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## **Boulder County Completes Watershed Master Plans for Fourmile, Left Hand, and St. Vrain Creeks**

**Boulder County, Colo.** – Post-flood master plans have been completed for three major Boulder County watersheds, Fourmile Creek, Left Hand Creek and St. Vrain Creek. The watershed master plans identify recommended projects to restore and stabilize the watershed. Recommended projects are on private and public property and include measures such as bank stabilization, channel realignment, debris removal, re-vegetation, and restoration of the low-flow channel.

“The master plans are a major step for recovery and resilience building in the flood-affected watersheds in Boulder County. We know that it will be a long-term process. With the completion of the master plans, we now know the kinds of actions that will be needed to help reduce future flood risk and restore the ecological functions of the creeks,” said Boulder County Commissioner Elise Jones.

The completed plans, which are largely unfunded, can be used to seek funding to continue recovery from the September 2013 flood. Projects recommended in the master plans can be completed by individual property owners, groups of neighbors, non-governmental organizations, government agencies, or as cooperative efforts, which is why local communities, residents, and others interested in watershed recovery were heavily engaged in the development of the plans.

“We hope that the successful collaboration that took place in developing the master plans will continue as we move into this next phase,” said Julie McKay, Boulder County Creek Planning Manager.

The Watershed Master Plans were funded by a grant by the Colorado Water Conservation Board and by Boulder County. Boulder County also participated in the development of master plans for the Little Thompson River and the upper reach of Coal Creek, which are also complete, and the plan for lower Boulder Creek, which is currently underway. Links to all of the plans can be found at [www.BoulderCountyCreekPlan.org](http://www.BoulderCountyCreekPlan.org).

The results of the watershed master plans will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners on Monday, Jan. 12, 2015, from 3-4 p.m. in the Boulder County Courthouse 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Hearing Room at 1325 Pearl Street. After the plans are unveiled, the County will begin activities to adopt them with the Boulder County Planning Commission, Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee, and the Board of County Commissioners.

For more information about the watershed master plans, please contact Stacey Proctor, 303-441-1107 or [sproctor@bouldercounty.org](mailto:sproctor@bouldercounty.org).