

Appendix E. Summary of Feedback Process and Public Comment

Throughout the development of Planning Trails with Wildlife in Mind, the land manager Task Force sought input and feedback from the public and a variety of stakeholders. In brief, this included:

1. Feb-June 2020 – Input from conservation and recreation advisory group regarding what direction the document should take, pitfalls to avoid, and structural considerations;
2. October 2020 – First draft feedback from conservation and recreation advisory group and technical advisory team via online survey;
3. January 2021 – Second draft feedback from conservation and recreation advisory group, technical advisory team, and colleagues of Task Force members via online survey;
4. February 2021 – Second draft feedback from community leaders that represent Colorado's diversity via focus groups and structured interviews;
5. March-April 2021 – Third draft feedback during public comment period via online survey.

Additional detail is provided below:

Item 1: Early on in the process we received extensive input and engagement from conservation and recreation groups. These included six advisory group discussions, Partners in the Outdoors conference session, presentations to the Sportsperson's Roundtable and Southern Rockies Conservation Alliance, 1 on 1 conversations and interviews, and individual emails provided. These engagements were summarized at length and provided to the initial rough draft writing team and the Task Force for consideration about how to approach the document. This early input helped determine which critical topics needed to be addressed during future discussions and subsequently to be included throughout this document.

Items 2 and 3: The online surveys used during Items 2 and 3 received 32 and 36 responses, respectively, which were organized by theme and presented to the Task Force for a decision on how to engage with each piece of feedback. As part of the survey, participants were able to score the document overall. The October draft received a score of 3.5 out of 5 and the January draft received a score of 4.3 out of 5.

Item 4: Focus groups and interviews were conducted with five community leaders that represent Colorado's diversity. Their feedback was similarly presented to the Task Force for a decision, and specific suggestions were incorporated throughout the document to both improve its readability and strengthen the framework for meaningful community engagement and participation.

Item 5: The public comment period for Planning Trails with Wildlife in Mind was open for 30 days, from mid-March to mid-April, and garnered 34 responses to the online survey and multiple letters from stakeholders throughout the state. As with the first rounds of feedback, responses during the public comment were organized first by chapter and second by theme, and recommendations were provided to the Task Force about how to address the different recommendations and requests.

These processes were invaluable for identifying missed opportunities, refining and strengthening the document's purpose, clarifying language, and affirming the importance and usefulness of the document. For a full summary of the public comment with responses from the Task Force, please visit this [link](#).

Representatives from these groups provided feedback during advisory meetings and surveys:

Feedback was sought from the people and organizations in the list below. While this does not necessarily indicate their support or endorsement, we extend our appreciation for their time.

- Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
- City of Trinidad Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
- Colorado Fourteeners Initiative
- Colorado High-Country Education Treks
- Colorado Mountain Bike Association
- Colorado Mountain Club
- Colorado Natural Heritage Program
- Colorado Plateau Mountain Bike Trail Association
- Colorado Snowmobile Association
- Colorado Youth Corps Association
- Environmental Learning for Kids
- Envision Chaffee County
- ERO Resources
- Great Old Broads for Wilderness
- Great Outdoors Colorado
- Gunnison Trails
- Headwaters Trails Alliance
- International Mountain Bicycling Association
- Keep it Colorado
- Metro Denver Nature Alliance
- Mile High Youth Corps
- National Forest Foundation
- Nature Kids/Jóvenes de la Naturaleza
- Outdoor Recreation Industry Office
- Rising Routes
- Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association
- Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- Rocky Mountain Field Institute"
- Rocky Mountain Recreation Initiative
- San Luis Valley Great Outdoors
- Southwest Conservation Corps
- Sportsperson's Roundtable
- State Trails Committee
- The Wilderness Society
- Thunder Mountain Wheelers
- Trails Preservation Alliance
- Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado
- Wild Connections
- Wildlands Restoration Volunteers