

## **Eldorado Mountain / Doudy Draw Monitoring Public Meeting Comments**

October 16, 2008

East Boulder Recreation Center

The following document is a summary of comments received at the public meeting held on October 16<sup>th</sup> regarding the monitoring proposal for the Eldorado Mountain / Doudy Draw trail study area. The comments are listed (as much as possible) in the form they were received, but they in no way reflect policy or direction from OSMP.

### **General Suggestions:**

1. OSMP Trail Guide volunteers might be a valuable resource to assist in the collection of monitoring data.
2. Boulder Mountain Bike Patrol also collects data during regular volunteer patrols that may be useful for OSMP.
3. Nothing has yet been mentioned on vegetation monitoring.
  - a. Are there efforts in that direction that the public will hear about?
  - b. Will vegetation assessment be done on the trails on top of the Mesa?
  - c. Will that area be watched for changes?

### **Spring Brook Loop On-Trail and Dog Regulation Monitoring--Ranger Patrol & Contact**

1. One out of every ten dogs off-leash (threshold is 90% compliance) is a lot compared to past levels of dog activity in the area.
2. How did OSMP come up with the thresholds? How are they related to impacts?
3. As monitoring results or data come in, consider integrating the data from various monitoring projects, including wildlife monitoring, and adjusting thresholds as a response.
4. Clarify that the existing regulations will stay in place even if we find acceptable levels of compliance.
5. Concern that the current level of ranger staffing will not be sufficient to make a significant ranger presence on the trails.

### **Spring Brook Loop and Goshawk Ridge Undesignated Trail Monitoring**

1. Rather than assuming all undesignated trails that develop should be closed, look at undesignated trails to determine if there is a reason for them. Do they go somewhere OSMP should be servicing?
2. Make sure people know how to get to their destination using designated trails.
3. Relax the off-trail definition/regulation to allow visitors to wander away from the trail or picnic near the trail.
4. No way of relating a particular activity with the development of undesignated trails – no way to relate implications or responses to particular activities.
5. Why is Physical Sustainability monitoring not being prescribed for the Spring Brook Loop?

### **Spring Brook Loop Visitor Conflict Monitoring**

1. Management responses should include modifications to trail design as they do for the other monitoring projects.
2. Consider directional use as a least restrictive option even before opening the trails.

3. Temporal separation is a better “most restrictive” response – avoids creating second class citizens (bicyclists).
4. Thresholds should be stratified by activity type.
5. Include every activity (e.g., hiking) among those that could be prohibited under the “most restrictive” management response.

### **Wildlife Monitoring**

1. There has not been a discussion of acceptable range of variation for wildlife species. Have standards been developed for what is acceptable?