

# LANDS USES

## Boundary adjustments; special uses

*Through direct land management practices, the Lands and Realty management program of the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland (ARP) enables the agency to capture opportunities to consolidate landownership patterns through exchange, acquisition, and conveyance of lands; meet the needs of adjacent landowners and the public for energy, utilities, access, communications and transportation; secure and protect the rights, title, land, and resources of public land by providing legally defensible boundaries; and assure the public receives a fair return for use or conveyance of public assets.*



Denver Water Siphon 1 project at the base of Winter Park Resort on Sulphur Ranger District.

## LANDS 2013FACTS

- Issued **114 special use authorizations**.
- Acquired **832 acres of land and three easements** across private property.
- Administered **521 special use permits and easements**.



In 2013, the ARP acquired the "Toll" property.

▶ The ARP acquired 823 acres in Gilpin County, benefiting recreational access to NFS land and wildlife habitat; and acquired nine acres in the **James Peak Wilderness**, helping to protect wilderness values.

▶ The Forest completed a land exchange with the **Sugar Loaf Fire Protection District** in Boulder County. This exchange benefitted the Forest Service by conveying two parcels to the Protection District and acquiring a parcel that eliminates an inholding within the National Forest.

▶ After the September Flood, the Canyon Lakes District (CLRD) began collaboration with **Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT)** and **City of Loveland** on relocation of a segment of the Big Thompson River after the city's Idywilde reservoir and dam were damaged. Efforts at reclamation will continue over several years after the City applies to surrender its **Federal Energy Regulation Commission** license for the dam and reservoir. CLRD also worked with utility companies to authorize emergency power and phone line repairs.

▶ **Denver Water** is in the process of replacing its aging system of siphons, buried pipe and open canals that help convey water from the western slope into tunnels that run through the Continental Divide to communities along the Front Range. In 2013, Denver Water replaced and buried Siphon 1, a 1,200-foot section of 72-inch steel pipe, 900 feet on SRD at **Winter Park Resort**.

▶ The ARP accomplished 25 miles of **boundary line location** in 2013 for land conveyances and abandoned mine projects, including 22 miles within the High Park Fire burned area.

▶ An easement was granted to Clear Creek County to allow road improvements on Squaw Pass (CR 103), part of the Mount Evans Scenic Byway, which included an **ascending 4-foot bike lane** on this popular road biking route.

▶ The Forest gave approval to CDOT to install a **remote avalanche mitigation system** adjacent to U.S. Highway 40 on **Berthoud Pass**. The system, the first of its kind in Colorado, will use oxygen and propane to create an **explosion on the snow surface to trigger avalanches**, eliminating the need for Howitzer launchers and artillery shells. The goal is reduced road closure times for U.S. 40.