

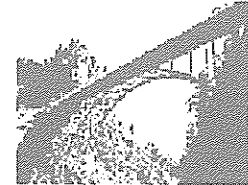
PHYSICAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

# TOWN OF RED CLIFF, COLORADO MASTER PLAN

## Section 3 PHYSICAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

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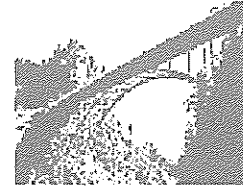


PHYSICAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

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## **SECTION 3      PHYSICAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

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### **3.1    INTRODUCTION**

The physical and community services of Red Cliff were examined with respect to capacity and current usage levels; existing facilities and physical conditions; and impacts on the town. The physical services include water sanitation, and transportation. Community services include police, fire protection and school facilities.

### **3.2    PHYSICAL SERVICES**

#### **3.2.1    Water**

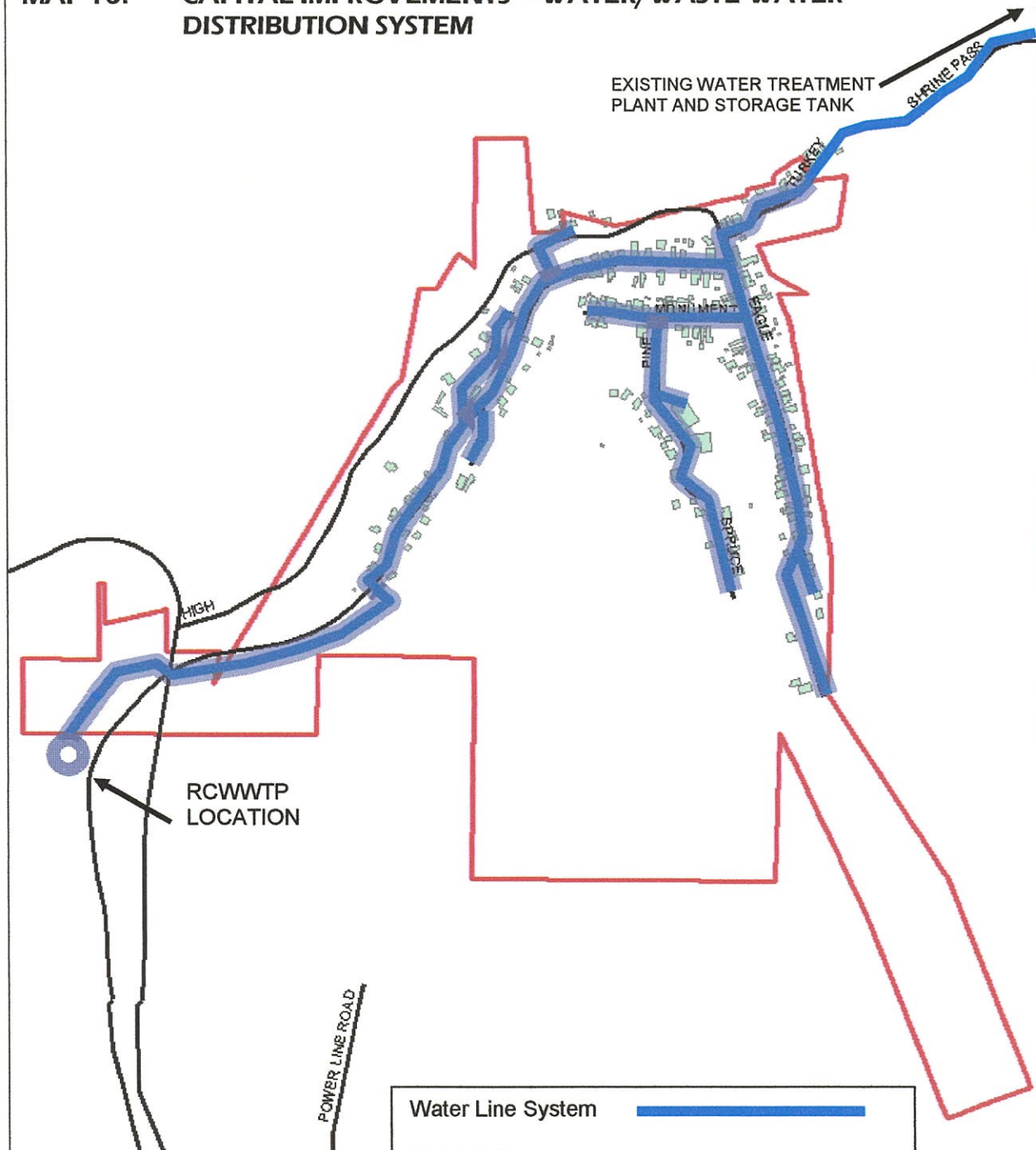
The number of people currently served by the town according the 2000 U.S. Census is 289. The number of residential water taps is 138 and commercial taps are 3 totaling 141 water taps.




The Red Cliff water and wastewater system is designed with cold-climate considerations. Some residents still have to run water in winter to prevent freezing. The existing water treatment plant consists of a pump, a treatment facility, and an insulated 32,000 gallon tank. The plant is using a three/four stage bag filter system to remove sediments and a gaseous chlorine-injection method to disinfect the water. The finished water then goes to the tank where it is stored for the use of the town.

The town has two established points of diversion. The first is on the Eagle River; the second is along Turkey Creek. The confluence of these two rivers lies in Red Cliff itself. The town may draw a total of 8 cfs (5-6 cfs from Turkey Creek and 2.5 cfs from Eagle River. from these sources. For purposes of remaining legally immune, the town needs to draw according to its water rights decree.

The town has two existing iron transport pipelines. The one currently in use is along Turkey Creek and is 20 to 30+ years old. There has been a history of leaking as a result of poor installation. The second pipeline is about 70 years old and located along the Eagle River. It's believed to be approximately six inches in diameter and long unused. Consequently, the

**MAP 10: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS – WATER/WASTE WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM**

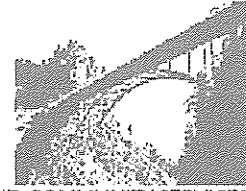


Water Line System	
Wastewater Collection System	
District Boundary	

**RED CLIFF MASTER PLAN  
Town of Red Cliff, Colorado**

This map is for planning purposes and should not be used for precise measurement





location of the original pipeline has not been determined and it's believed unusable. It is more than likely located in heavy forest under-story growth and soil creep.

### **3.2.2 Sewer**

The Red Cliff Wastewater Treatment Plant currently provides treatment of municipal wastewater utilizing a Case-Cotter Package Treatment Plan. This facility was installed in the early 1970's and was almost immediately hydraulically overloaded. According to a wastewater facilities master plan prepared by Baseline Engineering Corporation, wastewater enters the plant through an eight-inch sewer main. The influent flow is metered with a 24 hour continuous flow recorder and totalizer. The influent flow passes through the flow meter before entering a manually racked bar screen and grit trough. The flow precedes through the aeration basin, sludge digester and clarifier. Final disinfection is through a chlorine contact tank. The treated wastewater is discharged into Homestead Creek. The discharge stream segment is known as the Upper Colorado Eagle River Sub-basin, stream Segment 2, and classified as Cold Water Aquatic Life Class 1 Recreational Class 1, Agriculture, and Water Supply.

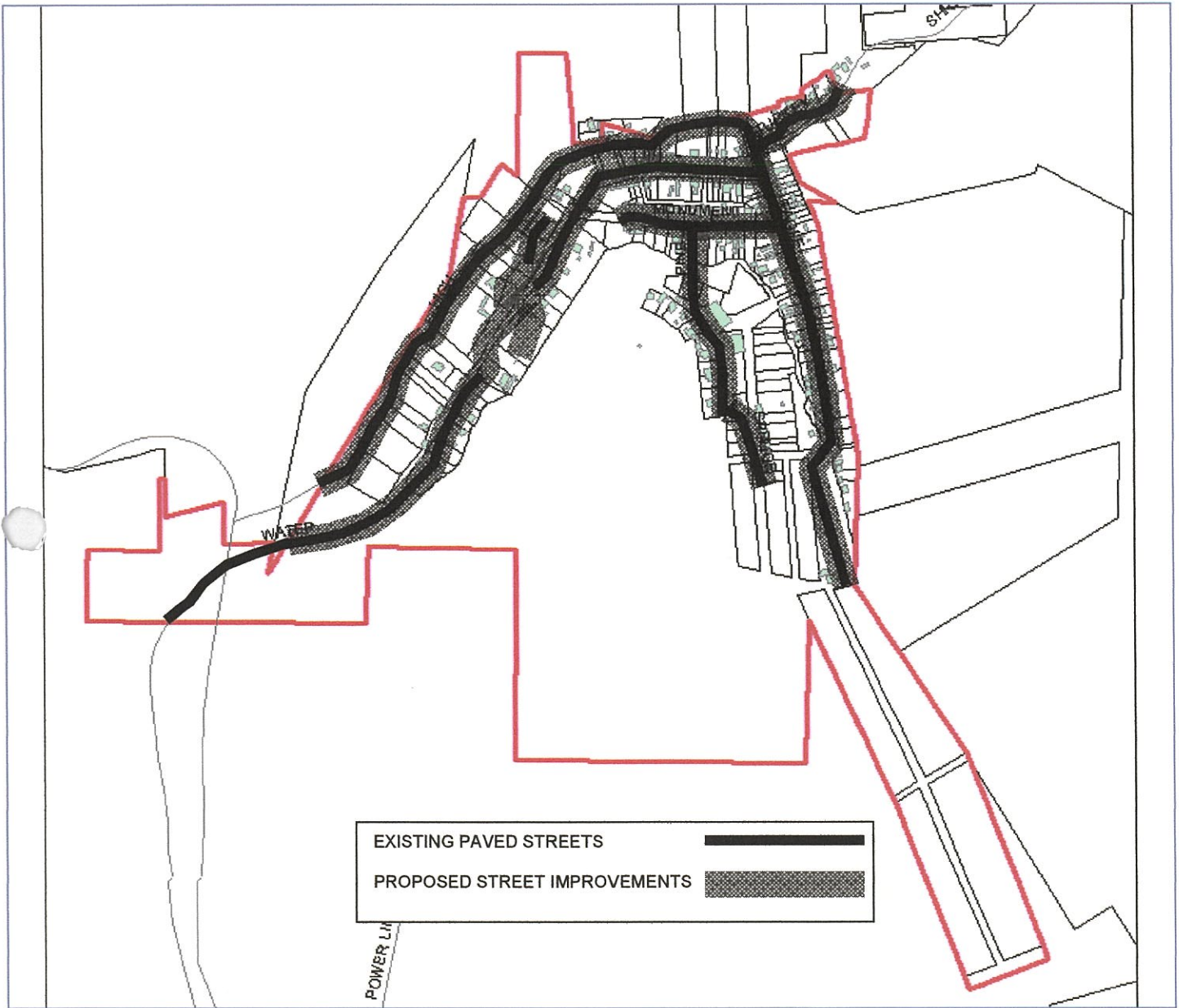
### **3.2.3 Transportation**

The road system around Red Cliff has been examined for limitations and the potential for expansion or upgrading of existing roads, service areas, intersections and railroad crossings. Also included are roadway capacity, surface type and conditions, sight distance, and maintenance practices.

There is one primary arterial road accessing Red Cliff. The road called High Street enters the town to the north running through town as a business loop and leaving town to the west following the Eagle River Drainage-way as Water Street crossing the Union Pacific Railroad tracks, traveling under the Red Cliff Bridge and connecting back to U.S. Highway 24 to the southwest of town. The primary U.S. Highway 24 route connecting Leadville and Buena Vista to the south and Minturn to the north, by-passes the town over a bridge spanning the Eagle River. The bridge is currently maintained by the Colorado Department of Transportation and was recently reinforced and upgraded in 2004.



**MAP 11: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS – PAVED STREETS**



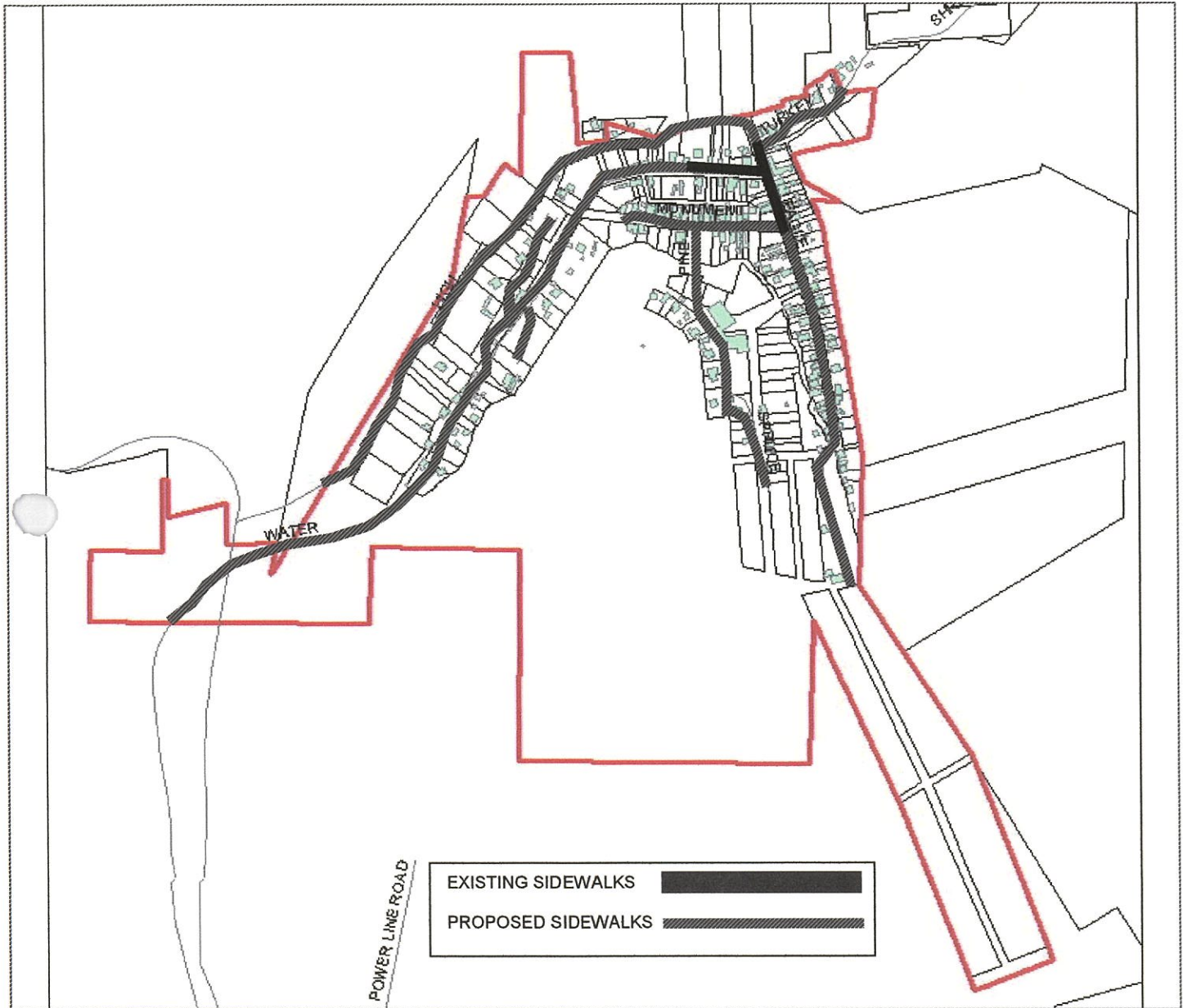
**RED CLIFF MASTER PLAN  
Town of Red Cliff, Colorado**

*This map is for planning purposes and should not be used for precise measurement*





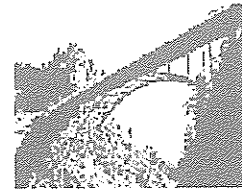
### MAP 12: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS - SIDEWALKS



### RED CLIFF MASTER PLAN Town of Red Cliff, Colorado

This map is for planning purposes and should not be used for precise measurement





### **3.2.4 Rail System**

The early railroad was a narrow gauge branch line of the Denver, Rio Grande and Western Railroad. It reached Red Cliff in November 1881 allowing the shipment of ore to Leadville smelters. However, the branch line had not reached the Battle Mountain mines until February 1882 when the grading was finished to Rock Creek about three miles below Red Cliff. Ore shipments began immediately and in March 1882, the railroad was reported to be shipping fifty tons a day to the Leadville smelters. Three years later, the narrow gauge track beyond Rock Creek was made standard to Glenwood Springs. The same year the old line from the town of Malta to Red Cliff was rebuilt making the distance shorter by four and one-half miles by running a tunnel under Tennessee Pass and also cutting several hundred feet from the elevation.

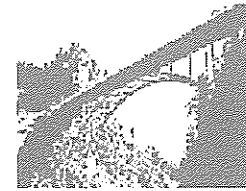
As the mines closed around Red Cliff, the role of the railroad transporting ore to Leadville and passengers to Denver diminished and coal became the primary freight carrying it from Wyoming and Utah coal fields to Colorado Springs, Pueblo and Texas. Since 1997 there has been no activity on the line. The current railroad owners, Union Pacific, still maintains the railroad line by running a crew car on the tracks at least once a year. According to Federal regulations this procedure keeps the line from being declared abandoned.

There is no current activity along the railroad. Consequently, there have been no pedestrian or automobile accidents while crossing the tracks. Likewise, there have been no emergency services delay, potential fire hazard or noise pollution from trains traveling through Red Cliff. However, there have been several ideas recently regarding using the railroad right of way and existing tracks as a tourist attraction and destination activity. Several ideas are to use coal fired trains beginning at Eagle and ending at Red Cliff. The concept would be similar to the Durango to Silverton, Cumbres and Toltec Railroad from Antonito in Colorado to Chama in New Mexico and Leadville Colorado and Southern Railroad Company from Leadville to Climax. Another idea would be a commuter train from Leadville to Eagle. Another option would convert the track line in a "Rails to Trails" recreation path.

### **3.2.5. Public Transportation**

Presently, public transportation facilities are not available to citizens of Red Cliff. The ECO transit system connects Leadville and Minturn along U.S. Highway 24 with other communities in the Vail Valley I-70 corridor. There is an official bus stop in Red Cliff along U.S. Highway 24 and Water Street. The transit company believes that low passenger volume and accessibility of





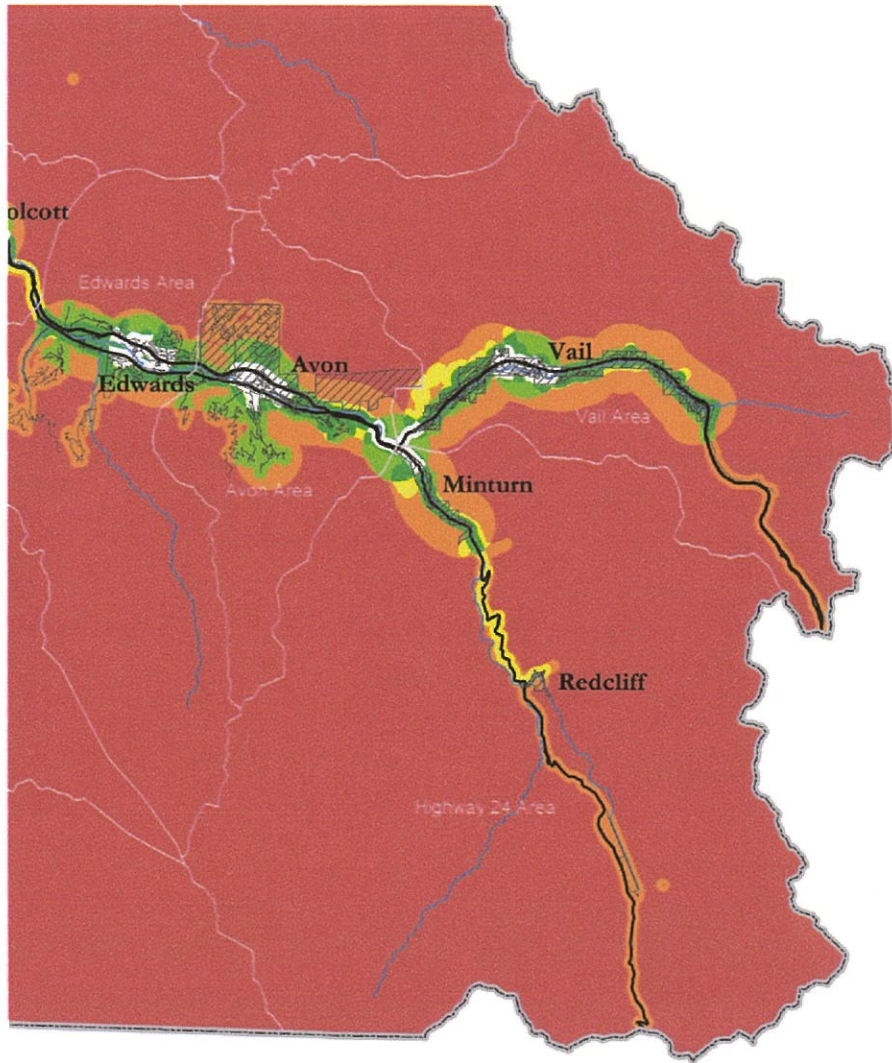
the bus to turn around in the town have eliminated routes into and through town. Currently, citizens who live in town cannot travel outside Red Cliff without using private transportation. Several alternatives have been used in other small communities. However, these communities are close to large metropolitan areas and can be available for people needing assistance especially those senior citizens 60 years and older. Non-profit agencies such as Eagle County Senior Citizens services or Silver Key provide transportation for medical, shopping, personal business, and recreation. Seniors are asked to call 24 hours in advance, except in cases of immediate need. Ridefinders, is another non-profit organization operating in Red Cliff that provides information on car and van pools, taxi's, and amblicabs.

### **3.3 COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Police protection is provided by Eagle County Sheriff Department while fire protection is furnished by the Eagle River Fire Protection District, Eagle County Health Services District (EMS) and public education by the Eagle County School District.



### MAP 13: PROXIMITY TO TRANSPORTATION

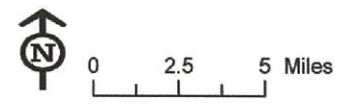


**Weighted Values**

	All Systems = Most Suitable
	3.1 - 3.9
	4.0 - 7.1
	7.2 - 7.9
	8.0 - 11.8
	11.9 - 15.0 = Least Suitable

\* Values weighted according to polls taken at public meetings

- Criteria:**
- Areas within one mile of existing public transportation stops
  - Areas within one mile of proposed transit stops
  - Areas within 1000ft of paved trails
  - Areas within 1000ft of paved roads

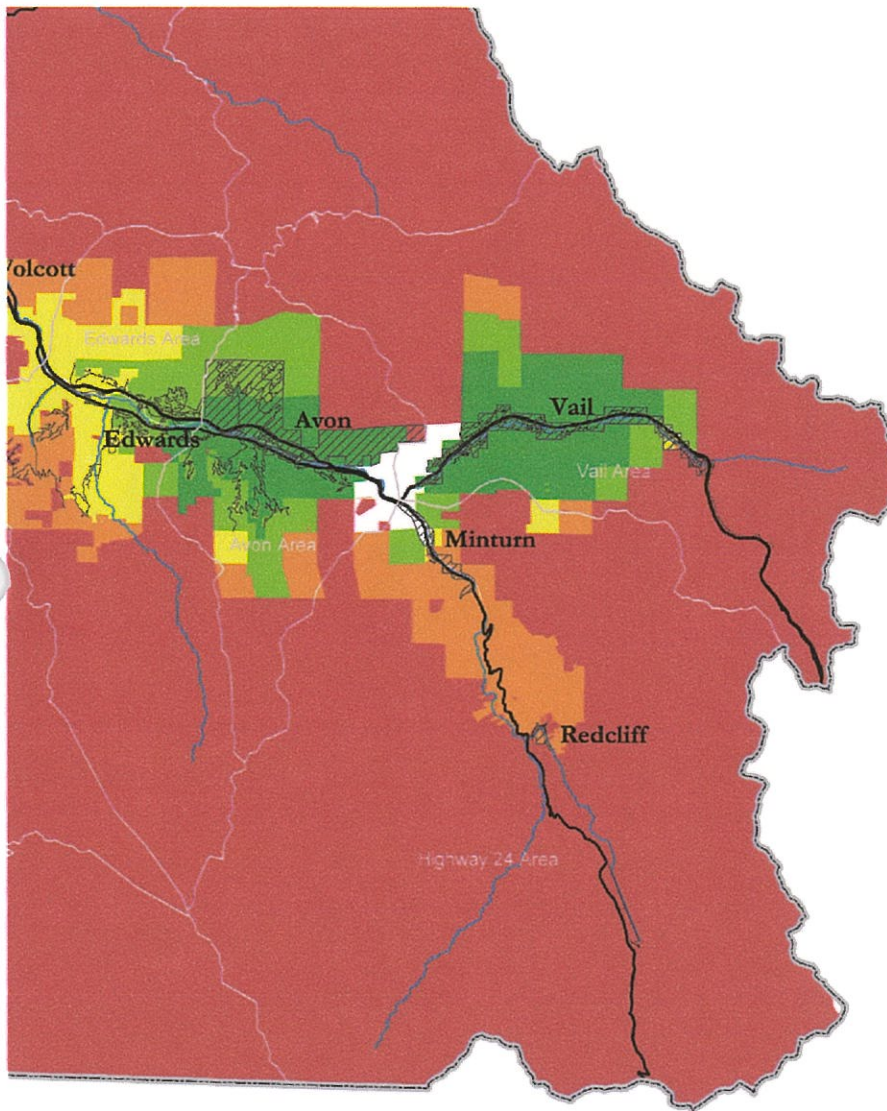


Eagle County Comprehensive Plan  
 Source: Eagle County, CDOT  
 Map Produced by NWCCOG GIS and Eagle County GIS Department

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**Town of Red Cliff, Colorado**



**MAP 14: PROXIMITY TO COMMUNITY FACILITIES**



**Weighted Values**

	All Services = Most Suitable
	3.2 - 3.8
	3.9 - 7.1
	7.2 - 10.8
	10.8 - 14.2
	14.3 - 17.5 = Least Suitable

\* Values weighted according to polls taken at public meetings

**Map Elements:**

- Areas within 5 miles of Schools (Elementary, Middle, High Schools, and College Facilities)
- Areas within 5 miles of Recreation Facilities (basketball, baseball, soccer, golf, tennis, volleyball, pool, ice rink, playground)
- Areas within 5 miles of Medical Facilities
- Areas within 5 miles of Child Care Facilities
- Areas within 5 miles of Libraries



0 2.5 5 Miles

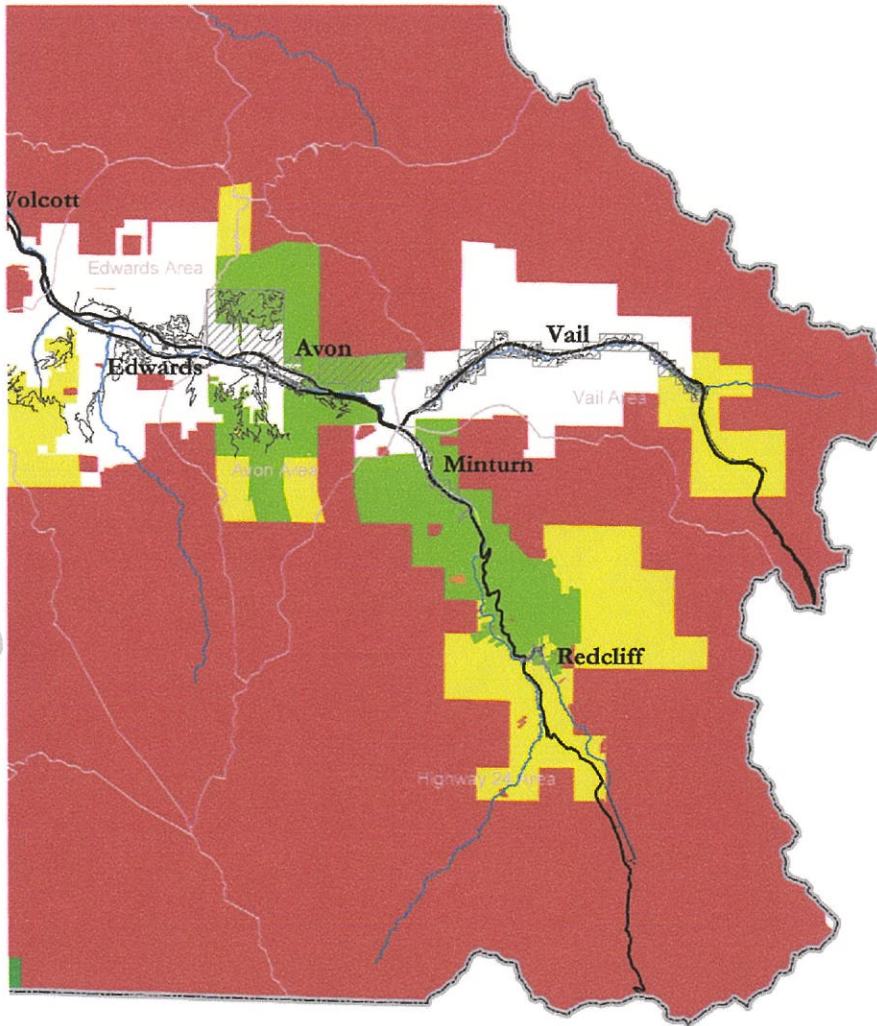
Eagle County Comprehensive Plan  
 Source: Eagle County, NWCCOG  
 Map Produced by NWCCOG GIS and Eagle County GIS Department

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 Town of Red Cliff, Colorado**





**MAP 15: PROXIMITY TO EMERGENCY SERVICES**



**Weighted Values**

	All Services	= Most Suitable
	3.6	
	3.7 - 4.1	
	4.2 - 7.9	
	8.0 - 8.4	
	8.5 - 12.0	= Least Suitable

\* Values weighted according to polls taken at public meetings

**Emergency Elements:**

- Areas within 5 miles of police/Sheriff stations
- Areas within 5 miles of fire stations
- Areas within 5 miles of ambulance stations



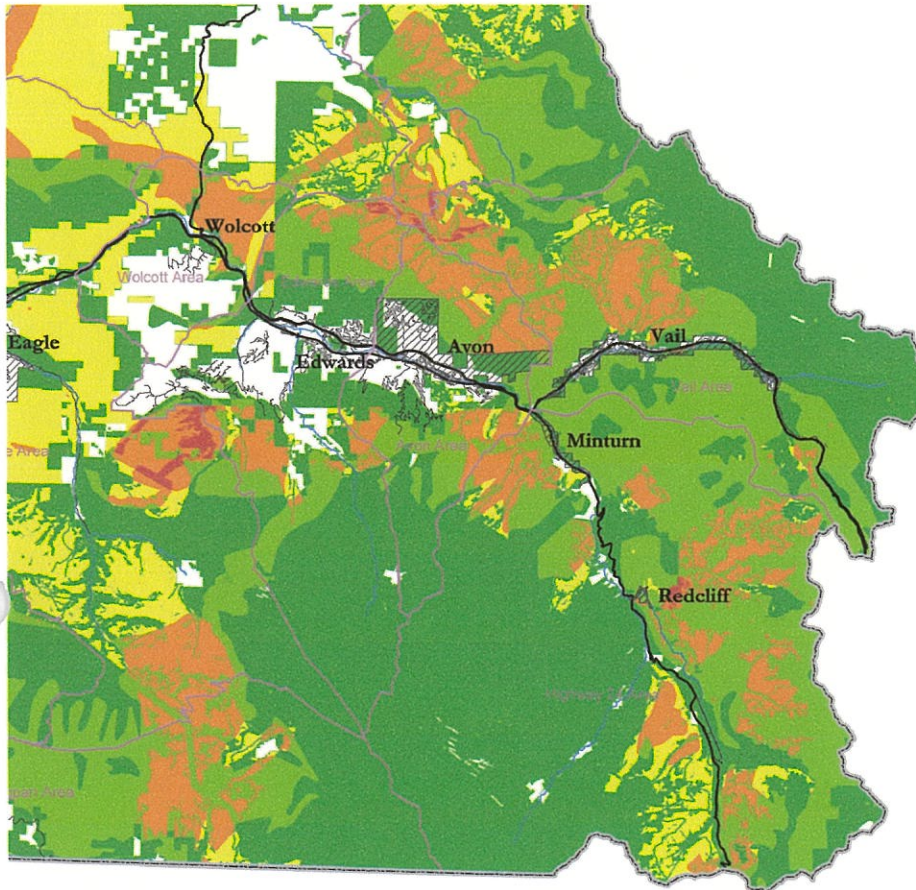
0 2.5 5 Miles

Eagle County Comprehensive Plan  
 Source: Eagle County, NWCCOG  
 Map Produced by NWCCOG GIS and Eagle County GIS Department

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**MAP 16: ECONOMIC RESOURCES**



**Weighted Values**

0	= Most Suitable
2.6 - 4.0	
5.3 - 7.0	
7.2 - 8.8	
9.1 - 11.3	
11.8 - 16.7	= Least Suitable

\* Values weighted according to polls taken at public meetings

**Map Elements:**

- Agricultural lands
- Range lands
- Areas suitable for timber harvesting
- Areas with potential for mineral resources (industrial minerals/metals, vanadium, and limestone/dolomite)
- Parcels designated as mining or natural resource areas
- Public lands
- Ski areas
- River access areas



0 2.5 5 Miles

Eagle County Comprehensive Plan  
 Source: BLM, USFS, USGS, CWCB, CGS, Eagle County  
 Map Produced by NWCCOG GIS and Eagle County GIS Department

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 Town of Red Cliff, Colorado**