



Legend

100 Year Floodplain	Improvement Area
Enhancement Area	Protection Area

The thick orange and yellow lines represent areas too narrow to show as a polygon at the scale of this map.



Figure 3.1-39: Weinstein Property: Wildlife Protection and Enhancement Map

SMITH ENVIRONMENTAL INC.
 1001 WEST 120TH AVE., SUITE 210
 WESTMINSTER, CO 80234

Data Collected By: GM
 Drawn By: SG
 Date: September 8, 2003

0 125 250
 Feet



SMITH ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.

3.1.17 Zaharias Property

This property begins at the southeast corner of the South 88th Street overpass of U.S. 36 and is east of the Weinstein property. It encompasses approximately 28 acres, in the northeast portion of the Town. This property is a weedy vacant lot receiving little human use. A large drainage, dominated by a cattail wetland crosses the northern portion of the property. Prairie dog activity is prominent on the upland portion of this site.

There are several land uses adjacent to this property. U.S. 36 forms the northern border of the property. South 88th Street forms the western border of the property. The Weinstein property occurs west of South 88th Street. Boulder County Open Space owns the land and the Hodgson-Harris Reservoir at and adjacent to the eastern border of the property. There is a residential subdivision adjacent to the southern boundary of the property.

The ecological types present on the Zaharias property and their percentage of property coverage are listed on the following table and shown in Figure 3.1-40.

<u>Habitat Type</u>	<u>Acreage (approx.)</u>	<u>% of property covered (approx.)</u>
Weedy/Disturbed (0 – 33% Cover)	26.21	94.2
Cattail Marsh	1.54	5.5
Weedy/Disturbed (33 – 66% Cover)	0.04	<1
Willow Shrub/ Cottonwood Grove	0.02	<1
Cottonwood Grove	0.01	<1

Wildlife species visually evident or heard on the property during field surveys include: Barn Swallow, Killdeer, Red-winged Blackbird, Rock Dove, and black-tailed prairie dog. Additional species not seen also use this property. General wildlife habitat associations are shown in Figure 3.1-41.

Wildlife enhancement and protection strategies are presented in Table 3.1-17. Proposed wildlife protection areas and a range of enhancement strategies are presented in Figure 3.1-42.

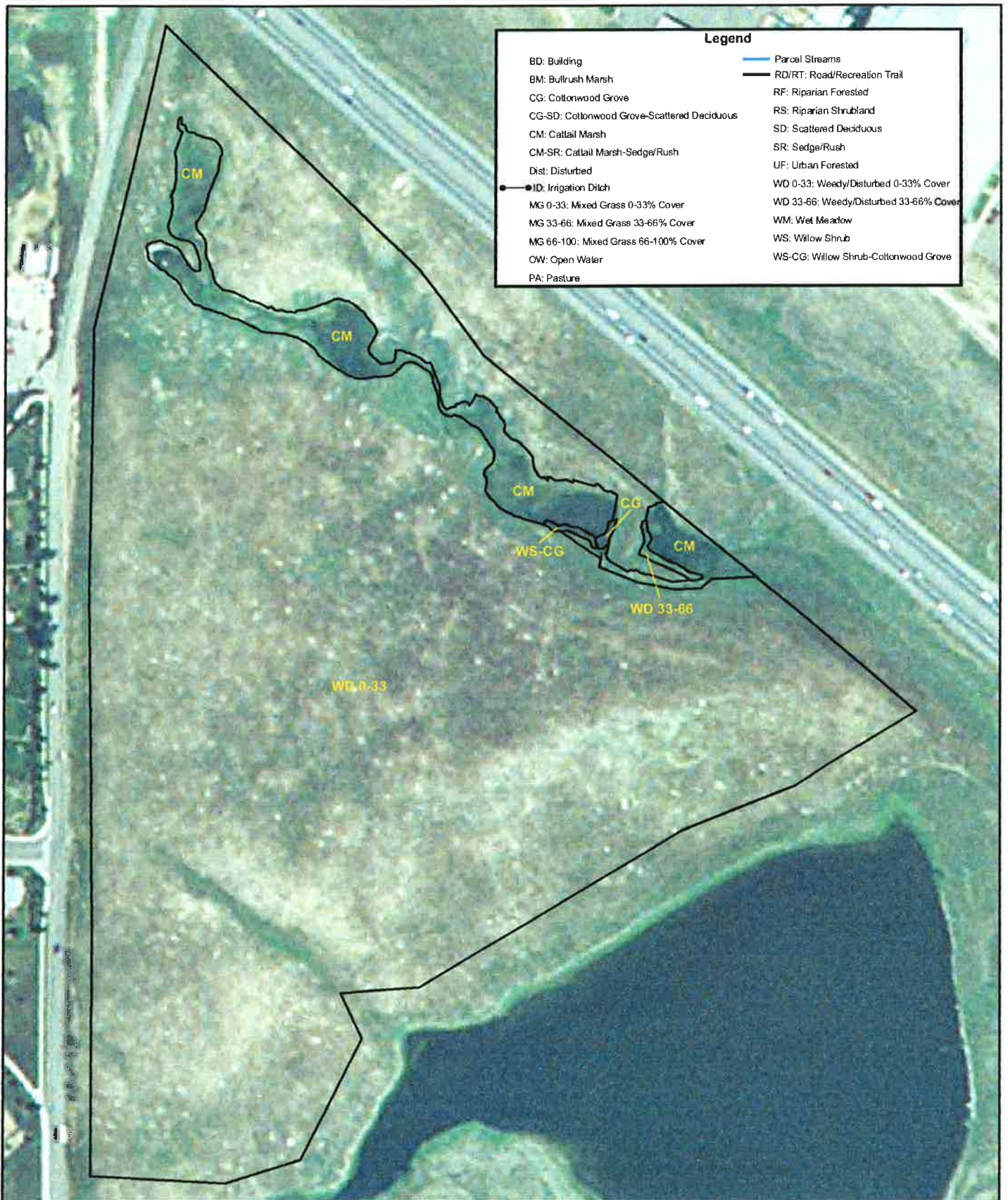


Figure 3.1-40: Zaharias Property: Ecological Type and Condition Map

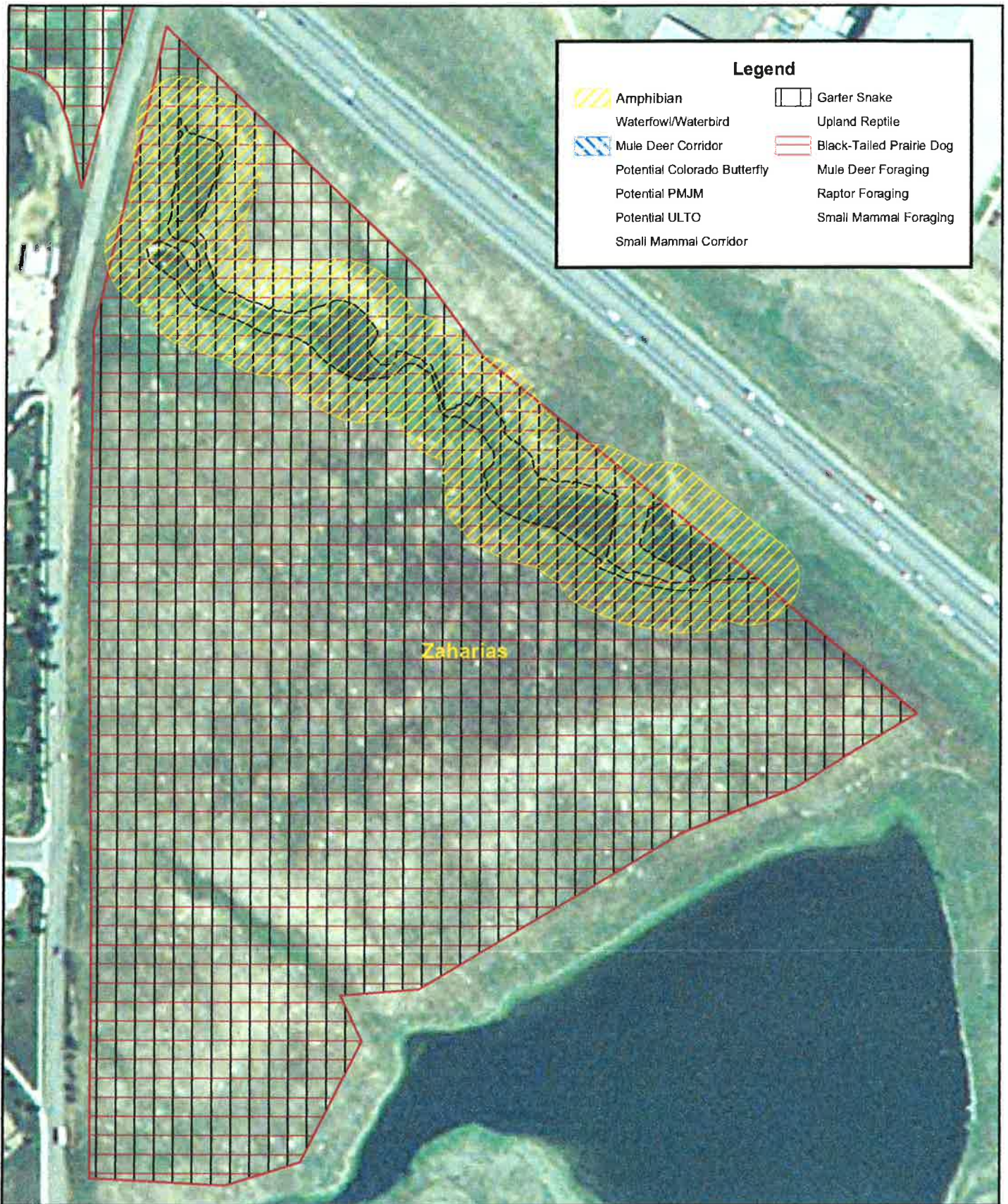


SMITH ENVIRONMENTAL INC.
1001 WEST 120TH AVE., SUITE 210
WESTMINSTER, CO 80234

Data Collected By: GM
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0 100 200 Feet





Legend			
	Amphibian		Garter Snake
	Mule Deer Corridor		Black-Tailed Prairie Dog
	Waterfowl/Waterbird		Upland Reptile
	Potential Colorado Butterfly		Mule Deer Foraging
	Potential PMJM		Raptor Foraging
	Potential ULTO		Small Mammal Foraging
	Small Mammal Corridor		

Zaharias

	Figure 3.1-41: Zaharias Property: Habitat Type and Corridor Map			
	SMITH ENVIRONMENTAL INC. 1001 WEST 120TH AVE., SUITE 210 WESTMINSTER, CO 80234	Data Collected By: GM Drawn By: SG Date: September 8, 2003		

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Table 3.1-17 WILDLIFE PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT STRATEGIES AND RELATIVE COSTS FOR THE ZAHARIAS PROPERTY

Wildlife Protection Strategies*	Wildlife Enhancement Strategies*	General Property Improvement Strategies*
<i>Raptor Protection Area - prairie dog colony</i>	<i>Plant cottonwood trees to provide benefit aesthetics, raptors, birds, small mammals and black-tailed prairie dog control - Moderate \$\$</i>	Exotic/noxious weed removal, re-seed weedy and disturbed areas with native plant species – Low to Moderate \$\$
<i>Amphibian and Waterbird Protection Area - cattail marsh/willow/cottonwood area near N. boundary</i>	<i>Plant upland shrubs to provide habitat for reptiles, birds and small mammals – Low \$\$</i>	<i>If feasible, connect to Boulder County Open Space/ Harris-Hodgson Reservoir property to the east via fence removal - Low \$\$</i>
	<i>Plant more willow shrubs along edges of cattail marsh to benefit amphibian, bird and small mammal species - Low to Moderate \$\$</i>	
	<i>Install raptor perches and prairie dog predator cover on and around edge of property to limit prairie dog movement and regulate populations by promoting predator success - Low to Moderate \$\$</i>	
	<i>Install bat boxes and bird nest boxes near cattail marsh area and northern boundary fence to promote species usage and diversity, added benefit of local mosquito control - Low \$\$</i>	

* = Italicized text denotes strategy tied to geographic feature and/or shown on Protection and Enhancement Map



Legend

	100 Year Floodplain		Improvement Area
	Enhancement Area		Improvement Area
	Enhancement Area		Protection Area

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Figure 3.1-42: Zaharias Property: Wildlife Protection and Enhancement Map

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0 100 200 Feet



3.2 COMPARATIVE RANKINGS AND PROPERTY ACQUISITION RECOMMENDATIONS

Overall Habitat Quality Rating (OHQR) values for each property were calculated and are shown in Figure 3.2-1. OHQR values for each property were compared against each other to determine the priority for each property for open space acquisition by the Town.

OVERALL WILDLIFE HABITAT RATINGS:

<u>Very Low</u>		<u>Low</u>		<u>Moderate</u>		<u>High</u>		<u>Very High</u>	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Properties with a wildlife habitat rating of 7 or higher should be considered first for acquisition and conservation as open space. The Lastoka property (7.4) is the only property to meet this criterion. The Lastoka property has a large property size, a perennial water resource and vital wildlife corridor (Rock Creek), receives low human use, retains natural mixed-grass prairie habitat characteristics and hosts several other biologically significant ecological types.

Properties with a value of 5 - 6 should be considered next for acquisition. Several properties have a "Moderate" value; including the Ochsner, Biella-Menkick, Level 3 (discussed in Appendix B), Verhey, Spicer-Carlson, Zaharias, Bolejack, 76th Street, and Arsenault properties. Properties that offer either significant wildlife habitat attributes (wildlife corridors, large wetland areas, or other water resources) and/or large acreages of relatively continuous wildlife habitat are more desirable. The Ochsner, Biella-Menkick, Level 3, Verhey, Spicer-Carlson, and Zaharias properties generally fulfill both of these criteria. These six properties are listed below, in order of recommended acquisition, according to their OHQR ranking.

- The Ochsner property (6.3) has a moderate acreage and the most unique ecological diversity of any property. Water sources including Coal Creek and several irrigation ditches contribute to this diversity.
- Of the four properties with a 6.1 rating, the Biella-Menkick property should be acquired first. This property encompasses two main ecological types and incorporates the third largest amount of acreage of any of the properties. Coal Creek crosses the north end of this property and serves as a vital wildlife corridor, as it serves to connect montane and plains ecosystems.
- The Level 3 property (6.1) should be acquired second. It contains the largest acreage of any parcel. The property is dominated by two contiguous mixed-grass prairie ecological types, both in a relatively natural condition. The elevated south end of the property provides a scenic viewshed. Management activities for this property must consider the steep terrain present on the property.
- The Verhey property (6.1) has a desirable contiguous mixed-grass prairie ecological type and several biologically significant ponds. This property incorporates the second largest acreage of all the properties and an impressive viewshed.