



Community Planning & Permitting

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TO: Patrick Lennberg, DRMS

FROM: Hannah Hippely, Long Range Planning Division Manager

RE: File No. M-1977-410Cross Gold Mine

DATE: April 2, 2025

Boulder County Long Range Planning staff have reviewed the provided materials and have the following comments.

Other county departments and local agencies with specific expertise and concerns have provided comments on this application and we would like to emphasize the importance of these comments.

Mining activities in Boulder County are subject to the Boulder County Land Use Code. Should the State approve this permit, local land use and other relevant approvals would need to be obtained prior to commencement of any activities or operations.

The areas under consideration encompass the historic Caribou community and are in proximity to and partially within Archeologically Sensitive Areas mapped in the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan. A thorough historic and cultural resource evaluation should be done of the entire area (especially any areas proposed for surface disturbance) and a historic preservation plan should be required.

In the area of the proposed mine there are various environmental resources of concern that must be: 1) identified/mapped on-the-ground; 2) potential impacts discussed (or avoidance thereof); and 3) mitigation measures identified, and commitments thereto enforced.

Boulder County Comprehensive Plan -- resource layers mapped on or close by the parcel:

- Critical Wildlife Habitat # 93 – Upper Caribou Park Willow Complex

- Environmental Conservation Area – Indian Peaks

- High Biodiversity Area – Caribou Townsite, ranked B4, of moderate significance (Note that this is not ID'ed in the Comp Plan, but is in the 2009 CNHP biodiversity study.)

- Adjacent to Public Lands – US Forest Service (and some conservation easements)

- Significant Natural Communities

- View Protection Corridors – on County Road 128 and 128J (“Jeep”)

- Wetlands

- Riparian Areas

US Forest Service/Federal

- Federally-listed threatened or endangered species, or candidate species
- USFS Species of Conservation Concern
- USFS plant communities of concern
- BLM special status species
- Migratory birds (Migratory Bird Act)
- Golden/bald eagles (Protection Act)

State of Colorado

- State-listed threatened or endangered species
- Species in the 2025 (currently in draft) State Wildlife Action Plan – all Species of Greatest Conservation Need

Colorado Natural Heritage Program – CSU, Ft. Collins

- Any species or community type tracked by CNHP: any tracked plant species – vascular or non-vascular; any tracked plant community/association; any tracked animal species including invertebrates (mollusks, insects), birds, herptiles, fish, and mammals

- Any species in the CNHP database with an Occurrence Record from or near the area, including “historic” species records

Thank you for consideration of these comments. The county desires to be a party to any future proceedings on this application.