

# Friends Interested FIDOS

## Dogs and Open Space

### December 2014 Summary

This is the last newsletter of 2014 and there are few items of interest occurring this month.

The most important thing though is that **we would like to recognize everyone involved with FIDOS for your efforts to keep Boulder's Open Space accessible to visitors with our canine companions.** This may have been by writing letters, attending meetings, reporting incidents on the trail, cleaning up trails, or just words of support.

There is a continuous pressure to increase restrictions on access to the Open Space which we can only resist by standing together, staying informed and working to reach reasonable compromise.

The board of FIDOS would like to thank everyone for your support in 2014 and wish you, your family and pups, all the best for 2015.

### Green Tag becomes Blue

The new BLUE tag program, which replaces the Green Tag, has been announced.

The official program site is at: <https://bouldercolorado.gov/osmp/voice-and-sight> and a status report OSMP presented to Council on Dec 2 2014 [at this link, starting at page 558](#): (its only a couple of pages long).

There has been some concern that in order to get a 2015 Dog License (necessary to get the BLUE Tag) a Rabies Inoculation is required, but some dogs cannot have rabies shots due to medical reasons or age.

We contacted the City Dog Licensing department with the question and received the following reply.

### Quick Links

[Green Tag becomes Blue](#)

[Joder and Buckingham properties Input needed](#)

[Rez N.Shore and Coot](#)

[Reporting dog incidents](#)

[Marshall Mesa](#)

[Around Town](#)

[Helping FIDOS](#)

[About FIDOS](#)

*".....if a dog cannot receive a rabies vaccination; Your vet will need to provide a letter stating that the dog is allergic to the vaccination and is therefore waived from receiving the vaccine. You will then be able to purchase both tags. You will simply upload the letter in the same manner as you would the rabies certificate".*

A similar policy is reported from the County Licensing Authority.

## Joder and Buckingham.

On the December 10th Boulder Open Space Board of Trustees (OSBT) will consider the future of the recently purchased Joder Property. This is situated to the west of Highway 36 to Lyons where Neva Road joins the Highway.

The Joder property currently has 8 miles of existing road and trail networks in reasonable condition (see map), which can be utilized for access. It represents a unique opportunity for new passive recreational activities among recent OSMP property purchases.

**FIDOS proposes that with the existing network of roads and trails, a perimeter trail on the property be designated as Voice & Sight on corridor for dog access.**



The property has a long history of recreational use as a working horse ranch. Voice & Sight on corridor access would be consistent with this passive recreational history. In addition, Voice & Sight access would allow equestrians to ride, along with their dogs. The Boulder County Horse Association supports a perimeter trail with Voice & Sight on corridor access for dogs.

If you would like to finally see a new Voice & Sight trail, write to the OSBT members at

[OSBT-Web@bouldercolorado.gov](mailto:OSBT-Web@bouldercolorado.gov)

to request Voice and Sight access for dogs at Joder Ranch. Better yet, attend and speak at the OSBT meeting on Dec 10th at City Council Chambers, 1777 Broadway. The meeting starts at 6 PM.

The Visitor Master Plan (VMP) states two Guiding Principles in Chapter 3 that support Voice & Sight on corridor access for dogs on the Joder property:

1) **Balance Competing Uses -**

"Seek to balance competing community needs and desires and to be fair in allocating recreational use opportunities."

FIDOS feels that a single perimeter Voice & Sight on corridor trail on the Joder property represents a fair balance of use among hikers, equestrians, trail runners, and cyclists. Voice & Sight access on OSMP lands has been steadily eroding, while the area population has been rapidly increasing. There is a strong need for some additional Voice & Sight trails in the area to relieve some pressure on Voice & Sight trails.

2) **Least Restrictive Management Approach -**

"Use the least restrictive means possible to achieve management goals. More restrictive solutions will be incrementally implemented if less restrictive solutions are ineffective."

A single perimeter trail designated as Voice & Sight on corridor, in an area with a long history of passive recreational use, represents this least restrictive management approach.

FIDOS feels that the designation of a single Voice & Sight perimeter trail at Joder Ranch is appropriate and represents fairness toward the dog guardian community, balanced with all user groups. We believe this proposal would minimize any environmental impacts while reflecting the long-sought desires of passive recreationists to continue to enjoy and appreciate the heritage and natural resources of this historic ranch.

## North Shore Boulder Reservoir/Coot Lake

A presentation on the Boulder Reservoir Site Management Plan, to be given by Boulder Parks & Recreation staff, is tentatively scheduled for the December 15th Parks & Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) meeting.

You can visit the PRAB website <https://bouldercolorado.gov/parks-rec/advisory-board> to stay informed of the final meeting agenda and the location of the meeting, both TBA.

## Reporting V&S Incidents in the Open Space

An incident occurred in November in which a leashed dog got away from its owner and attacked dogs under V&S Control in the area. Dog owners in the area called the OSMP but by the time rangers arrived the owner and the dogs had left, though the car number plate was passed to the ranger who followed it up.

The person could be ticketed as per the "Aggressive Animal Prohibited" code, but OSMP rangers do not have the authority to ban this person or their dog from Open Space (its believed to be a repeat "offence"). If there are multiple reports or tickets for this person, it would be up to the Municipal Judge's discretion to take further action.

It is unclear as to whether or not this aggressive dog even has a Green Tag. It is FIDOS' hope that these potential "dog at large" and "aggressive animal" violations are not counted against responsible Green Tag dog guardians.

If you encounter an aggressive dog on Open Space and there is ranger involvement, let FIDOS know so we can keep track to make sure that responsible dog guardians are not impacted by those who are less responsible.

## Somethings different at Marshall Mesa

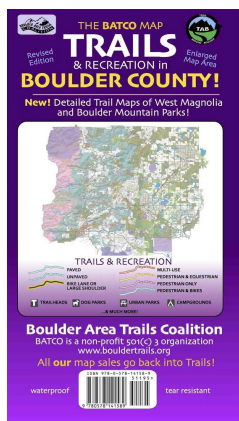
Many people have been discouraged from visiting Marshall Mesa with their V&S dogs over the past few years due to the large number of cyclists on the narrow trails on the hill.

It seems that a new program may be in place from the bike community aimed at alerting their members to the fact that they are sharing the trails with people and their dogs and to be cautious, see the new signage (pic to the right).

This is a welcome initiative and we hope that people with their V&S dogs will be encouraged to return to Marshall Mesa and that we can all share this beautiful and historic area.



## Around Town



[Boulder Area Trails Coalition](#) Correction to this post in the last newsletter. The new Boulder Areas Trails map is in fact \$11.95 from retailers in Boulder County or on line and not the \$12.50 we reported. Sorry for any confusion which may have been created.

[A full list is available at this link.](#)

## 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](#) at 7pm 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.

**NOTE:** Please do not use Alfalfas Parking lot to attend the meeting. The private Council Parking lot across the street can be used after 5pm in the evenings.

Sincerely,

[Newsletter Team](#)

Friends Interested in Dogs and Open Space

[Join our Mailing List!](#)

[Forward this email](#)



This email was sent to info@fidus.org by [newsletter@fidus.org](mailto:newsletter@fidus.org) |  
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



Friends Interested in Dogs and Open Space | PO Box 17181 | Boulder | CO | 80305