Summary of Process and Time Line
Larimer County Road 44H (Buckhorn Road) Flood Recovery Project Environmental Assessment (EA)

The U.S. Forest Service, Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland (ARP), Canyon Lakes Ranger District, is cooperating with the Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Larimer County Road (CR) 44H (Buckhorn Road) Flood Recovery Project. The following outlines the process for the EA as well as public involvement:

- A Legal Notice for the EA was published in the Fort Collins Coloradoan on October 9, officially beginning the 30-day public comment period. Scoping letters were also mailed to stakeholders, including adjacent landowners. The purpose of this comment period was to provide an opportunity for the public to provide early and meaningful participation in the EA prior to a decision being made by the Responsible Official (the District Ranger, Forest Service). The public comment period ended on November 7, 2017.

- Pinyon Environmental, Inc. (Pinyon) is the contractor responsible for preparing the EA; they will compile and evaluate the comments received during the public comment period to identify key issues for analysis in the EA. Pinyon will analyze the environmental effects of the project. A draft EA will be submitted to the Forest Service and FEMA mid-November, and both agencies will have until December 6, 2017 to review the document.

- Pinyon will incorporate Forest Service and FEMA revisions into the draft EA to prepare a final EA.

- After final review and approval by the Forest Service and FEMA, Pinyon will submit a legal notice to the Fort Collins Coloradoan announcing public availability of the EA. The EA, FONSI, and draft Decision Notice will be posted on the Forest Service and Larimer County websites. This is anticipated to occur by December 29, 2017, with the legal notice anticipated on January 2, 2018.

- Anyone who submitted a comment during the public comment period ending November 7 will have legal standing to submit a formal objection during the 45-day objection period that follows the publication of the legal notice. For more information on the objection process, please see: [https://www.fs.fed.us/emc/applit/includes/20160531Final218ObjectionBrochure.pdf](https://www.fs.fed.us/emc/applit/includes/20160531Final218ObjectionBrochure.pdf).

- After the 45-day objection period and the resolution of any objections received, the EA and FONSI will be finalized, and the Forest Service will sign a Decision Notice. The Decision Notice could be signed as early as late February 2018 and will complete the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the CR 44H Buckhorn Road project.