

Additional Information

The City of Boulder is planning a prairie dog relocation project to move prairie dogs from areas around Foothills Community Park and from additional open space colonies to city open space land east of Highway 93, south of Coal Creek, and north of Highway 128. A public meeting will be held April 9, during which the project will be explained and participants can ask questions and provide comments about the proposal **Public meeting:**

When: Tuesday, April 9, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Foothill Elementary School Cafeteria, 1001 Hawthorn Ave., Boulder

A tour of the receiving site is being planned for April 13 for interested parties. Contact Valerie Matheson at 303-441-3004 if you're interested in attending or if you need more information.

Proposed Receiving Site:

The proposed receiving site (the Waneka colony) is located on City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks property along Highway 128, just east of Hwy 93. The Waneka colony previously covered approximately 155 acres at its largest extent before experiencing a suspected plague die-off in 2009. Since that time, prairie dogs have re-colonized a few acres in the southeast corner of the colony. The rest of the colony remains unoccupied. Waneka is designated as a Grassland Preserve colony in the Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) Grassland Ecosystem Management Plan. This designation provides for the option of prairie dog relocation into the colony if it meets a series of relocation criteria. Waneka meets all criteria including vegetation criteria, suggesting that it has recovered sufficiently to be used as a receiving site.

Waneka is located in mixed grass prairie habitat within the largest block of native grassland habitat on OSMP. Agricultural management in the area is comprised of grazing. Several prairie dog-associated species have been seen in the area including nesting Bald Eagles and burrowing owls and badger in colonies to the east.