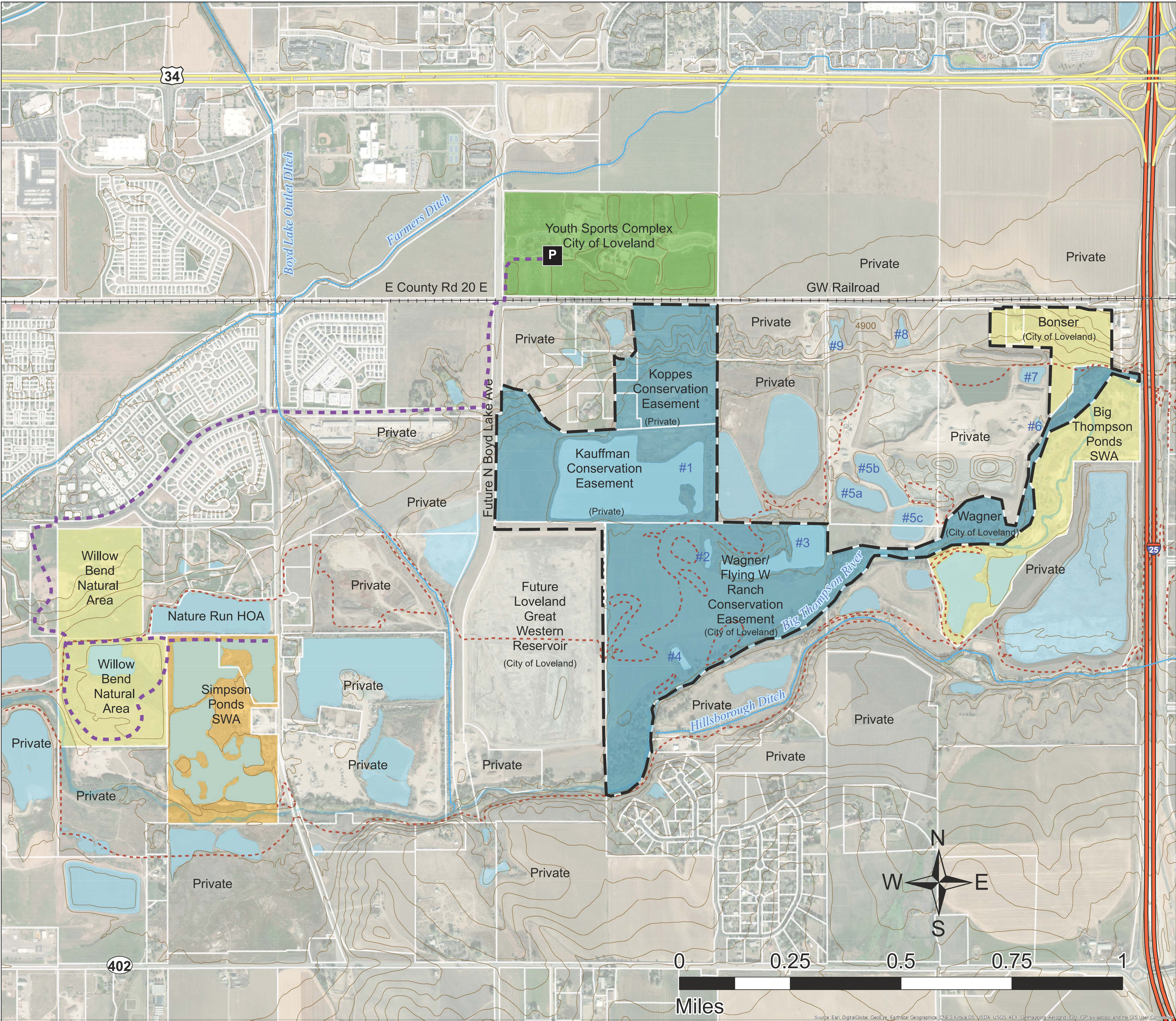




East Big Thompson River Natural Area Management Plan

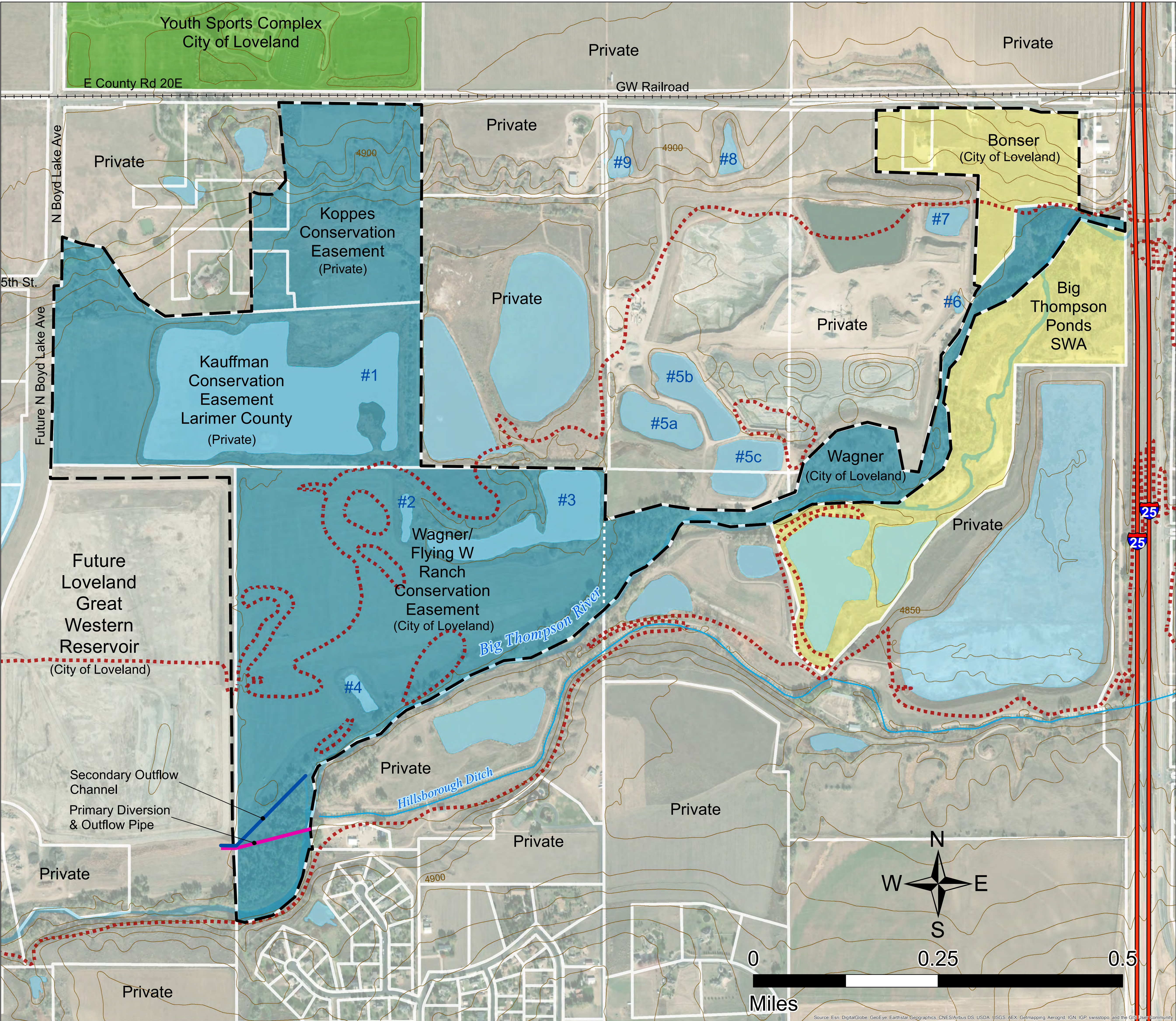
Map A: Regional Context

July 8, 2020

Legend

- Contour - 10 ft
- Railroad
- Canal
- Proposed Trail
- Existing Trail
- Project Boundary
- Parcel Boundary
- Open Water
- River
- 100 Year Floodplain
- Conservation Easement (Owner)
- City of Loveland Natural Area w/o Conservation Easement
- State Wildlife Area
- City of Loveland Parkland





East Big Thompson River Natural Management Plan

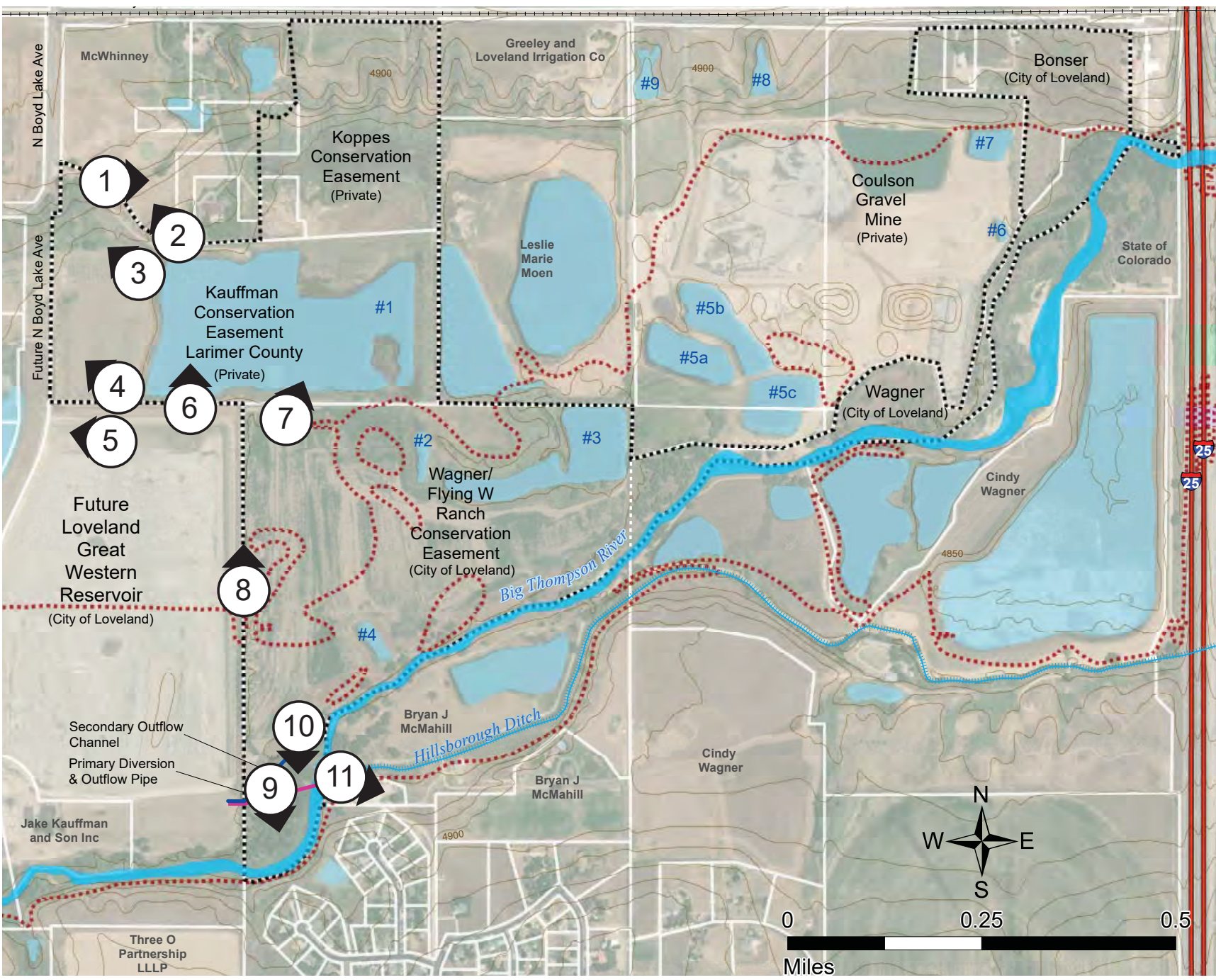
Map B: Project Area

July 8, 2020

Legend

- Contour - 10 ft
- Railroad
- Canal
- Project Boundary
- Parcel Boundary
- Open Water
- River
- 100 Year Floodplain
- Conservation Easement (Owner)
- City of Loveland Natural Area w/o Conservation Easement
- State Wildlife Area
- City of Loveland Parkland





Map - Photo Locations



#1



#2



#3



#4



#5



#6



#7



#8



#9



#10

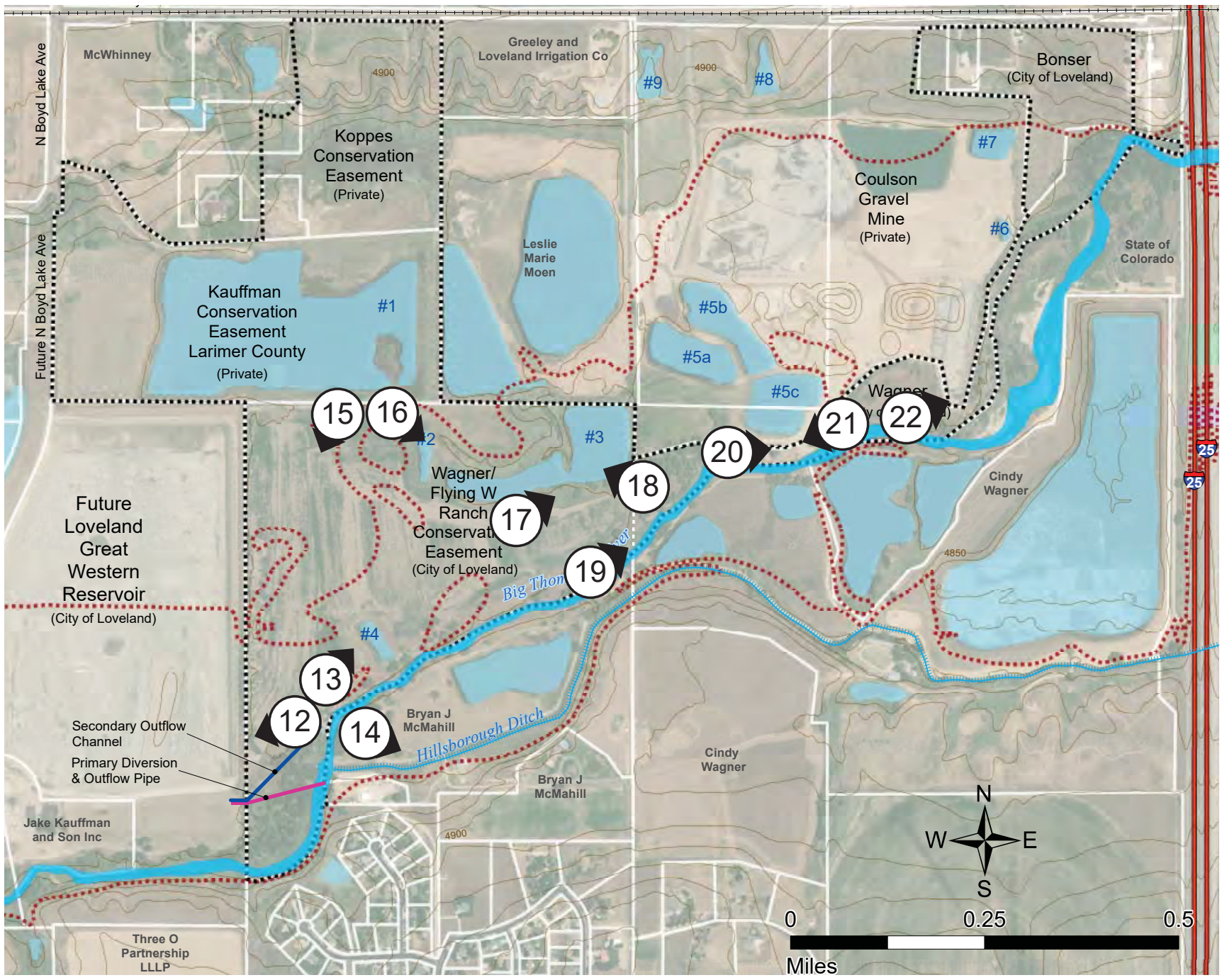


#11

Big Thompson River East Corridor Management Plan

July 1, 2020





Map - Photo Locations



#12



#13



#14



#15



#16



#17



#18



#19



#20



#21

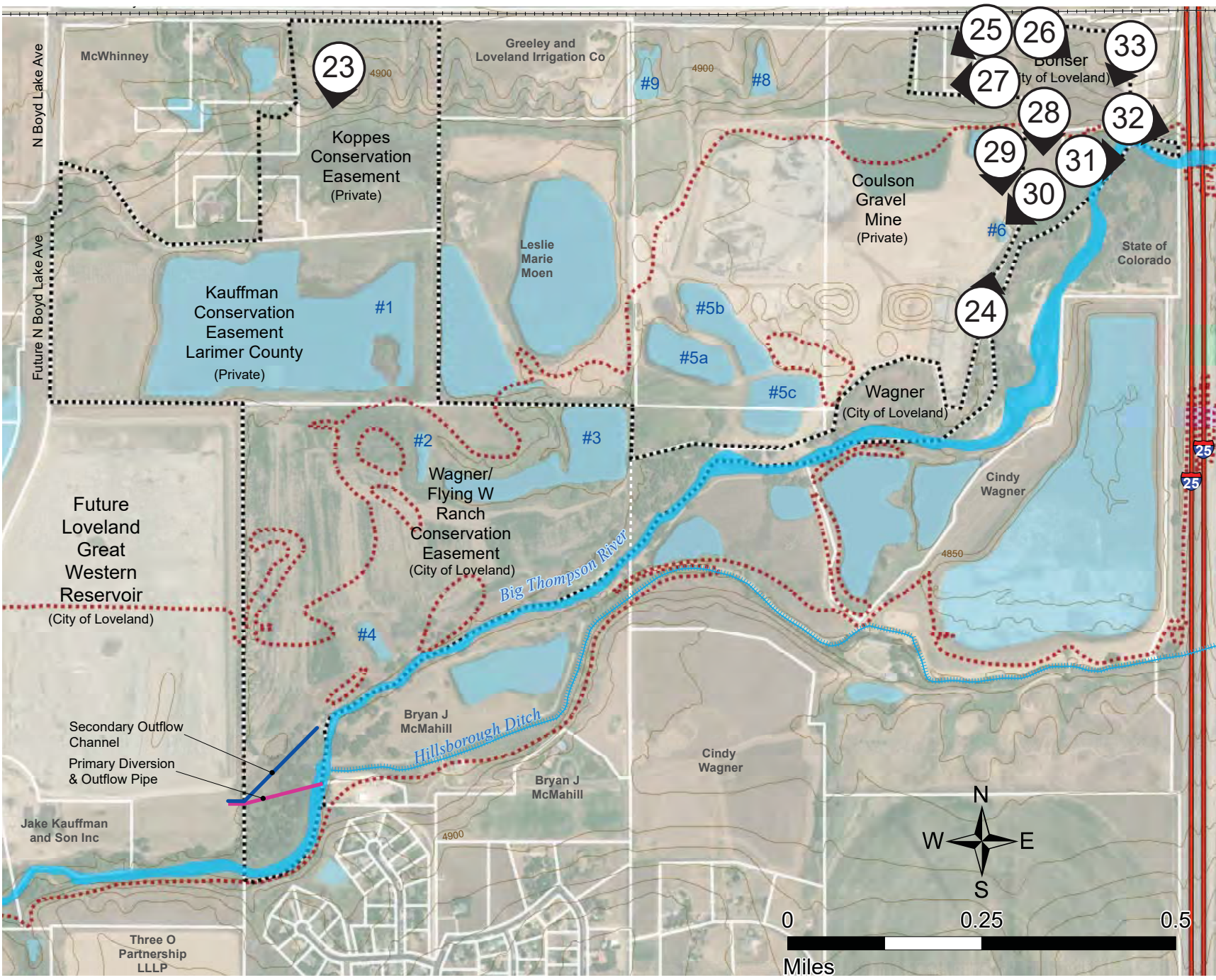


#22

Big Thompson River East Corridor Management Plan

July 1, 2020





Map - Photo Locations



#23



#24



#25



#26



#27



#28



#29



#30



#31



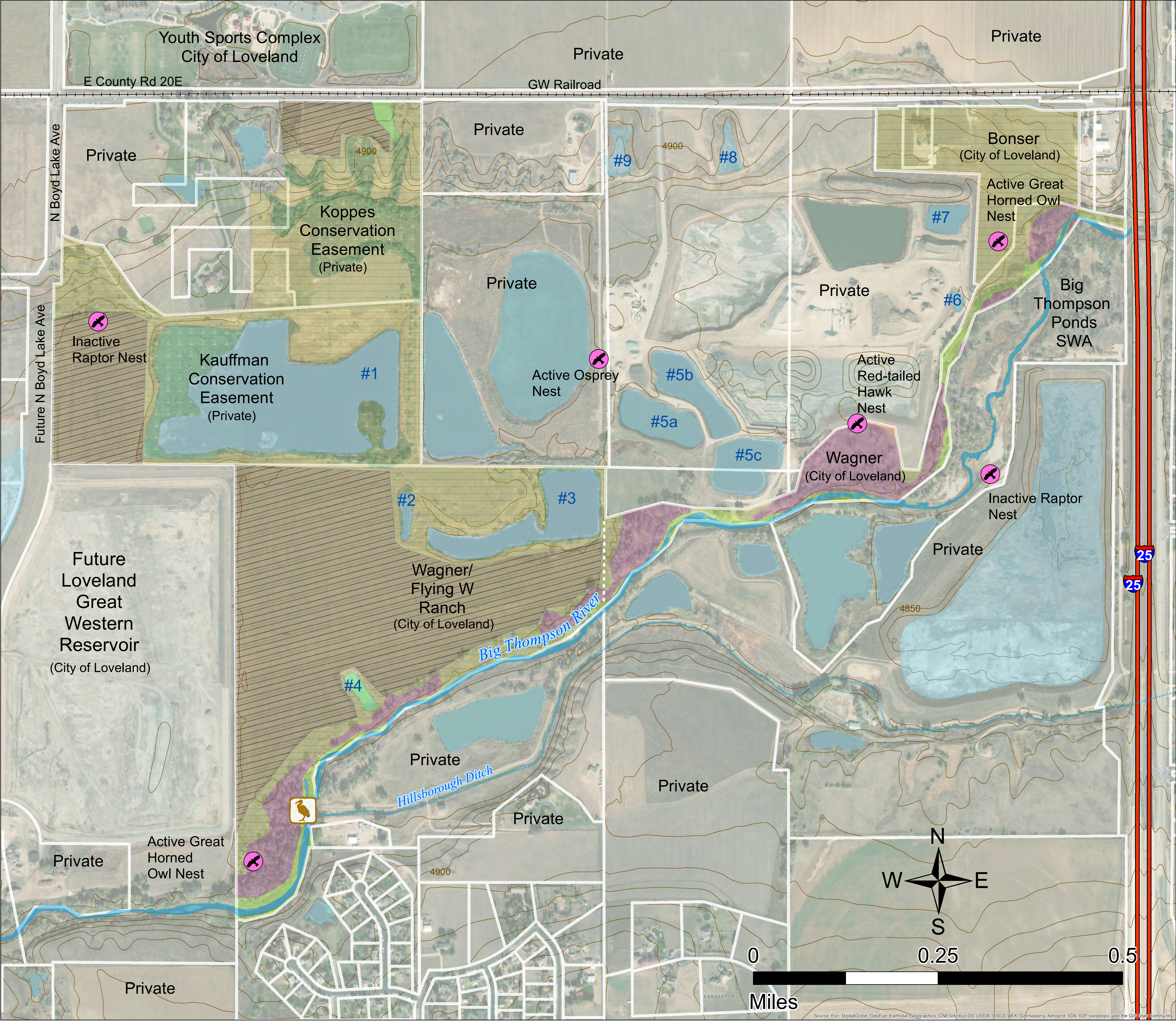
#32



#33

Big Thompson River East Corridor Management Plan

July 1, 2020



East Big Thompson River Natural Area Management Plan

Map C: Habitat Areas

July 8, 2020

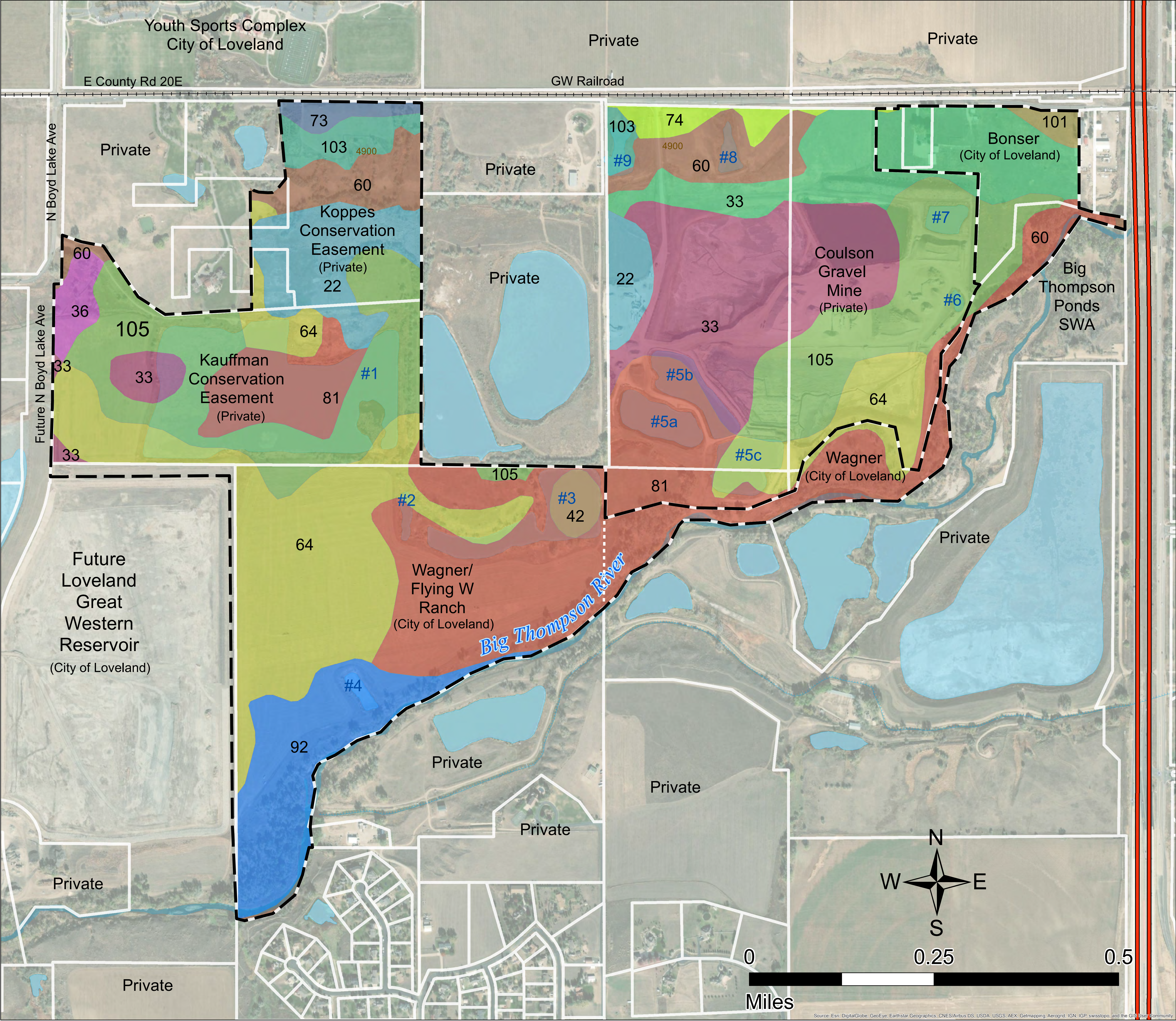
Legend

- Raptor Nest
- Heronry
- Contour - 10 ft
- Railroad
- Canal
- Project Boundary
- Parcel
- Open Water
- River

Habitat Vegetation Community

- Cultivated Agriculture
- Disturbed/Mining
- Fallow/Weedy
- Non-native Grassland
- Pond/Open Water
- Riverine Riparian
- Wetland
- Willow/Cottonwood Gallery





East Big Thompson River Natural Area Management Plan

Map D: Soil Classifications

July 8, 2020

Legend

- Railroad
- Canal
- Project Boundary
- Parcel
- Open Water
- River

Soil Classifications

- 5 - Aquepts, loamy
- 6 - Loveland clay loam
- 22 - Caruso clay loam

- 33 - Fluvaquents
- 36 - Fort Collins loam
- 42 - Gravel pits
- 60 - Larim gravelly sandy loam
- 73 - Nunn clay loam
- 74 - Nunn clay loam
- 81 - Paoli fine sandy loam
- 92 - Riverwash
- 101 - Stoneham loam
- 103 - Stoneham loam
- 105 - Table Mountain loam



LOGAN SIMPSON



City of Loveland



WILDLIFE SPECIES OBSERVED OR LIKELY PRESENT

WETLANDS AND PONDS

- Habitat for waterfowl and shorebirds - nesting, foraging, cover
- Fisheries
- Osprey - fish-eating raptor

RIPARIAN CORRIDOR ALONG RIVER

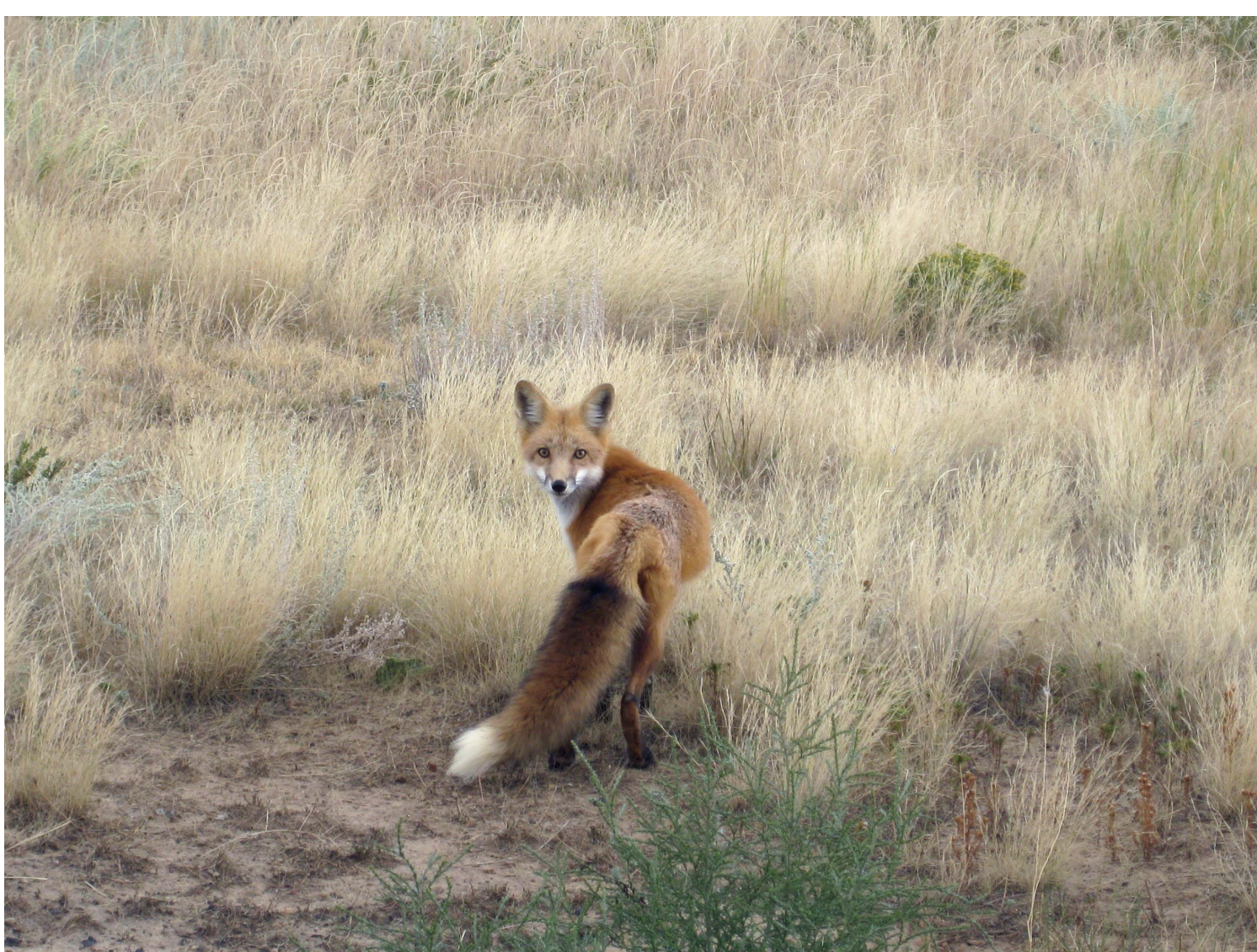
- Nesting habitat and foraging (insects, seeds) for songbirds
- Habitat/movement corridor for small/medium size mammals - fox, skunk, mink, beaver
- Herptiles - frogs, turtles, tiger salamander
- Cover for game birds such as wild turkey

RIPARIAN CORRIDOR ALONG RIVER - Cottonwood canopy

- Cavity-nesting species - owls, woodpeckers, nuthatches, also raccoons
- Nesting raptors - red-tailed & Swainson's hawks, great-horned owls, Cooper's and sharp-shinned hawks
- Foraging and nesting habitat for songbirds

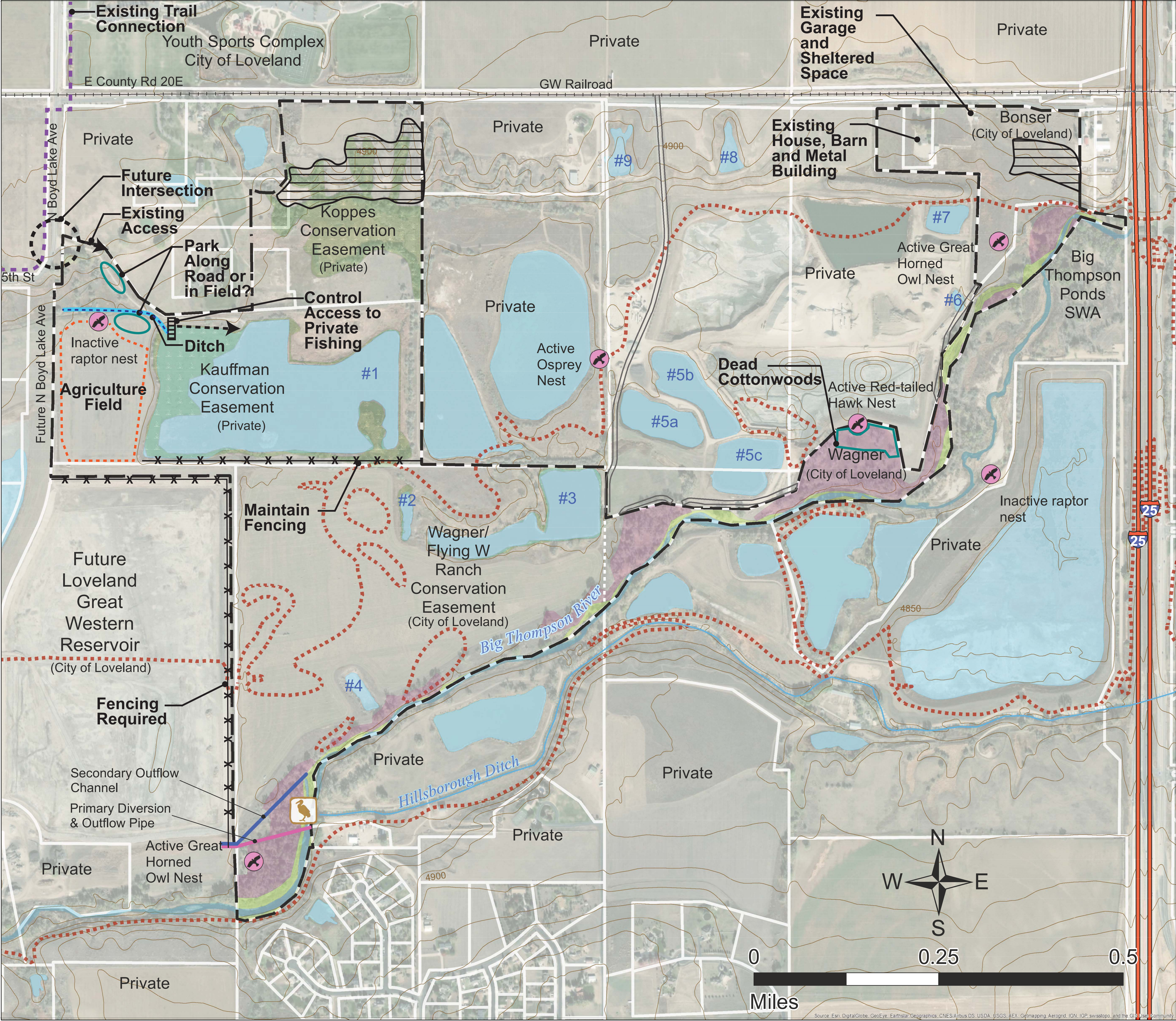
UPLAND AGRICULTURAL AND PRAIRIE

- Upland mammals - white-tailed deer, turkey, coyote, rodents
- Reptiles - snakes
- Hunting raptors - red-tailed and Swainson's hawks, northern harrier



East Big Thompson River Natural Area Management Plan

July 8, 2020



East Big Thompson River Natural Area Management Plan

Map E: Opportunities & Challenges

July 8, 2020

Legend

- Contour - 10 ft
- Railroad
- Canal
- Project Boundary
- Parcel Boundary
- Open Water
- River
- 100 Year Floodplain
- Riverine Riparian
- Wetland
- Willow/Cottonwood Gallery
- Steep Slopes
- Heronry
- Raptor Nest
- Access Easement



CHALLENGES

PROTECTION OF CONSERVATION VALUES while allowing public access

TRAILHEADS AND PARKING

CONNECTIVITY TO OTHER COMMUNITY AMENITIES:

Loveland Sports Park

Centerra Trail

Willow Bend

REGIONAL TRAIL CONNECTIVITY

CONSIDERATION OF SURROUNDING PROPERTIES

CONTINUED AGRICULTURE

RESTORATION TO NATIVE VEGETATION

ACQUIRING EASEMENTS AND LANDS

TOPOGRAPHY

Steep Slopes

Narrow trail corridor on east-end

TIMING

I-25 Johnstown Connection

Boyd Lake Avenue continuation to the south

Residential Developments

Expansion of County Road 20E

DEVELOPMENT COSTS

TRAIL ALIGNMENT (Paved and Soft-Surface Trails)



East Big Thompson River Natural Area Management Plan

July 8, 2020



OPPORTUNITIES

TRAILS

- Paved Regional Trail
- Soft-Surface Trails
- River Access

INFRASTRUCTURE/AMENITIES

- Trailheads
- Parking
- Restrooms
- Fishing Access Points

ACTIVITIES

- Wildlife Viewing
- Hiking
- Biking

PROGRAMMING

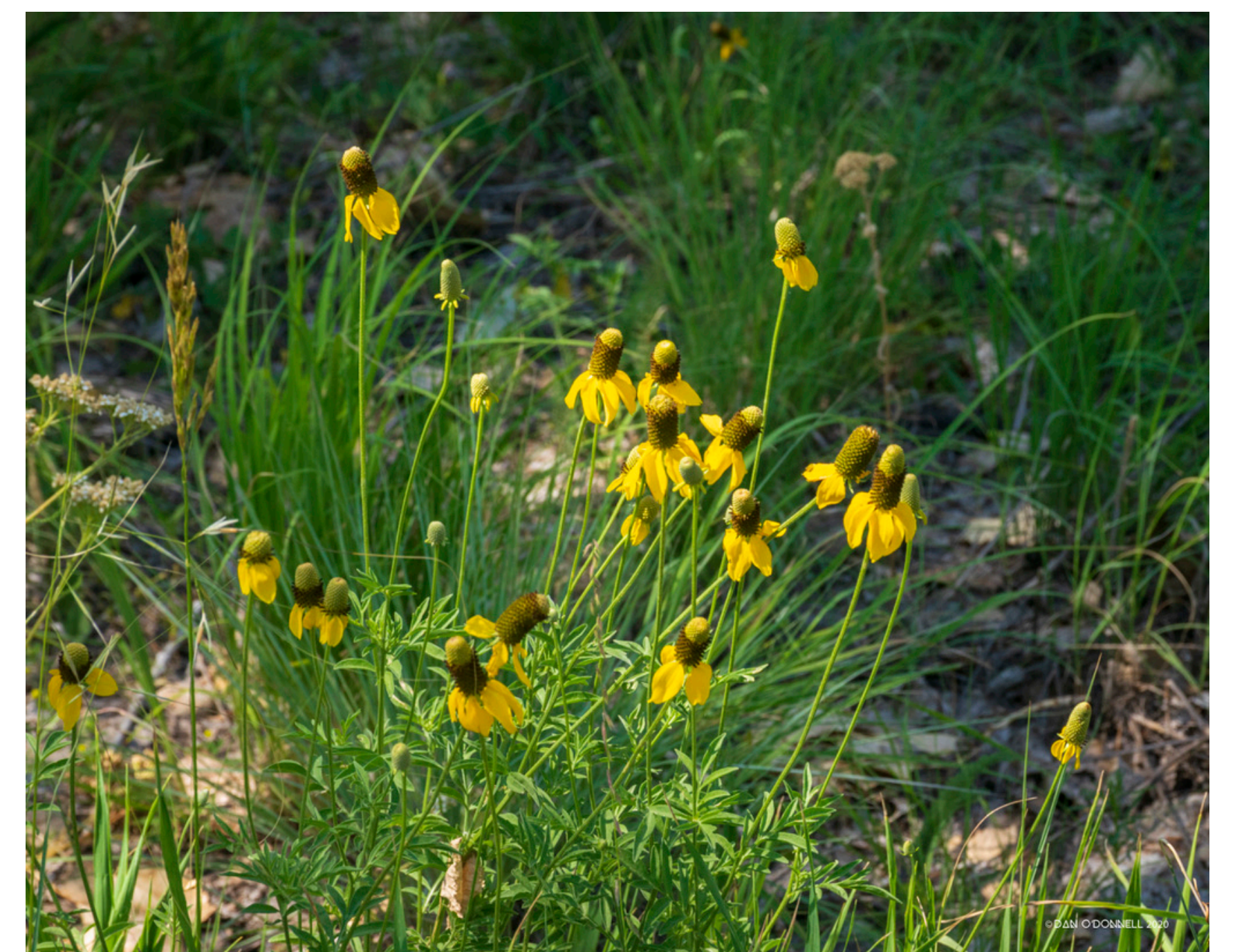
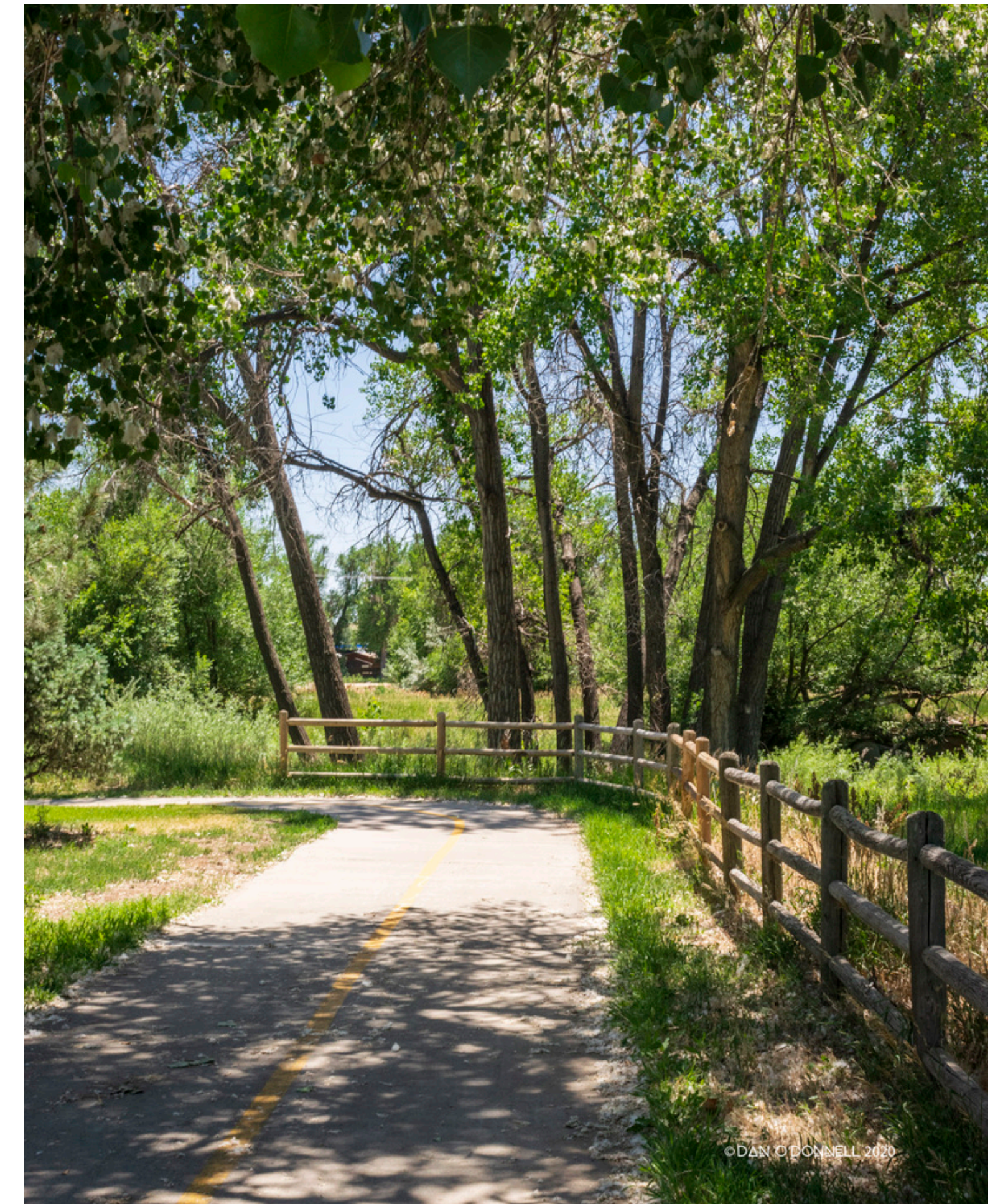
- Nature Walks
- Environmental Education
- Environmental Programming
- Art in Nature
- Fishing Clinics

PROTECTION OF VALUABLE HABITAT

- Riparian Corridor Along the River and Ponds
- Upland Agricultural and Prairie

PARTNERSHIPS

- Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW)
- Fishing Associations and Organizations
- Colorado Addicted Trailbuilders Society
- High Plains Environmental Center
- Audubon Club
- Native Plant Society
- Volunteers



East Big Thompson River Natural Area Management Plan

July 8, 2020

