

North Hillside

There are at least two small wetland areas towards the bottom of the slope that had not been classified as jurisdictional wetlands during the 1991 "Rocky Flats Plant Wetlands Assessment."

Area A is the largest of the areas and is dominated by broad-leaf cattail, an obligate species. This site is saturated to the surface and water flows into it from a ground water seep. Surface water drainage patterns lead into the area.

Area B is located about 20 feet east of area A, and is smaller. This area had species of *Carex* and *Juncus*, most of which are facultative wetland or obligate species. This area was also saturated to the surface and had a ground water seep. Surface water would also flow into this area.

A third area is potential wetland, area C. It has a *Tamarix* plant on it, a facultative wetland indicator species. Also in this area were *Panicum* species, which are facultative, and Fox-Tail Barley, a facultative wetland species. This area was not saturated to the surface and there were no open ground water seeps.

Plant species composition for these areas should be augmented by studying the photographs taken on-site and checking with Marcia Murdock.

These three areas are all located within a single soil type on the SCS Golden Area Soil Survey. The type is Denver-Kutch-Midway, with inclusions of Englewood, Hill, and Midway. The SCS does not list this type as hydric soil, but a soil scientist at the SCS says that there are specific sites of hydric-type soils in that mapping unit, but those may have to be verified in the field. The SCS does not have a list of hydric soils in Jefferson County.

The enclosed map shows the site's potentiometric surface, where the mean ground water table level intercepts with the surface. In these areas, soils are saturated to the surface for a time period usually including April, May, and June. The approximate locations of the wetland areas are shown on the map.

It was discussed that the following course of action would be taken. Obtain the vegetation and sensitive habitat map and some aerial photographs from EG&G. ES will use these in conjunction with the photographs taken onsite and professional judgement to determine the extent and location of these wetland areas. Marcia Murdock would be willing to delineate the areas by assessing the vegetation types. ES will plan to protect the wetlands during IM/IRA construction activities, mainly by putting up temporary fencing to insure that personnel and vehicles will not enter the wetlands, and construction of silt fences to protect the wetlands from

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sedimentation. Restoration of the wetlands will be attempted after all closure activities associated with the SEPs are completed. (Phase II) If the restoration attempts are not successful, then wetland mitigation banking options will be considered. One options is a mitigation banking project the DOE and USACE are trying to set up in Bear Creek Lake Park. Mitigation banking ratios would probably be around 3:1 or 4:1.

The IM/IRA-EA Decision Document will be modified to identify the wetland areas and specify the mitigation measures noted above.

Buffer Zone

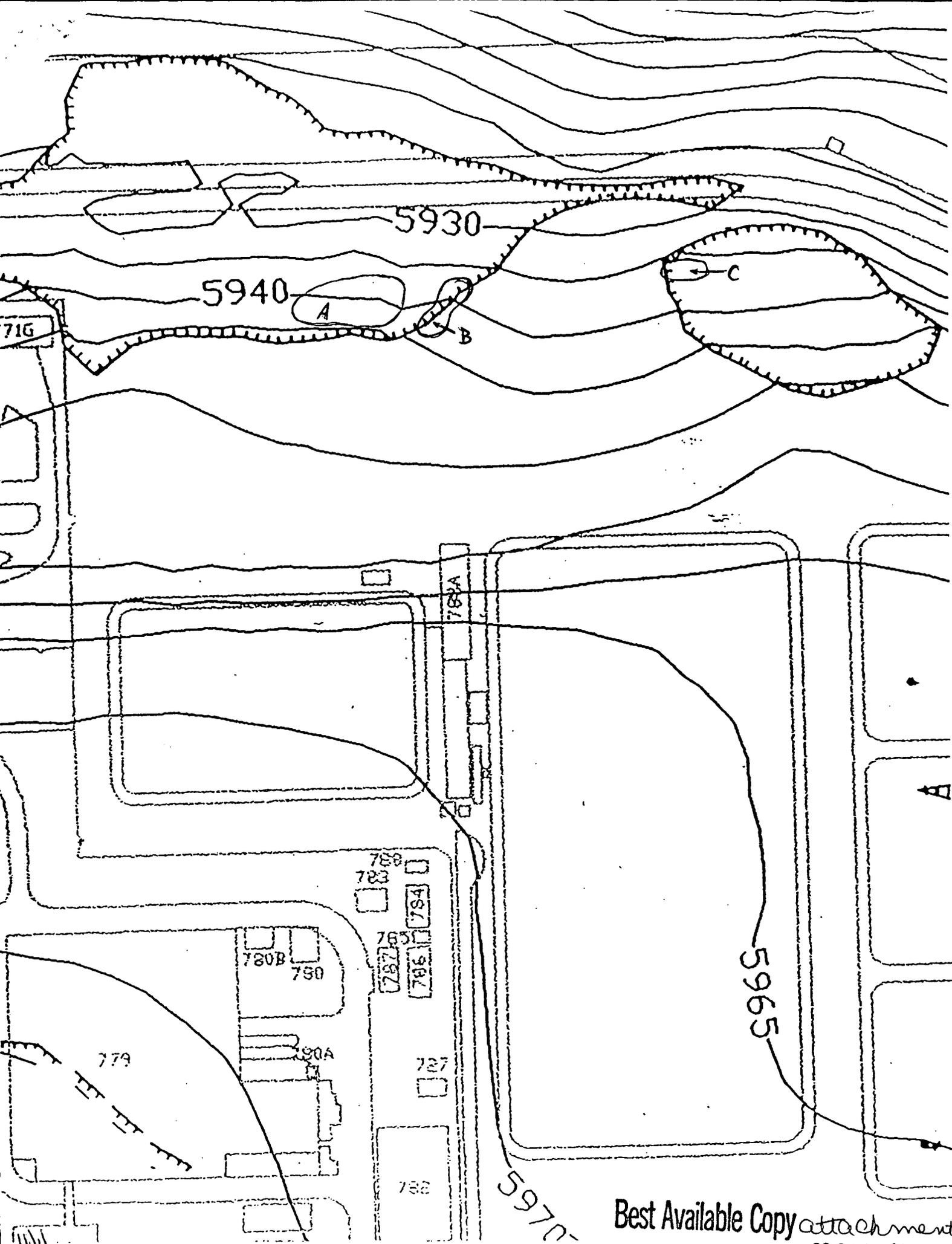
Marcia Murdock had no major wetland concerns in the OU4 buffer zone area. The buffer zone is a mesic mixed grassland habitat which will need a different revegetation seed mix from the seed mix proposed for the engineered cover. It was noted that the buffer zone may be habitat for the Preble's Meadow jumping mouse which may be placed on the state list of rare and endangered species. This issue needs to be tracked because the remediation plans may need to be modified if the species is formally included on the state rare and endangered species list.

Action Items

- EG&G vegetation and sensitive habitat map on CADD from Michelle McKee.
- ES to investigate any existing aerial photographs from EG&G.
- Receive photographs taken onsite when they are available (anticipated 2-3 weeks).



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