

DARCY A. TIGLAS
5015 Swainsona Drive
Loveland, Colorado 80537
970-635-9183 (H)
970-222-2151 (C)

April 6, 2023 (Revised August 22, 2023)

Ms. Marie Thoming
Horrocks Engineering
4627 West 20th Street Road, Suite A
Greeley, Colorado 80634

RE: Revised Historic Resources Proposal for a Trail Construction Project in Lyons, Colorado in Boulder County

Dear Ms. Thoming:

This letter serves as a revised proposal for historic resources work identified by CDOT after review of the 2017 Cultural Resources Report for the proposed Lyons Trail construction project in Lyons, Colorado in Boulder County and the July 2023 Historic Resources CDOT/Town of Lyons conference call related to the addition of a fence and gate at the Highland Ditch in the middle of the project area. This proposal is a summary of the previous proposal and the additional work added via the CDOT consultation and project change.

Historic Resources Task- The original designs for the trail improvement project were drafted in response to a 2013 flood event. In 2017, A & B Cultural Consultants, LLC conducted evaluations of cultural resources within the original proposed project area. A & B Cultural Consultants, LLC made recommendations regarding the eligibility of cultural resources in the project area and the potential effects of the project on said resources. The Colorado SHPO concurred with all recommendations. The design plans for the trail improvements have since been modified to include rerouting the trail and installing culvert/pipe type bridge crossings across historic ditches (the original design featured precast span bridges across the ditches). The Town of Lyons requires a revisit of certain cultural resources that may be affected by the revised project design. A Compass search on April 5, 2023, revealed that numerous field surveys have been conducted and numerous sites have been recorded in close proximity to the project area, but no new sites had been recorded since the 2017 cultural resources inventory.

The revised project design requires revisit of four cultural resources: a segment of the Burlington Northern Railroad (5BL.374.21), a segment of the Rough and Ready Ditch (5BL.3113.79), a segment of the Palmerton Ditch (5BL.3115.4), and a segment of the Highland Ditch (5BL.3114.35). A & B Cultural Consultants concluded the following based on its evaluations of the four resources:

- The segment of the Burlington Northern Railroad supports the resource's eligibility for the NRHP, but the project would have *no adverse effect*.

- The segment of the Rough and Ready Ditch lacked integrity, therefore a finding of *no historic properties affected* was appropriate.
- The segment of the Palmerton Ditch supports the resource's eligibility for the NRHP, but the project would have *no adverse effect*.
- The segment of the Highland Ditch supports the resource's eligibility for the NRHP, but the project would have *no adverse effect*.

The Colorado SHPO concurred with these findings in a 2017 response letter.

In July 2023, a historic resources packet was submitted with the four revisit forms to the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Region 4 office for review. After reviewing the package and considering additional project updates, CDOT requested that a revised scope of work be prepared for cultural resource evaluation. In particular, CDOT has asked that Data Management and Linear Resource forms for the Highland Ditch segment be prepared and submitted and include an associated historic ditch rider's road that will be impacted by installation of a fence and gate.

Because the revised project design has the potential to affect the railroad and the ditches in ways that were not considered by A & B Consultants, it is necessary to conduct a re-evaluation of three cultural resources (the railroad, the Palmerton Ditch, and the Rough and Ready Ditch). In addition, it is necessary to evaluate Highland Ditch and the associated ditch rider's road. In order to meet federal compliance requirements for historic preservation, I propose to perform the following tasks: (1) define a revised Area of Potential Effect (APE) with respect to both physical impacts and potential impacts to visual setting; (2) review the 2017 cultural resources inventory report, along with site forms, and revisit the eligibility of the segment of the Burlington Northern Railroad, the segment of the Rough and Ready Ditch, and the segment of the Palmerton Ditch; (3) document and evaluate the Highland Ditch and associated ditch rider's road; (4) evaluate the potential effects of the revised project to the railroad and the three ditches; (5) prepare a draft SHPO letter and APE map for Section 106 consultation; and (6) prepare a *de minimis* clearance form for four resources.

COST: \$10,439.98

This estimate assumes that the three cultural resources will be revisited and one resource will be inventoried and evaluated. If these services are not required or if more than four cultural resources will be revisited/inventoried, the scope and budget can be reduced or enhanced accordingly. This estimate also assumes that the site forms for the resources provide sufficient evidence to support SHPO's existing eligibility determinations. We will not evaluate any other historic building, structure, or object that is not summarized in this SOW and Cost Estimate.

The cost estimates include the tasks outlined above and drafting, review, and other direct costs. If you have any questions, or require additional information, please feel free to call me at 970-635-9183 or 970-222-2151.

Sincerely,

Darcy A. Tiglas

Darcy A. Tiglas, Biologist
Tiglas Ecological Services