

Application form

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANT APPLICATION



PROJECT BASICS

Title	Mount Sanitas Trail Projects			
Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Development/renovation <input type="checkbox"/> Combination acquisition and development			
Acres to be acquired				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
Outcome	<input type="checkbox"/> Creates new park	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expands/improves existing park	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Phased project	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, Phase #	of
Brief summary	Critical trail improvements in the Mt Sanitas area including designating & improving new trails, closing and reclaiming social trails, providing new open space access to neighborhoods, repairing & improving trails leading to the summit and providing safe & sustainable access for bouldering.			
Grant request	\$ 1,125,994.00	Grant ratio ¹	49.60	%
Match	\$ 1,144,279.00	Match ratio	50.40	%
Total	\$ 2,270,273.00	Total	100	%

APPLICANT

Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local	<input type="checkbox"/> County	<input type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribal
Organization	City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks			
Postal address	2520 55th St			
City	Boulder	State	CO	ZIP Code 80301
General email	haleyj@bouldercolorado.gov		UEI #	P9Y8CAFT4GB5
Lead contact	Jeff Haley	Title	Deputy Director, Trails and Facilities	
Telephone	720-648-0197	Email	halej@bouldercolorado.gov	
Project manager	Hilary Dees	Title	Trail Program Manager	
Telephone	720-527-3343	Email	deesh@bouldercolorado.gov	

PARTNER OR CO-SPONSOR

Organization	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A			
Postal address				
City	State	CO	ZIP Code	
Contact name	Title			
Telephone	Email			

¹ Grant ratio = grant request / total x 100. Match ratio = match / total x 100.

PROPERTY				
Park name	Mount Sanitas Area			<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Address	300 Sunshine Canyon Drive			
City	Boulder	State	CO	ZIP Code 80302
County	Boulder	Congressional district	CO-002	
Name of property owner	City of Boulder			
Ownership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee simple	<input type="checkbox"/> Lease	<input type="checkbox"/> Easement	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Applies to	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entire site	<input type="checkbox"/> Portion of site		
Existing LWCF site	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, grant #	08-

Describe any leases, easements (including surface and subsurface utilities), rights or interests.

The project area includes will affect 16 parcels owned by the City of Boulder. These were acquired between 1969 and 2004. All properties are held in fee by the city. There are no leases on the properties. OSMP staff has reviewed the property ownership information for these properties and compared to the specific locations of work planned for this project and has identified no potential conflicts with easements, rights of way, rights or interests held by other parties. However, there are rights of way across some of the properties away from the planned improvements, most notably a 25 foot right of way for the Silver Lake Ditch, and 75 foot right of way for metal tower electric transmission lines. A document containing the deeds, legal descriptions and related information is included as part of the application (Item 14, Proof of Ownership).

Describe the property and its current uses. Include acreage, terrain, unique features, and usage history.

The Mount Sanitas area includes 678 acres at the western edge of Boulder, less than a mile from downtown. The area lies at the eastern edge of the Southern Rocky Mountains where they meet the High Plains and is characterized by steeply tilting rock layers. These form north-south hogback ridges of resistant rock and eroded valleys--creating a spectacular backdrop for the city. The landscape is dominated by open Ponderosa Pine woodlands and savannas in the west and a mosaic of prairie grasslands and shrublands in the east. The primary management is for outdoor recreation and ecological conservation. Visitors enter the property from one trailhead and many formal and informal neighborhood access points. Six trails totaling eight miles welcome pedestrian and equestrian use. Hiking or running/jogging are the most common activities. Since dogs are allowed on most trails, Mt. Sanitas is a popular destination for dog walking. The south-facing slopes of Mount Sanitas above Sunshine Canyon are popular for bouldering with eight identified areas and over 60 named routes. Historic uses include a sanitarium where health care included exposure to the outdoors and sandstone quarries used for buildings at the University of Colorado.

1. PROJECT SCOPE**10 points**

a) Describe the proposed acquisition or development project.

Requested funding will be used to complete several Mt. Sanitas area projects identified in the 2011 West Trail Study Area (WTSA) plan. The project area receives an estimated 375,000 visits/year and has been a beloved outdoor destination for over a century. Community input during the WTSA process stressed a commitment to minimize resource impacts and preserve the trail's character through in-place repairs while adding additional trails to significant destinations. OSMP will replace failed timber infrastructure with stone and use stone for new infrastructure. Additionally, we will design and build new trails to the northern communities in the area and a trail to the historically significant sandstone quarries on the east flank of Mt. Sanitas. This is in response to community requests and supports education and interpretation. Replacing undesignated trails with sustainably designed and built trails, while simultaneously restoring redundant social trails, will reduce habitat fragmentation, decrease weed spread, and enhance the visitor experience. Finally, we will improve bouldering at eight formations (60 routes) adjacent to the Mt. Sanitas trail. According to guidebooks and feedback from our climbing partners, many of these are suitable for beginner and intermediate climbers. The south-facing orientation provides an uncommon and much sought after year-round opportunity for bouldering. Building and defining areas for crash pads, reducing undesignated trails, and improving wayfinding will reduce the impacts of bouldering and allow the surrounding area to revegetate. Collectively, these improvements will protect this iconic mountain for generations to come. These critical repairs, new trails, and boulder area enhancements will allow OSMP to better meet our commitment to supporting ecologically sustainable access and enjoyment.

Area 1 (Community connector): 2 formalized access points, construction of ~0.5 miles of new trail ~36" wide, restoration of 1.3 miles of social trails;

Area 2 (Summit approach): repair in place ~2,000' at ~5-6' wide, replace failed infrastructure (timber steps), add new stone steps, drainage features;

Area 3 (Quarry trail): construction of ~1,600' new trail at ~36" wide, restoration of ~750' social trails;

Area 4 (Bouldering area): Installation of new crash pad areas, restoration of ~1,300' of social trails, wayfinding signs.

b) Indicate the current stage of design at the time of application.

Development projects:

- Pre-design
- Schematic design
- Design development
- Construction documents
- Permitting
- Bidding

Acquisitions (applicable milestones obtained at the time of application):

- Yellow Book appraisal complete
 - Purchase agreement drafted
 - Land will be open for public use immediately after acquisition
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2. PROJECT NEED**5 points**

- a) Describe the project's urgency and why it is being pursued at this time.

Increasing visitation has put immense strain on the project area, which is especially prone to erosion. The soil is highly erodible, 65% of the East Ridge approach and 68% of the Mt. Sanitas approach have moderate to severe soil loss. The bouldering areas suffer from extensive braiding and erosion. Managing undesignated trails is a priority at OSMP, through designating new trails through thoughtful and sustainable design or restoring social trails using active restoration. Without immediate intervention the dual threat of increasing visitation and increasing extreme weather events all but guarantees the project area will continue to be a financial drain and at physical risk, diverting limited resources away from the other 155 miles of trail that OSMP manages. Recent major repairs in the project area, well-established partnerships with conservation corps and community trail crews, as well as internal staff expertise and experience create a strong foundation for success. The site plan and photos (Application Items 10 and 11) illustrate existing damage plus and show completed project elsewhere showcasing our experience in this scale of repairs.

3. COMMUNITY BENEFIT**15 points**

- a) Describe the community that will benefit from this project. Include relevant demographic and economic data.

Mt. Sanitas is located only a mile from downtown Boulder, and less than 2 miles from the CU campus. Residents who live in the western half of the city are within a 10 minute drive of any one of the access points to the Mt. Sanitas complex. The Mt. Sanitas trail complex receives nearly 375,000 annual visits from a wide range of visitors, making it one of our most visited areas. A statistically valid Public Opinion and Visitor Experience Survey was administered over two years (2021-2023) and found:

- The most popular activities are hiking/walking, running and walking dogs.
- Visitors identified viewing scenery & wildlife and contemplation/meditation as important activities.
- Over half of the visitors to this area recreate here at least once a week.
- Most visitors reside within Boulder County, but 16% of visitors arrive from outside Boulder county.
- Economically, visitors to this area generally have an annual income of over \$50,000 but 13% of visitors make less than \$50,000 per year.
- A majority of visitors, (6 in 10 visits) identify as female.
- Nearly half (47%) of visitors are over 50 years old.

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- b) Outline any deficiencies or barriers to access that this project would address or improve for the abovementioned community. Include Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) access.

The projects proposed in this application will support the continued heavy use by all visitors. Designating the community connector trails will come with an official access point designations and associated signs and wayfinding, making it a more welcoming experience for visitors arriving at those entrance points. Improving the bouldering area will help make beginners feel supported in their development with less risk and the improvements at the summit will reduce visitor confusion which has led to several instances where rescues were mounted. The proposed built trail to the historic quarries will provide new opportunities for programming and interpretation. This project area does not have any trails or infrastructure that fall under the ADA or ABA guidelines.

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- c) Estimate the number of people and/or types of user groups that will have access to recreational opportunities as a result of this project. Include methods for determining this estimate.

OSMP's visitation estimate for the Mt. Sanitas area is 374,657 annual visits.

This area is primarily used for hiking, walking, running, or walking dogs. Climbing and bouldering are common near the base of the Mt. Sanitas trail.

Visitation estimates were calculated using a variety of trail counters from 2017-2023 covering the 11 access points to the complex. The numbers account for visitors entering and exiting different access points.

To determine types of uses, staff conducted on-site, self-administered surveys of visitors leaving city-managed open space. Visitors were intercepted at the end of their trip to support gathering feedback regarding their experiences during that specific visit. For each visitor that agreed to participate, the administrator provided an iPad where the respondent completed the questionnaire and then returned the iPad back to the administrator upon completion.

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

15 points

- a) Outline public engagement activities for this project. For example, public meetings, comment periods, surveys, etc.

The proposed projects were identified in the WTSA Plan, which was approved by the Boulder City Council in 2011 after an extensive community engagement process. The proximity of many city neighborhoods and a strong community interest in the stewardship of the West TSA led to considerable public involvement. Fundamental was the creation of the Community Collaborative Group (CCG). The CCG was comprised of citizen-selected volunteers representing a cross section of community interests including recreation, conservation, neighborhoods, and cultural resources.

Alongside at-large community meetings, listening sessions and open on-line commenting, the CCG met for 14 months to identify opportunities and explore options and found consensus on many challenging and important issues throughout the West TSA. The elements of this projects were all among the actions in the plan endorsed by the CCG.

In addition to the specific outcomes generated by the WTSA process, OSMP has routinely surveyed residents and visitors to gauge support for recreation management and policies. Projects like this on that improve access, increase sustainability and protect resources are consistently highly supported.

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- b) Describe any partnerships that will ensure the project's success. For example, public agencies, conservation or recreation groups, local businesses, etc.

OSMP values the longstanding and productive partnerships we've developed with several conservation corps. To execute the summit approach repairs, we will lean on these partnerships, having a conservation corps crew work alongside an OSMP crew. Another key partnership contributing to our success is with our partners at the Boulder Climbing Community (BCC). BCC's mission is to "mobilize the local community and partners to care for the environments we impact as climbers and enrich the outdoor experience for all". Their support in managing the impacts from bouldering will benefit both the climbing community and the broader Mt. Sanitas trail community. Additionally, the Boulder Open Space Conservancy (BOSC), dedicated to helping OSMP fulfill our charter purposes, will support these projects by leveraging private philanthropy, supporting community involvement, and helping raise public awareness. Finally, we will leverage our existing trail volunteer program to create opportunities for the community to actively contribute to the ongoing legacy of Mt. Sanitas and beyond.

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- c) Outline any concerns identified as part of public engagement. Explain how these will be addressed.

As indicated above, the proposed projects were seen to be "win/wins" enhancing access and enjoyment to open space while also reducing stresses on environmental resources. OSMP has been implementing actions called out in the West TSA for several years. Occasionally we encounter neighbors who were not part of the initial public process who have questions about specific actions. We have had success working to explain the process, issues and thinking leading to decisions and project design. The elements of this project will have little or no impact on directly neighboring residents, so we do not anticipate significant concerns in this area.

5. SCORP

10 points

- a) List the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) priorities that this project will advance.
- Priority 1: Sustainable Access and Opportunity
Goal: More Coloradans and visitors benefit from outdoor recreation and conservation.
 - Priority 2: Stewardship
Goal: Coloradans and visitors enjoy and care for natural and cultural resources and commit to stewarding them for future generations.
 - Priority 3: Land, Water and Wildlife Conservation
Goal: Private and public lands and waters are conserved to support sustainable outdoor recreation, the environment and wildlife habitat.
 - Priority 4: Funding the Future
Goal: Coloradans and visitors contribute to diverse funding sources that are dedicated to support outdoor recreation and conservation. Existing sources of funds are preserved.

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- b) Explain how.

P1: This project brings sustainability to a significant and popular outdoor recreation area. The Visitor Master Plan and West TSA Plan identified how mountain backdrop trails--legacies of a previous age of trail design are unsustainable & expensive to maintain. This project will continue investments started almost 20 years ago, focusing at Mt. Sanitas to design & construct improvements such as strategic re-routing & grade manipulations using durable materials to build trails people want to stay on. In addition, we are "starting from scratch" using modern design and construction to build sustainable access to a popular viewpoint/sandstone quarry and providing better and more direct access for neighborhoods to the north while closing social trails.

P2: The easily accessible south facing slopes of Mt. Sanitas offer a "near-in" place to learn and practice bouldering. With bouldering's meteoric rise in popularity, the area needs help. This project will provide boulderers with opportunity to restore and care for the areas they have come to enjoy by helping to develop, build and participate in the long-term stewardship of infrastructure that will support their activity while protecting the surrounding landscape from degradation.

6. PLANNING**10 points**

- a) Discuss the process that identified this project as a priority.

Larger scale planning discussed in Section 4.

In 2018, OSMP assessed the condition of each trail against its assigned trail management objective (TMO). This process revealed an estimated \$40 million dollars in deferred maintenance across 155 miles of trail. Specifically, the East Ridge and Mt. Sanitas trails were categorized as needing major repairs. Of the last 1000' of both trails, only 10% of one (East Ridge) is compliant with its TMOs. Staff used this condition data, along with on-site observations and calculations of rate of change to prioritize work across the OSMP system. Over the last five years, OSMP has focused on multi-year repairs on similarly challenging, steep, and heavily-used legacy trails, such as the 1st/2nd Flatiron and Royal Arch trails. This approach has proven successful in making meaningful progress on major repair initiatives. In addition, we have chosen to prioritize the value-added projects of addressing undesignated trails in the project area and managing bouldering impacts. These additional projects will enhance visitor experience, improve neighborhood access, and benefit a larger cross section of our visitors.

- b) List all approved internal master or outdoor recreation plans and/or any external area, regional, or statewide plans this project supports.

The proposed project to repair the summit approach, to designate the community connections, and to designate a trail to the historically significant quarries, are recommendations from the Community Collaborative Group (CCG) that guided the outcomes of the West Trail Study Area (2011), which in turn provides on-the-ground guidance for the city's Visitor Master Plan (2005). Managing bouldering impacts is more broadly captured by language in the OSMP Master Plan (2019), which tasks us with "supporting a range of passive recreational experiences". Reducing undesignated trails, addressing the trail maintenance backlog, preserving Boulder's cultural heritage, and "taking care of what we have" (as a focus over extensive new facility development) are all strategies laid out in in the Master Plan.

To implement those strategies, OSMP is guided by our Ecological Best Management Practices for Trail Planning and Design, Construction, Maintenance, and Closure (eBMPs) (2013) and our OSMP Trail Specifications and Construction Details (2023), as well as by Colorado's Guide to Planning Trails with Wildlife in Mind (2021).

7. WILDLIFE AND NATURAL RESOURCES**15 points**

- a) Describe how potential impacts to wildlife and natural resources were evaluated during the initial project-scoping phase. For example, using "Planning Trails with Wildlife in Mind", mapping tools, etc. Include any positive impacts this work will have on wildlife and natural resources.

The West TSA plan included a thorough review of natural resources summarized in the West TSA Inventory Report. OSMP has collected extensive spatial data of significant resources occurring on OSMP lands such as rare plants, raptor nests, northern leopard frog breeding colonies, and prairie dog colonies. Using these and other spatial data from outside sources, such as CPW's mapped occupied range for Preble's meadow jumping mouse (PMJM), OSMP evaluated potential impacts to natural resources resulting from the proposed project. This GIS review was followed by field surveys to confirm that none of the proposed work will impact important aquatic habitats such as wetlands or ephemeral streams. Since all the proposed trail repair is expected to occur within the footprint of existing designated trails, and most new trail construction will use existing undesignated trails, relatively few impacts are expected from the proposed project. Further, OSMP is planning to close and restore approximately 12,000 linear feet of undesignated trails within the project area which will increase available habitat, decrease habitat fragmentation and help abate the critical stresses of weeds, and off-trail travel.

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- b) Describe any wildlife and natural resource issues raised by CPW staff during grant application consultation.

No wildlife or natural resource concerns have been raised by CPW staff. If any are raised, they will be evaluated and addressed when the project moves out of the project-scoping phase and into more detailed review of finalized trail alignments, construction methods and access routes. There are three historic raptor nests in the project area. None of which have been active for the last five years, No other raptor nests are known to occur within a half a mile of the project sites. Surveys for nesting birds and rare plants will be conducted in the appropriate season prior to construction. If any nests or rare plants are found, project timing or trail alignments may be adjusted.

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- c) Explain how potential wildlife and natural resource impacts will be avoided, minimized, and/or mitigated. For example, trail realignment, seasonal closures (include dates), signage, gates, game cameras, etc.

OSMP will limit impacts by using the footprint of existing designated and undesignated trails for trail repair and construction, construction access and staging. No work will occur within riparian corridors or mapped occupied range for PMJM surrounding the intermittent stream and Silver Lake Ditch which lie south of the project area. Construction will occur outside of shrub-nesting bird and raptor nesting seasons. An erosion control plan will be implemented to prevent soil erosion & movement/deposition of sediment. Additionally, OSMP will follow all applicable Best Management Practices outlined in Wetland Protections Program Best Management Practices (City of Boulder 1995) and OSMP's Ecological Best Management Practices for Trail Construction (City of Boulder 2013) including:

- Seeding and/or planting any areas of temporary disturbance with native species using certified weed-free seed from approved vendors.
- Where feasible, preserving native material for reclamation.
- Minimizing the removal of native vegetation.
- Cleaning equipment before it enters the site to prevent the spread of nuisance/exotic species.

8. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

5 points

- a) Outline any LWCF funding received in the last five years and if the project/s were completed on time, on budget and within scope. Applicants without LWCF funding, provide examples of similar grant funded projects that were completed on time, on budget and within scope. Include project title, year of award, grant amount, and grantor.

Outdoor Stewardship Needs in the City of Boulder, 2021, \$134,735, Great Outdoors Colorado.

Joint project City of Boulder OSMP & Parks and Recreation.

Completed on time, within scope and on budget. Included several trail-related elements addressing increased and declining revenue during COVID pandemic:

*Installed approximately 6000' of fencing at 13 sites on OSMP to guide visitors, protect habitat, and support social trail restoration in areas that cumulatively hosted half a million visits annually.

*Projects at Boulder Reservoir and Coot Lake by Parks and Recreation staff

**Trail head improvements to enhance experience and protect resources included new kiosks, signs, trash receptacles, fencing, plantings, monofilament recycling and the closure and restoration of 2,094 feet of social trails.

9. MAINTENANCE**5 points**

- a) Explain how the site will be maintained in perpetuity for outdoor recreation. For example, maintenance plans, future budgeting commitments, etc.

OSMP will manage the project site in accordance with our charter purpose of “preservation of land for its aesthetic or passive recreational value and its contribution to the quality of life of the community”. The trails located within the project site will continue to be maintained by the OSMP trail crew with additional support from conservation corps, volunteers, and other partners as necessary. OSMP's trails program is funded by the city budget, primarily using appropriations from the Open Space Fund which is mostly funded through revenue from a dedicated sales tax.

The trails program is fully staffed and is experienced in managing and maintaining over 155 miles of trail. Using current, proven trail building methods and incorporating climate-resilient building materials will ensure the newly built and repaired trails will require minimal future maintenance. OSMP also regularly monitors the condition of trails against trail management objective once every five years along with more frequent informal inspections of trails. The results of trail monitoring and inspections are used to prioritize the annual maintenance workplan.

10. BUDGET AND FUNDING**10 points**

- a) Describe the source of match for the project and when it will be secured. Include in-kind and partner contributions.

The elements of this project will be identified as part of the five-year capital improvement program (CIP) and annual operating expenditures as part of the city budget process. Match will be derived from city council approved appropriations. The majority of this funding is allocated from the Open Space Fund which mostly receives its revenue from sales taxes dedicated to the open space purposes defined in the city charter. Boulder's fiscal year runs with the calendar year, and council typically takes action in the third or fourth quarter to approve the budget for the following year.

The Boulder Open Space Conservancy (BOSC) and the City of Boulder have identified the Mt. Sanitas area as a priority for fundraising. BOSC may raise funds through appeals and events for this project. Revenues from such fundraising would be added to the Open Space Fund and appropriated by the City Council as described above.

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- b) Describe any consequences if this funding application is unsuccessful. For example, loss of partner funds, staff capacity, expiration of surveys, etc.

Without the investments to provide long term stabilization of designated trails, the infrastructure at Mt. Sanitas will continue to require significant annual maintenance, drawing valuable resources away from priority needs elsewhere on the OSMP system. With increasing visitation, the rate of degradation is also likely to increase over time, making it ever more difficult costly to get the situation under control. Unaddressed, the impacts to wildlife and other natural resources from the use and expansion of undesigned trails is likely to continue or increase. Without designated access, visitors from the north is likely to result in driving to open space areas, decreasing air quality and increasing carbon emissions.

LWCF budget

Project details				Match details			
LWCF grant #				Source of match (organization)	Type	Date available	Amount
Organization	City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks			City of Boulder OSMP Fund	Cash	Jan-24	\$ 1,125,994.00
Project title	Mount Sanitas Trail Projects			City of Boulder Volunteer Trail Crew	In-kind	Jan-25	\$ 18,285.00
LWCF grant	\$ 1,125,994.00	Grant ratio	49.60%				
Local match	\$ 1,144,279.00	Match ratio	50.40%				
Total	\$ 2,270,273.00	Total	100.00%			Total	\$ 1,144,279.00

Description	Pre-award cost	Anticipated date of expense	Qty	Unit type	Cost per unit	Total	Type	LWCF grant	Local match	Balance
Land										
None	No					\$ -				\$ -
	No					\$ -				\$ -
	No					\$ -				\$ -
Architectural and engineering fees										
None						\$ -				\$ -
						\$ -				\$ -
						\$ -				\$ -
Other architectural and engineering fees										
Class III Cultural Survey	Yes		1.00	LS	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	Cash	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
None						\$ -				\$ -
						\$ -				\$ -
Site work										
None	No					\$ -				\$ -
	No					\$ -				\$ -
	No					\$ -				\$ -
Demolition and removal										
None	No					\$ -				\$ -
	No					\$ -				\$ -
	No					\$ -				\$ -
Construction										
Boulder Climbing Council (BCC) Trail Crew (cost per discrete ~8 week contracted project, guided by Continuing Service Agreement which caps cost per project at \$50,000, BCC typically provides a 5 person crew and organizes and executes volunteer work days to complete project work.)	No	Apr-25	4.00	each	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	Cash	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -
Conservation Corps Crew (average cost per 20-week season, for 2025 & 2027; these costs are for contracted crews which include 5-10 crew members, rental vehicles, tools, and housing costs)	No	Aug-25	2.00	each	\$ 210,000.00	\$ 420,000.00	Cash	\$ 210,000.00	\$ 210,000.00	\$ -

OSMP Trail Crews for Summit Repairs (average hourly rate, including benefit overhead; based on expected building season, 2025-2027)	No	May-25	30,960.00	Hrs	\$ 32.00	\$ 990,720.00	Cash	\$ 495,360.00	\$ 495,360.00	\$ -
OSMP Trail Crew for new trails and restoration (average hourly rate, including benefit overhead based on expected building season, 2026-2027)	No	May-26	9,440.00	Hrs	\$ 32.00	\$ 302,080.00	Cash	\$ 151,040.00	\$ 151,040.00	\$ -
Volunteer Trail Crew (based on average national hourly rate for volunteers, volunteers work along side our trail crews to construct, repair, and/or restore trails)	No	Jun-25	575.00	hrs	\$ 31.80	\$ 18,285.00	In-kind	\$ -	\$ 18,285.00	\$ -
Equipment										
Heavy Equipment rental (8 weeks in 2026)	No	May-26	8.00	Week	\$ 1,325.00	\$ 10,600.00	Cash	\$ 5,300.00	\$ 5,300.00	\$ -
Rental Trucks for OSMP crews (based on 2023 costs for 7 month season, F150 or similar)	No	May-25	56.00	Monthly	\$ 1,753.00	\$ 98,168.00	Cash	\$ 49,084.00	\$ 49,084.00	\$ -
Miscellaneous										
Project Coordinator (hourly wage, including benefit overhead for 1560 hours for 3 years)	No	Jan-25	4,680.00	Hrs	\$ 41.00	\$ 191,880.00	Cash	\$ 95,940.00	\$ 95,940.00	\$ -
Trail Program Manager (hourly wage, including benefit overhead, hours spread over 3 years)	No	Jan-25	780.00	Hrs	\$ 43.00	\$ 33,540.00	Cash	\$ 16,770.00	\$ 16,770.00	\$ -
TOTAL						\$ 2,270,273.00		\$ 1,125,994.00	\$ 1,144,279.00	

Timeline

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANT APPLICATION



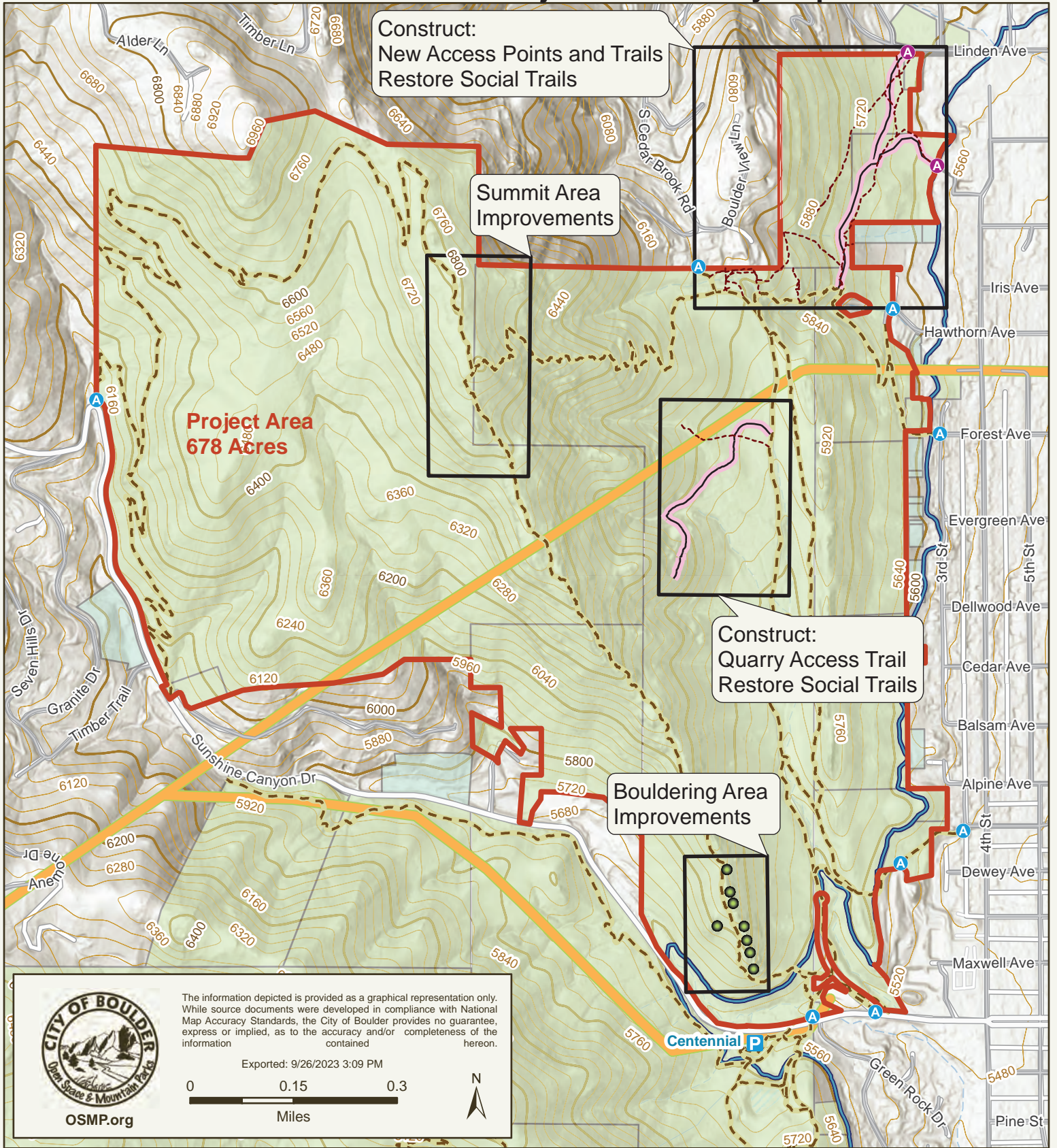
PROJECT DETAILS

Organization City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks

Project title Mount Sanitas Trail Projects

TASK	Jul-Dec 2023	Jan-Jun 2024	Jul-Dec 2024	Jan-Jun 2025	Jul-Dec 2025	Jan-Jun 2026	Jul-Dec 2026	Jan-Jun 2027	Jul-Dec 2027
Project Initiation									
Project Team	X								
Finalize Construction Documents and Notes for Summit Repairs		X	X						
New Trail Alignment Review with OSMP Natural and Cultural Resource Staff			X	X	X				
Mobilization				X					
Construction									
Summit Repairs				X	X	X	X	X	X
Bouldering Area Improvements				X	X	X	X		
Construct Connector Trail & Restore Social Trails						X	X		
Construct Quarry Trail & Restore Social Trails								X	X
Open to the public									
Administrative Close-Out									X

Mount Sanitas Trail Projects - Boundary Map



Construct:
New Access Points and Trails
Restore Social Trails

Summit Area
Improvements

Construct:
Quarry Access Trail
Restore Social Trails

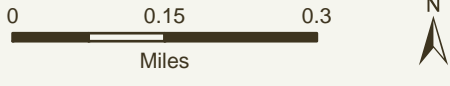
Bouldering Area
Improvements

Project Area
678 Acres



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 hereon.

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Project Elements

- Conceptual Alignment
- Social Trails to Restore
- New Access Point
- Project Boundary

Right of Ways

- Electric Transmission Line (75ft)
- Silver Lake Ditch (25ft)

Managed by OSMP

- Hiking Trail
- Climbing Formations and Boulders

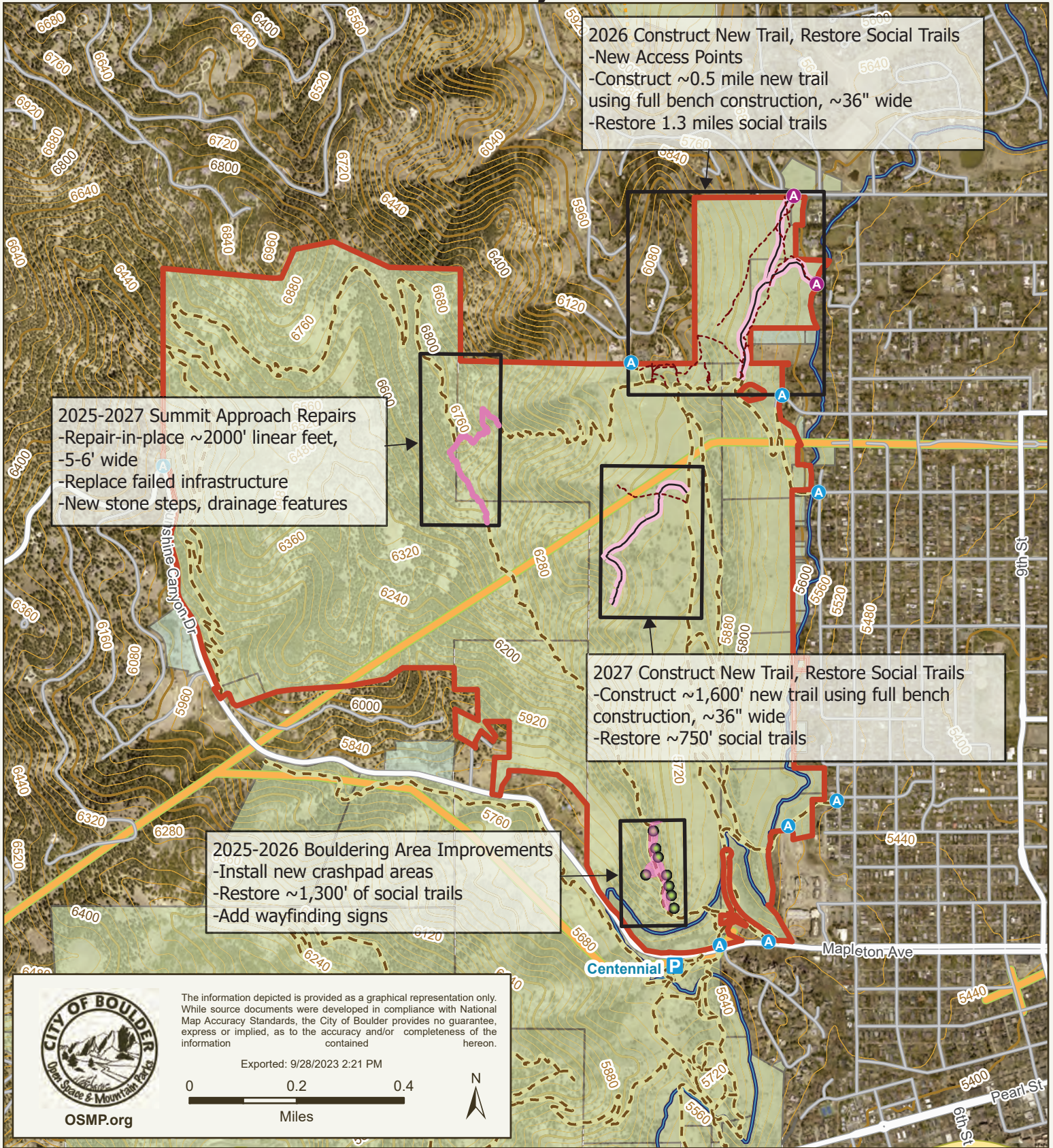
Managed Trail Access Locations

- OSMP Trailhead with Designated Parking
- Access Point - Parking Along Public Streets Unless Otherwise Posted

OSMP Lands

- OSMP Fee Ownership
- OSMP Easement

Mount Sanitas Trail Projects - Site Plan



Project Elements

- Conceptual Alignment
- Social Trails to Restore
- New Access Point
- Summit Repairs
- Boulderling Area Improvements
- Project Boundary

Right of Ways

- Electric Transmission Line (75ft)
- Silver Lake Ditch (25ft)

Managed by OSMP

- Hiking Trail
- Climbing or Gliding Access
- Climbing Formations and Boulders

Managed Trail Access Locations

- OSMP Trailhead with Designated Parking
- Access Point - Parking Along Public Streets Unless Otherwise Posted

OSMP Lands

- OSMP Fee Ownership
 - OSMP Easement
- 2022 Pictometry - 3 in - Faster**
 raster.RASTER.PICTOMETRY
 Red: Band_1
 Green: Band_2

SUMMIT REPAIRS-Current Conditions



Mt. Sanitas summit approach. This section has failing wood infrastructure and inadequate infrastructure for the grade and amount of visitation. Significant braiding on the left side of trail is out of view in this photo.

The East Ridge summit approach. Inadequate infrastructure for the grade and visitation.



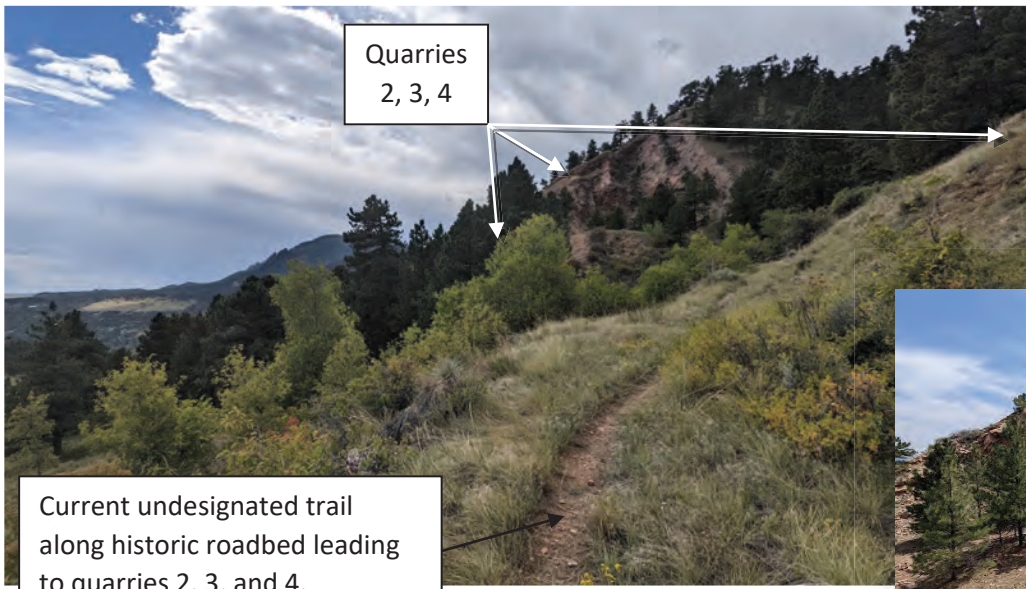
Mt. Sanitas repairs, 2018. Example of appropriately sized and built stone infrastructure.

Before



After

DESIGNATING AND BUILDING NEW TRAILS- Current Undesignated Trail Conditions



Current undesignated trail along historic roadbed leading to quarries 2, 3, and 4.



Quarry 4

Current undesignated trail connecting Linden Dr. to the Mt. Sanitas trail complex.



The newly designed trail will reduce conflict with non-recreation infrastructure such as easements, private property boundaries, and agricultural ditch access.



BOULDERING IMPACTS- Current Conditions and Examples of Previous Work



Example of impacted area beneath bouldering formations. Proximity to the main trail leads to confusion from visitors who are trying to reach the Mt. Sanitas summit.

An excerpt from an OSMP project report showcasing the collaboration between our climbing community and OSMP in creating safe opportunities for bouldering while protecting adjacent natural resources.



Above: The Pebble Boulder hosts a number of classic bouldering problems and was identified with Flatirons Climbing Council (FCC) as having suffered significant erosion around the base of the boulder. Over the years, feet of soil loss have exposed tree roots and rocks making for a difficult landing. All runoff coming downhill wraps around the boulder from either direction creating a significant trough. In the photo above, the first step and tier of wall has already been installed.



Below: 5 treated timber steps and 15 square feet of wall (up to 3 tiers) was installed to level the landing pad, slow down water and create a safer landing for the bouldering community.

IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

Location

Boulder County, Colorado



Local office

Colorado Ecological Services Field Office

☎ (303) 236-4773

📅 (303) 236-4005

MAILING ADDRESS

Denver Federal Center
P.O. Box 25486
Denver, CO 80225-0486

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

134 Union Boulevard, Suite 670
Lakewood, CO 80228-1807

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

Endangered species

This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species¹ and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries²).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

-
1. Species listed under the [Endangered Species Act](#) are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).

2. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
<p>Canada Lynx <i>Lynx canadensis</i></p> <p>There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3652</p>	Threatened
<p>Gray Wolf <i>Canis lupus</i></p> <p>This species only needs to be considered if the following condition applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lone, dispersing gray wolves may be present throughout the state of Colorado. If your activity includes a predator management program, please consider this species in your environmental review. <p>There is final critical habitat for this species.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4488</p>	Endangered
<p>Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse <i>Zapus hudsonius preblei</i></p> <p>Wherever found</p> <p>There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4090</p>	Threatened

Birds

NAME	STATUS
<p>Mexican Spotted Owl <i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i></p> <p>Wherever found</p> <p>There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8196</p>	Threatened

Piping Plover *Charadrius melodus*

Threatened

This species only needs to be considered if the following condition applies:

- Project includes water-related activities and/or use in the N. Platte, S. Platte, and Laramie River Basins which may affect listed species in Nebraska.

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039>

Whooping Crane *Grus americana*

Endangered

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758>

Fishes

NAME

STATUS

Greenback Cutthroat Trout *Oncorhynchus clarkii stomias*

Threatened

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2775>

Pallid Sturgeon *Scaphirhynchus albus*

Endangered

Wherever found

This species only needs to be considered if the following condition applies:

- Project includes water-related activities and/or use in the N. Platte, S. Platte, and Laramie River Basins which may affect listed species in Nebraska.

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7162>

Insects

NAME

STATUS

Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus*

Candidate

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743>

Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Ute Ladies'-tresses <i>Spiranthes diluvialis</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2159	Threatened
Western Prairie Fringed Orchid <i>Platanthera praeclara</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1669	Threatened

Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have effects on all above listed species.

Bald & Golden Eagles

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) and the [Migratory Bird Treaty Act](#).

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds
<https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds
<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

There are bald and/or golden eagles in your project area.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds Oct 15 to Aug 31
Golden Eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31

Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.

- To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is $0.25/0.25 = 1$; at week 20 it is $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$.
- The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

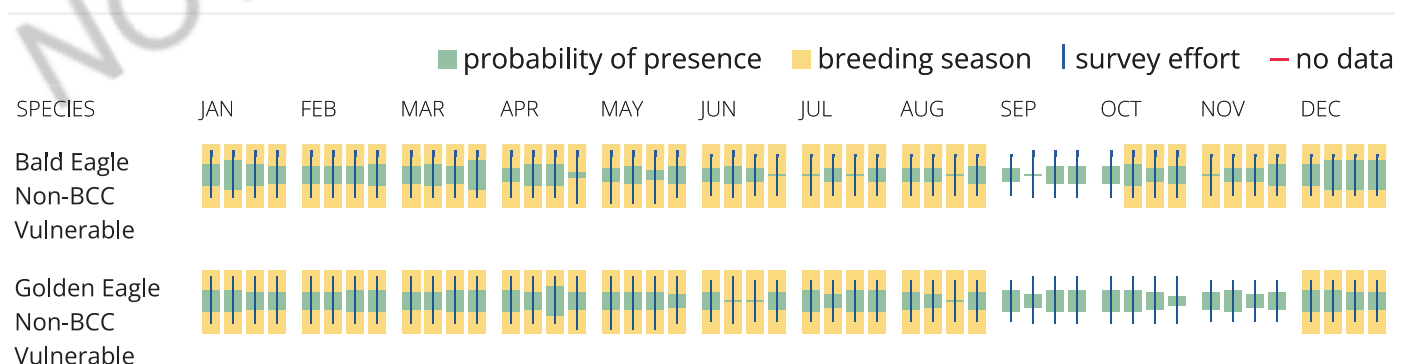
To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

No Data (—)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.



What does IPaC use to generate the potential presence of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The potential for eagle presence is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project

intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply). To see a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to obtain a permit to avoid violating the [Eagle Act](#) should such impacts occur. Please contact your local Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office if you have questions.

Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation->

[measures.pdf](#)

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the [USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ [below](#). This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found [below](#).

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds Oct 15 to Aug 31
Black Rosy-finch <i>Leucosticte atrata</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9460	Breeds Jun 15 to Aug 31
Black Swift <i>Cypseloides niger</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8878	Breeds Jun 15 to Sep 10
Brown-capped Rosy-finch <i>Leucosticte australis</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Jun 15 to Sep 15
California Gull <i>Larus californicus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Mar 1 to Jul 31

<p>Cassin's Finch <i>Carpodacus cassinii</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9462</p>	<p>Breeds May 15 to Jul 15</p>
<p>Chestnut-collared Longspur <i>Calcarius ornatus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	<p>Breeds May 1 to Aug 10</p>
<p>Chimney Swift <i>Chaetura pelagica</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	<p>Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25</p>
<p>Clark's Grebe <i>Aechmophorus clarkii</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	<p>Breeds Jun 1 to Aug 31</p>
<p>Clark's Nutcracker <i>Nucifraga columbiana</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA</p>	<p>Breeds Jan 15 to Jul 15</p>
<p>Evening Grosbeak <i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	<p>Breeds May 15 to Aug 10</p>
<p>Ferruginous Hawk <i>Buteo regalis</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6038</p>	<p>Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 15</p>
<p>Golden Eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680</p>	<p>Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31</p>
<p>Lesser Yellowlegs <i>Tringa flavipes</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679</p>	<p>Breeds elsewhere</p>

<p>Lewis's Woodpecker <i>Melanerpes lewis</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9408</p>	<p>Breeds Apr 20 to Sep 30</p>
<p>Long-eared Owl <i>asio otus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3631</p>	<p>Breeds Mar 1 to Jul 15</p>
<p>Olive-sided Flycatcher <i>Contopus cooperi</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3914</p>	<p>Breeds May 20 to Aug 31</p>
<p>Pinyon Jay <i>Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9420</p>	<p>Breeds Feb 15 to Jul 15</p>
<p>Red-headed Woodpecker <i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	<p>Breeds May 10 to Sep 10</p>
<p>Virginia's Warbler <i>Vermivora virginiae</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9441</p>	<p>Breeds May 1 to Jul 31</p>
<p>Western Grebe <i>aechmophorus occidentalis</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6743</p>	<p>Breeds Jun 1 to Aug 31</p>

Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is $0.25/0.25 = 1$; at week 20 it is $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$.
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

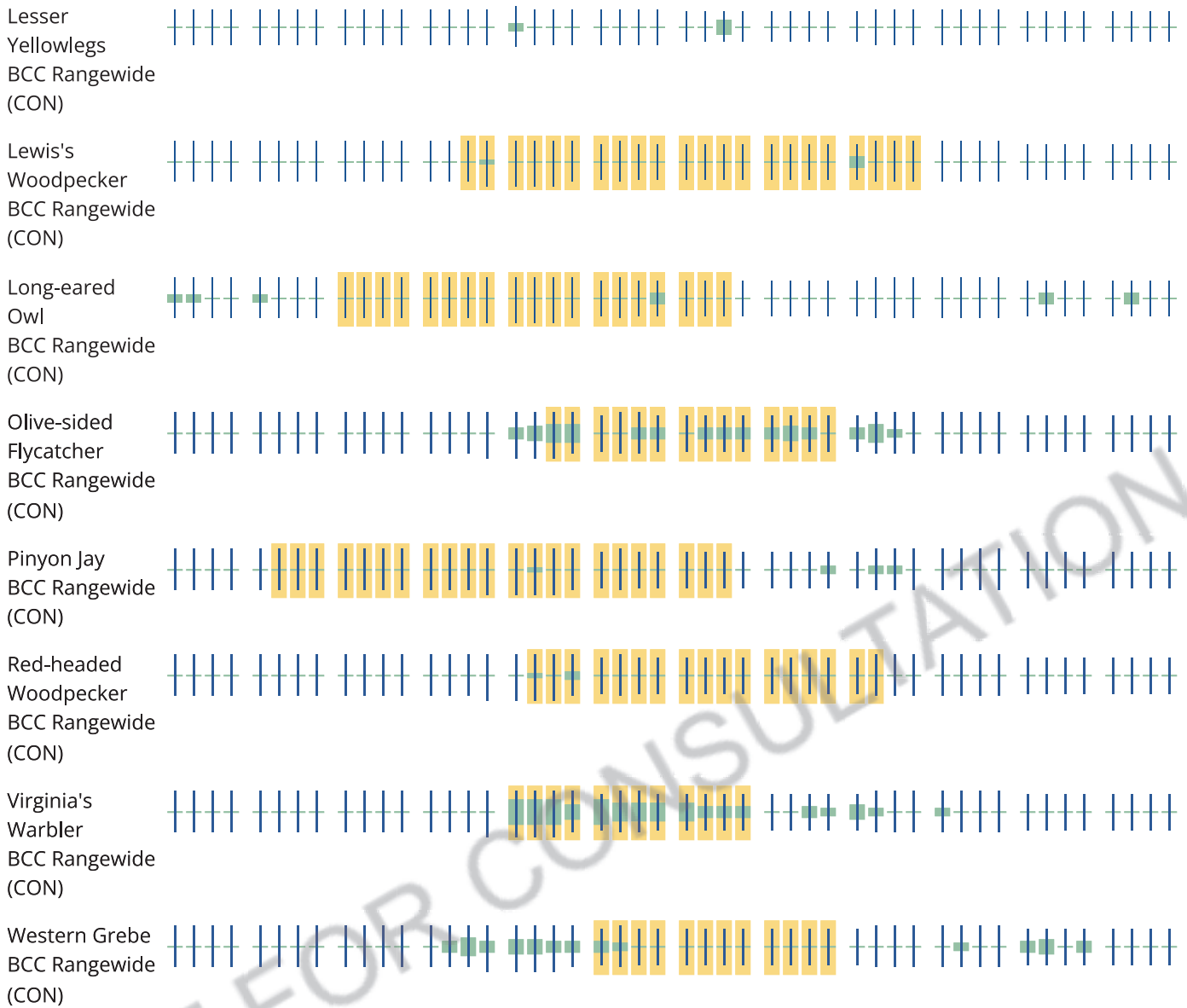
To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

No Data (–)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.



Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go to the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may query your location using the [RAIL Tool](#) and look at the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

Facilities

National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

There are no refuge lands at this location.

Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Wetland information is not available at this time

This can happen when the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) map service is unavailable, or for very large projects that intersect many wetland areas. Try again, or visit the [NWI map](#) to view wetlands at this location.

Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tubercid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

Certification

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANT APPLICATION



PROJECT DETAILS

Organization City of Boulder
 Project title Mount Sanitas Trail Projects

Match: Our entity is aware that LWCF is a 1:1 matching grant program and that match is available. Our entity is aware that failure to spend the minimum match amount listed in the project budget will reduce the amount of grant funds.

Reimbursement: Our entity is aware that LWCF uses a reimbursement model where grantees incur project costs before seeking reimbursement from CPW. Reimbursement requires submission of invoices, proof of payment and progress reports. Project costs (including match) must be incurred during the CPW contract period unless marked 'pre-award' on the project budget or a Waiver of Retroactivity applies.

Laws and regulations: Our entity will adhere to all applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations, as well as guidelines governing the LWCF program. This includes Build America Buy America (BABA).

LWCF boundary area: Properties receiving LWCF assistance must be maintained in perpetuity for public outdoor recreation. Our entity certifies that it shall record that the property has been dedicated to public outdoor recreation in perpetuity as per the LWCF Act on the real property title, prior to final reimbursement under this program.

Inspections: LWCF-assisted properties will be inspected at least once every five years after project completion by CPW and/or National Park Service (NPS) staff. If non-public recreation use is discovered, or is proposed on the property, our entity will work with State and/or NPS LWCF staff to determine and resolve any potential conversion issues.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have read and understood the criteria above. On behalf of the applicant entity, I certify to the best of my knowledge that the information in this application is true and correct.

Organization

Name City of Boulder
 Postal address PO Box 791
 City Boulder State CO ZIP Code 80306

Authorized Representative

Signature *JPR* Date 10/2/2023
 Name Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde Title City Manager
 Approved as to form:

Janet Michels

RESOLUTION 1340

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A COLORADO DIVISION OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE STATE TRAILS PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION BY THE CITY OF BOULDER OPEN SPACE AND MOUNTAIN PARKS DEPARTMENT TO FUND IMPROVEMENTS TO TRAILS IN THE VICINITY OF MOUNT SANITAS; AND SETTING FORTH RELATED DETAILS

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BOULDER, COLORADO, HEREBY

FINDS AND RECITES THAT:

A. City Council recognizes the health and conservation benefits of connecting residents and visitors to the natural world and encourages and supports projects that provide those benefits.

B. From 2006-2011 the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks Department working with the community developed the West Trail Study Area Plan (WTSA) that calls for investments in the city's trail system and related facilities including those in the vicinity of Mount Sanitas to improve the quality of the visitors' experience, the sustainability of trails and condition of ecological systems.

C. The Open Space Board of Trustees approved and recommended City Council's approval of the WTSA Plan on February 25, 2011. On March 30, 2011, City Council unanimously approved the WTSA Plan.

D. The city has the opportunity to apply for a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant in the amount of up to \$1,250,000, administered by the Colorado State Recreational Trails Grant Program which is a partnership of Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and the National Park Service.

E. This grant funding, if awarded, would help fund implementation of the WSTA Plan by taking the following actions identified in the plan: 1) Providing access by constructing and designating trails to Quarries 1, 2, and 3; 2) Constructing and designating a trail from Linden Drive and Fourth St to the Goat Trail; and 3) Clean up trails and restore historical views from the Mt. Sanitas summit. The funding would also 4) Mitigate the impacts from and better manage bouldering—a management priority consistent with the guidance in the WTSA plan added to OSMP's work program after the plan's completion.

F. The grant application requires a resolution from the applicant's governing body that specifies that the applicant will contribute at least half of all project costs, maintain the site and any facilities for their reasonable life expectancy and dedicate the land for public recreation in perpetuity.

G. Article XII, Section 171(a) of the City of Boulder Charter authorizes the city to acquire, supervise, administer, preserve, and maintain all open space land.

H. Article XII of the City of Boulder Charter limits the use of open space funds to certain purposes including open space and passive recreation and outlines a comprehensive and public disposal process prior to conveyance of any open space land interest.

I. It has been the historic practice of the city to retain properties acquired as open space, and to approve a disposal of open space land only where the city could still maintain control of the land or where the property is found to no longer satisfy an open space purpose set forth in Article XII, Sec. 176 of the City of Boulder charter.

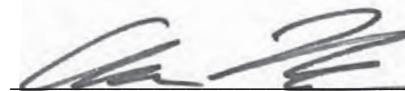
NOW THEREFORE, BASED ON THE FINDINGS MADE IN THIS RESOLUTION, ABOVE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BOULDER, COLORADO, THAT:

1. The City Council supports the application by the Open Space and Mountain Parks Department, unanimously supported by the Open Space Board of Trustees, for a grant provided by the Colorado State Recreational Trails Program administered by Colorado Parks & Wildlife and authorizes the city manager to apply for such grant.

2. If the Colorado State Recreational Trails Grant is awarded to the city, City Council supports completion of the project and long-term maintenance, recognizing that this support is subject to annual appropriation.

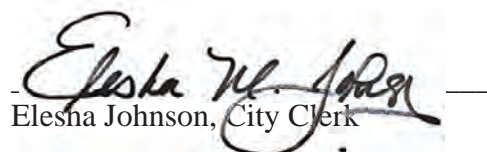
3. If the Colorado State Recreational Trails Grant is awarded to the city, City Council supports the dedication of the affected land to public recreation in perpetuity, recognizing that all open space acquisitions, management, and disposal are subject to the City of Boulder home rule Charter.

ADOPTED this 19th day of October 2023.



Aaron Brockett, Mayor

Attest:



Elesha Johnson, City Clerk



Colorado Parks and Wildlife
6060 Broadway
Denver, Colorado 80216

October 1, 2023

RE: Denver Parks and Recreation's Bear Creek Regional Trail Project

RE: Mount Sanitas Trail Project

Dear Evaluation Team:

The Boulder Open Space Conservancy (BOSC) supports the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) in their application for an LWCF grant funding for the Mount Sanitas Trail Project Program.

BOSC is a non-profit organization that partners with the OSMP department to promote and enhance the ecological resilience of our public lands to climate change through sponsorship of conservation projects and community education, for the benefit of all current and future generations of Boulder citizens and visitors. BOSC was established in 2017 through a public-private partnership with OSMP department to leverage public resources with private philanthropy to fulfill its mission.

The Mount Sanitas area is one of the crown jewels of Boulder's open space system. Accessible by foot from downtown and adjacent neighborhoods, it provides a close place to connect with nature's beauty and calm. The many miles of trail attract and keep people's interest with a diversity of experiences. Ranging from the gently-sloped Sanitas Valley Trail where friends can stroll side-by-side and chat; to the steeper approaches to the summit from the north and south.

The trail system was built decades ago, before modern approaches to trail design and construction. The nearly 400,000 visits per year speaks to the popularity of this place, but also to the need for some help. Open Space and Mountain Parks staff worked with the community back in 2010-2011 to identify what most needed to be done to improve the trails and experience in this area. After a catastrophic flood and global pandemic, OSMP has started to address the Mount Sanitas area.

BOSC is in the midst of a capital fundraising campaign that launched in 2021 to support OSMP's efforts to improve the Mount Sanitas Trail. Funds BOSC raised last year supported the costs of a helicopter day in October that hauled 75 tons of stone to the Mount Sanitas Trail in just a couple hours. The stone was staged to be used next year to build stone steps and realign the popular trail. The BOSC helicopter helped save thousands of hours of staff and volunteer time that would take years to achieve.

We are in full support of OSMP's application and committed to continuing our strong partnership to improve the trails and experience at one of Boulder's most important and beloved destinations.

Sincerely,

Alyson Duffey, Director of Development, Boulder Open Space Conservancy

Diane Murphy, Chair – Board of Trustees, Boulder Open Space Conservancy



Kate Beezley
Boulder Climbing Community
1206 Euclid Ave, Suite 2
Boulder, CO 80302

Dear Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Grant Committee:

Last weekend I hiked a fourteener, and someone on the summit said, "I thought hiking Sanitas once would have been preparation enough." Mount Sanitas is a central part of the City of Boulder's Open Space & Mountain Parks (OSMP) landscape and a treasure for the entire Front Range, even for climbers; it houses a fair amount of climbing-bouldering resources.

The Boulder Climbing Community(BCC) supports OSMP's Trail Department request for funding through the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Program to help fund improvements to the Mount Sanitas Area. Most of these were identified specifically in the West Trail Study Area Plan and have broad community support.

The proposal has three main objectives:

- 1) Designating and constructing trails.
 - a. Build a trail connecting Linden Drive with the Mount Sanitas Trail System.
 - b. Build a trail providing access to the sandstone quarries on the east flank of Mount Sanitas.
 - c. Close and restore undesignated trails in these areas.
- 2) Repair in place 2,000 feet of trail on the approach to the summit of Mt. Sanitas. (1000' each on East Ridge and Mt. Sanitas trail)
- 3) Make improvements to bouldering areas along the Mt Sanitas Trail to improve access And ecological conditions.

These improvements are much needed for an extremely popular trail, and the third objective positively impacts climbers, a signature Boulder recreation group. These goals are well within the skill set of the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks a partner we have worked closely with over the past 10 years.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kate Beezley", written in a cursive style.

Kate Beezley
Executive Director, Boulder Climbing Community



Colorado Parks and Wildlife
6060 Broadway
Denver, Colorado 80216

September 28, 2023

RE: Denver Parks and Recreation's Bear Creek Regional Trail Project

RE: Mount Sanitas Trail Project

Dear Evaluation Team:

REI supports the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) in their application for an LWCF grant funding for the Mount Sanitas Trail Project Program.

The Mount Sanitas area is one of the crown jewels of Boulder's open space system. Accessible by foot from downtown and adjacent neighborhoods, it provides a close place to connect with nature's beauty and calm. The many miles of trail attract and keep people's interest with a diversity of experiences. Ranging from the gently-sloped Sanitas Valley Trail where friends can stroll side-by-side and chat; to the steeper approaches to the summit from the north and south.

The trail system was built decades ago, before modern approaches to trail design and construction. The nearly 400,000 visits per year speaks to the popularity of this place, but also to the need for some help. Open Space and Mountain Parks staff worked with the community back in 2010-2011 to identify what most needed to be done to improve the trails and experience in this area. After a catastrophic flood and global pandemic, OSMP has started to address the Mt. Sanitas area.

- 1) *Designating and construction trails/Restoring Undesignated Trails*
 - a. *Build a trail connecting Linden Dr. with the Mount Sanitas Trail System.*
 - b. *Build a trail providing access to the sandstone quarries on the east flank of Mount Sanitas.*
 - c. *Close and restore undesignated trails in these areas.*
- 2) *Repair in place 2,000 feet of trail on the approach to the summit of Mount Sanitas. (1000' each on East Ridge and Mount Sanitas trail)*
- 3) *Make improvements to boulder areas along the Mount Sanitas Trail to improve access and improve ecological conditions*

We are in full support of OSMP's application and committed to continuing our strong partnership to improve the trails and experience at one of Boulder's most important and beloved destinations.

Sincerely,

Josh Millward – Regional Manager, Local Marketing - REI



ATTN:
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
6060 Broadway
Denver, Colorado 80216

September 25th, 2023
RE: Denver Parks and Recreation's Bear Creek Regional Trail Project
RE: Mount Sanitas Trail Project

Dear Evaluation Team:

Sanitas Brewing Company supports the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) in their application for an LWCF grant funding for the Mount Sanitas Trail Project Program.

We work closely with City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) through our craft beer partnership, Everyday Mountain Pilsner. Everyday Mountain Pilsner was brewed specifically to support restoration projects on Mount Sanitas. It's a year-round beer for the Sanitas Brewing Co. portfolio and has quickly become a favorite both internally with our team, among our customers and within the craft beer markets we serve across Colorado. A percentage of proceeds from this beer is donated directly to the organization. We look forward to continuing this partnership for years to come and would love to see the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife join us in supporting the great work OSMP does for Mount Sanitas.

The Mount Sanitas area is one of the crown jewels of Boulder's open space system. Accessible by foot from downtown and adjacent neighborhoods, it provides a close place to connect with nature's beauty and calm. The many miles of trail attract and keep people's interest with a diversity of experiences. Ranging from the gently-sloped Sanitas Valley Trail where friends can stroll side-by-side and chat; to the steeper approaches to the summit from the north and south.

The trail system was built decades ago, before modern approaches to trail design and construction. The nearly 400,000 visits per year speaks to the popularity of this place, but also to the need for some help. Open Space and Mountain Parks staff worked with the community back in 2010-2011 to identify what most needed to be done to improve the trails and experience in this area. After a catastrophic flood and global pandemic, OSMP has started to address the Mt. Sanitas area.

The Sanitas Brewing Company team would like to extend our support to see restoration to undesignated trails and the repair of the approach to the summit of Mount Sanitas. These trails mean a lot to not only our community, but the community of adventure-seekers that explore

Mount Sanitas year-round.

We are in full support of OSMP's application and committed to continuing our strong partnership to improve the trails and experience at one of Boulder's most important and beloved destinations.

Sincerely,

Sanitas Brewing Company

Co-Founder/CEO, Michael Memsic

Michael Memsic



September 26, 2023

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
6060 Broadway
Denver, Colorado 80216

RE: Mount Sanitas Trail Project

Dear Evaluation Team:

Thorne Nature Experience supports the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) in their application for an LWCF grant funding for the Mount Sanitas Trail Project Program.

Thorne has operated youth environmental education programming in Boulder since 1957 and was recently named the top regional environmental education center in the country. Each summer, the Mount Sanitas site is utilized by Thorne for summer camp programming. One in four of the campers are from low-income families and attend camp for free. The improvements planned by Boulder County will benefit our campers by providing a safer and more enjoyable camp experience, thereby positively impacting our mission to build the next generation of earth stewards.

The Mount Sanitas area is one of the crown jewels of Boulder's open space system. Accessible by foot from downtown and adjacent neighborhoods, it provides a close in place to connect with nature's beauty and calm. The many miles of trail attract and keep people's interest with a diversity of experiences. Ranging from the gently-sloped Sanitas Valley Trail where friends can stroll side-by-side and chat; to the steeper approaches to the summit from the north and south.

The trail system was built decades ago, before modern approaches to trail design and construction. The nearly 400,000 visits per year speaks to the popularity of this place, but also to the need for some help. Open Space and Mountain Parks staff worked with the community back in 2010-2011 to identify what most needed to be done to improve the trails and experience in this area. After a catastrophic flood and global pandemic, OSMP has started to address the Mt. Sanitas area.

The proposed trail connection to Linden Drive will reduce overcrowding at the Mapleton trailhead where the majority of Thorne's activities r younger campers take place. Additionally, improvement

to the summit trail will improve safety for our older campers who often challenge themselves to hike to the summit of Mount Sanitas.

We are in full support of OSMP's application and committed to continuing our strong partnership to improve the trails and experience at one of Boulder's most important and beloved destinations.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at keith@thornenature.org or 303.378.6549 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Keith Desrosiers
Executive Director