

City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks

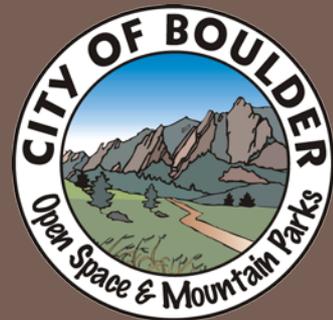
North Trail Study Area Plan



North TSA Plan Update and Interests

OPEN SPACE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
STUDY SESSION

AUGUST 12, 2015

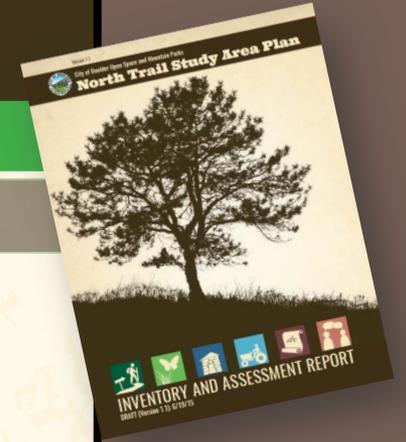


Questions for the OSBT:

- Does the OSBT have questions or comments about the North TSA process including the Board's role as "hosts?"
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North Trail Study Area Plan



PLANNING PROCESS

Phase 1 Inventory and Assessment

PURPOSE: Share knowledge of the current conditions of recreational, natural, cultural and agricultural resources.

RESULTS: Inventory and Assessment Report.

KEY INPUTS:

- Community knowledge of visitor experiences, resources, what is functioning well in the North TSA and what needs improvement.
- Staff-prepared information on recreational, natural, cultural and agricultural resources.

Phase 2 Interests and Issues

*An interest is the WHY behind the WHAT.
An issue is WHAT may need to be changed.*

PURPOSE: Share knowledge about desired outcomes and topics that will guide the development and assessment of alternative scenarios and recommendations for the draft plan.

RESULTS: Desired actions for consideration in scenario development.

KEY INPUTS:

- Community interests about desired plan outcomes and why the outcomes are wanted.
- Discussion of issues that could pose a challenge in the North TSA.
- Community dialogue about what is learned and can be implemented in the North TSA and why.

Phase 3 Draft Plan Development

*A scenario is a set of potential actions
that addresses interests and issues.*

PURPOSE: Assess alternative scenarios and integrate preferred recommendations into a draft plan.

RESULTS: Preferred scenarios compiled into a draft plan.

KEY INPUTS:

- Draft alternative scenarios developed by staff to achieve identified interests and objectives.
- Community feedback on draft scenarios to inform preferred scenarios and recommendations.

Phase 4 Plan Acceptance

PURPOSE: Review draft plan and approve final plan.

RESULTS: Final North Trail Study Area Plan.

KEY INPUTS:

- Community review.
- Open Space Board of Trustees review and approval.
- City Council review and acceptance.





North Trail Study Area Plan

Revised

2015

2016

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE
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Board's role as hosts:

- Support and encourage participation in the process
- Welcome participants at workshops
- Listen to ideas and discussion
- Opportunity to weigh in at study sessions, OSBT meetings and on the draft plan



North Trail Study Area Plan

What are “interests” ?

- Positions describe “*what*” is wanted
- Interests explain the “*why*” or “*reason*” for what is desired

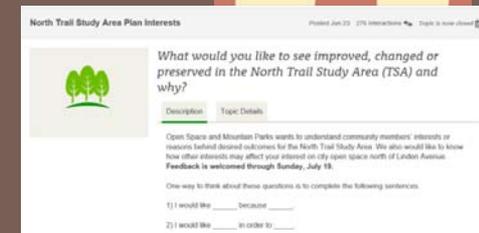
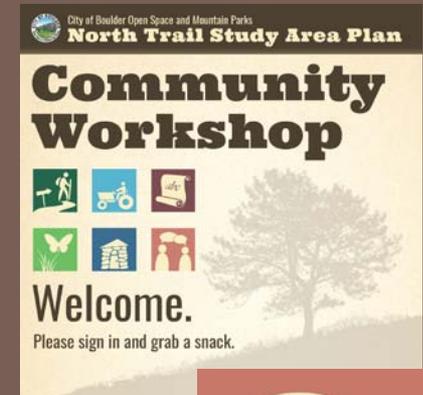
The screenshot shows the website for the North Trail Study Area Plan. At the top, it says "City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks" and "North Trail Study Area Plan". Below this is a navigation bar with four phases: Phase 1: Inventory & Assessment, Phase 2: INTERESTS & ISSUES (highlighted), Phase 3: Draft Plan, and Phase 4: Plan Acceptance. The main content area features a survey form with the question: "What would you like to see improved, changed or preserved in the North Trail Study Area (TSA)?". Below the question is a speech bubble that says "Tell us why. I would like because _____". To the left of the survey form, there is a section titled "The goal of the North Trail Study Area Plan is to improve visitors' experiences and increase the sustainability of trails while conserving natural, agricultural and cultural resources." Below this is a list of "Places within the study area you may know:" including Boulder Valley Ranch, Wonderland Lake, and North Foothills Trail. At the bottom of the page, there are four categories of resources: Recreation (Hiking, dog walking, running, biking, horseback riding, paragliding, nature study and more...), Cultural Resources (Historic architecture, honeysticks, fossils and more...), Natural Resources (Rare plants, butterflies, grassland birds, native frogs, wetlands and more...), and Agriculture (Ranching, hay fields, vegetable farming and more...).

Interests are integrative and allow win/win opportunities

North Trail Study Area Plan

How “interests” in the North TSA were shared:

- Two community workshops
- Inspire Boulder (4 weeks)
- In-field, store front, special event outreach
- Youth engagement
- Emails, website comments, social media
- Meetings with staff and peer agencies



Arrange of ideas supporting common interests

- Improve opportunities to access trails without driving
- Appreciate both recreation and the conservation of resources
- Increase stewardship of visitors
- Connect trails
- Trail design for resource protection and to minimize conflict
- Strategies to reduce visitor conflict





North Trail Study Area Plan

Family Workshop at Wonderland Lake

- More opportunities for interaction with water
- Enhanced lake access, with sand play, boardwalks and clear trail access
- Protecting and increasing wildlife
- More trees for shelter and shade
- More rocks for climbing
- Places for children and parents to play together



Photo Courtesy Phillip Yates, OSMP

"People are always telling us to get out and enjoy nature, but then we can't do anything with it but walk."

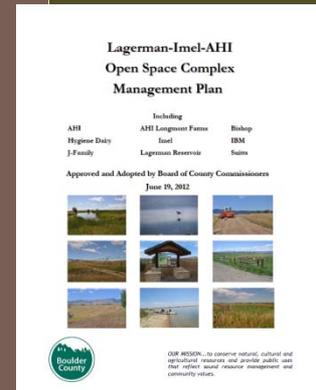
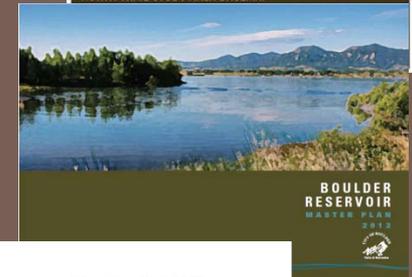
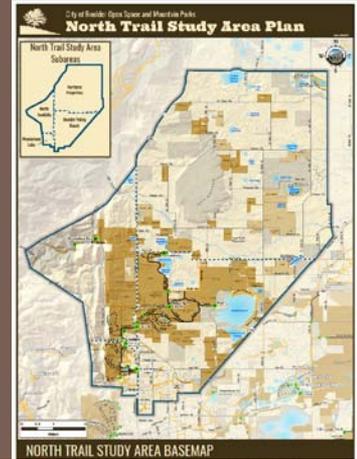


-9 year old participant

North Trail Study Area Plan

Peer Agency Interests:

- Improved regional/interagency planning
- Improved connectivity
- Consistency in management across properties
- Clarification of property ownership/management
- Conservation of natural resources
- Improved visitor experience



Ten primary interests:

- Improved Visitor Experience
- Conservation of Natural Resources
- Improved Access and Accessibility
- Honoring Community Values and Commitments
- Increased Education and Understanding

Ten primary interests – continued:

- Improved Connectivity
- Balance of Recreation and Natural Resources
- Increased Safety
- Decreased Visitor Conflict
- Effective Plan Implementation

Next Step – Interests into Scenarios

- Design actions that achieve interests
 - ✓ *The more interests an action achieves the better*
- Shape actions into possible scenarios (groups of actions)
 - ✓ *The more interests and balance of interests a scenario accomplishes the better*



North Trail Study Area Plan

Questions?



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Positions	Interests
<u>What</u> I want or need	<u>Why</u> I want or need it
Often binary/absolute (yes/no, yours/mine, right/wrong, etc.)	Describes the motivation for a need or want
Distributive (resources can and will be divided)	Integrative (stakeholders' interests can be integrated for shared gain)
Involves stakeholders claiming their piece of the pie	Involves stakeholders <u>creating</u> new solutions and new "pie"
Involves win/lose dynamics	Involves win/win dynamics
Stakeholders seek to maximize their own gains and minimize their own losses	Stakeholders seek to maximize joint gains
Best outcome: everyone gets about half of what they want	Best outcome: everyone gets most or all of what they want
Allows for a single solution: <i>this</i> one	Allows for multiple possible solutions
<p data-bbox="336 932 977 1015">Example: This river floods; we need a dam.</p> <p data-bbox="336 1068 716 1105"><i>Solution = build a dam.</i></p>	<p data-bbox="1016 932 1644 1015">Example: This river floods; we need to do something to stop the flooding.</p> <p data-bbox="1016 1068 1653 1382"><i>Solution = build a dam OR create wetlands for flood water retention OR build multiple small diversions to slow water as it reaches the stream OR reduce impervious areas in upstream areas so water percolates into the ground instead of running off</i></p>