

6.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Changes to the Preferred Alternative and the affected environment would occur within the Whitefish West project segment that were not evaluated in the 1994 FEIS. These include:

- Changes to the Preferred Alternative to provide the desired level of safety and operations, which would result in greater impacts to right-of-way/relocations, water resources/quality, and hazardous materials sites. These impacts are consistent with the type and nature of impacts described in the FEIS for the overall Somers to Whitefish West corridor. The FEIS, along with the information presented in this re-evaluation, adequately address mitigation for these impacts.
- Changes to the Preferred Alternative to provide the desired level of safety and constructability, which would result in impacts to Section 4(f) properties that were not addressed in the FEIS. Because impacts to parks and historic properties would either be temporary or *de minimis* (minimal), preparation of an avoidance analysis is not necessary. The FEIS, along with the information presented in this re-evaluation, adequately address Section 4(f) impacts in the Whitefish West project segment.
- Changes in the affected environment, including a new park, which would result in impacts to wetlands and threatened and endangered species that were not identified in the FEIS. These impacts are similar in type and nature to the impacts described in the FEIS for the overall Somers to Whitefish West corridor. The FEIS, along with the information presented in this re-evaluation, adequately address mitigation requirements.

This re-evaluation concludes that the current conditions, new circumstances, and changes to the Preferred Alternative within the Whitefish West project segment would not result in any new significant impacts. The FEIS, along with the information presented in this re-evaluation, adequately describes the impacts of the Current Proposed Action and provides mitigation for those impacts.