

OUR SERVICES

Telecommunications

Headquartered in Durango, Colorado since 1995, SME Environmental Consultants, Inc. strives to achieve technical excellence and cost-effective environmental regulatory compliance services for public and private sector clients throughout the Four Corners region.

Communications is a growing industry in the Four Corners regions. As communities grow, demand for communication infrastructure requires the installation of fiber optic cables, cell phone towers, and overhead lines. We are capable of servicing the communications industry with linear surveys for overhead or underground cable installation and maintenance projects, migratory bird and raptor surveys, as well as any other environmental consulting need to serve the communications industry.

Services include:

- NEPA Compliance
- Wetland/Stream Delineation
- Discharge/Dewatering Permits, Stormwater Permits/Plans and Monitoring/Reporting
- Clean Water Act Section 404 Permits and Section 401 Certifications
- Construction Monitoring, Riparian/Wetland Areas and Special Status Species
- Endangered Species Act Compliance
- Hazardous Materials (Phase I/II ESAs, Testing for Asbestos and Lead)



Conejos Fiber Optic

Conejos County, Colorado

Client

Jade Communications, LLC

Services

Stormwater, Wetlands, Biological, CWA Permitting, Hazardous Materials, Paleontological Review

Project Highlights

59-mile-long study area

Accurate Stormwater BMP estimates

Deliverables

CDOT Initial Site Assessment, Biological Assessment, Stormwater Management Plan, PCN for Nationwide Permit, Class I Paleontological Resource Review (Woods Canyon)

Project Dates

Spring 2018

Jade Communications selected SME to manage environmental clearances required by CDOT for buried fiber optic utility installation within right-of-way of CO 17 west of Antonito. SME utilized GIS to identify and quantify BMPs as part of preparation of a Stormwater Management Plan. SME also prepared a CDOT Initial Site Assessment for identification of hazardous materials, facilitated CWA permitting, and performed a Biological Assessment.

The project included a wetlands delineation and stormwater management for construction adjacent to the Conejos River in the right-of-way of CO 17. Potentially impacts aquatic resources with were identified, and BMPs were identified for trenching and boring locations.



Clear Creek Fiber Optic

Creede, Colorado

Client

San Luis Valley REC

Services

Stormwater, Wetlands, CWA Permitting, Threatened and Endangered Species Evaluation, Cultural Resources

Project Highlights

Accurate Stormwater BMP estimates

Identification of avoidance areas for protected species habitat

Deliverables

PCN for Nationwide Permit, Stormwater Management Plan, Class I Cultural Resource Records Search (SEAS)

Project Dates

Summer 2018

SME provided regulatory guidance and deliverables required by CDOT for buried fiber optic utility installation within the right-of-way of CO 149 west of Creede. Southwestern Willow Flycatcher potential habitat was surveyed and a wetlands assessment was conducted within the 9.3-mile-long study area, and avoidance areas were identified for both for project routing and scheduling. SME prepared the Stormwater Management Plan, and provided locations and type of BMPs to aid SLV REC with project planning.

The installation of fiber optic cabling proposed for CO 149 was adjacent to the Rio Grande. SME provided guidance on stormwater best management practices (BMPs) placement, type, and installation for a diverse array of field settings along the nearly ten-mile long study area.

