



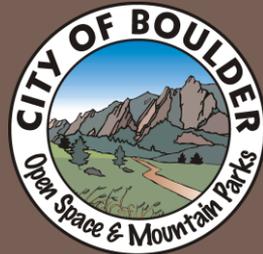
City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks

# North Trail Study Area Plan

## North TSA Draft Plan

OPEN SPACE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MARCH 9, 2016





# North Trail Study Area Plan

## GOALS

Improve Visitor Experiences

Increase Sustainability

Trails (19 miles)

Trailheads and

Other Visitor Infrastructure

Conserve Resources

Natural

Cultural and

Agricultural





City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks

# North Trail Study Area Plan

## OSBT Hosting the Process





## North TSA Team:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Juliet Bonnell</li><li>• Emily Garding</li><li>• Annie McFarland</li><li>• Lynn Riedel</li><li>• Heather Swanson</li><li>• Gabe Wilson</li><li>• Lynne Sullivan</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Arian Hampel</li><li>• Julie Johnson</li><li>• Eric Fairlee</li><li>• Jake Cseke</li><li>• Phil Yates</li><li>• Deryn Wagner</li><li>• Mark Gershman</li></ul> |
|---|--|

City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks  
**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 an issue. An issue is WHAT may need to be addressed.*

**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.

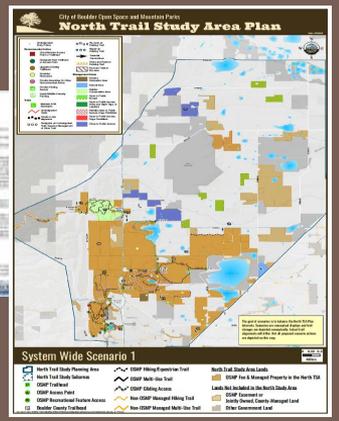
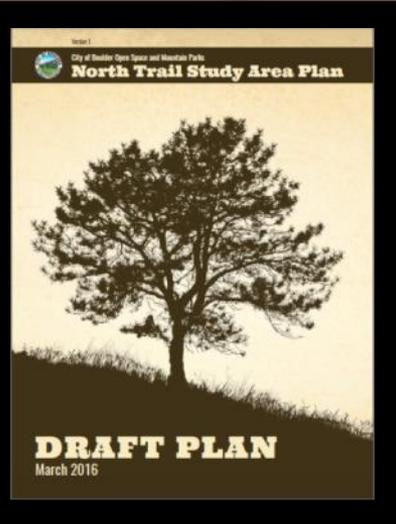
**KEY INPUTS:**

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



North Trail Study Area Plan Interests

Interest	Interest Icon
Improved Visitor Experiences	[Icon]
Information of Resources (Natural, Agricultural, Cultural)	[Icon]
Improved Access and Accessibility	[Icon]
Preserving Community Values and Characteristics	[Icon]
Improved Education and Understanding	[Icon]
Improved Connectivity	[Icon]
Enhance of Recreation and Resource Opportunities	[Icon]
Improved Safety	[Icon]
Enhanced Visitor Comfort	[Icon]
Effective Planning Process and Plan Implementation	[Icon]



## Community Engagement

- Workshops - 9
- Online (Inspire Boulder / NTSA website)
- On-site
- Youth
- OSBT hosting process



City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks  
**North Trail Study Area Plan**

### COMMUNITY INTERESTS

 <b>Improved Visitor Experience</b>	 <b>Improved Connectivity</b>
 <b>Conservation of Resources (Natural/Agricultural/Cultural)</b>	 <b>Balance of Recreation and Resource Conservation</b>
 <b>Improved Access and Accessibility</b>	 <b>Increased Safety</b>
 <b>Honoring Community Values and Commitments</b>	 <b>Decreased Visitor Conflict</b>
 <b>Increased Education and Understanding</b>	 <b>Effective Planning Process and Plan Implementation</b>

North Trail Study Area Plan Interests Posted Jun 22, 2016 10:00:00 AM [Topic is now closed](#)



### What would you like to see improved, changed or preserved in the North Trail Study Area (TSA) and why?

Description [Topic Details](#)

Open Space and Mountain Parks wants to understand community members' interests or reasons behind desired outcomes for the North Trail Study Area. We also would like to know how other interests may affect your interest on city open space north of Linden Avenue. Feedback is welcomed through Sunday, July 18.

One way to think about these questions is to complete the following sentences.

1) I would like \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_

2) I would like \_\_\_\_\_ in order to \_\_\_\_\_

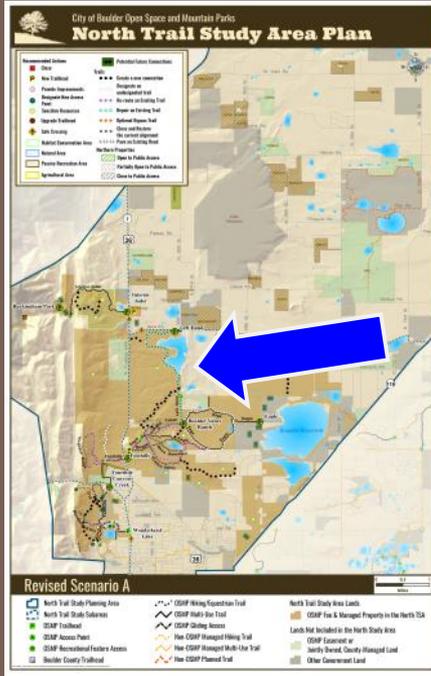




# North Trail Study Area Plan

## Scenario A

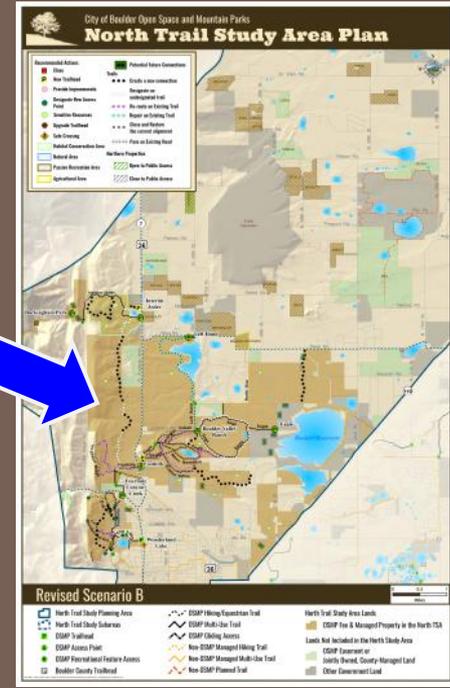
Selected as alternative



Both scenarios included many of the same actions

## Scenario B

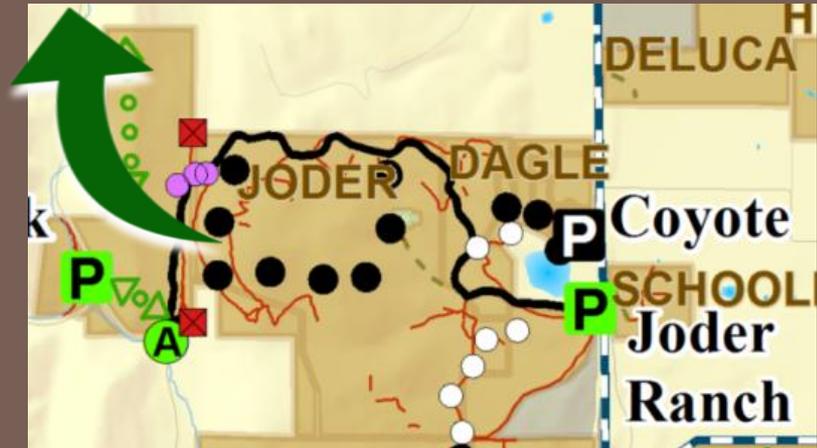
Selected as basis for NTSA Plan





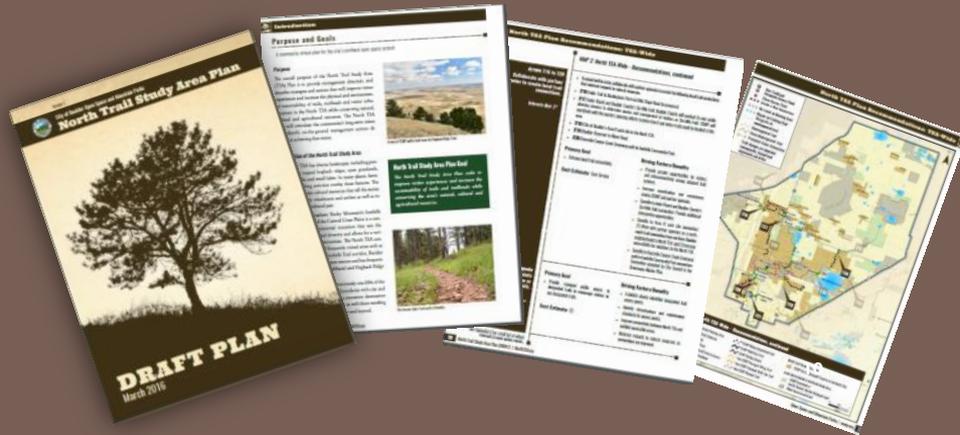
## Updates to Peer Advisory Boards

- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) – February 22
- Boulder County Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee (POSAC) – February 25



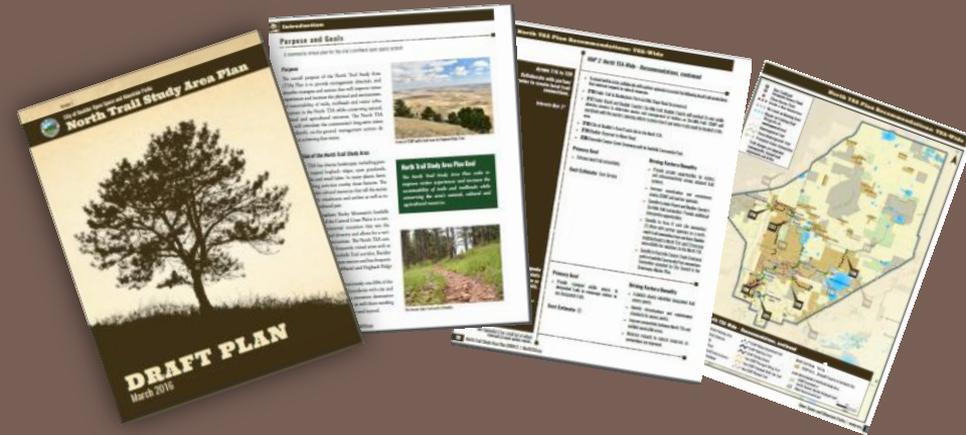
# Recommendations Included in the Draft Plan

- Temporal management and directional travel for bikes on Joder loop (Mahogany Loop)
- No off-trail HCA permits either side of Joder connector (North Sky Trail)
- On-Corridor Voice and Sight on the Papini connector (Wrangler Trail)
- North Sky Trail seasonal no dog (May – July)



# Recommendations Included in the Draft Plan

- Horse trailer parking at Eagle Trailhead and new trailhead at the Degge Trail (Horseshoe)
- Voice and Sight control on Wonderland hogback loop (Antler Loop)
- Use best efforts to locate part of North Sky Trail on conservation easement





## Follow up Topics

- Northern Properties
- Public access to BVR arena
- ADA parking – Beech Pavilion
- Single track on Joder Ranch Trail
- Trailhead leash extent for Joder trailheads
- Monitoring

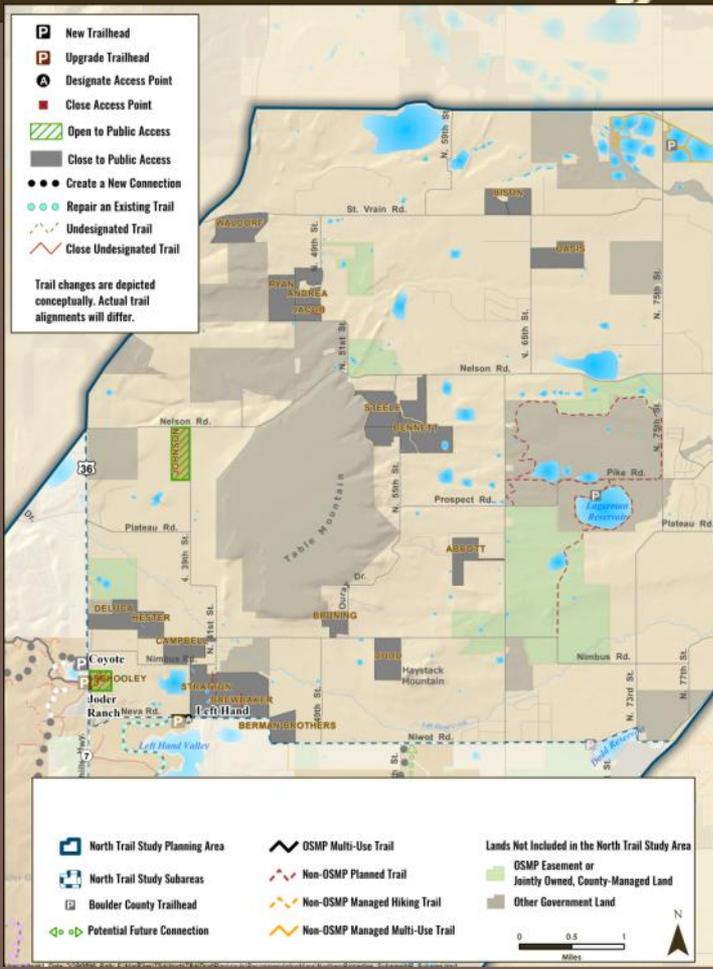
# North Trail Study Area Plan

## Northern Properties

### Draft Plan

### Open:

- Johnson
- Schooley



Johnson

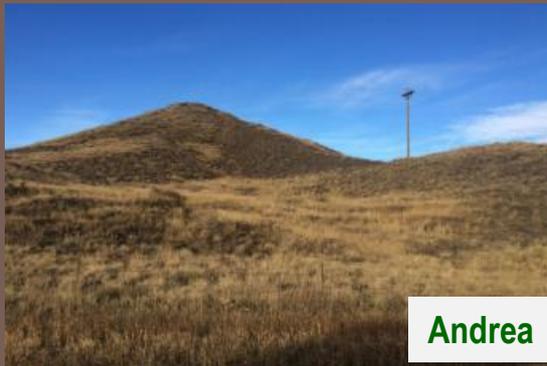


Schooley



## Northern Properties

- Currently Closed
- Natural Resources
- Neighboring County Lands



## Closed:

- Waldorf
- Andrea
- Ryan
- Jacob



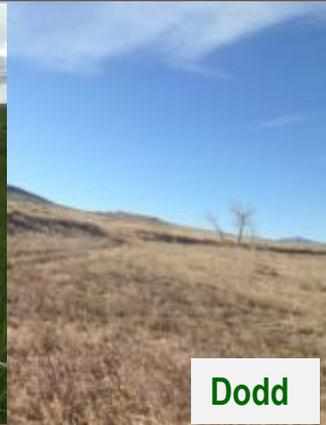
## Northern Properties

- Currently Closed
- Natural Resources
- Agriculture



## Closed:

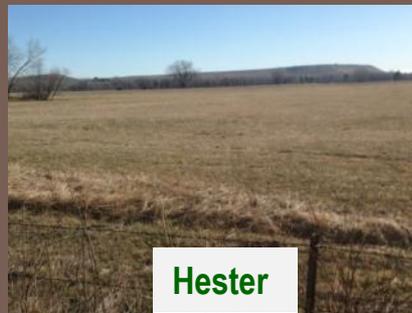
- Steele
- Bennett
- Bison
- Oasis
- Berman Brothers
- Stratton
- Abbott
- Dodd





## Northern Properties

- Currently Open
- Agriculture
- Natural Resources



### Open:

- Bruning
- Brewbaker
- Hester
- Campbell
- Deluca
- Johnson
- Schooley



## Public Access to BVR Arena

*Maintain public access to the BVR equestrian arena and develop options for nearby public horse trailer parking and/or provide a corral to ready a horse for trail riding, at a trailhead with trailer parking.*





## Converting Joder Ranch Trail to Single Track

- Requires modifying road profile to make tread more winding and create dips and rises
- Loss of emergency vehicle and maintenance access
- Some visitors prefer wider trail experience





## ADA Parking at Beech Pavilion

- Not feasible at entry
- Access road not ADA accessible





## Trailhead Leash Extent at Joder

- Being a good neighbor
  - Lefthand Water District
  - Adjacent houses/pasture
- Reducing conflict at trailhead
- Consistency in regulations





## Monitoring Interests

- Ecological change to structure, function, species interactions
- Quality of the initial visitor experience



## Ecological change to structure, function, species interactions

- Will weeds become established in areas disturbed for trail construction?
- What are the ecological effects of trail construction and recreational activities?
  - Will trail construction and use lead to sedimentation in wetlands?
  - Will OSMP be able to conserve plant and animal populations?

## Quality of the initial visitor experience

- Will visitors experience unacceptable levels of conflict on the North Sky Trail?



## Will weeds become established in areas disturbed for trail construction?

### System-wide monitoring in place?:

- Yes-Native Species Relative Cover

### Other Needs?:

- Preventative Measures
- Localized Early Detection/Warning

### How?:

- Use of OSMP's BMPs
- Site reconnaissance for two years following trail construction → IPM



## What are the ecological effects of passive recreation?

### System-wide monitoring in place?:

- No, Reliance on Conceptual Models

### Other Needs?:

- Stronger Inference
- Localized Early Detection/Warning (?)

### How?:

- Sponsored Research
- Mapped-based Analyses
- Review of System-wide Monitoring



## Will visitors experience unacceptable levels of conflict on the North Sky Trail?

### System-wide monitoring in place?:

- Yes-Resident and Visitor Survey questions regarding conflict

### Other Needs?:

- Preventative Measures
- Localized Early Detection/Warning

### How?:

- Trail Design
- Education and Outreach about Trail Etiquette
- Anecdotal Reporting → Recommendations to change management



## Next Steps for North TSA Plan:

- City Council Tours (2) — April
- City Council Study Session — likely May 10
- City Council — June (TBD)



## Staff Recommendation:

Staff requests the Open Space Board of Trustees approve the North Trail Study Area Plan and recommend that the Boulder City Council approve the North Trail Study Area Plan.



## Questions?

