

The FIT Principle: fundamentals for the practice of wetland restoration

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FIT Principle

Cucumber Gulch, Breckenridge, Colorado USA

FIT Principle

Form and Function

Project goals, objectives, and performance standards crafted to replace form, function, and processes

Investigate and Integrate

Ecological and cultural evaluation of the restoration area, potential reference sites, and the greater watershed

Technique and Time

A dedication to sound science with thoughtful and informed project planning, design, implementation, and monitoring

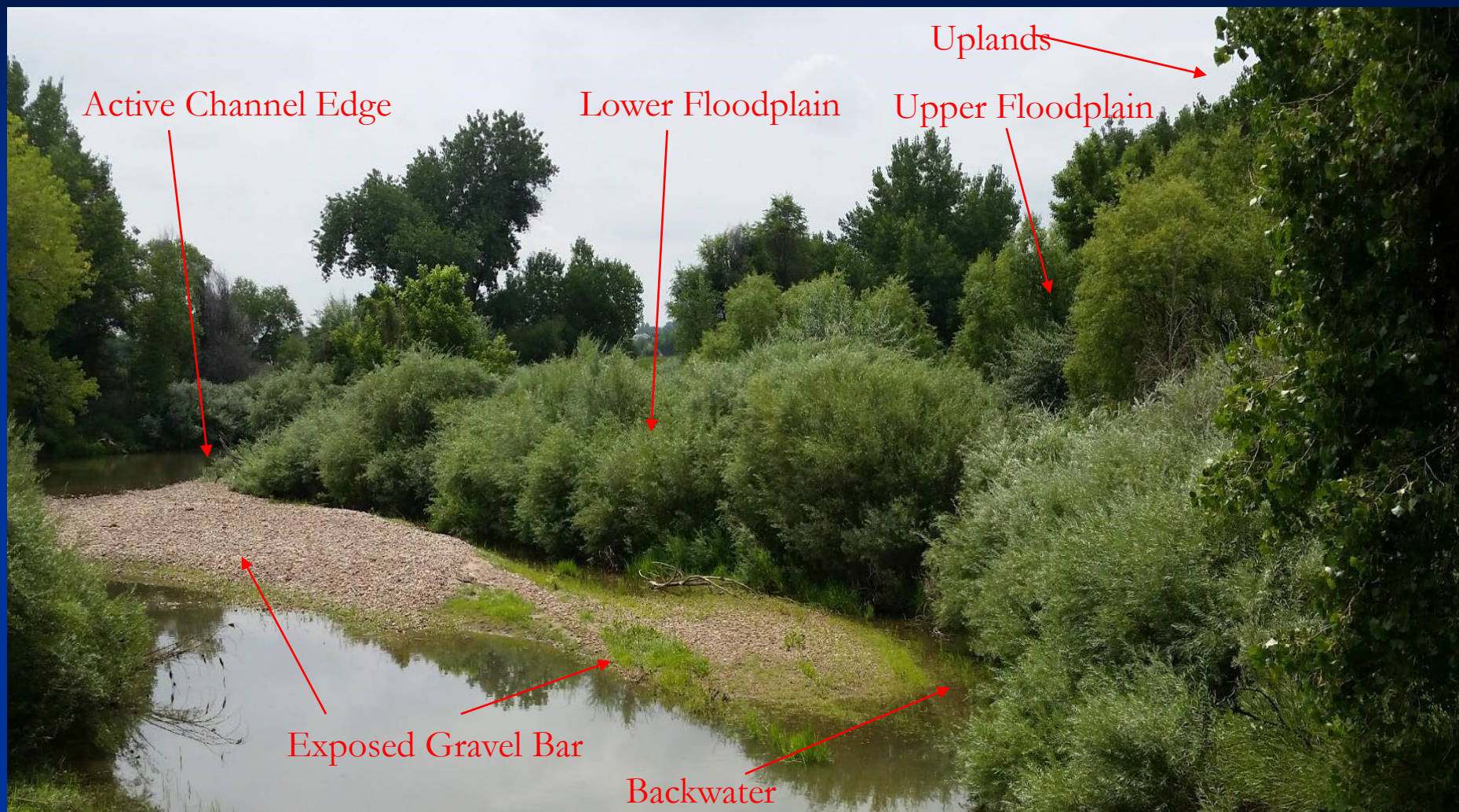
An aerial photograph of a mountainous landscape. The terrain is covered in green vegetation, with a winding road or path visible. The lighting creates shadows that emphasize the topography. The text 'Investigate and Integrate' is overlaid on the left side of the image.

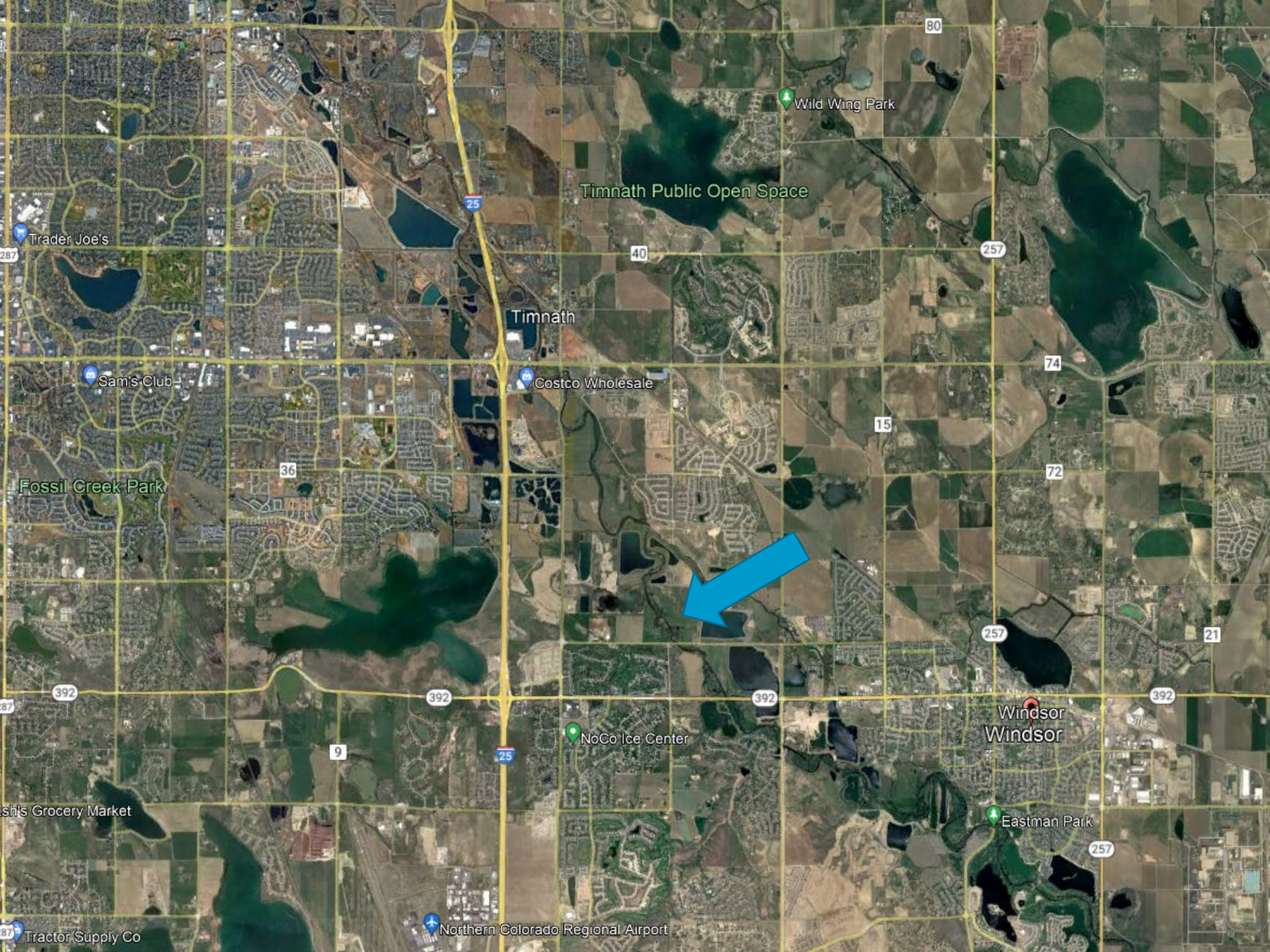
Investigate and Integrate

Cucumber Gulch, Breckenridge, Colorado USA

Investigate and Integrate

- Understanding the problem
 - Processes, not just form and function
 - Need to consider historic and current conditions
 - Increases in simpler wetland types
 - Watershed scale assessment
 - Site specific assessment
 - Stakeholder engagement
 - Reference sites





80

Wild Wing Park

Timnath Public Open Space

40

257

74

72

15

21

257

392

Windsor
Windsor

Eastman Park

257

25

Timnath

Costco Wholesale

36

Sam's Club

Trader Joe's

Fossil Creek Park

392

392

392

9

25

NoCo Ice Center

ish's Grocery Market

Tractor Supply Co

Northern Colorado Regional Airport

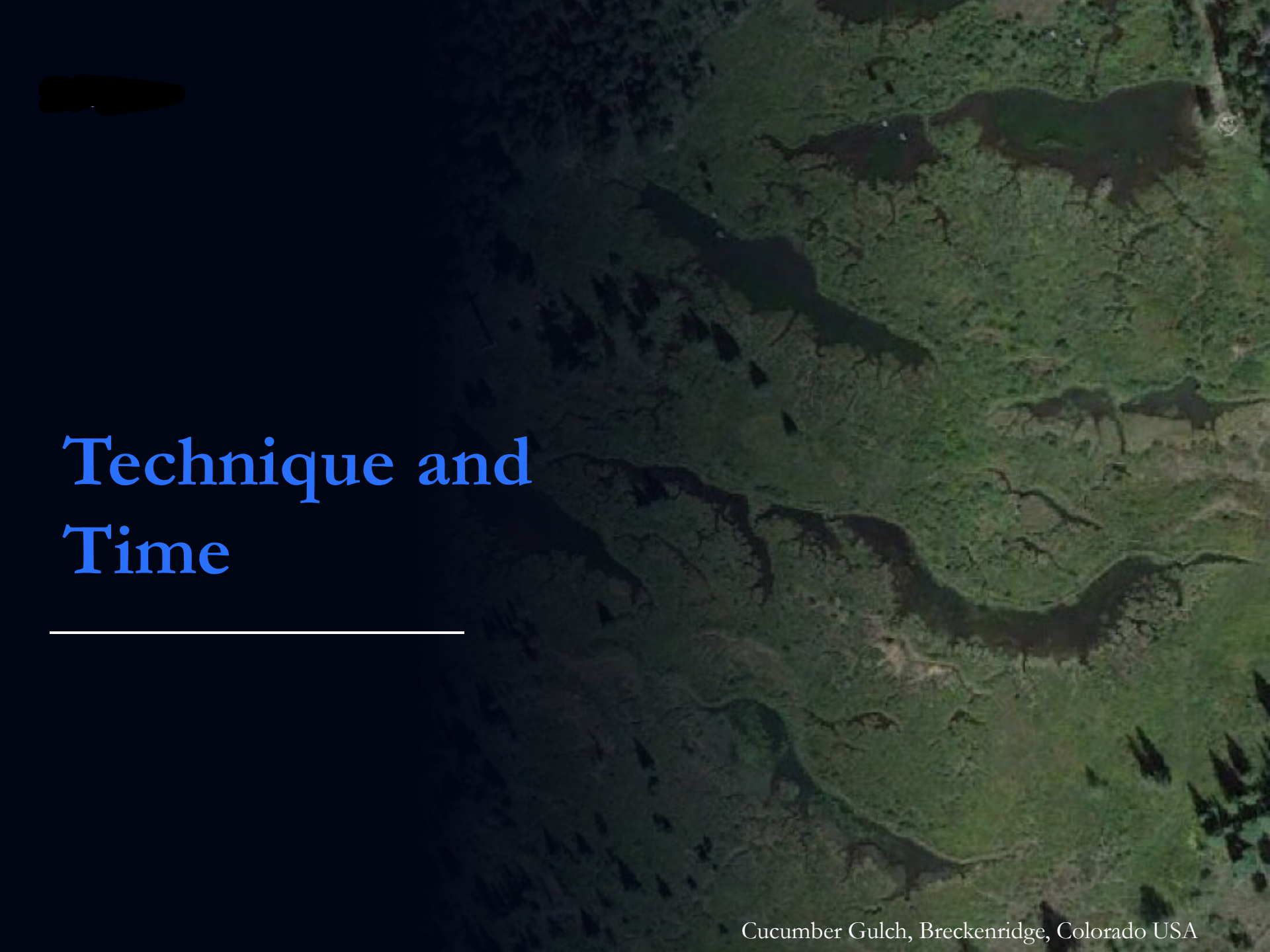
Form and Function

Cucumber Gulch, Breckenridge, Colorado USA

Form and Function

- Goals and objectives
 - Goals: high-level, to guide project
 - Objectives: support goals, specific, measurable
- Thoughtful performance standards





Technique and Time

Cucumber Gulch, Breckenridge, Colorado USA

Macrotopography



Microtopography

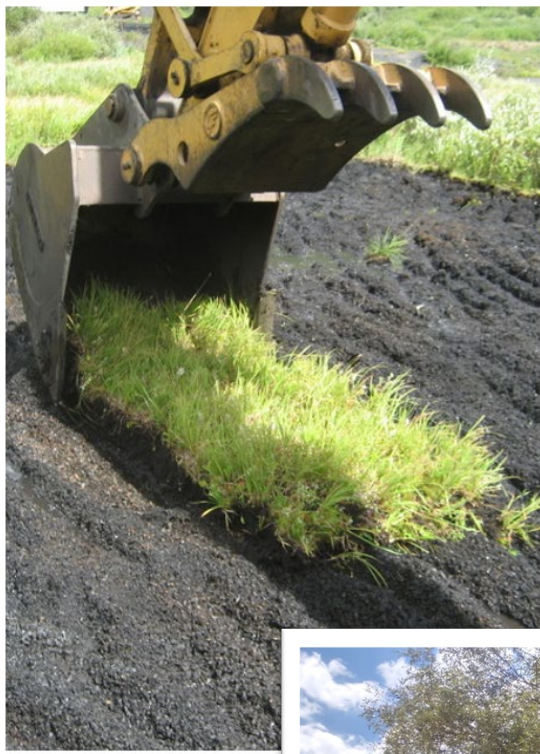


Macrotopography



Microtopography

Live Transplants





Planting With Equipment

Planting With Equipment





Using Appropriately-Sized Plants

Project Examples

Cucumber Gulch, Breckenridge, Colorado USA



Flow

Google





Flow



Photo credit: Otak



Flow



Photo credit: Otak



Flow









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