

Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area

Citizen Task Force (CTF)

Thursday, January 4, 2024 • 10:00a - 12:00p

AHRA Visitor Center @ 307 W Sackett Ave, Salida • Zoom: ahra.mobi/ctf

Anglers: Braden Baker, Larry Payne • Commercial Permittees: Trey Shelton, Bob Hamel

Private Boaters: Leslie Tyson, Dede de Percin • Environmental Interests: Logan Myers, Christina King

Water Users: Ed Perko, Lisa Walters • Government Organizations: Greg Felt, Dwayne McFall

River Front Property Owners: Gail Tubbs, Drew Elder • Outdoor Recreation/Other: Mike Sugaski, Mark Zinkula

NOTES

Present: Braden Baker, Larry Payne, Trey Shelton, Bob Hamel, Leslie Tyson, Dede de Percin, Logan Myers, Christina King, Ed Perko, Lisa Walters, Greg Felt, Gail Tubbs, Dwayne McFall, Lisa Walters

In attendance: Tom Waters, Corrine Servis, Glenn Cottone, John Kreski, Jennifer Crawford, Madi Mares, Jess King (AHRA), Sean Shepherd (Area 13), Patrick Mercer (USFS Leadville), PT Wood, Mike Holmberg, Hannah Harn (Chaffee County Times), Diesel Post (City of Salida)

1. Welcome & Introductions

Bob Hamel, CTF Chair

2. Public Attendees and CTF Members Roundtable

5 minutes/person

- Once a pit toilet is installed at Elephant Rock, will the site become a fee site? We have not discussed fee'ing this site to date, but Tom will keep the group updated as that project progresses.

3. AHRA Park Manager Updates

Tom Waters, AHRA Park Manager

- Staff Intro Jessica King
 - Jessica introduced herself as AHRA's new Park Manager II. She started this week, 01/02/24.
- River Safety and Etiquette at AHRA Updates
 - AHRA is going through an update on this brochure to include the removal of Lowhead Dam. If you have any suggested updates, please email the AHRA.
- Black Hills
 - The City of Canon City is actively working to acquire funding to continue the planning process and potential purchase of property for the Black Hills project.
- Meeting Reschedule (February/March)
 - March 7 meeting now March 28. The February meeting has been canceled due to scheduling conflicts.
- Fred Rasmussen Award Nominations
 - The nomination period for the Fred Rasmussen Award will remain open through January 12. Two nominations have been received to date. Nominations may be sent to [Tom](#). A voting poll (Google form) with nominees will be sent out after this date.
- Granite Bridge Update

- The new bridge will be set in May and should be minimally disruptive. A coffer dam has been set.

4. AHRA Operations Manager Update

Corrine Servis, Operations Manager

- Parkdale
 - The Parkdale project scope includes hardening the existing boat ramp to alleviate safety and erosion issues. A permit request was submitted on December 8th to the Army Corps of Engineers. Once AHRA hears from the new Corps contact and provides more information to them, the project will go out to bid.

5. AHRA Rationing and Permit Updates

John Kreski, AHRA Rationing & Permits

- 2023 Commercial Use Reports
 - John presented the final 2023 Commercial Use Reports. Boating reports are complete and available on the [AHRA River Outfitters webpage](#). Walk & Wade and Float Fishing Reports will be complete and posted soon.
- Private Boater Webpage Update
 - John presented updated language on the [Private Boater webpage](#). Attendees submitted feedback to John, which will be implemented and made live following the meeting.

6. Area 13 Updates

Sean Shepherd, Area Wildlife Manager

- State Wildlife Areas (SWAs) / Easements, Private Property Trespass
 - Sean explained the purpose of State Wildlife Areas (SWAs), which can be found in the [SWA FAQ document](#).
 - The Salida Lowhead Dam Project, Phase II, will include habitat improvements for aquatic species, pending capital funds request approval. CPW (Area 13) is planning to meet with a consultant come September 2024 to do “soft” work on river-right from approximately the previous lowhead dam site to the Mount Shavano fish hatchery.
 - Sean presented a slideshow regarding the [Big Bend SWA](#). In regard to the question of whether boating access is permitted within the Big Bend SWA: The governing language is not clear on whether boating access is allowed, but it is clear that the site is being managed for fishing access. Pedestrian access to the site by boat for the purpose of fishing is therefore permitted, but access by boat for purposes other than fishing is not permitted. Commercial fishing is permitted within the site, so long as the commercial company has an approved fishing agreement with the AHRA -AND- a permit from Area 13 for use of the Big Bend SWA site.

7. City of Salida Updates

Diesel Post, Salida Parks & Rec Director

- Scout Wave Modification Update
 - Diesel presented an overview of the City of Salida’s plan for Scout Wave 3.0 improvements. The goals for this update are that the feature is 100% passable at all water levels, fish passage is improved and becomes a boat chute at higher water, re-vegetation, boat ramp eddy improvement, and trail work. CPW biologists have been invited to be

present during construction to consult on fish passage. Updated plans are public and are available on the [City Council webpage](#). The contractor must be out of water by mid-March.

8. Patrick Mercer @ Leadville Ranger District

- Potential for expansion of camping at Numbers Recreation Site is contingent upon the Dispersed Camping Mgmt Plan study.

9. Roundtable

(All)