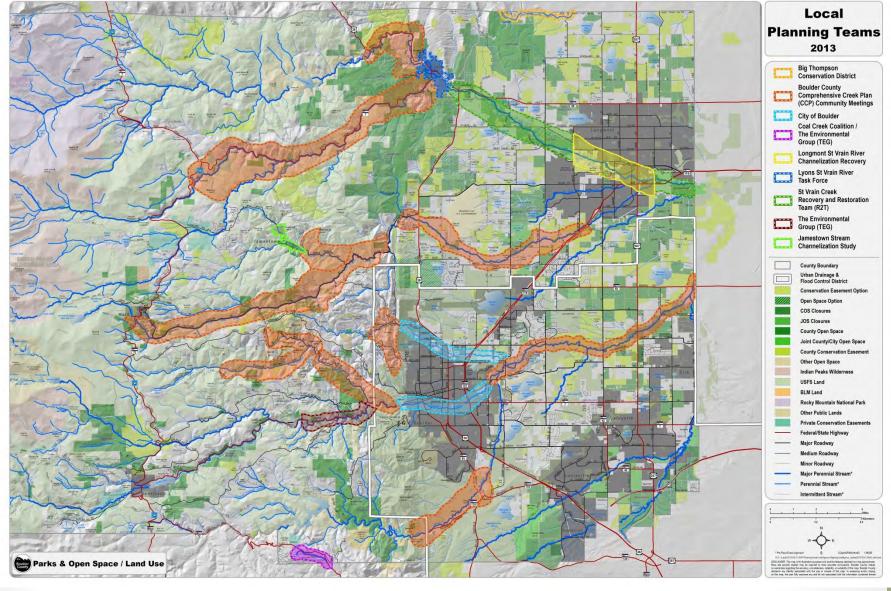




Watershed Master Planning

- Creek-specific
- Boulder County leadership and collaboration for plan development
- To increase resiliency of communities, economies, and natural systems
- To identify, prioritize, and plan implementation of creek rehabilitation projects
- Primary vehicle for creek-specific public, agency, community, and stakeholder involvement







Watershed Master Planning

- Boulder County leadership and collaboration for plan development
- Primary vehicle for creek-specific public, agency, community, and stakeholder involvement
- Activities
 - Lead agency for master plans
 - St. Vrain
 - Lefthand
 - Upper reaches of Boulder Creek Basin
 - Partner or Participant in other master plans

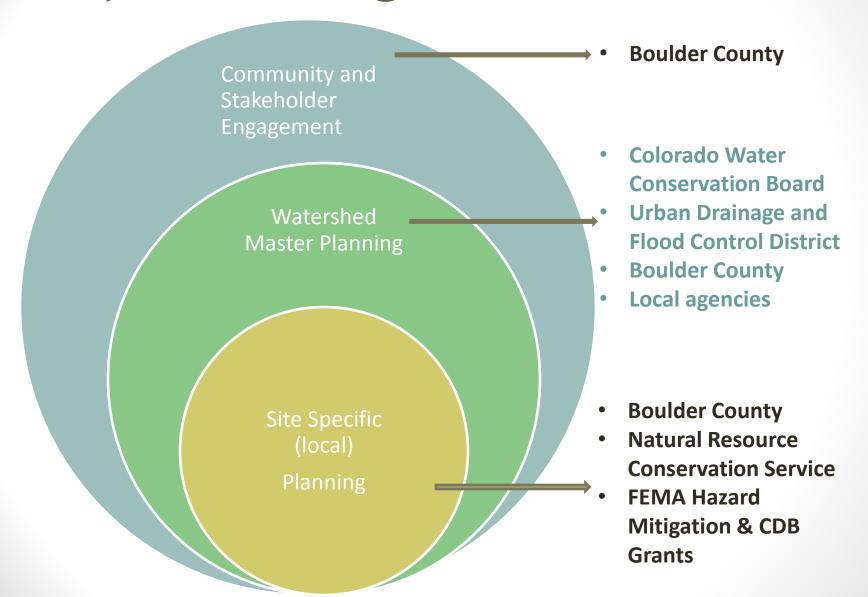


Local Planning

- Area-specific, unincorporated Boulder County
- Boulder County leadership for continued engagement of residents
 - to "upload" local issues and needs into master planning
 - to address site-specific issues with planning and engineering resources, consistent with Master Plan approach
 - to ensure ongoing coordination with flood recovery
- Activities
 - Direct communication with residents
 - Community meetings



Project Funding: Potential Sources





Planning Team

Project Sponsors

- George Gerstle,
 Transportation
- Dale Case, Land Use
- Ron Stewart, Parks and Open Space

Staff Team

- Julie McKay, Transportation
- Diane Malone, Project Management Office
- Ron West, Parks and Open Space
- Bridgette McCarthy, Parks and Open Space
- Tina Nielsen, Parks and Open Space
- Denise Grimm, Land Use
- Amber Horrie, Land Use
- Iris Sherman, Public Health



Project Contact Information

Boulder County Comprehensive
Creek Planning Initiative
Project Manager, Julie McKay
(720) 564-2662

ccpteammailbox@bouldercounty.org

www.bouldercountyflood.org

