



# I-70 Mountain Corridor Revised Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

SEPTEMBER 2010



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration



**Project IM 0703-244**

**I-70 MOUNTAIN CORRIDOR  
REVISED DRAFT PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
SECTION 4(f) DISCUSSION**

Submitted Pursuant to:

**42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c) and 49 U.S.C. 303**

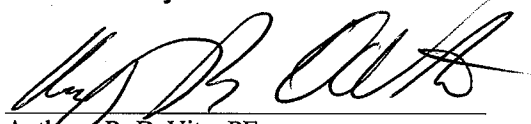
Submitted by the:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
and the  
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**COOPERATING AGENCIES**

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United States Army Corps of Engineers  
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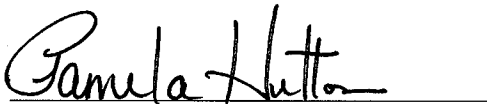


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The Federal Highway Administration may publish a notice in the Federal Register, pursuant to 23 United States Code (USC) § 139(1), once the Record of Decision is approved. If such notice is published, a claim arising under Federal law seeking judicial review of a permit, license, or approval issued by a Federal agency for a highway or public transportation capital project shall be barred unless it is filed within 180 days after publication of a notice in the Federal Register announcing that the permit, license, or approval is final pursuant to the law under which the agency action is taken, unless a shorter time is specified in the Federal law pursuant to which judicial review is allowed. If no notice is published, then the periods of time that otherwise are provided by the Federal laws governing such claims will apply.

## Abstract

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The Colorado Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration prepared this Revised Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement to provide reader-friendly, concise information about the major findings of the I-70 Mountain Corridor National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. This Revised Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement replaces the 2004 Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement and is responsive to comments received on the 2004 Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement. The I-70 Mountain Corridor extends between Glenwood Springs and C-470, from approximately milepost 116 to milepost 260, and traverses five counties in Colorado: Garfield, Eagle, Summit, Clear Creek, and Jefferson.

This document is the first tier of a Programmatic NEPA process. Twenty-one action alternatives and the No Action Alternative are evaluated for their ability to meet the purpose and need and to gain an understanding of the types of impacts that these alternatives will have in the I-70 Mountain Corridor. The decisions to be made at the first tier are mode, capacity, and general location. These decisions will not be revisited at Tier 2. This document identifies a Preferred Alternative, a long-term 2050 vision of a multimodal transportation solution for the Corridor that includes an Advanced Guideway System combined with local highway and limited highway capacity improvements with an adaptive management approach to additional improvements as they are needed. Potential impacts relative to all the alternatives are identified and considerations for mitigation are discussed. Once the first tier decision is made, further Tier 2 processes will be followed to identify specific alternatives and alignments consistent with the Tier 1 decision and analyze impacts. At that time, specific mitigation commitments will be made.

At the first tier, Colorado Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration commit to following the agreements made such as the A Landscape Level Inventory of Valued Ecosystem Components Memorandum of Understanding, Section 106 Programmatic Agreement, and I-70 Mountain Corridor Context Sensitive Solutions Guidance, which are attached in appendices to this document.

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Visit the **project website** at <http://www.i70mtncorridor.com> for an electronic version of the I-70 Mountain Corridor Revised Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, Appendices, and Technical Reports. The project website lists the methods in which to submit comments, the time and locations of upcoming public hearings, and the locations where paper copies of the Revised Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement are available for public review.

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- D – Stream and Wetland Ecological Enhancement Program (SWEEP) Memorandum of Understanding
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- I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS Transportation Analysis Technical Report*
- I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS Alternatives Development and Screening Technical Report*
- I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS Safety Technical Report*
- I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS Climate and Air Quality Technical Report*
- I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS Biological Resources Technical Report*
- I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS Wetlands and Other Waters of the U.S. Technical Report*
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*I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS Visual Resources Technical Report*  
*I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS Recreation Resources Technical Report*  
*I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS Historic Properties and Native American Consultation  
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*I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS Section 4(f) Evaluation Technical Report*  
*I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS Paleontological Resources Technical Report*  
*I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS Energy Technical Report*  
*I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS Cumulative Impacts Technical Report*  
*I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS Financial Considerations Technical Report*  
*I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS Cost Estimates Technical Report*  
*I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS Public and Agency Involvement Technical Report*

## List of Acronyms

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µg/m <sup>3</sup>	micrograms per cubic meter
3Ps	Public-Private Partnerships
4P	Project Priority Programming Process
AASHTO	American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
AGGA	AGGA (Alan Golin Gass) Architecture and Urban Design
AGS	Advanced Guideway System
ALIVE	A Landscape Level Inventory of Valued Ecosystem Components
AMI	Area Median Income
APCD	Air Pollution Control Division
APE	Area of Potential Effect
ARNF	Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests
AST	aboveground storage tank
AVC	animal-vehicle collision
BASINS	Better Assessment Science Integrating Point and Nonpoint Sources
BLM	U.S. Bureau of Land Management
BMPs	best management practices
BRT	Bus Rapid Transit
BTU	British Thermal Units
CATEX	Categorical Exclusion
CCIA	Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs
CCWF	Clear Creek Watershed Foundation
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
CDOT	Colorado Department of Transportation
CDOW	Colorado Division of Wildlife
CDPHE	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
CE	Collaborative Effort
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CLG	Certified Local Government
CNHP	Colorado Natural Heritage Program
CO	carbon monoxide
CO <sub>2</sub>	carbon dioxide
Corridor	I-70 Mountain Corridor
CRS	Colorado Revised Statutes
CSS	Context Sensitive Solutions
CTE	Colorado Tolling Enterprise

## List of Acronyms

CWA	Clean Water Act
dB	decibel scale
dB(A)	decibel scale, A-weighting
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement
DIA	Denver International Airport
DOE	U.S. Department of Energy
DOI	U.S. Department of the Interior
DOLA	Colorado Department of Local Affairs
DOT	U.S. Department of Transportation
DPM	Diesel Particulate Matter
Draft PEIS	Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement
DRCOG	Denver Regional Council of Governments
EA	Environmental Assessment
EB	eastbound
ECO Trails	Eagle County Regional Trails
ECO Transit	Eagle County Regional Transportation Authority
EIA	Energy Information Administration
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EJMT	Eisenhower–Johnson Memorial Tunnels
EO	Executive Order
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ERNS	Emergency Response Notification System
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FASTER	Funding Advancement for Surface Transportation and Economic Recovery
FGT	Fixed Guideway Transit
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
F-MIS	Forest Sensitive-Management Indicator Species
FRA	Federal Railroad Administration
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
FY	Fiscal Year
Gal	gallons
GHG	greenhouse gas
GIS	geographic information system
GRP	Gross Regional Product
HB	House Bill
HHS	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
HOT	High Occupancy Toll
HOV	High Occupancy Vehicle
HRT	Heavy Rail Transit
HSST	High-Speed Surface Transport
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

## List of Acronyms

I-70	Interstate 70
IMC	Intermountain Connection
ITF	Issue Task Force
ITS	Intelligent Transportation System
kWh	kilowatt hour
LEED	Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design
LIZ	Linkage Interference Zone
LOS	Level of Service
LQG	Large Quantity Generator
LRT	Light Rail Transit
LUST	leaking underground storage tank
maglev	magnetic levitation
MBO	Colorado Minority Business Office
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MCAC	Mountain Corridor Advisory Committee
MIS	Major Investment Study
MMT	million metric tons
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MOVES	MOtor Vehicle Emission Simulator
MP	milepost
mpg	miles per gallon
mph	miles per hour
MPM	million person-miles
MPO	metropolitan planning organization
MSATs	Mobile Source Air Toxics
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standard
NAC	Noise Abatement Criteria
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHL	National Historic Landmark
NOA	Notice of Availability
NO <sub>2</sub>	nitrogen dioxide
NO <sub>x</sub>	nitrogen oxides
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPL	National Priorities List
NPS	National Park Service
NRC	National Response Center
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NWCCOG	Northwest Colorado Council of Governments
OAHP	Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
OPS	Colorado Division of Oil and Public Safety

## List of Acronyms

OTAQ	Office of Transportation and Air Quality
PA	Programmatic Agreement
PEIS	Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement
Phase I ESA	Phase I Environmental Site Assessment
PLT	Project Leadership Team
PM <sub>10</sub>	particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter
PMT	person miles of travel
PRIAA	Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008
PRR	Passenger Railroad
R1	Colorado Department of Transportation Region 1
R3	Colorado Department of Transportation Region 3
RAQC	Regional Air Quality Council
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
REMI	Regional Economic Models, Inc.
Revised Draft PEIS	Revised Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement
RFTA	Roaring Fork Transportation Authority
RMRA	Rocky Mountain Rail Authority
ROD	Record of Decision
RTD	Regional Transportation District
RTT	Rubber Tire Transit
RV	recreational vehicle
RVD	recreation visitor days
SAFETEA-LU	Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users
SB	Senate Bill
SCAP	Sediment Control Action Plan
SCORP	Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
SH	State Highway (numbered highway route)
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SO <sub>2</sub>	sulfur dioxide
SQG	Small Quantity Generator
SREP	Southern Rockies Ecosystem Project
SRHP	State Register of Historic Places
STIP	State Transportation Improvement Program
STOL	short take-off and landing
SWEEP	Stream and Wetland Ecological Enhancement Program
SWMP	Stormwater Management Plan
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
TDM	Transportation (or Travel) Demand Management
TES	Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species

## List of Acronyms

TIFIA	Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
TNM	Traffic Noise Model
TP	Total Phosphorus
TPC	Train Performance Calculator
TPR	Transportation Planning Region
TSM	Transportation System Management
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
UCCWA	Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association
UPRR	Union Pacific Railroad
US	United States (also numbered highway route)
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USC	United States Code
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USFS	USDA Forest Service
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
UST	underground storage tank
VMT	vehicle miles of travel
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound
WB	westbound
WHI	Weighted Hazard Index
W-MIS	Wildlife Sensitive-Management Indicator Species
WRNF	White River National Forest

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