

NORTH TSA INTERESTS AND ISSUES PUBLIC FEEDBACK 5/28/2015 - 7/22/2015	
A Summary of Feedback from the 6/24/2015 Interests Community Workshop is available at: https://bouldercolorado.gov/links/fetch/25909	
A Summary of Feedback from the 6/27/2015 Interests Community Workshop is available at: https://bouldercolorado.gov/links/fetch/25910	
A Summary of Feedback from the Interests Community Workshops, direct public outreach, and outreach to under-represented groups is available at: https://bouldercolorado.gov/links/fetch/26236	
An Interim Report of Feedback received from youth is available at: https://bouldercolorado.gov/links/fetch/26237	
A complete summary of feedback received from youth will be available in late August.	
INSPIRE BOULDER FEEDBACK 6/23/2015 - 7/20/2015	
Topic Name	<i>North Trail Study Area Plan Interests</i>
Idea Title	Create off-highway bike trail between Boulder & Lyons
Idea Detail	How wonderful it would be to bike to Lyons on a bike-friendly path that avoids the noise and danger of riding along 36.
Idea Author	Roger M
Number of Stars	42
Number of Comments	7
Comment 1	Multi-use trail don't work for hikers. They are a miserable experience for hikers, especially single-track. When encountered head on, about half of the bikers yield, but most hikers step off of the trail to avoid conflict. When approached from behind by a biker, hikers are frequently surprised and frightened by bikes and it makes no sense for bikes to yield to hikers in front of them. Hikers or bikers must step off the trail to allow the bike to pass. The hikers I know avoid multi-use trails like the plague. That said, I believe that there should be bike trails but to call them multi-use trails is not representative of the situation on the ground. By Bev G
Comment 2	Mickelson Trail is a great multi use trail. http://gfp.sd.gov/state-parks/directory/mickelson-trail/ By Randy W
Comment 3	I'm excited about the idea of more community connections. Boulder to Lyons to Longmont and back to Boulder - all off road! Intersecting with trails heading to Wyoming and New Mexico. Offer visitors an option to buy a day pass to support the trail system like what I bought to be on the Mickelson Trail in South Dakota. By Elaine E
Comment 4	Agree - Bike Path out North of Boulder would be great. Hwy 36 is a busy mess. By Stephen H
Comment 5	Agreed, need a recreation focused single track route utilizing NTSA areas, Joder Ranch, and Heil Valley Ranch. By Richard H
Comment 6	How about making it a recreation focused single track route utilizing NTSA areas, Joder Ranch, and Heil Valley Ranch. This would be a great mountain bike or trail running route! By Jason V
Comment 7	I ride along 36 from Boulder to Lyons twice a week. I don't find the bike lane all that dangerous because there's a decent amount of room but it's DEFINITELY not kid or elderly friendly. Even a bike friendly dirt path would be better than what we have now. By D H
Idea Title	I would like regional recreational trail connectivity

Idea Detail	Lyons to Boulder along the foothills, the Trail Around Boulder, linking Boulder to Niwot, realizing the trail around the Res called for in the Boulder Res Master Plan. All of these trail opportunities are available in the NTSA. The most important is probably a recreational single track trail connecting Wonderland Lake to the Beech Property to Joder Ranch to Heil Valley Ranch to Lyons. These trails should be designed for recreation, not transportation. There are already transportation routes available, such as the Cottonwood Path, the proposed Feeder Canal, and the LoBo trail. This should be about getting people out into nature to have fun and develop or renew their land ethic.
Idea Author	Jason V
Number of Stars	39
Number of Comments	4
Comment 1	Why is the IBM Connector loop not in place yet? I attended meetings about that years ago. I'm so ready to get out into the North TSA without riding on Highway 52. By Elaine E
Staff Response Comment 2	Thanks for your question, Elaine. The IBM Connector trail is not in place yet because in order to install the required new railroad bridge over Little Dry Creek, the BNSF railroad must shut down for about 24 hours. The BNSF railroad is working to identify a time when it would be possible for them to shut down the railroad line long enough to install the bridge and estimate it can be done later this year. In the meantime, the city and county are working hard to ensure all the documents required to complete this work are finalized, so it can move forward as soon as the railroad is able. By Juliet B
Comment 3	A key element here, I believe, is to create trails that are fun and interesting. Allow users to explore with their feet/hooves/tires interesting contours, fun obstacles, natural vistas, and wildlife/plants. It's critical that these trails aren't "A to B", not a means to an end (the destination), but an end unto themselves. The experience of being on a trails and traveling regionally is critical to the North TSA area. By Kevin B
Comment 4	Very much agree. I would add that completing the IBM connector and linking up the trail routes out of Boulder proper (e.g., LoBo is partially paved road) are important to realizing these goals. By Dave J
Idea Title	I would like more trails not roads b/c > quality experience
Idea Detail	Most of the so called "trails" in the NTSA are actually old ranch roads. There is a reason that most people do not choose to recreate in the NTSA, and that is because the old roads are *boring*. We could dramatically improve the quality of the recreation experience by providing single track trails that feel like you are part of the environment rather than old roads that feel intrusively constructed by man.
Idea Author	Jason V
Number of Stars	35
Number of Comments	2
Comment 1	I feel that roads are a poor choice for a recreation experience (unless you are driving a car). Trails reduce conflict by reducing speed. In addition, if the intent is to utilize the places like Boulder Valley Ranch that currently don't see high use, it's probably wise to consider areas that currently do (Marshall Mesa, Dowdy Draw). Those areas have relatively few wide roads and the areas with highest use are single track. By Kevin B
Comment 2	For singletrack to work well, the City needs to get over its refusal to designate direction-of-travel rules and single-sport (either overall or by day-of-week) usage. It is not a better experience if you are having to constantly stop and get off trail for someone coming the other direction. The "roads" have the advantage that there is less user conflict and it is possible to ride side-by-side. However, singletrack would be a good addition if it is implemented and managed properly. By Dave J
Idea Title	I would like a trail on the hogback west of 36

Idea Detail	The hogback on the westside of US36 would have gorgeous views and interesting geology that many people would enjoy. Ideally this multiuser trail would connect from the Hogback Ridge Trail to Joder Ranch taking a path roughly along the western boundary of Boulder Open Space.
Idea Author	Jim M
Number of Stars	33
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	I would like multiple loop trail opportunities
Idea Detail	Out and back trails are less fun, generate more conflict, and provide for fewer management options. Loop trails are what most users want, especially longer distance users such as trail runners and mountain bikers. Ideally, you could provide multiple loop opportunities of different lengths for people of different abilities or with different amounts of available time.
Idea Author	Jason V
Number of Stars	32
Number of Comments	4
Comment 1	I think "right sizing" loops is probably relevant here. Big loops are great to get people out to places far away without running into each other. It's also a great idea to place smaller loops in areas where focused human activity causes less impact. The caveat to the smaller loops is that making them too small creates unnecessary environmental impact without creating a fun user experience. By Kevin B
Comment 2	I agree with longer loops. Shorter loops break up the landscape, create more bi-directional user conflict, and reduce isolation. There are many places to go for a short walk or ride, but fewer to go for a long loop ride without having to get on a paved road. A "loop" in the stack should be at least three miles. By Dave J
Comment 3	stacked loops are a fantastic idea. They're a good way to disperse traffic and minimize overuse and trail conflicts. By Elizabeth R
Comment 4	Yes please, multiple loop opportunities of different lengths and levels of difficulty. Recreation + preservation = winning all around. By Richard H
Idea Title	I would like to see trails engineered by/for mountain bikers
Idea Detail	The populous has spoke time and time again. The current trail system north of Boulder consists of dirt roads, long, straight, boring, eroded trails that do not serve what the populous (us bikers, us taxpayers) crave. Take advantage of the existing, eager manpower that already exists in Boulder. Let us (BMA, IMBA, Volunteers) design, maintain, and rebuild the trails. We paid for it (taxes). We deserve it!
Idea Author	Philip S
Number of Stars	29
Number of Comments	1
Comment 1	I find this comment a bit dismaying. I would like to see the bikers have trails but also the hikers, dog walkers, equestrians, wildlife watchers etc. who also pay taxes. The tenor of the meeting on July 24th was excellent as the moderator kept everyone on interest based comments rather than positional comments. Go to the meeting on the 27th and see how the process is conducted. By Randy W
Idea Title	I would like a way to cross the fences w/o stopping my bike

Idea Detail	The current cattle guard crossings are a great start. There are so many gates that have to be opened and closed in this area that it feels like you are constantly stopping and starting again to open and close gates when on your bike. I understand that equestrians have raised some concerns about the current "cattle guard" ramps that have been installed by OSMP. Let's hear out their concerns, resolve those problems and implement these crossings in the NTSA and system-wide. This would provide a much higher quality visitor experience.
Idea Author	Jason V
Number of Stars	28
Number of Comments	1
Comment 1	Yes, please implement "cattle guard" crossings in the NTSA and system-wide. This would definitely provide a much higher quality visitor experience. By Richard H
Idea Title	Connect buses and trails more seamlessly
Idea Detail	I would like to see a more seamless connection between the bus system and the trail system so that we don't need to use our cars to access trailheads, including the North Trail Study Area. Wouldn't it be cool to have a dedicated HOP-style bus route that circulates frequently among trailheads while intersecting nicely with transfer points on other city bus routes (SKIP, JUMP, BOUND, etc.)?
Idea Author	Jack G
Number of Stars	23
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	I would like a truly stacked loop system in the NTSA
Idea Detail	I quit riding here when the Marshall Mesa/Doudy Draw system came online because aside from the Left Hand trail, we have roads that serve as trails. It's not about getting from A to B, make the journey interesting!
Idea Author	mike B
Number of Stars	19
Number of Comments	2
Comment 1	Looped systems in general, and in the N TSA in particular make a lot of sense. Rather than an out and back trail in which hiker A will likely run into hiker B twice (once on the way out, and once on the way back), a looped trail means that person A may meet person B at most once. This decreased perceived crowding, potential conflict, and impact on trailside wildlife (fewer times a person passes a particular spot). By Kevin B
Comment 2	agreed. the current minimal, 2-way, out-and-back design conventions on tightly constrained corridors only contributes to user conflict and overuse / increased maintenance wear and erosion problems. Disperse users, create a branched network with opportunities for differentiating direction of travel, ability, and use separated trails. following this formula will see a happier trail environment, less conflict and more buy-in from volunteers to build and maintain. By Elizabeth R
Idea Title	More bikes
Idea Detail	I live in NoBo and would like to see that trail system open up more to bikes. If we're willing to block off entire lanes in Boulder and dedicate them to bikes then the trail system should be open to providing for that mode of transport as well. Personally I don't really care much about the prairie dog ecosystem because those things are everywhere in East Boulder already and they tend to destroy/take over the habitat - I much prefer seeing the birds and flowers on hikes in that area (e.g., Hogback) than a bunch of prairie dogs clearing the land.
Idea Author	D H

Number of Stars	17
Number of Comments	1
Comment 1	Lets not mix messages. Prairie dogs aside, more bike access in this area is critically important. The Marshall Mesa/Doudy Draw area is intensely used because there are a lot of mountain bikers in this town and not very many trails. Staff and City Council decided that no more bike access should occur in the Boulder mountain backdrop - so the NTSA is the only remaining logical area to develop facilities for this under served and overcrowded user group. By Jason V
Idea Title	Preservation of habitat.
Idea Detail	I would like to see more emphasis on the preservation of the unique ecosystems in this planning area. We are losing species at an alarming rate and are in the midst of what scientists call "The Sixth Great Extinction." Humans are causing these extinctions and it is our responsibility to protect endangered and threatened species, as well as their habitat, where ever they occur. The rain forests of Madagascar, South American and SE Asia aren't the only places where we need to focus our attention. Sometimes the most interesting and critical species and habitats are in our own backyards. We need to step back and analyze just how many areas we already have to recreate and really join efforts to save these special places.
Idea Author	Linda M
Number of Stars	15
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	To prioritize conservation of wildlife and plant communities
Idea Detail	With increasing population growth and visitation along the Front Range, our wildlife and wildplaces are being severely compromised by overuse. This continual fragmentation does not bode well for long term sustainability for all but the most common species. This TSA has an amazing variety of birds, insects, mammals, reptiles and amphibians, some of them threatened or endangered. Dogs should not be allowed on or off leash. They are often neither sight nor sound controlled; untrained they are a threat to about anything that moves, as well as a vector for weed seeds. There are dozens of other places that accommodate dogs. I would hope that the user groups would take a step back and reflect on the difference between wants and needs. The animals and plants in this TSA NEED these intact ecosystems that allow them to live and thrive. Our selfish wants should not take precedence.
Idea Author	Pam P
Number of Stars	15
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	Preserve habitat and animal travel corridors
Idea Detail	As an avid hiker, I selfishly think some carefully located trails are appropriate. I would love to see this area preserved primarily for plant and animal habitat. So much of our foothill habitat has become fragmented that I believe this unique area should be carefully considered before it is destroyed as other foothill areas.
Idea Author	Bev G
Number of Stars	14
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	Preserve unfragmented habitat blocks for wildlife.
Idea Detail	There are many important ecosystems and species of concern in this area, as documented in the Resource inventory. It is our responsibility to pass them on to future generations, not degrade them for short-term gratification.

Idea Author	Raymond B
Number of Stars	12
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	think about what we want to leave for future generations
Idea Detail	<p>The big challenge for all of us in this TSA plan is to find a way to “Enjoy” AND “Protect”.</p> <p>I have been studying the Natural Resources section of the Inventory Report and reading the many things listed on this website that people want to have in and from the lands in the North TSA. There are many species of special concern, unique and diverse organisms, and sensitive animals that depend on specific types of habitat in this part of our open space system for their continued existence. I wonder whether it is possible to provide access for our many recreational uses to the extent desired and expressed in this list and also ensure that our native plants and animals have a lasting home in wild nature?</p>
Idea Author	Karen H
Number of Stars	12
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	Legacy Roads and Trails vs Proper Trail Design
Idea Detail	<p>User conflict by design - that's what happens when ranch roads become the trail system, and the BVR is full of them. Wide roads make for bigger speed differentials between user groups, creating perceived user conflict. I get it that this is a property that has many uses, but what do we want - a dysfunctional trail system or something that works for everyone? Remember, most user conflicts are a result of poor trail design.</p>
Idea Author	mike B
Number of Stars	12
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	I would like some quiet trails for contemplation and center
Idea Detail	Quiet means no mountain bikes; children and dogs on leash OK
Idea Author	Catharine H
Number of Stars	12
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	Support BOSMP staff expertise
Idea Detail	<p>I have been involved in these discussions for at least 15 yrs. To be honest, I wish that Council would support and acknowledge the expertise that the open space staff has in all areas of the management of the parks and open space. They know what areas need to be preserved, where they can build sustainable trails, and how these trails need to be managed. This process has continuously forced people to chose a side and it isn't necessary. The bike folks would like a north-south connector trail and that seems reasonable. Highway 93 is dangerous to them and aggravating to drivers which causes conflicts, so it would give them a good, safe and interesting route to use. We can't get away from more people using the trails, but multi-use trails are logical. We need to learn to get along with each other. More trails in intact habitat isn't the answer. Those areas just can't afford to be more fragmented, some species will not adapt. Let the staff put the plan on the table and let Council vote.</p>
Idea Author	Linda M
Number of Stars	12

Number of Comments	1
Comment 1	You know, I would trust what comes out of the staff room if there were a proper mix of professionals in the room. Historically, staff has been flush with expertise in flora and fauna...but devoid of expertise in understanding the species with the biggest impact to these lands...humans.... When there are recreation professionals on staff with the same level of credentials as resource staff, that's when I'll trust staff. By mike B
Idea Title	Wildlife First
Idea Detail	We value Open Space primarily for wildlife habitat. 99% of prairie dogs are gone (so they are indeed an endangered species) and fragmented habitat has little value. We should put wildlife first. Open Space was never intended to be for people first and then bikes and horses etc etc etc. Open Space is successful when it first protects wildlife and then prevents built environments. We would like to see this WILDLIFE AND HABITAT FIRST model applied to every step of the plan.
Idea Author	Milo P
Number of Stars	12
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	Preserve Wildlife First
Idea Detail	Disturbing wildlife habitat with horses, dogs and bikes should be avoided. Unfragmented habitat has the most value. This is a case where preservation should be chosen over "development" for recreation purposes. We have plenty of trails, biking, etc. I say keep the North TSA natural!
Idea Author	karen S
Number of Stars	12
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	Expand Voice & Sight Opportunities in the NTSA
Idea Detail	The NTSA is a rare opportunity to expand access for those of us who like to hike with our dogs off-leash in compliance with the new V&S tag program. Expanding access will reduce congestion on trails throughout the system. As Boulder's population continues to grow through the development of more medium density housing we must provide more trails in city Open Space for ALL forms of recreation. An opportunity to do so on this scale will not come again for a long time.
Idea Author	Jim I
Number of Stars	11
Number of Comments	2
Comment 1	As much as I like to see well behaved dogs on trail there are always going to be a small percentage just about every time one is on trail for a long period of time, that are not as voice controlled or well behaved as they should be. Not sure if anything can be done about this as it is the nature of things but it does create an unpleasant experience for non dog walkers or dog walkers with dogs on leashes where other dogs are aggressive towards them. By Randy W

Comment 2	<p>Randy, I don't disagree with you; in just about every aspect of modern life and society there are always a small subset of scofflaws and outliers. Now, here comes the 'but'. We rarely punish or restrict an entire segment of the population, in this case people hiking with their off-leash properly permitted dogs, for the actions of that small minority of bad apples. Instead, we put in place reasonable societal expectations in the form of regulations, etc combined with a credible fear of enforcement for offenders. We've done that and the new tag program needs time to work. Pending the results of the 2016 OSMP monitoring study dog guardians like myself are unwilling to miss this rare opportunity for an expansion of voice and sight opportunities.</p> <p>By the way, thank you for your comments. It's heartening to see that civil discourse, especially online, survives.</p> <p>Cheers, -Jim By Jim I</p>
Idea Title	I would like to see more multi-use trails in the NTSA
Idea Detail	<p>The NTSA Coalition has submitted an excellent map of some desirable regional trails through and across OSMP land in the NTSA. To make these trails a reality, I urge OSMP to collaborate with other public land management agencies (BCPOS, Forest Service, etc), and to acquire any missing links needed. Consider trail easements if acquisitions are not possible. Now is the time to get this done!</p> <p>I also support the Trail Around Boulder (TAB), a 34-mile multi-use trail that will encircle the city on OSMP land. More than 80% of the TAB is already in place, with only about 7-8 miles left to build. The TAB will unite Boulder and will allow access to and appreciation of Boulder's amazing geographic setting. Learn more about the TAB at www.bouldertrails.org. Part of the TAB is in the NTSA -- let's plan for it now!</p>
Idea Author	Suzanne W
Number of Stars	9
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	Use angled cow grates
Idea Detail	Whatever the trails, The angled cow grates are great for easily riding over. I am an avid runner and cyclist and many times I approach a gate to see it left open. Grates will block cattle from crossing yet will allow for bikes to roll over. They are not difficult to step over either. They seem to need less maintenance as well, versus gates.
Idea Author	Siga A
Number of Stars	7
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	More Voice & Sight Trails in the North TSA
Idea Detail	I would like to see more Voice & Sight trails for hikers with dogs in the North TSA. Hiking with my happy and well-behaved off-leash dog brings me great joy. Many of my favorite Voice & Sight trails are no longer Voice & Sight, since the increased restrictions of the Visitor Master Plan and the West TSA. It is time to finally add some Voice & Sight trails to disperse users, especially with the ever-increasing population in Boulder. I would love to see Voice & Sight loop trails at the Joder and West Beech properties, as well as V&S on the Left Hand Trail.
Idea Author	Eileen M

Number of Stars	7
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	I would like to strike a balance between...
Idea Detail	...habitat preservation and the provision of recreational opportunities. Both are important to our community and both are provided for in the charter for use of the city's open space properties.
Idea Author	catherine S
Number of Stars	7
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	More multiuse paths and hiking opportunities
Idea Detail	More biking and hiking opportunities please. Complete the railroad underpass off 4-mile creek that's been proposed for awhile now. Continue dog friendly options in these areas.
Idea Author	James D
Number of Stars	6
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	I would like more trails available to hikers with dogs
Idea Detail	The trend has been to reduce the number of trails available to dogs (leashed and voice and sight). I'd like to see that trend reversed. I'm a biker and my wife likes to hike with a dog. Currently there are limited areas north of Boulder where we can go together.
Idea Author	Dan M
Number of Stars	6
Number of Comments	1
Comment 1	I would also like to see the trend reversed. Leashed or not, it's important to me that dogs can enjoy the trails along with all other users. By Mike B
Idea Title	More no-dog opportunities
Idea Detail	Many users (for different reasons) want to hike in areas where they do not have to deal with dogs. Some of the blocks with sensitive resource considerations in the North TSA are well-suited for such opportunities.
Idea Author	Raymond B
Number of Stars	6
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	More Voice and Sight!
Idea Detail	We need more Voice and Sight trails for dogs!
Idea Author	Andy M
Number of Stars	6
Number of Comments	1
Comment 1	Yes, since our dogs can't login and make comments (at least my dog can't) we need to be their voice. Here's another vote for the blue tags. By Mike B
Idea Title	more trails

Idea Detail	anywhere. I love them all but do them over and over and over and over and over and overknow what I mean. :) !!!!
Idea Author	marianne M
Number of Stars	6
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	Control prairie dogs to increase species diversity, beauty
Idea Detail	Where prairie dogs populations are not controlled (as in much of the NTSA) they consume all plant life and force out other species. The result is a barren, ugly, dust-choked, and unnatural landscape. Allowing populations to spike and then die off of starvation, plague, and road kill is substantially more cruel than proactively and humanely controlling the population.
Idea Author	Dave J
Number of Stars	5
Number of Comments	4
Comment 1	<p>Research on prairie dogs strongly suggest that they are a "keystone species" of the plains in the same way the beavers are to streams. Beavers were/are often derided, but an entire ecosystem of plants and animals depend on their damming of streams. Same is true for the plains with prairie dogs. The problem facing management is not the removal of prairie dogs, but the control of weeds and the allowance for the natural range shifts that occur year over year for prairie dogs. Historically, prairie dogs would shift their dog towns in different directions over the years. This is critical in keeping unnatural scrublands from forming in the plains (the result of removal of prairie dogs and bison) as well as increasing the biodiversity of the area. Grasslands, while primarily grass should naturally vary between times when grasses are denser to those when forbs (non-grass low plants including many wildflowers) and small shrubs. Prairie dogs allow this process to happen. Without them, the grasses outcompete the wildflowers. Eventually, shrubs and cacti will outcompete the grasses. Then, we no longer have a grassland. By Kevin B</p>
Comment 2	<p>Your analysis relies on there being a sufficiently large unpopulated grassland, along with various and sufficient species of predators. These things no longer exist in Boulder County - it is 2015, not 1840. Today, the areas of open space devastated by prairie dogs do not come back until they die off from plague or other events, and then only slowly. There is nowhere for the prairie dogs to "shift" - they consume all available open space and then are boxed in by private property and population centers. As to shrubs outcompeting grasses, I have not seen evidence of this in Boulder County on lands where prairie dogs are controlled, but even if so, it would be far preferable to a moonscape.</p> <p>Let's manage open space based on today's reality, not "historical" conditions that have not existed since long before any of us were born. We should manage it to be beautiful and diverse and only secondarily to suggest its pre-frontier character. By Dave J</p>

Staff Response	Thanks, Dave and Kevin, for your comments and interest in prairie dogs within the North TSA. Management of prairie dogs actually falls outside the scope of the North TSA planning process which seeks to improve visitor experiences and increase the sustainability of trails and trailheads while conserving the area's natural, cultural and agricultural resources. Other aspects of management including prairie dogs, agriculture and many others are included in other plans and planning processes. OSMP manages prairie dogs according to the Grassland Ecosystem Management Plan that was accepted by City Council in 2010. Prairie dogs on Open Space are an issue that received extensive community interest and involvement during the creation of the Grassland Ecosystem Management Plan and the plan addresses the numerous challenges associated with their conservation and management. A difficult balance was incorporated into the Grassland Plan to meet the diverse community desires and interests. If you have further questions about prairie dog management on OSMP, please see the Grassland Ecosystem Management Plan at https://www-static.bouldercolorado.gov/docs/final-grassland-plan-1-201305101529.pdf .
Staff Response continued	If you would like to discuss prairie dogs and the Grassland Plan, please contact our wildlife ecologist, Heather Swanson at swansonh@bouldercolorado.gov or 720-564-2054. By Juliet B
Idea Title	Develop Joder Ranch for multiple interests
Idea Detail	This is (or was) a historic ranch and horse facility with 8 miles of trails. OSMP forced the premature demolition of all the ranch infrastructure before the NTSA could evaluate it. But the trails are still there, and an interim trailhead has been approved to open at the same time the North Joder Trail opens. The NTSA should approve expansion and construction of a permanent TH at the bottom of the Joder driveway/Hwy 36, with sufficient vehicle parking, horse trailer parking, kiosk, picnic tables, and restrooms. The NTSA should approve designation of at least one complete pedestrian/equestrian loop trail as well as multi-use trails that connect to West Beech, Buckingham and Heil Valley Ranch.
Idea Author	Suzanne W
Number of Stars	4
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	Restore functional public access to BVR Homestead Area
Idea Detail	In recent memory the riding arena was open to public use, but no more. There used to be excellent horse trailer parking near the old Silver Nickel Saloon, but no more. There used to be a horseback riding lesson program at the arena through Parks & Rec, but no more. There used to be a livery, but no more. There even used to be horse shows at BVR, but no more. The Silver Nickel used to be a great meeting space (and even a dance hall!), but no more. The place used to be tidy with decent facilities, but no more. This topic needs to be a specific management plan within the NTSA. Please, NTSA participants, staff, and Council -- restore Boulder Valley Ranch to its previous glory as a showplace for OSMP!
Idea Author	Suzanne W
Number of Stars	4
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	More trails for responsible dog owners:
Idea Detail	Some suggested trails for Voice & Sight access in the North TSA: Trails at Joder Ranch Trails at West Beech Open Space Left Hand trail north of Boulder Valley Ranch Old Kiln and Foothills trails north of Wonderland Lake
Idea Author	Jude H

Number of Stars	4
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	I would like to see a diverse and creative trail system
Idea Detail	Less emphasis on existing boring dirt roads outlining old agricultural properties. More emphasis on challenging hiking and mountain biking loops, not necessarily exclusive, but utilizing the varied terrain of ridges, gullies and plains. Preservation of some dog-free trails. Take Goshawk Ridge, Lion's Lair and Skunk Creek Canyon as exemplars.
Idea Author	Jim B
Number of Stars	4
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	Off street trail from Cottonwood Tr. to Twin Lakes and Lobo
Idea Detail	It would be great to not have to ride on Jay to Spine to pickup the Lobo Trail.
Idea Author	M S
Number of Stars	4
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	More technical Mountain Bike Trails.
Idea Detail	There is a dearth of challenging/technical Mountain Bike Trails in Boulder. There are plenty of prairie trails with almost no hills. Opening up existing trails with the Betasso-like compromise would instantly create such trails. Even just a couple of days a week.
Idea Author	M S
Number of Stars	4
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	Extend mountain bike trails to Left Hand Canyon.
Idea Detail	Currently, the only practical way to get to Heil Valley Ranch is to drive or ride a bike on 36 out to it. The trail from Boulder Valley Ranch ends at Neva.
Idea Author	M S
Number of Stars	4
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	I would like more Voice and Sight control trails
Idea Detail	Please add a few more areas where dogs can be off leash. Dogs deserve areas where they can run and play safely. They benefit from variety. It is much more fun for me and my husband to walk our large dog off leash. Dogs prefer it too. They greet and interact with each other more normally when they are off leash.
Idea Author	Mary F
Number of Stars	3
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	Maintain a presence of horses in our community.

Idea Detail	I mentioned this at the meeting but thought I'd mention it here as well. There is a heritage and love of horses in this community. The PowWow grounds were on 28th St. and Mapleton. My wife had her first horse on what is now Mt. Sanitas Open Space and used to play hide and seek on horseback in and around the Mapleton Hill area. Of course the Joder Ranch Open Space was once a working Arabian Horse Ranch and Boarding Stable. Other horse operations were Van Vleet Arabian Ranch, Bell Park Arabian Ranch, Snow Stables, Blue Cloud Riding facility and Flatirons Stables. People used to be able to more easily ride directly from where their horses lived. Most of us these days have to trailer our horses to get to trails so adequate and designated trailer parking is important. I know it is frustrating to see empty trailer spots when car parking is full but it is equally frustrating to haul to an area to ride to find inadequate trailer slots or trailer slots filled with cars.
Idea Author	Randy W
Number of Stars	2
Number of Comments	1
Comment 1	The NTSA is a good opportunity to redesign trailheads to accommodate horse trailer parking, as well as to make them more welcoming and functional for everyone else, by including elements such as landscaping, kiosks, and rest rooms. By Suzanne W
Idea Title	Respect all interests and the ecosystem
Idea Detail	I would like the NTSA to respect the originals owners, the Joder's vision. To allow horses to be an integral part of the landscape, allow wildlife and the ecosystem to thrive and also take care to design the trails and loops for an enhanced user experience. I think the wildlife should be protected and dogs should remain on leash where there is sensitive habitat. I also am concerned about the possible use of a trail that might allow night bike users with headlamps, since this is a user group with high impact that might effect wildlife. On trails that may be open to all user groups and have blind curves I vote for the restriction of any type of ear buds on these trails so that users can hear each other. I have had many close calls with cyclist wearing ear buds that can not hear you calling to them.
Idea Author	Linda P
Number of Stars	2
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	Open access for horses to ALL open space.
Idea Detail	REMOVAL OF INTERIOR FENCES within open space, and open entrances on all sides for horses, which do not degrade a natural area the way that multitudes of hikers and bikers do. I say this as an avid hiker and biker. The fields should be open to horses first, yet we buy up all of the horse properties and close them off. If I knew I would not be allowed on the open space I've been voting to increase taxes on every year for 18 years, I wouldn't have voted for it. It was already "protected from sprawl" as a horse property, a beautiful, open, agricultural property... Unless there is a protected species on it, which could be easily marked with signage, horses should be grandfathered in as first right to explore these open lands. They need no trail and leave no trail. They are only good for the grasses and ecosystems here.
Idea Author	Amelia H
Number of Stars	2
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	Sustainable trails to the paragliding launches

Idea Detail	I would like to see sustainable trails designed and built to the paragliding launches. In May, a landslide obliterated a few hundred feet of trail and now a new trail has formed on the fall line from hikers skirting the landslide. Hikers are the majority user here so they would benefit the most and the paragliders would be the secondary beneficiaries.
Idea Author	Jason H
Number of Stars	1
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	not sure how to do this
Idea Detail	Not sure if this is going to register. If this is how to submit my comments could you email me back mccler@colorado.edu
Idea Author	Roz M
Number of Stars	0
Number of Comments	1
Staff Response	Hi Roz, I just sent you an email. Yes, this is how you submit your comments. We look forward to reading your feedback. Thank you! By Juliet B
Idea Title	I would like to see more Voice & Sight trails for hikers
Idea Detail	I would like to see more Voice & Sight trails for hikers with dogs in the North TSA. Hiking with my happy and well-behaved off-leash dog brings me great joy. Many of my favorite Voice & Sight trails are no longer Voice & Sight, since the increased restrictions of the Visitor Master Plan and the West TSA. It is time to finally add some Voice & Sight trails to disperse users, especially with the ever-increasing population in Boulder. I would love to see Voice & Sight loop trails at the Joder and West Beech properties, as well as V&S on the Left Hand Trail.
Idea Author	Tricia S
Number of Stars	0
Number of Comments	0
Idea Title	go away...
Idea Detail	Bad idea, you are disrupting my life. I cant sleep at night due to your noise pollution. I thought Boulder had rules about how late you can make loud construction noises... Outraged.....
Idea Author	Nick M
Number of Stars	0
Number of Comments	1
Staff Response	Hello Nick. OSMP is interested in knowing more about this situation and we welcome you contacting us with the details of the situation. Please feel free to contact us at northtsa@bouldercolorado.gov or by contacting Steve Armstead at 720-564-2059. By Juliet B
EMAIL FEEDBACK RECEIVED 5/28/2015 - 7/22/2015	
Email Date	7/20/2015

Email Detail	<p>I guess it is too late for me to register my comment, but I'll try anyway. I am against having any dogs off leash in areas of delicate habitat. Connected, unfragmented habitat is crucial to the survival of species already greatly at risk! Please keep the HCA's whole and undisturbed for the survival of species both now and in the future.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p>
Email Author	Cara Anderson
Staff Response	<p>7/21/2015 Hi Cara,</p> <p>The most recent question on Inspire Boulder has closed for comment, but we will always be accepting feedback via email throughout the process and your feedback will be included in our compendium and considered as we move forward with the North TSA planning process.</p> <p>Thanks for your comments and we look forward to your continued participation, Juliet Bonnell North TSA Associate Planner</p>
Email Date	7/20/2015
Email Detail	<p>general_comments: Keep the area as natural as possible. No more trails like: As is... improvements: Better conservation.</p>
Email Author	Michael Banks
Email Date	7/19/2015

Email Detail	<p>I'm sorry to find the website has been shut down to comments, since it had said previously that one could comment through Sunday. (Also sorry I've been out of town and not able to write until now.)</p> <p>I'd really appreciate it you could include my contribution:</p> <p>I would like the City to keep the Habitat Conservation Areas preserved and with the continuity needed for species preservation. As I'm sure you know, wildlife depends on large areas of habitat "unmarked" by humans and dogs in order to thrive and even survive. Studies have shown over and over again (for instance, Dave Hallock's report on County trails he studied for their master planning for Meyers Gulch and Walker Ranch) that wildlife shrink away from areas traversed by humans and dogs. Among other reasons, this is because they are not only at risk of death directly from attack, but because their young can be flushed by dogs, even if not killed, and then made more vulnerable to other predators who see them, or to losing their way back to their nest or parents.</p> <p>Dog poop also changes the habitat with all the nitrogen added, and dog fur and humans, whether walking or biking, can bring in invasive species with them, especially since bikers unfortunately too often carve many new social trails that branch out from any official trail created.</p>
Email Detail continued	<p>Sadly, many people who care about species preservation are not as assertive or aware of pressing issues such as these as they could be, but my words here speak for the sentiments of as many as 1500 Audubon members in the County and another 800 in Boulder County Nature Association.</p> <p>Thank you for the vast work it must be to engage in a project such as this.</p>
Email Author	Cathy Comstock
Staff Response	<p>7/20/2015 Hi Cathy,</p> <p>The Inspire Boulder forum was supposed to be open for commenting through Sunday, so I apologize for your inconvenience and will look into why you were unable to access it yesterday. Thank you for submitting your comments via email, though. Your feedback is valuable and will be considered as Open Space and Mountain Parks moves forward with the North TSA planning process.</p> <p>Kind regards, Juliet Bonnell North TSA Associate Planner</p>
Email Date	7/20/2015
Email Detail	What a kind and thoughtful reply. Really appreciate it. Glad you're involved with the process!
Email Author	Cathy Comstock

Staff Response	<p>7/22/2015</p> <p>Thanks, Cathy- I'm very glad to be involved in this exciting process! Thanks again for your thoughts about the North TSA and I look forward to your continued participation in the planning process.</p> <p>Kind regards, Juliet</p>
Email Date	7/19/2015
Email Detail	<p>Hello Open Space Dept and those who are particularly involved in the North TSA, I just returned from a trip overseas and a friend/neighbor in North Boulder had an email waiting saying to visit InspireBoulder.com to voice my preferences about trail access in the North TSA. I am writing to you on Sunday, the 19th of July, so unfortunately, I missed the cut-off for the web-based commenting forum. Can you still take my opinions? (It seems quite arbitrary to have the deadline land on a Saturday - what harm would it have been to extend it through the weekend?)</p> <p>My partner and I would really appreciate more Voice & Sight trails being opened up. Near our neighborhood, there simply aren't enough dog-friendly trails (off-leash), so we do a lot of driving to access trails that we enjoy quite responsibly with our two very well behaved mutts.</p> <p>The previous TSAs were, in our opinion, quite heavily weighted against dog access. This was a bit baffling to us, as we must be one of the biggest user groups on our Open Space trails. The folks that are against voice and sight trails are a tiny percentage - as far as I can tell from that survey you guys did a few years ago that something like 9% of people simply can't bear the idea of dogs on Open Space. We sincerely hope that you consider making dog access proportional to the number of users and to the general population who are fine encountering dogs on Open Space.</p>
Email Detail continued	<p>Please also think in terms of dispersing people by providing new trails and access to properties that are currently closed to the public. With our increasing population, it seems logical to spread people (and dogs) out to lessen the impacts. Thanks for your consideration. P.S. We don't mind sharing the trails with bikers and horses, by the way!</p>
Email Author	Sandy Draper

Staff Response	<p>7/20/2015 Hi Sandy,</p> <p>The Inspire Boulder forum was supposed to be open for commenting through Sunday, so I apologize for the inconvenience and will look into why you were unable to access it yesterday. Thank you for submitting your comments via email, though. Your feedback is valuable and will be considered as Open Space and Mountain Parks moves forward with the North TSA planning process.</p> <p>Kind regards, Juliet Bonnell North TSA Associate Planner</p>
Email Date	7/21/2015
Email Detail	<p>Hi Juliet,</p> <p>Thank you so much for you prompt and kind reply. So glad to know that my comments were received! Good luck with the process and I hope that we have more opportunity for input along the way. Best regards,</p>
Email Author	Sandy
Staff Response	<p>7/22/2015 Hi Sandy,</p> <p>Thank you for your good wishes!</p> <p>Yes, there will still be lots of opportunity for input along the way. The best way to stay apprised of opportunities to provide feedback and important aspects of the planning process and timeline is to sign up for our North TSA email list which can be done here. I'd also encourage you to take a look at the North TSA website where you can learn about upcoming events and see the community feedback we've gathered so far which will inform and guide our next steps in the process.</p> <p>Thanks and I look forward to your continued participation, Juliet</p>
Email Date	7/19/2015

Email Detail	I would like to limit human access to the North TSA because we need to preserve some larger areas of wild(er) habitat for wildlife, native plant communities, and future humans. Once an area is opened to bikes, dogs, etc, many of its wildland values are lost, and they are difficult, if not impossible, to reclaim.
Email Author	John Davis
Staff Response	<p>7/20/2015 Hi John,</p> <p>The Inspire Boulder forum was supposed to be open for commenting through Sunday, so I apologize for your inconvenience and will look into why you were unable to access it yesterday. Thank you for submitting your comments via email, though. Your feedback is valuable and will be considered as Open Space and Mountain Parks moves forward with the North TSA planning process.</p> <p>Kind regards, Juliet Bonnell North TSA Associate Planner</p>
Email Date	7/19/2015
Email Detail	<p>To whom it may concern, Concerning the north TSA...</p> <p>MORE CONSERVATION of our remaining wild places within Open Space is what is needed. We have plenty of fantastic trails already. Please do not build new trails. Leave something wild!</p> <p>Stand up to and say NO to the easily bored hikers, mountain bike riders, and equestrians who continually demand more, more, more of everything. Every new trail hastens the degradation of our Open Space Mountain Parks.</p> <p>I have hiked the same trails in Open Space for over 30 years and still enjoy them just as much as the first time I hiked them. There is no need to expand the trail system. Just maintain what we have.</p> <p>Thank you,</p>
Email Author	Kevin Reardon
Email Date	7/19/2015

Email Detail	<p>I tried to submit feedback last night Saturday July 18 @ 8:30 PM but the site was closed to feedback. I hope you can accept this:</p> <p>I would like to limit human access to the North TSA because we need to preserve some larger areas of wild(er) habitat for wildlife, native plant communities, and future humans. Once an area is opened to bikes, dogs, etc, many of its wildland values are lost, and they are difficult, if not impossible, to reclaim.</p>
Email Author	John Davis
Staff Response	<p>7/20/2015</p> <p>Hi John,</p> <p>The Inspire Boulder forum was supposed to be open for commenting through Sunday, so I apologize for your inconvenience and will look into why you were unable to access it yesterday. Thank you for submitting your comments via email, though. Your feedback is valuable and will be considered as Open Space and Mountain Parks moves forward with the North TSA planning process.</p> <p>Kind regards, Juliet Bonnell North TSA Associate Planner</p>
Email Date	7/19/2015
Email Detail	<p>Hello, Your website is down so I am sharing my comments and concerns about the North TSA this way!</p> <p>There will always be people and recreational users who want more and yet at some point there will be nothing more to give them without destroying it all. Without some restraint to grant every wish and to develop every area, all the wise and smart choices citizens have been making for years about the OSMP land and its carrying capacity will be wasted.</p> <p>It is insulting to think that more trails or dog-off-leash areas ought to be created because users are bored with the present and amazing system, trails, and dog areas. They want the thrill of new areas. Then go to other towns and systems!!</p>
Email Author	Roxanne Brickell-Reardon
Email Date	7/19/2015

Email Detail	<p>I have hiked on the trails in Boulder for over 50 years with dogs that do not chase wildlife or approach people without their consent. In that time we have lost a huge number of trails for dogs to have access. I would love to see consideration given to creating trails in the North Trail Study area where dogs can be off leash with Voice and Sight tags. I would hope that because everyone now has to take a class (not just skip through a video on line) in order to receive the tags that behavior of dogs on the trail will necessarily improve with this education.</p> <p>I hope that you will give consideration to the majority of dog owners with Voice and Sight tags who have well behaved dogs.</p> <p>Thank you for reading this email.</p>
Email Author	Susan Weeks
Email Date	7/19/2015
Email Detail	<p>general_comments: I thought the comment period closed today, Sunday rather than Friday, heres my 10 cents like: The map data was very useful in allowing us to see where things are, but it indicates that practically every piece of land has some ecological value, which would make carving out new rec access impossible. Hope there will be a compromise or that recreational visitors to the area will be treated as responsible conservationists rather than potential vandals.</p> <p>improvements: It seems to be organized to accept public input, but there is the invisible agenda of the conservation community which we dont know how will be handled if it. When staff announces proposals, I hope they will take time to explain decisions so that a restriction is no in place "cos we say so".</p>
Email Author	Tony Gannaway
Email Date	7/18/2015
Email Detail	<p>Steve and Mark: Please find attached the latest from the Recreation groups' coalition, on requests for the NTSA process. This follows our earlier list of requests, and also references our earlier conceptual trails map, which is also attached.</p> <p>Thanks for your work. I'll be sending this along to the OSBT and Inspire Boulder.</p> <p>*****Referenced attachment appears at the end of Compendium document*****</p>
Email Author	Andy Schultheiss

Staff Response	<p>7/20/2015 Hi Andy,</p> <p>Thank you for providing the ideas from the coalition of recreation stakeholders. The thoughts shared for how to improve the North TSA and most importantly the interests represented by these suggestions will be incorporated into a summary of all the community feedback shared during this phase of developing the North TSA Plan. The interests shared by community members are key to creating a successful North TSA Plan and will guide staff as we prepare for the next step of the process and develop alternative scenarios and then gather community feedback on the scenarios.</p> <p>Thanks for sharing the ideas and map.</p> <p>Steve</p>
Email Date	7/18/2015
Email Detail	<p>I am confused. I went to the Inspire Boulder web page about the North Trail Study Area Plan. At one point it says “Feedback is welcomed through Sunday, July 19.”, but in the upper right hand corner it says “Topic is now closed” After I created an account, I could not find this topic at all. Here are my comments I think in the format you suggest.</p> <p>I would like natural lands near the city kept with minimum human impact.</p> <p>Because wild lands enable native ecosystems to support plant communities and wildlife populations that have evolved over millions of years to survive here. I think it is our responsibility to allow nature to sustain itself. I enjoy quiet hikes in the OSMP lands and support hiking trails that do not infringe on the native populations and that are free of conflicting uses such as dogs running loose and bikes that speed by hikers.</p>
Email Author	John McComb
Staff Response	<p>7/20/2015 Hi John,</p> <p>The Inspire Boulder forum was open for commenting through Sunday, so I apologize for your inconvenience and will look into why you were unable to access it yesterday. Thank you for submitting your comments via email, though. Your feedback is valuable and will be considered as we move forward with the North TSA planning process.</p> <p>Kind regards, Juliet Bonnell North TSA Associate Planner</p>
Email Date	7/18/2015

Email Detail	Please preserve habitat for native plants and animals. Otherwise, we'll lose it to our unrelenting population and recreation pressures.
Email Author	Sara Michl
Email Date	7/17/2015
Email Detail	<p>1) Would strongly suggest that some trails NOT be multi-use: Separate bike/mechanical trails from hiking trails, especially in wildlife sensitive areas.</p> <p>2) Allow naturalists/field biologists to fully evaluate the new Open-Space areas and provide recommendations, before deciding on specific trail recommendations.</p> <p>3) Would like to know what YOUR plans are at this point. Surely You have intentions for this new OS. I am skeptical that the OS committee does not already have a plan.</p> <p>How about sharing it with the public. What are your preliminary plans?</p>
Email Author	Paul B Cohen BCPOS Volunteer Naturalist
Staff Response	<p>Hi Paul,</p> <p>Thank you for your interest in and suggestions for the North Trail Study Area. Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) has just wrapped up phase 2 of its planning process designed to develop a community vision for 7,700 acres of OSMP-managed lands north of Linden Avenue and the Diagonal Highway. Phase 1 focused on the creation of an Inventory and Assessment Report which was informed by staff knowledge of recreational, natural, cultural and agricultural resources as well as community knowledge of visitor experiences, resources, what is functioning well and what needs improvement in the North TSA. During Phase 2 we gathered extensive feedback from our community (via workshops, at various locations within the North TSA, Inspire Boulder- a digital town hall, at family and youth-oriented events, and via emails) about community interests and desired outcomes for the North TSA plan.</p> <p>Staff is just beginning to move into the Draft Plan Development phase of the planning process, so no plans or recommendations have been developed yet. The interests and desired outcomes shared by community members will guide staff as we prepare for the next step of the process and develop alternative scenarios. Once these scenarios have been developed we will be gathering community feedback on them and considering additional alternatives. Click the links for more information about the planning process and timing, and see our website at www.northtsa.org for additional information about opportunities to provide feedback and to see the feedback that we've received so far.</p> <p>Kind regards, Juliet Bonnell North TSA Associate Planner</p>
Email Date	7/16/2015

Email Detail	<p>Hi folks,</p> <p>As you know, many of us feel that the ultimate all-round naturalist and reasonable advisor on natural lands use is Steve Jones. I know that Steve consults, and is therefore in some cases constrained to be silent, and not an advocate, in these matters.</p> <p>However, we should either solicit his advice directly in public, or ask him to recommend another independent consultant, to provide us with a balanced look at how to handle our somewhat conflicting values in a multi-use area where we want to maintain long-term ecosystem resiliency.</p> <p>Thanks,</p>
Email Author	Linda Andes-Georges
Staff Response	<p>7/16/2015</p> <p>Thanks Linda for the recommendation.</p> <p>Steve</p>
Email Date	7/16/2015
Email Detail	<p>Whoops, sorry; I wondered how the "other" Steve learned about this (below)!</p> <p>I just tried to comment on the Inspire Boulder site and it is shutting me out-- asks for me to look at my email and verify my account, but nothing in my mail has popped up.</p> <p>I've submitted a brief comment on the general OSMP/NTSA site (maybe even two redundant ones!).</p> <p>I have plenty more to say! I think most folks who did not attend a workshop do not "get" the different kind of input you are seeking this time around (interests vs positions).</p>
Email Author	Linda Andes-Georges
Email Date	7/16/2015

Email Detail	<p>Using the I-messages we are being encouraged to employ, I need to feel peaceful and in the midst of nature when I recreate on Open Space (otherwise I would recreate on a Greenways Trail). In order to feel peaceful and in the midst of nature, I would like for bikers to go slow and be quiet, preparing to yield instead of expecting me to jump off the trail; I would like for dog owners (if present) to keep their dog near their person, not allowing them to roam; I would like for groups of runners to be courteous and run past in single file; and I would like for everybody to stay away from wild areas at night unless participating in educational activities (like star-watching). I would like for equestrians not to use the trails when they are wet (trail maintenance is expensive, and the soils in this area, though variable, can be very fragile to impacts/overuse).</p> <p>To restate that need in an entirely different way, I would like to be able to use a linear North Foothills trail from the Hogback loop north to Joder and across the saddle to Old Stage Rd IF this can be done with users encouraged to remain strictly on trail; IF golden eagle nesting and hunting is not threatened in any way; IF dog use is minimal or not allowed so wildlife can continue to flourish in the area; IF the meadows are protected from use by educational and ranger enforcement in order to preserve wildflower and rare plant growth with minimal weed infestation from recreational use; and IF people can be kept out of the brushy draws completely, since they have high value for wildlife use.</p>
Email Detail continued	<p>I have big doubts that these IF clauses can be resolved in the presence of a huge increase in recreational use.</p> <p>Following this caveat, I would like for any trails to skirt areas of high use such as the ponds area near the old homestead on Joder (I have noticed a high concentration of good birds there meaning no urban generalists. Where there are good birds, one can assume good diversity among other species). And as mentioned, no people or dogs should be exploring the brushy draws at any time.</p>
Email Author	Linda Andes-Georges
Email Date	7/16/2015
Email Detail	<p>I like long-distance trails, I would even say that I need them, BUT ...I also like wildlife and forests & meadows with natural diversity & few weeds. If we accept a huge step-up in recreation along our north foothills, we must consent to a far greater degree of courteous behavior and nature-preserving regulations. No more calling the rangers ""nazi"" when they apply the rules. No more bombing downhill on a bike. No more allowing dogs to harass the deer/elk or flush the birds. No more running past in sub-enforcement competitive packs of ultrarunners (my husband once was one of those). No more riding horses off-trail. Etc</p>
Email Author	Linda Andes-Georges
Email Date	7/15/2015

Email Detail	<p>To Whom it may concern:</p> <p>I wish to comment on the North TSA Plan but have been unsuccessful in trying to post a comment on the Inspire Boulder website, so hope you can make sure these comments are received.</p> <p>I have a great interest in the preservation of unique habitat in the North TSA because of its importance in the OSMP to a diversity of native species.</p> <p>Preserving the natural environment and ecosystems of the area is most important to me and I am concerned about the fragmentation and human disturbance that is caused by high traffic, high speed mountain bike trails.</p> <p>I recommend that mountain bike trails in the area are managed for low speeds and low use numbers, to minimize wildlife impacts and impacts on pedestrians and hikers moving more slowly through the landscape who want to enjoy quiet, uncrowded trails.</p> <p>Many trails need to be dog free to safeguard wildlife and there need to be alternative days of use since mountain biking is not compatible with the hiking experience people like me are looking for.</p> <p>Please let me know if these comments were received. Thank you for your consideration,</p>
Email Author	Roz McClellan
Staff Response	<p>7/16/2015</p> <p>Hi Roz,</p> <p>I received your comment sharing your interests for the North TSA Plan. Thank you for your thoughts and most importantly sharing the reasons for what you like to see the North TSA Plan accomplish. Your comments have been added to other interests we are hearing from the community and will be included in a summary report of interests.</p> <p>Thanks Steve</p>
Email Date	7/13/2015

Email Detail	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I would like to express my opinion in favor of more voice and sight control trails in the study area. The trails At Beech, Joder, Old Kiln, and Left Hand would all be good trails to add to the program. With the new blue tag regulations and mandatory meeting attendance, as well as the seemingly increased presence of rangers enforcing the rules, now is an excellent time to add options for responsible dog owners to exercise their dogs.</p> <p>Thank you,</p>
Email Author	Holly Cerretani
Email Date	7/13/2015
Email Detail	<p>I am writing to express my opinion on the ever increasing dog restrictions you are creating and enforcing!!!! In the last 10 years 40 Trails in Boulder Open Space have experienced increased dog restrictions!!!! Wow!! For such a " dog friendly" community!!!!!! We move here because we loved the dog friendly (we thought) area, love hiking with our well- behaved yellow lab.....as responsible pet owners, we are really discouraged with the direction things are going.....</p> <p>There are trails we would love to see Voice and Sight access:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trails at Joder Ranch Trails at West Beech open space Left hand trail north of Boulder valley ranch Old Kiln and Foothills trail north of Wonderland Lake <p>Please pass this request on to the Inspire Boulder group.....sadly, I feel like you will just delete this. It seems like all of our (pet owners) requests fall on deaf ears!!! PLEASE stand up for pet rights!!!!!!!</p>
Email Author	Betsy Spohn

Staff Response	<p>7/21/2015 Hi Betsy,</p> <p>Thank you for sharing your thoughts on Voice and Sight access within the North Trail Study Area (TSA). Your comments, as well as other community members' comments, are key to creating a successful North TSA Plan and will guide staff as we move forward with the planning process.</p> <p>The most recent Inspire Boulder comment period has closed, but we will continuously be accepting comments via email (which will be shared with the community via our webpage in a "public comment compendium"). As the planning process continues, additional future opportunities for comment on Inspire Boulder will be available. For the most current information about the North TSA and upcoming opportunities to provide feedback please see our website at: https://bouldercolorado.gov/osmp/north-tsa and consider signing up for our North TSA newsletter here.</p> <p>Thank you for your suggestions and we look forward to your continued participation!</p> <p>Kind regards, Juliet Bonnell North TSA Associate Planner</p>
Email Date	7/3/2015
Email Detail	<p>Hello Steve,</p> <p>In the last year we purchased a farm property on Prospect Rd west of N 63rd. We are east of North table Mtn and the Boulder feeder canal bisects our property.</p> <p>Can you please tell me or direct me to the latest information of the proposed project and process. I am sorry we missed the comment period but, would like to know what is going on and what we can do to provide input.</p> <p>Thx</p>
Email Author	Jonathan Moore and Katharine Hobart

Staff Response	<p>Hi Jonathan and Katharine,</p> <p>Thanks for your interest in the North Trail Study Area (TSA) planning process! We look forward to your participation and the opportunity to hear your thoughts about the North TSA- and there are still plenty of opportunities to participate. We recently held two community workshops in order to understand community members' interests or reasons behind desired outcomes for the North Trail Study Area. We are still accepting comments about what you'd like to see improved, changed or preserved in the North TSA and why through July 12 on Inspire Boulder, the city's digital town hall.</p> <p>The best way to stay informed about upcoming events and opportunities to share your ideas is to sign up for our newsletter which can be done on our website here.</p> <p>A wealth of information related to the North TSA (including an Inventory and Assessment Report which documents the recreational, natural, agricultural and cultural resources found within the North TSA, related plans and resources, and all of the feedback we've received to date as well as the materials from our previous two rounds of workshops) can be found on the North TSA webpage here.</p> <p>Please let me know if you have any questions and we look forward to hearing your thoughts and ideas about the North Trail Study Area.</p> <p>Kind regards, Juliet Bonnell</p>
Email Date	6/30/2015

<p>Email Detail</p>	<p>Steve et al.,</p> <p>[Have had some experience with MindMixer (mindbender?) on the Rio Grande Forest Planning site, and have not been real satisfied with it. Was reminded of why I grew frustrated when I tried to submit some comments on the NTSA yesterday, and ran into the limited character constraints. I hope I can enter my current thoughts through you for the time being. If this becomes too awkward I will try to get over my resistance to populating spreadsheet fields and contributing to data collection algorithms.]</p> <p>The North TSA needs to be viewed in the broader context of the region, as a key piece in the fraying web of connectivity for vegetation and wildlife. Linkages like these have been part of the long term planning process for both the city and the county for decades, and were, in part, the reason the two entities collaborated on the many parcels making up the North TSA. Special vigilance should be given to the development of social trails, off-leash dogs, and all the other impacts that come with increased use.</p> <p>The City of Boulder has invested heavily in assuming control of our utility system, not only to limit our direct impact on climate disruption, but also to establish a model of how this might be accomplished for other municipalities. While it is essential to address climate disruption, it can be reasonably contended that the extinction and extirpation of species may be of greater consequence to the future of life on earth. A 2014 analysis by the World Wildlife Fund reported a fifty percent reduction in the number of vertebrate animals (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals) on the planet in the last 40 years. Like climate disruption, the city cannot solve these profound losses by itself, but it can play a small role in conserving local habitat for native species, and an outsized role in demonstrating how an expanding urban area might protect</p>
<p>Email Detail continued</p>	<p>The Joder property is today's focus, but moving into a future where increased management of our public lands will be necessary, council, the board, and the department must view this not only as a mandate in its charter, but also as an imperative deserving our ceaseless commitment.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.</p>
<p>Email Author</p>	<p>Tim Hogan</p>

Staff Response	<p>6/30/2015</p> <p>Hi Tim,</p> <p>Sending an email is a viable way of sharing your thoughts and ideas about the North TSA Plan. Sending emails to Juliet and me at our email addresses or through the website will work. I certainly understand the character limits available on Inspire Boulder/MindMixer may not work for everyone or as a preferred way to communicate.</p> <p>Thank you for the comments regarding the importance of viewing the North TSA as a broader regional natural system and for connectivity when considering vegetation and wildlife. Collaboration between the city and county is important for achieving regional connectivity and conserving resources.</p> <p>Thanks for sharing your thoughts. They are always welcomed no matter what way they reach us and the community.</p> <p>Steve</p>
Email Date	6/30/2015
Email Detail	<p>Hi Steve,</p> <p>My name is Jessie Vogt, I am the director of Singletrack Mountain Bike Adventures.</p> <p>SMBA is a local non-profit youth mountain bike program that started in 1993. We have 550 registrants in the program that need great places to ride locally and it would be great to get their voices heard in the North TSA Trail Study area discussion.</p> <p>Please let me know of any meetings in the near future or if you would have time to meet this week.</p> <p>Thank you for your time,</p>
Email Author	Jessie Vogt

Staff Response	<p>7/2/2015 Hi Jessica,</p> <p>Thanks for introducing yourself and SMBA. I know a little about the program and have seen groups of young riders out enjoying Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) trails. I greatly appreciate your interest in connecting participants in the program with opportunities to share their thoughts on the North TSA Plan. There are several opportunities for SMBA participants to be involved with the North TSA and we welcome you sharing this information and encouraging young voices to contribute to the planning process.</p> <p>One upcoming and exciting opportunity is a Family Workshop happening on July 11 from 10-12 at Wonderland Lake. This will be a fun and creative way for youth and families to learn about the North TSA and contribute ideas that can help shape the plan. We have other information on youth engagement and feedback available on the North TSA website.</p> <p>Unfortunately we just held two workshops last week to gather community comments on the reasons or interests behind desired outcomes for the North TSA Plan. There will be additional meetings this fall, but no additional meetings in the immediate future. There is still opportunity to submit comments directly through the North TSA website or through a digital town hall forum called Inspire Boulder. Comments are welcomed through July 12, so I would strongly encourage using this opportunity to share input.</p> <p>At any point in the process, comments can be submitted through the project website at www.northtsa.org. Signing up for the North TSA newsletter is a great way to stay informed about the process, comment opportunities and the latest events.</p> <p>As you can see there are a lot of opportunities for engaging in the development of the plan. Please feel free to call me at the number below to discuss anything in more detail. We can also figure out a time to meet if this is still of interest to you.</p>
Staff Response continued	<p>Thanks for reaching out. Steve</p>
Email Date	6/26/2015

Email Detail	<p>general_comments: I have neighbors in the Wonderland Lake area who are seniors and have voiced their wish to me that there were more benches to sit on in various places along Wonderland lake, so seniors and others can enjoy the lake if they do not have the physical ability to get to the other side of the lake to sit on a bench!</p> <p>like: Dave Sutherland is one of the reasons I live in Boulder. I learn so much from him every time I go on on his walks/talks. We are so fortunate to have such a gifted naturalist in our midst with city of Boulder Open Space and Mnt Parks! Please thank Dave for sharing his knowledge with us and making it interesting and lots of fun of all ages!</p> <p>improvements: Please see my above comment about more benches. Thank you. If Crestview Park is included in the TSA plan, please put benches in various places in Crestview park so the neighborhood can enjoy the park without having to be just passing through, including a nice sitting break for seniors who are walking to the park.</p>
Email Date	7/2/2015
Email Detail	<p>Thank you Steve.</p> <p>I will try to attend on the 11th if possible. Our team has a race which conflicts and I might be needed there. I will also check out the meeting in the fall and email with comments.</p> <p>Have a great day,</p>
Email Author	Jessie Vogt
Email Author	Bonnie Schwahn
Staff Response	<p>Hi Bonnie,</p> <p>Thank you for sharing your (and your neighbors') interest in having more benches within the North TSA. We will take this into consideration as we move forward with the planning process.</p> <p>I have passed along your thanks and appreciation to Dave- thank you for sharing this positive feedback!</p> <p>Kind regards, Juliet Bonnell North Trail Study Area Associate Planner</p>
Email Date	6/24/2015
Email Detail	<p>general_comments: As a member: FIDOS is asking for Voice & Sight trails at the new Joder Ranch property and at the Beech property. FIDOS is also asking that the on-leash Left Hand Trail, that connects the Neva Road parking lot to Boulder Valley Ranch, be re-designated as Voice & Sight. Finally, FIDOS would like to see the Foothills Trail north of Wonderland Lake and the Old Kiln Trail be re-designated as Voice & Sight.</p>
Email Author	Jack Sasson

Email Date	6/24/2015
Email Detail	general_comments: Expand the current Foothills dog park by enclosing the area directly to the west. Also, add on and off leash dog trails to the newly expanded open space areas in this project. e.g. Joder Ranch
Email Author	Kim
Email Date	6/24/2015
Email Detail	general_comments: I would love to see more off leash dog trails expanded into this area. Thank you
Email Author	Kim
Email Date	6/21/2015
Email Detail	<p>general_comments: Just hiked Wonderland Lake thinking it would be nice to have the vegetation cut back from the trail a couple feet when, lo and behold, there was a delightful young lady at a table taking comments and handing out NTSA flyers.</p> <p>like: I think your community outreach effort is commendable.</p> <p>improvements: As mentioned, trail-side vegetation. Plenty of snakes in the grass. Also a filling/grading of the potholes entering the Wonderland Lake parking lot off Broadway.</p> <p>Thanks!</p>
Email Author	Jeff Maxim
Email Date	6/18/2015
Email Detail	Aaron Brockett tweeted: @boulderosmp Are these identical to the previous NTSA workshops, or should people who already attended one consider coming to these as well?
Email Author	Aaron Brockett
Staff Response	These workshops focus on the future and "why" we want things to be improved, changed or preserved in the North Trail Study Area (TSA).
Email Date	6/18/2015
Email Detail	<p>general_comments: We need more Voice and Sight dog trails in North Boulder. There is a scarcity up here, compared to other areas of town.</p> <p>like: All the same things that are to like about Open Space.</p> <p>improvements: See general comment about more Voice and Sight dog trails.</p>
Email Author	Andy
Email Date	6/16/2015

Email Detail	<p>Hello Steve,</p> <p>For many years the Northtsa has been utilized for hiking and cross country skiing from Apple Way and 30th street. By formalizing this access congestion, pollution, and parking while driving to other trail heads would be eliminated and provide access for many residents from this area. Apple and 30th connect to the Boulder City park land which then connects to the county land to the north (Boulder Valley Ranch).</p> <p>Since this land was previously farmland as noted in your TSA study, it is very ski-able with only 6 inches of snow. This permits people to ski on inclimate days while avoiding commuting on to distant trail heads. Skiing is possible 8 - 10 days per year.</p> <p>Since an irrigation ditch skirts south and north of the wildlife habitat (Henderson?), it would provide protection for the wildlife. However, there is a need for one bridge crossing the ditch to gain access to the west and north avoiding the wildlife area and connecting to Boulder Valley Ranch. This would be an excellent alternative bicycling trail to avoid US 36.</p> <p>The Northtsa is connected to North Boulder, Lake Valley, and IBM. Now it needs access for country residents in Orange Orchard, Palo Park and Four Mile Creek.</p> <p>Please contact me if you need more information.</p> <p>Thanks,</p>
Email Author	Chuck Brandley
Staff Response	<p>Hi Chuck,</p> <p>Thanks so much for sharing your ideas about access and connection possibilities for the North TSA. We will consider your suggestions as we continue to gather more information and move forward with the planning process.</p> <p>I also wanted to let you know about and invite you to attend one of our upcoming workshops. These workshops are being held to help us learn about the community's interests in the North TSA and the reasons behind those interests. The workshops will both cover the same topics and will be held at the following times and locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 24, at Boulder Fire Training Center, 6055 Reservoir Road. • 9 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 27, at Calvary Bible Church, 3245 Kalmia Ave. <p>Thanks and we look forward to your continued participation!</p> <p>Kind regards, Juliet Bonnell</p>
Email Date	6/16/2015

<p>Email Detail</p>	<p>general_comments: For Trails, Incorporate Northern Water Canal lines please. Can actually make navigable and safe walking/riding paths. Could even make nice whitewater course entering the reservoir. Change the Inspection costs on Small boats at reservoir. Totally unreasonable.</p> <p>The Biggest disappointment I have known in Boulder are the negative changes at Boulder Reservoir over the last 14 years. I used to love going there. Will not pay \$30 for an inspection. I don't moor my kayak in Lake Michigan. (That comments should go to the Reservoir and others)</p> <p>In terms of Trails. Trail systems need to interconnect. Not good design to encourage people to drive to trail heads and not have links from trail to trail. Should be like a European System of interconnected paths. Multi-Use Trails also are very important. Bikes and Horses are not criminals. People in general as though not part of Nature and Habitat with "Closed to the Public" tracts of Public Lands. "Organic Wholeness, love that, not man apart from that". (ie man is not apart from the wholeness) Robinson Jeffers</p> <p>I would like to see interconnects with Niwot to the West, North of the Lake District and Boulder Valley Ranch, in the Area of Haystack, Lagerman, and interconnects with Heil Ranch and Lyons.</p> <p>Important to cooperate with the County, the entity who "controls" the Radar Range, Forest Service etc.</p> <p>like: I live here. It is really as beautiful a landscape as there is anywhere.</p>
<p>Email Detail continued</p>	<p>improvements: Cooperation in management. Many more trails. Less "restrictions" of the public to public open space. More cooperation between Agriculture and Recreation. Less "offlimits" for Wildlife. People are wildlife too.</p> <p>We all tread lightly and can respect a pelican and ruin their day by walking or kayaking 100 ft away.</p>
<p>Email Author</p>	<p>Landis Arnold</p>
<p>Staff Response</p>	<p>Hi Landis,</p> <p>Thank you for your feedback about the North Trail Study Area (TSA). Your comments will be taken into consideration as Open Space and Mountain Parks moves forward with the North TSA planning process.</p> <p>OSMP does not manage the Boulder Reservoir, so I have forwarded your comments regarding the reservoir on to Parks and Recreation staff, since they are responsible for the management of the reservoir.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Juliet Bonnell North Trail Study Area Associate Planner</p>

Email Date	6/22/2015
Email Detail	<p>Thank you for your efforts.</p> <p>Let me know if there are any meetings coming up.</p>
Email Author	Landis Arnold
Staff Response	<p>Hi Landis,</p> <p>Thanks for asking! We actually have two workshops coming up (these workshops will cover the same topics, so you would only need to attend one of these in order to share your thoughts). These workshops are being held to help OSMP staff learn about the community's interests in the North TSA and the reasons behind those interests. The workshops will be held at the following times and locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 24, at Boulder Fire Training Center, 6055 Reservoir Road. • 9 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 27, at Calvary Bible Church, 3245 Kalmia Ave. <p>The best way to stay informed about upcoming workshops and other opportunities to provide feedback is to sign up for our North TSA email updates which can be done here: https://bouldercolorado.gov/osmp/north-tsa-email-list</p> <p>Thanks and we look forward to your continued participation!</p>
Email Date	6/18/2015
Email Detail	<p>general_comments: Why is the trail which goes northwest from Sanitas Peak not included in your map?</p> <p>improvements: The website!</p>
Email Author	Marilyn Newsom
Staff Response	<p>Hi Marilyn,</p> <p>Thanks for your inquiry. The trail you're referring to is the Lion's Lair Trail. It is not included in the North TSA planning process because and it is part of the West Trail Study Area Plan which is now being implemented.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Juliet Bonnell North Trail Study Area Associate Planner</p>
Email Date	6/15/2015

Email Detail	<p>general_comments: I am not sure from this site exactly what might be changing but I think that taking ANY PRIVATE via EMINENT DOMAIN as the County tried to do with the LYBO Trail is NOT OK. We need to protect those who have aquired land and who actively farm and care for the lands in the areas marked.</p> <p>like: I think bike trails along existing roads are the most important. Those recently built along 119, 63rd etc have been a huge safety factor for both runners, bicyclists and drivers. It had made bike commuting easier.</p> <p>improvements: I think we need to be careful about becoming too much of a tourist destination. Those coming here have no interest in preserving our valley the way those of us who live here do.</p>
Email Author	Susan Z
Email Date	6/14/2015
Email Detail	general_comments: One item I would like to see is a map of the North Trail Area. Similar to the maps you have for the other areas. Thanks
Email Author	Neal Zaun
Staff Response	<p>Hi Neal,</p> <p>Thanks for your interest in the North TSA. A map of the North TSA can be found on our website at NorthTSA.org The Inventory and Assessment Report for the North TSA has also just been published on our website and it includes numerous maps documenting the recreational, natural, agricultural and cultural resources found within the area.</p> <p>We look forward to any feedback you might have throughout the planning process.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Juliet Bonnell North Trail Study Area Associate Planner</p>
Email Date	6/16/2015
Email Detail	<p>Hi Juliet,</p> <p>By a map I meant one similar to what OSMP has at other trailheads like "Mountain Parks Region," and "Marshall Mesa Trails Guide." The one online is OK, but does not show distances, etc. Thanks</p>
Email Author	Neal Zaun

Staff Response	<p>Hi Neal,</p> <p>An interactive map that shows OSMP's trails and their mileage and allows you to zoom into the area/trails that you're interested in can be found here: https://bouldercolorado.gov/osmp/trails-and-maps Hopefully this will provide you with the information you're looking for.</p>
Email Date	6/11/2015
Email Detail	<p>general_comments: Stay out of my back yard</p> <p>like: nothing</p> <p>improvements: stay out of my neighborhood</p>
Email Author	TB
Email Date	6/10/2015
Email Detail	<p>I think several things should be taken into consideration in developing the north open space areas. First of all, there are several areas, specifically on the Olde Stage, Lee Hill, and Lefthand Canyon spaces, that should be protective of the wildlife that reside there. Many does have their fawns in those areas, as well as foxes and their kits, and bears are known to have some caves up there. From April to August, people and especially DOGS, should be prevented from being up there. We have seen dogs chasing young fawns far too often. Owls, hawks, and other birds also have their nests up there.</p> <p>With so many other nice trails in Boulder County, we feel these areas should pretty much be left in their natural state, and not promoted as trails, thereby reducing trash, cans, and plastic dog poop bags, being left to disturb the wildlife in the area.</p> <p>Thank you for your considerations. We people live in the mountains for a reason....we like quiet nice natural spaces.</p>
Email Author	Anonymous
Email Date	6/10/2015
Email Detail	<p>general_comments: I live in Gunbarrel and regularly use the NTSA area for running, walking, biking and exercising my dog in both Coot Lake and the little pond at Eagle-Sage.</p> <p>like: I like it's proximity to my home, I like the off-leash access, I like the loop nature of the trails there and other than Coot Lake, most of the trails I use have few visitors so we see lots of wildlife and have a nice peaceful visit.</p> <p>I like that when my dog was younger and stronger, I could ride my bike around Eagle-Sage and she could run off-leash for a really good workout.</p> <p>I like seeing wildlife--coyotes, eagles, hawks, nesting herons--and I like sharing recreation areas with Boulder Valley Ranch and their cattle.</p> <p>improvements: I would like some "real" single track that parallels the road and I would like to maintain off-leash access in an area where there's water for dogs to swim in. Thank you.</p>

Email Author	Rebecca Shannon
Email Date	6/9/2015
Email Detail	<p>Hello Steve -</p> <p>I was wondering if this plan includes the area next to Manor Care in Palo Park. I have heard that this land belongs to a developer who plans to build condos and habitat for humanity homes.</p> <p>I live in Palo Park and any information you can give me regarding this area would be appreciated.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Pam</p>
Email Author	Pam
Staff Response	<p>Hi Pam, Thank you for your interest in the North TSA area and planning process. Within the North TSA planning area there are lands that are managed by the city's Open Space and Mountain Parks department, as well as lands that are part of an easement or jointly owned, County-managed lands as well as other government lands. I will do some research to find out more about the land that is next to Manor Care in Palo Park. It may take a few days to track down relevant information, so I will follow up with you as soon as I have more information.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Juliet Bonnell North Trail Study Area Associate Planner</p>
Email Date	6/11/2015
Email Detail	Hello Juliet - Thank you very much for your quick reply and your willingness to look into this. I look forward to hearing from you again.
Email Author	Pam

Staff Response	<p>Hi Pam,</p> <p>Attached is a map that shows the only lands near Palo Park that Open Space and Mountain Parks manages. Outside of this area, I can't speak to what the plans are for the surrounding areas.</p> <p>I hope this is helpful.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Juliet Bonnell North Trail Study Area Associate Planner</p>
Email Date	6/8/2015
Email Detail	<p>I live on Nimbus road close to Left Hand and the old Beach Aircraft facility. I would love to see a trail from Boulder to Left Hand Canyon or Old Stage entering from the North side. I can envision a trail that would be parallel foot hills highway and divert above the old Beach Aircraft facility and ideally climbing above the first foothills and connecting to the trail that comes out at the very base of Old Stage on the north side. The benefit would be great for hiking and off road biking and relive some of the biking traffic on foot hills highway.</p>
Email Author	Jeff Dreyfuss
Email Date	6/8/2015
Email Detail	<p>general_comments: I would like to see a trail from No Boulder towards Lyons as far as legal. A non-technical cycling trail shared with other users would be most appreciated.</p> <p>improvements: Give a quick link to proposed changes so far shown on a map. I couldn't find a map showing the proposals.</p>
Email Author	Clifford Watts
Email Date	6/8/2015
Email Detail	<p>general_comments: Thank you for resurfacing the path around Wonderland Lake! It really makes a difference. Thanks so much</p> <p>improvements: Is there any possibility of building a public restroom at the buildings at the Broadway entrance parking to Wonderland Lake. It may reduce or eliminate (no pun intended!) people using the open space for a potty, (preventing people from use the peninsula and the farmer's ditch as a porta potty) I live nearby and think that it would be helpful to visitors and families if a bathroom could be tastefully placed to be useful. yes, there will be homeless use of this bathroom, so maybe it is not the best location, but please consider where and how it could be most useful. Thanks!</p>
Email Author	Bonnie Schwahn
Email Date	6/5/2015

Email Detail	<p>Hello Mr. Armstead,</p> <p>I'm a reporter with Boulder Weekly interested in writing a story about the development of the North Trail Study Area. I'd like to attend the OSMP and OSBT community workshops during the week of June 22 to gather community feedback. Could you please keep me posted with the exact dates of these workshops?</p> <p>Thank you,</p>
Email Author	Natalia Bayona
Staff Response	<p>Natalia,</p> <p>Thanks for reaching out to Open Space and Mountain Parks about the North Trail Study Area Plan. The dates and times of the upcoming workshops are available at NorthTSA.org and here:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 24, at the Boulder Fire Training Center, 6055 Reservoir Road. • 9 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 27, at Calvary Bible Church, 3245 Kalmia Ave. <p>Much more information about this planning effort, including maps, is also available at NorthTSA.org. Don't hesitate to contact me for more information. Thanks.</p> <p>Phillip Yates Open Space and Mountain Parks 720-564-2051</p>
Email Date	6/1/2015
Email Detail	<p>general_comments: I live in Dakota Ridge in NW Boulder. I favor as many trails for as many activities as possible in the North Trail Study Area. I am out on the trails around here nearly everyday, and I love seeing the increasing use and popularity of the trails that already exist. Expanding the area with more trails and encouraging more users would be, in my opinion, a great use of the land available.</p> <p>like: I like that you are seeking community input.</p> <p>improvements: not sure.</p>
Email Author	Eric Zacharias
Email Date	5/30/2015
Email Detail	<p>general_comments: I would like to see ways to reduce or prevent deer -vehicle incidents when deer are leaving Open Space and crossing roadways to graze in neighborhoods. Most of us love the deer and would like to see some deer friendly crossings.</p> <p>improvements: It would be nice to have some voice and sight sections for dog walking around Wonderland Lake O.S.</p>

Email Author	Bonnie Schwahn
Email Date	5/28/2015
Email Detail	<p>general_comments: Hello, not sure if this is an appropriate place to make a comment regarding Wonderland Lake, but I would like to ask that the policy to allow fishing at this lake be reconsidered. I feel it is only a matter of time before someone is injured by a hook or lure as fisher people cast their lines while there are people behind them on the trail. Also, it is very distressing for those of us that do not want to see creatures struggling and fighting for their lives while trying to enjoy this beautiful area. Would someone beating their dog be tolerated on OSMP trails? Animal cruelty should not be allowed in open areas frequented by the general public. Please consider prohibiting fishing at wonderland lake. Thank you.</p> <p>like: The wildlife and natural look of the trails. They are well maintained and it is nice that many of them connect.</p> <p>improvements: I would also like the open space to the east of wonderland lake, west of Broadway, be closed to walkers. There are people that walk (and do other things) in that area that disturbs the wildlife. That area continues to shrink with the granary development so it would be nice to have that area left to the animals. Thank you.</p>
Email Author	Terry Staarmann
Staff Response	<p>Hi Terry,</p> <p>Thank you for your feedback about the North TSA and Wonderland Lake area, specifically. Assessing if fishing should continue at Wonderland Lake and if so, where along Wonderland Lake it should be permitted, will be considered as part of the North TSA Plan.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Juliet Bonnell North Trail Study Area Associate Planner City of Boulder Open Space & Mountain Parks</p>
Email Date	5/28/2015
Email Detail	<p>general_comments: love the trail...I live nearby and often use it daily</p> <p>like: I love the natural beauty, of course its proximity to my home and the wonderful maintenance in keeping it in great shape for runners, walkers and pets</p> <p>improvements: Some sort of bathroom facility is desperately needed...for the children who play at the park and for people who use the trail, which I do at least 3 times a week and often every day. I have spoken with many people who would like at least an outhouse...some sort of toilet facility either at the trailhead entrance, by the park or somewhere by the trail.</p>
Email Author	Penny Webster

North TSA Recreation Alliance Requests

Non-Trail Recommendations (Not Necessarily in Priority Order)

1. *Re-Designate Lands West of US36 from HCA to NA or PRA*

The HCA designation of the West Beech and Joder Ranch properties is inconsistent with their historical use and also with the characteristics of HCAs listed in Chapter 4 of the Visitor Master Plan. The VMP states that HCAs:

- Tend to be located in more remote areas;
- Typically represent the largest blocks of an ecosystem type with few, if any, trails or roads;
- Have a lower level of visitor use: no or few trails or trailheads; and
- Are naturally functioning ecosystems (but may contain areas with evidence of human use and impacts).

Neither the Joder Ranch nor the West Beech properties is remote, considering that each borders a major highway in Boulder County. In addition, the Joder Ranch property has eight miles of existing roads and trails. The VMP best describes these properties as having most of the characteristics of a Natural Area, which includes:

- Locations can be both close to and remote from development;
- Varying levels of visitor use, types of activities, and availability of facilities;
- Conditions of natural ecosystems are variable – many areas with ecological systems in good condition, some with evidence of human use and impacts; and
- May be in proximity to agricultural production and operations.

Although there may be rare species in the properties west of US36, which we respect, there is room for both natural resource protection and recreational opportunities. The land here is in most cases within a few hundred yards of either a major highway or well-travelled secondary roads, and forms the connection between heavily used and loved trails to the North and South. The Joder Ranch property, until recently a working horse ranch, is already heavily altered and doesn't meet the requirements of HCA designation. We agree that some sub-areas containing species of concern ought to be protected as much as possible from human encroachment, but the entire area does not meet the standards of a true HCA. Therefore, these properties should be designated as Natural Areas.



2. *Reinstate Equestrian Use at BVR and Joder Ranch*

Boulder Valley Ranch and Joder Ranch have long histories as horse properties. In the Boulder Valley case its acquisition came with a promise to manage the property, in part, for equestrian recreation; in the Joder Ranch case its sellers have expressed a clear desire that the property remain available for horse-based recreation. Because of their long histories, neither property should be considered pristine wildlife habitat or in an unaltered condition.

In general, traditional uses of OSMP properties, such as agriculture or horse-based ranching, should be honored, and both BVR and Joder Ranch are ideal candidates to satisfy the community's desire for equestrian recreation opportunities. The current lease arrangement at BVR should be re-examined to reinstate public equestrian use at the ranch, including a riding lesson program possibly through Boulder Parks & Recreation, a livery operation, and access to the existing outdoor arena. There should be horse trailer parking at the ranch complex, possibly in its historic location near the Silver Nickel. The fencing and drainage at the ranch should be improved, moldy hay removed, and the Silver Nickel building either restored (it would make a great public event facility) or demolished.

3. *Make Trailhead Improvements, Especially at Joder Ranch, BVR, Sage, and Foothills*

Substandard trailheads are among the most mentioned negative experiences among OSMP visitors. Joder Ranch, BVR, Sage, and Foothills in particular are insufficient to handle the volume of visitors, especially on weekend days. The trailheads also miss opportunities to provide engaging educational resources for visitors, both of the "soft enforcement" and science-education varieties. We believe a major priority of the department in the coming years should be to upgrade and modernize trailhead resources throughout the system, starting in the North TSA. All OSMP trailheads should incorporate additional parking spaces, including for horse trailers, as well as landscaping, angled parking, kiosks, better signage, and restrooms.

4. *Add V&S Designations, Especially West of US36*

Additional Voice & Sight trails are needed in the North TSA to disperse users and accommodate the increasing population in the Boulder area. Hikers with dogs enjoy variety and diversity. Since 2005, however, 40 former Voice & Sight trails have faced increased restrictions, while only one new Voice & Sight trail has been added (located in the Flatirons Vista area). This disparity in Voice & Sight trails has occurred despite the acquisition of numerous acres of new Open Space properties and despite the additional fees that only hikers with dogs must pay.

The properties west of US36, including Joder Ranch, West Beech, and the areas north of Wonderland Lake, represent ideal opportunities for new loop Voice & Sight trails. These

properties are very close to a major population center and a major highway, with ease of access. In addition, the Left Hand Trail, north of Boulder Valley Ranch, is optimal for Voice & Sight designation. It will allow equestrians, bikers, and hikers the opportunity to enjoy extended outings with their V&S controlled dogs, from Boulder Valley Ranch to the Neva Road area.

5. *Allow Dogs on Hogback Loop*

Changing the Hogback Loop designation to on-leash will allow the many nearby residents to avoid driving their cars to take their dogs on an enjoyable loop hike. The Hogback Trail lies in an HCA, where the default designation for dogs is on-leash. In addition, the re-designated Hogback Trail will serve as a small and partial replacement for the numerous acres completely lost to dog access when the former V&S Wittemyer Area was re-designated as no dog in the West TSA. The Wittemyer Area lies in a Natural Area, where the default designation is Voice & Sight for dogs.

6. *Continue to Allow Off-Trail Equestrian Use at Joder and BVR*

This is a time-honored tradition on private ranches, on OSMP and on other public lands in the West. Most equestrians stay on designated trails most of the time (surveys show fewer than 2% of horse people leave the trails), but occasionally all find it necessary or desirable to spend time away from “civilization” by riding off-trail. The preponderance of evidence is that horses have minimal impacts on natural resources (the species *Equus* evolved here 50 million years ago), and horses neither spread weeds nor cause undue erosion. At the low rates of equestrian use on OSMP we believe this use should continue to be allowed.

7. *Night Use Is a Critical Component*

Use of trails after sunset provides a unique recreational and educational experience, quite different than a mid-day outing. Additionally, during winter months many people can get out on Open Space only outside of normal work hours, which means going out at night. As such we continue to advocate that night access is a critical component of public access for all trails.

8. *Emphasize Trail Alignment and Design*

OSMP trails are among the most heavily used in the Western U.S., and the user experience inevitably is affected by the volume of users. As such, trail alignment and design should emphasize getting away from roads, loops and stacked loops, primarily multi-use trails, and incorporate community input and interpretive signage.

Many comments during listening sessions conducted by OSMP in the North TSA process emphasized the importance of quiet and solitude on the visitor experience. Without

greatly expanding the amount of acreage available, the best way to achieve separation between users – and also minimize conflict – is to create stacked loops and to open most trails to multiple uses. Interpretive signage was another common point made at community input events, and is mostly missing from the North TSA area. This presents a missed opportunity for the community to learn about the resources protected by its open space investment.

9. Agricultural Lands and Conservation & Trail Easements Are Compatible with Trail Access

Trails on agricultural properties can enhance the public’s understanding of and appreciation for our agricultural heritage, and when designed properly do not need to inconvenience agricultural operations or lessees. Conservation easements are used in many other parts of the country specifically to acquire trail alignments to desirable destinations, rather than merely being used to prevent development (as often is the case in Boulder and Boulder County). Conservation easements can be a very cost-effective way of accomplishing trail connections, should be utilized for that purpose here, and should generally not be written to preclude public access in the future. Trail easements should be considered as a means of accomplishing trail connections, especially if the entire property is unavailable for acquisition.

10. Safe Crossing of Roads/Highways Should Be Made a Priority

The North TSA planning area is bisected by a major US highway (US36), and it contains many other roads as well, particularly east of US36. As roads are reconstructed, infrastructure for safe trail crossings, such as box culverts, should be incorporated. For other crossings such as Left Hand Canyon Drive some form of trail-activated traffic signal should be considered. This will become a bigger issue as more properties – and more attractive properties – such as Joder Ranch and West Beech come on line as trail centers, and OSMP should plan by creating safe trail crossing opportunities. Safe road crossings for trail users would also allow for more and longer loop opportunities through the area, thereby decreasing user conflict and increasing space between visitors.

11. Ensure Seamless Intergovernmental Cooperation in Achieving Long-Sought Regional Trail Connections

Many of the regional trails shown have been included in the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan for years. Now is the time to include them in the North TSA, and to build them. There may be opportunities for trail connections and recreational use in the “Northern Tier” (see #16 below), both east and west of US36, that will require this cooperation.

Trail Recommendations (Not Necessarily in Priority Order)

12. Complete the Trail Around Boulder

Many cities now have an iconic “Trail Around ...” that gives these municipalities an important sense of identity and place. Boulder, which prides itself on its trails and public lands, should complete the 34-mile Trail Around Boulder (TAB) as soon as possible. The TAB would connect many existing smaller trails, and several municipalities, and would connect people with each other and the landscape. About 80% of the TAB is already in place, with only about 7-8 miles of new trail required. In the North TSA itself the TAB is complete except for a short segment along N. 55th St at Boulder Reservoir, which has been approved in the Boulder Reservoir planning process. The TAB project has been discussed for many years. Now is the time to get it done and OSMP should start promoting it.

13. Joder Ranch Loops

The former Joder Ranch is perhaps the most exciting new property to be added to the OSMP system in years, and already contains many former ranch trails. The property should contain a looped trail system with several access points: from the east on US36, from the south at West Beech, and from the north and west at Lefthand Canyon Drive. Providing these access points and a multiple-loop stacked trail system within the property would connect several now-isolated properties, and therefore allow for longer loops, spreading out visitors more evenly across the North TSA planning area. At least one significant loop at Joder Ranch should be pedestrian/equestrian only, while other trails connecting the regional destinations should be multi-use. The interim trailhead at US36 should be made permanent and enlarged to OSMP standards, including a kiosk, landscaping, angled parking, horse trailer parking, and restrooms. While the Northern connection requires access through private property, it is a route already used informally and should be acquired either in fee or as a trail easement. Extending the Western spur to federal land is also desirable as a regional trail connection.

14. The Geer Loop, Which Forms Part of the Regional Trail from Lyons to Boulder

The proposed Geer Loop would circumnavigate the access road to Heil Valley Ranch (Geer Canyon Drive) and provide a connection between Joder Ranch and other city-owned properties to the south with Heil Valley Ranch, a county property. This proposed trail is entirely on county-owned land, and is therefore outside the planning boundaries for North TSA, but planning for this regional connection is appropriate for OSMP to consider. Interagency cooperation and coordination is a high priority throughout the North TSA and getting this trail connection done would be an important first step toward that goal, as well as the goal of establishing a Lyons-to-Boulder regional trail (along with requests #13 and 15).

15. *The West Beech Loop, Which Forms Another Part of the Lyons-to-Boulder Regional Trail*

This request is the trail linchpin, in some ways, of our vision for the North TSA area. A West Beech loop would connect the heavily used, semi-urban trails in Northwest Boulder, including the Wonderland Lake complex, with Joder Ranch and trail systems farther North. This would provide many benefits to users of existing North TSA trails, among them the ability to access northern trails without having to get in the car and drive to oversubscribed trailhead parking areas. A loop through the West Beech area would also spread out use from some of the most heavily visited areas in the North TSA system (Wonderland and associated trails). We note that there are species of concern in this area, among them plants, invertebrates, and reptiles. But in our judgment a well-planned alignment with appropriate educational signage would provide a remarkable addition to the overall system, well worth the care required to plan it correctly.

16. *Northern Tier Trails*

Utilizing mostly existing public lands, a beautiful trail could be built from the north end of Table Mountain at Lykins Gulch all the way north via Potato Hill to the St. Vrain Greenway (a Legacy Grant Project of Colorado State Parks and Great Outdoors Colorado). On the east side, another trail could be built through the Clover Basin area connecting the Double Dove Loop trail to the St. Vrain Greenway at Hygiene. This proposal would result in a very large loop trail system, inviting trail users from throughout Boulder and Boulder County to explore and appreciate our open spaces and public lands.

Another ambitious but important regional trail alignment covers some private land as well as city, county and jointly held properties. It would connect Niwot to the northern trail system and create the potential for a very large loop through the eastern North TSA properties, all the way west to Joder Ranch, Heil Valley Ranch and US Forest Service land up Left Hand Canyon. The advantages of such a large loop would be more inviting trails for many residents of the City of Boulder and Boulder County, and spreading out users into lesser-used corners of the system. It could include a loop on Table Mountain (U.S. Dept. of Commerce), offering spectacular views in all directions.

17. *Boulder Reservoir Trails, Including a Trail Connection to Jay Road*

This alignment would provide non-motorized access to the Boulder Reservoir from the heavily populated Jay Road area, as well as the heavily used (by bicycles) Diagonal Highway. It would create a sizable loop via existing Boulder Valley Ranch trails, thus providing a significant recreational advantage at the cost of a (relatively) short trail addition. The Kelso Road connection to Boulder Valley Ranch would be a valuable addition to the system.

18. Boulder Valley Ranch Trails, Including New Mesa Trail and East Beech

These are proposed primarily as short trails that create loops and connections around BVR. The new Mesa Trail alignment would create a challenging, interesting loop with the established trails on the top of the mesa. And a new East Beech alignment would allow for a loop for users starting at BVR trailheads, again dispersing recreation activities more broadly in the area. The latter proposed alignment could also be the basis for a connection across US36 to Joder Ranch and the other trail opportunities west of the highway.

North TSA Conceptual Trail Alignments

v5 May 9, 2015

