

APPENDIX H: Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Receiving Site Relocation Criteria

Prairie Dog Conservation Area (Basic Criteria)

1. Existing burrow structure or evidence of previous occupation
2. Average prairie dog density below 10 animals/acre based on sampling plots
3. At least 1 year has passed since presence of active plague on OSMP system or bordering properties
4. Relocation will follow regulations set out in City of Boulder's Wildlife Protection Ordinance and associated city policies
5. All appropriate state, federal permits obtained and conditions of permits followed

Grassland Preserves (Full Criteria)

1. Existing burrow structure or evidence of previous occupation
2. Average prairie dog density below 10 animals/acre based on sampling plots
3. At least 1 year has passed since presence of active plague on OSMP system or bordering properties
4. Relocation will follow regulations set out in City of Boulder's Wildlife Protection Ordinance and associated city policies
5. All appropriate state, federal permits obtained and conditions of permits followed
6. Grassland preserve is below 10% threshold occupancy- as identified in Grassland Ecosystem Management Plan Black-tailed Prairie Dog and Associates viability standards
7. Vegetation and habitat within receiving site meets the following minimum standards:
 - a. Average bare ground no more than 22% cover
 - b. Average native species richness at least 18 species
 - c. Average relative cover of native perennial graminoid species at least 60%
 - d. Average sensitive/conservative species richness at least 4 speciesBased on at least 3 transects within each habitat type on the receiving site.
8. Majority of receiving site has been identified as exhibiting Good or Very Good Habitat Suitability in OSMP's prairie dog HSM. Relocation should begin in areas with highest suitability.