

Comprehensive Creek Planning Initiative (CCP)



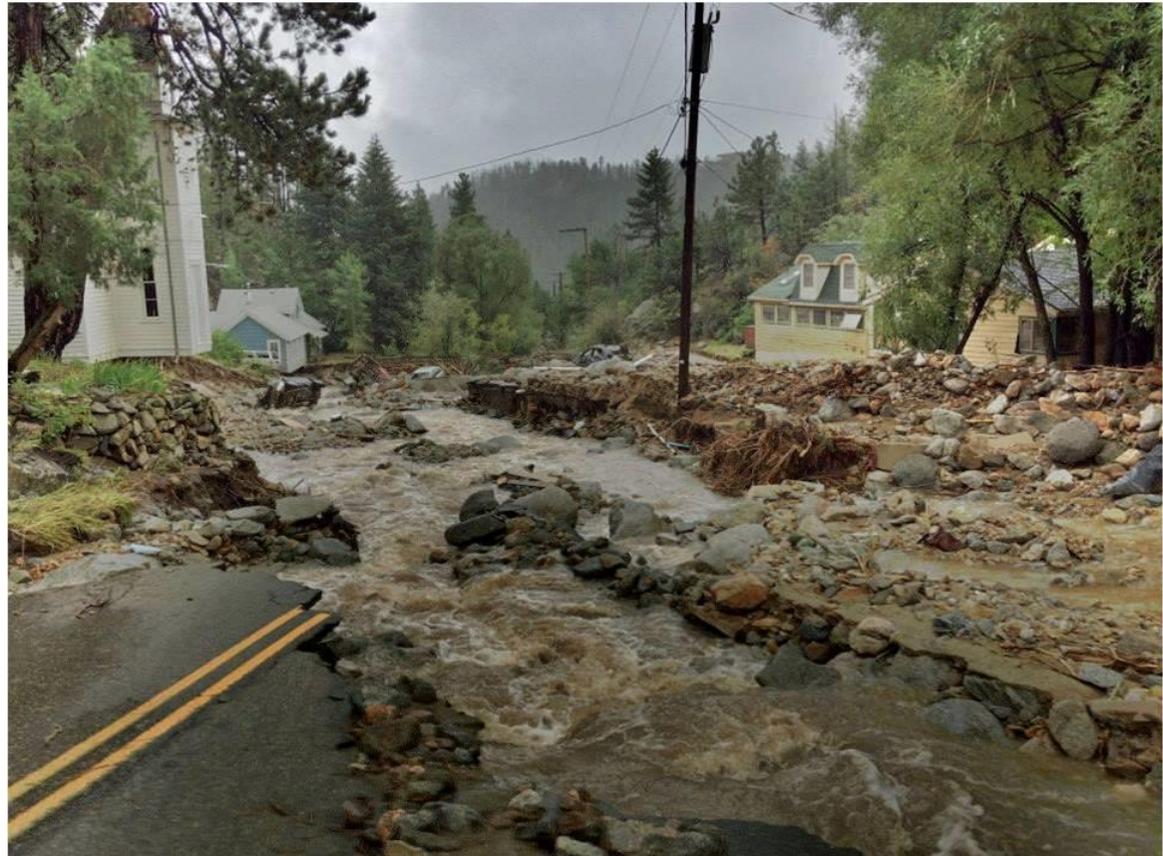
**JULY 18, 2014
BOULDER COUNTY
WATERSHED COALITIONS**



Watershed Recovery



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.





Boulder County Watersheds

Little Thompson

St. Vrain Creek

Dry Creek

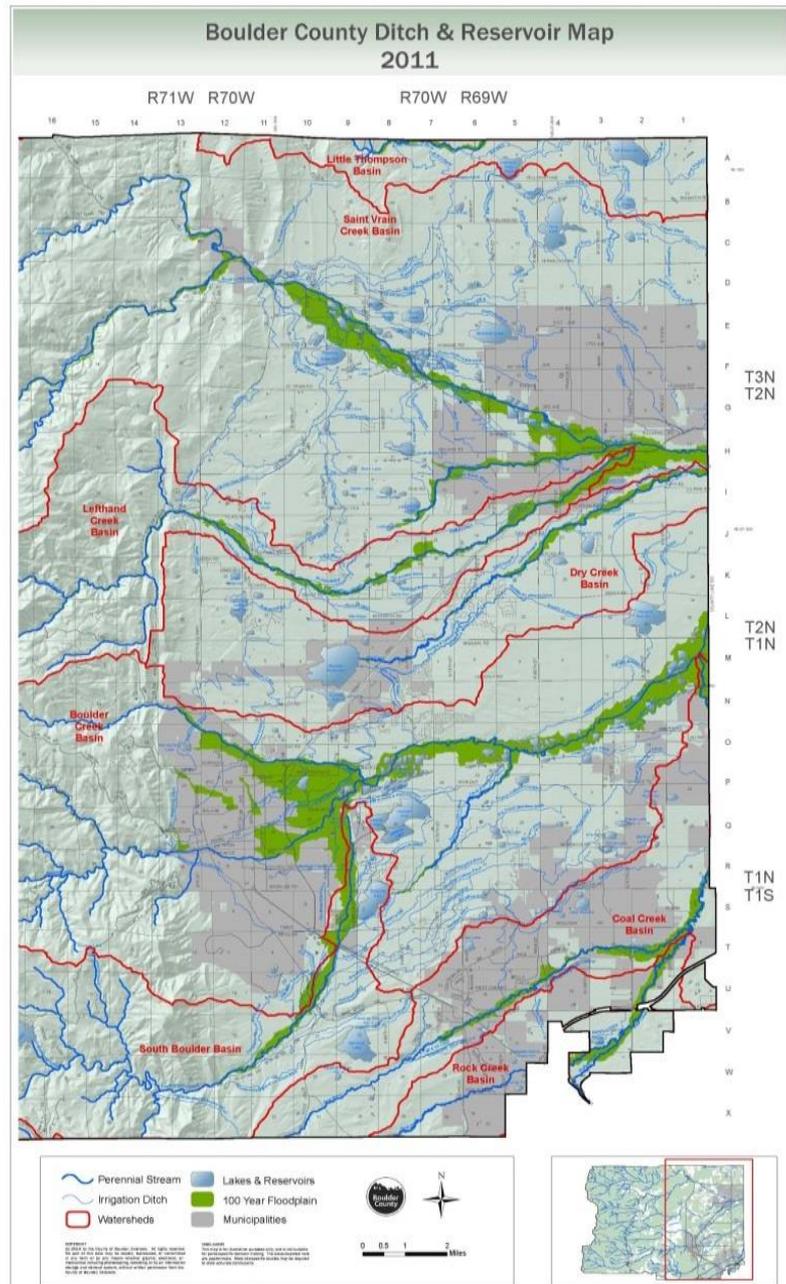
Left Hand Creek

Boulder Creek

South Boulder Creek

Coal Creek

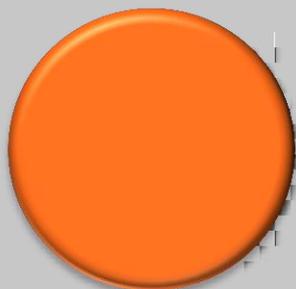
Rock Creek



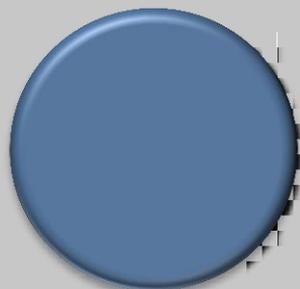
Watershed Recovery



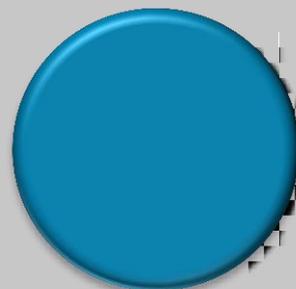
Recovery Programs/Community Engagement/Site Specific Planning



**Emergency
Response**

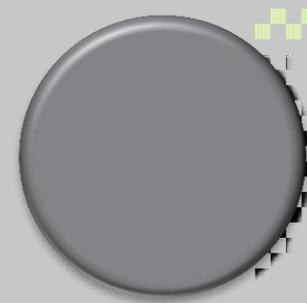


**Imminent Threat
Assessment and
Mitigation**



**Long-Term Vision
for Watershed**

**Watershed
Master Plans**



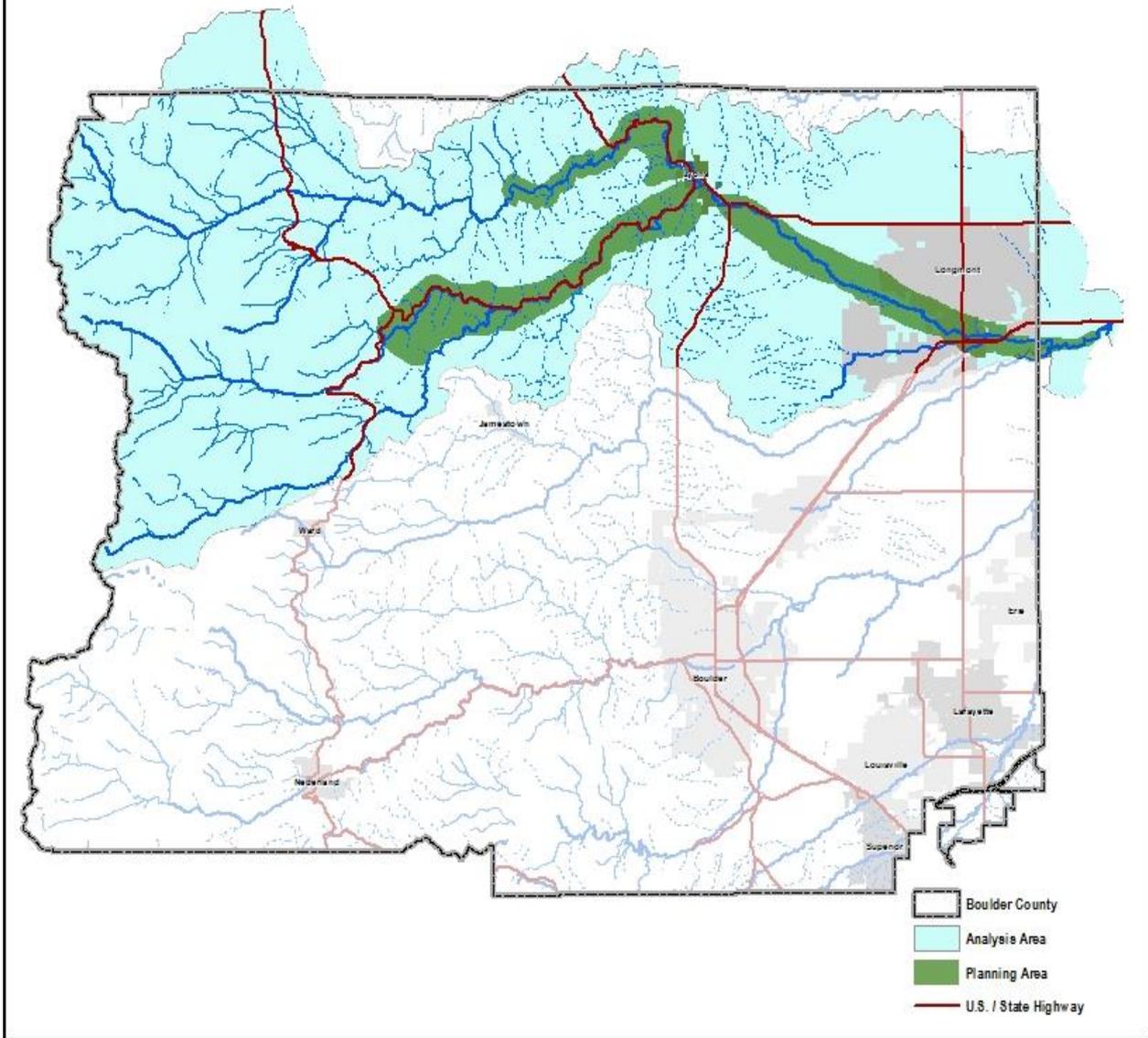
**Future Creek
Projects**

**Funding
and
Implementation**

Boulder County Master Plans

	St. Vrain Creek Boulder County	Left Hand Creek Boulder County	Boulder Creek Boulder County & Urban Drainage and Flood Control District (UDFCD)
Watershed Characteristics	Large watershed, several critical drainages, mountains to plains, rural town, one urban area, public lands	Several critical drainages, canyons to plains, mountain towns, rural subdivisions, public lands	Several critical drainages, canyons to plains, historic mountain towns, two urban areas, public lands, rural communities
Coalition Composition	8 members, public agencies	30+ members, public agencies, non-governmental entities, possible expansion	6 initial members, possible expansion to other agencies and stakeholders
Community Engagement	Large public forums	Neighborhood leadership	Outreach to individuals

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

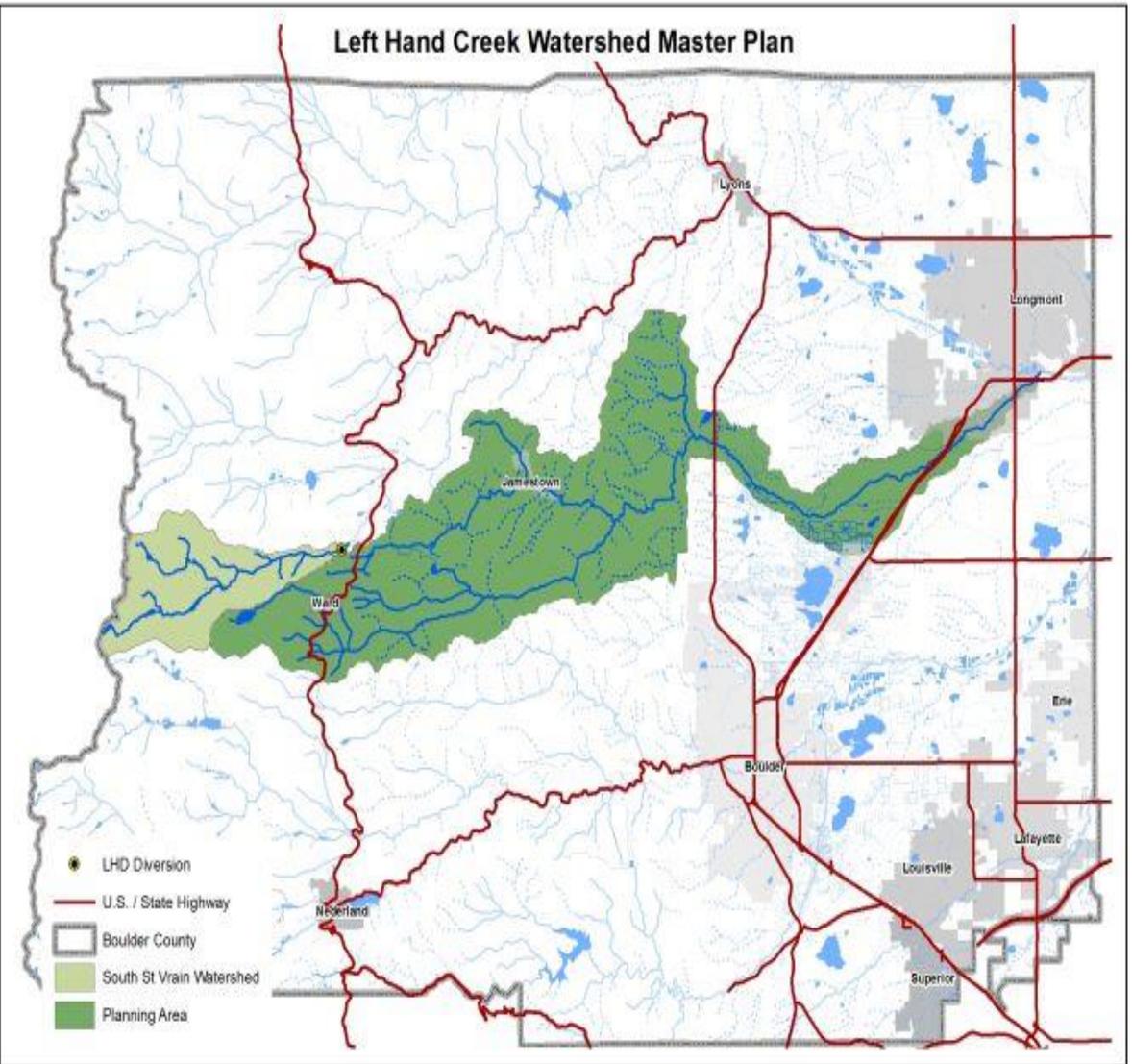
- Drainage area of 318 square miles in BC; total 546 square miles
- Boulder County Open Space, agricultural lands
- Highly impacted neighborhoods
- Town of Lyons community rebuilding
- State highway facilities
- City of Longmont flood mitigation program



**Plan to be
complete by
October
2014**



Left Hand Creek Watershed Master Plan



Left Hand Coalition



- Boulder County
- City of Boulder
- City of Longmont
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- Colorado Department of Transportation
- Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife
- Colorado Division of Reclamation and Mine Safety
- Colorado Water Conservation Board
- Colorado Water Conservation Board, recovery liaison with OEM
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- 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) & local conservation districts
- 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



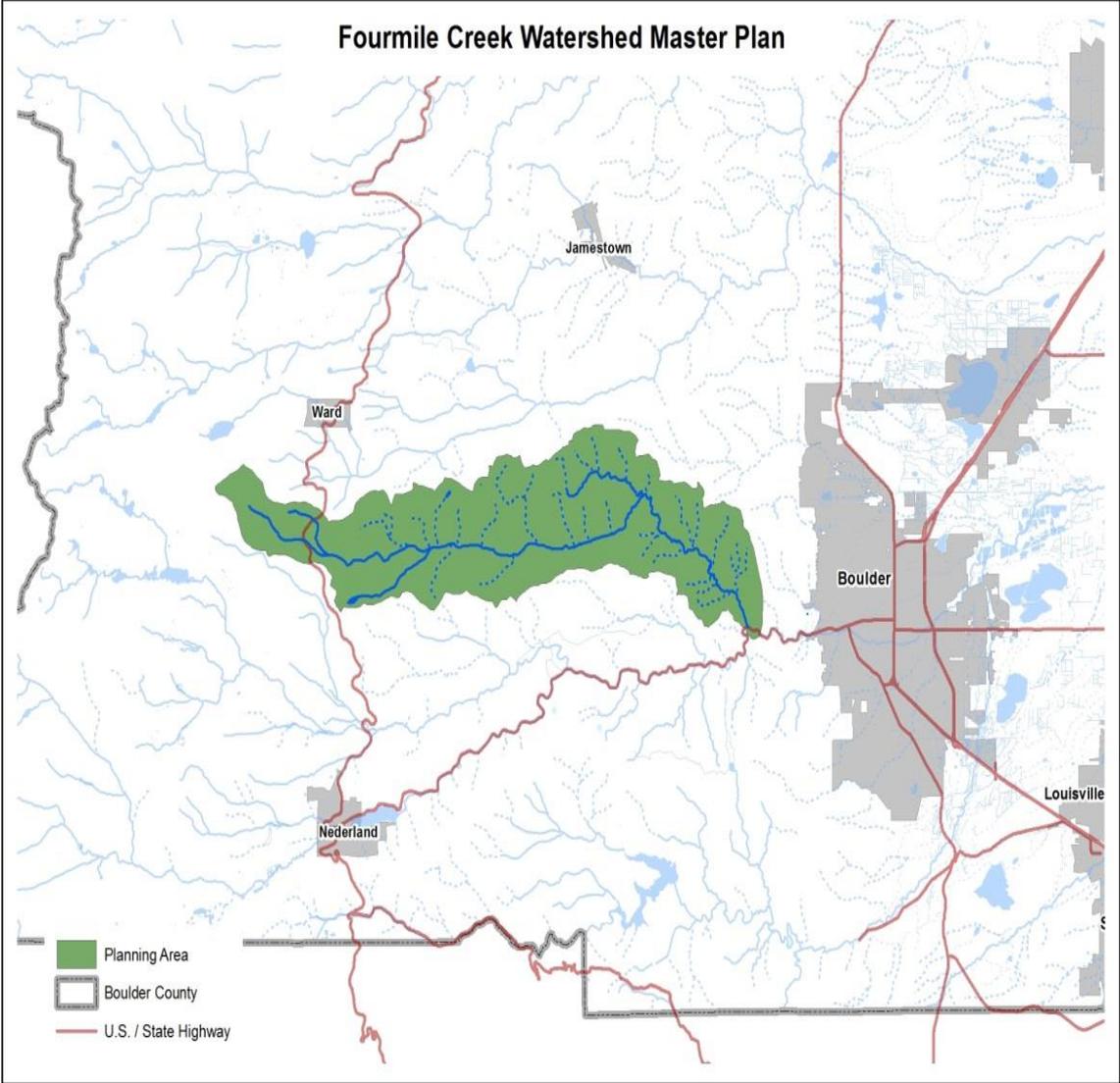
Boulder Creek Coalition



- 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



Fourmile Creek Watershed Master Plan



Fourmile Creek Master Plan

**Led by Boulder
County**

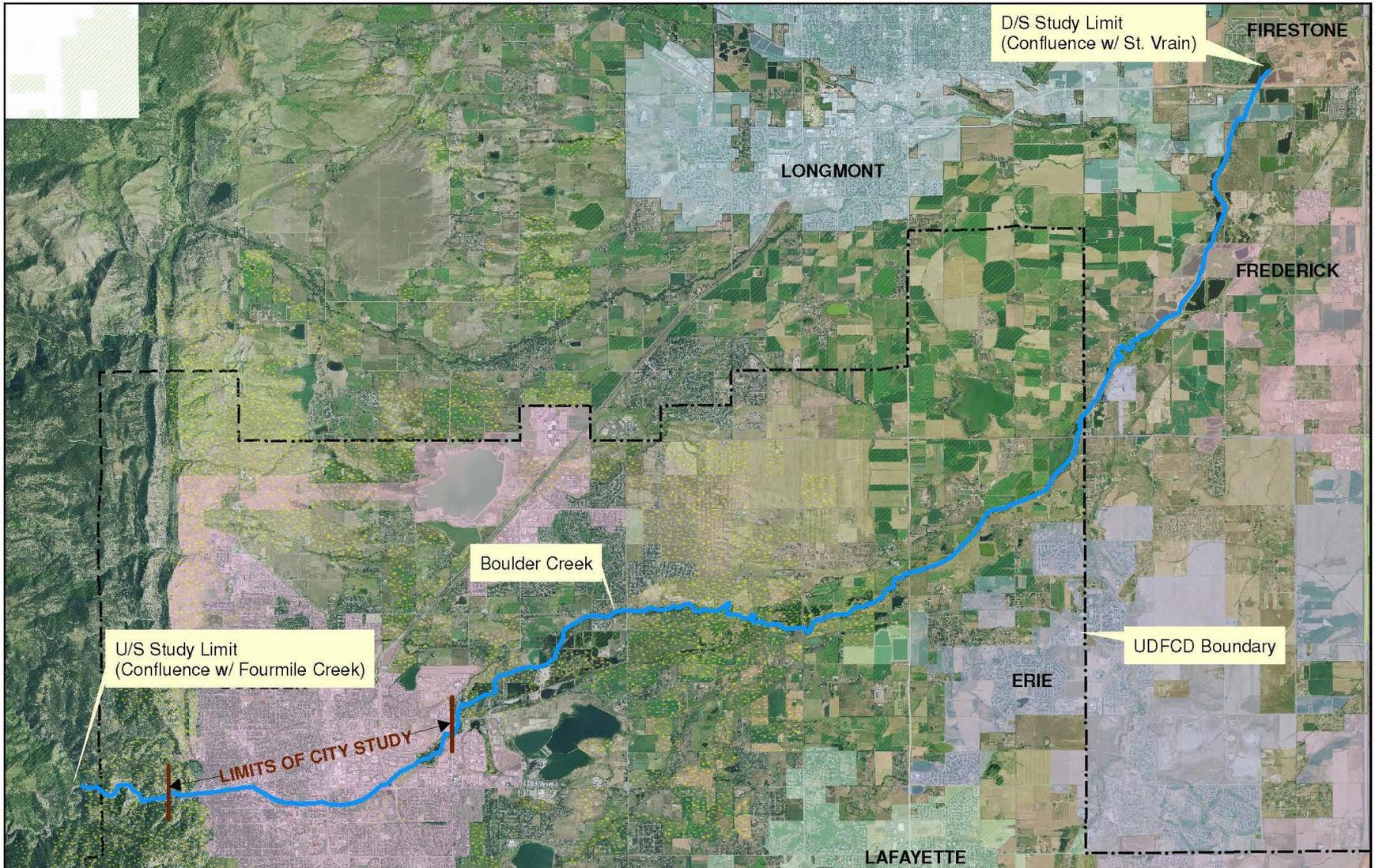
Study Area Features

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

**Plan to be complete
by October 2014**



Boulder Creek Mitigation Plan



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

- Funding for project implementation not guaranteed
- Local resources are limited, given high investment in emergency response
- Agency participation levels vary and expectations for plans are high
- Communicating what a master plan is to the public
- Creek conditions have not been stable
- Aggressive timeline for the master plans, will not allow for level of analysis needed for rebuilding
- Coordination and communication is key- and takes time!



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