



Our actions on the trails has consequences for the whole dog community.

October 2014 Summary

Some general interest items this month, need to keep an eye on events at Coot as the planning process is still in progress and we don't want to be blindsided by last minute changes. OSMP is organizing a Guided Nature Hike for those interested. Leashed dogs are OK on this hike.

Tracking the progress of the Green Tag program. The report to the OSBT is attached to the newsletter and if you are interested in old fashioned radio programs there is a link to a BBC item on dogs and ground nesting birds which is worth a listen.

Coot and the Rez

Last month there was an Open House concerning the future of Coot and the Rez. A member of FIDOS attended and gave us a report on the events.

Suffice to say we need to keep an eye on what goes on up there.

If you see any unexpected signs or restrictions please let us know. Earlier in the summer there was a sign which banned dogs from the dam area but we established it was a mistake and it was removed.

We just need to be vigilant in protecting our remaining freedoms.

Recycling Trial in East Boulder

Visitors to Dry Creek and Bobolink Trails will have no doubt seen the

Friends Interested FIDOS Dogs and Open Space

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composting poop bags provided by the OSMP, and those with dogs will have tried to use them and be responsible owners.

Problem is, as we know, the bags seem to be hygroscopic in that they absorb moisture, which seems to glue the 2 halves of the bag together. If you have tried to open one of these bags on a damp day (of which we've had plenty this summer) you will have had problems. Its quite a challenge. Dry bags, on the other hand are easy to open.

We've talked to many dog walkers who have given up on these bags. We hope that OSMP can correct the reported problems.

OSMP Guided Nature Hike with dogs

Received from OSMP -

Guided Hike with your Dog - OSMP After the Floods
Fri. Oct. 10, 4 - 6 pm

Limit: 8 spaces, Reserve a space using the link:

<http://dogsford.eventbrite.com>

OSMP invites you and your dog to join a naturalist and explore changing landscapes after last September's flood. *"We will provide contemplative time to absorb the changes on the land, as well as a brief overview of these events from the perspective of natural geologic change. This is an easy hike. **This will be on a leash-only trail and dogs must remain on leash at all times.** The hike location will be given when you register".*

Green Tag Program

Status of the revised GT program reported to the August OSBT meeting, a link to the report is here

<https://www-static.bouldercolorado.gov/docs/14-0920-1-201409072145.pdf>

Its a long document but the key info is on AGENDA ITEM 3 PAGE 2. Apparently only 8% of the expected participants when the report was written (about 1/2 way through the program) had completed the class.

Going to be interesting to see what happens.

BBC Radio Program on Dogs and Ground Nesting Birds.

There is a 28 minute BBC discussion on "Dogs and Ground Nesting Birds" at

the link below. Much of it is predictable, it summarizes many of the opinions you will read in articles on the subject, but the conclusions starting at 22 minutes veer from the predictable script and are worth thinking about. Its obviously UK biased, but the ideas are international.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b04grm6g>

Yellow Dog

You may come across some dogs on the trails with a yellow ribbon tied to their collar, leash or harness (not to be confused with a poop bag).

What does it mean? Well, just like the yellow light when you're driving, it means to proceed with caution, slow down, prepare to stop. The dog is a "DINOS" or Dog In Need Of Space, whether the dog is recovering from surgery, in training, or just not into socializing with strangers.

Best to give these dogs some space. It would be a surprise to see them on a V&S trail but you never know.

More info on the [Yellow Dog Project](#) website.

Commercial Supporters

In North Boulder

[Alleysdogbowl](#)
4593 N. Broadway #A100
Boulder, CO 80304

The store sponsors monthly adoption events, check the web site for details.

In addition, FIDOS supporters with the password "Zuzu sent me" will get 5% off their purchases through the rest of 2014! and the store will donate 2% of the purchase to FIDOS through the rest of 2014.

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.

FIDOS board meetings take place in the [Alfalfa's Community room](#) on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7pm. 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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