

City of Boulder West Trail Study Area



Community Collaborative Group Recommendations

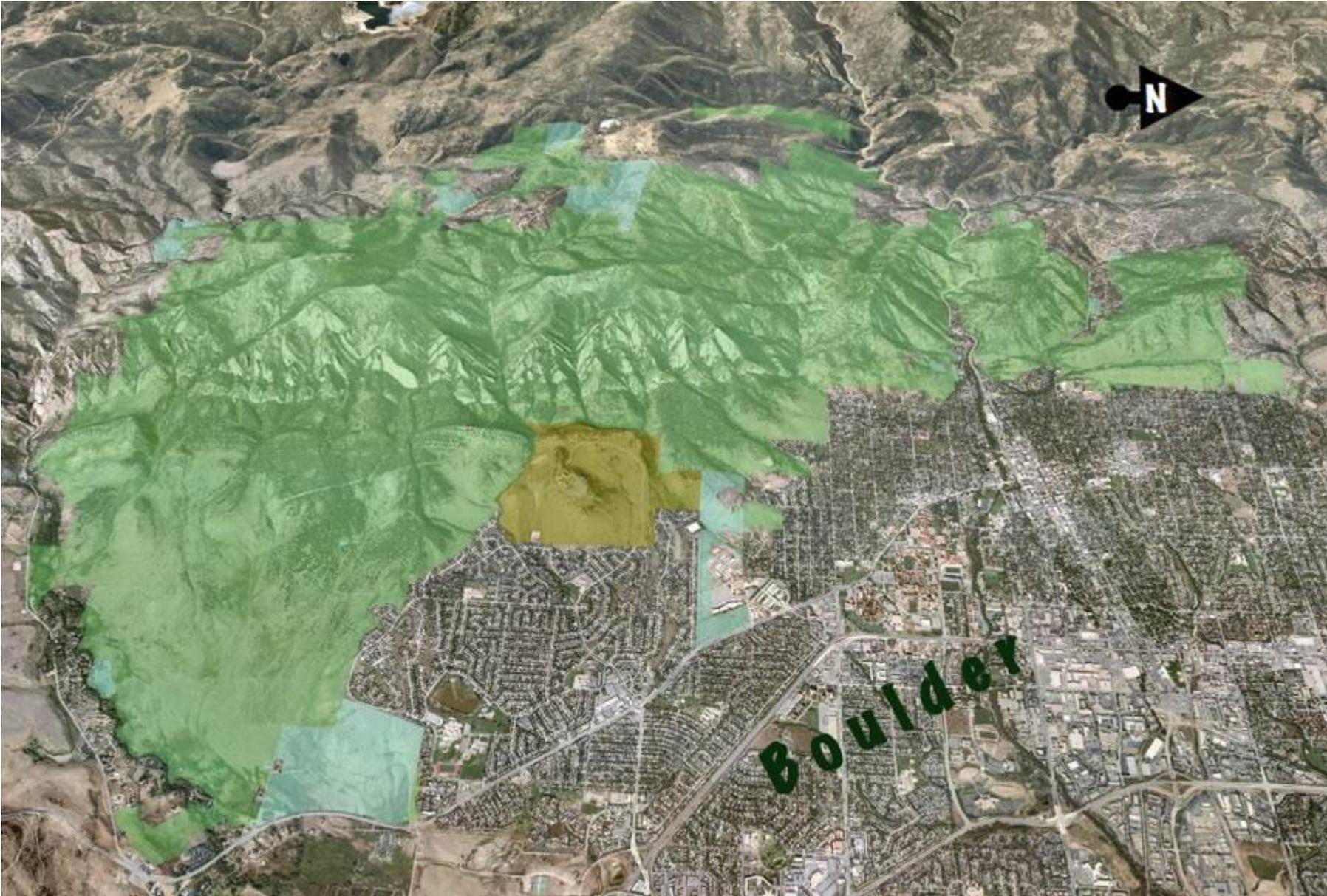
Table of Contents

Background.....	3
Consensus Recommendations and Non-Consensus.....	4
West Trail Study Area-Wide Recommendations.....	6
Sanitas, Anemone, and Red Rocks Subarea Trail Recommendations.....	8
Western Mountain Parks Habitat Conservation Area and Flagstaff Subarea Trail Recommendations.....	14
Chautauqua and Flatirons Subarea Trail Recommendations.....	18
Shanahan and South Mesa Subarea Trail Recommendations.....	22
Dog Management Recommendations.....	26
Horseback Riding Recommendations.....	32

All CCG members agreed to the following statement.
The Open Space and Mountain Parks department abstained.

After the Open Space Board of Trustees (OSBT), the City Council and the City Manager review the Community Collaborative Group's (CCG) West Trail Study Area Recommendations and they conclude their own public processes and decisions, the CCG respectfully asks that Council and the City Manager direct the Open Space and Mountain Parks Department to implement the results in a timely manner. Considerable time and effort were contributed by members of the CCG over the past year and a half to conclude the community participation process, and successful implementation of its recommendations will require adequate OSMP staffing and funding. Sufficient voter-supported funding sources exist to fill the many vacant OSMP positions essential for the success of the long-term management of these lands held in such high regard by the community and to implement the West Trail Study Area Plan.

West Trail Study Area



The West TSA forms the spectacular mountain backdrop to the City of Boulder. It includes OSMP lands west of Broadway and SH 93 from Linden Avenue to Eldorado Springs Drive. The West TSA is 11,250 acres.

Background

Need for a Trail Study Area Plan

The need for Trail Study Area (TSA) planning arises from the Visitor Master Plan (VMP) which identifies area-specific plans, such as TSAs, as a way to identify on-the-ground actions that will improve the visitor experience and provide a sustainable trail system while protecting natural and cultural resources. The VMP established a general framework for providing visitor services and protecting resources on Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) lands.

Planning Goals

Trail Study Area planning focuses on existing designated trail systems, undesignated trails, and activities on the trails, and asks how existing trails can be modified to improve:

- Quality of the visitor experience
- Visitor access opportunities
- Physical sustainability of the trails system
- Protection and restoration of natural and cultural resources

The Community Collaborative Group

For the West TSA, the Open Space and Mountain Parks Department instituted a community-based planning process that involved the public in building the plan. A citizens' advisory group, the Community Collaborative Group (CCG), was commissioned to partner with OSMP to develop West TSA plan recommendations. The CCG is comprised of a dedicated group of citizen-elected volunteers who represent a cross section of community interests related to recreation, conservation, neighborhoods, and cultural resources. OSMP is also represented on the CCG.

The CCG's charge was to come up with solutions that balance competing interests and support the long-term health of the land and the quality of the visitor experience. All CCG recommendations require unanimous agreement or consensus.

The CCG has worked very hard to discuss ideas and proposals on a variety of topics throughout the West TSA. These discussions have aimed to identify opportunities, raise concerns, ask and answer questions, and explore options. The CCG has been able to find agreement on many challenging and important issues and areas throughout the West TSA. These agreements are outlined in this document.

Community Collaborative Group Members

Recreation Representatives	Alternates
Peter Bakwin Michael Katz Mark McIntyre Mark Oveson Johannes Rudolph	Suzanne Webel Jennifer Kwasniewski Ted Lazano Buzz Burrell
Conservation Representatives	Alternates
Ray Bridge Gwen Dooley James Gallo Bev Gholson Karen Hollweg	Linda Jourgensen Petrea Mah
Neighborhood Representatives	Alternate
Ned Patton (north area) Shelley Dunbar (central area) Guy Burgess (south area)	Joe Zamudio
Cultural Resource Representative	Alternate
Chuck Gray	Gail Gray
OSMP Representative	Alternate
Joe Reale	Rick Hatfield

Consensus Recommendations and Non-Consensus Items

Note from Heather Bergman (Facilitator):

The CCG has discussed many proposals and trails in detail. The group has come to agreement on many challenging issues. Additionally, the CCG, has discussed many proposals without coming to an agreement. The recommendations in this report represent the "consensus recommendations" agreed to by the CCG. The other proposals discussed by the CCG are either categorized as "non-consensus items" or "other items." Non-consensus items and other items are not outlined in this report, but they are available in other documentation of CCG efforts.

Consensus Recommendations

- The CCG Ground Rules and Protocols state in Section C that: The CCG defines consensus as unanimous concurrence among the representatives, or in the absence of the representative, his or her alternate. Representatives may also "abstain" or "stand aside" and not offer their consent, but refrain from blocking agreement. Abstaining or standing aside shall not be counted in determining if consensus has been reached.
- In the course of the day-to-day deliberations of the CCG, this definition was operationalized to mean that the facilitator called the question, and every member of the CCG at the table agreed.

Non-Consensus Items

- The CCG Ground Rules and Protocols state in Section D that: The CCG shall either agree to the recommendations of the selected forum, modify the recommendations to achieve consensus, or conclude that consensus cannot be reached.
- In a singular case, that of mountain biking access to the West TSA, the CCG reached unanimous concurrence that consensus could not be reached.

Other Items

- There are many trails, areas, and issues in the West TSA that are not addressed by the CCG consensus recommendations.
- There are several reasons that the CCG does not have consensus recommendations for these trails, areas, and issues. Some of these are outlined below.
 - The CCG discussed a preliminary proposal from a CCG member but did not circle back to the proposal in later discussions and negotiations, due either to insufficient time or to an expectation that agreement would not be forthcoming.
 - A member of the CCG offered a preliminary proposal, but it was not discussed in detail (or at all) by the CCG and was not included in any of the agreement discussions thereafter.
 - No one from the CCG offered a specific proposal about a trail, area, or issue, so the CCG did not discuss it and it was not included in any of the agreement discussions thereafter.
- A lack of recommendation from the CCG on a particular trail, area, or issue does not mean that either the CCG as a whole or any of its individual members do not think that the trail, area, or issue is important.

Note Regarding the Maps and Associated Terminology

All new trail alignments illustrated on the maps are conceptual.

Re-route



Re-routes are illustrated in either one of two ways: 1) with a new conceptual alignment or 2) in cases where a new conceptual alignment has not been identified, the old alignment is simply shown in yellow. The term only applies to the designated trail system. In other words undesignated trails are not re-routed, they are designated.

Construct



The construct term and symbology applies to newly designated trails for which there is no to minimal existing tread.

Designate



The designate term and symbology applies to newly designated trails that will more or less use an existing undesignated trail corridor. It does not mean the current undesignated trail will be designated as is; some re-routing or additional trail work may be necessary.

Key Destination



Key destinations are distinct landscape features, sites or infrastructure that have their own appeal and/or provide a point or place to linger for those traveling along a trail. (Two categories of key destinations were identified by OSMP staff and the CCG refined the initial list and identified those to which designated access should be provided.) There are two categories of key destinations. The first category includes facilities, vistas, natural features, structures or popular gathering spots. The second category includes popular climbing and bouldering sites. (Popular was defined as a formation or boulder that was estimated to receive greater than 300 visits per year.)

West TSA-Wide Recommendations

Trail Standards, Design and Construction

OSMP shall at times deviate from their best trail standards under certain habitat conservation or user experience considerations. For example, excessive trail switchbacks that criss-cross a riparian area and disrupt more acres of habitat are discouraged under certain circumstances. All natural resource values will be considered when developing trail alignments. The development of each new trail alignment will include extensive evaluation and survey by natural resource staff. Resources such as rare plants, unique wildlife occurrences or habitats, and rare plant communities will be a priority in trail placement. Trails shall be routed to avoid invasive weeds, consider soil types and avoid seeps and wet spots to enhance sustainability, and use existing tread where feasible to reduce impacts. Conservation-oriented trail construction practices (as used for the E.M. Greenman re-route) shall be used to avoid weed/invasive plant growth (e.g., the growth that comes with deposition of spoils to the side of trails) and leave intact the habitat through which the trail is routed. Also, OSMP should evaluate how effectively an old tread can be revegetated based on soil types and visibility from the new tread.

Education and Enforcement

With the increasingly large amount of designated trail mileage and number of visits in the West TSA, adequate education and enforcement are necessary to help preserve the high quality resource and enhance visitor experiences. Additionally, any adaptive management decisions require information that can only be gathered by “boots-on-the-ground”. OSMP is encouraged to increase ranger staffing and patrols.

Increase maintenance of existing trails.

Over the last years, many trails have become severely eroded due to lack of maintenance. Increased maintenance will greatly reduce the impact of trails with respect to erosion, silting of streams, trail braiding, etc. An increase in trail crews is strongly recommended.

Encourage OSMP to implement the nighttime curfews as stated in the Visitor Master Plan through education and outreach, possibly using signs.

“Continue nighttime parking curfew, trailhead parking prohibited 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. and encourage a nighttime curfew one hour after dusk to one hour before dawn in Habitat Conservation Areas.” (VMP pgs. 43 and 53)

Driving Factors/Benefits

- “Aims to provide a higher level of resource protection in HCAs.”

- “Intended to reduce visitor use and impact on wildlife sensitive to human presence during the nighttime hours, since many animals use nighttime as solace and refuge from humans.” (VMP pg. 43)

Provide more bike racks at trailheads and access points.

Address trouble spots (muddy/icy trail conditions) as soon as possible on an ongoing basis.

Adaptive Management

It is critical that OSMP follow the adaptive management practices called for in the VMP with the auditing of baseline conditions of trails. If visitor use proves to be unsustainable – causes unexpected or excessive environmental, safety or maintenance issues – then adjustments in management shall be made per the VMP page 30.

Treatment of sensitive cultural resource areas

For those sensitive areas such as significant Native American sites and indefensible settler/miner sites, all trail modifications made by OSMP and recommended by the CCG will be evaluated to ensure they meet with the established guidelines to place trails with the protection of these sites in mind. Established guidelines include, but are not limited to, consultation with the United Tribes of Colorado, the Colorado State Historic Preservation Office, and both the City of Boulder and Boulder County landmark representatives as appropriate.

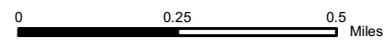
Cultural resource signs and interpretation where appropriate

- Informative signs should be at points that receive heavy visitor use at obvious cultural sites.
- Trail signs that give the less frequent visitor interested in cultural resources important information such as location keyed to a map, mileage and altitude to the sites. For instance, areas rich with resources such as the South Mesa Trailhead area should be signed with a general sign to let people know what resources they may see on their hike and to look for more specific informative signs at those sites
- Information should continue to be made available, either on the website or in printed material describing the cultural history of the area. Providing printed information, such as brochures at the highly visited areas for visitors who would not normally access a website will be considered when staff time and funding allow.
- Use of docent representatives at sites where heavy visitor use may enhance the visitors’ experience should be explored, if funding and time for appropriate staff involvement allow.

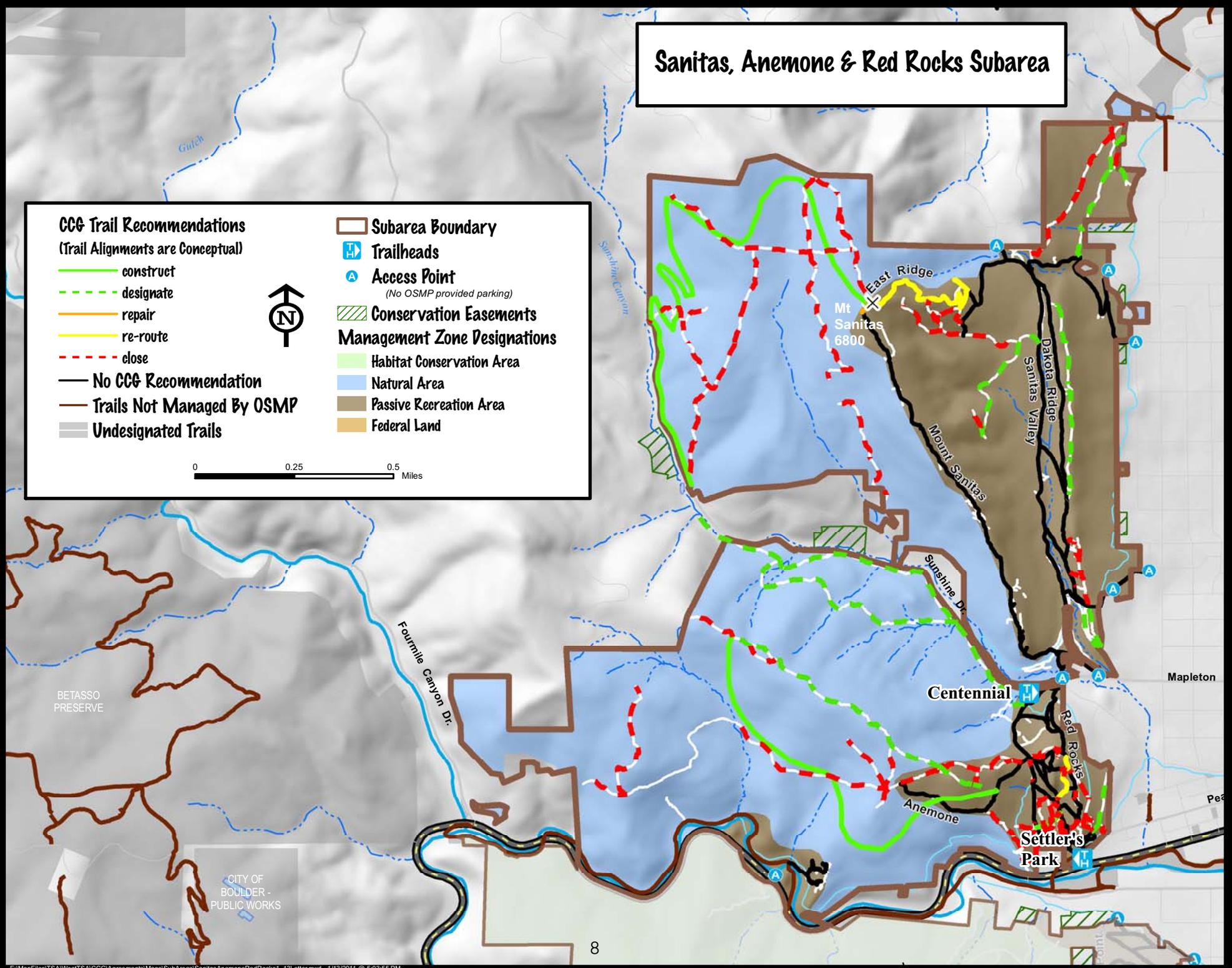
Sanitas, Anemone & Red Rocks Subarea

CCG Trail Recommendations (Trail Alignments are Conceptual)

- construct
- - - designate
- repair
- re-route
- - - close
- No CCG Recommendation
- Trails Not Managed By OSMP
- Undesignated Trails



- Subarea Boundary
- H Trailheads
- A Access Point
(No OSMP provided parking)
- Conservation Easements
- Management Zone Designations**
- Habitat Conservation Area
- Natural Area
- Passive Recreation Area
- Federal Land



Sanitas

Designate a trail from Linden and 4th Street to the Goat Trail.

- › Designate a more eastern corridor.
- › Close, restore, and sign the more western corridor.
- › Fix fence.
- › Sign access point.
- › Connect to Juniper.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Protects the sensitive wildlife in the area.
- › Current alignments are unsustainable.
- › Provides a highly desired connection.
- › Consolidates multiple undesigned trails.

Re-route the East Ridge Trail.

- › Maintain character of trail.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Visitors currently get lost.
- › Trail is severely eroded and braided.
- › Winter conditions are often icy and difficult to navigate.

Clean up trails and restore historical views from the Mt. Sanitas summit.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Visitors currently get lost on the summit area.
- › Consolidates a network of undesigned trails.

Provide access to quarries 2, 3, and 4.

- › Provide access from the Sanitas Valley Trail.
- › Close and restore the access along the undesigned trail from the East Ridge Trail.
- › Sign the Quarry Trail with an interpretive sign and dead-end notice at the Sanitas Valley Trail junction.
- › Do not provide access to quarry 1.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › The quarries were identified as key destinations.

Designate undesigned trail on Dakota Ridge.

- › Parallel trail to Dakota Ridge Trail
- › Not mapped

Driving Factor/Benefits

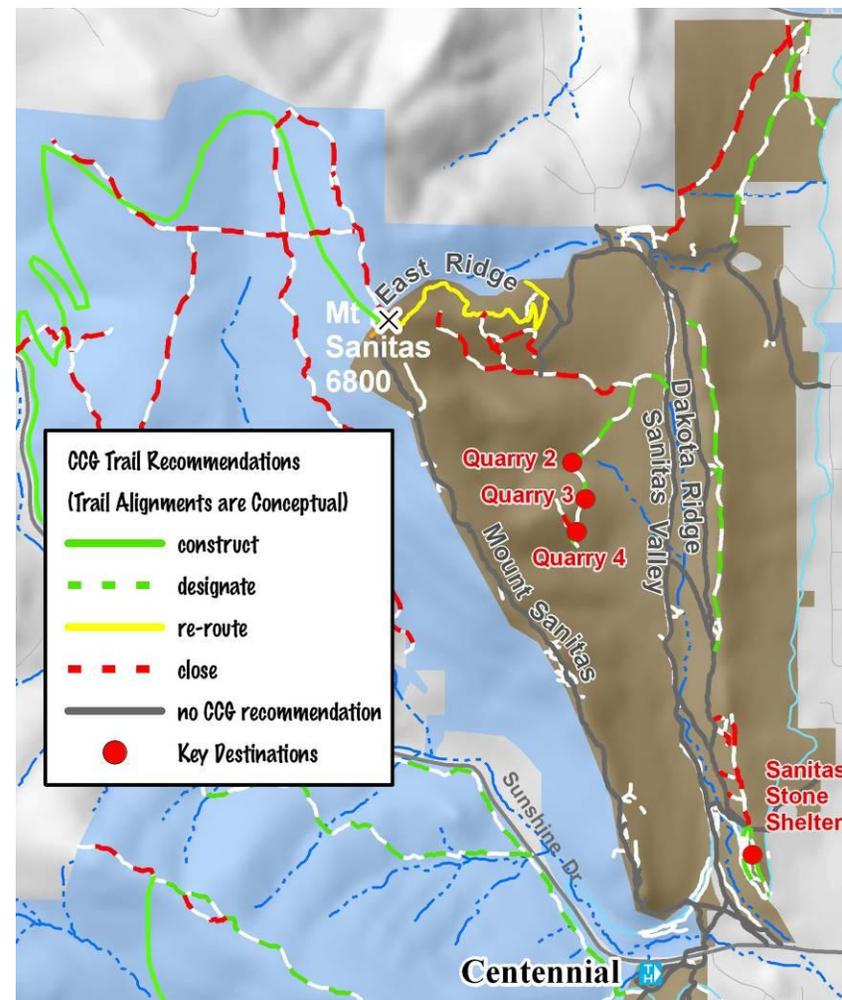
- › This new trail provides a very different visitor experience from the current Dakota Ridge Trail. It is on the east side of the hogback providing different viewsheds.

Designate access to Sanitas stone shelter.

- › Loop trail
- › Close and restore the other undesigned trails.

Driving Factor/Benefits

- › The stone shelter was identified as a key destination.
- › Consolidates a network of undesigned trails.
- › Provides access to and helps protect a cultural resource.



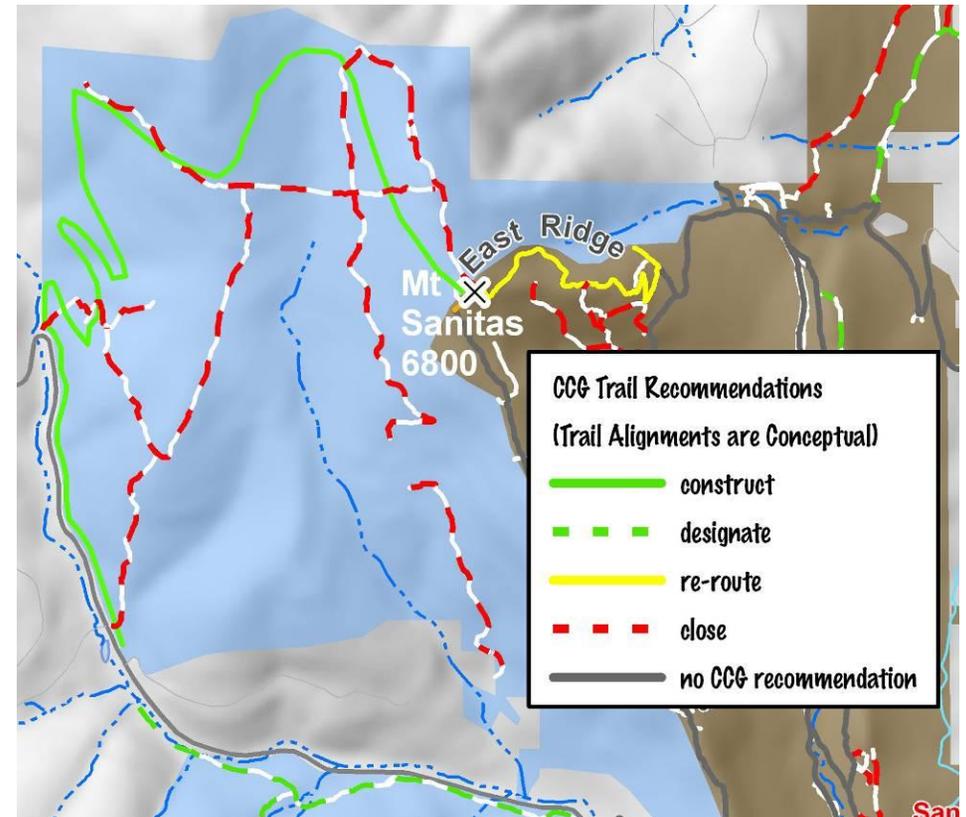
Sanitas, cont.

Designate a trail in West Sanitas/Wittemyer.

- Along the perimeter of the property
- Connector (to Sunshine) as close as reasonably possible to the street, per OSMP.
- Two-year closure in the interior of the property. Closure is lifted in two years if the undesignated trails are reclaimed. If the trails are not reclaimed the area will remain closed and will be reassessed on an annual basis.
- No parking on the private roads. Parking at the hairpin will be permitted. There will not be a trailhead, little to no infrastructure.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- Increases habitat block size in an important, high quality, ponderosa pine ecosystem.
- Provides a new visitor opportunity.
- Eliminates highly unsustainable and habitat-fragmenting undesignated trails.



Anemone

Designate a loop on the south side of lower Sunshine Canyon.

- › OSMP staff will be responsible for the alignment.
- › A trail extension will continue west and cross the creek as a connection to West Sanitas.
- › The loop may not be the same alignment as the current undesignated trails.
- › Re-route steep sections.
- › Re-route away from rare plants.

Driving Factors/Benefits

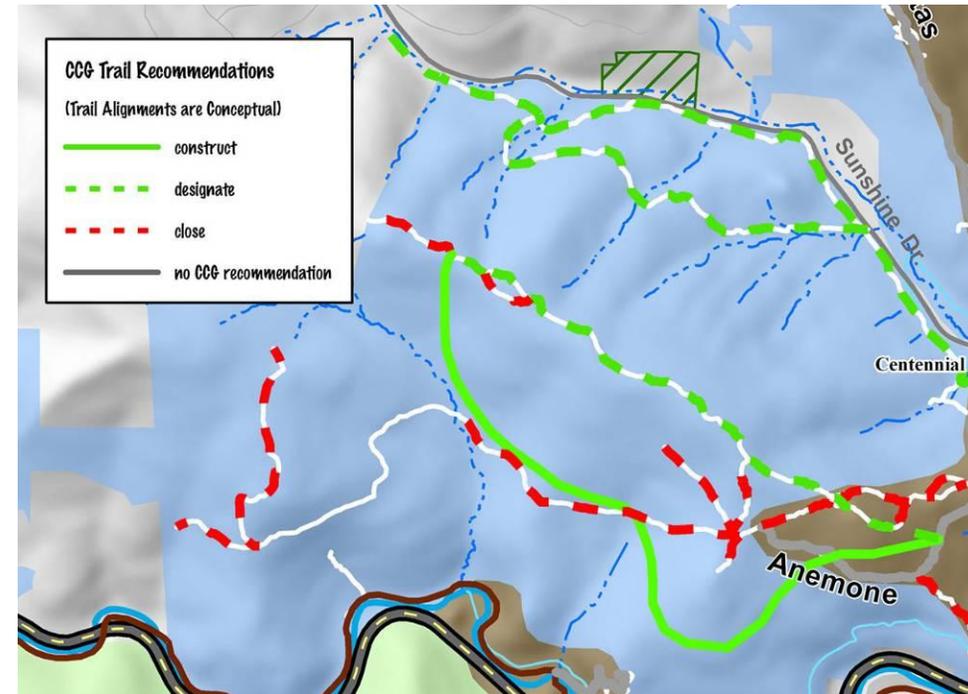
- › Provides a new visitor opportunity from a trailhead that is moderate in both trail length and difficulty.

Designate an Anemone loop.

- › Use the ridge.
- › End before going onto private property.
- › Keep some of the viewpoints.
- › Specific alignment up to OSMP staff.
- › Close and restore the undesignated trails that lead onto private property and those from Boulder Canyon.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › New alignment addresses trespassing issues.
- › Creates a new visitor opportunity that replaces a network of existing undesignated trails.
- › Provides designated access to desired viewpoints.



Red Rocks

Better define the primary trail near the rock formation - 1

- Do not put much effort into restoring the undesignated trails around the “slick rock” formation and nearby ridge.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- Area has very high use.
- Visitors like to explore the rock formation and scenic views.

Designate a trail on the east side of the point - 2

- Close and restore the undesignated trails in the area, including the undesignated trail that drops off the point to the south.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- Provides access to a desired viewpoint.
- Consolidates undesignated trails.

Consider designating access to the ditch - 3

- Close and restore the undesignated trail along the ditch which appears to receive little use.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- Visitors can continue to access the ditch.

Construct an east/west connector - 4

- Connects across the north of the large group area from east to west.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- Area where large groups gather is an old reservoir which was identified as a key destination.
- Provides a desired connection between two designated trails, allowing for consolidation of the other undesignated trails.

Repair, replace or remove old structures.

Driving Factors/Benefits

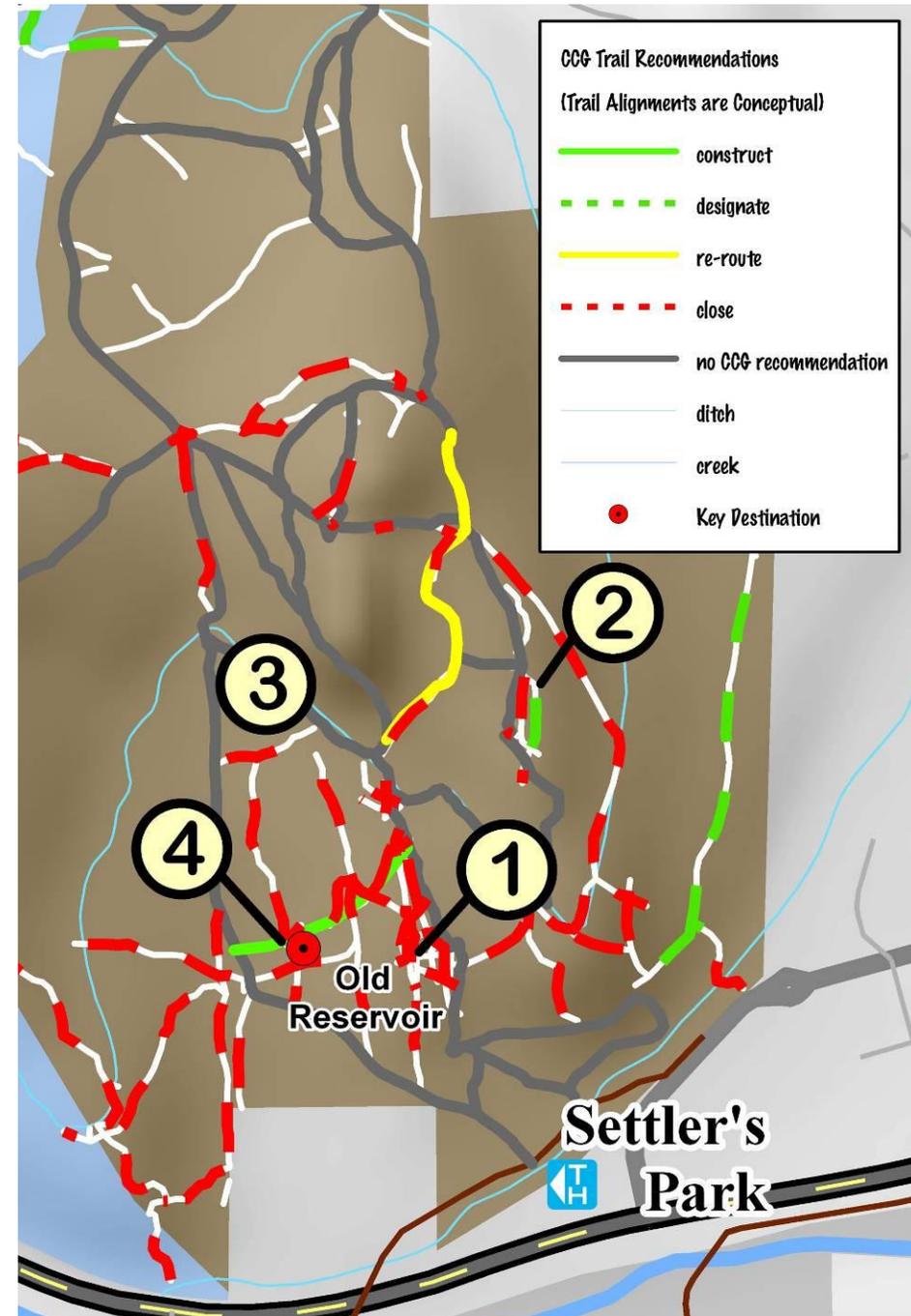
- Many structures are in disrepair and no longer functioning.

Clearly mark designated and undesignated trails.

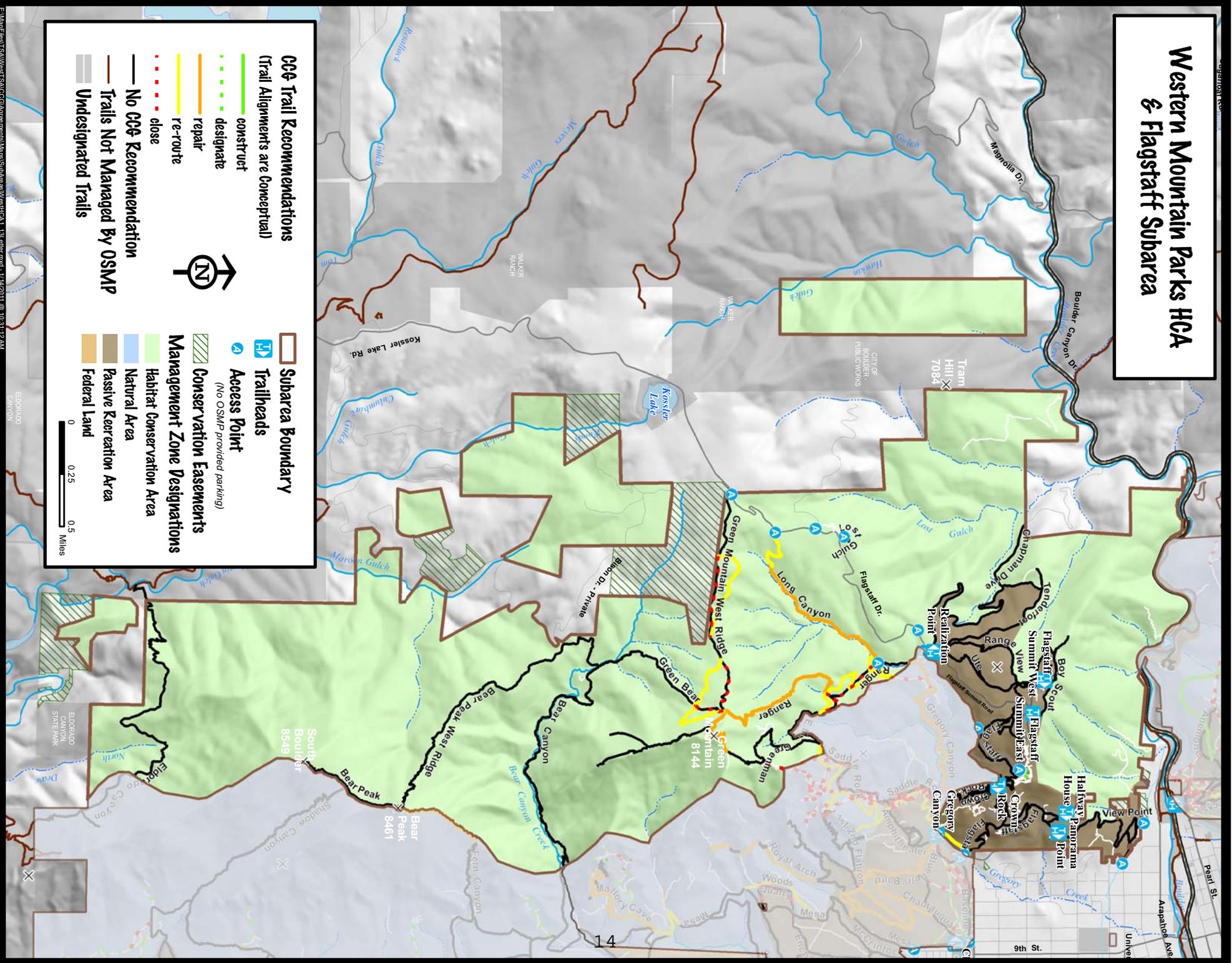
Designate an access from the Knollwood neighborhood to Settler's Park.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- Provides a designated neighborhood access.



Western Mountain Parks HCA & Flagstaff Subarea



CCF Trail Recommendations (Trail Alignments are Conceptual)

- construct
- - - designate
- repair
- re-route
- - - close
- No CCF Recommendation
- Trails Not Managed By OSMIP
- Undesignated Trails



Subarea Boundary



Access Point (No OSMIP provided parking)



Management Zone Designations

- Conservation Easements
- Habitat Conservation Area
- Natural Area
- Passive Recreation Area
- Federal Land



Flagstaff

Provide designated access to the following Key Destinations: **Holiday Star, 3-of-a-Kind Wall, Candel Area** (south of Crown Rock, north of Gregory Canyon, access is mostly from Flagstaff), and **Upper Area**.

Restore and maintain historic views from the **Sunrise Amphitheater**.

- Close undesignated trails leading to other viewpoints.

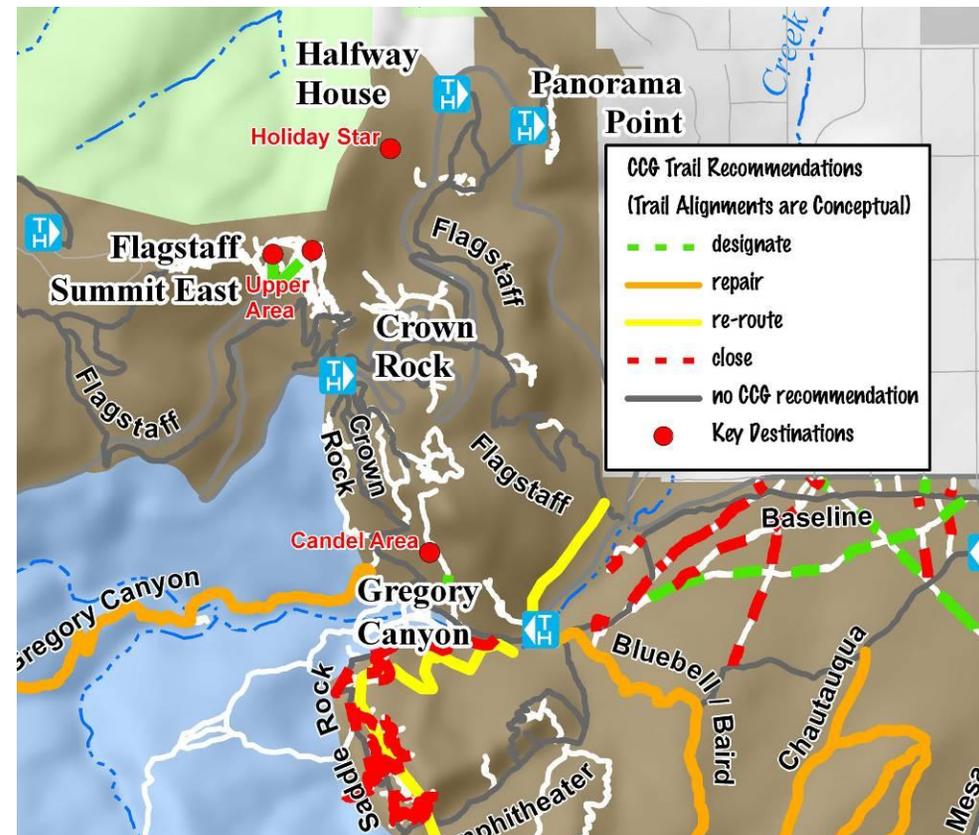
Driving Factors/Benefits

- The undesignated trails previously used to gain the view will no longer be necessary.

Re-route lower section of the **Flagstaff Trail** to connect into the **Gregory Canyon Trailhead**.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- Improves visitor safety by eliminating a road crossing.
- Reduces visitor confusion by having Flagstaff trail start at the trailhead.



Ranger, Green Mountain West Ridge, E.M. Greenman, Summit of Green Mountain, Long Canyon

Re-route lower Ranger Trail.

- › Per OSMP
- › Re-route out of riparian drainage.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Current trail is highly eroded, braided, and has many steps due to its fall line location.
- › Current alignment is in a riparian drainage; re-route better protects the riparian area.
- › Current alignment is in Black Bear and Shrub-nesting Bird Highly Suitable Habitat.
- › Improves the visitor's experience.
- › Improves trail sustainability.

Retain Long Canyon alignment with re-route on upper section

- › No re-route in the lower/eastern portion of the Canyon along the creek.
- › Keep current access point on upper Flagstaff Road.
- › Minor corridor repair work for the length of the trail.
- › Re-route western section from the creek to Flagstaff Road.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Re-route improves trail sustainability.
- › Maintains the desired visitor experience.

Re-route Green Mountain West Ridge.

- › Alignment per OSMP
- › Move out of the sight of the houses.
- › Trail should remain largely unchanged at the west end. As the trail goes east transition to the north side of the ridge, then switch back on the south slope of Green Mountain.
- › Terminate at the current intersection with Ranger Trail.
- › Intersect the re-routed Green Bear farther West than current intersection.
- › Should not go very far into Panther Canyon because of rare plant concerns in the upper reaches of the drainages.
- › Reclaim and revegetate the old tread.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Current view is into houses, backyards, and road.
- › Improves trail sustainability.
- › Current alignment has steep grades that cause trail braiding and erosion.
- › Provides the visitor a different ecotone experience.

Leave upper Ranger, E.M. Greenman, and upper Green Mountain West Ridge intact with minor re-routes to improve sustainability.

- › Retain rugged character of hike.

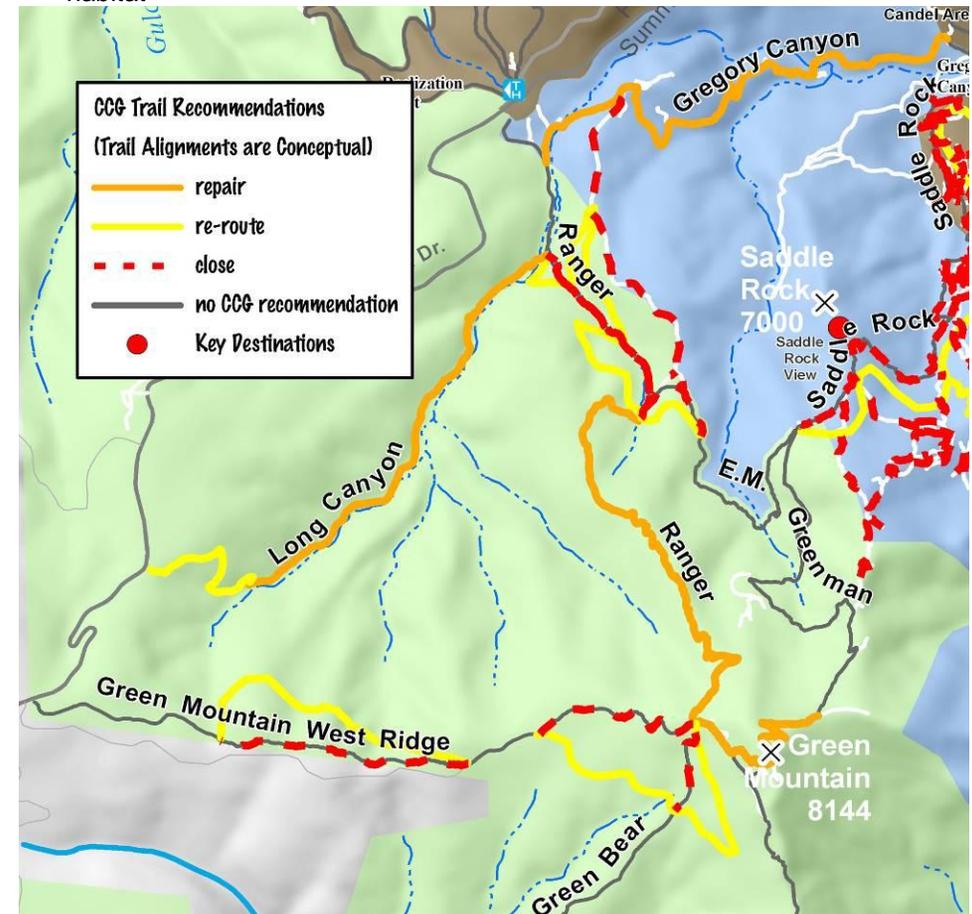
Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Maintains the desired visitor experience.

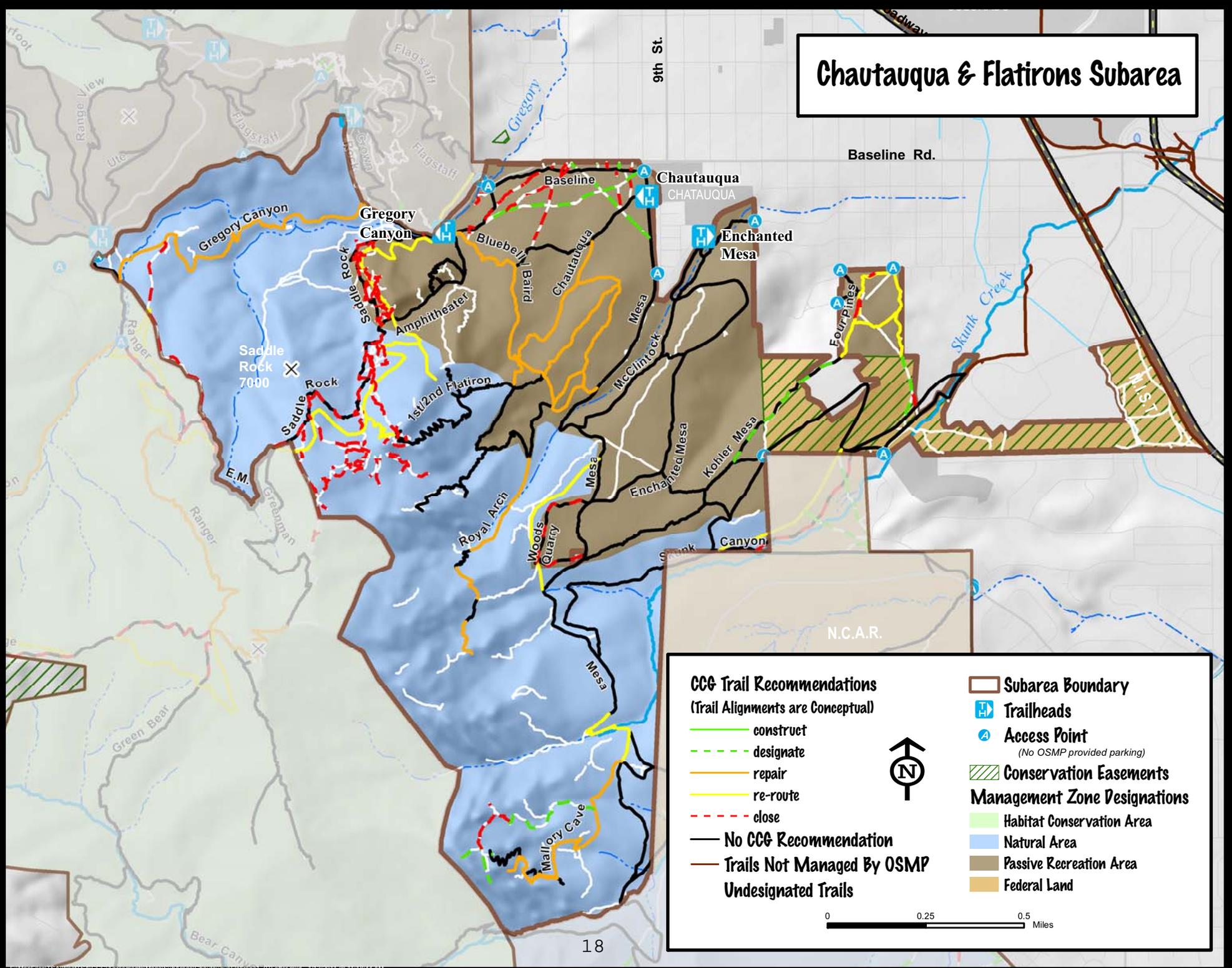
Close and Restore the undesigned "ridge" trail connecting Gregory Canyon and E.M. Greenman

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Removes a parallel / redundant undesigned trail.
- › Ranger re-route will incorporate some of this visitor experience
- › Is in the HCA.
- › Will help preserve the rare plant communities.
- › Closure will minimize the impacts to black bear and Preble's Mouse habitat



Chautauqua & Flatirons Subarea



CCG Trail Recommendations (Trail Alignments are Conceptual)	Subarea Boundary
construct	Trailheads
designate	Access Point <i>(No OSMP provided parking)</i>
repair	Conservation Easements
re-route	Management Zone Designations
close	Habitat Conservation Area
No CCG Recommendation	Natural Area
Trails Not Managed By OSMP	Passive Recreation Area
Undesignated Trails	Federal Land

0 0.25 0.5
 Miles

Chautauqua Meadow, Gregory Canyon, Saddle Rock, 1st and 2nd Flatiron

Designate and re-route the Baseline Trail, the 6th Street connector, and the trail from the northeast corner of Chautauqua meadow to Bluebell Baird.

- Close remaining undesignated trails in the area.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- Provides a desired connection which allows closure of the remaining undesignated trails.

Work on the trails in the area of Chautauqua, Bluebell Baird, and Serpentine.

- Minor changes to or shifts of the trails in the Chautauqua area.
- Improvements to help drain water better.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- Increases trail sustainability by improving water drainage.

Close the undesignated spur trails off of upper and lower McClintock.

- OSMP staff will identify a small number of high value areas to provide designated access.
- Encourage people to stay on trail by having a well maintained enjoyable trail.
- Add education and interpretive information.

Improve parking at Chautauqua.

OSMP should pursue parking improvements to the existing Ranger Cottage parking such as diagonal parking and one-way entrance and egress. Pursue the bus parking/loading on east side of median (west side of Kinnickinnic). (Part of larger conversation with the Chautauqua Assoc., Parks and Recreation, Transportation, Planning, and City Manager's Office.)

Work on Gregory Canyon

- Consider using the existing old road grade approximately 100 yards up to the north from the Crown Rock bridge.
- Re-route in some sections of the trail.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- Improves trail sustainability.

Re-route Saddle Rock.

- Serve climbing access points with either a spur or switchback– bottom of Spy, top of Spy, exit of Baker's Way, start of North Arete, rescue spot A, and top of the 1st and 2nd Flatiron Trail.
- Close and restore the undesignated trails in the area.

- Designate access to the Saddle Rock View, which is a key destination (the view of Saddle Rock to north of the rock itself). Dependent on the re-route.

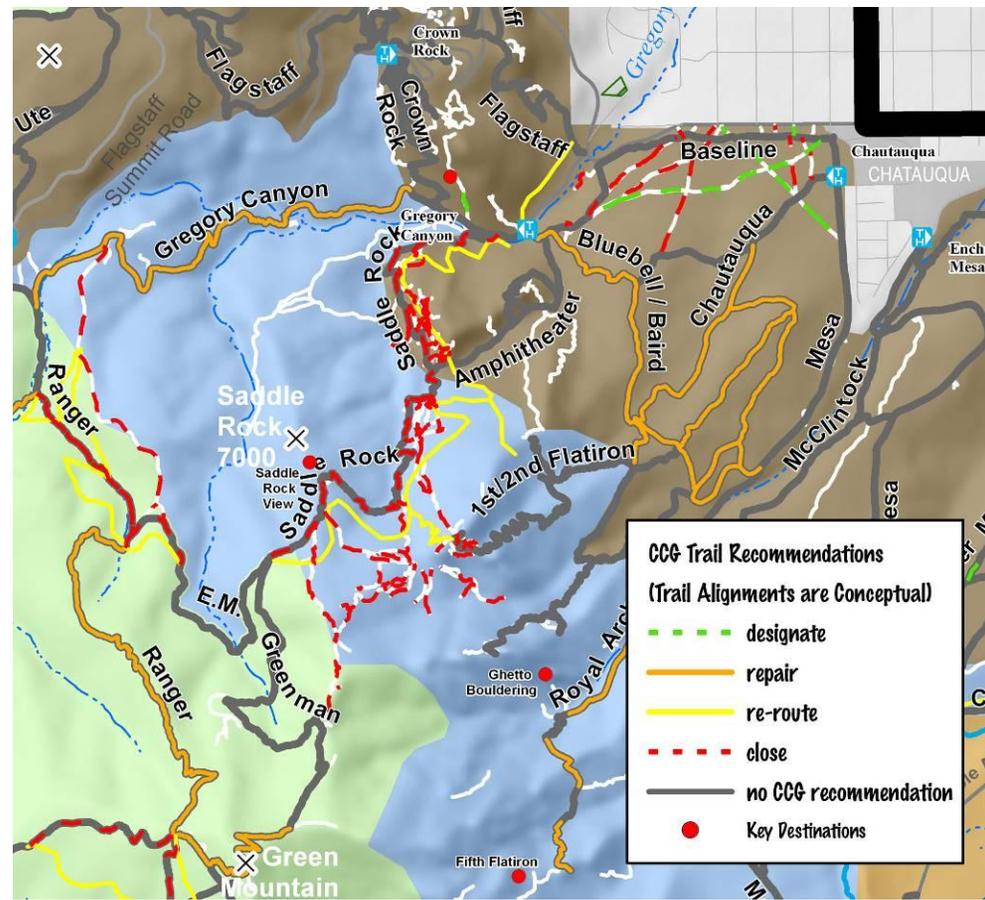
Driving Factors/Benefits

- The current alignment is very unsustainable with many stairs, trail widening, and erosion.
- The re-route will allow for closure of undesignated trails by providing access to the 1st and 2nd Flatiron Trail.

Close and restore the undesignated trails from the 1st Flatiron connecting to E.M. Greenman (do not designate or construct a connector).

Driving Factors/Benefits

- Closes undesignated trails in the HCA.
- Decreases visitor confusion.
- It is a redundant undesignated trail.



Four Pines and lower Skunk

Re-route the section of Skunk Canyon Trail that connects the southern most “elbow” of Kusch Road to the intersection of Kohler Spur and Skunk Canyon.

- Not too far up the hillside, but sufficient distance away from the riparian corridor.
- Connect into the intersection of Kohler Spur and Skunk Canyon in sustainable and logical way.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- Re-route will move trail away from the riparian area.

Re-route the Four Pines trails.

- OSMP will make best efforts to negotiate with NIST to maintain access and designate the undesignated trail that adjoins to Kohler Mesa.
- Designate the trail that connects Four Pines to Kusch Road.
- Close redundant undesignated trails.

Driving Factors/Benefits

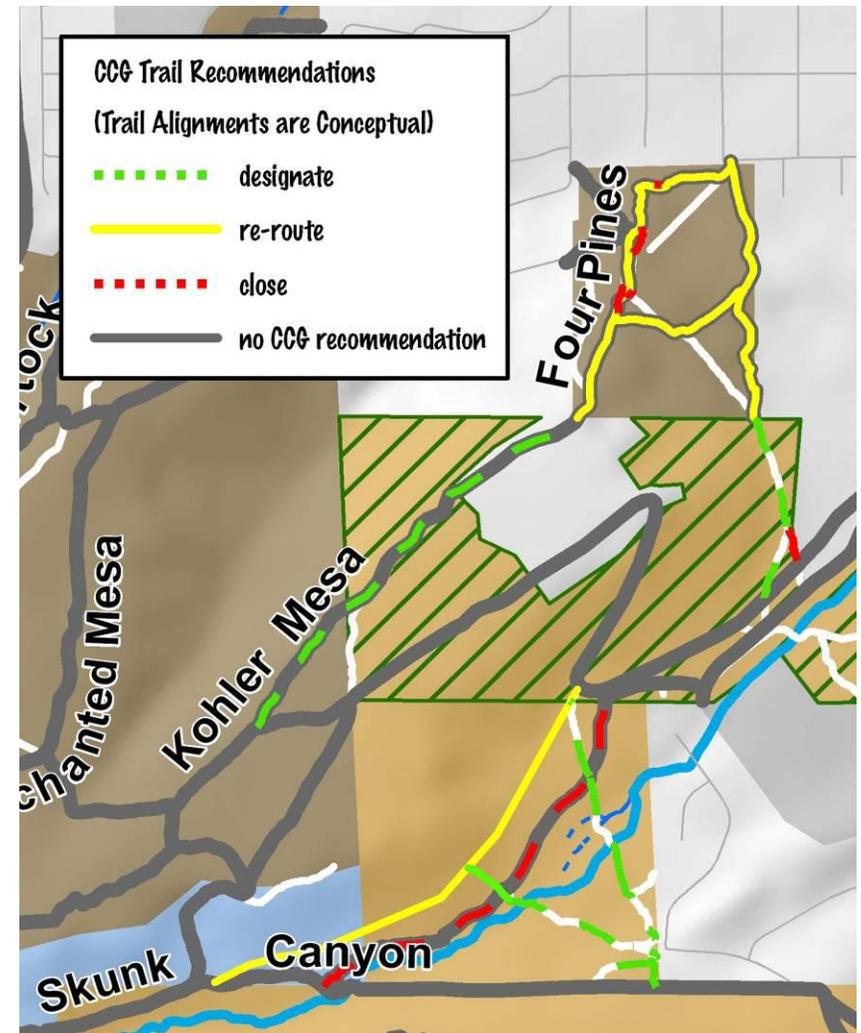
- Improves trail sustainability.
- Simplifies the trail connection onto NIST.

Designate trail connectors from Hollyberry to lower Skunk.

- Two connectors from Hollyberry to Skunk Canyon.
- Minor realignment needed to make the more northern trail more sustainable. Trail should not be realigned further east than the existing undesignated trail.
- Two short connectors from Hollyberry to the NCAR Skunk Canyon service road.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- Provides a gentle, short, flat loop opportunity.
- Provides desired neighborhood connections.



Royal Arch, Woods Quarry, Mallory Cave

Re-route both entrances to Woods Quarry.

- › Provide access to the 3rd Flatiron Quarry.
- › Close undesignated trails.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Replaces current alignment with a more sustainable trail.

Fix and re-route portions of the Royal Arch Trail.

- › Per OSMP
- › Try to hit the viewpoint of the Royal Arch Trail.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Improves trail sustainability.

Clean up Mallory Cave Trail.

- › Two out and backs to serve the climbing formations.
- › Extend a Class 0 climbing access trail to Porch Alley.
- › Close the undesignated trail that creates a loop between Porch Alley and Red Devil.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Provides access to multiple key destinations.
- › Improves trail sustainability.

Re-route Mesa Trail and Skunk Canyon crossing.

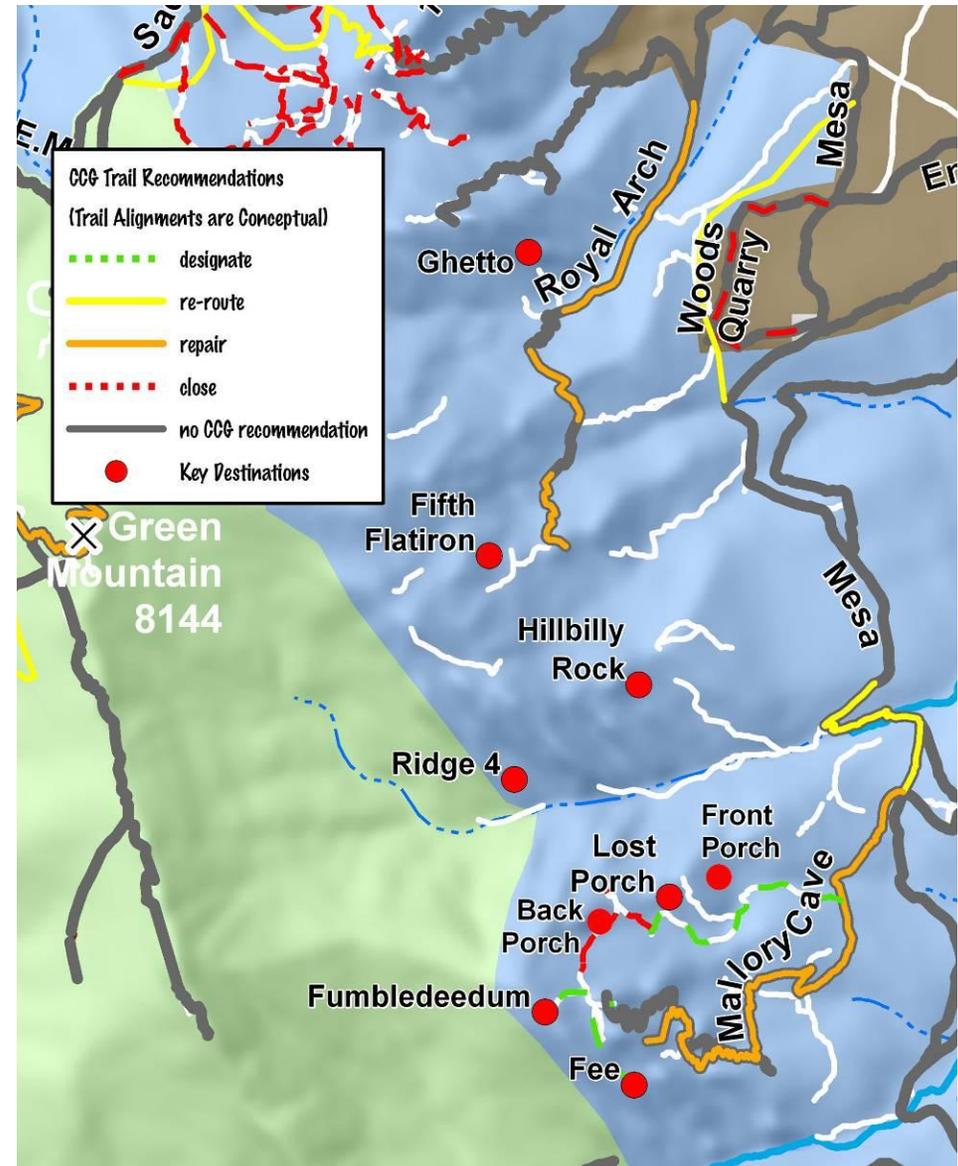
- › Move trails to the west minimizing the grades in and out of the drainage.
- › Build a short bridge as necessary.
- › Re-route the trail out of the mud on the south side of Skunk Creek, behind NCAR if possible.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Decreases erosion into the drainage.
- › Decreases trail widening.

Provide designated access to the following Key Destinations: Fee, Ghetto Boulders, Fifth Flatiron, Front Porch, Back Porch, and Lost Porch, top of Fumbledeedum route.

- › Concern about avoiding the riparian area.

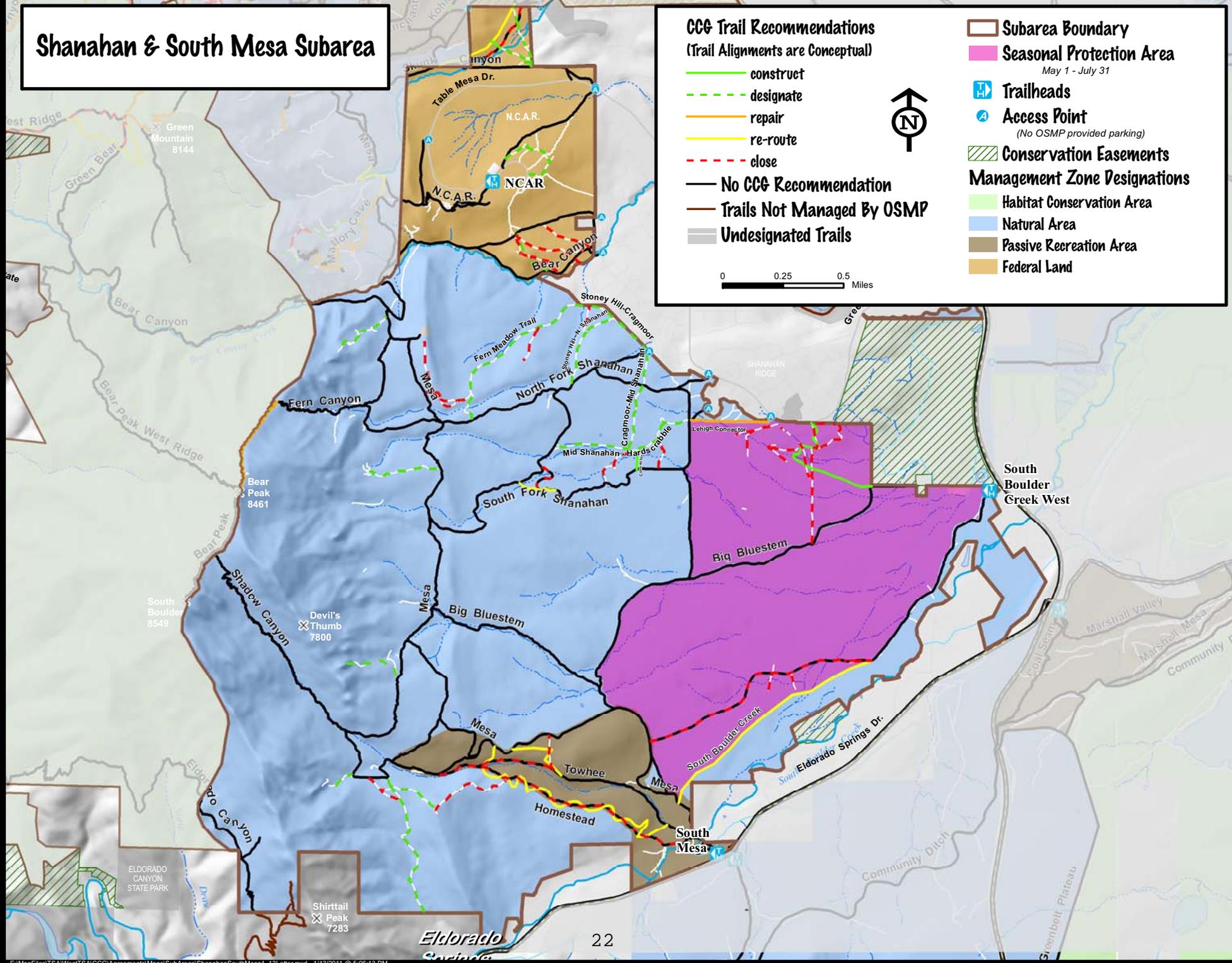
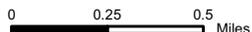


Shanahan & South Mesa Subarea

CCG Trail Recommendations (Trail Alignments are Conceptual)

- construct
- - - designate
- repair
- re-route
- - - close
- No CCG Recommendation
- Trails Not Managed By OSMP
- Undesignated Trails

- Subarea Boundary
- Seasonal Protection Area
May 1 - July 31
- H Trailheads
- Access Point
(No OSMP provided parking)
- Conservation Easements
- Habitat Conservation Area
- Natural Area
- Passive Recreation Area
- Federal Land



Fern Canyon, Bear Canyon, Shanahan Trails

Designate a Fern Meadow Trail.

- › Involve OSMP ecologist to determine trail alignment – concerns include areas of high quality native vegetation and seeps.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Highly desired connection.
- › Improves trail sustainability.

Designate a trail from Stony Hill to Cragmoor.

- › Directly behind the houses

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Acts as a collector trail and directs visitors onto the designated trail system.
- › Provides access to Fern Meadow from a designated access point (Cragmoor).

Designate multiple connectors in the Shanahan area.

- › Cragmoor to Middle Shanahan
- › Stony Hill to North Shanahan – there are currently two spurs connecting from Stony Hill to Cragmoor trail. One of the two spurs will be designated. Alignment TBD.
- › Middle Shanahan/Hardscrabble Trail - new alignment should protect the riparian drainage and salamander pond.
- › Connector from Middle Shanahan/Hardscrabble to South Shanahan

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Provides desirable connections.

Designate a trail from the Bear Canyon Service Road north to the trail connecting the Wildwood Access to Bear Canyon Road.

- › Serve the Ant Hill.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Consolidates the undesignating trails.
- › More sustainable trail.

Repair Bear Canyon.

- › Near the powerline
- › Consider using stepping stones or boardwalks.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Trail widening
- › Muddy conditions

Repair upper Fern Canyon.

- › Per OSMP

Driving Factors/Benefits

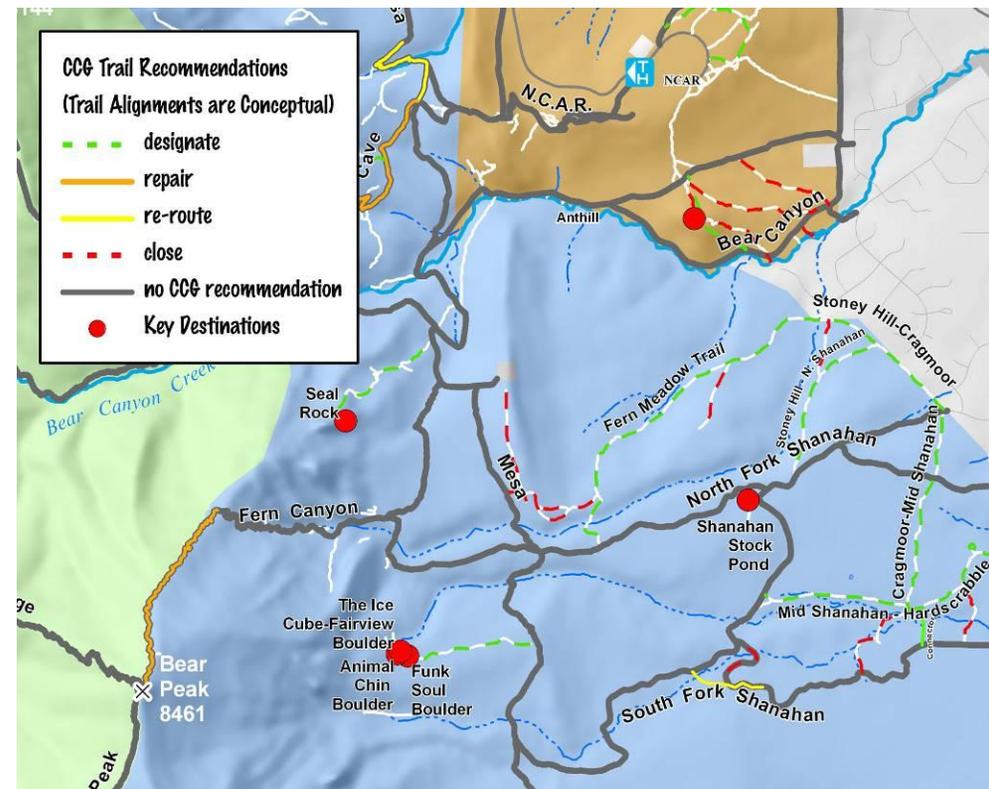
- › Improves trail sustainability.
- › Improves visitor safety due to highly eroded surfaces and steep grades.

Re-route South Fork of the Shanahan West of the water tank

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Simplifies the trail intersection.

Provide designated access to the following Key Destinations: Animal Chin Boulder, Funk Soul Boulder, Seal Rock, The Ice Cube - Fairview Boulder, and the Shanahan Stock Pond.



Big Bluestem, South Boulder Creek

Designate a lower Big Bluestem Grassland Protection Area.

Area closed to all off-trail use from May 1 to July 31.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- Protects a key grassland bird nesting area during the mating, nesting, and fledging season.

Repair the Greenbriar/Lehigh to South Shanahan connector.

- Fence should remain unchanged for grazing management.
- no gates

Driving Factors/Benefits

- Improves trail sustainability.

Designate/construct a trail from Greenbriar to Big Bluestem.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- Provides a designated trail access from Greenbriar to Big Bluestem year round (provides access through the Grassland Protection area).
- Addresses the network of undesignated trails in the area.
- Minimizes fragmentation to the habitat block.
- Current undesignated trail connection follows the fence line and is highly unsustainable.

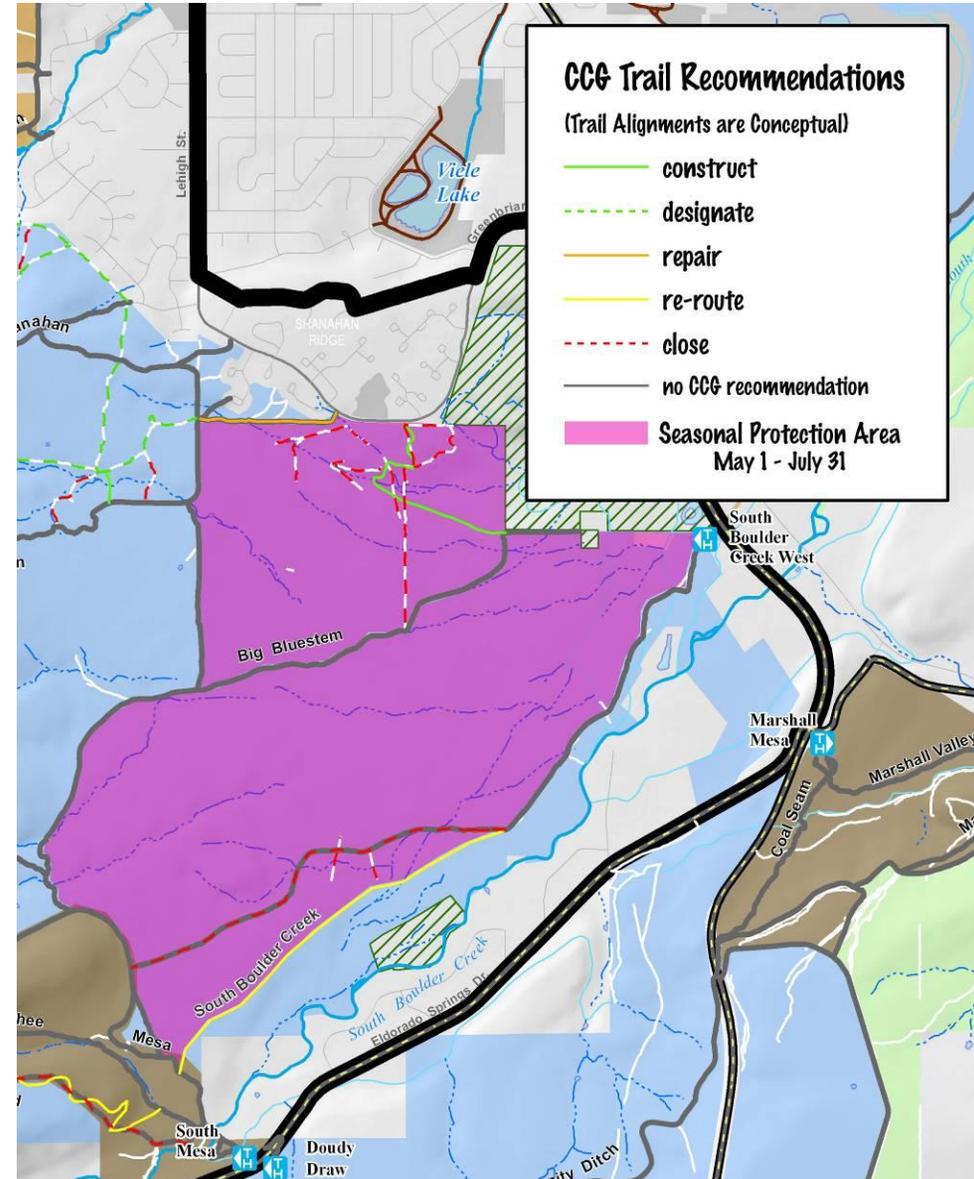
Pursue (provide) a safe pedestrian crossing at South Boulder Creek West Trailhead and Broadway (Colorado Department of Transportation issue).

Re-route South Boulder Creek Trail.

- Avoid rare plant communities.
- Proposed alignment is on the mesa top, away from the riparian area.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- Increases habitat block size.
- Habitat and wildlife protection
- Improves trail sustainability.



Towhee, Homstead, Old Mesa Trail

Re-route Towhee.

- › Close upper part of Towhee.
- › Keep lower part intact (retain narrow trail).
- › Angle up to the west, joining the Mesa Trail after going through the ponderosa pine trees.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Decreases the trail length in the riparian area and increases riparian habitat block size.
- › Improves shrub nesting bird habitat.
- › Angling up West allows a slightly longer Towhee valley experience with good views up to the mountains and a nice ponderosa tree experience.

Re-route Homstead.

- › Construct a bridge crossing the drainage.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Current alignment contains a long series of highly degraded steps and is severely eroded.
- › Decreases the trail length in the riparian area and increases riparian habitat block size.

Old Mesa Trail

Strongly encourage OSMP to work with Eldorado Canyon State Park and all other interested land owners to find public access options from public lands and examine possibilities for an Old Mesa alignment that is a sustainable route that meets visitor needs without damaging natural resources. In the meantime, OSMP will leave the trail as is with some possible minor work. If negotiations are not successful, OSMP will then designate as a dead end trail and not encourage increased use on the trail (not put on maps, pull out old signs, and leave trail largely as is with minor trail work).

The town of Eldorado Springs should have designated trail access.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › The town of Eldorado is a key destination.

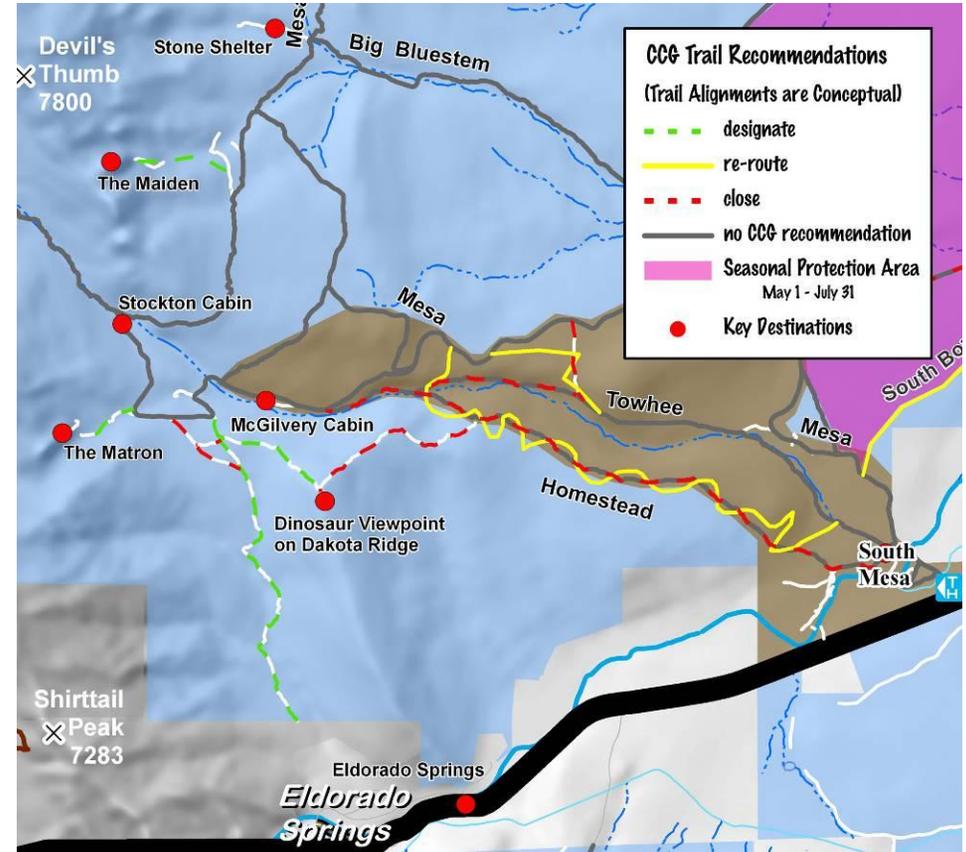
Designate a trail from Shadow Canyon south to Dinosaur Viewpoint on Dakota Ridge.

- › Use west route, close and restore east route.
- › Unmapped and unsigned but maintained.
- › Difficult to build a sustainable trail.

Driving Factors/Benefits

- › Provides access to the Dinosaur viewpoint on Dakota Ridge which is a key destination.

Provide designated access to the following Key Destinations: The Maiden, The Matron.



Dog Management Recommendations

The following dog management section contains:

- A map illustrating the current dog management regulations
- A map of the CCG's dog management recommendations
- The CCG's Dog Management Recommendations for:
 - Dog-Free Opportunities
 - Leash Required Trails
 - Voice and Sight Opportunities
 - NCAR

General Dog Management Recommendations

Seasonal Restrictions and Closures

Unless explicitly stated in a CCG recommendation, none of the recommendations are intended to impact current seasonal leash requirements or closures. The CCG's recommendations do not affect OSMP's policy of implementing such restrictions.

Trails with no CCG Dog Management Recommendation

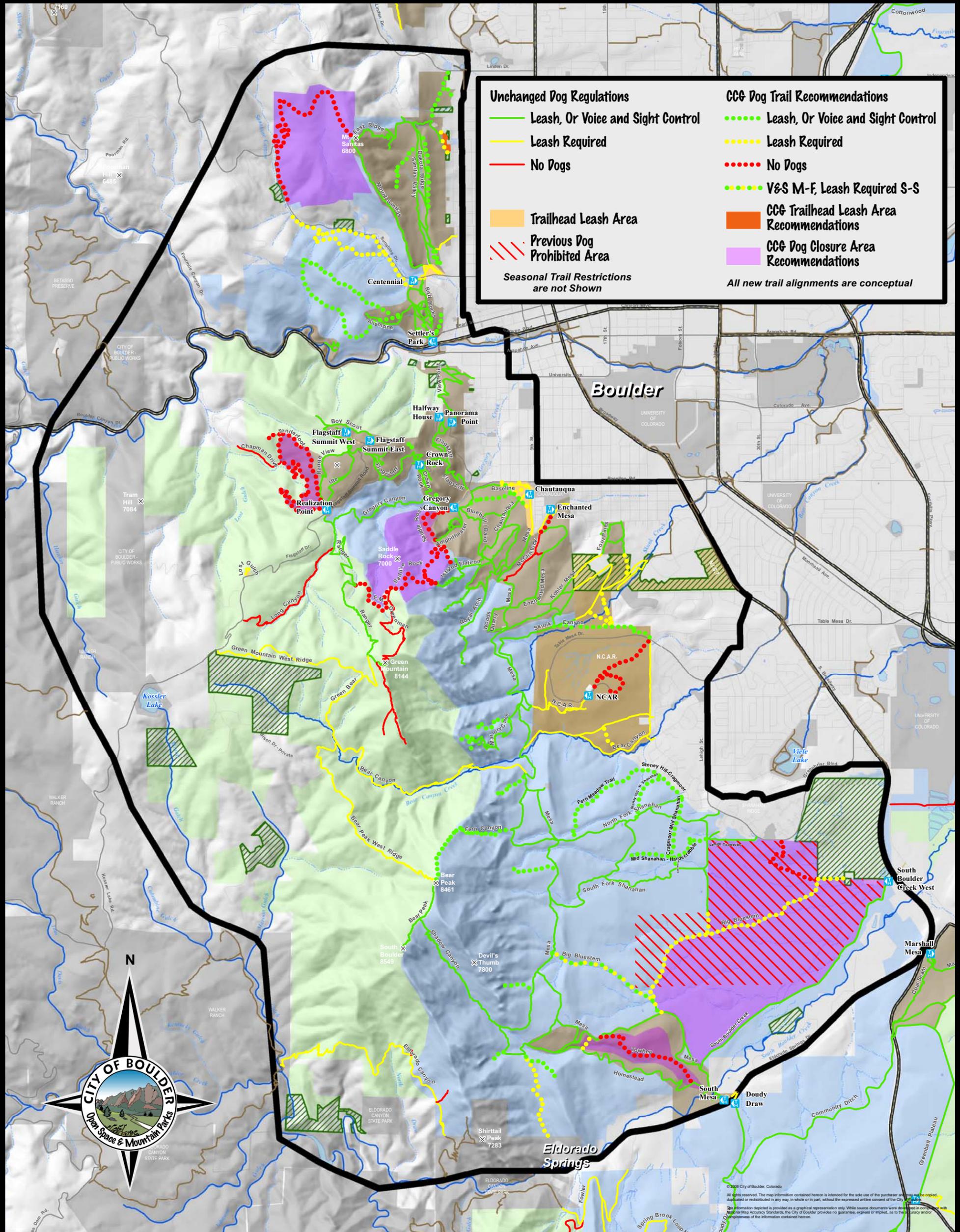
- It is recommended that designated trails without a CCG dog management recommendation remain unchanged. The current dog designations and regulations including trailhead leash, seasonal restrictions, and on-corridor requirements should remain unchanged unless recommended otherwise.
- On any newly designated trails, beyond those recommended by the CCG, the dog management will be determined pursuant to the VMP Management Areas or in accordance with any specific dog regulations in the area.

WTSA CCG Dog Regulation Recommendations

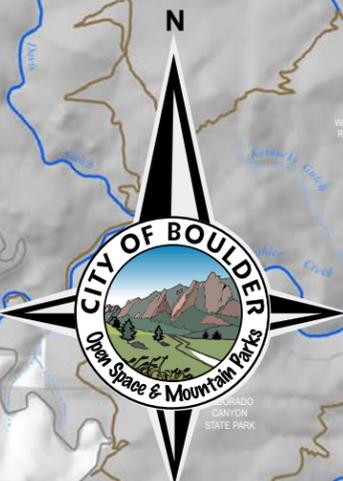
-  West TSA Boundary
-  Other Government Land
-  OSMP Conservation Easement

-  Trailhead
 -  Trail Not Managed By OSMP
- 0 0.5 1
Miles

- ### Management Zone Designations
-  Habitat Conservation Area
 -  Natural Area
 -  Passive Recreation Area
 -  Federal Land



Unchanged Dog Regulations	CCG Dog Trail Recommendations
 Leash, Or Voice and Sight Control	 Leash, Or Voice and Sight Control
 Leash Required	 Leash Required
 No Dogs	 No Dogs
 Trailhead Leash Area	 V&S M-F, Leash Required S-S
 Previous Dog Prohibited Area	 CCG Trailhead Leash Area Recommendations
<i>Seasonal Trail Restrictions are not Shown</i>	 CCG Dog Closure Area Recommendations
	<i>All new trail alignments are conceptual</i>



© 2008 City of Boulder, Colorado
All rights reserved. The map information contained herein is intended for the sole use of the purchaser and may not be copied, duplicated or redistributed in any way, in whole or in part, without the expressed written consent of the City of Boulder. The information depicted is provided as a graphical representation only. While source documents were developed in accordance with National Map Accuracy Standards, the City of Boulder provides no guarantee, express or implied, as to the accuracy and/or completeness of the information contained hereon.

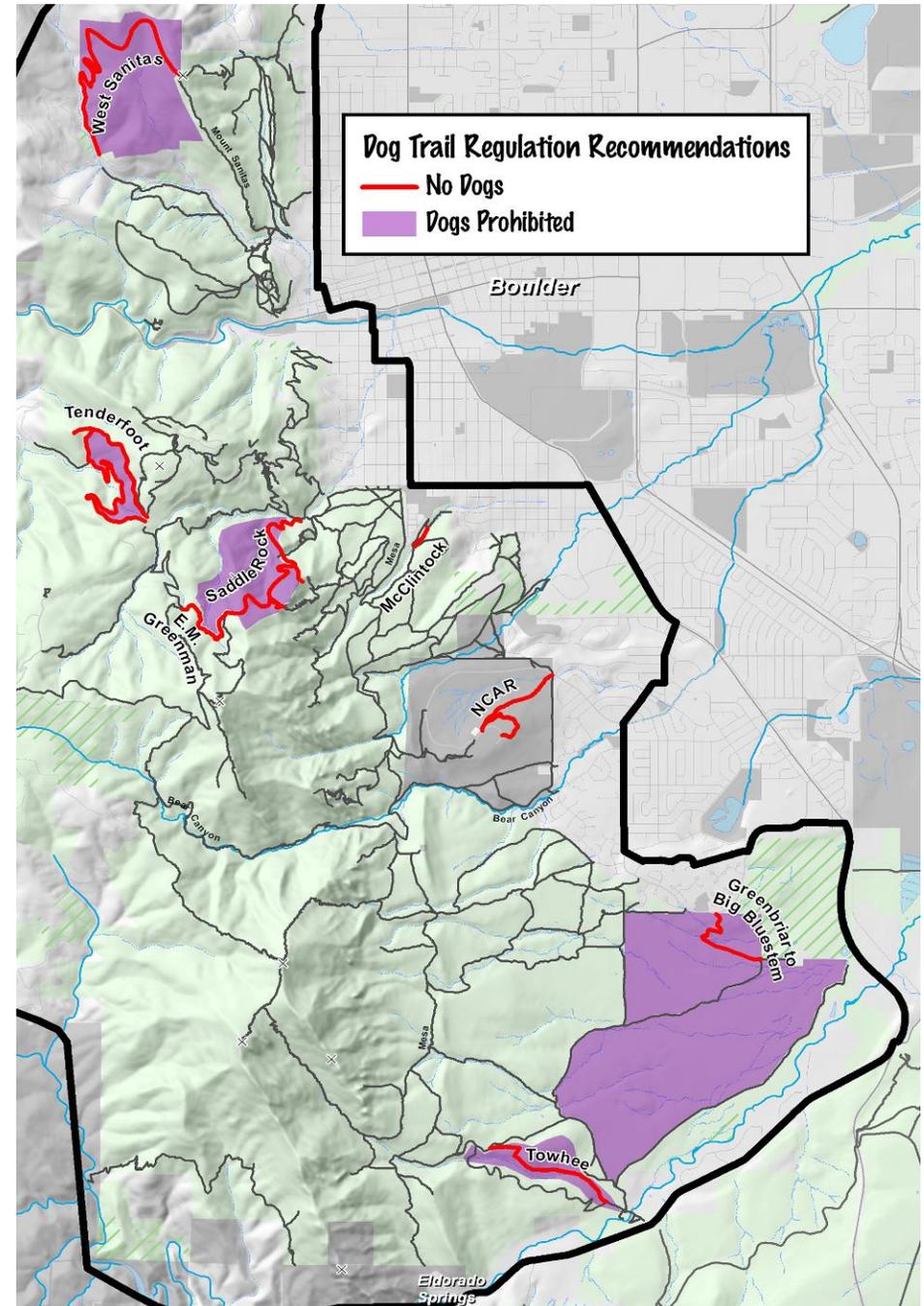
Dog-Free Opportunities

The following trails will become dog-free:

- West Sanitas perimeter trail (previously an undesignated trail system)
Active enforcement of dog regulations. If compliance seems insufficient OSMP will increase enforcement. Non-compliance in this area is considered egregious and a court appearance and maximum fine will be recommended.
- Tenderfoot Chapman loop (previously voice and sight)
- Saddle Rock (previously voice and sight with a seasonal leash required August 15 – November 1 on lower section of the trail)
- E.M. Greenman from intersection with Ranger to intersection with Saddle Rock (previously leash required)
- Middle-Lower McClintock from the Enchanted Mesa bridge down to the trail junction with the trail connecting to the Enchanted Mesa Trailhead (previously leash required) - the eastern portion of Lower McClintock remains leashed.
- Towhee Trail with new shortened connection to Mesa Trail (previously leash required)
- Trail from Greenbriar to Big Bluestem (previously an undesignated trail)

The following areas will become dogs prohibited year round:

- Lower Big Bluestem Grassland Protection Area (revised boundary of existing dog-free area and includes the former small voice and sight area adjacent to Greenbriar)
- Around the Towhee Trail - including the riparian corridor adjacent to the Homestead Trail crossing
- Around the Saddle Rock Trail
- Area bordered by the Tenderfoot Chapman loop
- West Sanitas/Witemyer



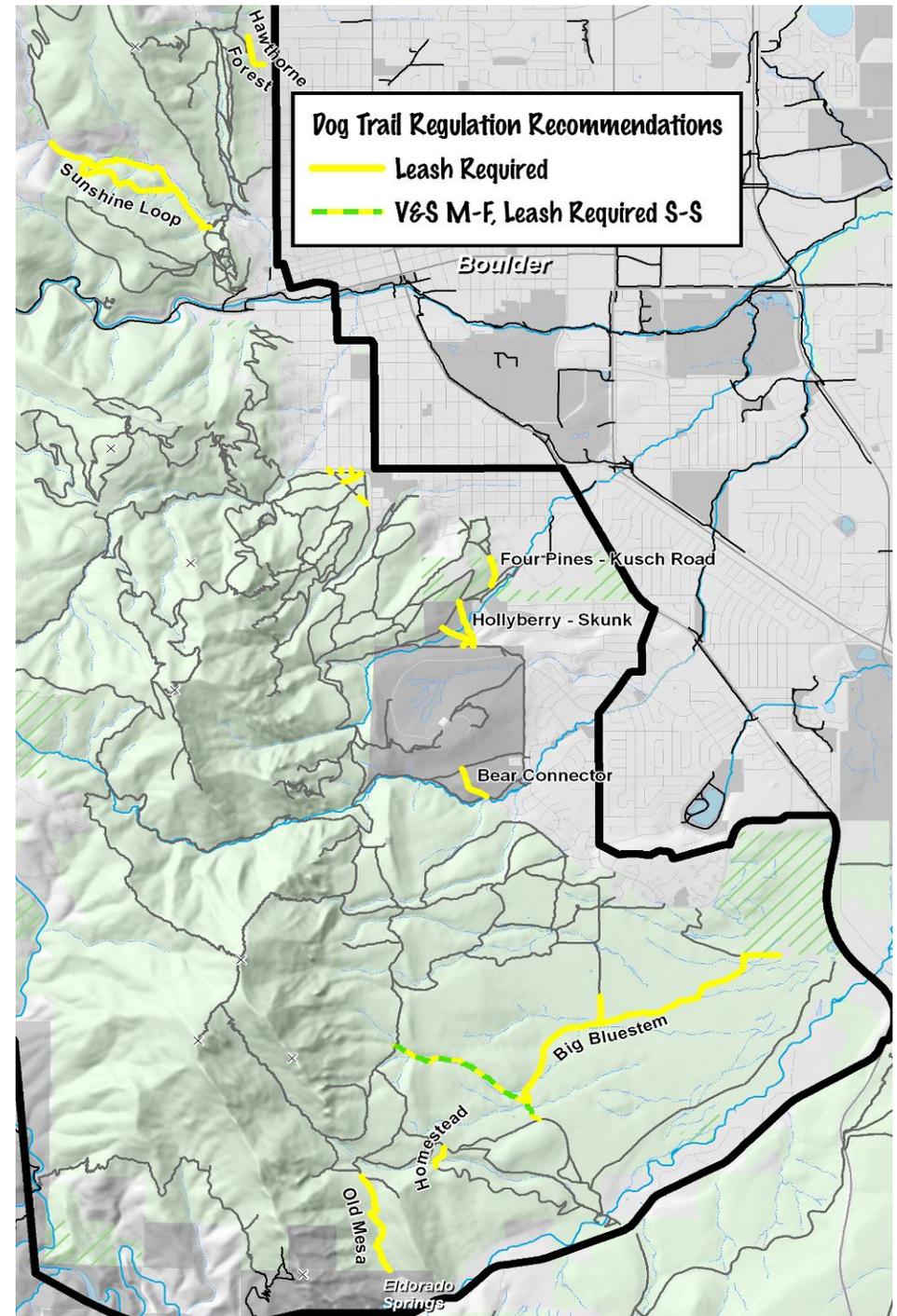
Leash Required Trails

The following trails will become on-leash:

- Lower Big Bluestem (previously on-corridor voice and sight with a seasonal leash requirement from May 15 to July 15)
- Upper Big Bluestem on Saturday and Sunday (previously voice and sight with a seasonal leash requirement from August 15 to November 1)
- Lower Sunshine Canyon loop and western spur (previously an undesignated trail system)
- Old Mesa (previously an undesignated trail)
- Trail from the Bear Canyon service road north to the trail connecting the Wildwood Access to Bear Canyon road (previously an undesignated trail)
- Trail across NIST that connects Four Pines to Kusch Road (previously an undesignated trail)
- Trail connectors from Hollyberry to lower Skunk (previously undesignated trails)
 - Two connectors from Hollyberry to Skunk Canyon
 - Two short connectors from Hollyberry to the NCAR Skunk Canyon service road

The following are new trailhead/access point leash recommendations:

- Forest and Hawthorne on-leash from access points to trail junction
- For voice and sight trails, where appropriate, trailhead/access point on-leash requirements will be made by OSMP per the VMP (pages 44-45).



Voice and Sight Opportunities

The following trails will become voice and sight:

- Trail from Linden and 4th to the Goat Trail (previously an undesignated trail)
- Trail to Sanitas stone shelter (previously an undesignated trail)
- Anemone loop (previously an undesignated trail system)
- Red Rocks (previously an undesignated trail system)
- Trail to Sanitas quarries 2, 3, and 4 (previously an undesignated trail) – with the following condition: Emphasize and prioritize enforcement in this area over areas with fewer dog management issues.
- Trail on Dakota Ridge, east side of the hogback (previously an undesignated trail) – with the following condition: Emphasize and prioritize enforcement in this area over areas with fewer dog management issues.
- Connection from Knollwood to Settler's Park (previously an undesignated trail)
- Baseline Trail, 6th Street connector, and trail from the northeast corner of Chautauqua Meadow to Bluebell Baird (previously an undesignated trail system) Trailhead leash requirement on the Baseline Trail to be determined.
- Upper Fern Canyon (previously leash required) with the following condition: Add enforcement signs to keep dogs out of the Habitat Conservation Area
- Fern Meadow Trail (previously an undesignated trail in the Shanahan area)
- Stony Hill to Cragmoor (previously an undesignated trail in the Shanahan area) Trailhead leash requirement to be determined
- Stony Hill to North Shanahan (previously an undesignated trail in the Shanahan area)
- Middle Shanahan/Hardscrabble Trail (previously an undesignated trail in the Shanahan area)
- Connector from Middle Shanahan/Hardscrabble to South Shanahan (previously an undesignated trail in the Shanahan area)
- Cragmoor to Middle Shanahan (previously an undesignated trail in the Shanahan area)
- Trail from Shadow Canyon to the Dinosaur Viewpoint on Dakota Ridge (previously an undesignated trail)
- Any trails designated to the following key destinations will be voice and sight: the Holiday Star, 3-of-a-Kind Wall, Candel Area, Upper Area, Fee, Ghetto Boulders, Fifth Flatiron, Front Porch, Back Porch, Lost Porch, top of Fumbledeedum route, Animal Chin, Funk Soul Boulder, Seal Rock, The Ice Cube – Fairview Boulder, Shanahan Stock Pond, The Maiden, and The Matron

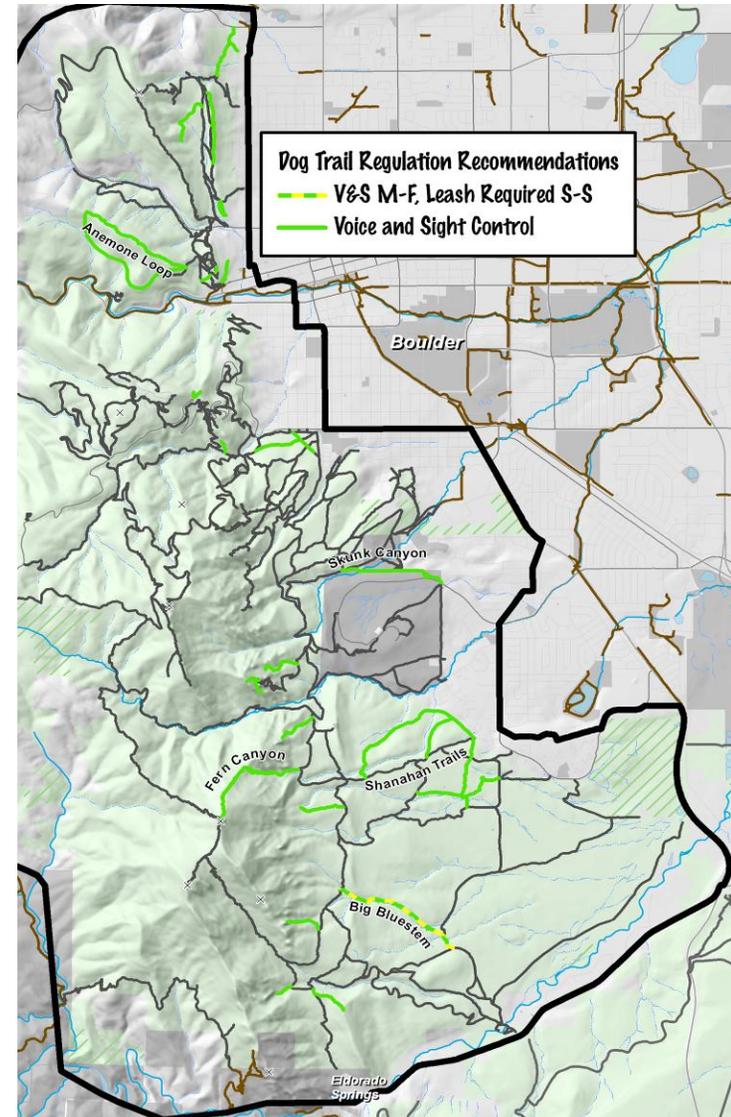
The following trails will remain voice and sight with the following conditions:

- Sanitas East Ridge - Emphasize and prioritize enforcement in this area over areas with fewer dog management issues.
- Upper Big Bluestem – Monday through Friday
- South Boulder Creek West – Extend the fence along the trail to reinforce the grassland protection area boundary

- Homestead - Dogs must be on leash at the bridge / riparian crossing, dogs prohibited in drainage. Monitoring recommended.
- Greenbriar / Lehigh to South Shanahan Connector – Trailhead leash to be determined.

The following voice and sight trails will retain seasonal on-leash requirements if not re-routed:

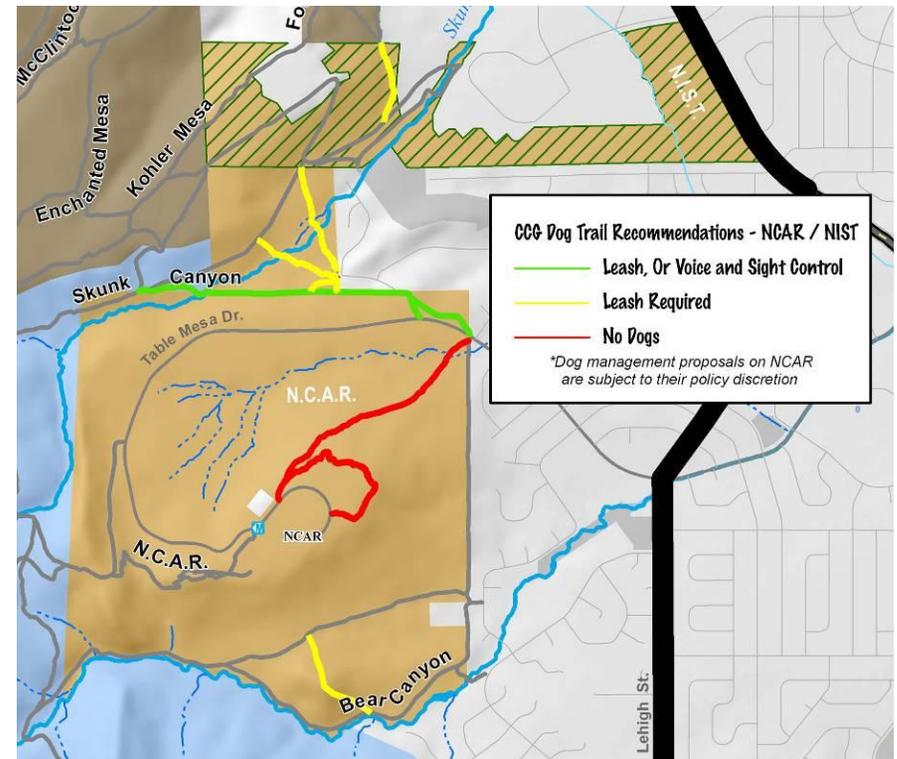
- Upper Big Bluestem
- Skunk Canyon – section of trail not on NCAR property



NCAR and NIST

Both NCAR and NIST require dogs to be leashed. The CCG recommends that OSMP present the following package proposal to NCAR for their consideration. All dog management changes on NCAR are subject to NCAR's discretion for making changes involving public access on their property.

- Skunk Canyon Trail from junction with Kohler Mesa to Table Mesa access point is voice and sight.
- Dogs Prohibited on the trail from Table Mesa to NCAR parking lot and nature trail (if approved) on the eastern side of the mesa below the parking lot.



Horseback Riding

On-Trail Activity

Please see the map on the following page for the trail recommendations.

Every trail in the West TSA was classified into one of the below three categories:

1) Horseback Riding Allowed, Design Use Equestrian

Trails in this category will be built and maintained using equestrian trail standards. Designating an existing trail with a design use of equestrian does not imply that the trail is now being identified for a re-route or specific trail improvements to bring the trail up to standards. Rather, if the trail has already been identified for a re-route, or is in the future, along with any other trail maintenance / improvements, all trail construction and maintenance will be done using equestrian trail standards.

2) Horseback Riding Allowed, Design Use Pedestrian

Trails in this category will be built and maintained using pedestrian trail standards. Riders will use their own discretion to determine if the trail is appropriate for them and their horse.

3) Horseback Riding Not Allowed

Trails in this category will be built and maintained according to their designated Design Use (not equestrian).

Upper Gregory Canyon Trail will be designed for pedestrian use with horses allowed. In addition:

- OSMP will meet with stakeholders (including equestrians, conservationists, hikers, cultural resources representatives, etc.) on a Gregory Canyon Trail fieldtrip to discuss options for trail improvements that could make the trail passable for all allowed user groups (pedestrians and equestrians). OSMP will notify CCG members.
- If no way can be found to make the Gregory Canyon Trail passable for equestrians, other options and alternatives will be discussed at a one time meeting, including (but not limited to) 1) providing comparative cost information about what it would take to make the trail passable for equestrians (if cost is an issue); 2) ways of increasing available funding for the necessary upgrades (if cost is an issue) 3) making Crown Rock and Flagstaff passable for horses as an alternative route; 4) allowing horses on Saddle Rock and E.M.Greenman as an alternate route. Agreeing to discuss these options does not mean that OSMP or other stakeholders are agreeing to implement them; this is an agreement to discuss these and other ideas.
- The fieldtrip and following discussion will be facilitated by Peak Facilitation, or another facilitator.

Towhee Trail will be designed for pedestrian use with horses allowed on trail. The Towhee Trail re-route and future maintenance should not preclude equestrian travel.

Western spur off of the lower Sunshine Canyon loop will be built to pedestrian standards with horses allowed on the trail. Future construction and maintenance should not preclude equestrian travel.

Off-Trail Activity

Horses allowed off trail in Passive Recreation and Natural Areas, except in:

- **West Sanitas / Wittemyer area** (no horses allowed in the area)
- **Towhee Drainage** Area around Towhee drainage to be reasonably defined per OSMP. Horse access off trail will be allowed outside the drainage.

Horses not allowed off trail in the HCA.

- Not eligible for permits

Horse Trailer Parking

Trailer parking should consider times of day or day allocations as a last resort. Sharing bus parking with trailers should be considered.

Add trailer parking at South Boulder Creek West Trailhead.

Make best effort and include in the conversation with the Chautauqua Assoc., Parks and Recreation, Transportation, Planning, and City Manager's Office the possibility of using the bus off-loading area for horse trailer off-loading and/or any other horse trailer parking possibilities at Chautauqua.

Make best effort to pursue horse trailer parking between Eben G. Fine Park and Linden.

Make best effort to pursue horse trailer parking west of Realization Point.

- Minimize impact to the HCA.

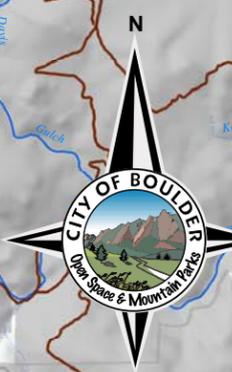
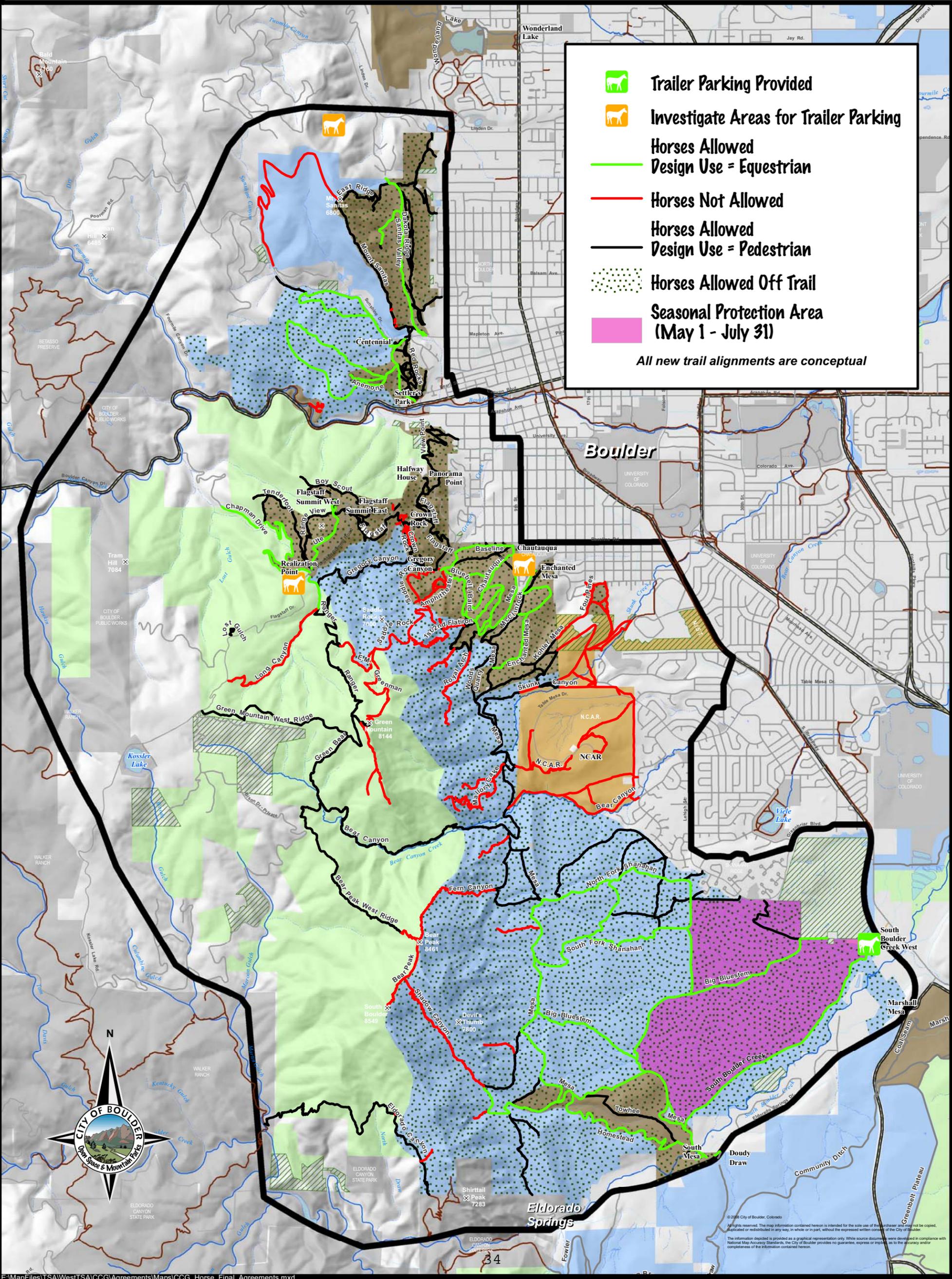
West TSA CCG Equestrian Recommendations

- West TSA Boundary
- OSMP Conservation Easement
- Other Government Lands

- Trailheads
 - Trails Not Managed By OSMP
- 0.5 0 0.5
Miles

- ### Management Zone Designations
- Habitat Conservation Area
 - Natural Area
 - Passive Recreation Area
 - Federal Land

- Trailer Parking Provided
 - Investigate Areas for Trailer Parking
 - Horses Allowed
Design Use = Equestrian
 - Horses Not Allowed
 - Horses Allowed
Design Use = Pedestrian
 - Horses Allowed Off Trail
 - Seasonal Protection Area
(May 1 - July 31)
- All new trail alignments are conceptual*



© 2008 City of Boulder, Colorado
All rights reserved. This map information contained herein is intended for the sole use of the purchaser and may not be copied, disseminated or redistributed in any way, in whole or in part, without the expressed written consent of the City of Boulder.
The information depicted is provided as a graphical representation only. While source documents were developed in compliance with National Map Accuracy Standards, the City of Boulder provides no guarantee, express or implied, as to the accuracy and/or completeness of the information contained herein.