



Idaho locations: Boise, Coeur d' Alene, Lewiston, and McCall

December
16, 2025



CITY OF ST. ANTHONY, IDAHO RIVER PARK OPPORTUNITIES

Presented to: Henry's Fork Watershed Council Annual Meeting

Henry's Fork Watershed Council

Attending Today



Fritz Doster, P.E.

Senior Project Engineer
fritz.doster@merrick.com



Sam Swanson, E.I.T.

Project Engineer
sam.swanson@merrick.com



Steven Walton

Whitewater Technical Manager
steven.walton@merrick.com



Fast Facts about Merrick's

Whitewater Team

20+ River Park Specialists

18 Constructed River Parks
(and counting...)

10+ States Served

Our Team Includes:

Professional Engineers (PEs)
Certified Floodplain Managers (CFMs)
Landscape Architects (PLAs)
Modeling Specialists
Construction Services Support Staff
Funding Specialists
Whitewater Paddlers, Surfers & River Users
Emergency Response Specialists



Henry's Fork Watershed Council

What is a River Park?

A park designed to attract people to the river by:

- Mitigating hazards
- Improving access
- Providing passage for boaters and fish
- Adding whitewater features for recreation
- **All while maintaining & improving diversion function**



Thurman Mill Diversion in 2010...

...and the Boise Whitewater Park in 2012



MERRICK®
WHITEWATER

Boise Whitewater Park

Boise, ID



The Merrick Approach



1. Idea Conception
2. Site Identification + Feasibility
3. Identify Funding Sources
4. Stakeholder Outreach
5. Site Selection
6. Preliminary Design
7. Go/No Go Decision
8. Permitting
9. Final Design
10. Construction
11. Start-up and Tuning
12. Operations and Maintenance
13. Meet Us at the River!

We are here

Henry's Fork Watershed Council Acknowledgements

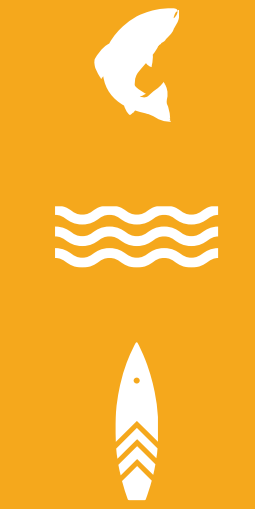
Acknowledgements:

Tessa Schuldies – St. Anthony City Council

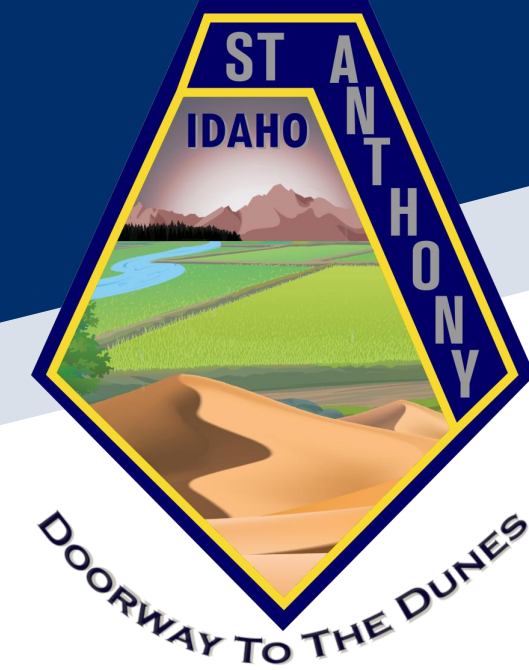
Greg and Taylor Barlow – Star Bar

Greg Grant – Parks & Recreation Director

Matt Hively and Christina Morrisett – Henry's Fork Foundation

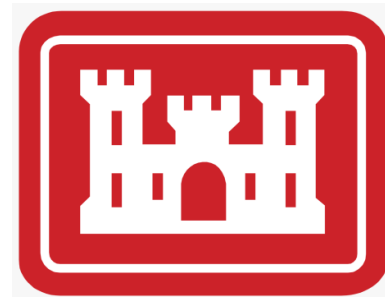


St. Anthony River Park Stakeholder Engagement



Outreach to Date

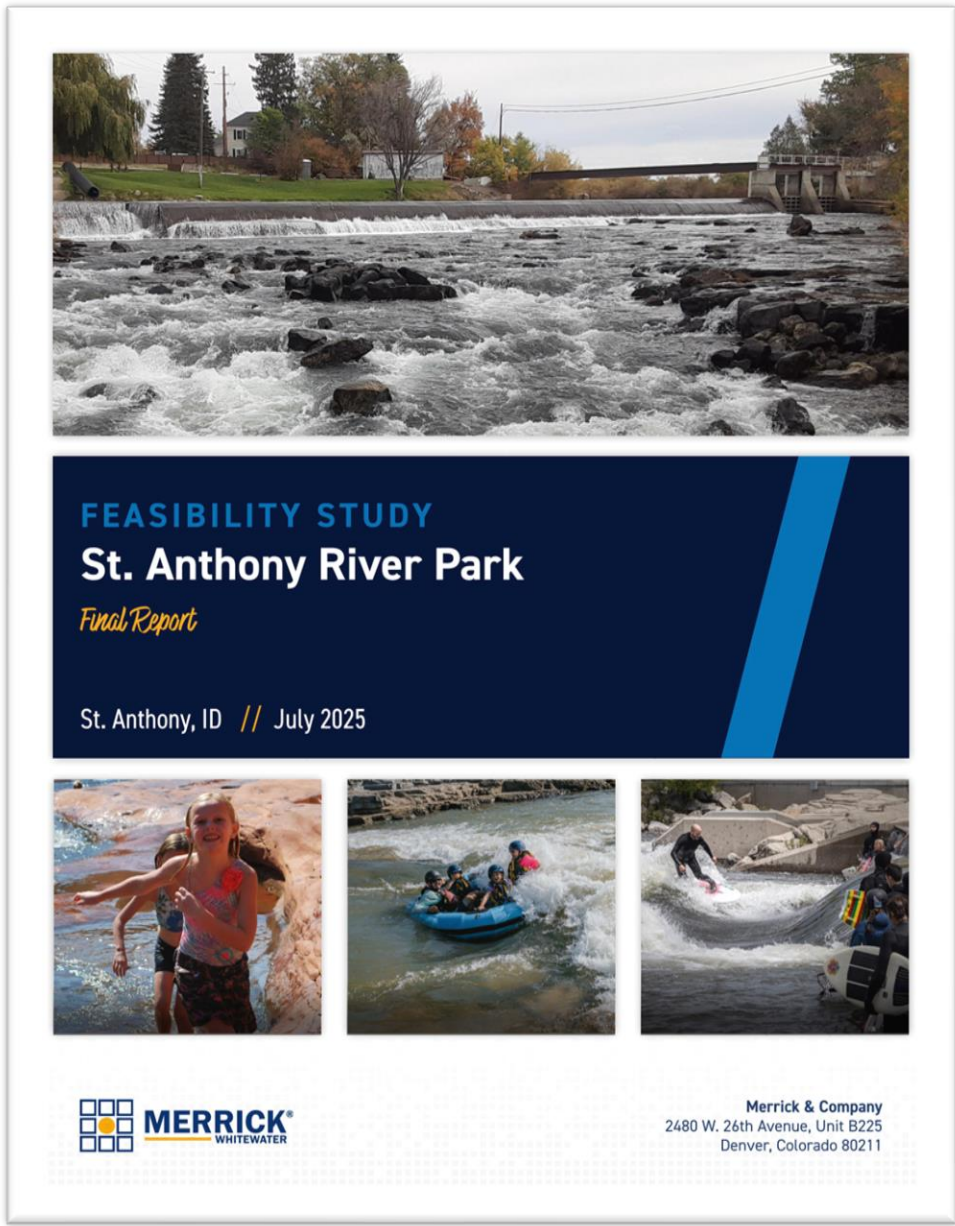
- St. Anthony City Council
- St. Anthony Parks & Rec Committee
- Irrigation District
- St. Anthony Hydro
- Community Advocates



Additional Stakeholders

- Fremont County Commissioners
- Henry's Fork Foundation
- Angling Community
- American Whitewater
- Hydropower Coalition
- Idaho Department of Water Resources
- United States Army Corps of Engineers
- Idaho Fish and Game
- Adjacent Land-Owners

St. Anthony River Park Timeline



St. Anthony River Park Alternatives Development

Study Objectives:

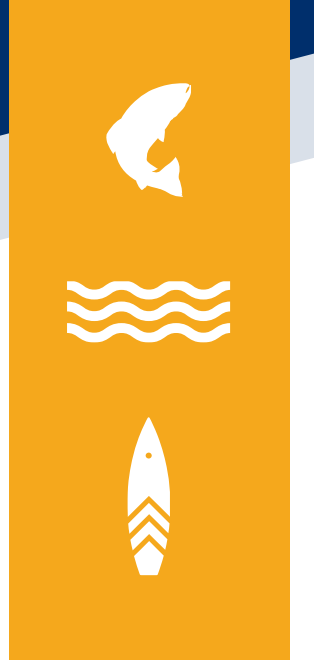
- Improve **river safety** in corridor
- Create new and enhance existing **river recreation** experiences
- Serve as an **economic driver for St. Anthony**



St. Anthony River Park Alternatives Development

River Safety

- Reduce hazards at diversions
- Improved diversion control
- Provide fish and boater passage



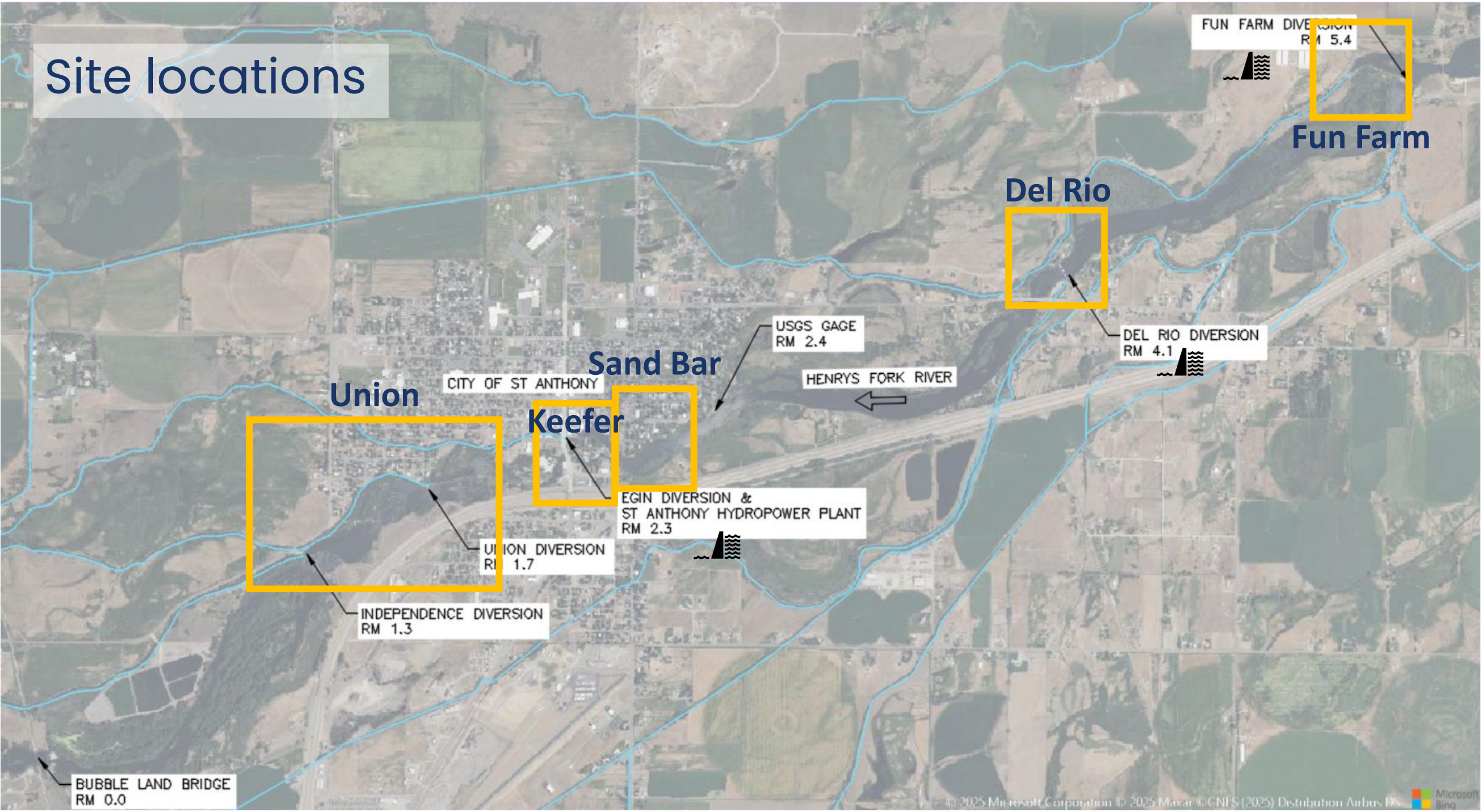
St. Anthony River Park Alternatives Development

River Recreation

- Standing waves for river surfing and kayaking
- Extend river float
- Improve river access for anglers and floaters



St. Anthony River Park Site Assessment



St. Anthony River Park

Site Assessment



Flow

50 – 300 cfs: Tubing

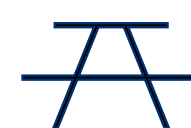
> 300 cfs: High-Performance



Drop

0.5 – 4 ft: Tubing & nature play

> 4 ft: High-Performance



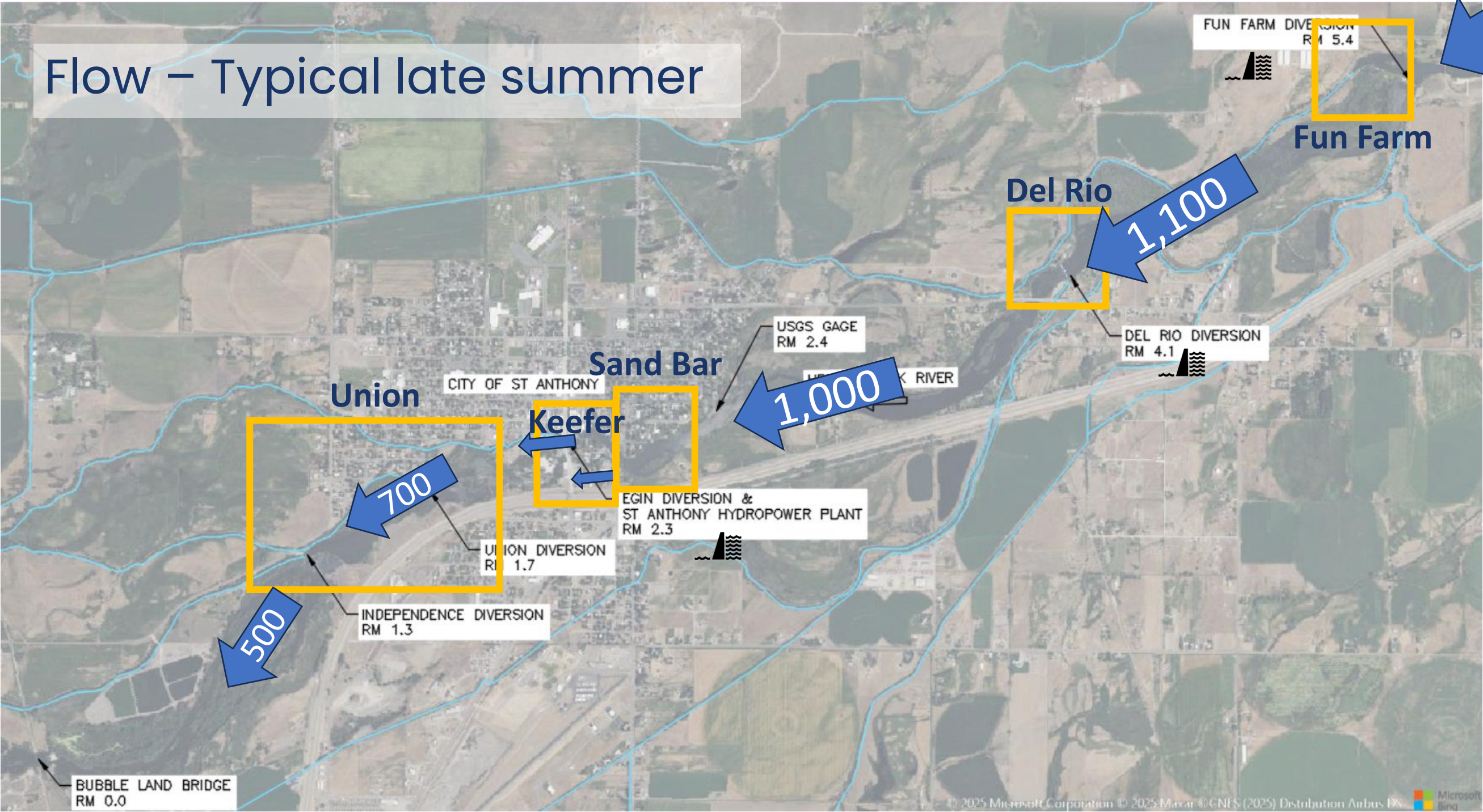
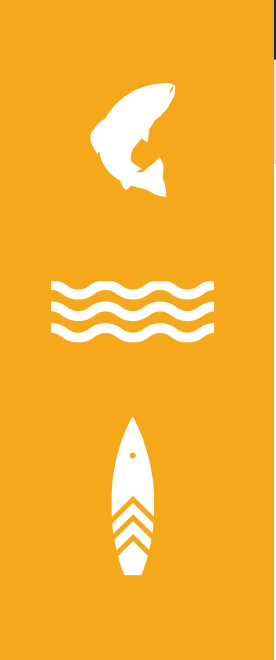
Access

Close to economic center

Public river access



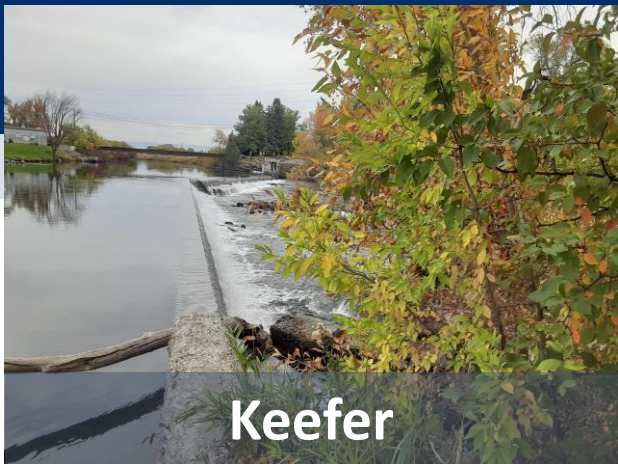
St. Anthony River Park Site Assessment



St. Anthony River Park Site Assessment



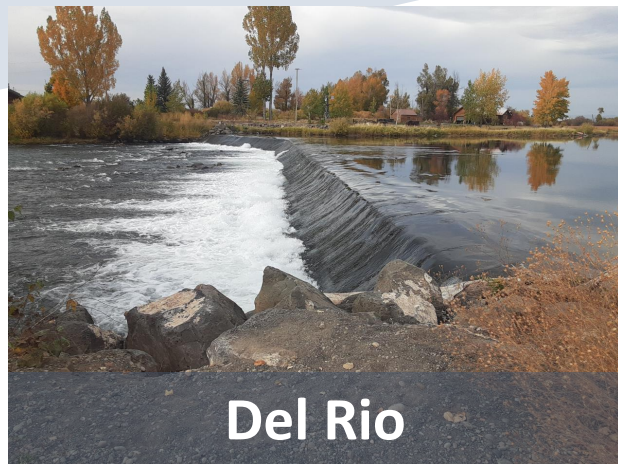
Union



Keefer



Sand Bar

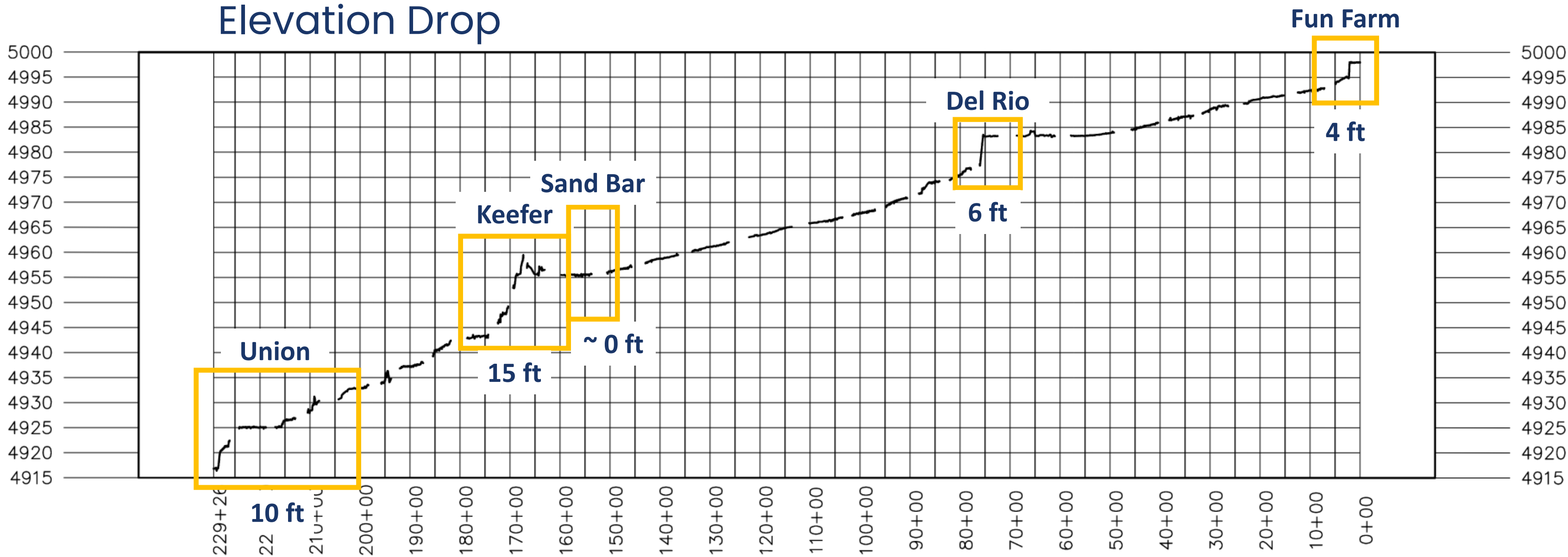


Del Rio

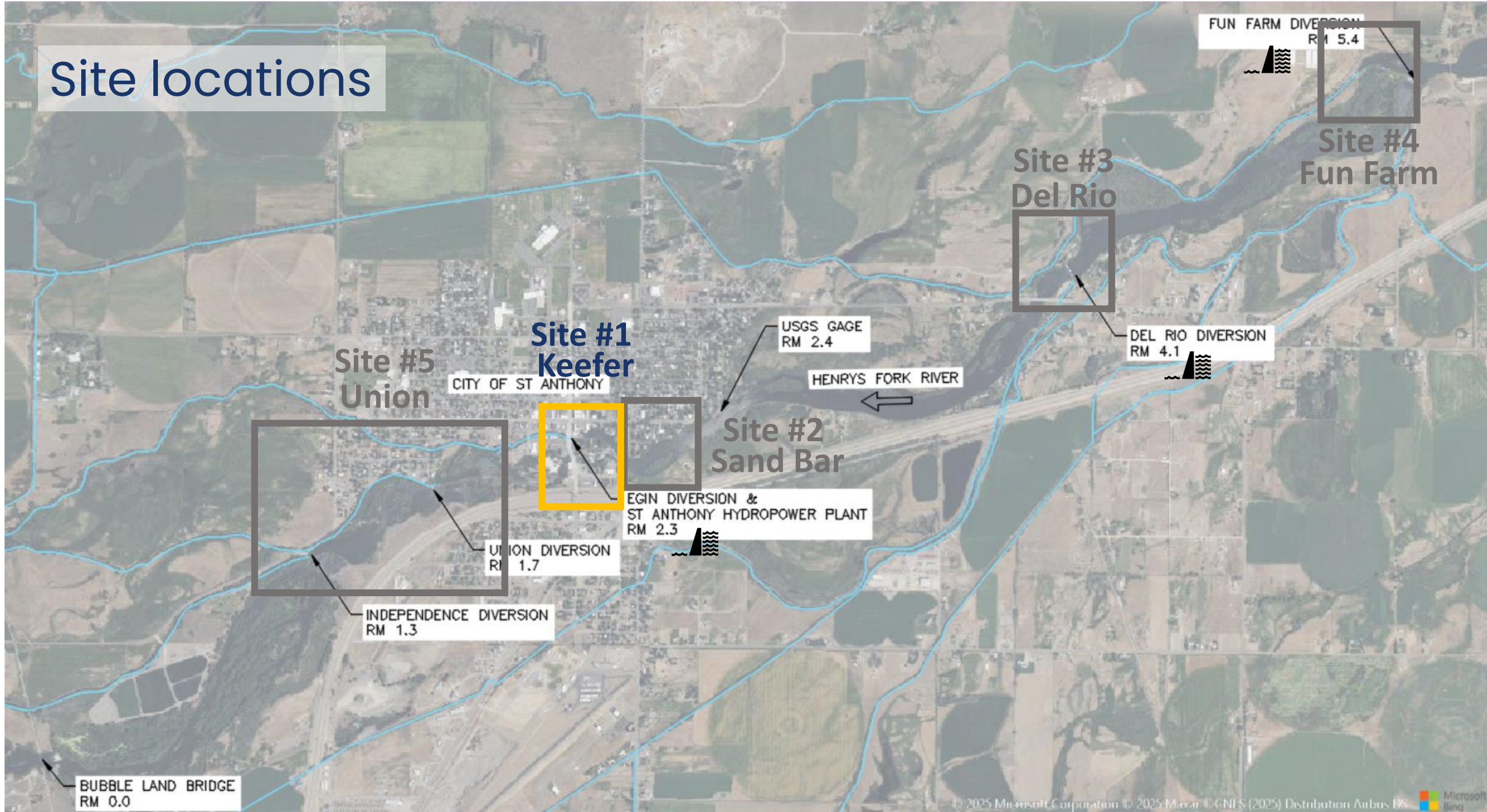


Fun Farm

Elevation Drop



St. Anthony River Park Alternatives Development





Nature Play Area – Proposed Site

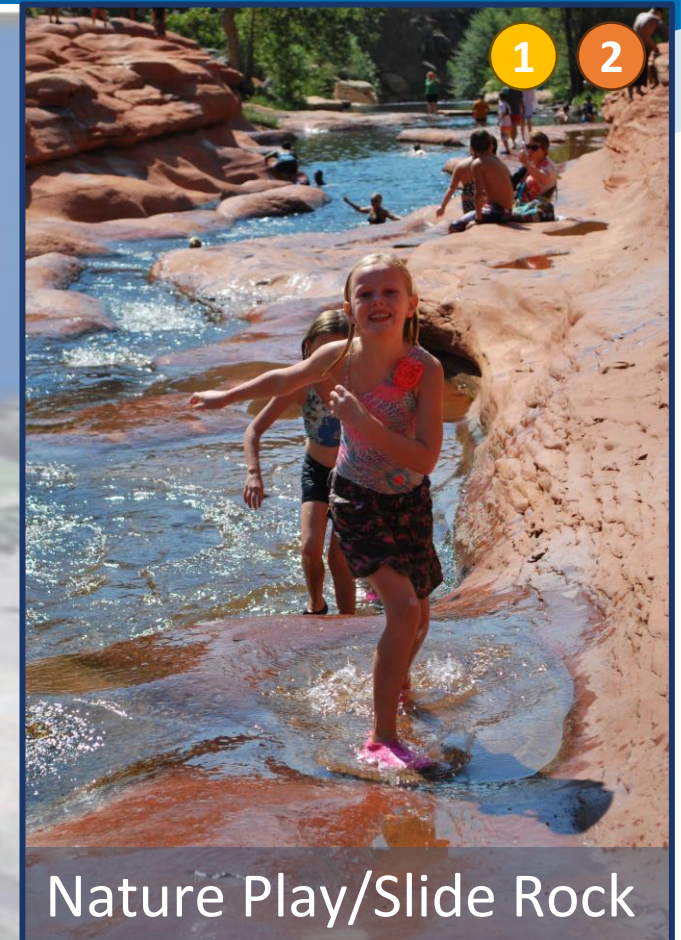
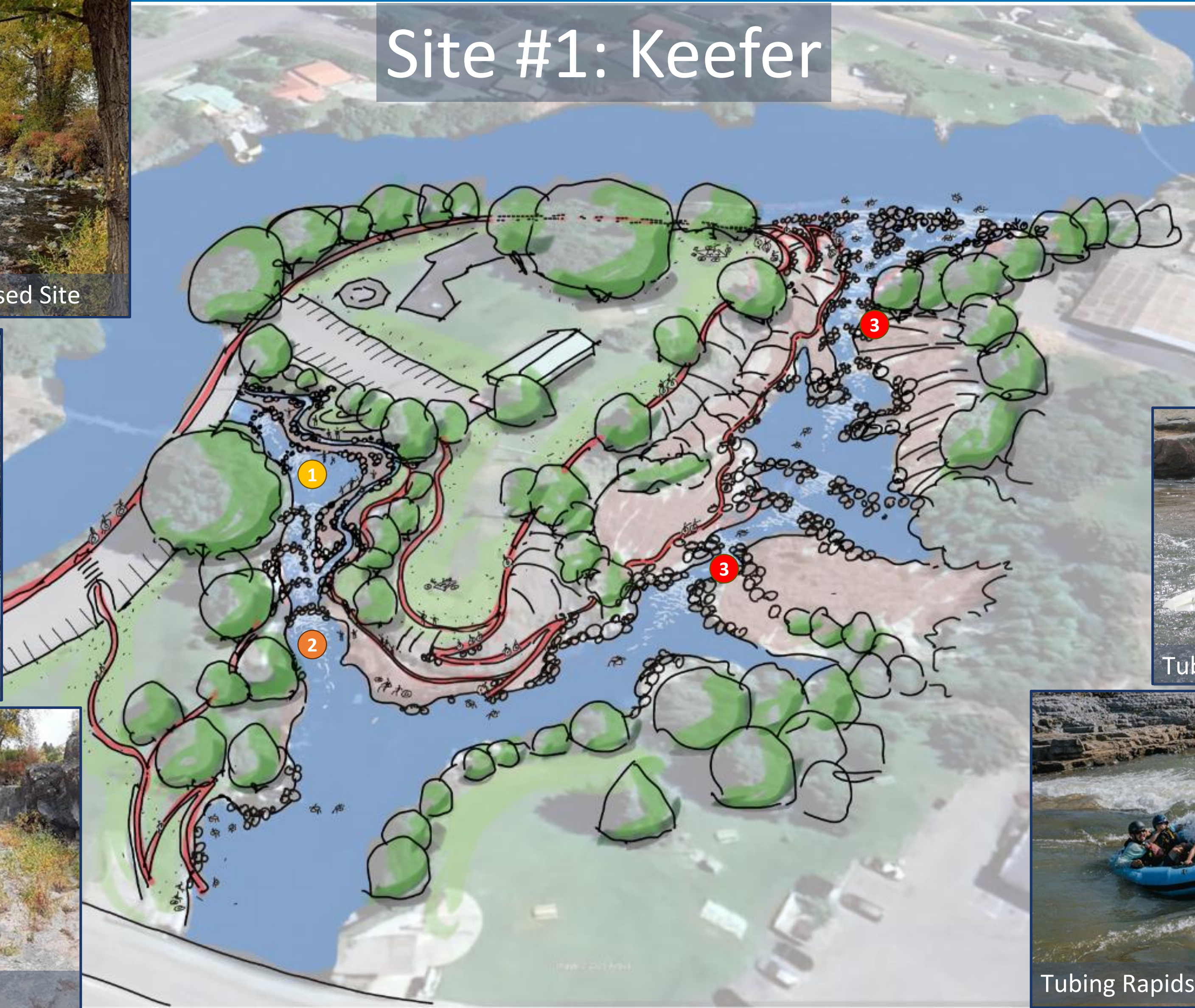


Slide Rock

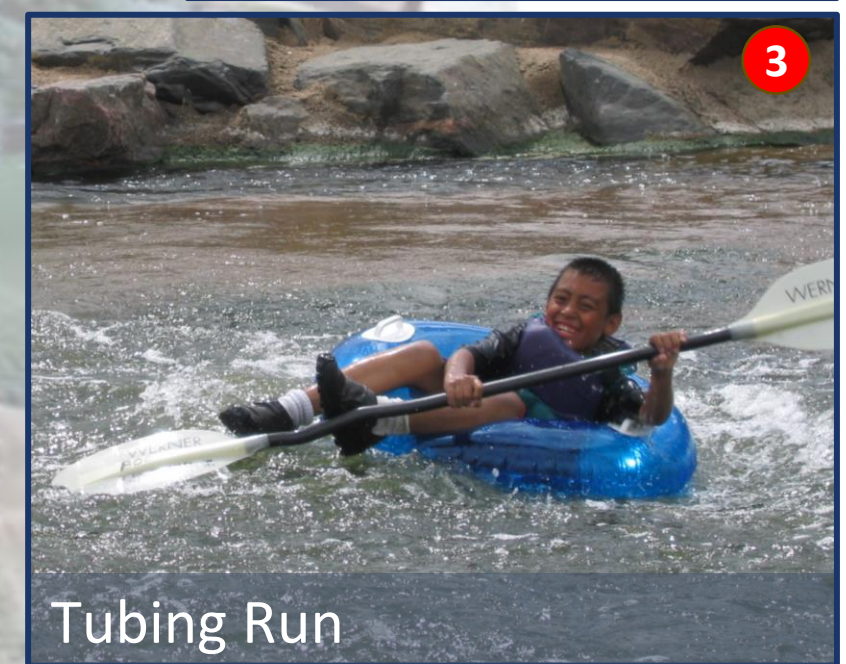


Slide Rock – Proposed Site

Site #1: Keefer



Nature Play/Slide Rock

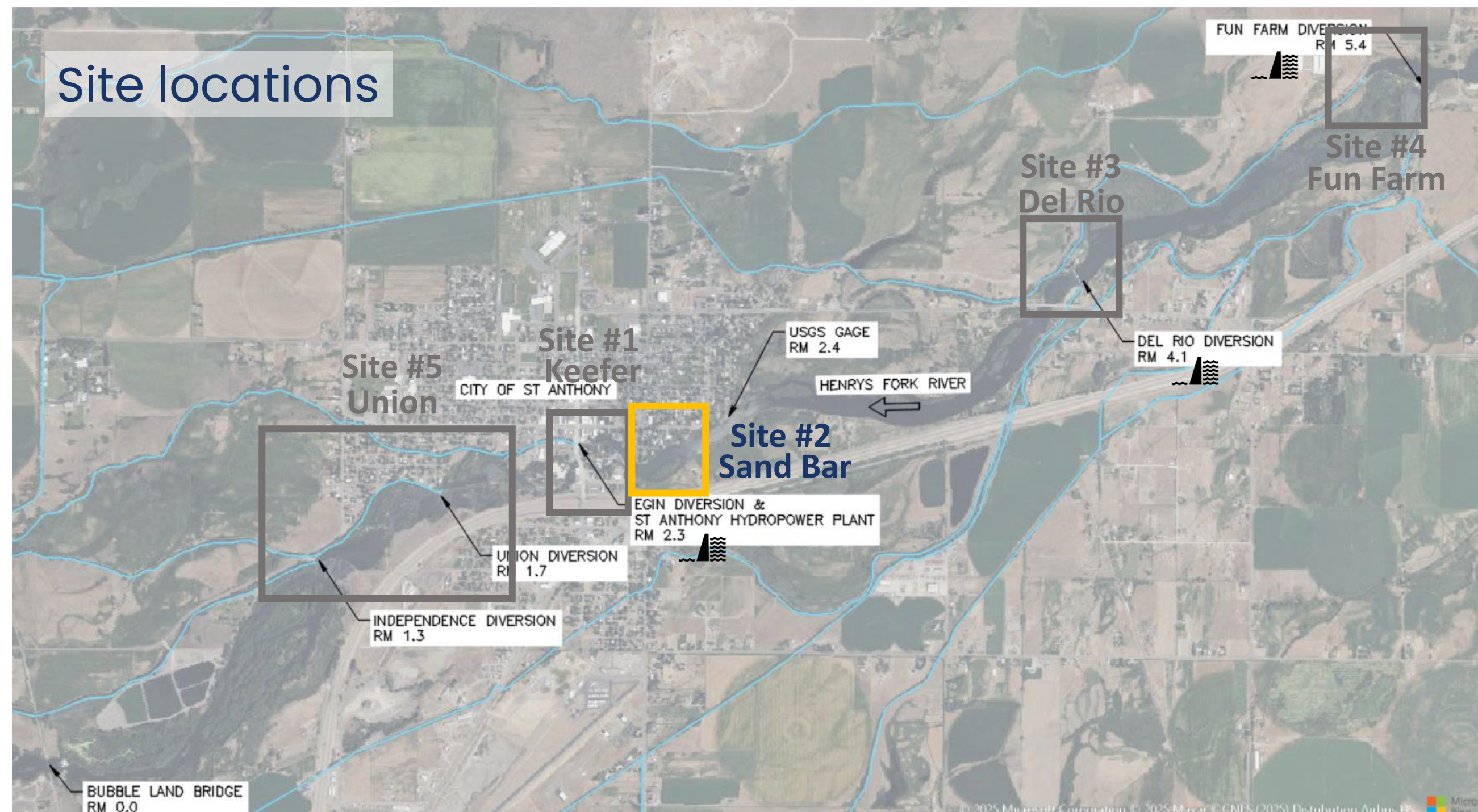


Tubing Run



Tubing Rapids

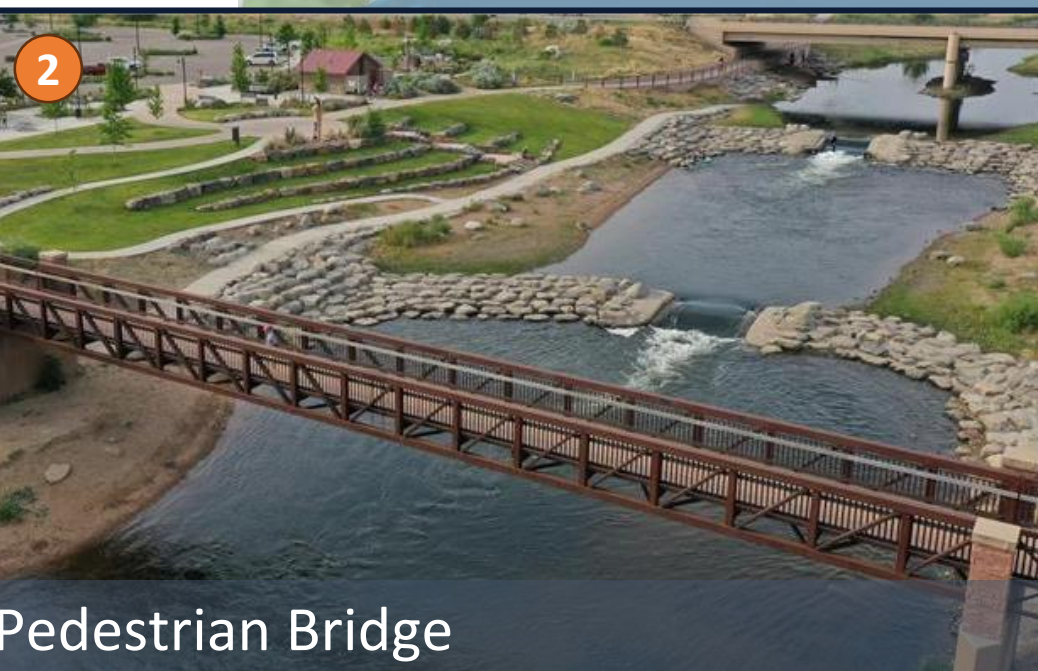
St. Anthony River Park Alternatives Development



Site #2: Sand Bar



Surf Feature – Green Wave



Pedestrian Bridge



Bypass Channel – Rafts and Tubes

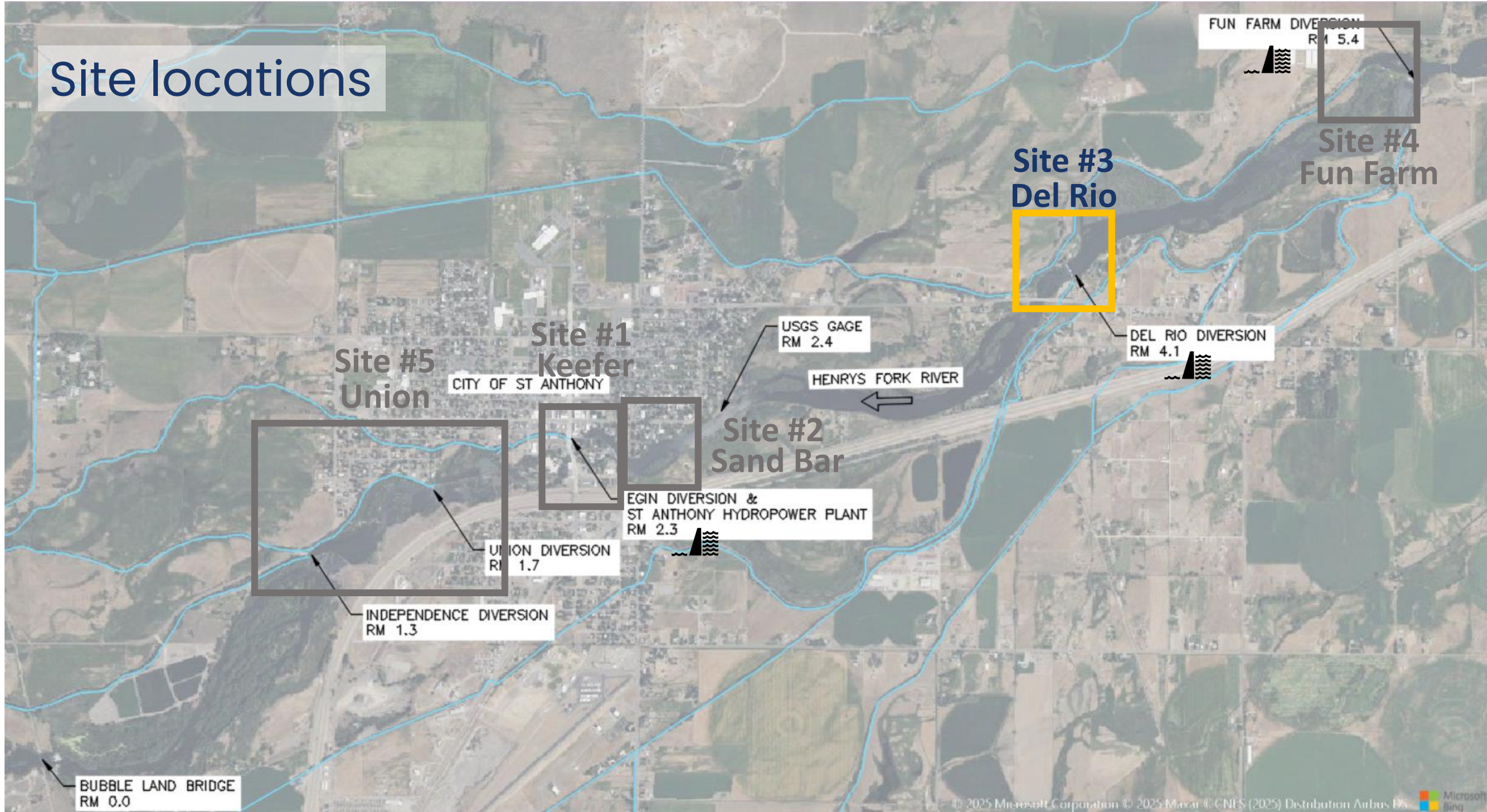


Bypass Channel – Drift Boats



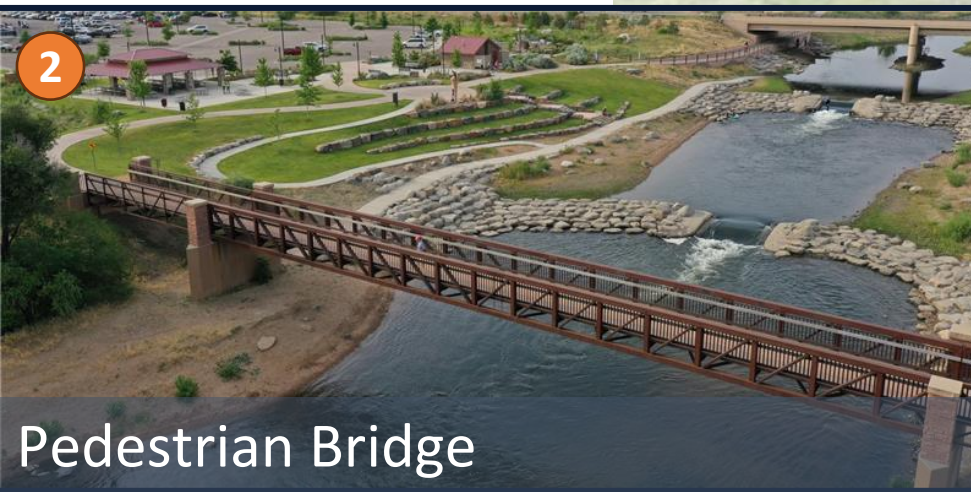
Bypass Channel – Fish

St. Anthony River Park Alternatives Development





Bypass Channel – Rafts and Tubes



Pedestrian Bridge



Bypass Channel – Drift Boats



Site #3: Del Rio



Kayak Features

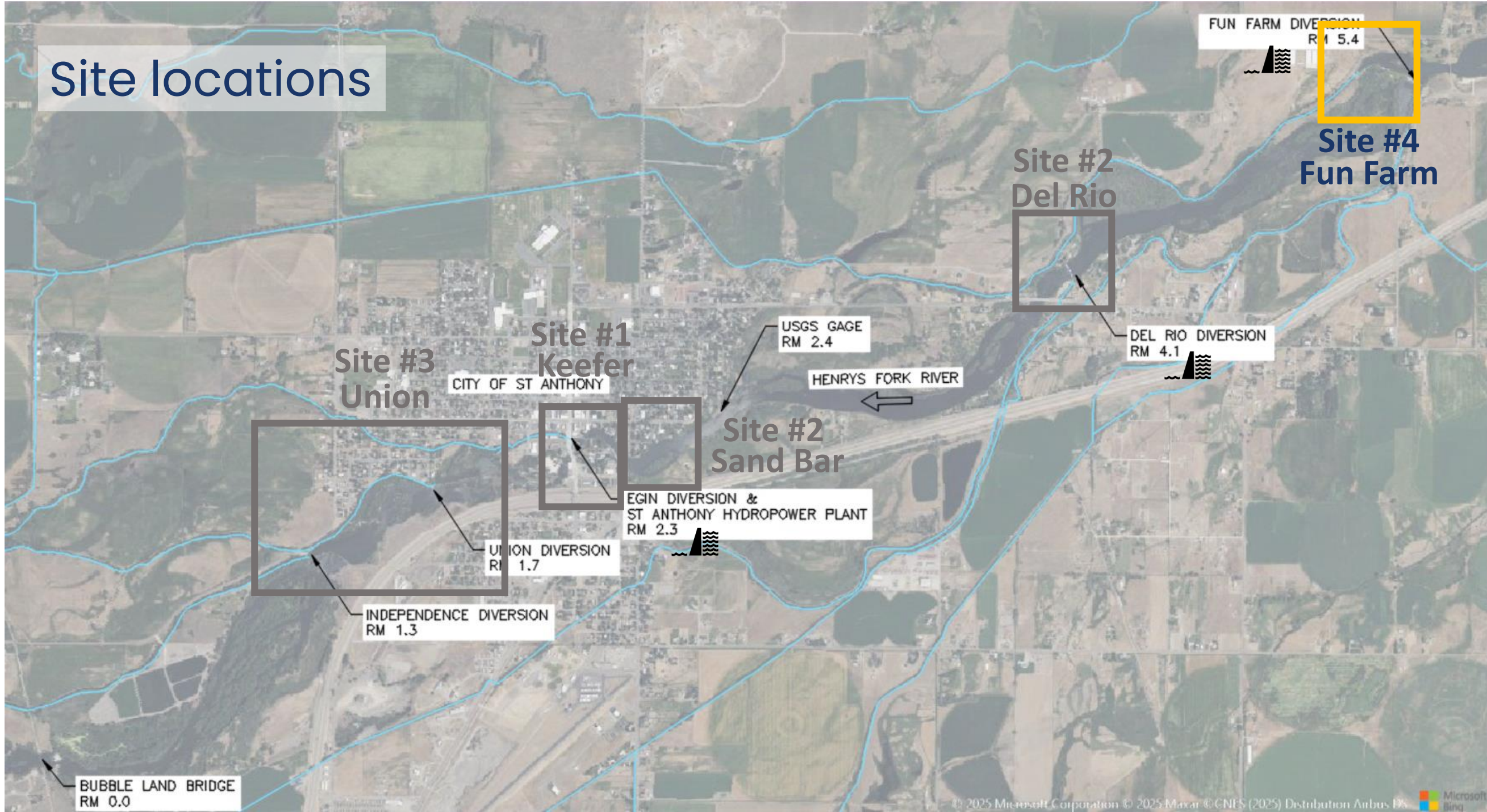


Surf Feature – Green Wave



Bypass Channel – Fish

St. Anthony River Park Alternatives Development





Dam Hazard Mitigation



Bypass Channel



Fish Passage



Multi-User Passage

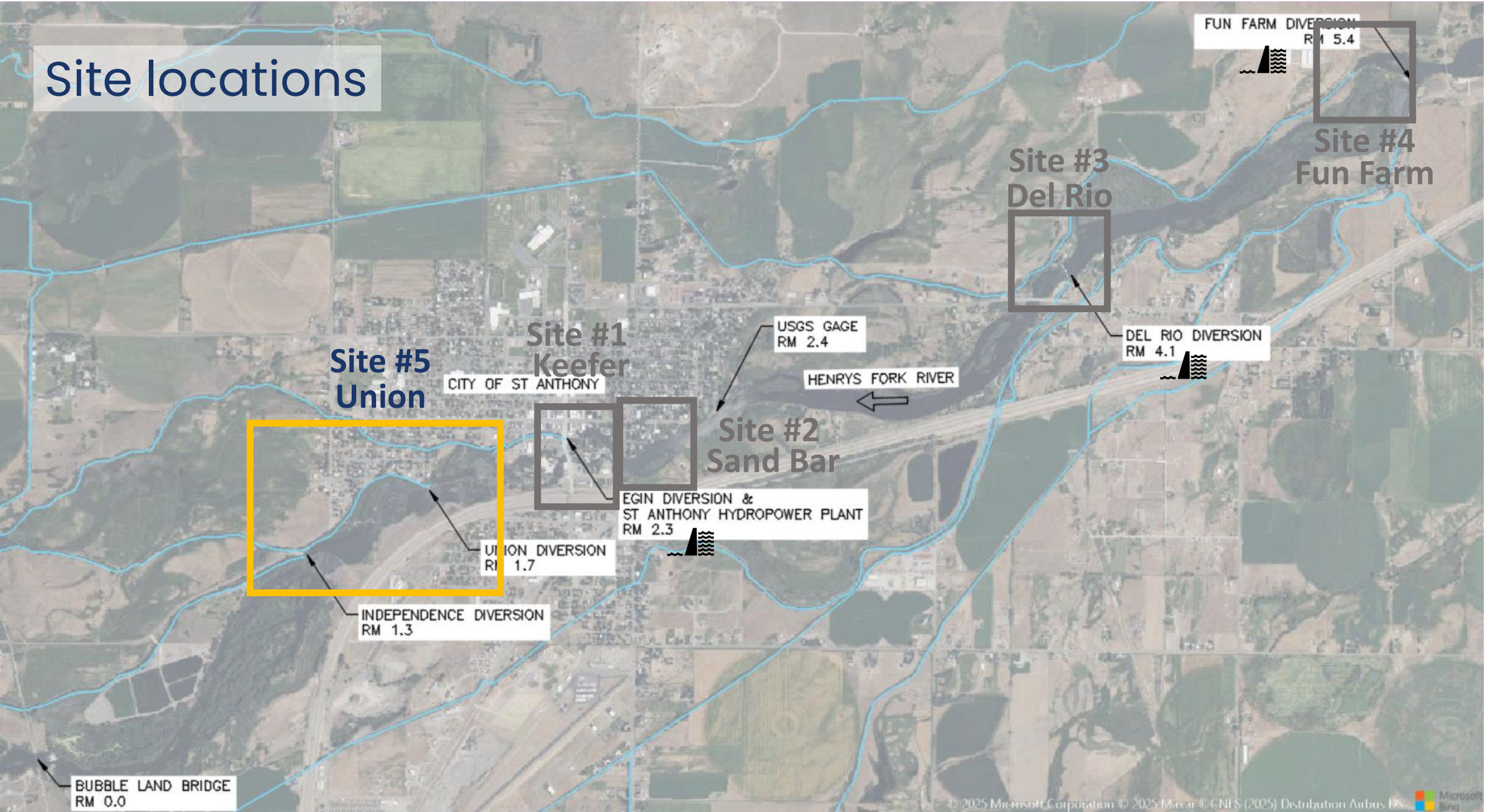


Site #4: Fun Farm



Tubing & Float Trip

St. Anthony River Park Alternatives Development

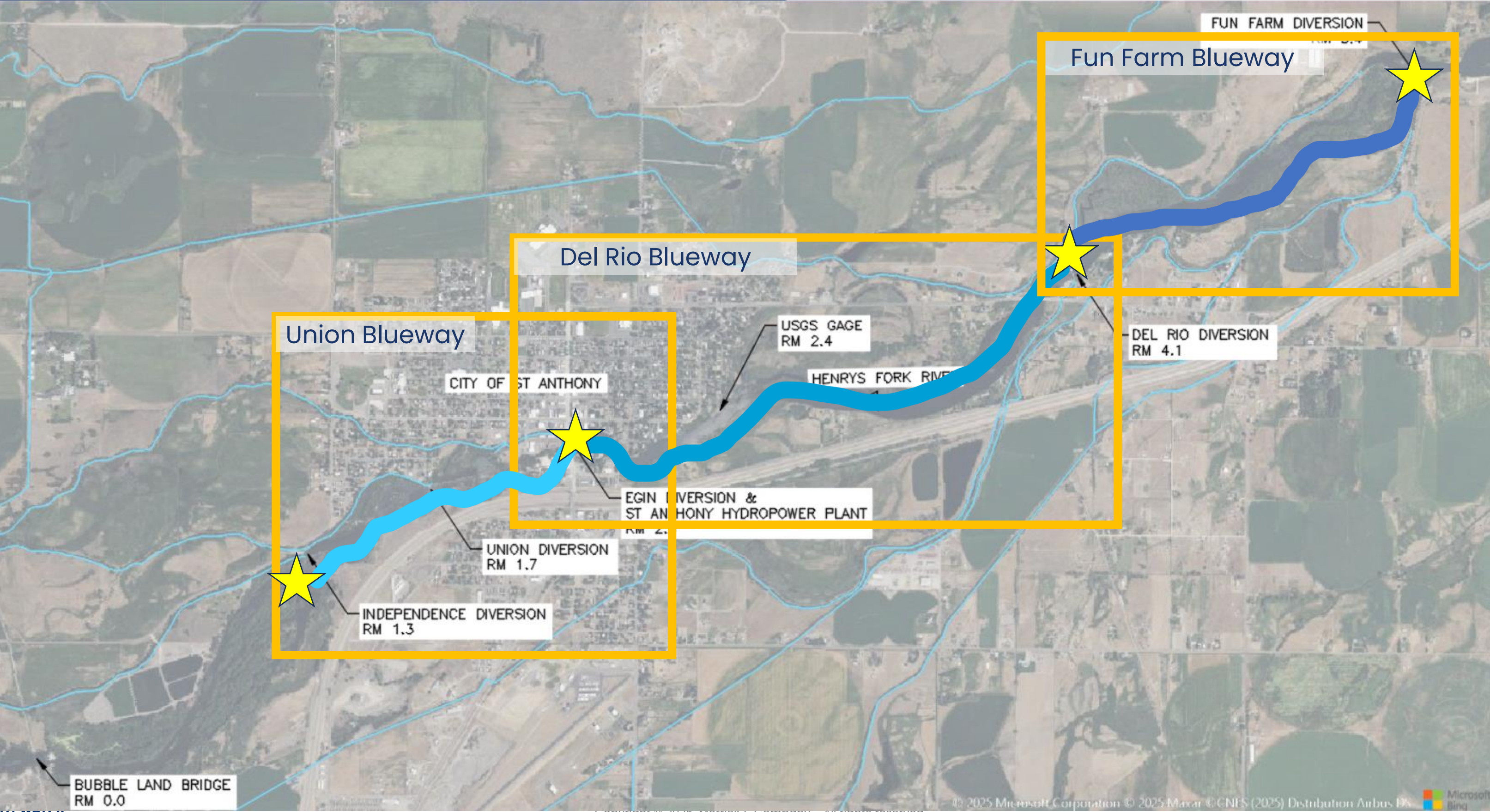
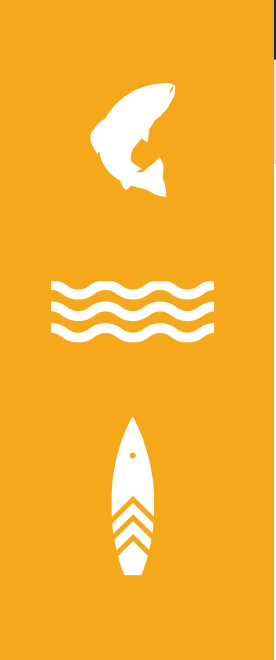




Site #5: Union



St. Anthony River Park Blueway Concepts



Next Steps



1. Idea Conception
2. Site Identification + Feasibility
3. Identify Funding Sources
4. Stakeholder Outreach
5. **Site Selection**
6. **Preliminary Design**
7. Go/No Go Decision
8. Permitting
9. Final Design
10. Construction
11. Start-up and Tuning
12. Operations and Maintenance
13. Meet Us at the River!

Thank you

Fritz Doster, P.E.

Senior Project Engineer
fritz.doster@merrick.com



Sam Swanson, E.I.T.

Project Engineer
sam.swanson@merrick.com



Steven Walton

Whitewater Technical Manager
steven.walton@merrick.com



MERRICK®
WHITEWATER

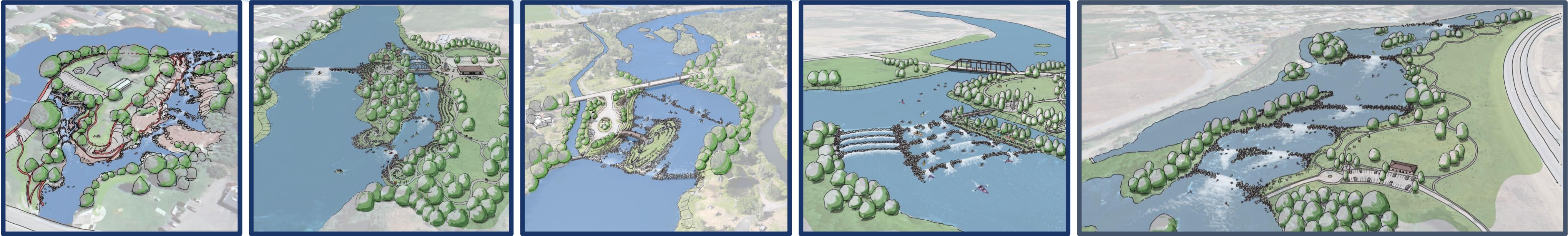
St Anthony, Idaho

River Park Opportunities

Appendix

St Anthony River Park

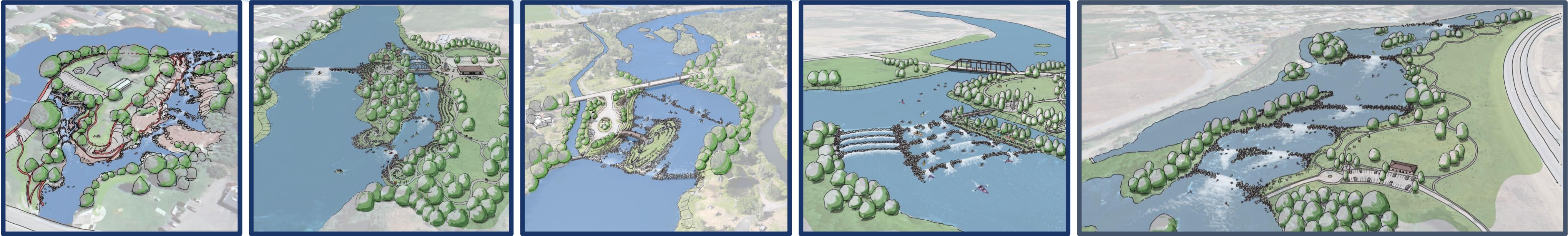
Alternatives Comparison



Project Type	Keefer Park	Sand Bar Surf	Del Rio	Fun Farm	Union & Independent
Dam hazard mitigation	✓		✓	✓	✓
Diversion control improvements			✓	✓	✓
Downstream passage	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tubing channel	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Surf wave*		✓	✓		
Extend river float	✓		✓	✓	✓
New river access	✓	✓			✓
Fish passage	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

St Anthony River Park

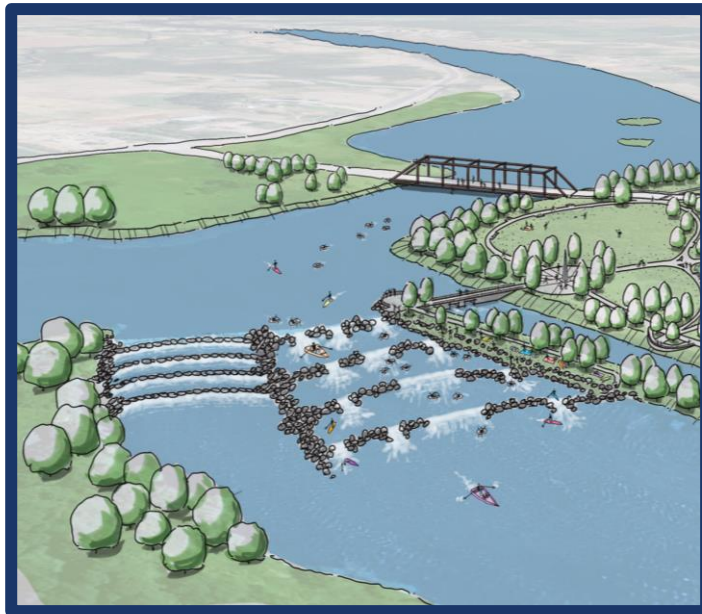
Alternatives Comparison



Project Component	Keefer Park	Sand Bar Surf	Del Rio	Fun Farm	Union & Independent
Flow	Constrained	Good	Good	Excellent	Good
Drop	Excellent	Artificial	Good	Good	Fair
Accessibility	Fair	Good	Good	Poor	Fair
Visibility	Excellent	Good	Good	Poor	Fair
Potential conflict with diverters	Access	None	Proximity	Flow	Proximity
Jurisdiction	City	City	County	County	County

St Anthony River Park

Alternatives Comparison



Project Cost	Keefer Park	Sand Bar Surf	Del Rio	Fun Farm	Union & Independent
Estimated Total	\$5-12M	\$7-15M	\$7-12M	\$3-6M	\$12-25M

St Anthony River Park

Funding Opportunities

Funding Entity	Funding Program	Program Priorities	Considerations	Reporting
U.S. Economic Development Administration	Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Program	Economic growth and resiliency	Long-term economic growth, job creation, and regional resilience	Federal reporting and several compliance activities
Idaho Dept. of Parks and Recreation	Recreational Trails Program	Recreational trails and trail-related projects	Branding the project as a “water trail”	State reporting and compliance activities
Idaho Whitewater Assn. (IWA)	IWA Grant	River access, whitewater education, community engagement	Award ceiling is \$10,000	Reporting, signage, records retention
Idaho Community Foundation	Forever Idaho Grant Program	Economic development, conservation	Non-profit sponsorship, award ceiling is \$25,000	Reporting, records retention

St Anthony River Park

Funding Opportunities

Funding Entity	Funding Program	Program Priorities	Considerations	Reporting
U.S. Dept. of Transportation	Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program	Safety, economic preparedness, quality of life, environmental sustainability	Varies	Federal reporting and several compliance activities
Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB)	Water Project Loans/Grants, Flood Management or Aging Infrastructure Programs	Dam safety, water sustainability, flood management	Regional impact, public benefit, matching funds	State reporting and compliance activities
Corporation Sponsorship	Sponsorship, Advertisement, and/or Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG)	Good neighbor, corporate impact of ESG	Alignment with company values, sponsorship tiers, environmental goals	Varies