

SCENARIO 4

- Significant redevelopment of trails and connections in Boulder Valley Ranch subarea around Mesa Reservoir, focused on utilizing terrain to provide a more exciting and diverse visitor experience with less bike access than Scenario 1.
- Changes in Wonderland Lake subarea focused on new trail connections to replace undesignated trails, realigning trails damaged by the flood, coupled with an increase in interpretive and fishing opportunities at Wonderland Lake.
- Moderate development in North Foothills with a single large loop trail on Joder coupled with the creation of a connector trail to the Joder Property through the North Foothills Habitat Conservation Area (HCA) bisecting the large habitat block.
- Moderate public access in Northern Properties with restrictions in areas with sensitive and critical natural resources.
- Bring all trails and trailhead up to OSMP standards.
- Restore and revegetate all undesignated trails not integrated into designated trail connections.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Boulder Valley Ranch</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relocate Sage Trailhead to Foothills Trailhead, which will in turn be expanded to accommodate more parking. • Extensively repair and reroute trails in order to better utilize terrain, resulting in improved visitor experience and increased sustainability. • Take on management of North Rim Trail and create a new connection to 55th Street to provide better access to Niwot Road. • Provide a pedestrian and equestrian-only loop on Hidden Valley Trail, but allow bikes on Degge and Cobalt trails. • Restrict public access to ponds with critical natural resources, but provide a trail corridor to connect from Papini to southern Boulder Valley Ranch trails. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Wonderland Lake</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create loop trail system on Wonderland hogback to replace undesignated trails and provide more sustainable trail connectivity. • Realign hang gliding access trail into new loop trail. • Close northern portion of Old Kiln Trail due to substantial damage from the flood and provide alternative interpretive opportunities at Fourmile Creek. • Construct a pier in Wonderland Lake for education and fishing. • Harden two access points on the peninsula for interpretive opportunities.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>North Foothills</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a trailhead and provide passenger vehicle parking at Cox House and utilize current Interim Trailhead for large vehicle parking. • Construct a north-south connector trail for bikes, equestrians, and pedestrians that utilizes part of the Railroad Grade to connect through the North Foothills HCA to the Joder Interim Trail. • Use Joder Interim Trail to create one large loop on Joder Ranch. • Create one loop trail by rerouting portions of Hogback and Foothills Trails. • Coordinate with Boulder County to possibly provide recreation and interpretive opportunities at Six-Mile Fold. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Northern Properties</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow public access on Bison, Oasis, Berman, Abbott, Dodd, Schooley, Bruning and Johnson properties but do not construct infrastructure for visitor access. • Allow partial public access on Steele and Bennett properties due to sensitive natural resources and habitats. • Do not allow public access on Brewbaker, Stratton, Campbell, Hester, Deluca, Waldorf, Ryan, Andrea, and Jacob properties in order to protect critical natural resources and provide consistent management with contiguous Boulder County properties.

Action	Interests	Primary Goal	Driving Factors/Benefits	Considerations/Other Options
BOULDER VALLEY RANCH (BVR) SUBAREA				
<p>OSMP is interested in collaborating with community and partner agencies to create local connections as opportunities arise that include North TSA trails.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boulder's Area III properties to the North TSA. 		<p>Provide a north-south trail connection from a future city park to North TSA.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase accessibility for neighbors to access North TSA. Provide more connections outside of North TSA. Consider benefits, constraints, impacts and implications of future development in this area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate with Parks and Recreation Department. Protect natural resources, especially sensitive and important ponds and associated habitat and species. Use existing road as much as possible to maintain habitat quality. Avoid trail development in wetland areas near ponds. Target range is adjacent, which is a potential safety concern.
<p>Close the Boulder Valley Ranch Trailhead and offer additional capacity with expansion of Foothills Trailhead.</p>		<p>Relocate vehicle traffic off a road that is challenging to maintain.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separate visitor vehicles from agriculture operations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate with Colorado Department of Transportation to evaluate safety issues of cars entering and exiting US 36. Align trail in a way that minimizes impacts and damage to natural resources. Assess possible impacts of having many visitors concentrated in one area. Minimize impacts to contiguous habitat blocks, especially if trailhead is constructed north of Foothills Trailhead. Avoid critical resources. May impact wildlife habitat effectiveness. Assess topography feasibility and challenges. Avoid prairie dog colonies. <p><u>Other Options</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a way for bikes to avoid trailheads in order to decrease visitor conflict. Separate visitor activities at the trailhead by space or time.
<p>Clearly sign Boulder Valley Ranch horse corral as open to public use.</p>		<p>Maintain historical equestrian use of facilities by clearly marking public opportunities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase opportunities for equestrian activities. Maintain connection to equestrian history/educational experiences. 	
<p>Re-route and rebuild trails extensively south of the Boulder Valley Ranch Trailhead.</p>		<p>Improve visitor experience with new and rerouted trails.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce trail density but increase quality by removing Degge, Hidden Valley and lower portion of Eagle Trails. Remove trails that run through prairie dog colonies to maintain or improve prairie rattlesnake highly suitable habitat and manage public safety issues related to rattlesnakes. Reroute east portion of Eagle Trail and Cobalt Trail as they come into Boulder Valley Ranch to increase sustainability. Retain access to Old Mill. Utilize terrain effectively to create a better mountain biking experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify strategies to discourage use of existing social trails or creation of new ones below Boulder Valley Ranch Trailhead. Protect shale barrens from damage caused by bikes. Protect sensitive resources, including north facing shrublands, rare plants and communities, highly suitable habitat for North TSA focal species including lark sparrow and prairie rattlesnake.
<p>Provide trail connection from Boulder Valley Ranch to Niwot Road by connecting North Rim to 55th Street.</p>		<p>Increase connections between North TSA and other regional destinations and provide another point of entry for visitors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide visitors with trails that provide increased transportation connectivity. Allow visitors a safe alternative to current regional connections along busy roads. Provide an alternative to using Monarch Road as a regional connection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider implications of trail connections through active agricultural land. Design trail around natural and agricultural resources. Provide effective safety measures at ditch crossings and from agricultural operations. Consider implications of Johnson property around 55th Street being changed to a small, organic farm operation. Include trail in existing protective closure for osprey nesting (8 months of year) due to close proximity of trail to nest (200 m). Identify effective and feasible enforcement strategies to protect osprey. This action was considered in past plans. Boulder County is open to passing management responsibilities of trail around North Foothills property to OSMP if it makes sense in the context of final North TSA

				<p>plan.</p> <p><u>Other Options</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create trail along feeder canal, although other entities, such as Northern Water, may not be in favor of this option. • Align trail parallel to 55th Street. • Create trail anywhere between 55th Street and feeder canal.
Designate Lappin property as a passive recreation area.		Provide continuity with nearby property designations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase connectivity of passive recreational areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage community expectations for future recreation development on the property. • Shooting range is adjacent property. • Lappin property is currently closed to the public. • Lappin Pond is fenced and closed in this scenario to protect state-threatened native fish.
Improve Eagle Trailhead and bring up to standards.		Provide better facilities and parking access to benefit visitors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide additional horse-trailer parking. • Reconfigure trailhead setup so it is safer for visitors. • Update all facilities to bring them up to standards. • Construct restrooms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design new amenities and layout to avoid prairie dog colonies. • Coordinate with Boulder Parks and Recreation Department. • Create equestrian parking in areas separate from other visitors so they are not used by regular cars. • Improving in place, rather than relocating, conserves wildlife habitat effectiveness (bobolink and other grassland bird habitat) and minimizes reduction of focal wildlife species highly suitable habitat. • Improving in place maintains large habitat blocks. • Improving in place does not require process of creating new 8-3-3 boundaries.
Take over management of North Rim Trail.		Provide consistency of trail and area management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide consistency of resource and area designation and management (including activities and access). • Provide additional connectivity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional responsibility and cost for something currently being managed by county. • Prepare for possible increase in traffic. • While considering habitat modifications concurrent with trail re-routes, bring trail up to OSMP standards, as it is currently minimally constructed.
Limit equestrian access on East Beech to on-trail only.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit equestrian off-trail access in a subarea with high amounts of access. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improves or maintains habitat conditions for North TSA focal wildlife species. • This area may not be heavily visited off-trail anyway.
Retain dog access as on-leash on Lefthand Trail.		Provide dog access in an area with less critical natural resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintains habitat effectiveness for North TSA focal wildlife species and their highly suitable habitat. 	
Define dog access as Voice and Sight on-corridor on trail connecting through Papini, changing to voice and sight control west of the connector trail.		Provide voice and sight dog access on connector trail to improve connectivity for nearby residents and other visitors and enhance voice and sight opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide new voice and sight opportunity and connectivity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in access for dogs may impact wildlife communities and wetland/aquatic resources. • Fence should be built protecting pond from recreational disturbance.
Retain existing dog-access regulations in Boulder Valley Ranch, other than Papini.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintains habitat effectiveness for North TSA focal wildlife species and their highly suitable habitat. 	
Define dog access as leashed on Axelson Connection and North Rim Trail.		Provide dog access on connector trail to improve connectivity for nearby residents and other visitors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dogs on leash to minimize impacts to agricultural lands and natural resources including bobolinks. 	

Continue to allow bikes on Sage and Eagle Trails.		Maintain access and connectivity		
Do not allow bikes on Papini connector trail.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address the implications of increased bike access on neighbors.
Allow only pedestrian and equestrian access on Degge, Hidden Valley, and Cobalt Trail as it comes out of Sage Trail.		Provide a bike-free experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realign trails to ensure bike and pedestrian and equestrian-only trails do not overlap. • Trail design not focused on using terrain to improve biking experience can better avoid sensitive natural resources in these areas, particularly on slopes. 	

WONDERLAND LAKE SUBAREA

Define dog access Voice and Sight, on-corridor on and west of Foothills Trail.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address possible safety concerns of rattlesnakes if Foothills Trail is realigned. • Rattlesnake encounters with dogs is a safety concern. • Allowing dogs west of Foothills Trail will impact wildlife habitat effectiveness for North TSA focal wildlife species, including highly suitable habitat of butterflies and rattlesnakes. • Foothills Trail is currently Voice and Sight on-corridor. <p><u>Other Options</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not allow dogs west of Foothills Trail.
Define dog access as leashed around Wonderland Lake.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect wetland habitat around the lake. • Dogs on Voice and Sight where most people visit (i.e. around the lake), and restricting dogs from west of Foothills Trail provides greater resource protection. • Sensitive areas around the lake can be fenced to improve/maintain habitat conditions in light of Voice and Sight around lake. <p><u>Other Options</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow dogs off leash around Wonderland Lake and restrict dogs from west of Foothills Trail.
Maintain current equestrian designations.				

NORTH FOOTHILLS SUBAREA

Construct a trail from southern portion of Railroad Grade, west of Foothills Industrial Park, connecting to Joder Ranch.		Increase connectivity within North TSA properties.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize existing infrastructure and trails. • Reroute portion of Railroad Grade that dead ends into conservation easement. • Minimize resource disturbance with creation of new trail. • Utilize steep terrain of Railroad Grade to encourage visitors to stay on the trail. • Create interpretive opportunities around new trail alignment. • Locate the trail east of the Railroad Grade to connect through Schneider Draw to reduce impacts to important riparian area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant trade-offs in terms of natural resource impacts and locating a trail in a large contiguous habitat block and increasing trail connectivity. • Construct trail up to OSMP standards by widening the trail and improving sustainability and drainage. • Consider impacts on natural resources including rare plants and plant communities, and Boulder County Comprehensive Plan critical wildlife habitat. • Assess impacts of creating a bike-appropriate trail. • Create a strategy for minimizing impacts at riparian drainage crossings. • Mitigate safety issues of designating a trail in a high-density rattlesnake area. • Conserve wildlife habitat including North TSA focal species highly suitable habitat for lazuli bunting, prairie rattlesnake, lark bunting, and bluestem dependent butterflies. • Encourage visitors to stay on the trail. • Will bisect large, currently intact habitat block. • Identified as very high biodiversity area by Colorado Natural Heritage program. • The existing bench cut would not have to be changed. • Area is designated as an HCA with no dog access.
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				<u>Other Options</u> • Connect via Lefthand Trail.
Do not allow off-trail permits west of Joder N-S connector trail.		Minimize impacts of new recreation opportunities on natural resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease potential of creation of new social trails. • Maintain large habitat blocks. • Create boundaries for where visitors may go. • Conserve natural resources from increased impacts due to increased traffic of new trail. • New trail provides access to view and enjoy the HCA and its habitats. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would protect North TSA conservation targets and HSH outside of trail corridor • The HCA area contains abundant rare plants and plant communities including those in shale communities very sensitive to damage from visitor activities. • The HCA was identified as a very high biodiversity area by Colorado Natural Heritage Program. • Most of the HCA is designated as critical wildlife habitat in Boulder County Comprehensive Plan. • The terrain in this area is very steep.
Re-route Hogback Trail.		Construct a more sustainable trail.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase trail sustainability. • Improve trail quality to encourage visitors to stay on-trail. • Improve recreation opportunities in area heavily damaged by flood. • Maintain a pedestrian and equestrian-only trail. • Improve visitor safety by re-routing trail to avoid high-density rattlesnake areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid rare plant communities. • Conserve highly suitable habitat for North TSA focal species including bluestem dependent butterflies, lark sparrow and prairie rattlesnake. • Mitigate impacts on cultural resources. • Do not allow dogs and bikes. • Address safety concerns associated with recreation in a high-density rattlesnake area. • Dogs and bikes are allowed on Foothills Trail, but not on new Hogback Trail alignment.
Construct trailhead and passenger vehicle parking at Cox House.		Construct a trailhead for Joder that creates passenger vehicle parking and does not require crossing US 36.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide parking for pedestrian and biking visitors. • Construct parking lot along a road that has good soil quality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widen road to accommodate two lanes of traffic while protecting natural resources. • Consider natural resources when widening road to minimize impacts. • Address visitor conflicts of large vehicles and trailers having to access parking with the same road.
Realign Joder Interim Trail.		Improve trail conditions to improve sustainability and visitor experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reroute steep, unsustainable northwest portion of trail (carriage road) that connects to Buckingham Park. • Allow vegetation to narrow two-track trails. • Reroute sections of the trail prone to unsustainability that were heavily damaged by the flood. • Repair and realign the trail where necessary between where road ends, up to the saddle. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide vehicle access to all necessary structures. • Minimize impacts on sensitive and important habitats, including rare plant communities, highly suitable habitat for North TSA focal species including bluestem dependent butterflies, and lark sparrow. • Avoid realigning trail up the hill whenever possible.
Define dog access as Voice and Sight on-corridor on Hogback Trail.		New Voice and Sight opportunity in HCA.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts to effectiveness of North TSA focal wildlife species highly suitable habitat due to presence of dogs. • Reduction in no-dog opportunities in TSA.
Continue to not allow dogs on north-south connector trail to Joder.		Do not allow dogs in an area with highly sensitive and critical habitat and species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintains no dog opportunity in North TSA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improves wildlife highly suitable habitat effectiveness in middle section of West Beech HCA. • Current regulations are no dog in this area.
Designate dog access as leashed-only on all Joder trails.		Provide opportunity for visitors with dogs to enjoy Joder trails in an area of sensitive natural resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent with HCA designation of Joder property. 	
Designate dog access as leashed-only on Six-Mile Fold connector trail.		Provide consistency with county dog-management strategies.		
Allow bike access on north-south connector trail as well as Joder Interim Trail and the		Increased connectivity and access for bikes.		Allowing bikes may increase trail tread width and/or design and may therefore have greater impacts on wildlife habitat (via footprint) than a non-bike trail.

larger loop.				
Allow equestrian access on Joder Interim Trail and the larger loop.		Increased connectivity and access for equestrians.		
Do not allow bikes on Hogback Trail.		Maintain no bike opportunity.		

NORTHERN PROPERTIES SUBAREA

Close Brewbaker, Stratton, Campbell, Hester, Deluca, Waldorf, Ryan, Andrea, and Jacob to public access.		Limit public access on northern properties with high ecological value.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect properties of the highest ecological concern. • Conserves highly suitable habitat for North TSA focal wildlife species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect bobolink and associated habitat on Deluca, Hester, and Campbell. • Protect heavy elk use adjacent to County preservation area on Ryan, Andrea, Jacob, Waldorf • Protect nesting northern harrier • Brewbaker is currently designated as a natural area. • Stratton is an active agriculture site. • Stratton is the least irrigated of the northern properties. • Ryan, Andrea, Waldorf and Jacob are part of a large elk migration corridor across US 36. • Waldorf has lots of fossils. • Elk jump on the bottom corner of Waldorf is used heavily. • Nesting northern harriers on Ryan/Andrea/Jacob complex
Maintain natural area designation on Steele and Bennett properties and partially open both to public access.		Allow recreation in a way that does not endanger sensitive natural resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close part of Steele, south of the fence line, to protect shale barrens and areas with high biodiversity. • Allow Voice & Sight access in areas not closed to natural resource protection. • Protect native frog habitat on Bennett. • Protect rare plant communities, shale communities, Bell's twinpod, and burrowing owls on Steele and Bennett. • Protect wetlands on Steele and Bennett. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify strategies to effectively work with neighbors south of Steele to ensure compliance. • CPW is interested in fencing pond on Bennett to restore habitat for native fish. • Both properties are currently closed to the public. • Both properties have active agricultural operations.
Open Bison, Oasis, Berman, Abbott, Dodd, Bruning, Schooley, and Johnson to public access.		Allow public access.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow access without constructing new infrastructure or trails. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect sensitive natural resources. • Protect bobolink and associated habitats. • Bison has been deemed agriculture land of state-wide importance due to productive soil and water quality. • Oasis is dominated by non-native species, making restoration, agricultural and resource management challenging. • Prairie dog colonies provide valuable raptor hunting habitat.