

2022 WETLAND DELINEATION REPORT – FITZGERALD

Best Ecological Design Group (BEDG) has been contracted by Tom & Alex Fitzgerald to conduct a delineation of wetlands located on the subject property.

The description of the subject property is as follows.
Lot 8, Blue Rock Springs Sub, Blue River, Colorado 80424
Address: 0034 Rustic Terrace/CR 603, Blue River, Colorado
Latitude: 39.4357° North
Longitude: -106.0423° West
Elevation: ~9,990'
Lot Acreage: Approx. 1.22-Acres
Nearest Town: Blue River, Colorado
Nearest TNW/Water Body: Blue River/Dillon Reservoir
Nearest Stream: N/A
NRCS Soils Map Type: Histic cryaquolls
Date(s) of Fieldwork: May 2023
Date of Corps Site visit: None required
Date of Submittal to Client: 17 June 2023

Location of Wetlands on Subject Property - See Map 1.

Habitat of the surrounding area includes subalpine pine-spruce forest with extensive stands of Aspen, and broad wetlands associated with the valley floor and riparian corridor of the Blue River; the valley is dominated by Riparian and Palustrine scrub-shrub wetlands with inclusions of Palustrine forested habitat.

Located at approximately 9,990' elevation and positioned within the upper Blue River valley & drainage area, the wetlands of the property are typical for the ecological position. Hydrology is provided by groundwater seeps and sheet flows, for deep rooted species. In addition to groundwater, snowpack and summer precipitation supply the subject wetland, contributing hydrology to the shallow root zone.

The subject wetlands are Palustrine scrub-shrub with hydrophytic herbaceous, shrub, and tree strata dominants. The wetland boundary delineation is identified by a single flag series, W-1 through W-8. The subject wetlands are a portion of a greater wetland complex, contiguous, and within the historic river floodplain. Multiple probe samples were utilized to identify hydric soil variations and the wetland boundary. See map 1 for the location of the subject wetlands.

Natural Resources Conservation Service mapped for the area of the Subject Property as Histic cryaquolls; gravelly sandy soils were verified along the wetland boundary.

The delineation was conducted during the 2023 season, during multiple visits. Delineation methodology was conducted in accordance with the 1987 "U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual" with updates according to the Western Mountains, Valleys & Coast Regional Supplement. Schmidt Land Surveying conducted surveying of the wetland boundaries. Indicators examined to determine the presence of wetlands include vegetation, hydrology, and soils.

DESCRIPTION OF WETLANDS

Palustrine shrub wetlands of the property are associated with the riparian corridor of the valley floor, Palustrine scrub-shrub wetlands dominate the site; the subject wetland complex is contiguous within the greater wetland complex. No surface flows were observed along the identified boundary.

Palustrine Scrub-Shrub

Palustrine wetlands (PSS1B) of the subject property exhibit varied qualities, Hydrophytic shrubs dominate in the richest portions, some dead or stressed shrubs mark the diminished portions along the boundary. The diminished portion also demonstrates encroachment by non-wetland plant species.

Multiple *Salix* species and *Alnus* dominate the shrub layer. Ground cover vegetation of varied density is dominated by *Calamagrostis canadensis*, *Mertensia ciliata*, and *Carex* species.

Soil indicators for wetland presence are variable but verified in probe samples.

The flag boundaries were set according to the density and quality of hydrophytic plant species, hydric soil indicators, and presence of hydrology.

PLANT LISTDominant plant species

<u>Wetland Species</u>	<u>Indicator Status</u>
<i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i>	Obl
<i>Mertensia ciliata</i>	FacW
<i>Salix drummondiana</i>	FacW
<i>Salix planifolia</i>	Obl

Upland Species

Chamerion danielsii
Fragaria virginiana

Resources

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wetland Delineation Manual (1987) & Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region Supplement (2010)
Lichvar, R.W., D.L. Banks, W.N. Kirchner, and N.C. Melvin. 2016.
The National Wetland Plant List: 2016 wetland ratings.
Phytoneuron 2016-30: 1-17. Published 28 April 2016. ISSN 2153 733X
U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service, WSS Web Soil Survey of Summit County Area (2016)
Weber, W. A. and, R. C. Wittmann, Colorado Flora – Western Slope, (2001)

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Map 1 – Location of Subject Wetlands on Subject Property

