



Breckenridge Open Space Advisory Commission Regular Meeting

Monday, February 17, 2025, 5:30 PM

Town Hall Council Chambers

150 Ski Hill Road

Breckenridge, Colorado

THE TOWN OF BRECKENRIDGE IS HOLDING HYBRID MEETINGS. THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN PERSON AT BRECKENRIDGE TOWN HALL. ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. IN PERSON ATTENDEES MUST NOT ACCESS THE VIRTUAL MEETING WHILE IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

This meeting will also be broadcast live over Zoom. Log-in information is available in the calendar section of our website: www.townofbreckenridge.com. Questions and comments can be submitted prior to the meeting to websiteopenspace@townofbreckenridge.com.

- I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL**
- II. DISCUSSION/APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. BOSAC MEETING MINUTES 1-27-25
- III. DISCUSSION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (NON-AGENDA ITEMS; 3-MINUTE LIMIT PLEASE)**
- V. STAFF SUMMARY**
 - A. 2.17.25 BOSAC MEMO STAFF SUMMARY
- VI. OPEN SPACE & TRAILS DISCUSSION**
 - A. 2.17.25 BOSAC MEMO OST DISCUSSION
- VII. COUNCIL MATTERS RELATED TO OPEN SPACE**
- VIII. OTHER MATTERS**
- IX. ADJOURNMENT**

I) CALL TO ORDER

Nikki LaRochelle called the January 27th, 2025, regular meeting of BOSAC to order at 5:33 pm. Other members of BOSAC present included David Rossi, Krysten Joyce, Matt Powers, Bobbie Zanca, Chris Tennal, and Town Council liaison Jay Beckerman. Members of OSAC present included Laura Rossetter, Paul Semmer, John Uban, Jerod Swanson, Greg Guevara, and Jeff Zimmerman. Staff members present included Julia Puester, Tony Overlock, Duke Barlow, Joel Dukes, and Alex Stach. Katherine King, Allison Morton, and Jordan Mead from Summit County Open Space & Trails were present. Adam Bianchi and Samuel Massman from the United States Forest Service (USFS) were present. Members of the public included: Preston Cooper, Turk Montepare, and Bob Nothnagel.

II) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) BOSAC REGULAR MEETING – December 16th, 2024
The minutes were approved as presented.

III) PUBLIC COMMENTS

N/A

IV) OPEN SPACE DISCUSSION

Signage Workplan

Mr. Bosio presented the Final Design Draft for the Breckenridge Open Space & Trails Signage Workplan to the commissions, focusing on comments and feedback from staff and the Summit County community that have helped direct the current iteration of their draft plan – including general signage content, etiquette messaging, physical maintenance, and general wayfinding suggestions. Mr. Bosio also shared ideas on creative identifiers (using examples of how they would be incorporated into a hypothetical “downtown loop”) and how to utilize new technologies at kiosks/trailheads. Mr. Bosio then shared MERJE’s initial three design options and spoke on how their final design offering includes pieces of each initial design. Mr. Bosio shared a number of designs for potential trail signage panels, including examples with and without maps and how they would interact based on trail/trailhead type. Next, Mr. Bosio shared the specific sign types based on management zones, focusing on the numerous sign/kiosk types and their specifications. Mr. Bosio also shared how regulatory signs would work in the new Signage Workplan, while also highlighting how we could reconfigure existing kiosks by adding panels. Trail directionals were also an important part of Mr. Bosio’s presentation, explaining how directionals should be installed based on the trail situation/layout, using renderings and scenarios of the proposed new signs in real locations around Breckenridge.

Feedback was generally positive, with many participants expressing gratitude for MERJE’s work and the incorporation of a large amount of feedback into their Final Design Draft. Ms. LaRochelle asked about the general feasibility of how staff would implement the Signage Workplan. OST Staff replied that this project will be a big effort, but preliminary plans are in place for a “pilot area” using the Illinois Creek trail system to test different sign types and

kiosks. Mr. Semmer mentioned it felt a little bit too urban for the Summit County community and that levels of management didn't make sense (backcountry doesn't need that level of signage). Mr. Uban asked how will the Signage Workplan integrate with the existing systems of signage (USFS, neighborhoods, etc.). Mr. Bosio replied that often when signage systems overlap or transition from one to another, land managers may make a "handshake agreement" for the systems to integrate. Mr. Zimmerman felt that some of the colorations may be too bright/obvious, but enjoyed the distinct differences between trailhead kiosks and "on the trail" signage and the flexibility of kiosk panels for messaging. Mr. Zimmerman also had a question regarding the actual materials that would be used for fabrication. Mr. Bosio and Mr. Overlock replied that the current wooden "portal posts" last up to 15 years and that the signs/panels themselves could be made with a variety of materials. Mr. Bosio reiterated that it'll be up to OST staff to decide from a cost and maintenance standpoint where they want to go when it comes to materials.

There were a number of comments from OSAC and BOSAC discussing the feasibility of physically implementing the signs and considering the cost and practicality of replacing existing posts with larger ones. MERJE did receive positive feedback on the content and design, but concerns were raised about the color scheme and the potential for vandalism. OST staff, BOSAC, and members of OSAC additionally discussed the possibility of integrating the signage with the Forest Service's system and the potential for a pilot program.

Ms. Joyce was curious as to what kind of criteria determine the location of a kiosk and also mentioned this was a good opportunity to take another look at establishing Town-sponsored loops for hikers and bikers. Mr. Bosio replied that all sign types are part of the overall "toolbox" and reminded everyone that "doing nothing is an option as well. As you roll out the implementation you can decide what to use."

BOSAC agreed with a number of points made by OSAC members, including the importance of fitting the signage to the natural surroundings and the need for consistent, direct language on etiquette. Council and commission members also discussed the potential for a test area to trial different signage options before full implementation. A number of participants from the group expressed concerns about the potential for too much signage, which could detract from the adventure and exploration aspects of the trails. They also discussed the possibility of incorporating a landmark orientation device and semi-permanent loop signage. The team agreed to continue refining their approach and to work closely with staff to ensure alignment with user needs and preferences.

Mr. Powers suggested "knocking back levels of management", eg making the inventory of signs in the "midcountry" the level of signage needed in the frontcountry. Mr. Powers also suggested that we use dotted lines to display trails on the kiosks/mini-kiosks to differentiate from roads.

Mr. Rossi spoke briefly on trail difficulty determinations and who decides the level of difficulty. Mr. Rossi also would like to see elevation profiles included in the designs on certain trails and felt that the technology piece/QR codes are important and additional research should be done to see how those could be best implemented. Mr. Tennal and Mrs. Zanca spoke on simplicity, both feeling that "less is more" and that messaging should focus

on wayfinding and etiquette. Mr. Beckerman encouraged taking advantage of our already installed 6x6 posts but understood the need for 8x8 posts in certain locations.

The working group recommends scaling back color usage and information density by about 30%, especially moving away from trailheads. There was debate about the blue cap design element, with some liking its visibility while others worried it could be confused with blue difficulty designations. Overall, BOSAC and OSAC participants emphasized the importance of clear directional information at trail intersections and discussed the potential for incorporating QR codes and designated loop trails. They also considered how to present trail difficulty information effectively and how to balance the needs of locals versus visitors in the signage system.

CHCDNMD

Ms. King provided a brief overview of the type of feedback wanted and the current status of the overall CHCDNM project. Mr. Mead presented the CHCDNM Access Planning presentation, providing a number of updates incorporated since the initial plan development, with revisions from BOSAC, OSAC, and other partners. Mr. Mead briefly introduced the location, scope of the project, and a number of objectives identified by the working group; highlighting specifically that appropriate levels of amenities are sized for the level of visitation and to coordinate with the number of land managers involved in this process. Mr. Mead highlighted specific updates at each of the trailheads involved in this process, including more parking at Quandary, assessing spur roads for closure along Blue Lakes Road, formalizing parking near the McCullough Gulch TH, and dedicating spots for overnight hut users/backpackers at Spruce Creek.

Mr. Mead then presented the Management Framework Draft, focusing on guiding principles and management scenarios. The twelve principles highlighted by Mr. Mead focused on adaptive management, collaborative decision-making, the USFS role, and the Town/County spearheading the shuttle and parking reservation systems. Another key principle is to create a system that is self-sustaining with user fees covering the costs of amenities and management. Mr. Mead spoke on a number of management scenarios and provided examples of locations throughout Colorado of how these scenarios work and the various pros and cons. First, Mr. Mead gave an example of a Federal Lands Recreation Area (FLREA), Vail Pass. Second, Mr. Mead presented a concessionaire example. Lastly, he cited local ski resorts and the Frisco Peninsular Recreation Area of examples of Special Use Permits (SUP). A downside to SUP's is the potential increase in County open space staffing needs Volpe's Recommendation is for SCOS to manage trailheads in the study area through SUP's in the short-term, while stakeholders collectively pursue transferring management to the USFS through an FLREA in the long-term.

Mr. Mead presented a table on the staffing needs required for a SUP at CHCDNM, as well as highlighting a number of potential funding sources (USDOT and local organizations). Mr. Mead presented the "next steps," which show a number of steps still to be taken to develop the Access Plan and Management Framework with the intention of beginning a NEPA process early Summer 2025.

Ms. Zanca had a question regarding the feasibility of advancing this project through the NEPA process in light of recent cutbacks and financial constraints. The USFS representatives (Mr. Bianchi and Mr. Massman) replied that Ms. Zanca was correct in mentioning the NEPA limitations and that the USFS has more demand than capacity at the moment, but that the organization does have a “Forest Priority List” and that this project is near the top of said list. Mr. Bianchi echoed the statement stating “we are past the point of ‘build it and they will come’, particularly in these high-use areas” and that the USFS believes it can handle this NEPA process and the current engagement being conducted in this room is part of the NEPA process. Ms. King added that the “NEPA process is extensive. This will give them (USFS) the option to look at a wide array of solutions... to look at the lowest-tech/easiest to implement (parking delineation, wayfinding, shuttle option, paid parking) options during NEPA and will prevent the working group from having to start from square one.”

Mr. Powers asked the USFS representatives if they could provide a similar example to the Spruce Creek TH management situation, specifically wondering if they’ve managed a trailhead of this size that also has a busy neighborhood in close proximity. Mr. Massman replied that at Hanging Lake and Maroon Bells, the USFS conducted a capacity study to determine the appropriate levels of recreational use, and it can be “a bit of a balancing act.” Massman continued, “we will need to come up with multiple capacities and see how those scenarios work... Study peak days and the balance between an appropriate level of cars. How many boots can the trail handle?”

Ms. Zanca was curious if the NEPA process could approve some parts of a proposal but also reject specific parts. Mr. Bianchi replied yes, during the public process, the NEPA analysis can suggest new alternatives, reasons not to do something, etc. Ms. LaRochelle pointed out that trail maintenance still wasn’t emphasized in the Access Plan and needed to be, noting that Spruce Creek and McCullough Gulch trails are in terrible shape. Ms. King noted that this was valuable feedback and would be incorporated into an updated Access Plan draft.

Mr. Massman replied “We have to pair these things together. We’d have to harden the trails after implementing these actions, particularly focusing on hardening the most visited destinations” while also stating that the focus of the Access Plan is more on amenities and trailhead improvements. Mr. Bianchi also chimed in, stating that funding changes from year to year. “No one wants to pay for the NEPA planning. Once the plan is good it’s much easier to find funding for implementation. A Special Use Permit could lead to revenue for trail maintenance, which is the ultimate goal.”

Mr. Barlow asked the group about a proposed next step, suggesting filtering the Access Plan through the Town of Breckenridge’s Open Space & Trails Master Plan at the February BOSAC meeting. BOSAC supported this approach.

V) OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO OPEN SPACE

Ms. Rossetter spoke briefly on the futures of both Open Space & Trails program and thanked OSAC for the opportunity to serve on the council.

VI) STAFF SUMMARY

☐ **Breckebeiner**

☐ **Forest Health Update**

☐ **Grant Request Update**

☐ **Breckenridge History**

Ms. Zanca had a question regarding the land ownership around the Preston cabins. Ms. King replied that there is a patchwork of various land ownership in this area and Mr. Overlock replied that it's just a portion of the cabin that overhangs onto public land. Mr. Semmer was wondering if it's on USFS land and that staff should verify that it is not. Staff replied that they would relay these comments to Breckenridge History and provide answers to BOSAC.

☐ **Hoosier Pass Plowing**

☐ **119 Bonanza Trail Easement**

Mr. Semmer had a question regarding land ownership and easements on the Blue River Trail. Mr. Semmer stated that the Blue River trail crosses four parcels of private land and wondered if constructing a bridge in this location would invite trespassers. Mr. Barlow replied staff would be respectful of the timing and access regarding the bridge installation.

☐ **Little Daisy**

☐ **McCain Open Space Design and Management Plan RFP**

VII) COUNCIL MATTERS RELATED TO OPEN SPACE

N/A

VIII) ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the BOSAC meeting was made by Ms. LaRochelle, and Ms. Zanca seconded it. The January 27th, 2025 regular meeting of BOSAC ended at 8:17 pm.

The next regular meeting of BOSAC is scheduled for February 17th, 2025.

Nikki LaRochelle, Chair

Memorandum

To: Breckenridge Open Space Advisory Commission
From: Open Space & Trails Staff
Re: February 17th, 2025 Meeting

Staff Summary

A map, with bookmarks for many of the locations referenced in this Staff Summary, can be found [here](#). Trails highlighted in pink indicate winter grooming activity.

Field Report

Plowing operations have created large snowbanks at the tops of the Washington and Lincoln trails, prohibiting safe user access. OST Staff has developed a combined maintenance plan with the Town's Streets Department to preserve safe access to these trails going forward. Exhibit A.

Forest Health Update

The Airport Road slash pile burn operation was conducted on February 4, 2025. Four agencies were represented (United States Forest Service, Summit Fire & EMS, Summit County Sheriff's Office, and Summit County Open Space) among a total of 16 wildland firefighters, and approximately 250 slash piles were burned. Post-burn monitoring protocols were followed, and early on the morning of February 6, 2025, a slash pile ignited that hadn't done so during the original burn operation on February 4, 2025. Red, White & Blue Fire Department (RWB) responded immediately and determined no direct action was required to suppress the fire. Burn Boss and Summit Fire & EMS Wildlands Division Fuels Specialist Hannah Olsen: "Piles burning for hours or days following ignition is not uncommon and if there is no threat or holding concerns, will be left to consume to meet the overall fire effects and ecological benefit of removing the woody materials from the landscape. This is why we burn in conditions (snow, good ventilation rates) that allow for extended periods for piles to burn without causing any holding concerns or requiring direct action to suppress them".

The Shock Hill component of this Hazardous Fuels Reduction project has exceeded its prescribed threshold for snow depth and has been delayed until snow levels decrease in the spring of 2025.

Grant Request Update

The Town's Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Community Impact Grant concept paper was not selected for the final round of applications for the current grant cycle. Staff is arranging to meet with the regional GOCO grant advisor to gather more information on why our application was not chosen and will keep BOSAC apprised.

Breckenridge Stables Facility Upgrades

The United States Forest Service (USFS) is currently soliciting comments for the Breckenridge Stables request to [replace existing temporary structures with two permanent buildings within the Breckenridge Ski Resort](#), under their special use permit as a guided outfitter on the White River National Forest. Exhibit B. As stated in the USFS scoping notice, "The current outfitter and guide services and related trail maintenance are authorized under a USFS Special Use Permit. This proposal has presented an opportunity to review the existing conditions and plan trail maintenance concurrently with the proposed facility upgrades." The USFS has granted the Town a 24-hour extension to their comment submission

deadline of February 17, 2025 to accommodate BOSAC's meeting schedule. Please advise staff if BOSAC has any recommended edits to the proposed comments below.

Open Space and Trails Division Comments:

- We recommend that Breckenridge Stables enhance their trail maintenance efforts and collaborate with the USFS to develop and prioritize a comprehensive trail maintenance work plan to bring existing summer horseback riding trails up to USFS sustainability standards. The Breckenridge Stables should also be actively participating in the USFS Peak 10 Trails project, with the goal of creating a sustainable trail network for all users.
- We are concerned about potential conflict between Breckenridge Stables' guides, clients, and horses with trail users/ the general public on the Wanderer and Flapjack trails during the summer operating season. Such conflicts have been an issue in the past and measures should be implemented to prevent them.
- Dust mitigation on the access roads to the proposed Guest Services Lodge Operations Center needs to be further addressed, potentially limiting the number of daily vehicle trips associated with Breckenridge Stables.

Breckenridge Grand Vacations Fee In Lieu

The Town's Subdivision Standards require a 10% land dedication for open space, park, and recreational purposes whenever a property is first subdivided. If the land is not suitable for open space, park, or recreational purposes, or is not accessible to the public, then a "fee in lieu" payment can be required by the Town equal to 10% of the value of the unsubdivided land.

The Development Agreement approved by the Town Council last year for Breckenridge Grand Vacations (BGV) involves seven different parcels of land. One of those parcels, known as Parcel 6 (Exhibit C) in the Development Agreement, has been approved for subdivision, but also requires an open space fee in lieu payment. Town staff have been working the last eight months to finalize the amount of this payment and on February 11, 2025 the Town Council, at a special meeting, approved a settlement agreement with BGV that specifies that the Town will receive \$2 million as the fee in lieu no later than January 1, 2028. BGV will pay the Town 1.25% of the sale for the 1st two Parcel 6 lots and 2.50% for the sale of lots 3-7. These payments will go towards the \$2 million and the balance will be due on January 1, 2028 or upon sale of the 8th lot, whichever comes first.

The money will be an additional revenue and will be used for acquisition of land for open space, parks, or recreational purposes. Staff will discuss more details at the meeting.

Exhibit A



BRECKENRIDGE STABLES

LOCATION MAP

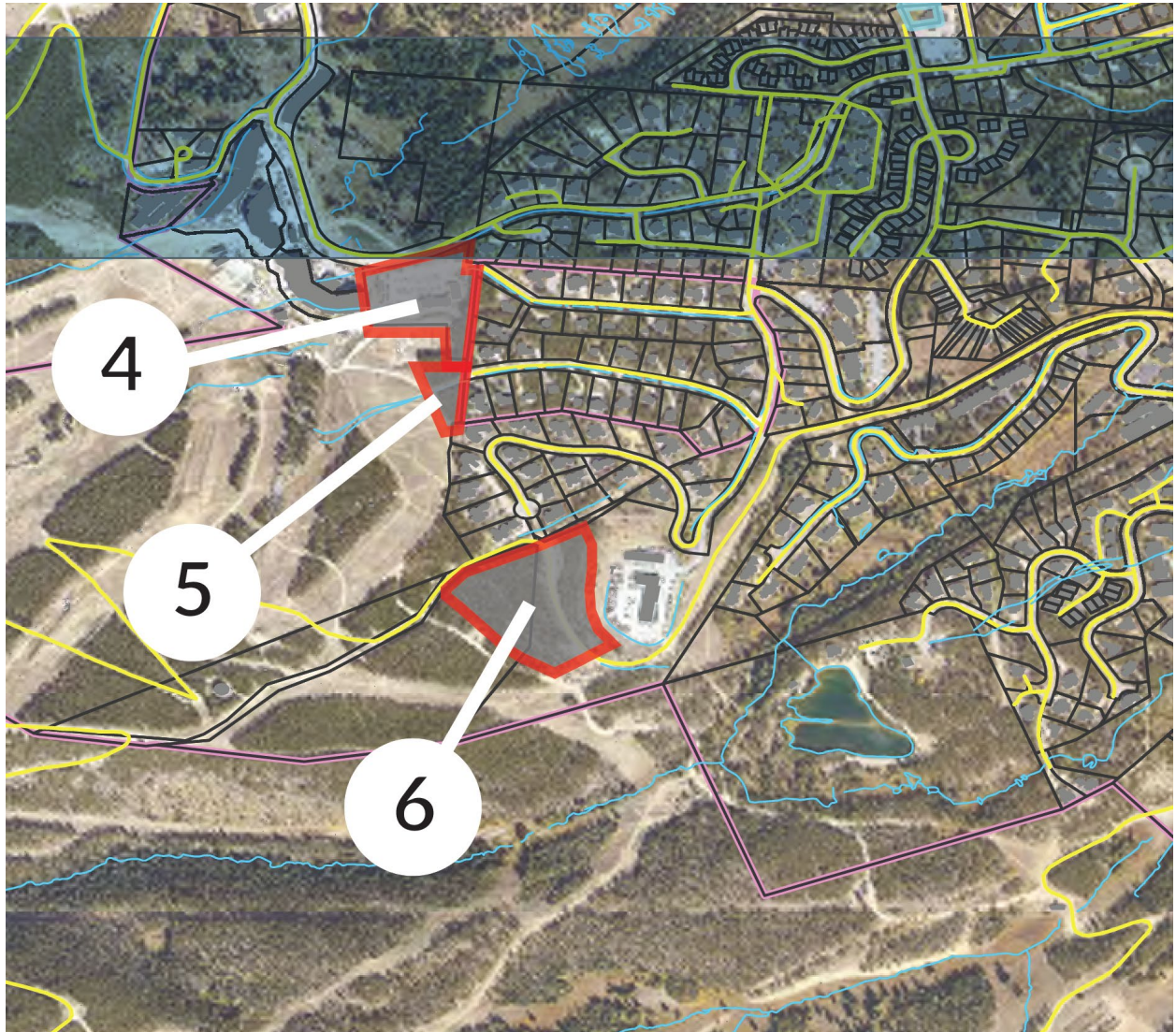
1 inch = 250 feet @ 22"x34"
1 inch = 500 feet @ 11"x17"

GRAPHICS ARE CONCEPTUAL AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO US FOREST SERVICE AND TOWN OF BRECKENRIDGE APPROVALS.

Figure 1- LOCATION MAP

BONA + SCHEFFLER ARCHITECTS
BRECKENRIDGE, COLORADO 80424
733.604.1869

Exhibit C



Memorandum

To: Breckenridge Open Space Advisory Commission

From: Open Space & Trails Staff

Re: February 17, 2025 Meeting

Open Space & Trails (OST) Discussion

2024 State of the Open Space Report

Staff have prepared a draft 2024 State of the Open Space Report, which provides an overview of the Open Space program's 2024 accomplishments and a brief history of the program since its 1997 inception. Please see the enclosed report.

- 1. Does BOSAC have any questions regarding the content of the report?***
- 2. Does BOSAC have any suggested edits for the report before it is presented to the Council during their February 25, 2025 work session?***



State of the Open Space

2024 REPORT

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TOWN OF BRECKENRIDGE
OPEN SPACE & TRAILS

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- Breckenridge Open Space Advisory Commission
- Town Council

Open Space & Trails

The Breckenridge Open Space & Trails program started as a grassroots initiative by Breckenridge residents, who proposed an open space tax initiative in response to increasing development in the Town. In 1996, Breckenridge residents voted to add a permanent 0.5% sales tax for open space acquisition and management. The Open Space & Trails program was founded in 1997.



Mission

The mission of the Breckenridge Open Space & Trails program is to preserve lands that define and enhance the unique mountain character of the Town of Breckenridge, with the objective of maintaining our community's quality of life for present and future generations.

An updated Open Space & Trails Master Plan was adopted in 2023.



BOSAC circa 2003. From left: Ellen Hollinshead, Dave Rossi, Dennis Kuhn, Scott Yule, Gene Baker, Matt Stais

Our Strategic Goals



Conservation

We value conservation as the foundation for protection of open space and natural resources.



Recreation

We value access and the responsible use of open space for recreation that is safe, based on sustainable principles, and enhances the experience with proper etiquette and respectful behavior.



Access & Inclusion

We are committed to facilitating the inclusion of all groups of people (both residents & visitors) with access to the OST system to enjoy recreation while learning about conservation.



Stewardship

We take pride in our approach, commitment, and diligence in the conservation and management of open space, hoping to inspire other communities with our leadership and influence, to do the same.



open space & trails AT A GLANCE



1997

THE START OF THE
OPEN SPACE PROGRAM

\$34,312,105



amount of town funds spent on
open space acquisitions since 1997



5,204

TOTAL ACRES
CONSERVED



70

TOTAL MILES OF TRAILS



2024 OPEN SPACE BUDGET

\$8,589,075



0.5% of sales tax in Breckenridge
directly supports open space



90%

seasonal technician staff
time devoted to trail
maintenance in 2024.



~650

POUNDS OF INVASIVE AND
NOXIOUS WEEDS, INCLUDING
FALSE CHAMOMILE, COLLECTED
DURING FOUR VOLUNTEER
EVENTS.



650

hazardous trees removed
from trail corridors.



8

TOTAL FOBT EVENTS IN 2024,
ALMOST ALL WITH A
STEWARDSHIP FOCUS

136

Total number of FOBT
volunteers in 2024.



234

Number of people who attended
a free guided hike on open
space in 2024.



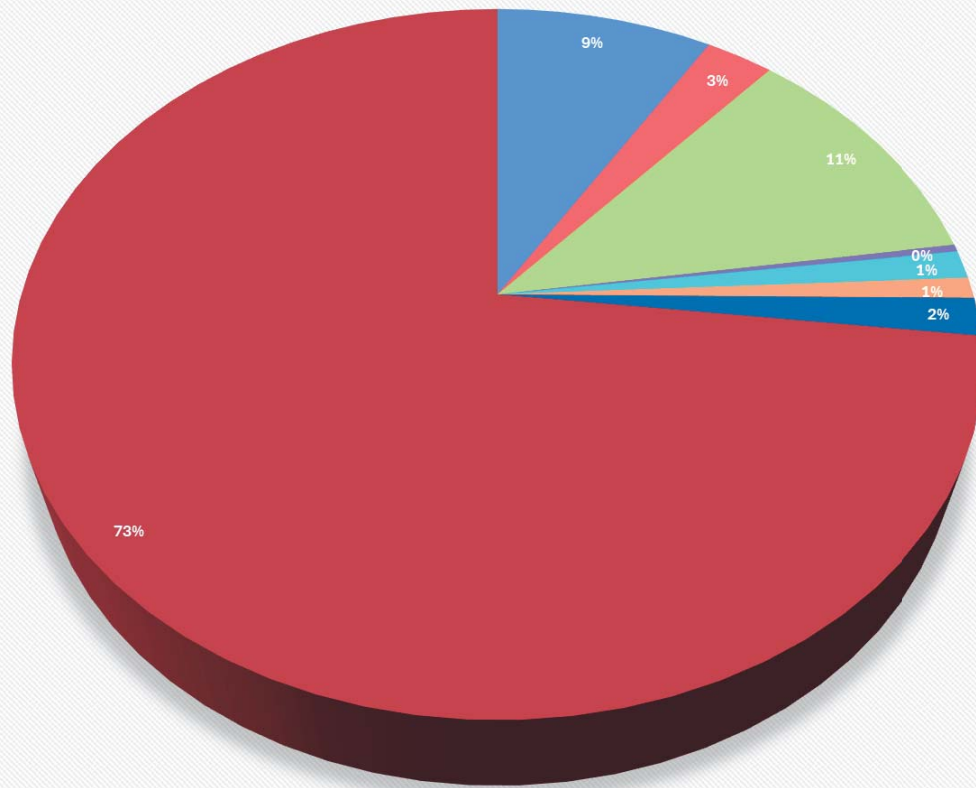
43

ADOPT-A-TRAIL

Volunteers from the
National Reparatory Orchestra
cleaned along the Blue River.

2024 OST Budget

2024 Open Space Budget



■ PERSONNEL ■ MATERIALS & SUPPLIES ■ CHARGES FOR SERVICES ■ FIXED CHARGES
■ GRANTS/CONTRIBUTIONS ■ ALLOCATION ■ TRANSFERS ■ MINOR CAPITAL

Minor Capital 73%

\$6,278,918 Land Acquisitions

Charges for Services 11%

\$963,157, Contractors & Consultants

Personnel 9%

\$746,502, Wages & Benefits

Materials and Supplies 3%

\$232,777, Tools, Lumber, Signs

Transfers 2%

\$148,994, Capital Projects, RecPath Grooming

Grants 1%

\$110,000, Grants, Acquisition Contribution

Allocation 1%

\$80,468, Garage, Facilities, IT

Fixed Charges .3%

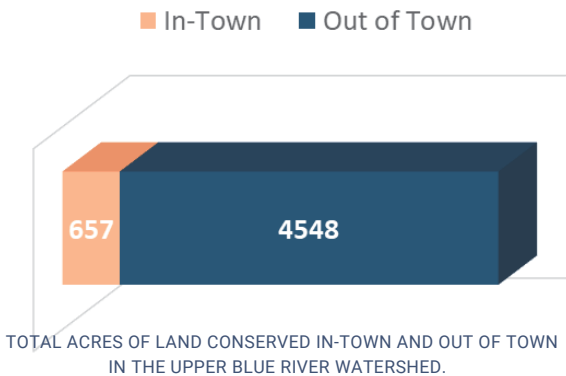
\$28,260, Liability Insurance



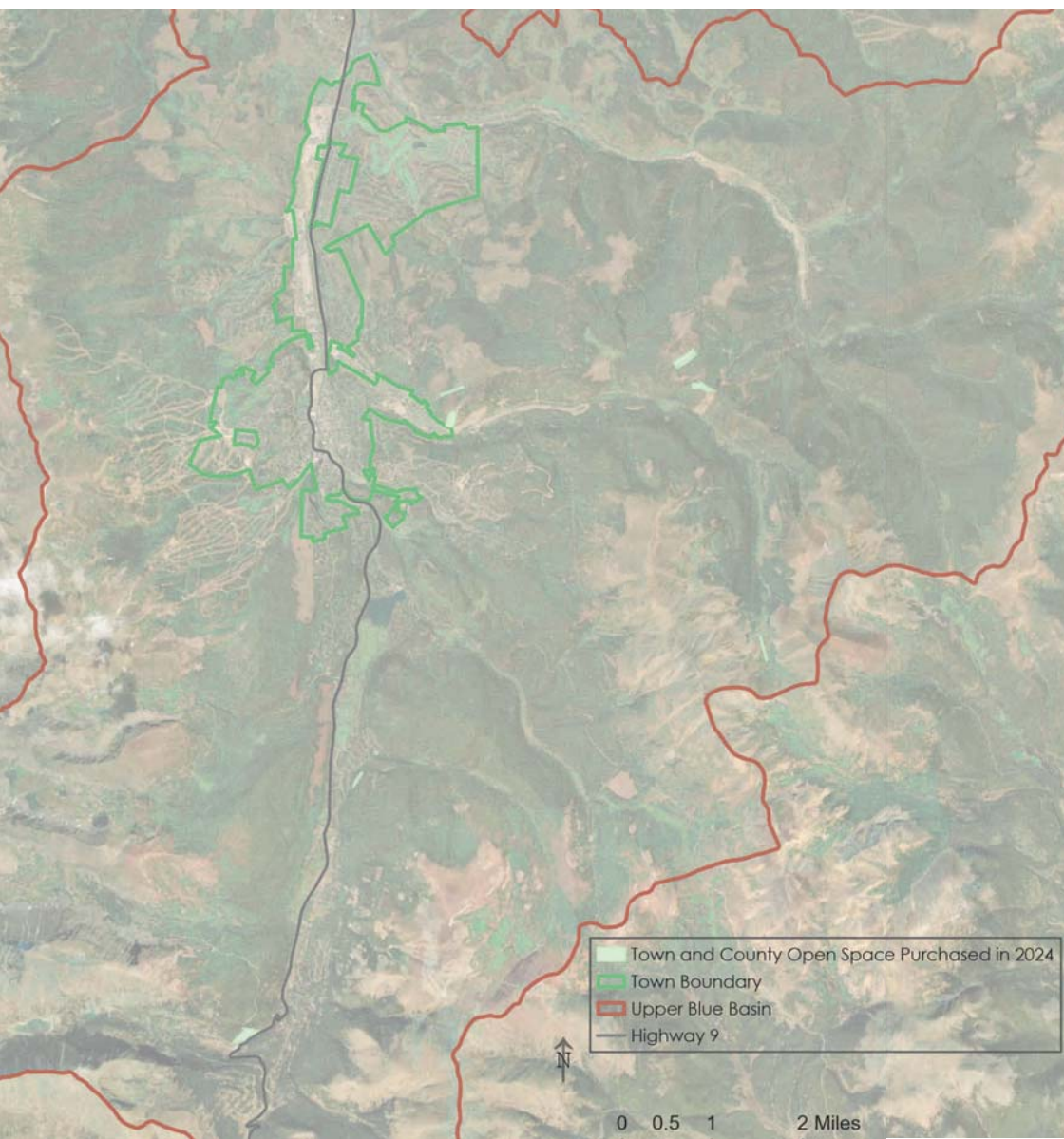
Conservation

Open Space Acquisitions

In 1996, a voter initiative passed, which dedicated a 0.5% Town sales tax to open space acquisition and management. In the 27 years since its adoption, the Town’s Open Space program has acquired a total of 5,205 acres of property through purchases, land trades, dedications, and joint purchases with Summit County Government. The majority of these conserved acres are located in the Upper Blue River watershed surrounding the Town limits. In 2024, the Town of Blue River, with contributions from the Town and Summit County, purchased 3.7 acres for open space preservation.

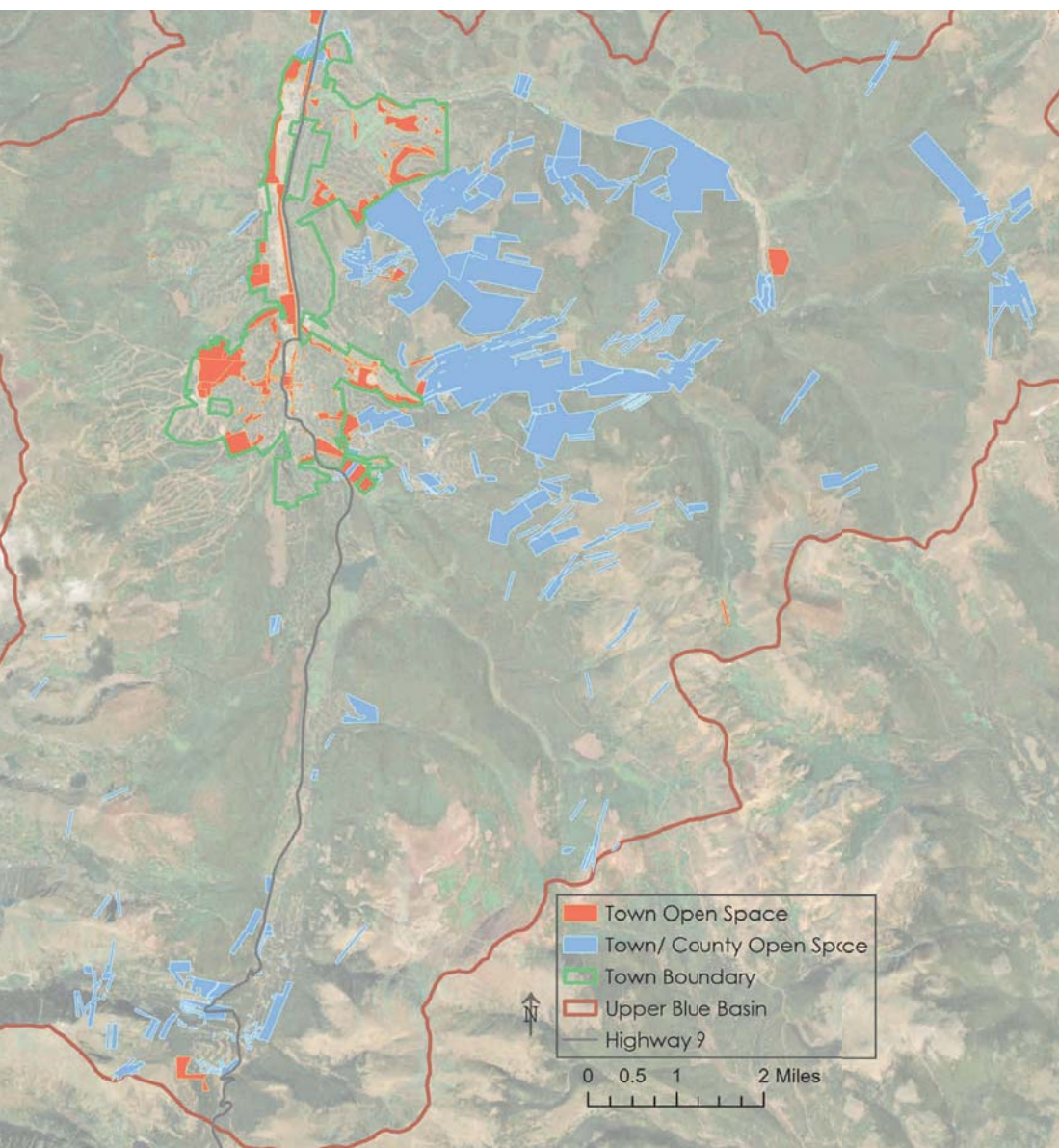


Year	Acres
Pre-1997	119
1997	164
1998	150
1999	173
2000	261
2001	640
2002	128
2003	105
2004	214
2005	1858
2006	7
2007	76
2008	70
2009	73
2010	74
2011	124
2012	91
2013	74
2014	153
2015	67
2016	82
2017	43
2018	92
2019	112
2020	35
2021	90
2022	16
2023	41
2024	75
Total	5205



2024 OST Acquisitions

Property	Acreage	Price	Ownership
Little Daisy	5.16	\$1,873,381	TOB
Lizzie Lode	18.67	\$3,500,546	TOB
Jackpot	10.24	\$175,178	TOB
Humbug Claims	22.33	\$313,160	TOB/ SC
Aspen Springs Lot 2	14.5	\$775,160	TOB/SC
Clyde Lode	3	\$550,000	Blue River
119 Bonanza Trail	.7	\$437,500	Blue River
Total	74.6	\$7,624,925	



Open Space Conservation

Prior to the creation of the Open Space program in 1997, the Town owned 119 acres of open space. Today, the program manages 5,205 acres of open space, 4,314 acres of which were jointly acquired with Summit County Government. The Town has spent \$28,070,715 in land purchases since 1997, while the County has spent \$16,377,658 on joint purchases in the Upper Blue River watershed.



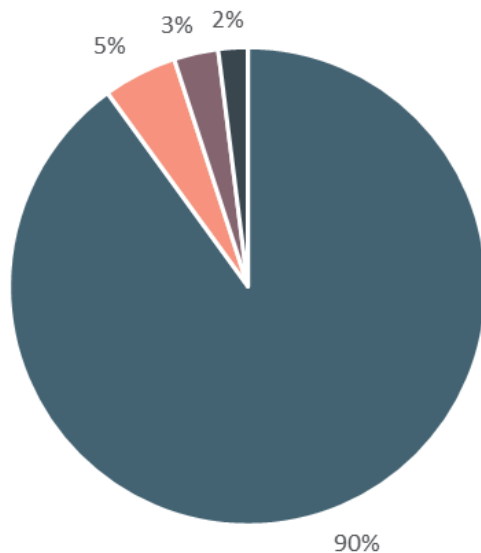


Recreation

Trail Maintenance

2024 brought new trail construction to the project list after not building a new trail in 2023 for the first time in seven years. The OST program is well into its stewardship phase of growth, during which we are committed to meticulously maintaining and managing our extensive 70-mile singletrack trail network. The OST program has seven full-time summer seasonal staff devoted to on-the-ground projects and trail maintenance. In 2024, they spent the vast majority of their time maintaining existing trails. Below is a breakdown of their maintenance duties.

2024 Trail Maintenance



Trail Maintenance - 90%

The OST crew spent the vast majority of their time maintaining the 70 miles of singletrack trails within our network. Maintenance includes drainage work, erosion control, reshaping tread, and removing hazardous trees.



Trail Construction - 5%

The OST crew assisted with new trail construction on Ellie's Features, Keystone Drill, BOEC Trail, and the Toad Alley, Nightmare on Baldy, and Mountain Pride reroutes.



FOBT Preparation - 3%

Friends of the Breckenridge Trails volunteer program requires extensive planning and coordination of activities, tool cleaning and preparation, site planning, and assigning of crew leaders.



Data Collection - 2%

The OST program has multiple counters located throughout the trail network that require regular data collection. Staff also utilize a GIS-based collection tool to inventory trail and trailhead conditions and maintenance needs.

2024 Field Projects



Winter Grooming

During the winter season, staff routinely grooms 10 miles of trails using a snowmobile. These trails are free to the public and serve a variety of users, including cross-country skiers, fat bikers, dog walkers, and snowshoers.



Ellie's Features

In partnership with Summit County, staff and Friends of Breckenridge Trails constructed 8,500 feet of new trail connecting Upper Flume and the Chantilly Trail. This new multi-use trail enhances connectivity and improves the overall user experience.



Toad Alley Reroute

A 1,000-foot sustainable route was constructed for the existing Toad Alley Trail, replacing an unsustainable section. The old trail was revegetated to restore wetland hydrology and enhance ecological health.



Bridges and Boardwalks

Staff repaired and replaced multiple bridges during the 2024 field season, including those on Warrior's Mark, Trollstigen, Columbine, Four o'clock, and Toad Alley Trails.





Access & Inclusion



Equitable & Inclusive Trail Design

In 2024, Staff continued to expand our All-Persons Trail inventory, providing more equitable access and inclusivity on our trails. All-Persons Trails offer easier access for people of all ages and those with mobility challenges.

BOEC Trail

Stone armoring was replaced with crusher fines. Boardwalks were improved with handrails and deck spacing, and a concrete apron at trail entrance was installed.

Retrofitted existing trail starting from the Breckenridge Nordic Center to the Avian interpretative Site.

Reiling Dredge Trail

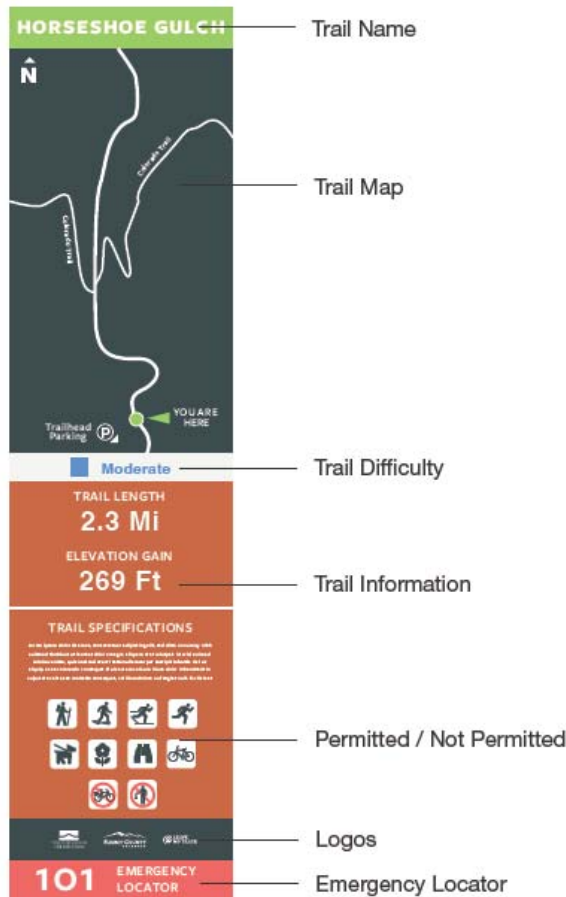
Trollstigen Trail

Completion of a direct access All-Persons Trail from the Sawmill Trailhead to the Sawmill Reservoir

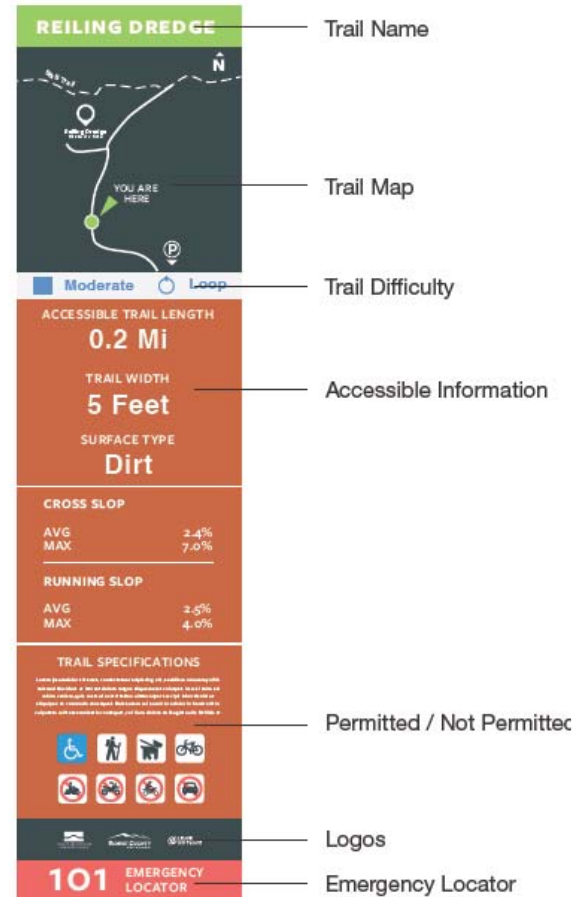
Cucumber Gulch Preserve

A mobility-impaired parking area was constructed, and the Reiling Dredge Bridge was improved with two large bump-outs to enhance access to the Reiling Dredge.

OST Signage Workplan



Typical Trail



All Person's Trail

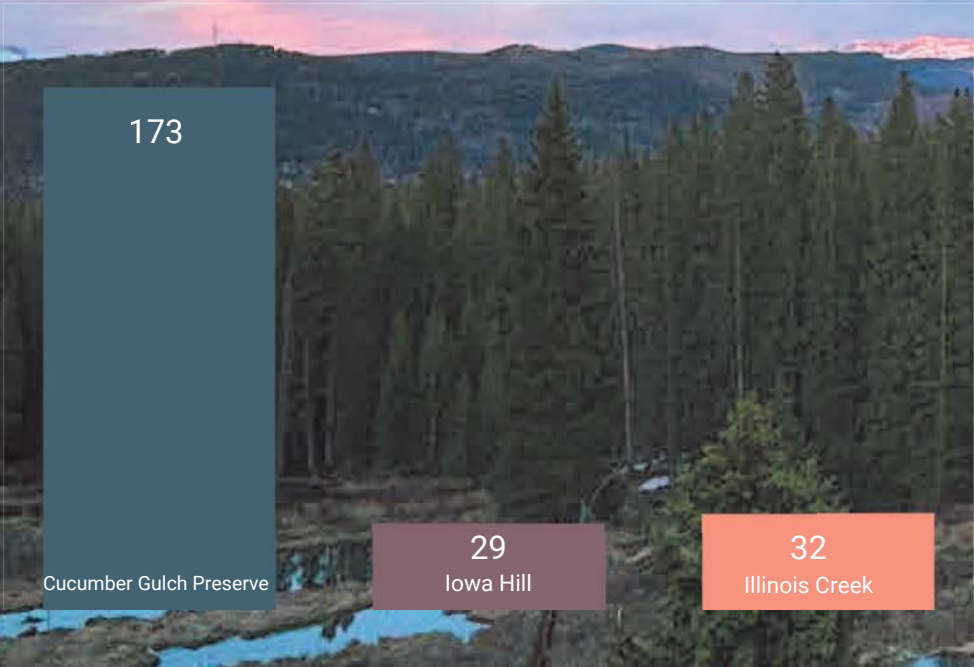
As an action item from the 2023 OST Master Plan, staff is developing a comprehensive Signage Workplan to improve wayfinding, etiquette, and access and inclusion throughout the network. MERJE, a signage specialist firm, was hired in Summer 2024 to assist with this project. Staff will continue to work with MERJE through March 2025 before implementation of a pilot sign package on the Illinois Creek trail network in Summer 2025.



Environmental Education

During the busy summer and early fall seasons, OST Naturalists lead guided environmental education hikes and host interpretive stations that are free and open to all. Staff love to share in their knowledge of local flora, fauna, and ecosystems and host different themes for each hike and interpretive station. In moments of down time, staff serve as trail ambassadors, helping orient and engage trail users throughout the season.

2024 Guided Hike Participation



Demographics

In 2024, most participants of guided hikes were visiting from out of state (66%). Colorado residents accounted for around 1/3 of participation (34%), while Summit County residents were the smallest demographic (15%).



Guided Hike Topics & Themes

OST Naturalists led hikes in Cucumber Gulch Preserve, Iowa Hill, and Illinois Creek on a variety of topics, including natural history, wetlands, moose, wildflowers, mushrooms, and birds, while also expanding their programming to include foraging hikes and "Lost Art of Medicinals."



Naturalist Interpretive Stations

Staff created hands-on learning opportunities with interpretive stations and were available to answer questions about trails, wildlife, and etiquette. A new interpretive station themed "Berries of Breckenridge" was conducted during the peak of the foraging season and received positive feedback.



Trail Ambassadors

OST Naturalists also served as trail ambassadors. By monitoring trails and establishing a presence, the staff created educational opportunities, promoted trail etiquette, and encouraged Leave No Trace principles.

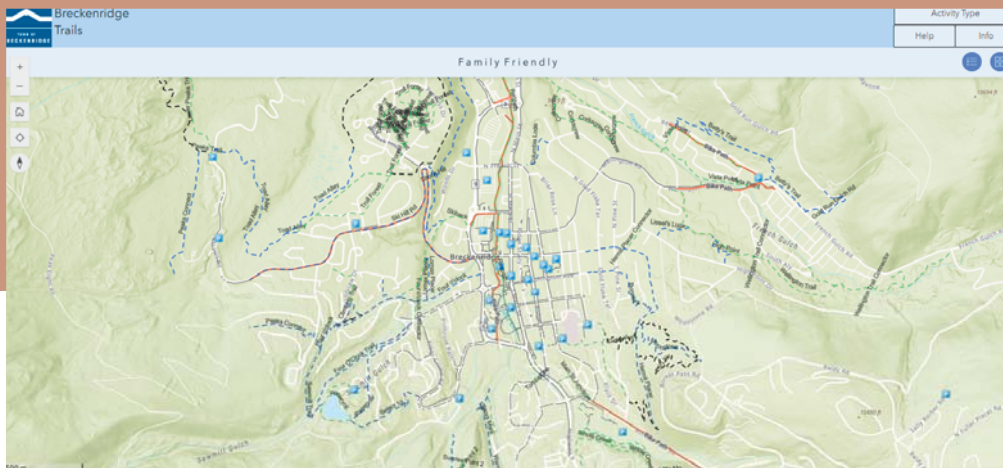
Leave No Trace



As part of The Town of Breckenridge's pursuit of a Leave No Trace Gold Standard designation, the Town recently trained 12 employees as Level 1 Leave No Trace Instructors. This two-day training focused on the 7 Principles of Leave No Trace, equipping OST, Recreation, and BTO staff to educate others and help protect our natural resources. Staff plans to apply for a Gold Standard designation in Fall 2025.



New OST Website



Trails (Last Updated January 28, 2025)				Type	Length	Conditions
Aspen Alley				↔	1.25m	NATURAL
B&B Trail				↔	1.5m	NATURAL
Backdoor				→	1.2m	NATURAL
Barney Flow				→	.4m	NATURAL
Barney Ford				↔	1.25m	NATURAL
Barney Ford (Downhill)				→	0.4m	NATURAL
Barney Ford (Uphill)				→	.5m	NATURAL
Betty's Trail				↔	1m	NATURAL
Bloody Knuckles				↔	.6m	NATURAL
Burro				↔	3.25m	NATURAL

OFFLINE MAP
ONLINE MAP

Filters

- MTB Biking
- Winter Groomed
- Hiking
- Horseback Riding
- All Persons*
- Nearby Trails
- Family-Friendly Hike

*Wheelchair Friendly

Trails Key

- Easy
- Intermediate
- Expert
- Out and Back/Point to Point

The Town of Breckenridge Open Space & Trails Department launched its new website, breckost.com, in June 2024. This resource provides both residents and visitors with easy to access information regarding Breckenridge's trails and open spaces, including interactive trail maps, current trail conditions, recent projects, and the history of the Town's Open Space program. The website also highlights allows users to sign up for guided hikes and volunteer events on an interactive calender.

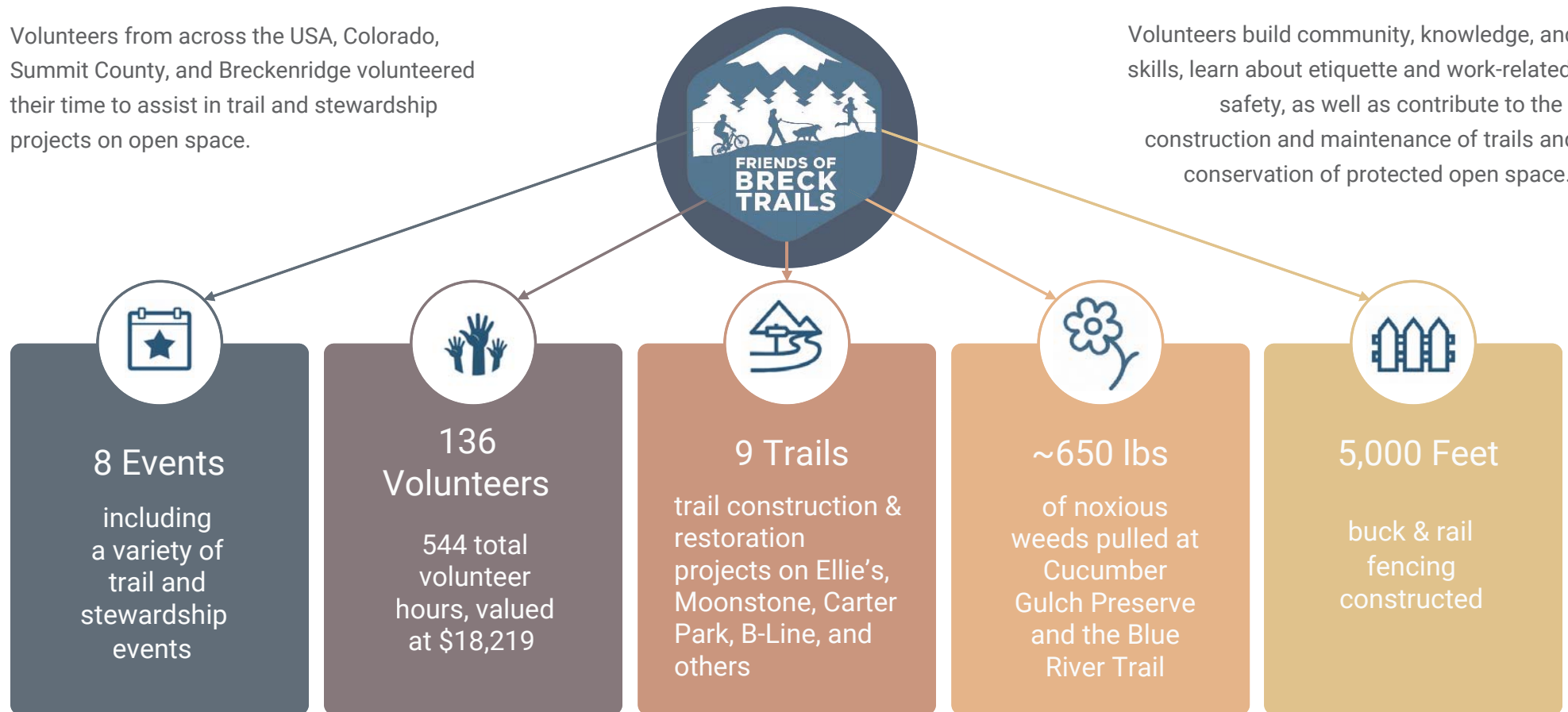
Friends of Breckenridge Trails

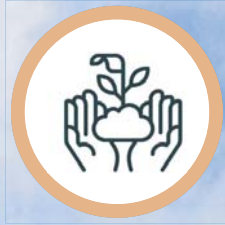


Friends of Breckenridge Trails

Volunteers from across the USA, Colorado, Summit County, and Breckenridge volunteered their time to assist in trail and stewardship projects on open space.

Volunteers build community, knowledge, and skills, learn about etiquette and work-related safety, as well as contribute to the construction and maintenance of trails and conservation of protected open space.





Stewardship

Anne Lowe



Cucumber Gulch Preserve

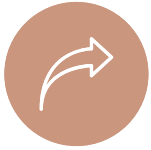
With its diversity of forested, meadow, shrubland, and wetland habitats, Cucumber Gulch Preserve is home to a diverse assemblage of species. The Preserve encompasses 139 acres total, including 57 acres of wetlands and 82 acres of upland. Several types of wetlands are present, including globally rare fens and ecologically valuable beaver meiers. Cucumber Gulch Preserve has been monitored, researched, and studied extensively since the late 1990's when the Preserve was first protected. It is the crown jewel of the Open Space program.

Cucumber Gulch Preserve



Monitoring of Beaver Populations

Beaver are a keystone species in the Preserve. Through biweekly monitoring, beavers were observed in the Middle and Lower Gulch. In 2024, fewer beavers were observed than in previous 4 years. This is attributed to difficulty in observing beavers in all areas and potentially the spread of reed canary grass.



Groundwater & Wetlands Analysis

Wetlands are biodiversity hot spots supporting a disproportionately large number wildlife species. The extraordinary diversity of wetlands in the Preserve set it apart from any other area in the region. These rare fens, beaver meiers, and other wetlands include both surface and groundwater driven systems.



Monitoring of Avian Species

Monitoring of avian species is done every other year and was not conducted in 2024. Based on the past 17 years of monitoring, avian diversity in the Preserve has declined. Species such as the Warbling Vireo, Osprey, and Cooper's Hawk were once sighted every year, and are now rarely seen. Eurasian Collared Dove, an invasive species, has been spotted in the Gulch.



Monitoring of Boreal Toad Populations

No boreal toads were observed in 2024.



Wildlife & Trail Camera Data Collection

OST staff maintains 9 cameras within the Preserve. Throughout the season, the cameras recorded 385 animals, down from 475 in 2023. Seventeen different wildlife species were recorded, including mule deer, moose, red fox, aquatic birds, coyote, and pine marten.



Land Management Activities

An important element of the Open Space program is the ongoing stewardship of our natural resources to maintain a resilient natural ecosystem in the face of increasing human pressure and climate volatility. Habitat protection, river and stream restorations, mine reclamation, forest health, and water quality are critical components of stewardship.



Forest Health

Staff partnered with the County, USFS, and CSFS on a forest health project on the Peabody Placer & Bacon Lode properties and adjacent National Forest lands. Staff also acquired permits to prepare for pile-burning operations on the Airport Road Open Space in 2025.



Weed Control

In addition to hiring contractors to assist in weed control efforts on jointly owned open space properties, staff and volunteers pulled a total of 650lbs of false chamomile throughout the summer season - including participating in the annual County-Wide Weed Pull.



Monitoring and Management

Through monitoring and management efforts in open spaces with high visitor use, staff are engaged in restoration activities, such as harvesting and planting willow plugs, planting native seed, and installing protective fencing in sensitive areas.



River Restoration

Staff continue to partner with the County on the ongoing Swan River Restoration project, and with other Town staff on establishing vegetation along the newly restored Blue River north of Coyne Valley Road.



Historic Resources



The Open Space department continues to partner with BreckHistory to protect historic resources on our open space properties. In 2024, the Town and County worked with BreckHistory to install the Keystone Drill, and its shelter, on jointly-owned property at the B&B Trailhead. BreckHistory also conducted a comprehensive inventory of all structures on the recently acquired Dry Gulch property, helping to guide future management decisions.



Visitor Use Management

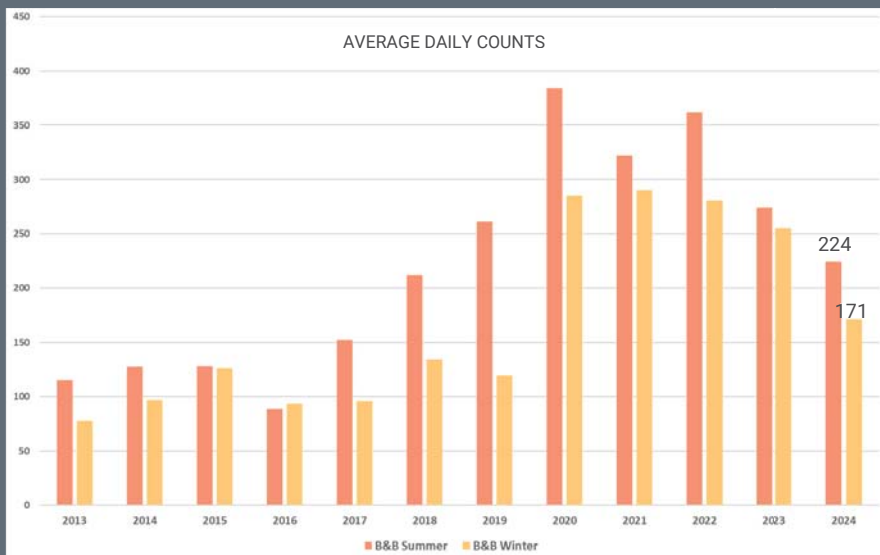
A large component of stewardship is managing visitor use on open spaces and trails. The Open Space program studies uses, trends, and patterns to help inform management and stewardship decisions.

Trail counters and cameras offer the most reliable sources of data.

Trail Counts on Popular Trails

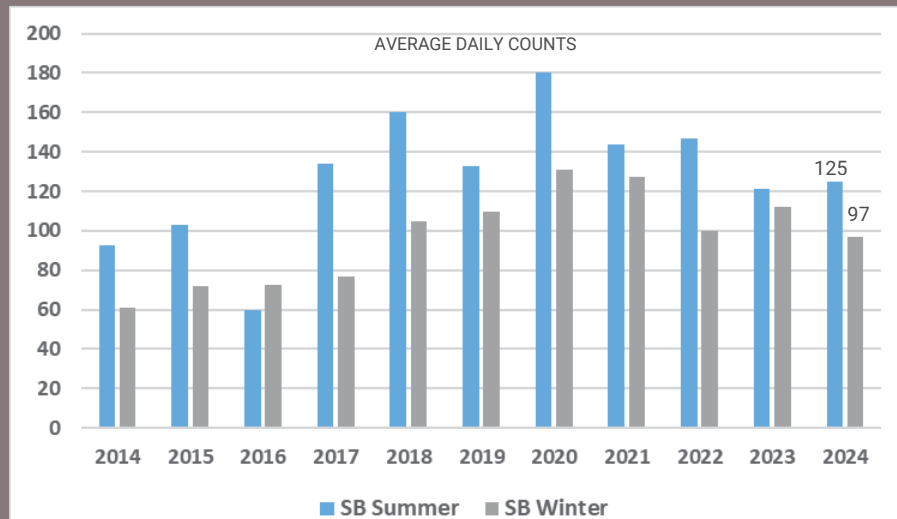
For the past 14 years, the Open Space program has set up trail counters and cameras to capture approximate numbers of trail users. Trail cameras are used to manually determine the number of trail users during the summer and winter seasons and also capture wildlife using the trails.

B&B Trailhead



In 2024, the highest daily count was 921 in September and 396 in the winter.

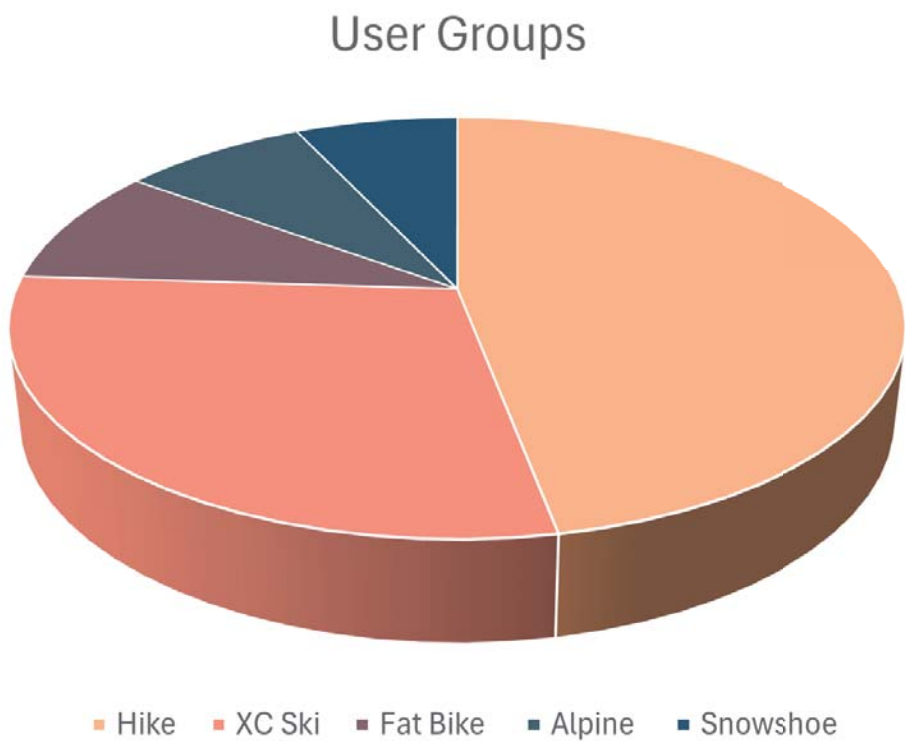
Sallie Barber Trailhead



In 2024, the highest daily count was 1,033 on July 4, 2024 and 258 in the winter.

2024 Winter Trails User Study

OST Staff monitored winter trail use on 5 trails (Upper Flume, Tom’s Baby, Sallie Barber North, Slalom, Fall Classic, and B&B) for two winter months in 2024 to better inform what specific types of winter recreation uses are happening on our trail network.



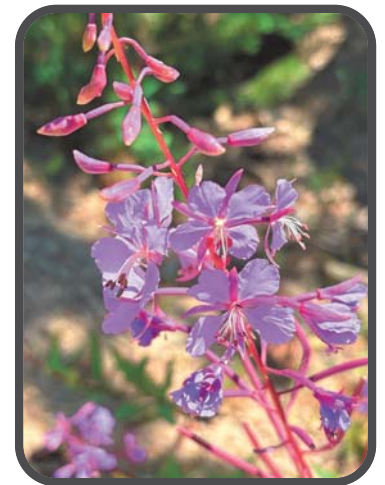
User Breakdown

- Hike 47%
- XC Ski 29%
- Fat Bike 9%
- Alpine 8%
- Snowshoe 7%

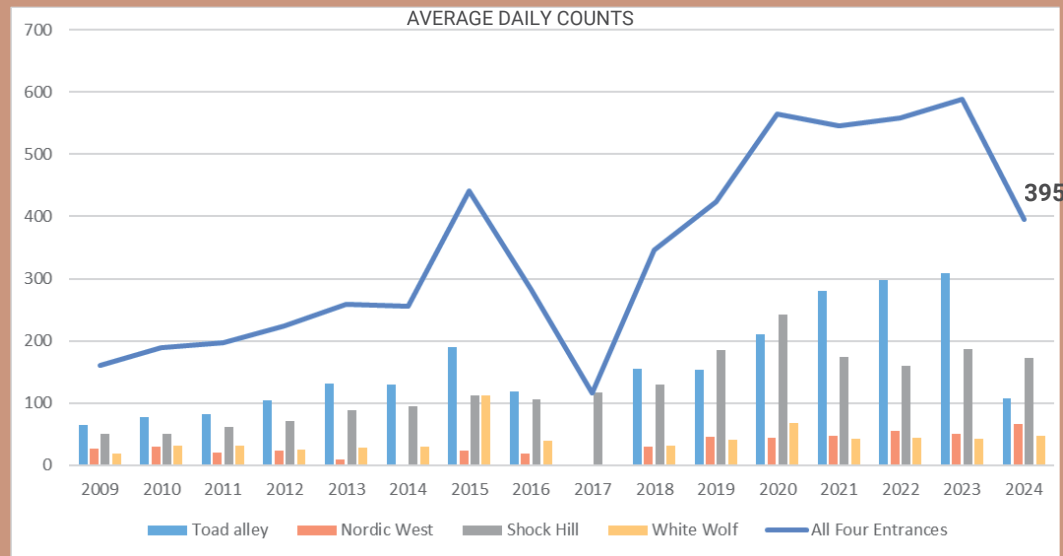


Cucumber Gulch Preserve Trail Counts

Trail counts and camera captures help Open Space staff allocate resources, ensuring that high-use areas receive extra maintenance and attention. Additionally, staff are examining trailheads in a collaborative effort with the County, USFS, and other municipalities to manage jointly-owned trailheads and determine the appropriate level of amenities, signage, and parking.



Cucumber Gulch Preserve Trailheads [Summer Only]

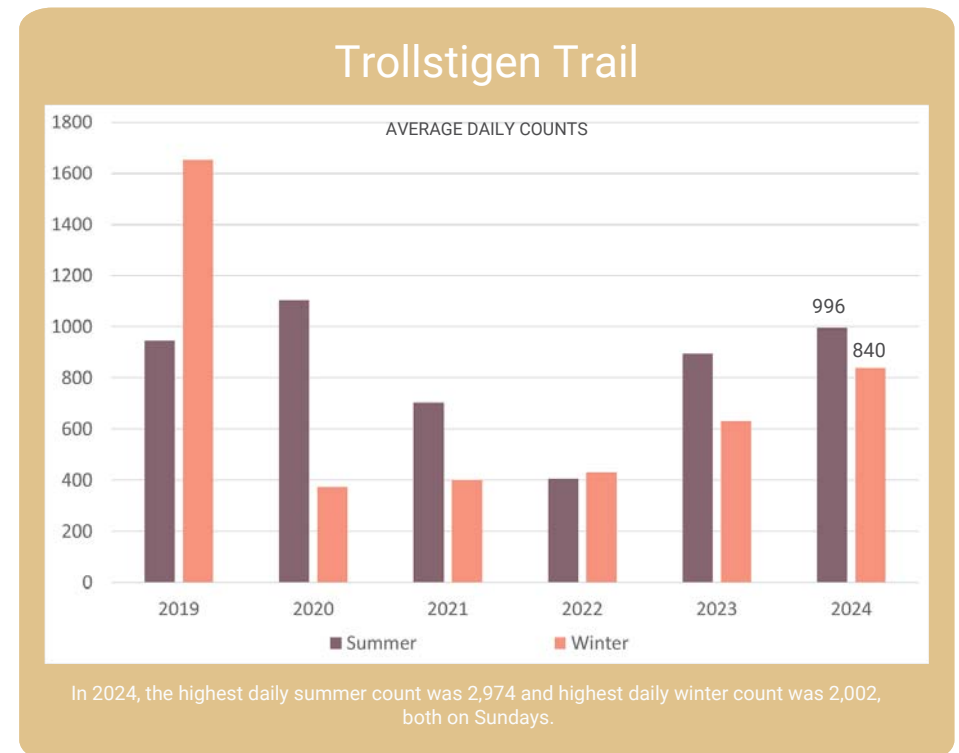


In 2024, the highest daily count was 383 on the Shock Hill Trail on a Saturday in July.

**2024 Toad Alley numbers suppressed due to trail counter issues and reroute closure.*

Trollstigen Trail Counts

The Trollstigen Trail was completed in 2019 and is open year-round for hiking to the Isak Heartstone Troll installation. The trail is designed in a directional one-way flow to facilitate access, but because the trail is not maintained in winter months, the trail becomes out-and-back during inclement weather. This creates double detections on the trail counter during periods of heavy snow or ice.



Southern Ten-Mile Range Camp Hale Continental Divide National Monument Access Planning Effort



Staff worked with land management partners from United States Forest Service, Summit County Open Space, Town of Blue River, Colorado Springs Utilities, and public stakeholders to create a plan to sustainably manage high use recreation access at the Blue Lakes, Quandary, McCullough Gulch, and Spruce Creek Trailheads. USFS NEPA analysis is scheduled to begin in Summer 2025.

Our Team

Staff

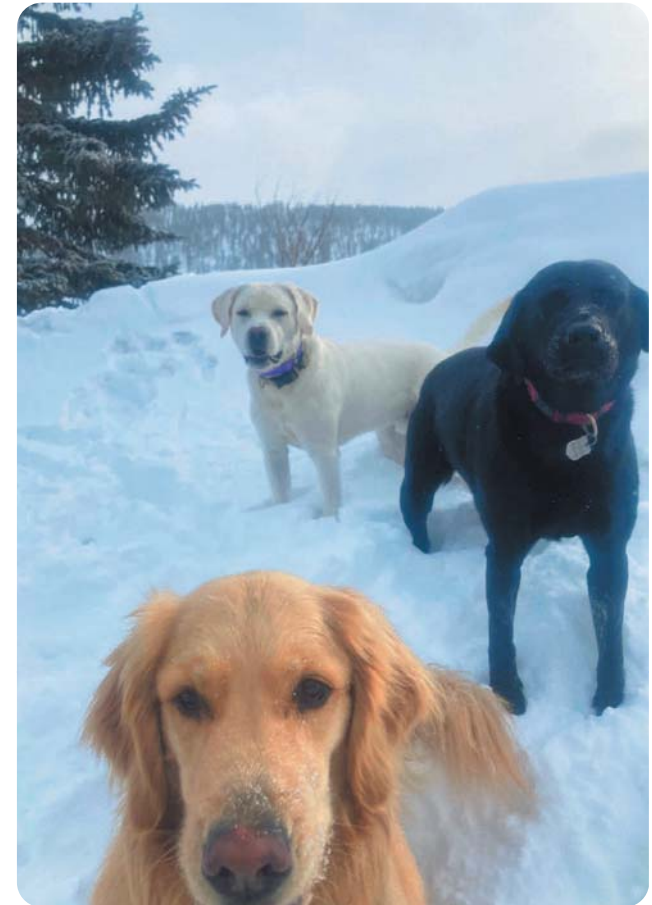
- Duke Barlow: OST Manager
- Alex Stach: OST Coordinator
- Tony Overlock: OST Operations Supervisor
- Joel Dukes: OST Operations Lead
- Lauren Sawyer: OST Naturalist
- Ella Garner: OST Naturalist
- Jenny McCarty: OST Tech
- Jake Barlow: OST Tech
- Jason Guess: OST Tech
- Nathan Carlson: OST Tech
- Jenny Shostrand: OST Tech
- Paul Timm: OST Tech
- Lion Mason: OST Tech
- Mark Truckey: ComDev Director
- Julia Puester: ComDev Assistant Director

BOSAC

- Nikki LaRochelle, Chair
- David Rossi, Vice-Chair
- Chris Tennal
- Bobbie Zanca
- Krysten Joyce
- Matt Powers

Town Council

- Kelly Owens, Mayor
- Dick Carleton
- Carol Saade
- Todd Rankin
- Marika Page
- Steve Gerard
- Jay Beckerman, BOSAC Liaison



• Mabel, Nugget, & Finn, canine support team

Contact Us



Location

1760 Airport Road,
Unit A, Breckenridge



Website

www.breckost.com



Phone

970.547.3116

Camp Hale Continental Divide National Monument (CHCDNM) Planning- OST Master Plan Exercise

Following the January 28, 2025, BOSAC meeting, staff has compiled information regarding the CHCDNM Access Plan. This includes the latest Access Plan with updated recommendations, a PDF summarizing user numbers at each trailhead, visitation numbers from the County's Quandary report, and an Excel spreadsheet with user count data and parking lot information. The provided materials are intended to assist BOSAC in making informed recommendations and evaluating the Access Plan through the Development Guidelines outlined on page 27 of the [2023 OST Master Plan](#). Staff has prepared this information and seeks BOSAC's feedback. The overall goal is to gauge support for the proposed concepts from Volpe and then move forward with an adaptive management approach that prioritizes projects. Following this meeting, Summit County Open Space (SC) will conduct another survey with surrounding residents of the four major trailheads to gather additional feedback on the proposed Access Plan. Next, this feedback will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners, in conjunction with the revised Access Plan, for their approval. Finally, the USFS will use the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process to evaluate the environmental and related social and economic effects of the Access Plan. Please find the referenced supporting documents using this [link](#).

- 1. Does BOSAC have any feedback on how the Access Plan aligns with the Development Guidelines of the Master Plan?**
- 2. Does BOSAC recommend the current version of the Access Plan to Town Council for approval?**

Access Plan Camp Hale-Continental Divide National Monument

Quandary Peak Trailhead

Figure 1. Quandary Peak Trailhead Access Plan Concept

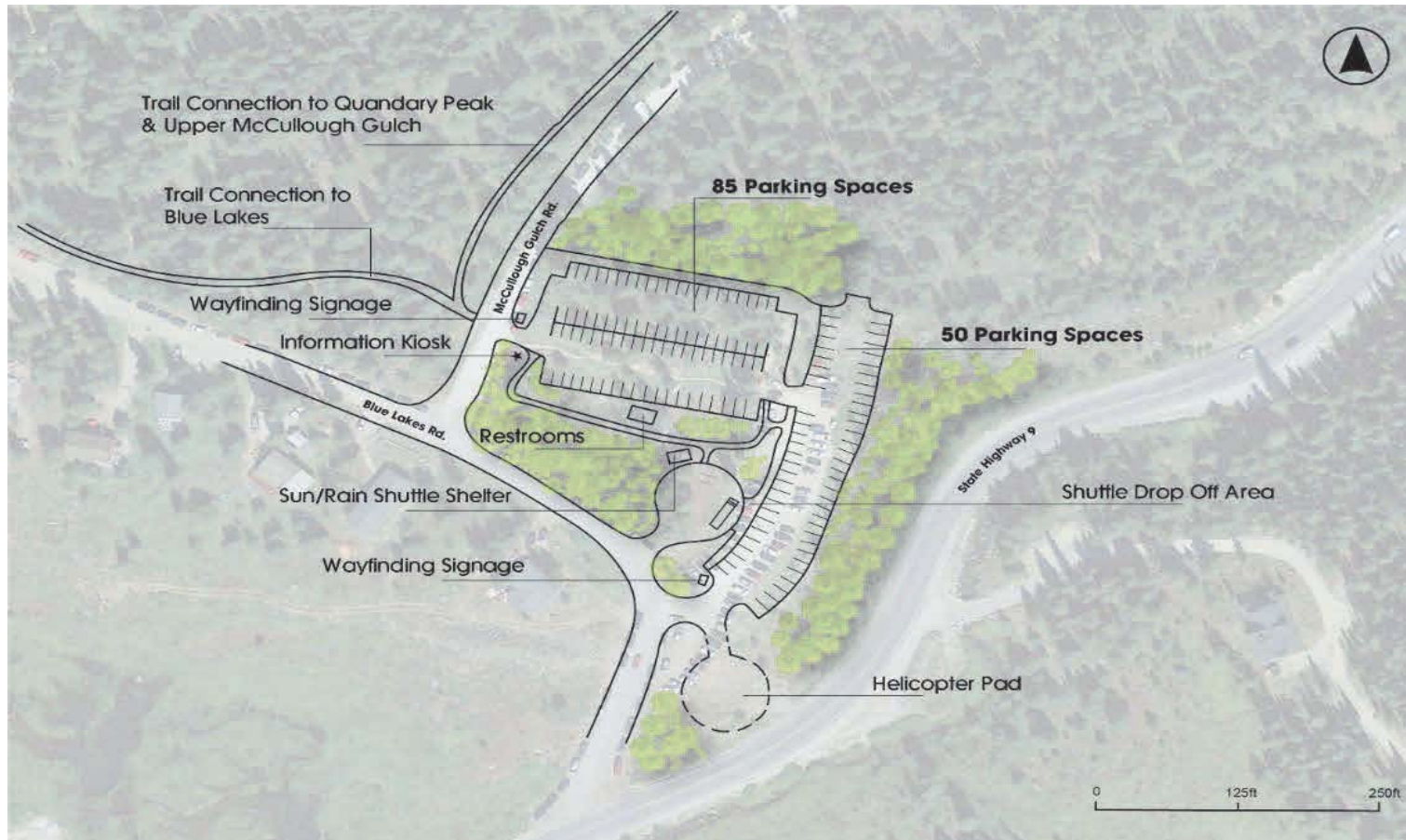


Table1. Summary of Quandary Peak Trailhead Concept Components

	Concept Component
1	Pave existing lot and add delineators (i.e., striping) between spaces.
2	Expand parking onto Aspen Springs Lot 1 and Lot 2.
3	Continue Breckenridge to Quandary shuttle.
4	Adjust shuttle routes, times, and frequency based on parking lot and visitor capacity.
5	Develop trail connection from parking lot to official trail.
6	Add signage, a vault toilet, a shelter, and an informational kiosk.

Quandary Peak Trailhead Master Plan Trail/Trailhead Development Guidelines

Conservation		User Experience		Community Context		Management	
Avoids sensitive habitats and areas of high-quality natural resources, including wetlands?	Yes A new trail connection from the Quandary Trailhead would require evaluation to assess feasibility, environmental impact, and sustainability.	Provide new or unique experience?	Yes, improved trail connectivity, restrooms, shelters, enhanced wayfinding, and striped parking areas to improve visitor experience and sustainability.	Impact the surrounding area either positively or negatively?	Positively impacted. Expansion of the new parking area further north, into the recently acquired Aspen Springs Lot 2, increases the buffer from the McDill neighborhood. Negatively impacted. An increase in parking traffic.	How feasible is construction?	SC and TOB own the parking area land. Expanding parking could generate additional revenue to support a shuttle service. Potential grant opportunities and partnerships could help share costs. A phased approach would allow for strategic budgeting and implementation.

Conservation		User Experience		Community Context		Management	
Minimize new fragmentation of habitat blocks?	Yes	Provide an experience that the differently abled could benefit from?		Provide access to underserved communities?	Yes, a free parking pass is provided by the local libraries. Free shuttle for locals, \$7 for visitors, and dogs are allowed.	How intense will the maintenance be?	Added infrastructure will need long-term care and funding. Paving the lot will reduce the number of times the parking lot will need to be striped.
Utilize existing roads of corridors?	Yes	Provide trail access and open space experience for all age groups?	Yes	Partnership Opportunities?	Yes – SC and USFS	Is the proposed trail compatible with the Management Zone in which it falls?	Front country. The Quandary Peak Trailhead is among the most frequently visited, and proposed infrastructure improvements align with long-term sustainability goals while enhancing the visitor experience.
Provide an opportunity to decommission roads or other disturbances?	Adjacent to high-use area.	Improve user experience and circulation?	Yes, improved wayfinding, parking, and trail connectivity.				
Habitat Sensitivity	Low	Reduce potential for user conflict?	Yes				
Avoid Scenic Views and Visual Disturbances?	Yes, the new parking area would be visually buffered	Support distribution of users to minimize hot zones?	Staff supports the distribution of users; however, this necessary infrastructure is essential to accommodate high-use				

Conservation		User Experience		Community Context		Management	
	from the neighborhood.		demands and ensure long-term sustainability.				

Blue Lakes Trailhead

Figure 2. Blue Lakes Trailhead

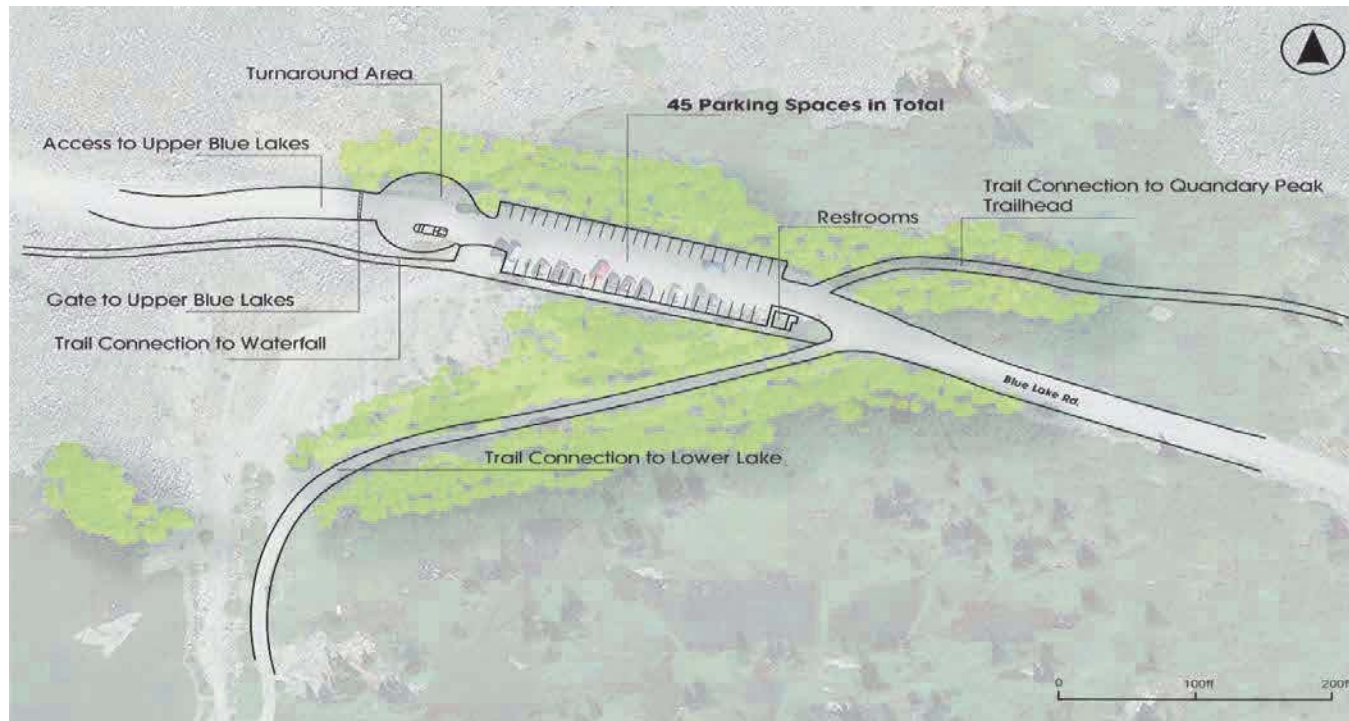


Table2. Summary of Blue Lakes Trailhead Concept Components

	Concept Component
1	Optimize parking lot configuration.
2	Add delineators (i.e., hoses) between parking spaces.
3	Establish sustainable system trails and close social and duplicate trails to protect resources and provide direct access to the waterfall and Upper Blue Lakes trail.
4	Develop trail connection from Quandary Peak parking lot to Blue Lakes parking lot.
5	Improve existing signage for improved wayfinding.
6	Add permanent or portable restroom.
7	Restrict roadside parking outside of the official parking lot.
8	Assess spur roads (CR857 and 858) for closure to vehicular traffic

Blue Lakes Master Plan Trail/Trailhead Development Guidelines

Conservation		User Experience		Community Context		Management	
Avoids Sensitive habitats and areas of high-quality natural resources, including wetlands?	Yes, restrict roadside parking, close social trails and spur roads, particularly in riparian areas, to protect natural resources and promote sustainable land use.	Provide new or unique experience?	Yes, improved trail connectivity, restrooms, improved wayfinding, and striping for parking areas.	Impact the surrounding area either positively or negatively?	Positive, Improved wayfinding will enhance the visitor experience by providing better information about road conditions. Additionally, restricting parking outside designated lot areas will help manage traffic and protect the surrounding environments.	How feasible is construction?	Trailhead construction is feasible within the existing disturbed area, requiring coordination with Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU). A new trail connection and wayfinding improvements could be pursued as a joint project with partners. Implementing a phased approach will support strategic budgeting and efficient execution.

Conservation		User Experience		Community Context		Management	
Minimize new fragmentation of habitat blocks?	Yes, the trailhead within the road corridor. Establish a trail system and preserve riparian corridor	Provide an experience that the differently abled could benefit from?	No	Provide access to underserved communities?	Yes, Free parking	How intense will the maintenance be?	Added infrastructure will need long-term care and funding. A new trail connection to the Quandary Trailhead would require evaluation to assess feasibility, environmental impact, and sustainability. Decommissioning social trails should involve a phased approach and collaboration with partners to ensure effective restoration and long-term sustainability.
Utilize existing roads of corridors?	Yes	Provide trail access and open space experience for all age groups?	Yes	Partnership Opportunities?	Yes – SC, USFS, CFI, Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU)	Is the proposed trail compatible with the Management Zone in which it falls?	Midcountry. Yes, The Blue Lakes Trailhead is among the most frequently visited, and the proposed infrastructure improvements align with long-term sustainability goals while enhancing the visitor experience.
Provide an opportunity to decommission roads or other disturbances?	Yes, Close social trails and minimize parking and camping along spur routes.	Improve user experience and circulation?	Yes, establishing a sustainable trail system with improved wayfinding is essential to enhancing visitor				

Conservation		User Experience		Community Context		Management	
			experience, protecting natural resources, and ensuring long-term trail viability.				
Habitat Sensitivity	High	Reduce potential for user conflict?	Yes, improved parking with striping and improved wayfinding.				
Avoid Scenic Views and Visual Disturbances?	Optimize parking area with delineators.	Support distribution of users to minimize hot zones?	Staff supports the distribution of users; however, this necessary infrastructure is essential to accommodate high-use demands and ensure long-term sustainability.				

McCullough Gulch Trailhead/Trail

Figure 3 & 4. McCullough Gulch Trailhead/Trail

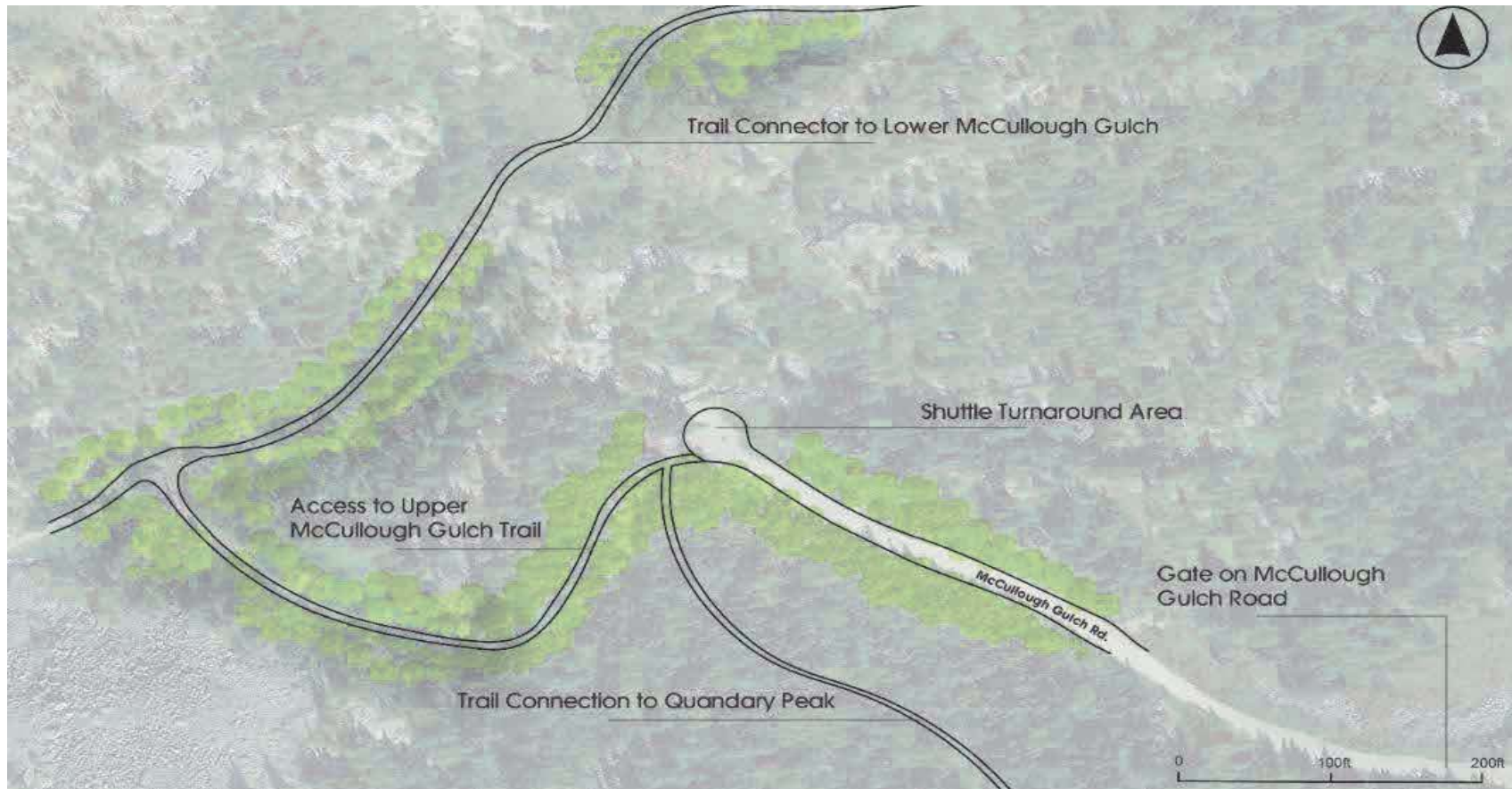


Figure 3 & 4. McCullough Gulch Trailhead/Trail



Table3. Summary of McCullough Trailhead Concept Components

	Concept Component
1	Establish a new parking lot at the existing shuttle turnaround and integrate into an area-wide reservation system.
2	Relocate shuttle turnaround point to trailhead.
3	Upgrade gate to be automatic and solar powered.
4	Improve Upper McCullough Gulch Trail to the popular destinations at the waterfall and first lake in order to protect resources and assist with wayfinding
5	Develop trail connection from the end of Lower McCullough Gulch trail.
6	Develop trail connection from Quandary Peak Trailhead via the Wheeler trail.
7	Add signage at the trailhead.
8	Continue to restrict roadside parking outside of the official parking lot.

McCullough Gulch Trailhead/Trail Master Plan Trail/Trailhead Development Guidelines

Conservation		User Experience		Community Context		Management	
Avoids Sensitive habitats and areas of high-quality natural resources, including wetlands?	Yes, the new trailhead/trail would be closely located within the road corridor. Decommission social trails on Lower McCullough Trail.	Provide new or unique experience?	Yes, the new trailhead would provide trailhead parking to access Upper McCullough Gulch. New shuttle service could drop off directly at trailhead. A new trail connection from Quandary Trailhead gets users off the road.	Impact the surrounding area either positively or negatively?	Locals would have direct access to parking during shoulder seasons. Surrounding impacts remain the same.	How feasible is construction?	The new trailhead location is less expensive and disruptive. A reservation structure could generate funding for the shuttle system. New trail connection and wayfinding improvements possible joint project with partners. A phased approach would allow for strategic budgeting and implementation.

Conservation		User Experience		Community Context		Management	
Minimize new fragmentation of habitat blocks?	The new trailhead and trail are located within the road corridor. Establishing a sustainable trail system while preserving the riparian corridor will help balance recreation with environmental conservation.	Provide an experience that the differently abled could benefit from?	Yes, the new trailhead is a 1/2 mile from the trailhead compared to 2 miles from Quandary Trailhead. The New Shuttle service drops off directly at the trailhead.	Provide access to underserved communities?	Yes, a free parking pass is provided by the local libraries. Free shuttle for locals, \$7 for visitors, dogs are allowed	How intense will the maintenance be?	Added infrastructure will require long-term maintenance and a sustainable funding strategy to ensure its continued effectiveness and preservation. Improving trail sustainability will involve a phased approach and collaboration with partners to ensure effective restoration and long-term sustainability.
Utilize existing roads of corridors?	Yes	Provide trail access and open space experience for all age groups?	Yes	Partnership Opportunities?	Yes – SC, USFS, and CFI	Is the proposed trail compatible with the Management Zone in which it falls?	Frontcountry. The McCullough Gulch Trailhead is among the most frequently visited, and the proposed infrastructure improvements align with long-term sustainability goals while enhancing the visitor experience.
Provide an opportunity to decommission	Yes, Close social trails and minimize parking and	Improve user experience	Yes, visitors are currently displaced with no direct access or parking.				

Conservation		User Experience		Community Context		Management	
roads or other disturbances?	camping along spur routes.	and circulation?	Improved trail maintenance and wayfinding.				
Habitat Sensitivity	High	Reduce potential for user conflict?	Yes, a new trail connection could reduce user conflict.				
Avoid Scenic Views and Visual Disturbances?	Optimize parking area with delineators.	Support distribution of users to minimize hot zones?	Staff supports the distribution of users; however, this necessary infrastructure is essential to accommodate high-use demands and ensure long-term sustainability.				

Spruce Creek Trailhead

Figure 5. Spruce Creek Trailhead

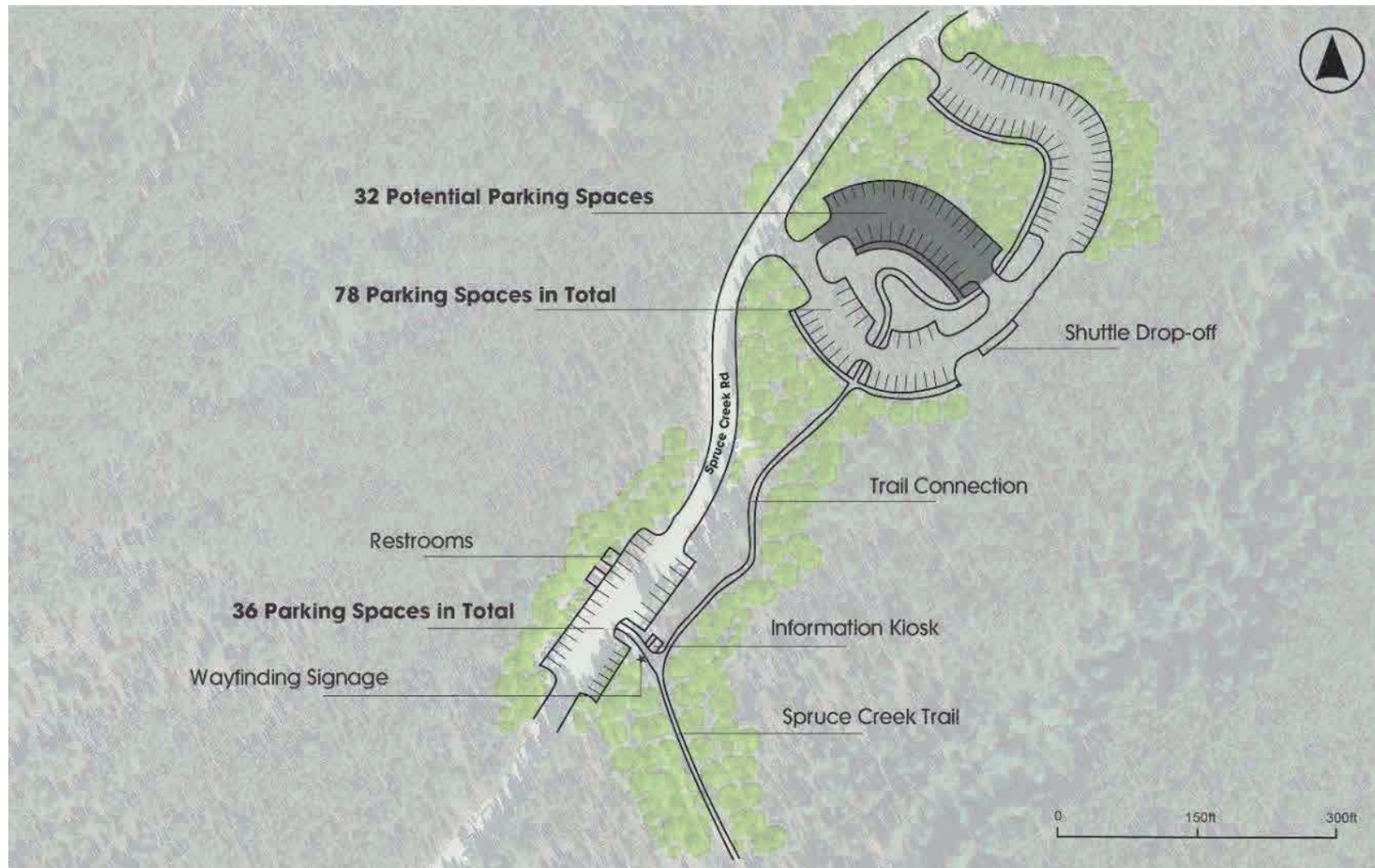


Table3. Spruce Creek Trailhead Concept Components

	Concept Option
1	Add delineators between spaces.
2	Create a new 78 space parking lot in the area below the existing trailhead, with the potential to add an additional 32 parking spaces.
3	Integrate parking spaces into an area-wide reservation system.
4	Restrict roadside parking through physical barriers.
5	Consider implementing a new Breckenridge to Spruce Creek shuttle route.
6	Improve Spruce Creek and Mohawk Lake Trails to accommodate high use, protect resources and assist with wayfinding
7	Add better signage, picnic tables, permanent restrooms, transit shelter, trash cans, and CHCDNM informational kiosk.

Spruce Creek Master Plan Trail/Trailhead Development Guidelines

Conservation		User Experience		Community Context		Management	
Avoids Sensitive habitats and areas of high-quality natural resources, including wetlands?	Yes, the new trailhead would be located close to the road corridor. Decommissioning social trails and trail braiding, along	Provide new or unique experience?	Yes, the new trailhead would offer picnic tables, permanent restrooms, trash cans, and improved wayfinding.	Impact the surrounding area either positively or negatively?	Positive, implementing a shuttle, establishing a reservation system, enforce roadside parking could reduce traffic. Negative, car traffic reduced but still present.	How feasible is construction?	The new trailhead location is flat and cleared of trees. A reservation structure could generate funding for the shuttle system. A phased approach would allow for strategic budgeting and implementation.

Conservation		User Experience		Community Context		Management	
	with improved trail maintenance and surface hardening, will help prevent future degradation and promote long-term sustainability.						Partners would explore grant opportunities for funding.
Minimize new fragmentation of habitat blocks?	The new development will be adjacent to disturbed areas, and restricting roadside parking and camping will help manage traffic and protect the surrounding habitat.	Provide an experience that the differently abled could benefit from?	Yes, consider implementing a new shuttle route.	Provide access to underserved communities?	If a shuttle service is implemented, consider offering free day passes through the library or similar programs, as done at the Quandary Trailhead.	How intense will the maintenance be?	Need to enforce roadside parking. Decommissioning social trails should involve a phased approach and collaboration with partners to ensure effective restoration and long-term sustainability.
Utilize existing roads of corridors?	Yes	Provide trail access and open space experience for all age groups?	Yes	Partnership Opportunities?	Yes – SC and USFS	Is the proposed trail compatible with the Management	Midcountry, The Spruce Creek Trailhead is among the most frequently visited, and the proposed infrastructure improvements align with

Conservation		User Experience		Community Context		Management	
						Zone in which it falls?	long-term sustainability goals while enhancing the visitor experience.
Provide an opportunity to decommission roads or other disturbances?	Yes, Close social trails and minimize parking and camping along spur routes.	Improve user experience and circulation?	Yes, the new trailhead would offer picnic tables, permanent restrooms, trash cans, and improved wayfinding.				
Habitat Sensitivity	High	Reduce potential for user conflict?	Improved trail tread could improve user conflict.				
Avoid Scenic Views and Visual Disturbances?	Optimize the parking areas by using delineators for organization and incorporating trees as natural buffers to enhance aesthetics and minimize environmental impact.	Support distribution of users to minimize hot zones?	Staff supports the distribution of users; however, this necessary infrastructure is essential to accommodate high-use demands and ensure long-term sustainability.				