

Comprehensive Creek Planning Initiative (CCP)



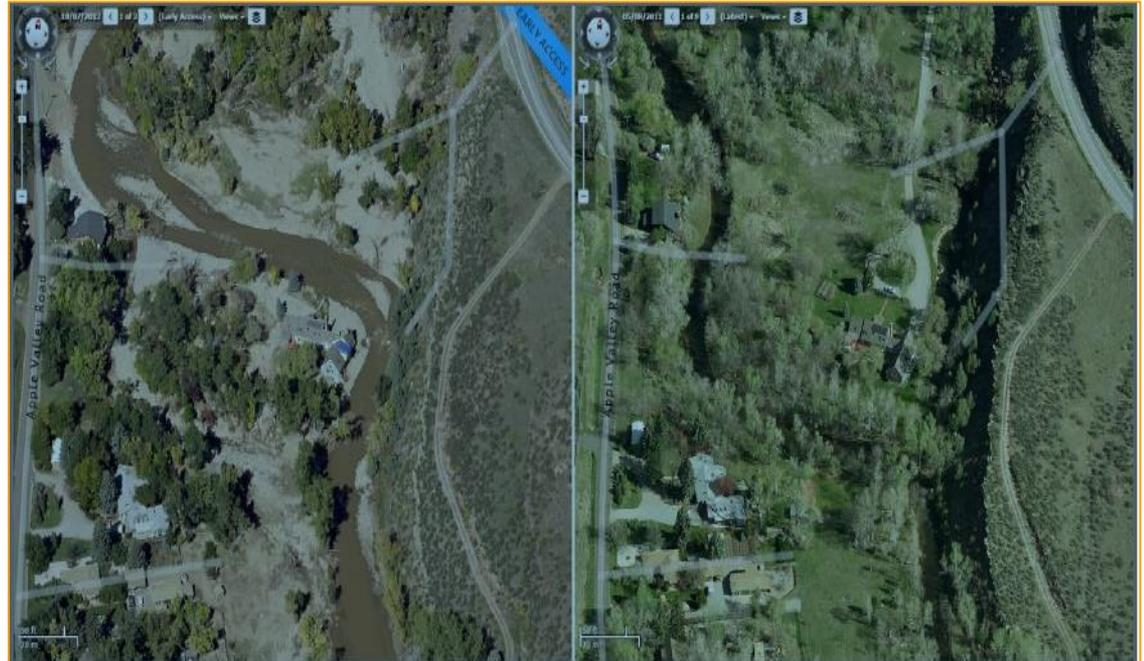
**JUNE 18, 2014
BOULDER COUNTY
WATERSHED COALITIONS**



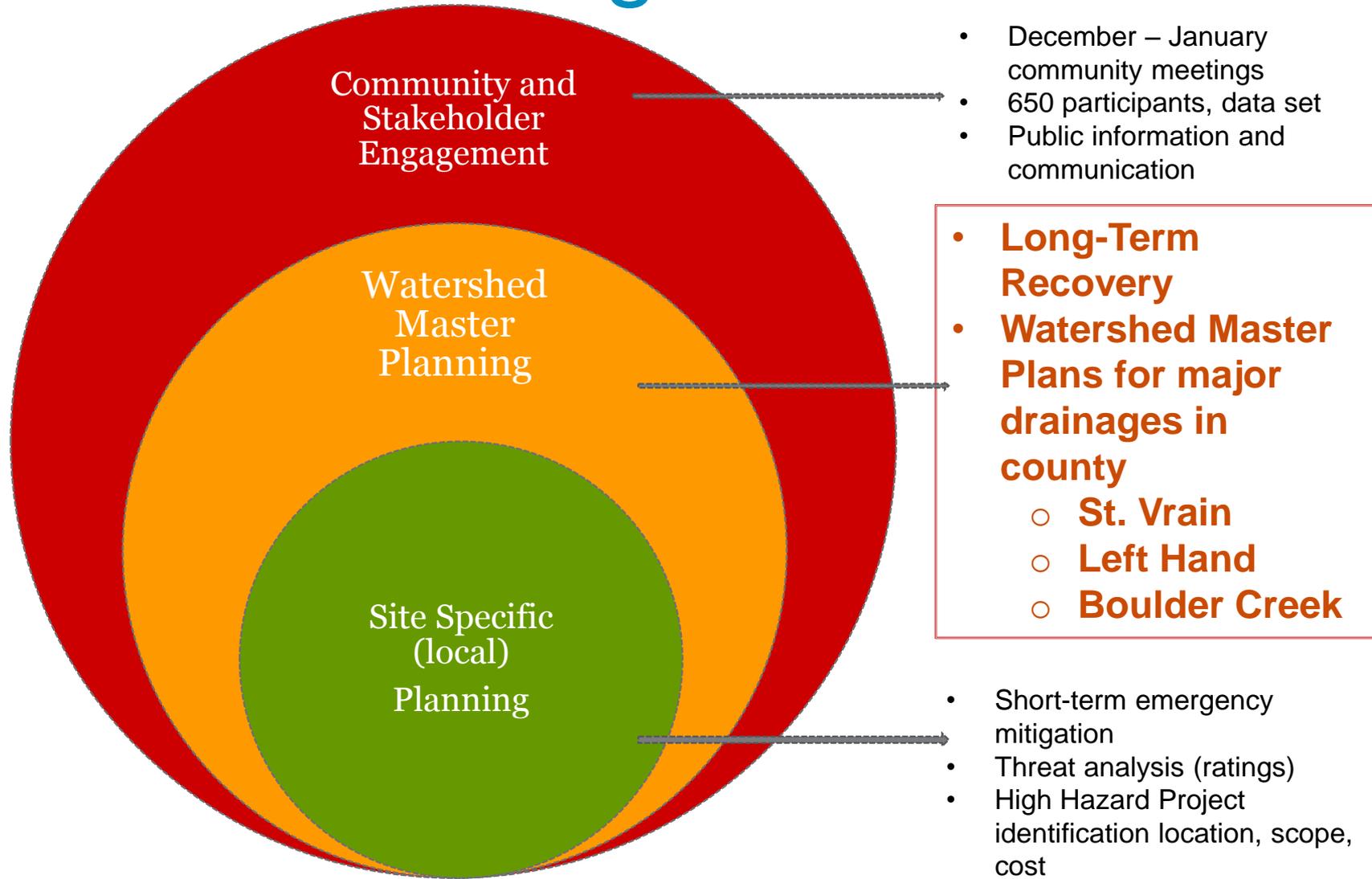
Purpose



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.



Creek Planning Activities





Planning Activities in Boulder County*

Little Thompson River Master Plan

St. Vrain Creek Master Plan

Left Hand Creek Master Plan

Boulder Creek

- Fourmile Creek Master Plan
- Boulder Creek Mitigation Plan, city of Boulder to confluence (UDFCD)

South Boulder Creek

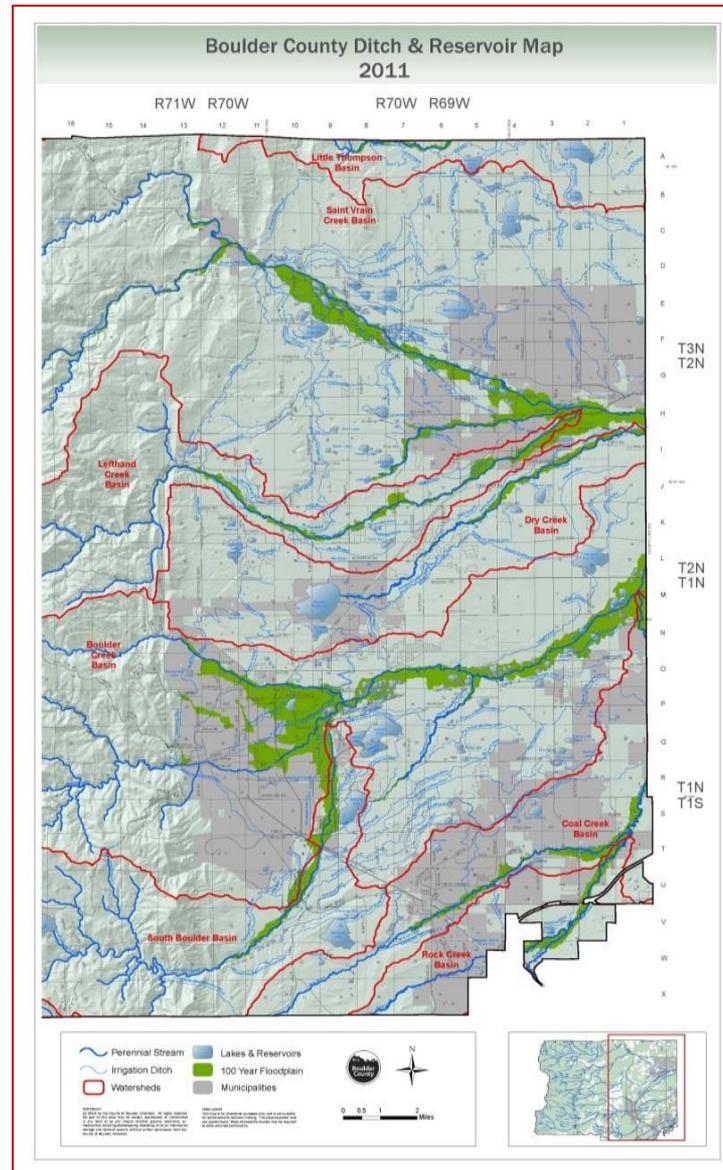
- Major drainageway planning for South Boulder Creek flood mitigation (UDFCD)**

Coal Creek & Rock Creek

- Upper Coal Creek Master Plan
- Coal Creek/Rock Creek, Major Drainageway and Planning Study and Flood Hazard Area Delineation (UDFCD)**

*Additional studies and activities may be taking place in incorporated cities and towns within Boulder County

**Studies begun before the September 2013 flood



Master Plan Tasks



Scope of Work

Project Management and Coordination

Agency, Stakeholder, and Public Engagement

Existing Plans and Post-Flood Conditions

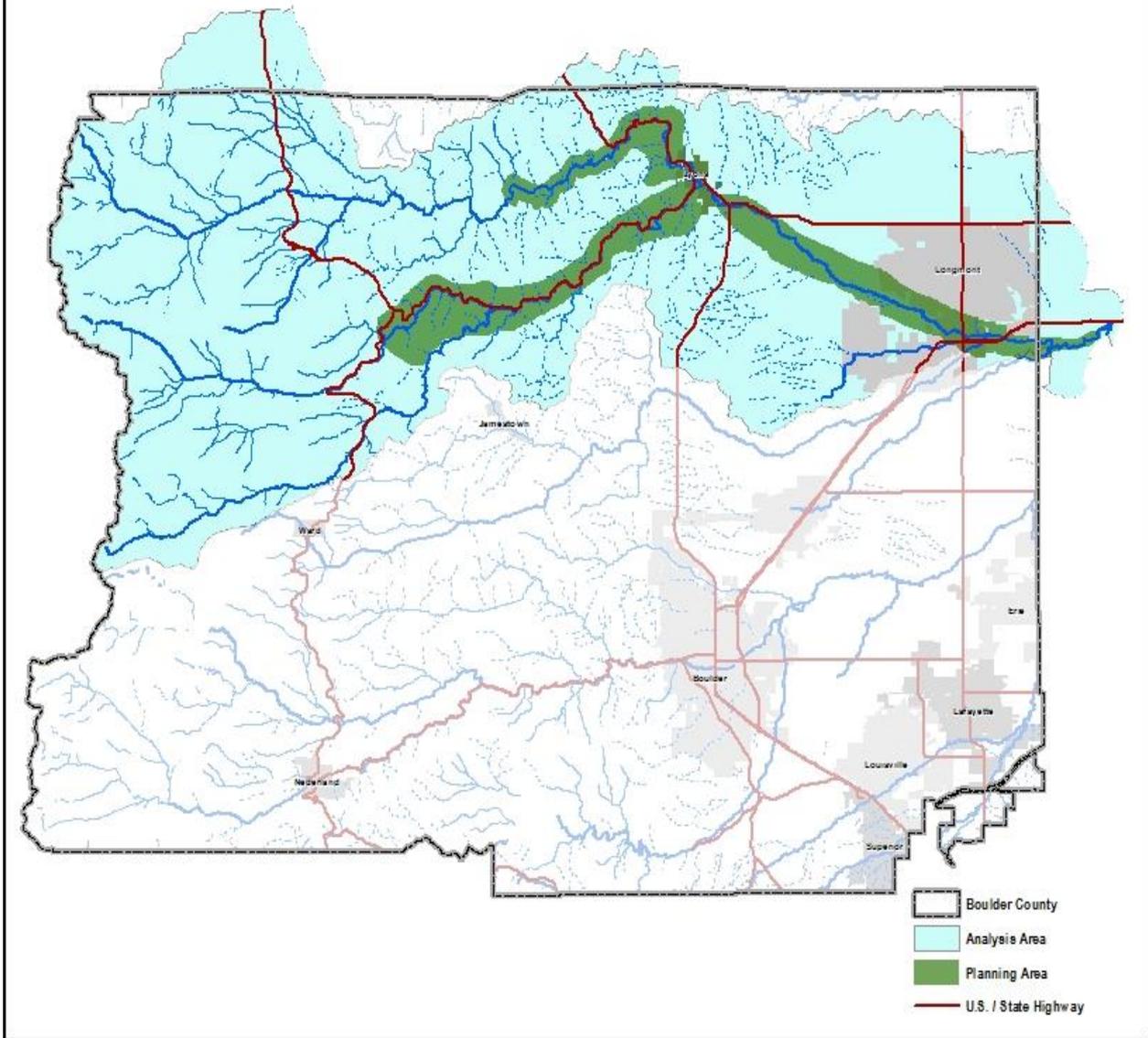
Data Collection and Analysis

**Creek Corridor Evaluation and
multidisciplinary Flood Risk Assessment**

**Plan Strategies, Frameworks, and
Alternatives**

**Project Identification, Prioritization and
Implementation**

St Vrain Creek Watershed Master Plan



St. Vrain Coalition



- Boulder County
- City of Longmont
- Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT)
- Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Saint Vrain and Lefthand Conservation District (SVLHCD)
- Town of Lyons
- USDA Forest Service, Arapaho/Roosevelt National Forest



St. Vrain Watershed Master Plan

Study Area Features

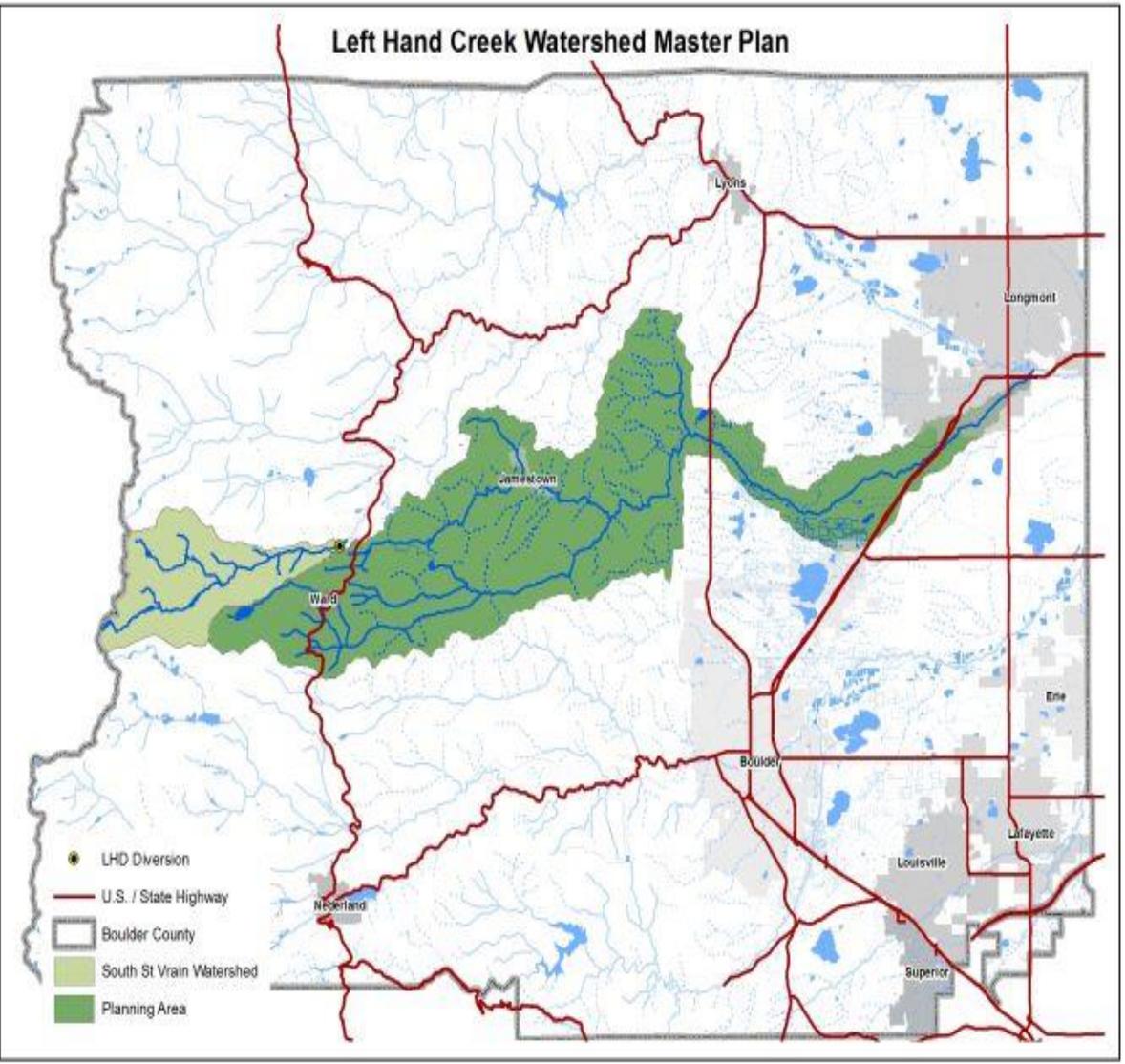
- Drainage area of 318 square miles in BC; total 546 square miles
- Boulder County Open Space, agricultural lands
- Highly impacted neighborhoods
- Town of Lyons community rebuilding
- State highway facilities
- City of Longmont flood mitigation program



Plan to be complete by September 2014



Left Hand Creek Watershed Master Plan



Left Hand Coalition



- Boulder County
- City of Boulder
- City of Longmont
- Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- Colorado Division of Reclamation and Mine Safety
- Colorado Water Conservation Board
- James Creek Watershed Initiative
- Keep it Clean Partnership
- Left Hand Ditch Company
- Left Hand Water District
- Left Hand Water Oversight Group
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Saint Vrain and Left Hand Conservancy District
- Town of Jamestown
- Town of Ward
- USDA Forest Service, Arapaho/Roosevelt National Forest
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8

Left Hand Watershed Master Plan

Study Area Features

- Drainage area of 72 square miles
- High impact debris flow during flood
- Water quality issues
- Diverse populations and organized communities in creek corridor
- County road & bridge facilities
- Town of Jamestown rebuilding



Plan to be complete by November 2014

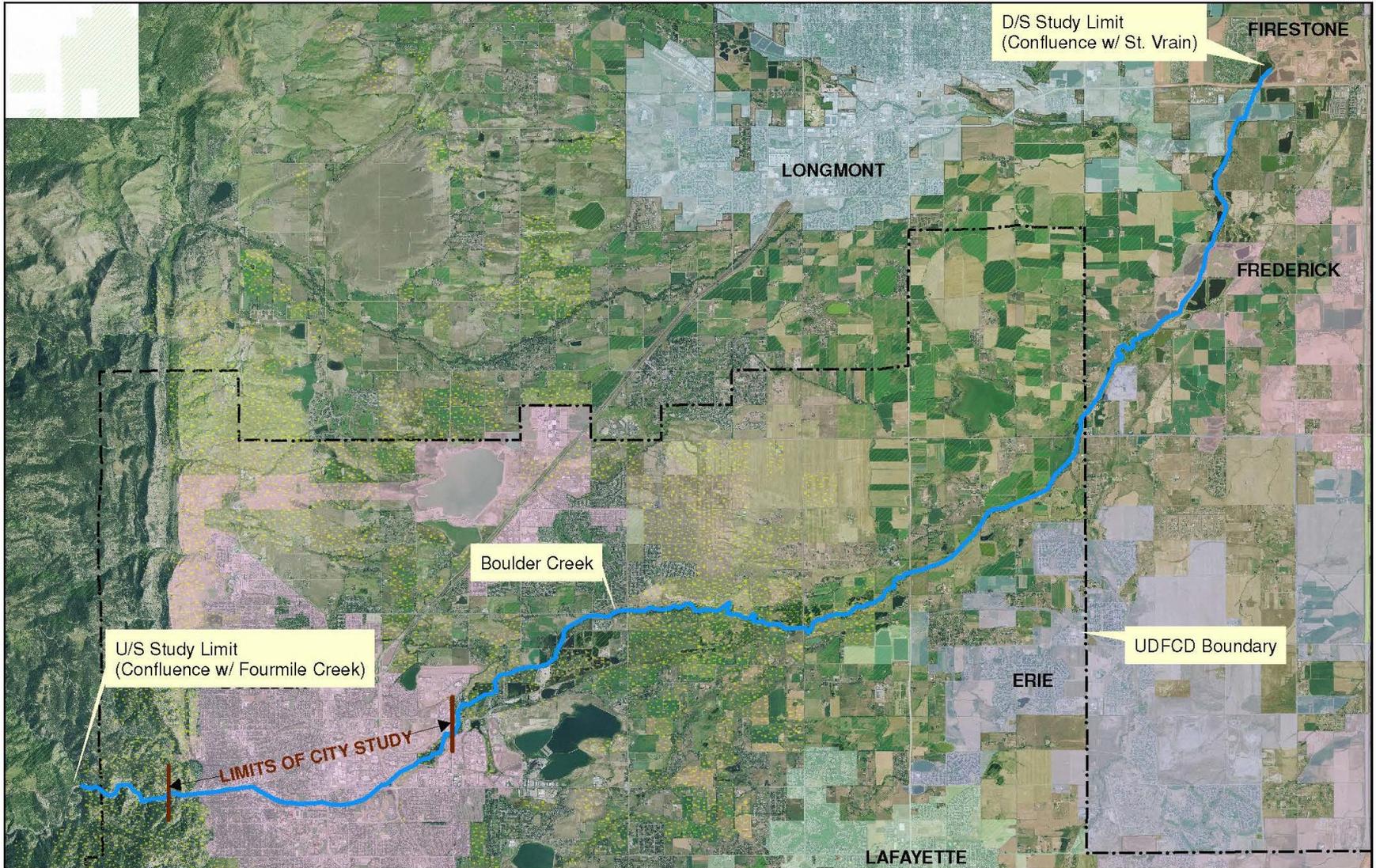
Boulder Creek Watershed



- Coalition initiated by Urban Drainage and Flood Control District (UDFCD) and Boulder County
- Other members:
 - City of Boulder
 - City of Longmont
 - Town of Frederick
 - Weld County



Boulder Creek Mitigation Plan



Boulder County Recovery Efforts

Repair/Restoration Projects Involving UDFCD

- City of Boulder (10 projects, \$443,000)
- Boulder County (7 projects, \$741,000)
- City of Lafayette (2 projects, \$42,000)
- City of Louisville (2 projects, \$296,000)

Total in Boulder County = \$1,522,000

Boulder County Recovery Efforts



Boulder County Recovery Efforts



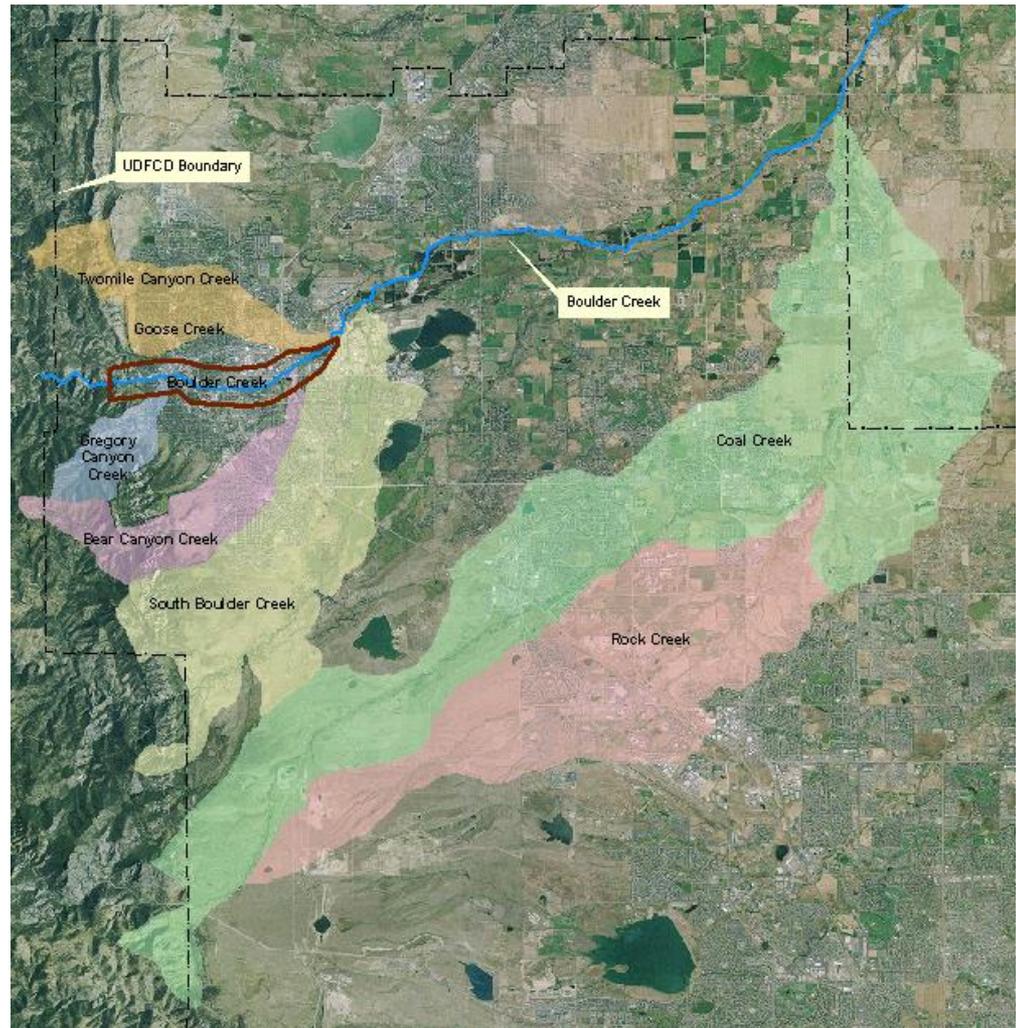
Boulder County Recovery Efforts



Boulder Creek Watershed

Study Areas by UDFCD

- Boulder Creek (within City of Boulder)
- Gregory Canyon Creek
- Bear Canyon Creek
- Twomile Canyon Creek
- Goose Creek
- South Boulder Creek
- Coal Creek
- Rock Creek



Fourmile Creek Master Plan

**Led by Boulder
County**

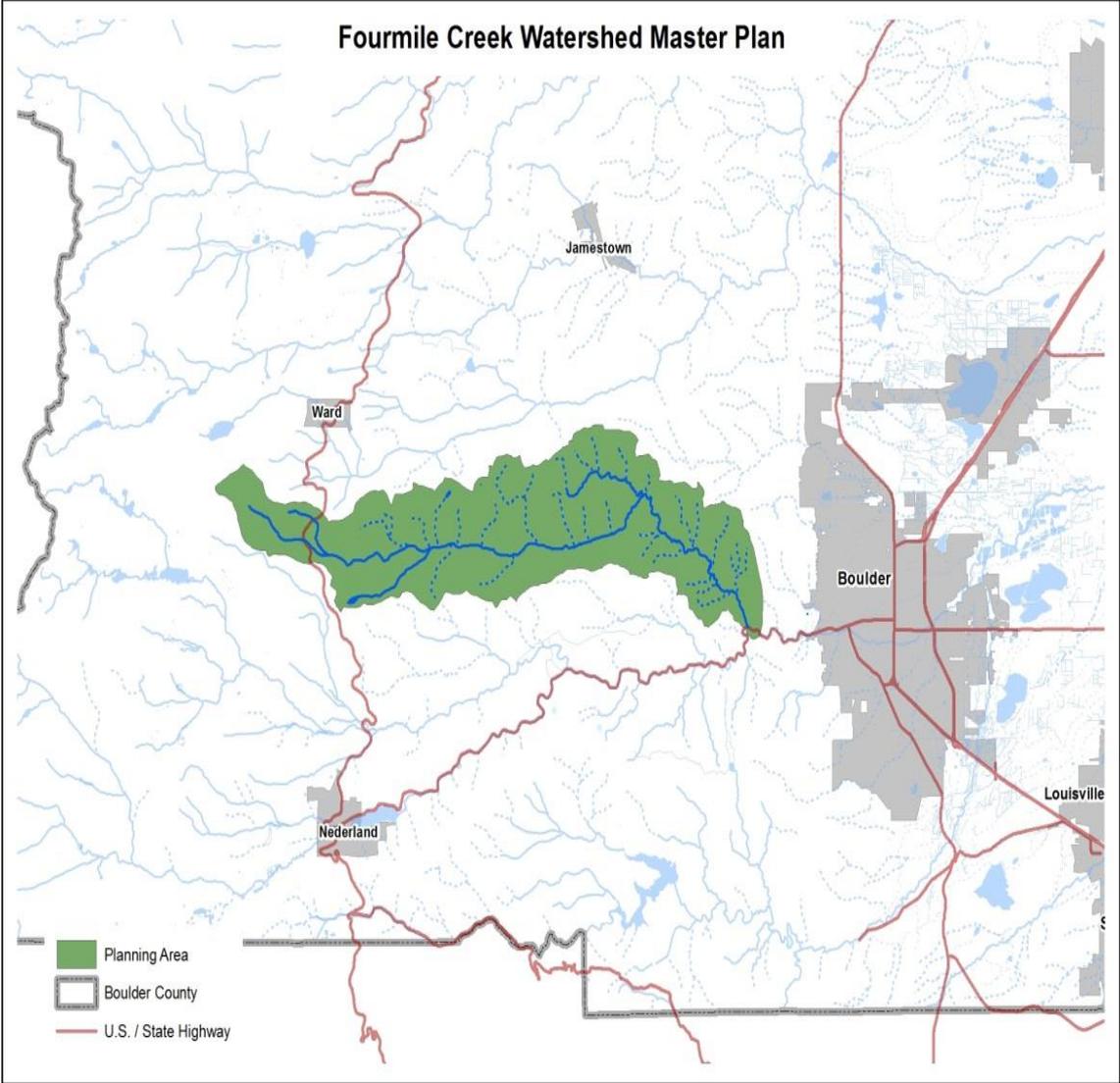
Study Area Features

- Drainage area of 28 square miles
- Historic communities
- Private crossings
- County road and bridge facilities

**Plan to be complete
by October 2014**



Fourmile Creek Watershed Master Plan



Boulder Creek Coalition



- Coalition to formally convene in early July
- Coordination to:
 - Share and discuss study data
 - Develop continuous stream restoration/flood mitigation plan(s) for Boulder Creek
 - Identify consistent vegetation and stabilization techniques for ecological and biological health
 - Identify communication and public information opportunities for all studies
 - Promote public and stakeholder participation in studies



Lessons Learned



Successes

- Coalition partnerships among many communities and agencies, specific to each watershed
- High degree of public interest in the process
- Widespread recognition that effort must be collaborative among agencies, landowners, stakeholder interests, and the public
- Understanding of “downstream” impacts as a rationale for watershed-level approach
- Interdisciplinary approach essential

Challenges

- Coordination and communication is key- and takes time!
- Communicating what a master plan is to the public
- Creek conditions are constantly changing
- Aggressive timeline for the master plans, will not allow for level of analysis needed for rebuilding in all cases
- Funding for project implementation not guaranteed
- Perceived conflicts between different disciplines



CCP Contacts



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