

Army Corps of Engineers Watershed Study

The Army Corps of Engineers Watershed Study is intended to be a comprehensive analysis of the Fountain Creek Watershed that establishes the existing conditions and identifies an array of problems and opportunities in the form of a Watershed Management Plan. This Study is a collaborative effort among all eleven local communities within the Watershed. The total cost of the study is about three million dollars which is split between the Federal Government (50%) and State/Local Governments (50%). The Study began in April 2003 and the Final Report for the Project is expected to be completed by April 2007. URS Consulting was awarded the contract for the Army Corps of Engineers Watershed Study.

To view the scope of work for the Watershed Study please [click here](#) and cost allocation [click here](#).

To view the area of interest map of all of the stream reaches that are included as a part of this study [click here](#).

The following reports have been completed as a part of the Fountain Creek Watershed Study:

- Fountain Creek HazMat Report**
- Fountain Creek Migratory Corridors**
- Fountain Creek Soils Report**
- Fountain Creek T & E**
- Fountain Creek Wildlife**
- References - Final List**
- Problem Reaches & DBPS List**
- Fountain Creek Water Quality Report**
- Wetlands Report - (Appendices A - E available upon request)**
- Planned Project Inventory Report**
- Preliminary Hydrology Report**

Future Activities

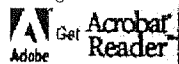
Work on the Environmental Baseline Studies and Hydrology, Hydraulics and Geomorphology will continue over the next twelve months. Significant activities will include:

- Completing field work and preparing reports to support the wetlands and native & non-native fish studies.
- Performing site visits and data gathering to support the hydrology, hydraulics and geomorphology analysis.
- Developing computer models to support the hydrologic and hydraulic analysis.

For more information, please contact Rich Muzzy, PPACG Environmental Planning Program Manager, at (719) 471-7080 x109 or rmuzzy@ppacg.org.

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For a copy of the Intergovernmental Agreement, please contact Ken Sampley at the City of Colorado Springs: ksampley@springsgov.com.

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FAQs

What is a Watershed Study?

What is the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE)?

What are the objectives of the ACE Watershed Study?

What are the major tasks of the study?

Who is involved in this study?

How is this study funded?

What is a Watershed Study?

A Watershed Study is intended to be a comprehensive analysis of a watershed that establishes existing conditions and identifies an array of problems and opportunities in the form of a Watershed Management Plan. A Watershed Study is not intended to develop or analyze alternatives for subsequent implementation (e.g., construction projects). The primary goal of a Watershed Study is to develop the Study from a regional perspective in which all participating governments benefit by "spinning off" projects under other authorities to address flood control, erosion, sedimentation and environmental restoration problems.

What is the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE)?

Please visit the Army Corps of Engineers website to learn more: www.usace.army.mil/who.html

What are the objectives of the ACE Watershed Study?

The key objectives of the study include:

- Incorporating public input and involvement
- Assessing watershed characteristics and conditions
- Outlining watershed issues/concerns with erosion/sedimentation as a key component
- Analyzing watershed issues/concerns (using GIS when possible)
- Developing, evaluating and prioritizing conceptual alternatives including both structural and non-structural measures
- Spinning-off projects under other authorities as appropriate throughout the study
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Completing the watershed plan and final report

What are the major tasks of the study?

First, the study will define, and evaluate existing conditions in the watershed. This will be accomplished primarily through comprehensive hydrologic, hydraulic, and geomorphic modeling. Additionally, environmental studies will be performed in order to characterize the basin, and to develop the baseline data for any potential NEPA processes associated with future projects done in the watershed. Other work will consist of a preliminary economic evaluation, geotechnical sampling to support the sediment evaluation, analysis of existing data, preliminary identification of utilities, infrastructure, and other constraints, real estate evaluation, and public involvement. The use of GIS mapping and analysis will be an important tool in these work activities, subject to the availability of information and required level of effort. Possible areas for GIS mapping/analysis include: soils, geology, channel stability/instability, sediment generation/deposition, flood hazards, infrastructure/buildings/property, habitat, wetlands, land use, corridor vegetation, etc.

Second, once existing conditions are analyzed, the study will attempt to identify, and prioritize remedial projects, both structural and non-structural, which address flood control, erosion, sedimentation, and environmental restoration in the basin. The non-structural measures will include those that may enhance overall water quality or reduce water quality impacts. These projects will be developed to a conceptual level of detail so that preliminary cost estimates can be determined in order to establish priorities. Potential projects will also be evaluated as to their eligibility for Federal involvement. It will be the goal of the study team to identify viable projects early, so that they can be pursued via other authorities.

Who is involved in this study?

This study will be a cooperative effort between the Corps of Engineers and the City of Colorado Springs as the lead sponsor, along with 10 other local governments in the watershed, the Colorado Water Conservation Board, and the Colorado Department of Local Affairs.

How is this study funded?

As the lead sponsor, the City of Colorado Springs will be the signatory to the Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement. The City, in turn, will enter into cost-sharing agreements with the other participating entities in the watershed.

For more information, please contact Rich Muzzy, PPACG Environmental Planning Program Manager, at (719) 471-7080 x109 or at rmuzzy@ppacg.org.

Please Note:

This website is intended as an information service. We strive to maintain the most accurate information possible, but occasionally errors do occur. If you have any questions about an item on this website, please contact us at (719) 471-7080, or send email to jblewitt@ppacg.org. The Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments assumes no responsibility for the use of information contained herein by the user.