Stream Restoration/Floodplain Permit 2012

Kim Snodgrass, P.E., CFM

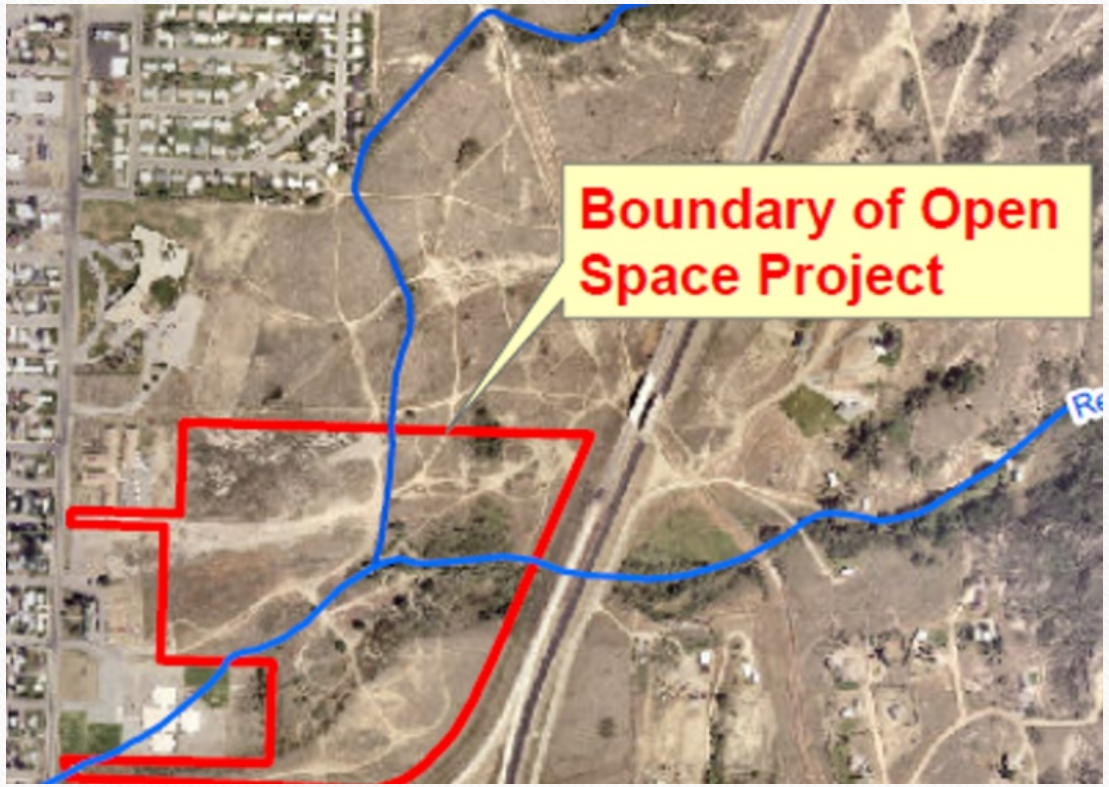
Water & Environmental Technologies

Butte, MT

Project Objectives 2012

- Fence in open space area that was used for ATV and dirt bike traffic;
- Allow for recovery of surface water and wetland features; and
- Construct kids fishing pond and amenities.
- Allow for development of land to north of open space with additional road and culvert crossing.
- Complete No-Rise or CLOMR and subsequent LOMR for two small water courses (Q_{100} = 25 cfs and 38 cfs)

NHD layer 1950s and Project Boundary



Floodplain Model must tie in to duplicate effective model

What happened – unexpected culverts?!

- Discussed culverts and subdivision with floodplain administrator.
- There was a misunderstanding of the Floodplain Ordinance. The language in 2012 stated: "Uses requiring permits…railroad, highway, and street stream crossings, provided that the crossings are designed to offer minimal obstructions to the flood flow. Stream crossings shall not increase the elevation of the one-hundred-year flood more than one-half foot nor cause a significant increase in flood velocities."
- At the time of the subdivision, the floodplain administrator required a second engineering firm to peer-review the model to ensure less than a 0.5 foot rise.

44 CFR 60.3
AE Floodplain Boundaries

- Prohibit encroachments, including fill, new construction, substantial improvements, and other development within the adopted regulatory floodway unless it has been demonstrated through hydrologic and hydraulic analyses performed in accordance with standard engineering practice that the proposed encroachment would not result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge;
- (4) Notwithstanding any other provisions of 60.3, a community may permit encroachments within the adopted regulatory floodway that would result in an increase in base flood elevations, provided that the community first applies for a conditional FIRM and floodway revision, fulfills the requirements for such revisions as established under the provisions of § 65.12, and receives the approval of the Federal Insurance Administrator.

Resolution and CLOMR approval

- Attended phone conversation between Marijo Brady (Region VIII NFIP Manager, Mitigation Division) and floodplain administrator.
- Floodplain administrator issued letter summarizing phone call.
- Current project scope was increased to include the additional two culverts in the CLOMR and LOMR submittals.
- The city bore the cost of the changes to the flood maps from the subdivision rather than the development.

Current Actions

- Community is cautious to require No-Rise/CLOMR prior to issuing a floodplain permit;
- DNRC drafted the Floodplain Model Ordinance in 2014;
- DNRC Regional Engineers provide technical review and/or assistance to floodplain administrators.