



Friends Interested
FIDOS
 Dogs and Open Space

July 2014 Summary

Thankfully a quiet month. There was the issue of the dog closures at Boulder Reservoir (the Rez) which we checked and turned out to be a mistakenly placed sign. Thanks to JohnS who



flagged the problem and led the resolution and recognition to city staff for a quick correction!

Then there is the issue of the "Beast of Coot Lake" which we need some photographic evidence of (see below).

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The "Beast of Coot Lake"

A very credible FIDOS member has reported seeing an otter in Coot Lake. [This would be huge as they have only recently been spotted in Boulder Creek.](#) However, its been suggested that this may just be a simple mink. Apparently not such a big deal.

SO!!

If you happen to have a phone camera and see something interesting in Coot Lake send us a pic and we'll pass it along to the experts to see if its something to get excited about. Sadly, we don't have a budget for prizes, but your name and all credit goes with the pic.

Mosquitoes - Be Aware

Summertime - Mosquito Time. The official numbers that go along with our discomfort should be at:

<http://www.bouldercounty.org/env/water/pages/wnvmonitoring.aspx>

but they don't seem to be updating the info!!

SaddleRock Trail Ladder

Saddlerock Trail is important to the V&S community. It's a long remote trail in the hills on the way to the top of Green Mountain and was fiercely contested during the West TSA.

During the 2013 flood it suffered extensive damage at the lower approaches and a ladder has been installed on one stretch. The photo at the trail head gives the impression its pretty steep, but the attached picture is a more accurate representation.

The dog, who is elderly and arthritic had no trouble getting up the slope, and a dachshund easily made it up before us. If the dog can get to the bottom of the ladder it can probably get up the slope (**but there is little summer water on this trail**).



The published access to Saddlerock is via Gregory Canyon Trail Head which is closed indefinitely as they work on Flagstaff Road repair. The alternative V&S access is via the Amphitheater Trail starting at the Baseline Trail.

Dogs and turtles

Snapper turtles are hauling out of the ponds to lay eggs at this time of year and there is a chance your pup will come across one. Its a really, "***really**" good idea to keep the dog away from these. While they are very passive they have a very nasty bite and tend to hold on.

Couple of years ago we saw a dog with a turtle locked onto its nose and the more the dog shook its head the more pain was inflicted. These turtles don't let go.



Around Town

[The Humane Society's Doggie Dash at the Rez, 6th September](#)

Commercial Supporters - PC's Pantry

We would like to thank [PC's Pantry](#) and their customers at 2828 30th St, Boulder, for helping FIDOS with the prior Green Tag petition. The petition and the support of PC's Pantry were very helpful in informing and uniting dog guardians to help overturn some of OSMP's most extreme Green Tag proposals.

Helping FIDOS

Its surprising how much V&S activity is going on the Boulder and the County which FIDOS members try to cover.

If you'd like to help out, but cant make long term commitments, we are pulling together a list of volunteer activities which simply involve turning up. For example, organizing a social event or attending an OSBT or Council Meeting and reporting back. (These meetings may seem dry, but when you have some skin in the game, such as preserving V&S access, they can be fascinating).

Let FIDOS know if you are interested in these ad-hoc activities and we'll put you on the mailing list.



FIDOS Meetings, Membership and Feedback

Members of FIDOS include a wide cross section of the Boulder Community, the common factor being an interest in enjoying and protecting the Open Space, accompanied by our dogs. Many supporters are in fact "between dogs", but value meeting others with their dogs on the trail.

In order to retain and expand this access we each need to be "good stewards" of the lands around us and keep an eye on what is happening on the trails as well as in the meeting rooms.

Let us know if you have any ideas or observations on the direction of FIDOS. New perspectives on V&S are always valuable in developing our arguments.

Starting in July 2014, FIDOS board meetings will take place in the [Alfalfa's Community room](#) on the 2nd Monday of each month. The agenda is always published in advance to make sure we hit all the issues. If anyone would like to address the group let us know in

advance (mail here) and we'll make time in the schedule.

Sincerely,

[Newsletter Team](#)

Friends Interested in Dogs and Open Space

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