

LARIMER COUNTY OPEN LANDS ADVISORY BOARD

The mission of Larimer County Department of Natural Resources is to establish, protect and manage significant regional parks and open lands providing quality outdoor recreational opportunities and stewardship of natural resource values. We are committed to fostering a sense of community and appreciation for the natural and agricultural heritage of Larimer County for present and future generations.

Date: April 23, 2020

Time: 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom Webinar. Public registration:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_M4OaR2hOTs6v0dTKsNyl2w

Contact: Please contact Sidney at smichl@larimer.org or 970-619-4462 if you are unable to attend

AGENDA

Scheduled times are subject to change.

1. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS
2. PUBLIC COMMENT
3. AGENDA REVIEW
4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES
5. INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - a. Natural Resource events for this month: See <http://www.larimer.org/naturalresources>.
 - b. To sign up for Open Lands Advisory Board minutes, go to <http://larimer.org/subscriptions.cfm>, enter your email, click 'Subscribe,' and then check the 'Open Lands Advisory Board' box.
 - c. Poudre Trail grant and GOCO grant updates – Meegan
6. UPDATES
 - a. Red-tail Estates RLUP Trailhead and Trail discussion – Justin
 - b. Habitat Restoration Policy – Meegan

- c. Dept. Restoration and Resource Standards – Meegan
- d. Glade Reservoir 1041 process – Daylan
- e. COVID-19 department update – Daylan
- f. Electric motorized bike update – Daylan

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

8. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Red-tail Estates RLUP Trailhead and Trail easements Final Review – Justin

9. OTHER BUSINESS

10. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED: May 28, 2020 at the Larimer County Loveland Campus Building, 200 Peridot Avenue, Loveland, CO 80537, Poudre River Room

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to C.R.S. (24-6-402(4)(a)) for discussion pertaining to the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer or sale of any real, personal or other property interest.

12. ADJOURN

Included in PDF:

- Agenda
- Sales Tax Revenue Distribution Report
- Habitat Restoration Policy draft
- Restoration Standards and Resource Protection draft
- COVID-19 social media summary
- E-bike summary memo
- April 2020 e-bike update and maps
- Arrowhead Properties Final Review

Attached Separately:

- Minutes of last meeting
- News articles

This meeting will be recorded and archived according to law. Votes require a quorum.

Public can view agenda and minutes at:

http://legacy.larimer.org/boards/minutes/openlands_advisory_board.cfm



OPEN SPACE SALES TAX ACTIVITY
Final 2019 Distribution

REVENUES:

| | | |
|------------------|----|--------------|
| SALES TAX | \$ | 1,508,270.57 |
| MV USE TAX | \$ | 101,167.16 |
| BUILDING USE TAX | \$ | 199,362.79 |
| INTEREST | \$ | 2,788.70 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | \$ | 1,811,589.22 |

EXPENDITURES:

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|--------------|----|-----------|
| PERSONNEL & OPERATING | \$ | 5,811.28 | \$ | 52,707.96 |
| | | | \$ | 52,707.96 |
| NET REVENUE: | \$ | 1,805,777.94 | | |

% SALES TAX DISTRIBUTED TO INCORP. AREAS (USED AS A BASIS) 50%

DISTRIBUTION BASED ON POPULATION

2018 State of Colorado Statistics

| | <u>2017 POPULATION</u> | <u>% OF INCORP AREA</u> | <u>REVENUE</u> |
|---------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| FORT COLLINS | 164,810 | 59.86 | \$ 540,455.13 |
| LOVELAND | 76,797 | 27.89 | \$ 251,837.46 |
| ESTES PARK | 6,276 | 2.28 | \$ 20,580.65 |
| BERTHOUD | 6,762 | 2.46 | \$ 22,174.37 |
| WELLINGTON | 9,501 | 3.45 | \$ 31,156.27 |
| WINDSOR | 7,042 | 2.56 | \$ 23,092.56 |
| JOHNSTOWN | 833 | 0.30 | \$ 2,731.63 |
| TIMNATH | 3,312 | 1.20 | \$ 10,860.91 |
| TOTAL INCORP. | 275,333 | 100.00 | \$ 902,888.97 |

DISTRIBUTION BASED ON SALES TAX GENERATION

2018 Larimer County Statistics

| | <u>2017 GENERATION</u> | <u>% OF INCORP AREA SALES TAX</u> | <u>REVENUE</u> |
|--------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| FORT COLLINS | \$ 15,871,780 | 55.45 | \$ 500,689.84 |
| LOVELAND | \$ 8,741,862 | 30.54 | \$ 275,770.04 |
| ESTES PARK | \$ 1,657,605 | 5.79 | \$ 52,290.67 |
| BERTHOUD | \$ 284,353 | 0.99 | \$ 8,970.18 |
| WELLINGTON | \$ 241,630 | 0.84 | \$ 7,622.44 |
| WINDSOR | \$ 342,229 | 1.20 | \$ 10,795.93 |
| JOHNSTOWN | \$ 627,655 | 2.19 | \$ 19,799.95 |
| TIMNATH | \$ 854,308 | 2.98 | \$ 26,949.93 |
| TOTAL INCORP | \$ 28,621,422 | 100.00 | \$ 902,888.97 |

DISTRIBUTION BASED ON HIGHEST YIELD TO INCORPORATED AREAS:

| | | |
|--------------|---------------|--------|
| FORT COLLINS | \$ 540,455.13 | 54.50 |
| LOVELAND | \$ 275,770.04 | 27.81 |
| ESTES PARK | \$ 52,290.67 | 5.27 |
| BERTHOUD | \$ 22,174.37 | 2.24 |
| WELLINGTON | \$ 31,156.27 | 3.14 |
| WINDSOR | \$ 23,092.56 | 2.33 |
| JOHNSTOWN | \$ 19,799.95 | 2.00 |
| TIMNATH | \$ 26,949.93 | 2.72 |
| TOTAL INCORP | \$ 991,688.91 | 100.00 |

NEW DISTRIBUTION FOR MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT:

| | | <u>YEAR TO DATE</u> | <u>PAID TO DATE</u> |
|----------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| FORT COLLINS | \$ 492,060.54 | \$ 4,764,122.15 | \$ 84,959,314.54 |
| LOVELAND | \$ 251,076.45 | \$ 2,430,918.11 | \$ 39,566,168.05 |
| ESTES PARK | \$ 47,608.34 | \$ 460,943.20 | \$ 6,551,104.72 |
| BERTHOUD | \$ 20,188.78 | \$ 195,467.45 | \$ 3,112,101.15 |
| WELLINGTON | \$ 28,366.40 | \$ 274,643.06 | \$ 2,952,637.34 |
| WINDSOR | \$ 21,024.76 | \$ 203,561.37 | \$ 1,667,140.55 |
| JOHNSTOWN | \$ 18,026.98 | \$ 174,536.96 | \$ 1,099,118.54 |
| TIMNATH | \$ 24,536.72 | \$ 237,564.14 | \$ 1,320,225.01 |
| TOTAL INCORP | <u>\$ 902,888.97</u> | <u>\$ 8,741,756.44</u> | <u>\$ 141,227,809.90</u> |
| TOTAL UNINCORP | <u>\$ 902,888.97</u> | <u>\$ 8,741,756.38</u> | <u>\$ 103,671,502.67</u> |
| TOTAL | <u><u>\$ 1,805,777.94</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 17,483,512.82</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 244,899,312.57</u></u> |
| | \$ - | | |

OPEN SPACE SALES TAX ACTIVITY
January 2020 Distribution

REVENUES:

| | | |
|------------------|----|--------------|
| SALES TAX | \$ | 1,113,816.32 |
| MV USE TAX | \$ | 95,962.21 |
| BUILDING USE TAX | \$ | 14,127.85 |
| INTEREST | \$ | 3,704.74 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | \$ | 1,227,611.12 |

EXPENDITURES:

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|--------------|----|----|----------|
| PERSONNEL & OPERATING | \$ | 2,772.58 | | \$ | 2,772.58 |
| | | | \$ | | 2,772.58 |
| NET REVENUE: | \$ | 1,224,838.54 | | | |

% SALES TAX DISTRIBUTED TO INCORP. AREAS (USED AS A BASIS) 50%

DISTRIBUTION BASED ON POPULATION

2019 State of Colorado Statistics

| | 2017 <u>POPULATION</u> | <u>% OF INCORP AREA</u> | <u>REVENUE</u> |
|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| FORT COLLINS | 167,347 | 59.36 | \$ 363,512.48 |
| LOVELAND | 77,226 | 27.39 | \$ 167,750.93 |
| ESTES PARK | 6,301 | 2.23 | \$ 13,687.08 |
| BERTHOUD | 7,632 | 2.71 | \$ 16,578.29 |
| WELLINGTON | 9,894 | 3.51 | \$ 21,491.83 |
| WINDSOR | 7,329 | 2.60 | \$ 15,920.11 |
| JOHNSTOWN | 2,235 | 0.79 | \$ 4,854.88 |
| TIMNATH | 3,970 | 1.41 | \$ 8,623.67 |
| TOTAL INCORP. | 281,934 | 100.00 | \$ 612,419.27 |

DISTRIBUTION BASED ON SALES TAX GENERATION

2019 Larimer County Statistics

| | 2018 <u>GENERATION</u> | <u>% OF INCORP AREA SALES TAX</u> | <u>REVENUE</u> |
|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| FORT COLLINS | \$ 13,743,866 | 53.93 | \$ 330,304.86 |
| LOVELAND | \$ 7,720,582 | 30.29 | \$ 185,513.52 |
| ESTES PARK | \$ 1,539,645 | 6.04 | \$ 36,995.27 |
| BERTHOUD | \$ 263,974 | 1.04 | \$ 6,342.87 |
| WELLINGTON | \$ 232,991 | 0.91 | \$ 5,598.41 |
| WINDSOR | \$ 298,484 | 1.17 | \$ 7,172.11 |
| JOHNSTOWN | \$ 851,021 | 3.34 | \$ 20,448.70 |
| TIMNATH | \$ 836,707 | 3.28 | \$ 20,104.76 |
| TOTAL INCORP | \$ 25,487,271 | 100.00 | \$ 612,480.51 |

DISTRIBUTION BASED ON HIGHEST YIELD TO INCORPORATED AREAS:

| | | |
|--------------|---------------|--------|
| FORT COLLINS | \$ 363,512.48 | 53.41 |
| LOVELAND | \$ 185,513.52 | 27.26 |
| ESTES PARK | \$ 36,995.27 | 5.44 |
| BERTHOUD | \$ 16,578.29 | 2.44 |
| WELLINGTON | \$ 21,491.83 | 3.16 |
| WINDSOR | \$ 15,920.11 | 2.34 |
| JOHNSTOWN | \$ 20,448.70 | 3.00 |
| TIMNATH | \$ 20,104.76 | 2.95 |
| TOTAL INCORP | \$ 680,564.96 | 100.00 |

DISTRIBUTION FOR MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT:

| | | <u>YEAR TO DATE</u> | <u>PAID TO DATE</u> |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| FORT COLLINS | \$ 327,113.59 | \$ 327,113.59 | \$ 85,286,428.13 |
| LOVELAND | \$ 166,937.85 | \$ 166,937.85 | \$ 39,733,105.90 |
| ESTES PARK | \$ 33,290.89 | \$ 33,290.89 | \$ 6,584,395.61 |
| BERTHOUD | \$ 14,918.29 | \$ 14,918.29 | \$ 3,127,019.44 |
| WELLINGTON | \$ 19,339.83 | \$ 19,339.83 | \$ 2,971,977.17 |
| WINDSOR | \$ 14,326.01 | \$ 14,326.01 | \$ 1,681,466.56 |
| JOHNSTOWN | \$ 18,401.15 | \$ 18,401.15 | \$ 1,117,519.69 |
| TIMNATH | \$ 18,091.66 | \$ 18,091.66 | \$ 1,338,316.67 |
| TOTAL INCORP | <u>\$ 612,419.27</u> | <u>\$ 612,419.27</u> | <u>\$ 141,840,229.17</u> |
| TOTAL UNINCORP | <u>\$ 612,419.27</u> | <u>\$ 612,419.27</u> | <u>\$ 104,283,921.94</u> |
| TOTAL | <u><u>\$ 1,224,838.54</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 1,224,838.54</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 246,124,151.11</u></u> |
| | \$ 0.00 | | |

Habitat Restoration Policy

Purpose

This policy will define what is considered habitat restoration to meet eligibility and appropriate uses of the Help Preserve Open Space sales tax funds. This policy also defines and prioritizes the use of habitat restoration funds based on the following ranking:

- 1) Lands owned or managed by Larimer County Department of Natural Resources (LCDNR).
- 2) Conservation easements paid with Larimer County Help Preserve Open Spaces sales tax funds and held by Larimer County.
- 3) Lands adjacent or connected to LCDNR owned or managed parks and open spaces, where restoration activities directly influence desired conservation outcomes on the LCDNR owned park or open space.

Background

Beginning in 2019, the Help Preserve Open Space (HPOS) sales tax extension specifies 35%, and up to 50%, of the tax to pay for land acquisition and for “restoring and enhancing native plant and animal communities and other habitat related restoration”.

Larimer County Natural Resources Department developed this policy to define and specify what is considered restoration in order to meet eligibility requirements for use of the HPOS funds. Land Restoration Principles based on desired conservation outcomes were developed by DNR staff using ecological restoration guidelines, best management practices, and professional experience.

Policy

Habitat restoration projects must be aligned with the following four Land Restoration Principles to be eligible for HPOS funds:

1. Restoration projects will align with the Help Preserve Open Spaces ballot language.
2. Restoration projects will be fiscally responsible.
3. Restoration projects will be evaluated relative to desired conservation outcomes and existing property management plan goals to ensure that they contribute to improving ecological function.
4. Restoration projects will be designed to be self-sustaining once established with desired conditions based on predefined metrics.

Restoration projects will be eligible for Habitat Restoration Funds throughout project design, implementation, and adaptive management phases until the predetermined project goals are accomplished. Once the goals have adequately been met, ongoing stewardship of the site will be

paid for with funds (HPOS or other) earmarked for long-term management. Habitat Restoration Funds will not be used for restoration components of capital facility or infrastructure construction projects or for landscaping improvements and maintenance. Habitat Restoration Funds will be used for habitat restoration projects where the primary focus is habitat restoration.

The Land Conservation, Planning and Resource Division Manager will ultimately sign off on completion of the project phase and beginning of the maintenance phase of restoration projects. This decision will be a professional determination based on monitoring data, accomplishment of pre-defined project metrics, and staff recommendations.

Restoration Standards and Resource Protection for Construction Activities
on Larimer County Natural Resources Department Properties

April 15, 2020

I. Introduction

- a. The purpose of this document is to establish accountability and the appropriate level of communication regarding resource protection and restoration of natural resource values before, during and following construction activities from department capital projects, external parties (utility easements, etc.), natural disaster recovery, or other disturbance on Larimer County managed parks and open spaces.
- b. The mission of Larimer County Department of Natural Resources (LCDNR) is to establish, protect and manage significant regional parks and open lands providing quality outdoor recreational opportunities and stewardship of natural resource values. We are committed to fostering a sense of community and appreciation for the natural and agricultural heritage of Larimer County for present and future generations.
- c. LCDNR conserves and manages ecologically diverse lands that provide critical habitat and vital ecosystem services. Ranging from mixed grass prairies to mountain mahogany foothills shrublands to ponderosa pine dominated montane environments, restoration on LCDNR park and open space properties will require efforts that are specifically tailored to each project.
- d. LCDNR staff is responsible for ensuring that each construction disturbance or natural disaster recovery is addressed in an appropriate manner to protect resources and restore environmental resiliency. To be effective in doing so, key staff members must be integrated throughout a project from planning to implementation to monitoring and adaptive management.

II. Project Management

- a. For all construction projects on parks and open spaces, resource management staff will be notified and integrated into the planning, design and construction process. Depending on project goals and current staff workloads, restoration activities will be conducted either in-house (to assigned resource management or other staff resources) or via contractor, with an assigned resource management staff person designated as liaison or lead for the restoration project.
- b. Resource staff will be consulted at the beginning of the design stage of a project to ensure specifications for site protections and desired outcomes for restoration are included in project scopes, budgets and construction documents.

- c. Prior to and during construction, resource staff will provide technical expertise to either conduct restoration activities or oversee/inspect restoration by contractors as needed.
 - d. After construction is complete, vegetation maintenance and monitoring will be conducted either in-house (to assigned resource management or other staff resources) or via contractor depending on project goals and staff workload. An assigned resource management staff will be designated as liaison or lead for the restoration monitoring.
- III. Restoration Standards – *The following are general restoration standards based on best available science and practices. These standards will be applied as feasible on a site-specific basis given site goals and constraints.*
- a. Desirable Condition
 - i. Desirable post-disturbance conditions are determined by considering pre-disturbance conditions or appropriate reference site condition, habitat connectivity, a cost/benefit analysis, and conservation outcomes that align with the property’s management plan and department mission.
 - ii. At a minimum, the site will be restored to function at the same level as the pre-disturbance site or appropriate reference site.
 - iii. Native seed and native plant materials must be used exclusively at all sites. The only exception is the use of sterile nurse or cover crops to improve native vegetation establishment and discourage invasive weeds.
 - b. Planning
 - i. Construction projects will be planned and designed to include site protection and restoration specifications to ensure that these costs are included in the project scope and budget.
 - ii. Resource staff will compile a summary of restoration goals, measurable objectives, restoration prescription and a cost estimate.
 - c. Acceptable materials
 - i. Native seed and plant materials must be used exclusively at all sites. The only exception is the use of sterile nurse or cover crops to improve native vegetation establishment and discourage invasion of invasive weeds.
 - ii. Seed tags and plant lists must be approved by LCDNR staff.
 - 1. Seed and plant substitutions proposed by contractors must receive written approval by staff.
 - iii. Erosion control materials must be fully bio-degradable (*not photodegradable*) and made of the highest quality materials.
 - iv. Straw used for erosion control must be certified weed free.
 - v. Hydromulch must be biodegradable and rated with a functional longevity of 12 months.
 - vi. Straw crimping will only be applied on flat surfaces when the seed is planted no more than one month prior to the growing season.

- vii. Soil amendments must conform to project specifications and approved by LCDNR staff. No pre-mixed products shall be used without the written approval from staff.
- d. Soils
 - i. Topsoil must be salvaged and stockpiled appropriately when possible.
 - ii. Staff will designate the depth of soil that must be salvaged and the stockpile location, preferably protected by prevailing wind conditions.
 - iii. Soil testing will occur prior to seeding to determine if any amendments are necessary. Staff will collect soil samples for analysis unless otherwise stipulated.
 - iv. Soil compaction must be ripped to a depth of 18" and seed bed prepared to staff specification.
 - v. Do not import topsoil without the written approval of staff. The department prefers to limit this practice to sites where no other alternatives are appropriate.
- e. Planting
 - i. Seed mix must be applied at the specified rate either with a native seed drill or broadcasted. If broadcasted, seed must be manually incorporated into the top 0.25"–0.5" of soil.
 - ii. Plant material must be inspected and approved by staff prior to installation.
 - iii. Trees in balls and burlap must be 2 inches in caliper
 - 1. Installation of balled and burlap trees must be planted, maintained, watered and protected in a manner consistent with [the International Society of Arborist standards](#).
 - iv. All plant material warranties will be considered on a case by case basis. Staff will consider a cost benefit analysis to determine if a plant material warranty is necessary.
- f. Tree Removal
 - i. All trees shall be cut as low to the ground as possible unless specified otherwise.
 - ii. Stumps will be ground unless specified otherwise.
 - iii. Undiluted glyphosate must be applied to the living plant tissue on the stump surface within five minutes of the final cut to all deciduous tree removals.
- g. Erosion control must be installed in accordance with the Storm Water Management Plan, MS4 Permit and any other applicable mitigation plans.
- h. Inspections will occur by staff throughout restoration implementation for quality assurance purposes. Inspections will typically examine the following elements to ensure they meet specifications:
 - i. Equipment has been properly decontaminated and cleaned of mud and plant materials before entering the site. This includes but is not limited to tracks, tires, undercarriage, seed drills and hydro mulchers.
 - ii. Seed tags stating rates, variety and scientific names

- 1. Tag must remain on the seed bags until approved by an inspector
 - iii. Proper mulch and straw materials.
 - iv. Proper erosion control installation and materials
 - v. Proper plant installation and materials
 - vi. Proper seed bed preparation where the surface is firm but not compacted
 - vii. Compliance with wildlife protection requirements
 - viii. Compliance with MS4, the Storm Water Management Plan and any other applicable permits
 - i. Monitoring will occur at specified intervals to determine if the project has met the objectives as defined in the construction plan set.
 - i. Formal monitoring plans will be developed during the planning phase of the project and adapted following construction.
 - j. Adaptive management will be based on monitoring data until all restoration objectives have been met. If an objective is unobtainable due to unforeseen circumstances it can be modified based on the professional judgement of staff.
- IV. Resource Protections – the County will impose appropriate measures to assure adequate protection of key resources on the parks and open spaces. The following is a list of resource considerations when planning and implementing any construction project:
 - a. A site inventory listing soils, plants, wildlife and cultural resources shall be compiled prior to construction to determine appropriate protection measures at the site. Staff will provide as much of this information that is available. However, additional site inventories may be necessary. Any additional costs will be paid for by the entity responsible for site disturbance.
 - b. Wildlife and vegetation must be protected at the parks and open spaces.
 - i. See appendix for wildlife protection standards
 - ii. If fencing is needed on-site, the fence must meet wildlife friendly fencing specifications. See appendix for *Fencing with Wildlife in Mind* guide.
 - iii. Tree protection standards
 - a. Desirable trees to be left on site after construction must be protected from heavy equipment.
 - i. Trees must be wrapped with construction blankets and flagged if root zone is within in the limits of disturbance.
 - ii. Any additional required tree protections including signage and fencing will be specified by staff.

- b. If rare or endangered plant species or communities are found at the site, *a setback buffer will be required from the boundary of the plant community.*
 - i. The distance of the setback will be based on regulations, staff direction and best available science.
 - c. Topsoil shall be salvaged and reapplied following construction prior to revegetation activities.
 - i. For areas with native vegetation, strip topsoil in all areas of excavation to a depth of 8 inches and stockpile separately.
 - ii. Wetland and upland soils must be stockpiled separately from each other.
 - iii. Stockpile height must not exceed 2' unless otherwise staff has given written approval to do so.
 - d. Heavy equipment will be required to use biodegradable hydraulic fluid when working in or near water sources.
 - e. Damage penalties
 - i. Staff must document resource protection measures as well as resource condition prior to construction.
 - ii. If staff finds that the resource protection measures were not taken or adhered to, and resources were damaged during construction then a penalty may be assessed commensurate with restoration or mitigation costs.
- V. Natural Resources Construction Easement Workflow
 - a. Once any staff member is notified of an entity's intention of accessing a construction easement on open space, that entity shall be directed to contact the County land agents for approval.
 - b. A county land agent will verify the location of the easement and give conditional approval for access.
 - c. County land agents will distribute a copy of the resource protection and restoration standards to the entity accessing the easement.
 - d. County land agents will identify the project manager representing the outside entity and refer them to resource management staff.
 - e. Resource management staff will coordinate with project manager to ensure the project meets resource protection and restoration standards.



Covid-19 Social Media Dashboard

This report reflects percentages culled from the written comments and reactions made to LCDNR posts on Facebook posts during Covid-19. This report is to provide **anecdotal evidence** of the community’s support or non-support of our operations – NOT data points that are scientifically valid. Comments not associated with the topic at hand were not assessed. Also, this report reflects comments documented through April 12. All taken from Facebook analytic measurements.

General Analytics – March 12-April 12: Larimer County Natural Resources

8.5K followers total: +0.2% (from week prior)
 Post engagement overall: +157% (last 28 days)
 Post/people reached overall: +112% (last 28 days)
 Page Likes overall: +87% (last 28 days)

Specific Posts related to Covid-19

4/11/20 LCDNR post: *It’s getting busy out there. Check webcams. (Photo of full parking lot)*

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Reactions | 255 comments/shares/reactions 96 comments on post 10 shares on post |
| Total reach | 4,005 people |
| Like/Love | 98/255 38% |
| Haha/WOW | 34/255 13% |
| Angry/Sad | 36/255 14% |

Post was high in engagement. Results of this post show a highly emotional state of concern for our open spaces and the ability to get outdoors during Covid-19. A substantial group commented to encourage/admonish those that were not staying home; Close down or Limit Access options were heavily supported, while those supporting keeping trails open while using safety guidance were vocal too. (details in comment log)

4/10/20 LCDNR post: *Key reminders to stay safe on the trails (general safety guidance)*

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Support (Likes/Loves) | 154 like/loves 124 reactions/comments/shares 14 shares |
| Total reach | 3,770 people |

Just one comment of no one wearing masks on the trails. Another person then responded with a photo of themselves on the trails, in masks.

4/5/20 LCDNR post: Are you recreating responsibly? Thank you to [Larimer County Search and Rescue, Inc.](#) for offering these mindful questions for you to consider before you head into the outdoors.
 This post reach had our highest reach, at 13.8K with 1.6K engaging in support.

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Reactions | 587 comments/shares/reactions 73 comments on post 123 shares on post |
| Support (Likes/Loves) | 106/106 100% |
| Do Not Support (Angry/Disagree) | 0% |

Comments were mixed– some reporting good distancing on trails, others reporting experiencing people/groups who are not. Overall community was **in support of this message to be mindful of others & resources and to stay close to home when recreating.**

4/4/20 LCDNR post: Stay close to home, physical distance, avoid busy times.

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Support (Likes/Loves) | 140/141 99% |
| Do Not Support (Laughing) | 1/141 0.7% |

Comments were emphasizing keeping groups small and reporting it is difficult to enforce these standards at trailheads. **Overall – the numbers show emphatic support of keeping distance, small groups, staying close to home.**

3/31/20 LCDNR post: Boating is now open

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Support opening season now | 17/55 31% |
| Against the opening | 38/55 69% |

Comments focus on how opening boating for recreation gives **a mixed message and how this can lead to irresponsible behavior.** Many people were **disappointed in DNR for opening boating** – but those who actually boat were in support and offered confidence in how they can keep distance while on the water.

3/31/20 Reporter Herald: Larimer looks to reopen campgrounds (Story and comments posted on RH facebook page)

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Do not consider reopening | 39/58 67% |
| Reopen campgrounds now | 19/58 33% |

Comments focusing on **how ridiculous we are to consider re-opening early, hold firm on the stay at home order, mentioning bathroom sanitization, and keep our community/staff safe.** Camping advocates are on this post were few, but those that were responded by commenting it is easy to keep distance among campgrounds.

3/26/20 LCDNR post: Camping is now closed

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Support the closure | 80/91 88% |
| Do Not Support the closure | 11/91 12% |

Comments were inconclusive on this post. ‘Likes’ were overwhelming in support of content.

MEMO

Date: March 25, 2020

To: Board of County Commissioners

From: Daylan Figgs, Director, Natural Resources Department

Purpose: To update the board on outreach and evaluation related to electric motorized bikes.

Current Regulation: Larimer County Natural Resources Department (LCDNR) allows class I and II electric motorized bikes (e-bikes) on all concrete and asphalt paved surface trails. LCDNR is proposing to allow e-bikes on Department managed trails wholly contained within Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) lands that do not tie into trail systems where e-bikes are prohibited. This proposal has been reviewed favorably by the Parks Advisory Board and if accepted by the USBR will require a subsequent update to Larimer County Natural Resources regulations.

Background

In response to increasing popularity and use of electric motorized bicycles (e-bikes), the State of Colorado passed a bill in April of 2017 which defines e-bikes into 3 classes (defined below) and designated e-bikes as non-motorized from the state's perspective. Section 5 of the bill gives local jurisdictions the authority to allow or prohibit the use of e-bikes on pedestrian and bike paths. More recently, legislation has been passed that allows electric motorized scooters (e-scooters) to be regulated to the same extent as Class I e-bikes. In other words, e-scooters cannot be treated or regulated different from Class I e-bikes. LCDNR took the opportunity to consider appropriate regulations associated with e-bikes as part of the updated departmental regulations. The decision was made to allow class I and II e-bikes on paved trails (which includes trails within three of ten of the county's open space properties). In October of 2019, a Department of Interior Secretary's Order stipulated that e-bikes be allowed in all areas open to bicycles on Department of Interior lands. Larimer County is working with the Bureau of Reclamation and proposing that e-bikes be allowed on USBR trails managed by Larimer County that are not interconnected to non-USBR trails where e-bikes are not allowed.

Definitions of E-bikes

Class 1: An electrically assisted bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and ceases to provide assistance at 20 mph.

Class 2: An electrically assisted bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance regardless if the rider is pedaling and ceases to provide assistance at 20 mph.

Class 3: An electrically assisted bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and ceases to provide assistance at 28 mph.

Summary and Staff Recommendation

Larimer County Department of Natural Resources (LCDNR) collected information on e-bikes over the past year including public outreach (online LCDNR survey, informal stakeholder meetings, and discussions with the department's advisory boards). The majority of stakeholder groups and public survey respondents (over 60%) were not in favor of allowing e-bikes on either all or some of existing natural surface trails.

LCDNR considers recreational opportunities both regionally and within the LCDNR system with the intent to manage a spectrum of recreation opportunities and a spectrum of wildness and remoteness on parks and open spaces. LCDNR does not currently allow motorized uses on natural surface trails. Already many of these trails are at or near capacity, and allowing for a new use, and one that at times can exceed the speed of any other use, is concerning for safety, capacity and the quality of existing user experiences. However, paved trails that traverse through 3 of the 10 county open spaces (River Bluffs, Lions and Long View open spaces), were designed to allow a higher level of use, meet alternative transportation and commuting goals, include trails designated for powered mobility devices for mobility impaired individuals, and currently do allow e-bikes/e-scooter motorized access.

Providing consistent cross boundary regulations is a goal we strive to achieve since visitors rarely know when they've left a city vs. a county vs. a USBR property, and the lack of consistent regulations can be confusing and have negative consequences for users. LCDNR and Fort Collins have the preponderance of natural surface trails that connect and share identical regulations that allow Class I and II e-bikes on paved regional, commuter type trails and no e-bikes on natural surface trails. Currently, between Larimer County Natural Resources, and the cities of Fort Collins and Loveland, over 25% of the combined regional trail systems managed by these entities allow e-bikes.

Larimer County Department of Natural Resources staff is recommending continuing the recently adopted regulations that allow Class I and II e-bikes on paved, regional trails-only as well as on trails within USBR ownership that do not connect to other system trails.

These recommendations are based on a suite of considerations including: the public response received to date; the allowance for a motorized use into a traditionally non-motorized system; the Secretary of Interior Order regarding e-bikes on Federal lands; public and staff concerns related to travel speeds and visitor safety; the pace at which electric bike and scooter technology is changing and thus hard to regulate based on a single point in time;; resource impacts to areas intended to be managed for their sense of wildness; and increased trail capacity implications.



Staff propose to revisit this regulation during the next regular update of Department regulations, anticipated in late 2021.

Summarized Survey and Literature Review Information

Larimer County Department of Natural Resources E-Bike Informal Survey Results

E-Bikes on Larimer County Natural Surface Trails

| | Class 1 E-Bikes on All Natural Trails | | Class 1 E-Bikes on Certain Natural Trails | |
|-------------------------------|---|------------|---|------------|
| | | % | | % |
| 1 (against) | 430 | 56 | 379 | 49 |
| 2 | 57 | 7 | 58 | 8 |
| 3 | 18 | 2 | 40 | 5 |
| 4 | 14 | 2 | 55 | 7 |
| 5 | 29 | 4 | 32 | 4 |
| 6 | 28 | 4 | 45 | 6 |
| 7 (in favor) | 195 | 25 | 162 | 21 |
| Total Survey Responses | 771 | 100 | 771 | 100 |

Resident vs. Non-Resident

| | # | % |
|--------------|------------|------------|
| Non-Resident | 112 | 15 |
| Resident | 659 | 85 |
| | 771 | 100 |

Average Number of Years Lived in Larimer County: 16

Number of Times Visited LCDNR Property in the Past 12 Months (Highest to lowest)

| | | | |
|------------------------|------|--------------------|-----|
| Horsetooth Mountain OS | 16.2 | Hermit Park OS | 1.4 |
| Horsetooth Reservoir | 13.7 | Red Mountain OS | 1.2 |
| Devil's Backbone OS | 7.6 | Eagles Nest OS | 0.9 |
| Carter Lake Reservoir | 2.5 | River Bluffs OS | 0.7 |
| Pinewood Reservoir | 2.2 | Flatiron Reservoir | 0.6 |
| Lions Park OS | 2.0 | Ramsay-Shockey OS | 0.5 |

Review of Survey Comments

The comments provided by survey respondents varied widely from those strongly in favor of e-bikes to those adamantly opposed. Included below are general summaries about the comments provided by the survey respondents to questions about e-bikes on the survey.

Survey Question #1: A Class 1 e-bike has an electric motor that only turns on when the rider is pedaling. The motor ceases to operate once the bike reaches 20 mph. Are you in favor of allowing Class 1 e-bikes on *all*-natural surface (dirt) trails managed by Larimer County that are already open to bicycles? (Select one.)

Respondents opposed commented on safety concerns due to speed potential and inexperience of e-bikes riders, resource damage, noise concerns, increased use on already congested and crowded trails, enforcement challenges, and generally not in favor of allowing any motorized uses on natural surface trails. Those in favor of e-bikes cited the benefits related to exercise, assistance for those with limited mobility or health issues, and that Class 1 e-bikes are quiet, efficient, and reliable.

Survey Question #2: Larimer County Natural Resources could designate certain trails in its system for e-bike use. Are you in favor of the department designating *certain* natural surface (dirt) trails for e-bikes?

Respondents opposed believe that certain trail designations would be too confusing for all users, be unsafe, create issues at junctions, lead to resource damage and that there are plenty of other options for e-bike users such as roads, commuter trails, USFS trails, and more. Those in favor believe there needs to be more options available to e-bike users on natural surface trails. Some respondents stated that by allowing select natural surface trails for e-bikes would provide an opportunity to pilot the use.

Boulder County E-Bike Literature Review

Boulder County completed an e-bike literature review in September 2019 to gather any published studies on e-bike trends, benefits and disadvantages, trip purpose, impacts to trails and recreational visitor conflicts.

Key trends and results of this literature review are as follows:

- Crowding is a concern on public lands across the nation. Spatial and temporal management strategies may be effective to alter visitor recreation patterns and thereby disperse use, minimize recreation conflict, and environmental impacts.
- Pilot studies have and are being conducted by land management agencies to analyze the potential effects of e-bikes within their jurisdiction.

- Recommendations for e-bike management on trails range from descending direction trails to speed limits to restrictions on trail width for e-bike use.
- Educational strategies may be useful when implementing e-bike regulations and for improving on-trail etiquette for all trail users.
- Given the recent introduction of e-bikes into the outdoor recreation space, there is a paucity of research on e-bike management prescriptions.

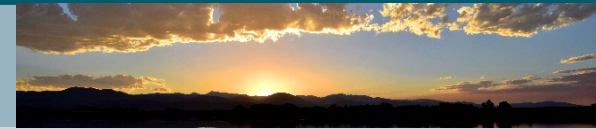
E-bike allowance by trail type in several jurisdictions within Colorado

| Jurisdiction | Type of Trail/Area Where E-bikes are Allowed | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| | Natural Surface ¹ | Improved Surface ² | Paved | Motorized Use |
| U.S Forest Service | | | | I, II, III |
| U.S Forest Service Special Use Permit | I, II | | | |
| Bureau of Land Management | I, II, III | | | I, II, III |
| National Park Service | I, II, III | | I, II | I, II, III |
| Colorado Department of Transportation | | | I, II, III | |
| Colorado Parks and Wildlife | I, II | | I, II | I, II |
| Boulder County Parks and Open Space | | I, II, | | |
| City of Boulder Open Space & Mountain Parks | | | | I, II |
| City of Boulder Multi-use Paths | | | I, II | |
| Larimer County Natural Resources | | | I, II | |
| Fort Collins Natural Areas | | | I, II | |
| Fort Collins Moves | | | I, II | |
| Roaring Fork Transportation Authority | | | I | |
| Summit County Open Space & Trails | | | I | |
| Jefferson County Open Space | I | | I, II | |
| Eagle County Trails | | | I, II | |
| City of Durango Parks & Recreation | | | I, II | |
| Village of Snowmass Transportation | | | I | |
| Town of Aspen Transportation | | | I, II, III | |
| City of Grand Junction | | | I, II | |

LARIMER COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT



E-BIKE UPDATE APRIL 2020



E-BIKE UPDATE

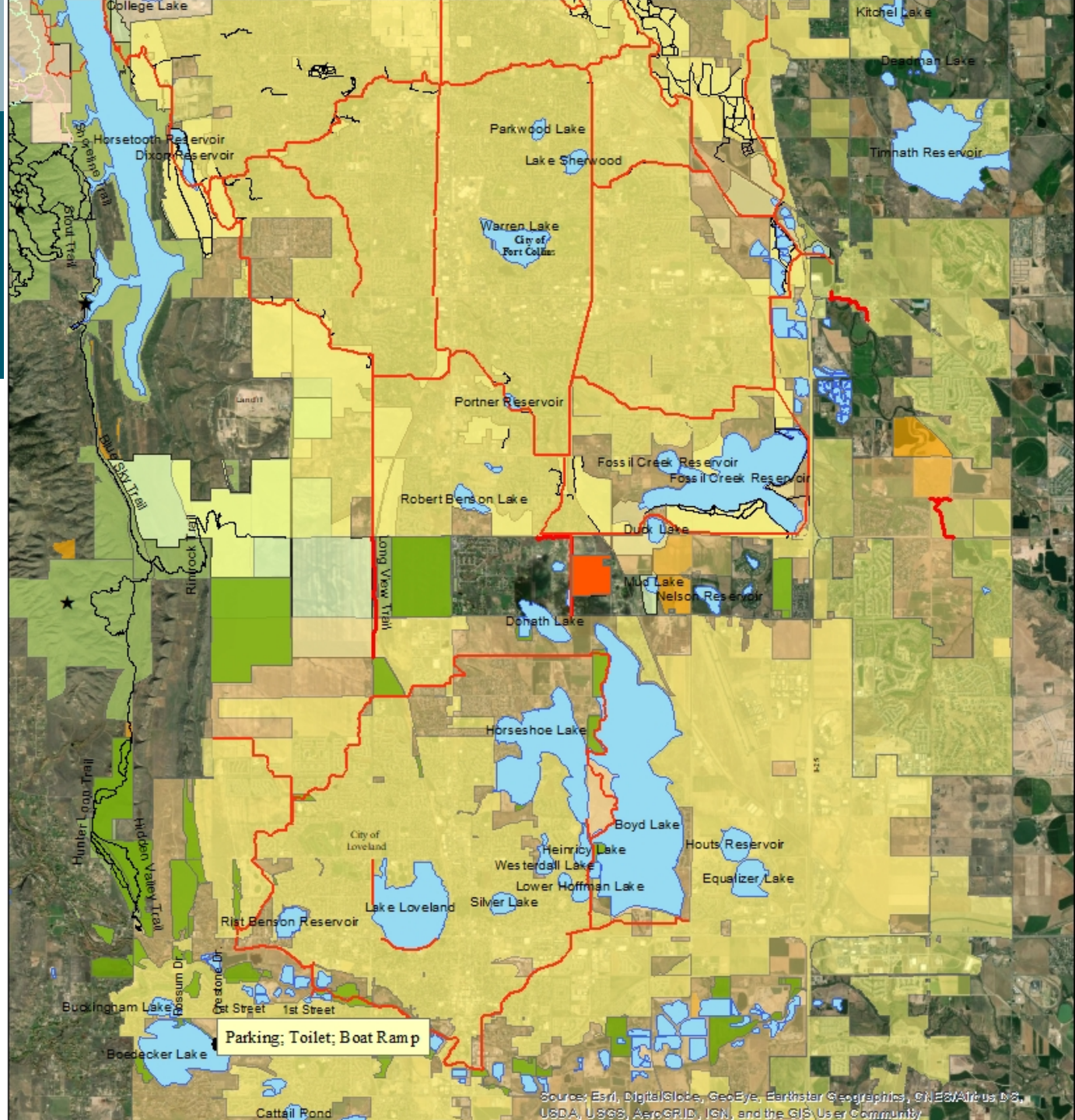
Purpose: To update the BOCC on outreach and evaluation related to electric motorized bikes.

Current Regulation: LCDNR allows class I and II electric motorized bikes (e-bikes) on all concrete and asphalt paved surface trails. Matches regulations of other entities where system trails interconnect.

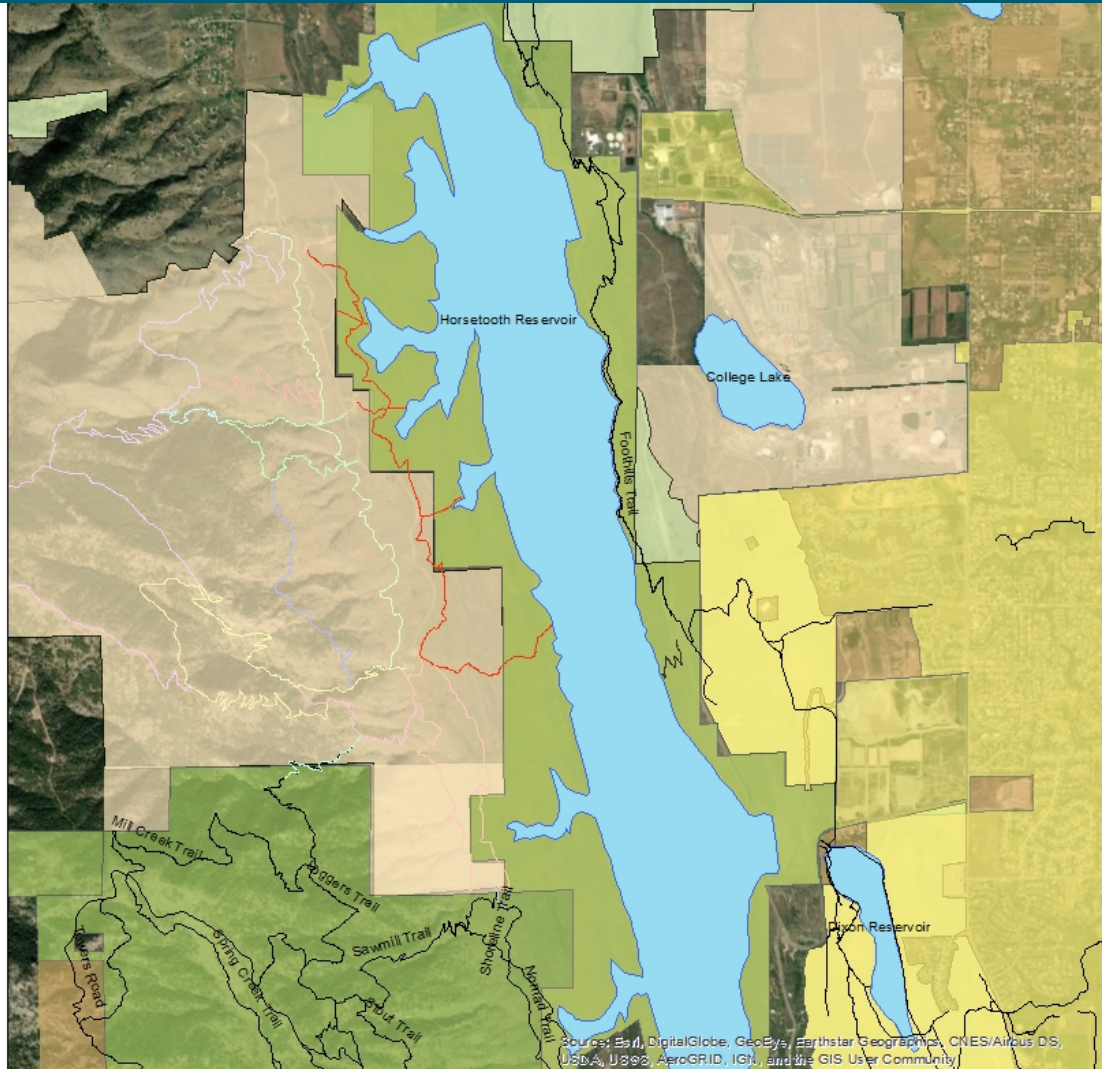
Proposal: Expand allowance for e-bikes on Department managed trails wholly contained within Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) lands that do not tie into trail systems where e-bikes are prohibited.

This proposal has been reviewed favorably by the PAB and if accepted by the USBR will require a subsequent update to Department regulations.

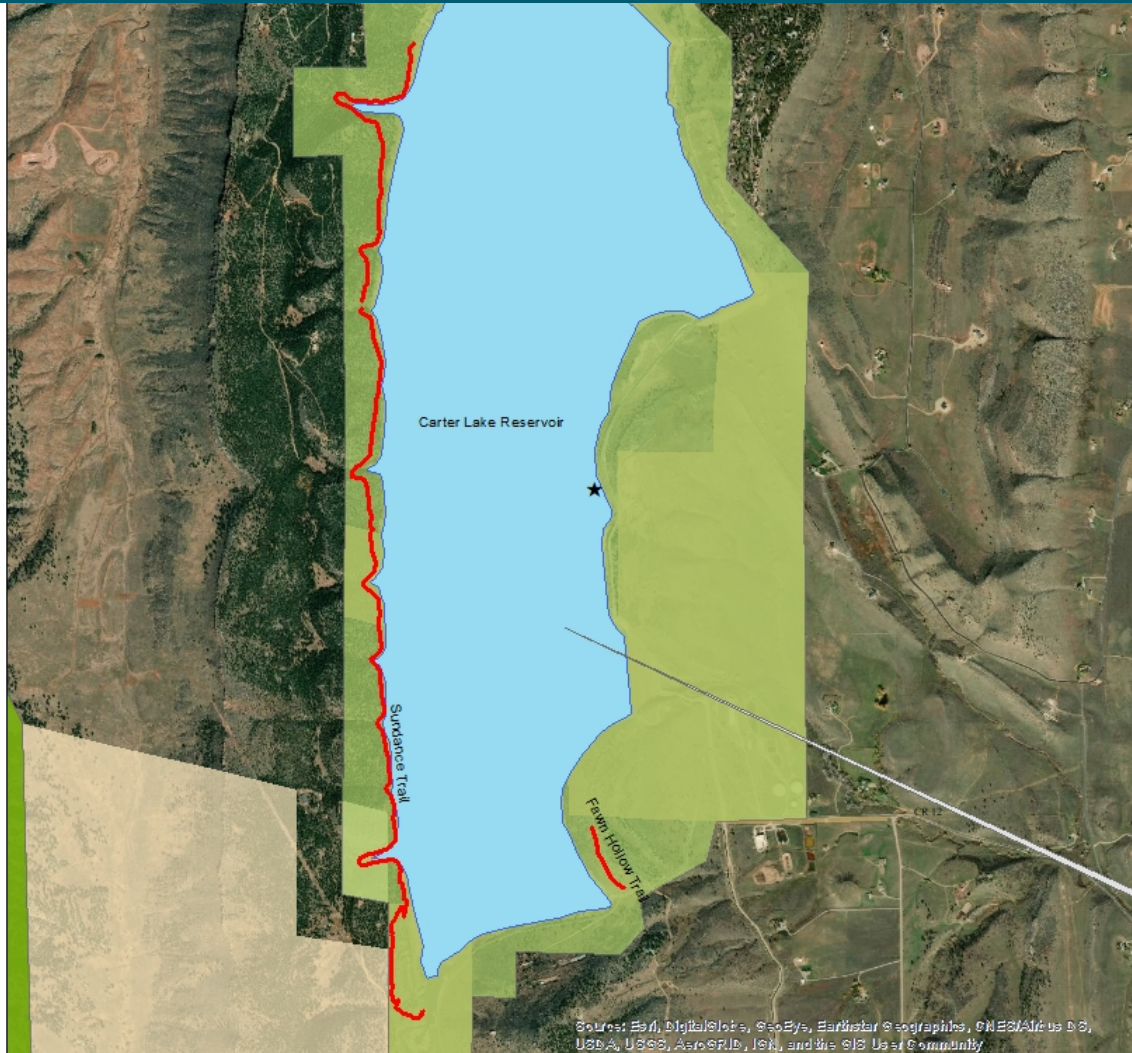
REGIONAL E-BIKE TRAILS



HORSETOOTH RESERVOIR



CARTER LAKE



FINAL REVIEW: Arrowhead Properties, LLC - Trail Easement

Date: APRIL 23, 2020

Staff Assigned: Charlie Johnson

Property Description:

Arrowhead Properties, LLC (Steve Hilde) owns 545 acres south of West County Road 4 and County Road 27E near the Boulder County line. The property is nearby and east of the County-owned Red-tail Ridge Open Space (RTROS) and an existing Parrish Ranch 70-acre conservation easement which is held by Colorado Open Lands.

Background:

In 2001, Southdown, Inc. granted a trail easement and trailhead to Larimer County which was intended to facilitate a connection to RTROS and ultimately to Boulder County's Rabbit Mountain Open Space. In 2017, Mr. Hilde granted a 30' wide 1,300' segment of trail easement to Larimer County along the east boundary of the Alverson RLUP which connects to the Boulder County line. At that time, the balance of the trail easements that would have completed trail connections from the future alternative trailhead were not established until Mr. Hilde brought forward a land development plan. The Redtail Estates RLUP development is now being brought forward.

Proposal:

Mr. Hilde has offered to grant an alternative trailhead and trail easement to the County that will enable access to the existing 70-acre Parrish Ranch conservation easement which allows for a trail. This portion of the trail would continue to RTROS. From the alternative trailhead area Mr. Hilde is also granting a southwesterly trail easement segment connecting to the 2017 trail easement and to the Boulder County line. In exchange for this grant of trail easement and trailhead, Mr. Hilde requests that we vacate the entire 2001 trail easement and trailhead that was granted to the County in 2001 by Southdown, Inc. This vacation of easement will allow Mr. Hilde to sell his lots without the encumbrance of the 2001 trail easement and trailhead. Staff has reviewed the location of the new trailhead and trail easement alignments and supports the proposal to vacate the 2001 easement after the grant of the alternative trail easement and trailhead occurs. The alternative trailhead is superior in

location and size as compared to the 2001 easement as are the trail easement alignments to the northwest towards RTROS and the southeasterly route to the 2017 trail easement granted by Mr. Hilde that connects to the Boulder County line.

Priority Area: Blue Mountain/Little Thompson
Short Legal: Portions of Section 35, Township 4 North, Range 70 West;
 Portion of SE1/4 of Section 2, Township 8 North, Range 71 West
Acreage: Trail Easement

Current Zoning: FA Farming; O Open
Adjacent Zoning: FA Farming; O Open
Water Rights: N/A
Mineral Rights: N/A
Liens: None

| Evaluation Criteria: | Staff Assessment |
|---|-------------------------|
| Scenic Values | M |
| Buffer Values | N/A |
| Wetlands Values | N/A |
| Significant Plants/Natural Communities Values | N/A |
| Outdoor Recreation Values | H |
| Historical/Archaeological Values | N/A |
| Agricultural Values | N/A |
| Geological/Paleontological Values | N/A |
| Education Values | L |
| Context | M |
| Community Benefit | H |
| Partnerships/Cost-Value | N/A |

Partnerships: Arrowhead Properties, LLC
Description: Trail Easement and Trailhead

Property Interest for Larimer County:

Trail Easement and Trailhead

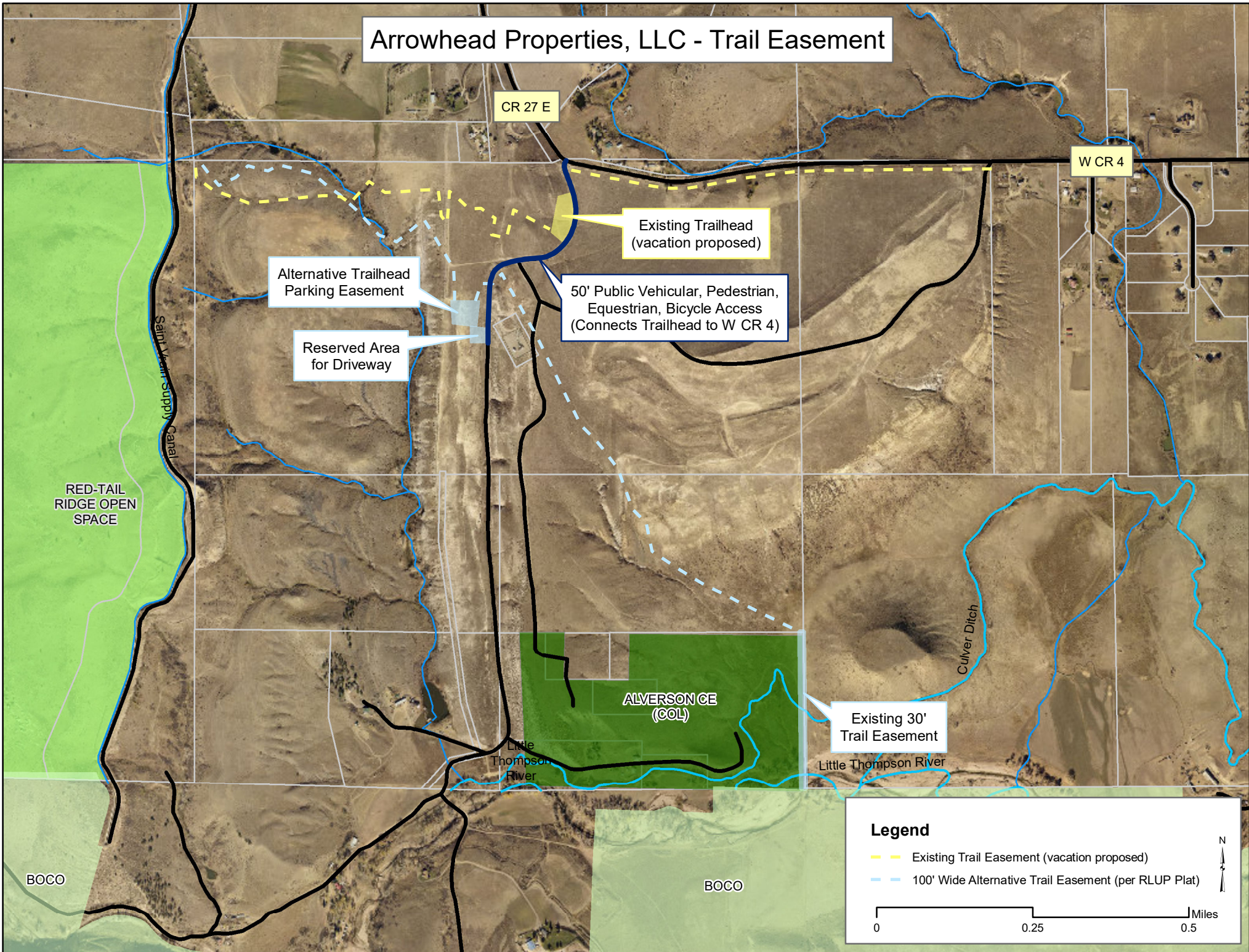
Purchase Price: N/A
Financial Terms: N/A

Funding Sources: **Amount:**

N/A

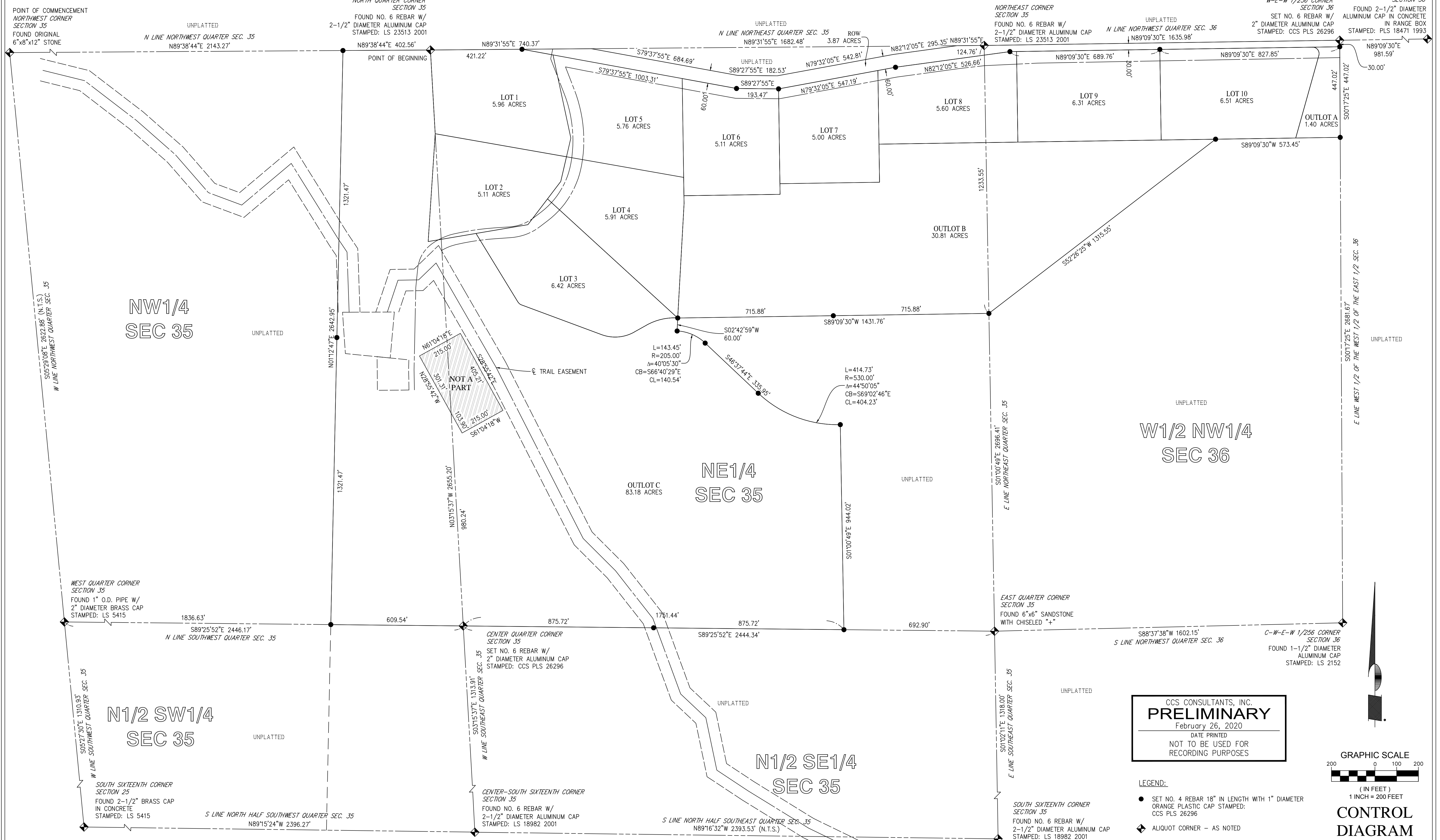
| | |
|--|-----------|
| <i>Closing Date:</i> | N/A |
| <i>Open Lands Advisory Board Final Review Date:</i> | 4/23/2020 |
| <i>Board of County Commissioners Final Review Date:</i> | 5/28/2020 |

Arrowhead Properties, LLC - Trail Easement



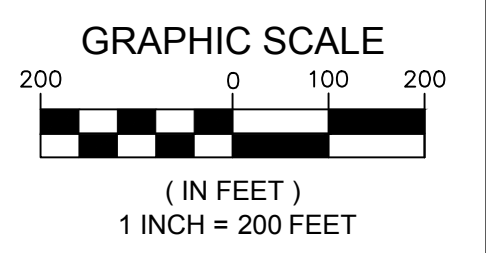
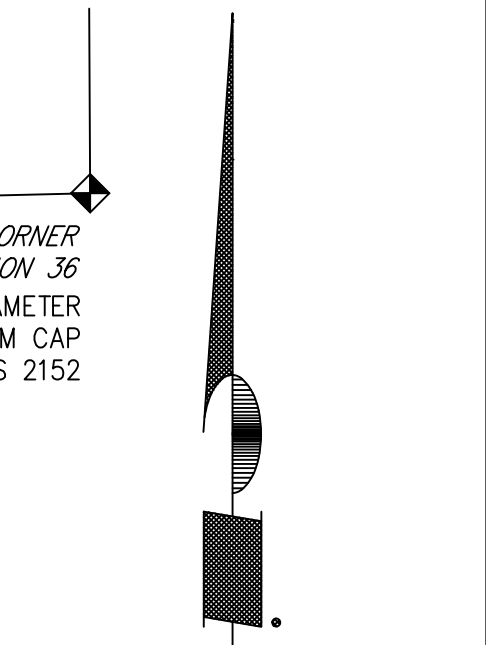
RURAL LAND USE PLAN

BEING A PART OF SECTION 35 AND A PART OF THE WEST HALF OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 4 NORTH, RANGE 70 WEST OF THE SIXTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN
COUNTY OF LARIMER, STATE OF COLORADO



CCS CONSULTANTS, INC.
PRELIMINARY
February 26, 2020
DATE PRINTED
NOT TO BE USED FOR
RECORDING PURPOSES

- LEGEND:**
- SET NO. 4 REBAR 18" IN LENGTH WITH 1" DIAMETER ORANGE PLASTIC CAP STAMPED: CCS PLS 26296
 - ◆ ALIQUOT CORNER - AS NOTED



**CONTROL
DIAGRAM**

| REVISIONS | |
|-----------|----------------|
| Date | By Description |
| | |
| Date | By Description |
| | |
| Date | By Description |
| | |

| | | | |
|-------------|-----------|------|-----|
| Field Date | n/a | TECH | LHG |
| Party Chief | n/a | PM | WDS |
| Scale | 1" = 200' | PLS | WDS |

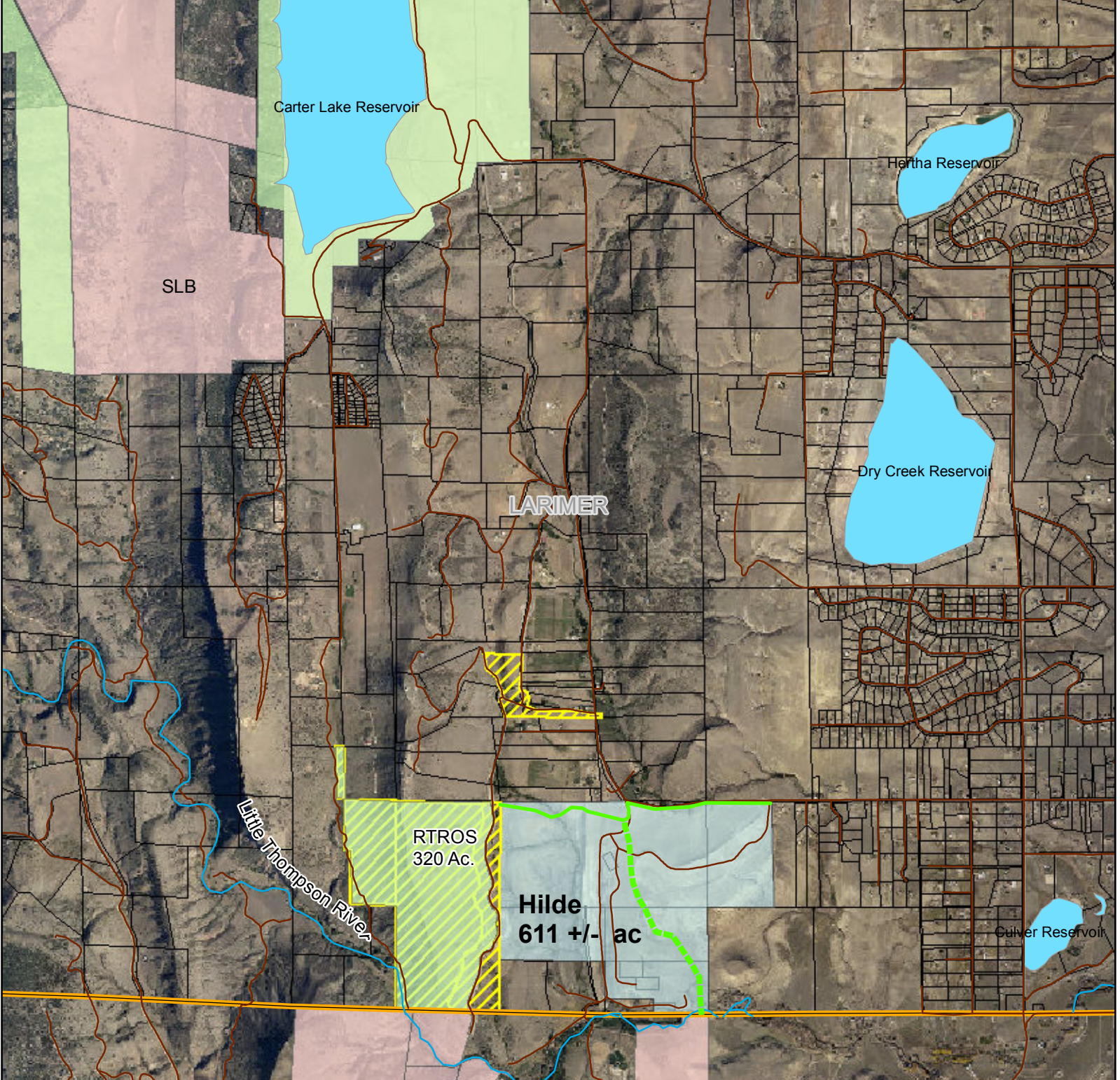
CLIENT **ARROWHEAD PROPERTIES, LLC**

C.C.S. CONSULTANTS, INC.
4860 Robb Street, Suite 206 2893 N. Monroe Ave
Wheat Ridge, CO 80033 Loveland, CO 80538
Phone: 303.403.4706 Phone: 970.635.3031

TITLE **Rural Land Use Plan
Parrish Ranch Estates**
Section 35 & 36, Township 4 N, Range 70 W, 6th P.M., County of Larimer, State of Colorado

| | | | | | |
|-------------|----------|-----------|---|---------------|----|
| PROJECT NO. | 03GEN42B | SHEET NO. | 2 | NO. OF SHEETS | 10 |
|-------------|----------|-----------|---|---------------|----|

03GEN42B_RLUP.dwg February 26, 2020 - 17:01



Hilde

- Existing Trail Easement
- - - Proposed Trail Easement
- County Open Space
- Protected (Fee), inclndg SLB
- Conservation Easements
- Hilde Property



0 0.5 1 Miles

LARIMER COUNTY
 COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE
Natural Resources