

STATE OF
COLORADO

Cunningham - DNR, Michael <michaela.cunningham@state.co.us>

Permit #M2018016, Douglas Mountain Mine Project

Sacred Soil <sacredsoil@msn.com>

Fri, Jul 6, 2018 at 3:00 PM

To: "michaela.cunningham@state.co.us" <michaela.cunningham@state.co.us>

Hello Michael,

I am writing you to express my concerns of the gravel mine being proposed next to the town of Empire, CO. My property is adjacent to the site on the east side of the plateau that is to be excavated 200' down to the elevation of West Fork of Clear Creek.

I am opposed to this land being used as a quarry/gravel pit due to possible negative impact on ground and surface water flowing in and on my property and into West Fork of Clear Creek. I'm also concerned of the immediate and future impact on local wildlife, existing vegetation, and air quality due to dust generated from trucks and mining operation.

Don Baggus with the Division on Water Resources visited my property last month on June 7th and told me he forwarded his field observations to your office. I hope you have received those comments and can connect them to this letter and my attached observations.

Please see attachment that shows my property location and why I have concerns. I visually show why I'm worried that the mining operation will affect my property directly and negatively impact the entire county of Clear Creek.

Thank you for your time and taking my concerns into consideration when making your deciding on this project. I dropped off a hardcopy of this letter and attachment for you with Eilani at the front desk earlier today.

Please reach out to me if you or anyone else needs more information from me or wants visit my property to make their own observations.

Respectfully,

Ron Atchison

167 Junction Loop Road

Empire, CO 80438

303.335.7980 cell

303.795.1522 office

sacredsoil@msn.com

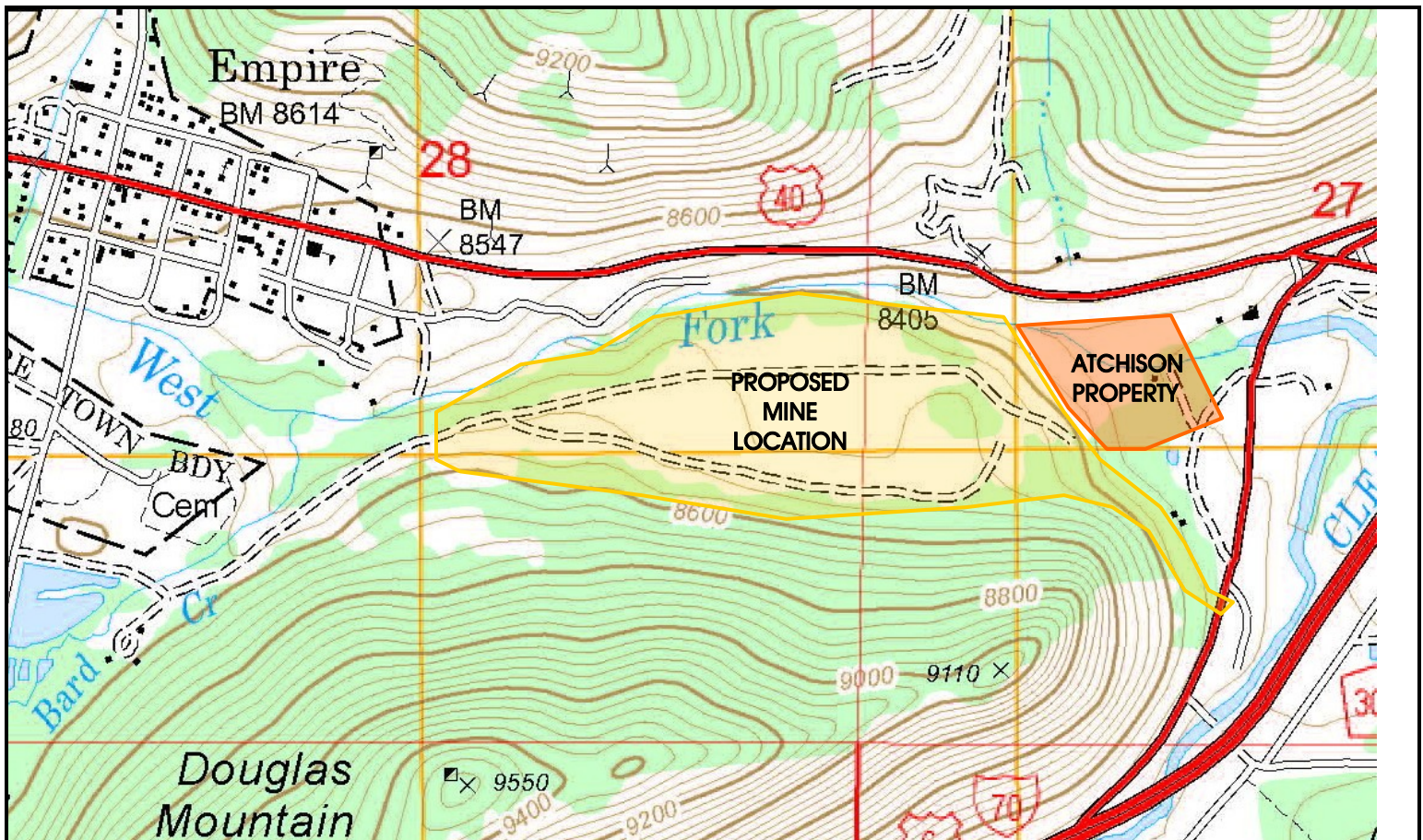


167 Junction Loop Road property concerns.pdf

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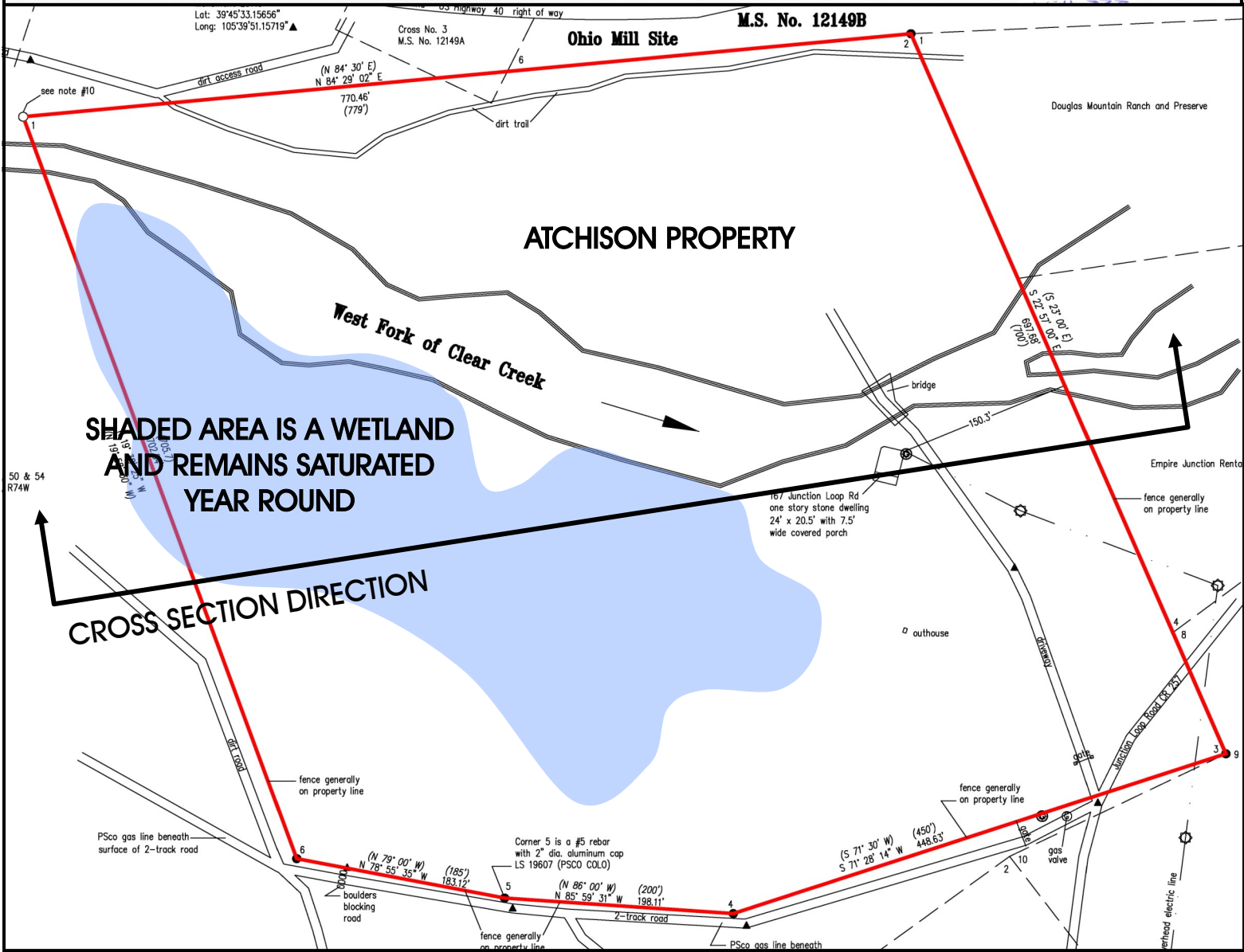
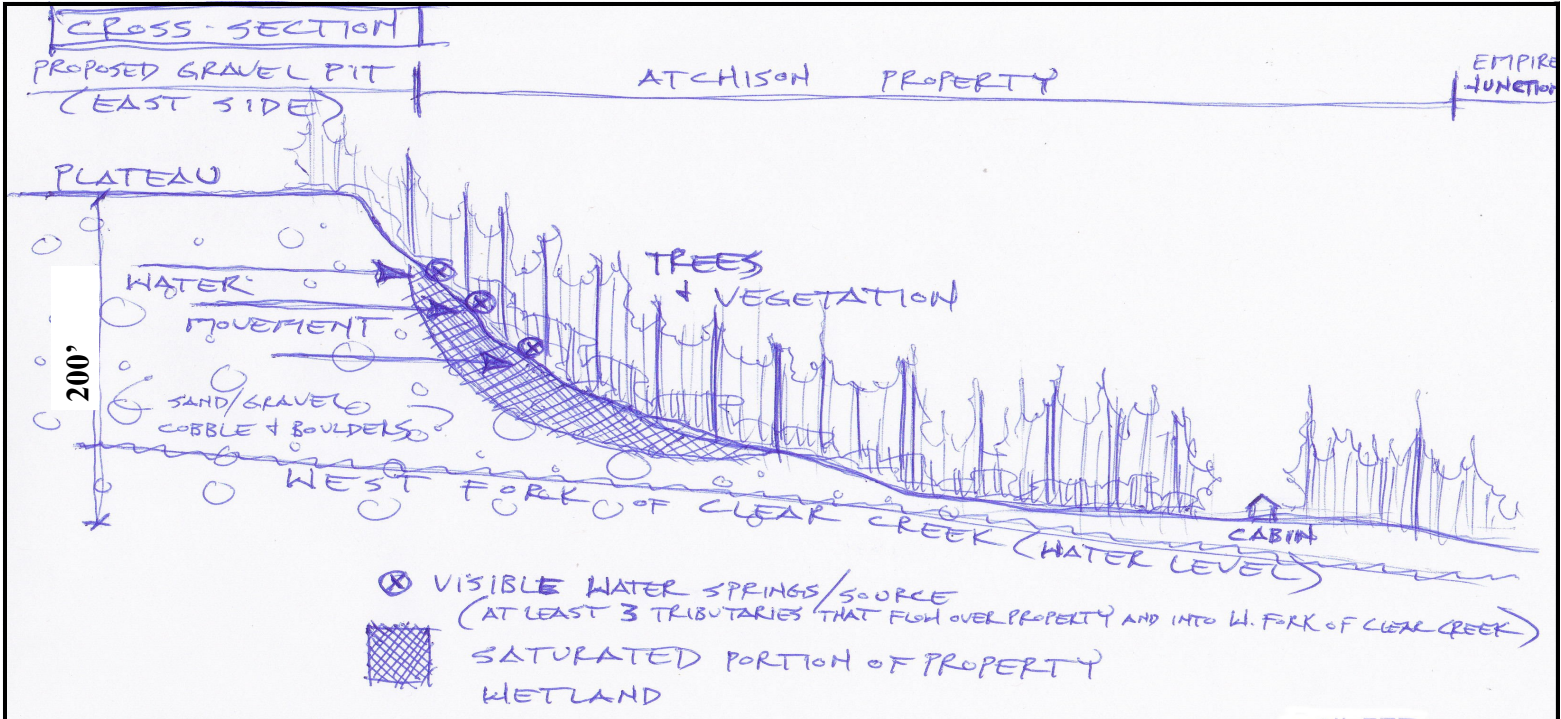
Atchison property at 167 Junction Loop Road Empire, CO is downhill and adjacent to east side of proposed mine and IS OPPOSED to project due to:

1. ground & surface water concerns
2. possible loss of existing vegetation & future erosion issues
3. effect on local wildlife habitat
4. air quality / dust since high winds are common



1) GROUND & SURFACE WATER CONCERNS for Atchison property at 167 Junction Loop Road

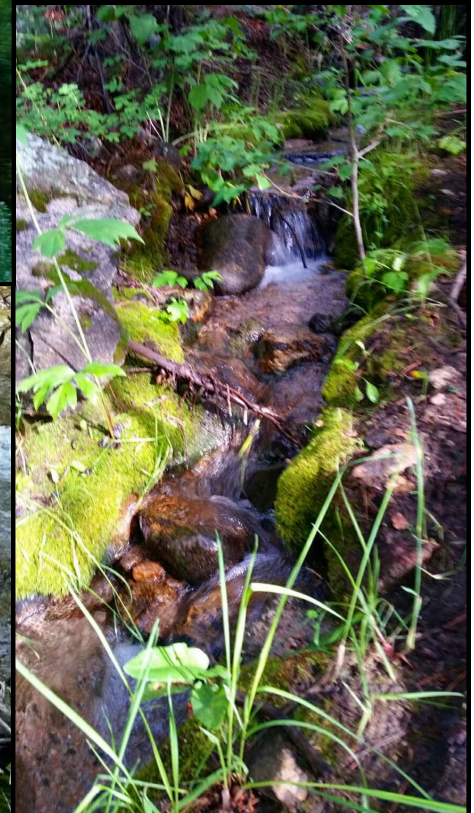
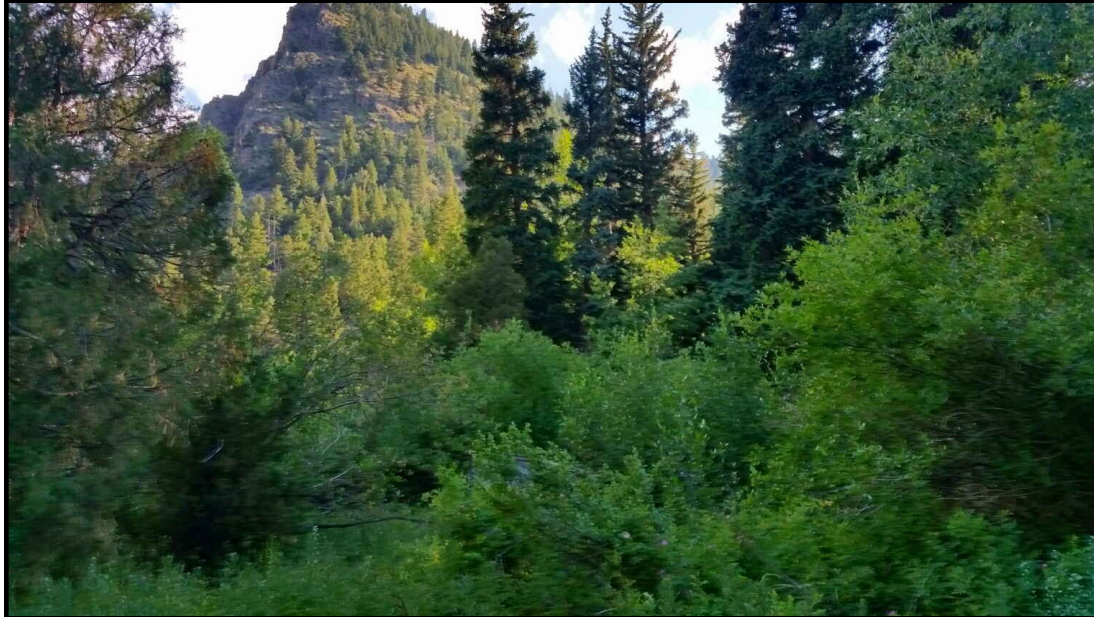
Atchison property believes if gravel pit lowers plateau 200', water will no longer flow onto their property.



2) EXISTING VEGETATION CONCERNS for Atchison property at 167 Junction Loop Road

Atchison property believes if ground & surface water goes away so will site's lush vegetation.

1/4 of property remains wet year round & high water need plants such as Poplar varieties, Alder, Birch, Willow, fern, and moss varieties cover much of this area. Photos show how wet, green, & lush site is.



3) WILDLIFE CONCERNS for Atchison property at 167 Junction Loop Road

Atchison property believes gravel pit will disrupt Bighorn Sheep Herds habitats and range circulation

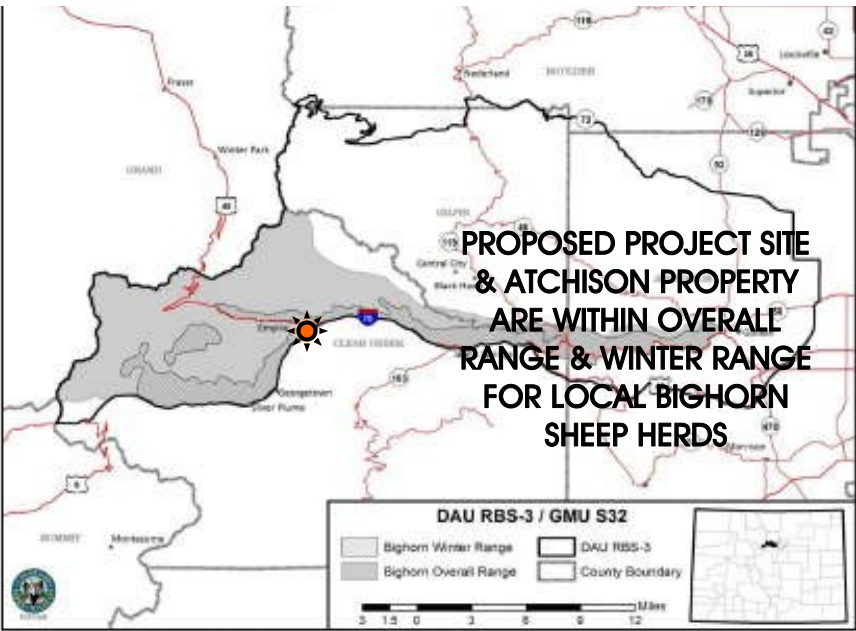
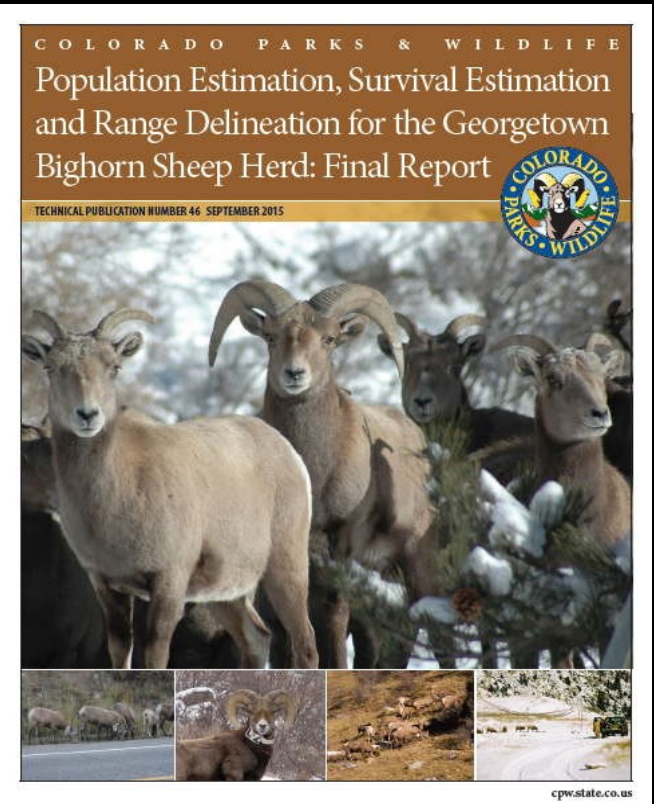


Figure 1. Distribution of bighorn sheep in the Georgetown herd.

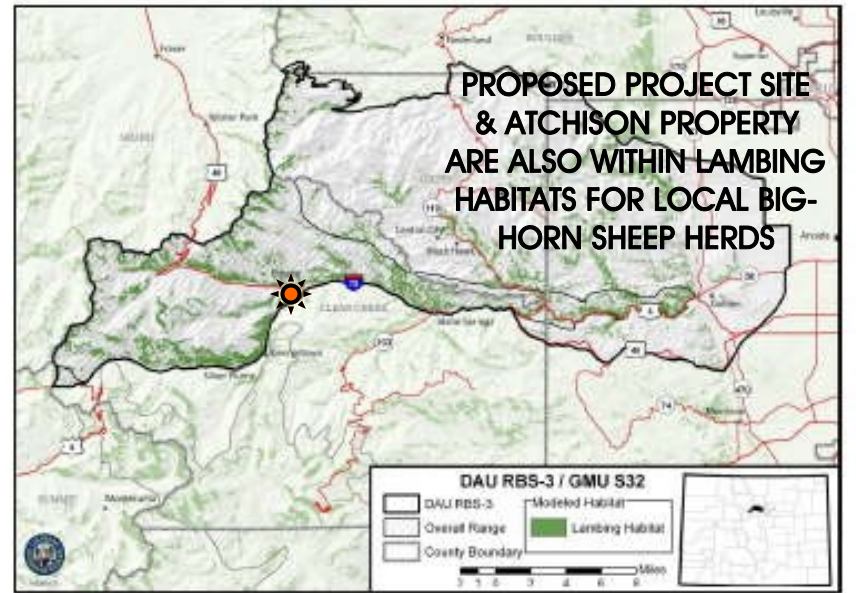
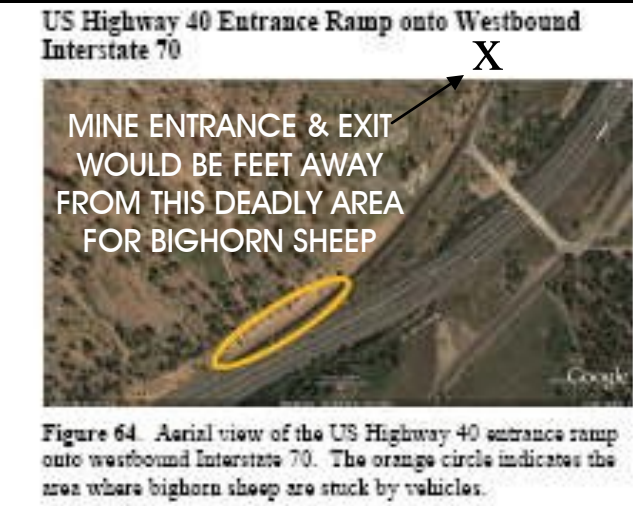


Figure 53. Modeled bighorn sheep lambing habitat and occupied range of the Georgetown bighorn sheep herd.

WILDLIFE IS SEEN DAILY ON ATCHISON PROPERTY



3) WILDLIFE CONCERNS continued... for Atchison property at 167 Junction Loop Road
Atchison property believes gravel pit will disrupt habitats and range circulation of other species as well



STEALTH CAM 04:47 PM 06/19/18 71F STEALTH CAM



STEALTH CAM 06:49AM 08/06/17 41F STEALTH CAM



STEALTH CAM 07:03AM 06/18/18 42F STEALTH CAM



STEALTH CAM 09:13AM 12/18/17 32F STEALTH CAM

4) AIR QUALITY & DUST CONCERNS for Atchison property at 167 Junction Loop Road

Atchison property believes gravel pit will produce unwanted dust due to the common high winds that occur in the area. Photos & map show evidence of how bad winds in area can be.

