

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**RELATED TO**  
**ACTIVITIES AFFECTING**  
**THE STATE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM**  
**AND PUBLIC LANDS**  
**IN THE STATE OF COLORADO**

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AND PUBLIC LANDS IN THE STATE OF COLORADO**

Throughout this MOU, the symbol "/" is to be interpreted as "and/or".

**1. PURPOSE**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), the Federal Highway Administration, Colorado Division (FHWA), the U.S. Department of Agriculture - Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region (USFS), and the U.S. Department of Interior - Bureau of Land Management, Colorado State Office (BLM), establishes procedures for coordinating activities affecting the State transportation system and lands administered by the USFS/BLM within the State of Colorado.

This MOU supersedes and replaces the MOU of September 19, 1995 between the USFS, the BLM, the FHWA, and the CDOT.

This MOU does not supersede or replace the requirements of any national agreements, easements, or permits between the affected agencies.

**2. ROLES AND AUTHORITIES**

The CDOT is responsible for planning, location, design, construction, and perpetuation of a safe and efficient public transportation system needed for the benefit of the public in accordance with Title 23, U.S.C. The CDOT is also responsible for ensuring that social, economic, and environmental effects are considered in the planning, development, and maintenance of State transportation projects and that they are in the best overall interest of the public.

The FHWA administers federal highway funding to the states. The FHWA is the lead agency for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) as amended, and implementing regulations of 40 CFR 1500-1508 as they relate to Title 23 U.S.C. projects.

The USFS and the BLM are responsible for protection, occupancy, and multiple use management of National Forest System (NFS)/BLM lands and resources for the use and benefit of the public and for development of a public lands transportation system needed to accomplish these purposes.

Since many public highways traverse NFS/BLM lands, the CDOT will need authorization to occupy such lands for rights-of-way, waste areas, material sources, and highway construction and maintenance operations.

Since elements of the USFS/BLM transportation systems and other improvements are connected or adjacent to public highways, the USFS and the BLM will need authorization or concurrence for development of improvements within the CDOT right-of-way (ROW) which affect uses for transportation purposes.

In recognition of the responsibilities, interests, and limitations set forth above and the mutual benefits of established procedures to facilitate agreement on specific transportation matters on or adjacent to NFS/BLM lands, the CDOT, the FHWA, the BLM, and the USFS mutually agree to abide by the procedures outlined in this MOU.

### 3. LONG RANGE PLANNING

- A. The CDOT, the USFS, and the BLM will provide, as requested by the other parties, the following information:
  - 1) The CDOT will provide the USFS and the BLM with copies of the Statewide Transportation Plan and the annual Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), and with inventories and functional classification of the State transportation system. One copy of each will be sent to each USFS Forest Supervisor and BLM District Manager, and two copies of each will be sent to the USFS Regional Forester and BLM State Director.
  - 2) The USFS and the BLM will provide the CDOT with land management plans, including amendments or revisions, if applicable, and transportation plans that indicate existing and planned land uses, and the relationship between these uses and related travel.
- B. The CDOT Headquarters Office, the USFS Regional Office, the BLM State Office, and the FHWA Central Federal Lands Highway Division (CFLHD) will annually develop and review multi-year Public Lands Highway (PLH) programs in accordance with the MOU/MOU's established between the USFS, the BLM, and the CFLHD for that purpose. The CDOT will ensure that PLH projects are incorporated into the STIP.

### 4. PROJECT COORDINATION

- A. For all project level activities, the terms USFS, BLM, and CDOT will refer to the appropriate USFS Forest Supervisor, BLM District Manager, and CDOT Region Director, unless otherwise noted in this MOU or designated by the respective agency.
- B. The CDOT will promptly notify the USFS/BLM of proposed projects that may affect NFS/BLM lands and request information on developed recreation sites, sensitive species, potential historic properties, or other resources that should be protected under Section 4(f) (23 U.S.C. 138, 49 U.S.C. 303), or public lands survey monuments or potential material sources in the vicinity. In this notification, the CDOT will designate a CDOT Project Manager.
- C. The USFS/BLM will promptly notify the CDOT of proposed projects that would alter the physical characteristics of transportation facilities within the CDOT ROW. The USFS/BLM will comply with all CDOT requirements. In the notification, the USFS/BLM will designate a USFS/BLM Project Manager.
- D. The USFS/BLM and CDOT Project Managers will ensure the efficient flow of project related information between the agencies throughout the planning and implementation of the project. Information exchanged may include inconsistencies with land management plans, anticipated social, economic, and environmental impacts, travel demand estimates, and issues of special concern to each agency.
- E. If jointly agreed, The CDOT and the USFS/BLM Project Managers may prepare a coordination schedule to aid in scheduling and tracking project milestones. A sample schedule (Exhibit 1) which may be used is attached to this MOU.

**5. PRELIMINARY FIELD REVIEW/CDOT SCOPING REVIEW AND SURVEY**

- A. The CDOT and the USFS/BLM will consult to determine necessary authorizations or permits required prior to starting any field surveys or site investigations, including heritage resources inventory.
- B. The USFS/BLM or the CDOT will authorize the project originating agency to survey, with any needed terms and conditions, and will provide data on survey monuments, maps, access routes, fire regulations, clearing limitations, material sources, and other information pertinent to the survey.
- C. The CDOT and the USFS/BLM will participate in a joint Preliminary Field Review/CDOT Scoping Review. A report documenting the review will be prepared and distributed by the originating agency.
- D. The USFS/BLM or the CDOT will identify facilities, special needs, forest product utilization, or mitigation measures which should be incorporated into design, such as fences, signs, cattle-guards, stock passes, approaches, etc.

**6. ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATION**

**A. NEPA DOCUMENTATION**

- 1) The FHWA, the CDOT, the USFS and the BLM will cooperate in developing appropriate NEPA documentation for each proposed project. This NEPA documentation will be prepared to meet the needs of all decisionmaking agencies. The USFS/BLM and the FHWA/CDOT may each prepare its own decision document, reflecting specific agency responsibilities, or a single document may be prepared when and where appropriate.
- 2) Agency regulation and direction for preparation of NEPA documentation is as follows:
  - FHWA and CDOT: 40 CFR 1500-1508 and 23 CFR 771.
  - USFS: 40 CFR 1500-1508 and Forest Service Handbook (FSH) 1909.15.
  - BLM: 40 CFR 1500-1508 and BLM Manual 1790.

**B. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 1) Lead Agency (40 CFR 1501.5): The lead agency is responsible for soliciting cooperation from other agencies that have jurisdiction by law or special expertise; coordinating documentation responsibilities with other agencies; ensuring compliance with NEPA and other Federal laws, regulations, and Executive Orders, which may include, but are not limited to the Historic Preservation Act, Threatened and Endangered Species Act, Section 4(f) requirements (49 USC 303), Executive Orders on Floodplains and Wetlands, Clean Air Act, and Clean Water Act.

The FHWA is the lead agency for federally funded transportation projects and is responsible for approving final NEPA decision documents for such projects. The CDOT is responsible for preparation and processing of technical environmental reports and NEPA documents developed for those projects. The USFS/BLM may be joint lead agencies with the FHWA on federally funded transportation projects involving or affecting NFS or public lands for which the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required.

The USFS or the BLM is the lead agency for any USFS/BLM land and resource management project. The FHWA/CDOT may be joint lead agencies with the USFS or the BLM on USFS/BLM land and resource management projects for which significant impacts to the State transportation system may be reasonably anticipated.

- 2) Cooperating Agency (40 CFR 1501.6): A cooperating agency is responsible for early participation in scoping, providing comments on adequacy or accuracy of the NEPA documents, providing staff expertise at lead agency's request, preparing portions of the documents as directed by the lead agency.

The FHWA and the CDOT may be cooperating agencies on any USFS/BLM project where significant impacts to the State transportation system may be reasonably anticipated.

The USFS and the BLM must be cooperating agencies for any federally funded transportation project involving or affecting USFS/BLM lands (23 CFR 771.111(d)). The USFS/BLM decision authorizing the issuance of a Letter of Consent (LOC) for land transfer is based on the NEPA document(s), and may be appealable under the USFS/BLM administrative appeals regulations.

- 3) Each agency involved in the cooperative preparation or review of environmental documentation will provide comments or supplemental social, economic and environmental information in a timely manner, or will notify other participants of a submittal date.

#### C. INTERAGENCY PROJECT SCOPING

- 1) Whenever the FHWA or the CDOT determines that it intends to begin preparation of NEPA documentation for a project with potential impacts to public lands, a FHWA/CDOT Project Manager for the project will be identified. This Project Manager will contact the appropriate USFS Forest Supervisor or BLM Area Manager to begin interagency project coordination. The USFS/BLM will then identify a USFS/BLM Project Manager.
- 2) Whenever the USFS or the BLM determines that it intends to begin preparation of NEPA documentation for a project with potential impacts to the State transportation system, a USFS/BLM Project Manager for the project will be identified. This Project Manager will contact the appropriate CDOT Region Director to begin interagency project coordination. The CDOT shall then identify a CDOT Project Manager.
- 3) As early in the project development process as practicable, the Project Managers will discuss the proposed land management or transportation project. Discussion topics should include the purpose and need for the project, potential impacts to public lands and the State transportation system, potential environmental impacts associated with the project, public involvement requirements, and any areas of special concern.
- 4) The Project Managers will make a determination of the class of NEPA documentation to be prepared for the project in accordance with individual agency direction and regulations. The three classes of environmental documentation are Categorical Exclusion (CE), Environmental Assessment (EA) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Both the documentation and the level of environmental analysis required will be adequate to support future decisionmaking requirements of the affected agencies.
- 5) The Project Manager for the lead agency will be responsible for documenting the results of ongoing coordination/scoping activities and preparation of a Coordination Schedule (Exhibit 1), if applicable.

D. PREPARATION, REVIEW, AND ADOPTION OF NEPA ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

- 1) For transportation system improvement projects developed by the FHWA and CDOT which satisfy the criteria in 23 CFR 771.117, Categorical Exclusions, a CDOT Form 128 will be prepared to document the preparation of a CE. CE's are actions which the FHWA has determined, based on experience with similar actions, do not involve significant environmental impacts.
  - a) For projects developed under 23 CFR 771.117, the CDOT Project Manager will:
    - (1) identify all areas of environmental analysis required for the project and indicate these on Form 128.
    - (2) coordinate with the USFS/BLM Project Manager to ensure all areas of special concern are included in the environmental analysis.
    - (3) provide environmental reports and correspondence to the USFS/BLM Project Manager, as requested.
    - (4) correct any deficiencies noted by the USFS/BLM in accordance with paragraph b.3 below before requesting a LOC from the USFS or BLM.
    - (5) provide a copy of the signed Form 128, with project approval correspondence, to the USFS/BLM Project Manager, as requested, and to the FHWA.
  - b) For projects developed under 23 CFR 771.117, the USFS/BLM Project Manager will:
    - (1) coordinate with the CDOT Project Manager to ensure all areas of special concern to the USFS/BLM are identified during project scoping.
    - (2) review all requested environmental reports, CDOT Form 128, and attached project approval correspondence and determine the adequacy of the analysis to support USFS/BLM decisions.
    - (3) if documentation is adequate, submit a letter to the CDOT Project Manager indicating acceptance of the NEPA documentation for the project.
    - (4) if documentation is inadequate, submit written comments to the CDOT Project Manager specifying additional analysis or supporting documentation needed to correct the noted deficiencies.
  - c) For projects developed under 23 CFR 771.117, the USFS/BLM may:
    - (1) if the project meets USFS/BLM criteria for a CE, concur with the FHWA/CDOT CE under USFS/BLM policies, or
    - (2) if the project requires an EA under USFS/BLM criteria, use the FHWA/CDOT environmental documentation to support a USFS/BLM Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). Early coordination should reveal where USFS/BLM policies require additional documentation not required for FHWA/CDOT prepared CE's, and which agency or agencies will supply the additional documentation required.

- 2) For land and resource management projects on public lands developed by the USFS or the BLM which satisfy that agency's criteria for CE's, the USFS/BLM Project Manager will ensure the CDOT Project Manager is given an opportunity to comment on the project and its effects on the State transportation system, if affects to the transportation system are anticipated.
- 3) The FHWA/CDOT will prepare an EA for transportation improvement projects which do not satisfy the definition of a CE in 23 CFR 771.117 and do not clearly require the preparation of an EIS (23 CFR 771.119). The USFS/BLM will prepare an EA to document the results of environmental analyses and disclose the environmental consequences for proposed land and resource management actions which do not satisfy the definition of a CE in USFS/BLM directives and for which the need for an EIS has not been determined. For all projects developed with an EA, the agencies will determine whether impacts to resources owned or managed by the other agencies can reasonably be anticipated. Where these impacts are anticipated, the involved agencies agree to:
  - a) Coordinate project activities through the respective Project Managers.
  - b) Establish cooperating agency status, if appropriate, as early as possible in the project development process.
  - c) Provide each agency sufficient opportunity and time to carefully review and comment on the EA and supporting documentation.
  - d) Resolve conflicts promptly and at the lowest organizational levels prior to issuing a FONSI for the project.
  - e) Where appropriate, adopt EAs prepared by other agencies through submission for public review and preparation of a separate USFS/BLM Decision Notice and FONSI or FHWA/CDOT FONSI.
- 4) For FHWA/CDOT transportation system improvement projects and for USFS/BLM land and resource management projects which require an EIS, the agencies agree to determine whether impacts to resources managed by the other agencies can reasonably be anticipated. When such impacts are anticipated, the agencies agree to:
  - a) Coordinate project activities through the respective Project Managers.
  - b) Establish status as cooperating agency or joint lead agency, as appropriate, early in the project development process.
  - c) Provide each agency sufficient opportunity to carefully review and comment on the Draft EIS and Final EIS documents.
  - d) Ensure agency comments are addressed in the Final EIS and Record of Decision (ROD), as appropriate.
  - e) Resolve conflicts as quickly as possible and at the lowest organizational levels prior to issuing a ROD.

Unless otherwise noted, Sections 7, 8, 9, and 10 refer to State transportation facilities crossing USFS/BLM lands.

## 7. PROJECT DESIGN

- A. Features of construction/reconstruction projects that may have an effect on the protection and utilization of the land traversed by the ROW and adjoining land under the administration of the USFS/BLM will be mutually agreed upon by the USFS Regional Forester/BLM State Director and the CDOT by conference or other communication during the preparation of the plans and specifications for each project.
- B. The USFS/BLM will prepare any needed stipulations, and submit to the CDOT for execution. Requirements should be incorporated into the plans as much as possible to keep written stipulations to a minimum.
- C. As set forth in the stipulations, any merchantable timber, defined as meeting current utilization standards for sawtimber or products other than logs (POL), will be: (1) stockpiled in an area designated by the USFS/BLM for disposal by other means, or (2) acquired by the CDOT at fair market value as determined by an appraisal.
- D. The CDOT will review and sign stipulations and return them to the USFS/BLM.
- E. The CDOT will provide the USFS/BLM with two sets of preliminary plans and notify the USFS/BLM of the scheduled CDOT Field Inspection Review (FIR).
- F. The USFS/BLM will participate in the FIR and submit recommendations to the CDOT.
- G. The CDOT will provide the USFS/BLM with two sets of construction and ROW plans, along with proposed general contract provisions covering work on NFS/BLM lands, and notify the USFS/BLM of the scheduled CDOT Final Office Review (FOR). The general contract provisions will include any appropriate USFS/BLM Fire Plan, Clearing Plan, and Erosion Control Plan.
- H. The USFS/BLM will participate in the FOR and submit a concurrence letter to the CDOT, acknowledging approval and/or recommended changes to the final plans and specifications.
- I. The CDOT will incorporate mutually agreeable recommendations from the FIR and FOR in plans and specifications. Differences will be referred to the next appropriate level of each agency, with final authority resting with the signators of this MOU.
- J. The CDOT will submit final design and construction specifications to the USFS Regional Forester/BLM State Director for approval. Construction will not begin prior to such approval.

## 8. RIGHTS-OF-WAY

- A. After preliminary design is complete and following the Field Inspection and Review (FIR), The CDOT will submit to the FHWA a request for appropriation and transfer of ROW. The request will be accompanied by the final ROW plans (alignment, topography, and proposed ROW lines).
- B. The FHWA will evaluate the request for appropriation and, if in agreement, request a Letter of Consent (LOC) from the USFS/BLM.

- C. The USFS/BLM will review the request for LOC and, if approved, issue a LOC to the FHWA, with a copy to the CDOT. Upon issuance of the LOC, the USFS/BLM authorizes immediate entry on NFS/BLM lands subject to the terms set forth in the stipulations and LOC.
- D. The CDOT will prepare a U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION easement deed based upon authorized ROW plans, containing the stipulations, and reduced plan sets showing the lands requested. The CDOT's Chief Engineer will execute the deed for the CDOT, approving the stipulations and forward them to the FHWA.
- E. The FHWA and the FHWA's Chief Counsel will review the easement deed and, if it meets the requirements of the LOC, will execute the deed and return it to the CDOT for recording.
- F. The CDOT Headquarters Office will provide four (4) copies of the recorded easement to the FHWA for distribution to the appropriate offices of the USFS/BLM.
- G. Where the CDOT is the lead agency for the disbursement of federal funds for off-system projects (county roads and bridges), the CDOT will make application on behalf of the county for an easement deed in the name of the county using the above process.
- H. The appropriate CDOT Region Office will comply with the USFS or BLM procedures for use or occupancy of NFS/BLM lands for other transportation related uses outside of the easement areas (ex: borrow pits adjacent to construction sites).
- I. In the case of emergencies (floods, slides, etc), the CDOT may conduct work outside the ROW to repair problem area(s) and will promptly notify the USFS/BLM of actions taken or proposed.
- J. The USFS/BLM will notify the CDOT Headquarters Office of any proposed land ownership adjustment or land exchanges affecting CDOT facilities or ROW. Upon such notification, the CDOT will determine the necessity of applying for an easement deed to protect its interest prior to completion of the land exchange.

## 9. CONSTRUCTION/RECONSTRUCTION

- A. The CDOT and the USFS/BLM will designate respective Construction Coordinators to provide coordination on matters related to the construction work or changed conditions that may alter the land allocations for approved plans. Changes in ROW requirements or conditions affecting the project NEPA decision that occur during construction or reconstruction activities may necessitate additional NEPA analysis and coordination.
- B. Non-timber materials of marketable value, such as landscape rock, topsoil, or gravel, that are generated during construction activities will be stockpiled in an area designated by the USFS/BLM.
- C. The CDOT will invite the USFS/BLM to attend the pre-work construction conference with the successful bidder.
- D. The CDOT and the USFS/BLM will jointly participate in final project inspections.

## 10. MAINTENANCE

- A. Maintenance is defined as minor restoration and upkeep to preserve the entire facility, including roadway, shoulders, slopes, drainage improvements, safety devices, and other fea-

tures. Maintenance also includes snow removal, sanding, mowing, vegetation removal, culvert and ditch cleaning, and other services necessary for its safe and efficient operation. Maintenance does not include activities which result in betterment or a higher service level of the facility, such as realignment, widening, or other improvements considered to be reconstruction.

- B. The CDOT will conduct maintenance activities to preserve and enhance scenic, environmental, and safety characteristics of transportation facilities to be compatible with adjacent NFS/BLM lands and resources.
- C. With respect to maintenance activities only, the term right-of-way (ROW) is defined as the legal limits of the easement if an easement exists, or the area between the existing top of cuts and toe of fills if no easement exists.
- D. The CDOT will notify the USFS/BLM of any merchantable timber which may be generated as a result of maintenance activities.
- E. Routine maintenance activities within the ROW such as minor clearing, normal slough removal, and ditch cleaning will not require coordination.
- F. Non-routine maintenance activities within the ROW such as significant amounts of clearing, changes in established drainage patterns, and material sources and storage will be mutually agreed upon by the USFS/BLM and the CDOT by conference or other communication prior to commencing the work.
- G. The CDOT will coordinate with the USFS/BLM on any maintenance activities which may affect NFS/BLM lands outside the ROW. Snow avalanche control is covered under Section 14.
- H. All maintenance activities, including snow removal and sanding, will be performed to minimize and control soil erosion and deposition within the ROW and adjacent lands.
- I. For use of biological or chemical control in clearing or vegetation maintenance on NFS/BLM lands, the CDOT will: follow the provisions contained in the highway easement deed if within a ROW covered by an easement; consult with the USFS/BLM if within a ROW not covered by an easement; or obtain written approval if outside the limits of the ROW.
- J. The CDOT may remove imminent hazards, such as rock slides or trees, without formal USFS/BLM approval and will notify the USFS/BLM as soon as practicable. Removed material will be disposed of at locations mutually agreeable to the CDOT and the USFS/BLM.
- K. The CDOT will notify the USFS/BLM when facilities such as fences or cattleguards that are USFS/BLM responsibility are not being adequately maintained or will be impacted by CDOT maintenance within the ROW.
- L. The USFS/BLM will notify the CDOT of planned USFS/BLM activities which may affect transportation operations or maintenance.

## 11. SIGNING

### A. GENERAL POLICIES/RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1) The CDOT will furnish, install, and maintain all regulatory, warning, and guide signs, other than those requested by the USFS/BLM, within the ROW along the Interstate and State Highway Systems.
- 2) USFS/BLM requested signs will be mutually reviewed and agreed upon by the USFS/BLM and the CDOT to assure compliance with this MOU, the "Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices" (MUTCD), and CDOT standards. Unresolved problems and items requiring approval of higher authority will be referred to the CDOT Sign Policy Administration Committee.
  - a. The USFS/BLM will furnish, install, and maintain the following signs:
    - USFS/BLM Boundary Sign (Exhibit 2, Signs BDY-1, BDY-2, and BDY-3).
    - Special interpretive signing.
    - Other signs needed for USFS/BLM management.
  - b. USFS/BLM requested signs guiding motorists to USFS/BLM facilities will be funded as follows:
    - Furnishing of signs and initial sign installation will be funded on a case-by-case basis, depending on the scope of the proposal and funding availability, and may be provided by either party or on a cost shared basis (i.e USFS/BLM furnish and CDOT install).
    - The CDOT will maintain these signs after installation.
  - c. USFS/BLM requested signs will be manufactured to CDOT standards.
- 3) Location and installation of specific service (LOGO) signs and tourist oriented directional signs (TODS) within the limits of USDOT easements across NFS/BLM lands, is the responsibility of the CDOT, and will be done in conformance with The MUTCD and CDOT standards. The CDOT will review proposed sign locations with the USFS/BLM prior to selecting final locations.
- 4) Only the most direct route for any destination will be signed.
- 5) Any signing needs not covered under this section will be proposed, reviewed, and approved on a site specific basis.
- 6) Existing signs on the State transportation system which do not meet the standards established in this MOU may be removed by the CDOT after prior written notification to the USFS/BLM of signs to be removed.

### B. CRITERIA FOR SIGN LOCATIONS - OUTSIDE OF FEDERAL LANDS

- 1) **USFS/BLM Lands Access** (Exhibit 2, Signs ACC-1, ACC-2, & ACC-3)
  - a. Install at locations where roads that provide all-weather, passenger car access to USFS/BLM developed recreation sites originate from State highways, **and**

b. when the CDOT and the USFS/BLM have jointly approved a public access sign plan identifying the locations of those signs described in a. above.

- 2) **Visitor Information Sites** (Exhibit 2, Signs INF-1 & INF-2) - Install for staffed facilities which are adjacent to a State highway, are within ten (10) road miles of a Federal lands boundary, and are located in a rural area or a community of less than 50,000 population.
- 3) **Scenic Byways** (Exhibit 2, Sign SB-1) - Install at locations established under the Guidelines for Scenic Byway Signing.
- 4) **Wildlife Viewing Areas** (Exhibit 2, Sign WW-1) - Install at sites identified in the "Colorado Wildlife Viewing Guide" and in accordance with CDOT guidelines.

C. CRITERIA FOR SIGN LOCATIONS - WITHIN FEDERAL LANDS

- 1) **National Forest Boundary/Bureau of Land Management Boundary** (Exhibit 2, Signs BDY-1, BDY-2, & BDY-3) - Install at points where a highway first crosses USFS/BLM owned land after entering the proclaimed NFS boundary or BLM District.
- 2) **Developed Recreation Sites** - Signs will meet the requirements of MUTCD Section 2H-16 and depicted in Figure 2-52 of the MUTCD. Sites must be located within 1/2 mile of the State highway, have physical improvements (other than roadway), be identified on USFS or BLM visitor maps, and provide parking for at least 10 vehicles. Included are such sites as:
  - Campgrounds - When sanitary facilities are provided.
  - Picnic Areas - When sanitary facilities are provided.
  - Overlooks - When within 1/4 mile of the State highway.
  - Fishing Access Sites - When accessible for handicapped persons (exempt from 10 vehicle minimum parking limitation).
  - Non-staffed Information Sites
  - Points of Interest
- 3) **Primary Access Roads** (Exhibit 2, Signs RD-1 & RD-2) - Install at junctions with USFS/BLM roads which are maintained for passenger car traffic.
- 4) **Visitor Information Sites** - Same criteria as in item B. 2).
- 5) **Scenic Byways** - Same criteria as in item B. 3.
- 6) **Wildlife Viewing Areas** - Same criteria as in item B.4.

12. ACCESS CONTROL

- A. Access to interstate highways will be only by established interchanges, except for emergency use in accordance with the rules and regulations governing the Interstate Highway System.
- B. The USFS/BLM and its permit holders will obtain a State Highway Access Permit for any new or revised road approaches to State highways. New approaches will be at the expense of the USFS/BLM or its permit holders. Maintenance of road approaches will be the responsibility of the permittee unless specifically addressed in the permit.

- C. The USFS/BLM may construct temporary approaches as necessary during fire fighting or other emergencies without formal CDOT approval. The USFS/BLM will notify the CDOT as soon as practicable. Following emergency use, necessary obliteration and restoration measures will be made at no expense to the CDOT. The USFS/BLM will take precautions during such emergencies to safeguard highway users.

### 13. THIRD PARTY OCCUPANCY

- A. The grant of an easement to the CDOT by the FHWA does not include the grant of any rights for non-highway purposes, facilities, or occupancy by third parties. In the case of a public utility wishing to locate on highway right-of-way over NFS/BLM lands, the CDOT will advise the utility that it must apply to the USFS/BLM for a permit for occupancy. The CDOT may also issue a permit to the utility to control highway related activities.
- B. The CDOT and the USFS/BLM will consult before any third party occupancy permits or other encumbrances are acted upon to determine if such occupancy may impact highway safety, maintenance, and efficiency. If it is determined that such impacts would occur, the USFS/BLM will request CDOT review and concurrence prior to approving occupancy.

### 14. SNOW AVALANCHE CONTROL

- A. A statewide avalanche management plan will be prepared and maintained by the CDOT to specify methods of snow avalanche hazard reduction, public and employee safety, protection of public and private property, rescue procedures related to highway operations, and other elements of avalanche control operations that are uniform across the State. Local operating procedures will be developed to prescribe site specific avalanche management activities and may include maps and photographs, area control measures, gun placements, media contacts, location and responsibility for warning signs, and names and/or positions of personnel responsible for various activities. These local procedures will become part of the statewide plan and will be prepared in cooperation with CDOT Regions and local USFS/BLM field offices. The statewide avalanche management plan will be approved by the USFS Regional Forester and the BLM State Director.
- B. The CDOT, the USFS, and the BLM mutually agree to cooperate in highway maintenance and signing as it relates to snow avalanche reduction activities and safety in accord with the general principles and specific procedures outlined in this MOU.

### 15. CONCLUSION

- A. **Non-Fund Obligating Document.** This MOU is neither a fiscal nor a fund obligating document. Any endeavor involving reimbursement or contribution of funds between the parties to this MOU will be handled in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and procedures including those for Government procurement and printing. Such endeavors will be outlined in separate agreements that shall be made in writing by representatives of the parties and shall be independently authorized by appropriate statutory authority. This MOU does not provide such authority. Specifically, this MOU does not establish authority for noncompetitive award to the cooperator of any contract or other agreement. Any contract or agreement for training or other services must fully comply with all applicable requirements for competition.

- B. **Completion Date.** This MOU is executed as of the last date shown below and expires no later than 5 years from such date, at which time it is subject to review, renewal, or expiration.
- C. **Modification.** Modifications within the scope of this MOU shall be made by the issuance of a multilaterally executed modification prior to any changes being performed.
- D. **Termination.** Any party, in writing, may terminate participation in this MOU in whole, or in part, at any time before the date of expiration.
- E. **Participation in Similar Activities.** This MOU in no way restricts the USFS, the BLM, the CDOT, or the FHWA from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations, and individuals.
- F. **Principal Contacts.** The principal contacts for this agreement are:

William J. Gournay  
 USDA Forest Service  
 P.O. Box 25127  
 Lakewood, CO 80225

Stuart Cox  
 USDI Bureau of Land Management  
 2850 Youngfield Street  
 Lakewood, CO 80215

James E. Siebels  
 CO Dept. of Transportation  
 4201 E. Arkansas Avenue  
 Denver, CO 80222

George Osborne  
 FHWA - Colorado Division  
 555 Zang St., Suite 250  
 Lakewood, CO 80228

16. APPROVALS

COLORADO DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION

Guillermo V. Vidal  
 Executive Director

Date: 11/19/96

U.S.D.O.T. FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMIN.

George H. Osborne  
 Colorado Division Administrator

Date: 12/2/96

U.S.D.A. FOREST SERVICE

James E. Siebels  
 Regional Forester-Rocky Mtn. Region *fax 12/3/96*

Date: 12-4-96

U.S.D.I. BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Robert A. Aibley  
 Colorado State Director

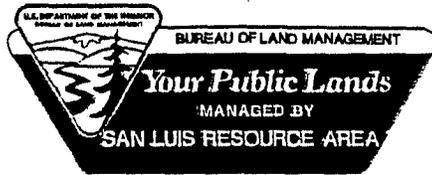
Date: 11-21-96



EXHIBIT 2  
(TYPICAL SIGNS)



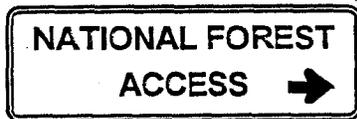
BDY-1



BDY-2



BDY-3



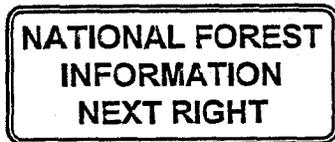
ACC-1 \*



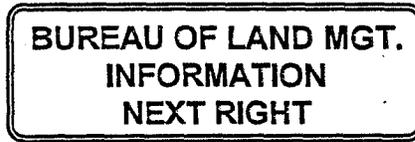
ACC-2 \*



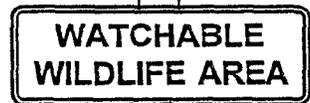
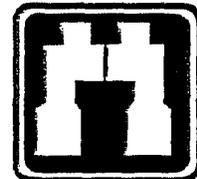
ACC-3 \*



INF-1



INF-2



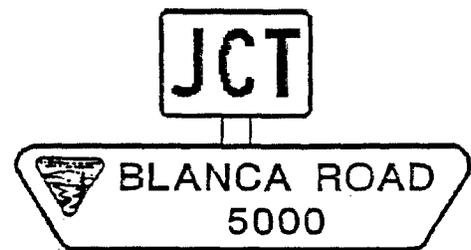
WW-1



SB-1



RD-1



RD-2

\* May include road name.

CDOT REGION & MAINTENANCE OFFICES

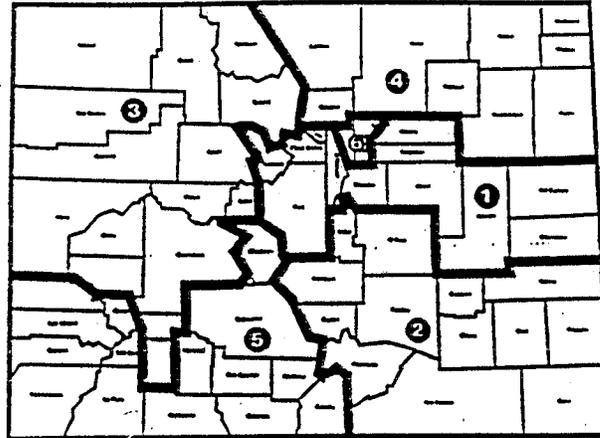
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DIRECTORS

REGION 1

18500 E. Colfax Avenue  
Aurora, CO 80011  
(303) 757-9371

REGION 2

P.O. Box 536  
905 Erie Avenue  
Pueblo, CO 81002  
(719) 546-5452



REGION 3

222 South 6th Street, #317  
Grand Jct., CO 81501-2769  
(303) 248-7225

REGION 4

P.O. Box 850  
1420 2nd Street  
Greeley, CO 80632  
(303) 350-2101

REGION 5

214 West College Drive  
Durango, CO 81301  
(303) 385-1602

REGION 6

2000 South Holly Street  
Denver, CO 80222  
(303) 757-9459

MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDENTS

SECTION 1

P.O. Box 850  
1420 2nd Street  
Greeley, CO 80632  
(303) 350-2119

SECTION 2

606 S. 9th  
P.O. Box 2107  
Grand Jct., CO 81502  
(303) 248-7363

SECTION 3

214 W. 6th Street  
Durango, CO 81301  
(303) 385-1650

SECTION 4

P.O. Box 536  
905 Erie Avenue  
Pueblo, CO 81002  
(719) 546-5416

SECTION 5

18500 E. Colfax  
Aurora, CO 80011  
(303) 757-9649

SECTION 6

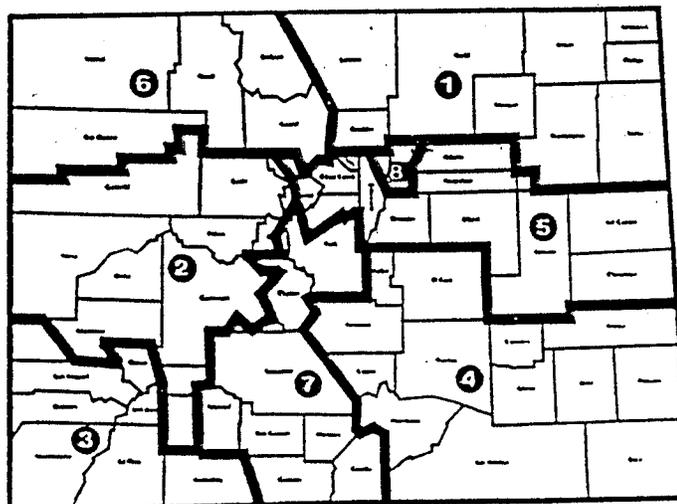
260 Ranney Street  
Craig, CO 81625  
(303) 824-5104

SECTION 7

P.O. Box 478  
Alamosa, CO 81101  
(719) 589-3616

SECTION 8

5640 E. Atlantic Place  
Denver, CO 80224  
(303) 757-9514

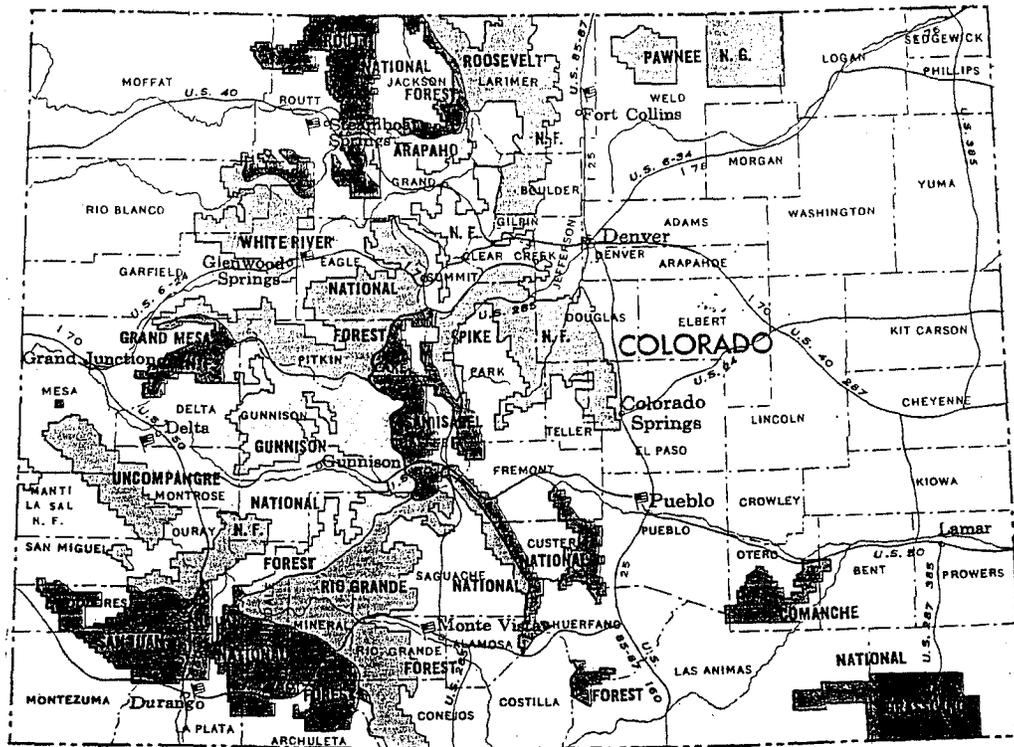


SECTION 9

Eisenhower/Johnson Tunnels under the Continental Divide on I-70.

## EXHIBIT 4

### FOREST SERVICE FIELD OFFICES - COLORADO



**ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION - REGIONAL OFFICE**  
740 Simms Street  
P.O. Box 25127  
Lakewood, CO 80225

**ARAPAHO AND ROOSEVELT  
NATIONAL FORESTS**  
240 W. Prospect Road  
Ft. Collins, CO 80526-2098  
(303) 498-1100

**GRAND MESA, UNCOMPAHGRE & GUNNISON  
NATIONAL FORESTS**  
2250 Hwy 50  
Delta, CO 81416-8723  
(303) 874-7691

**PIKE AND SAN ISABEL  
NATIONAL FORESTS**  
1920 Valley Drive  
Pueblo, CO 81008  
(719) 545-8737

**ROUTT NATIONAL FOREST**  
29587 West U.S. 40, Suite 20  
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487-9550  
(303) 879-1722

**SAN JUAN AND RIO GRANDE  
NATIONAL FORESTS**  
701 Camino Del Rio, Room 301  
Durango, CO 81301  
(303) 247-4874

**WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST**  
9th and Grand  
Glenwood Springs, CO 81602  
(303) 945-2521

# EXHIBIT 5

## COLORADO BLM OFFICE DIRECTORY

### COLORADO STATE OFFICE

2850 Youngfield Street  
Lakewood, CO 80215  
Phone: (303) 239-3600  
TDD: (303) 239-3635  
Hours: 7:45 a.m.-4:15 p.m.  
Public Room: 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

### GRAND JUNCTION AIR CENTER

2774 Landing View Lane  
Grand Junction, CO 81506  
Phone: (970) 245-4988

### GRAND JUNCTION DISTRICT OFFICE

2815 H Road  
Grand Junction, CO 81506  
Phone: (970) 244-3000  
TDD: (970) 244-3011

### GRAND JUNCTION RESOURCE AREA

2815 H Road  
Grand Junction, CO 81506  
Phone: (970) 244-3000  
TDD: (970) 244-3011

### GLENWOOD SPRINGS RESOURCE AREA

50629 Highways 6 & 24 (ZIP 81601)  
P.O. Box 1009  
Glenwood Springs, CO 81602  
Phone: (970) 945-2341  
TDD: (970) 945-5663

### CRAIG DISTRICT OFFICE

455 Emerson Street  
Craig, CO 81625  
Phone: (970) 824-8261  
TDD: (970) 824-5745

### KREMMLING RESOURCE AREA

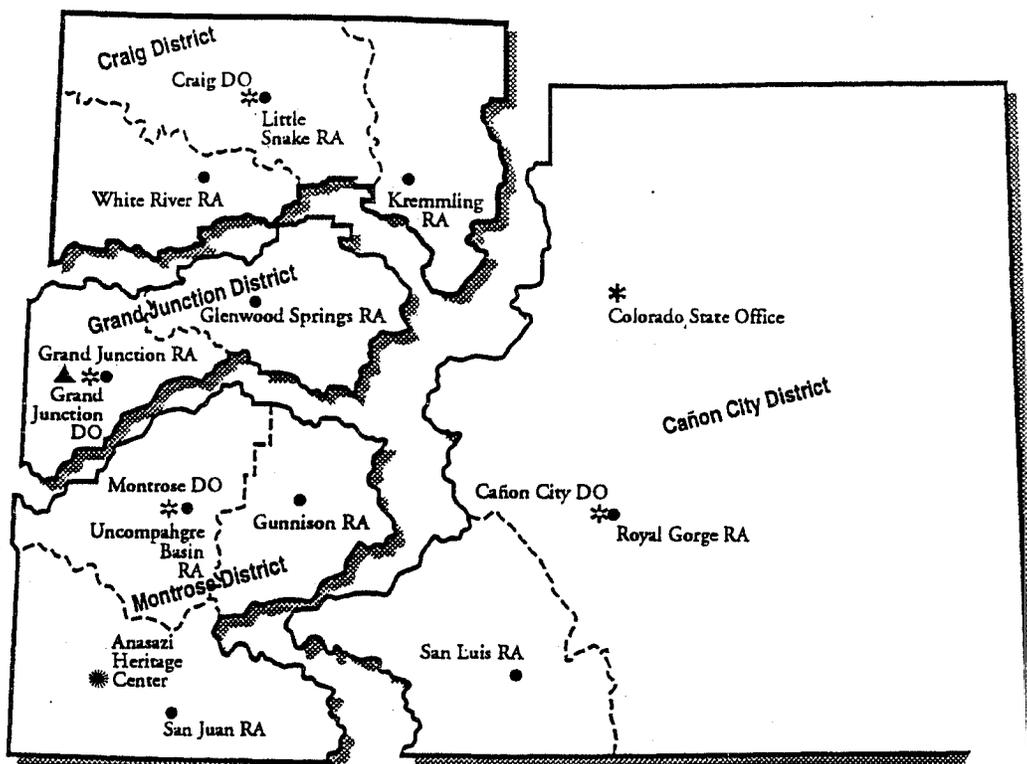
1116 Park Avenue  
P.O. Box 68  
Kremmling, CO 80459  
Phone: (970) 724-3437  
TDD: (970) 724-9293

### LITTLE SNAKE RESOURCE AREA

1280 Industrial Avenue  
Craig, CO 81625  
Phone: (970) 824-4441  
TDD: (970) 824-7507

### WHITE RIVER RESOURCE AREA

73544 Highway 64  
P.O. Box 928  
Meeker, CO 81641  
Phone: (970) 878-3601  
TDD: (970) 878-4227



### CAÑON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE

3170 East Main Street  
Cañon City, CO 81212  
Phone: (719) 269-8500  
TDD: (719) 269-8597

### ROYAL GORGE RESOURCE AREA

3170 East Main Street  
Cañon City, CO 81212  
Phone: (719) 269-8500  
TDD: (719) 269-8597

### Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area

307 West Sackett  
P.O. Box 126  
Salida, CO 81201  
Phone: (719) 539-7289

### SAN LUIS RESOURCE AREA

1921 State Street  
Alamosa, CO 81101  
Phone: (719) 589-4975  
TDD: (719) 589-6310

### MONTROSE DISTRICT OFFICE

2465 South Townsend  
Montrose, CO 81401  
Phone: (970) 240-5300  
TDD: (970) 240-5366

### ANASAZI HERITAGE CENTER

27501 Highway 184  
Dolores, CO 81323  
Phone: (970) 882-4811  
TDD: (970) 882-4825

### GUNNISON RESOURCE AREA

216 North Colorado  
Gunnison, CO 81230  
Phone: (970) 641-0471  
TDD: (970) 641-6817

### SAN JUAN RESOURCE AREA

Federal Building  
701 Camino del Rio  
Durango, CO 81301  
Phone: (970) 247-4082  
TDD: (970) 385-5121

### UNCOMPAGHRE BASIN RESOURCE AREA

2505 South Townsend  
Montrose, CO 81401  
Phone: (970) 240-5300  
TDD: (970) 240-5366



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Rocky  
Mountain  
Region  
DEPT. OF INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
REGIONAL STATE OFFICE - DENVER

P.O. Box 25127  
Lakewood, CO 80225-0127  
Delivery: 740 Simms St.  
Golden, CO 80401  
TTY 303-275-5367

cc. LOR  
Hr. only

96 DEC 17 10 40 AM '96

File Code: 1560/2720/7700

Date: DEC 13 1996

GUILLERMO V. VIDAL  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
4201 E. ARKANSAS AVE.  
DENVER, CO 80222

GEORGE H. OSBORNE  
DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR  
FHWA, COLORADO DIVISION  
555 ZANG STREET, SUITE 250  
LAKEWOOD, CO 80228

ROBERT ABBEY  
ACTING COLORADO STATE DIRECTOR  
USDI BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
2850 YOUNGFIELD STREET  
LAKEWOOD, CO 80215

Gentlemen:

Attached is a signed original Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Colorado Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration - Colorado Division, the USDA Forest Service, and the USDI Bureau of Land Management. It replaces our previous MOU signed on 9/19/95.

This MOU has now been signed by all parties and this original is for your files. Please distribute copies to your appropriate field units.

Thank you for participating in the development of this MOU, We firmly believe it will facilitate coordination efforts among our respective agencies.

If you have questions, please contact Bill Cassells at 303-275-5198.

Sincerely,



ELIZABETH ESTILL  
Regional Forester

Enclosure

C:  
Colorado Forest Supervisors  
PR-S.Ballenski  
RPST-D.Stark  
E-B.Cassells  
MSA-L.Waida

BC:km