



Friends Interested
FIDOS
 Dogs and Open Space

November 2014 Summary

When we started putting the November newsletter together there seemed to be little going on this month. After checking around we found V&S access at risk and new trails on the drawing board which will be of particular interest to anyone visiting the North Boulder Open Space. There are a couple of trails reopened following the flood and of course the classes to be eligible to get a Green Tag in January which are filling up.

Details and links on all these items are below.

Support Dog Access at the Rez North Shore and Coot Lake Comments needed by November 26.

Boulder Parks & Recreation is in the process of finalizing the "Site Management Plan for the Boulder Reservoir".

There are potential impacts for dog swimming access at the North Shore, and even potential impacts for Voice & Sight access at the North Shore and Coot Lake. Please send your comments in support of continued Voice & Sight access for dogs, and continued swimming access for dogs, to

["difrankn@bouldercolorado.gov"](mailto:difrankn@bouldercolorado.gov)
 or 303-413-7293.

All comments are due by November 26th, next Wednesday.

Quick Links

[Rez Planning](#)

Comments needed
 by Nov 26

[Trails Openings:](#)

[North Boulder Trails](#)

Joder Property

[Dogs on Leash](#)

[Green Tag Reminder](#)

[Around Town](#)

[Business Supporters](#)

[Helping FIDOS](#)

[About FIDOS](#)

For the full details on the Boulder Reservoir Site Management Plan, visit: <https://bouldercolorado.gov/parks-rec/boulder-reservoir-site-management-plan>

Below are 6 key "Connectivity Management Actions," from the draft Site Management Plan, which could impact dog access.

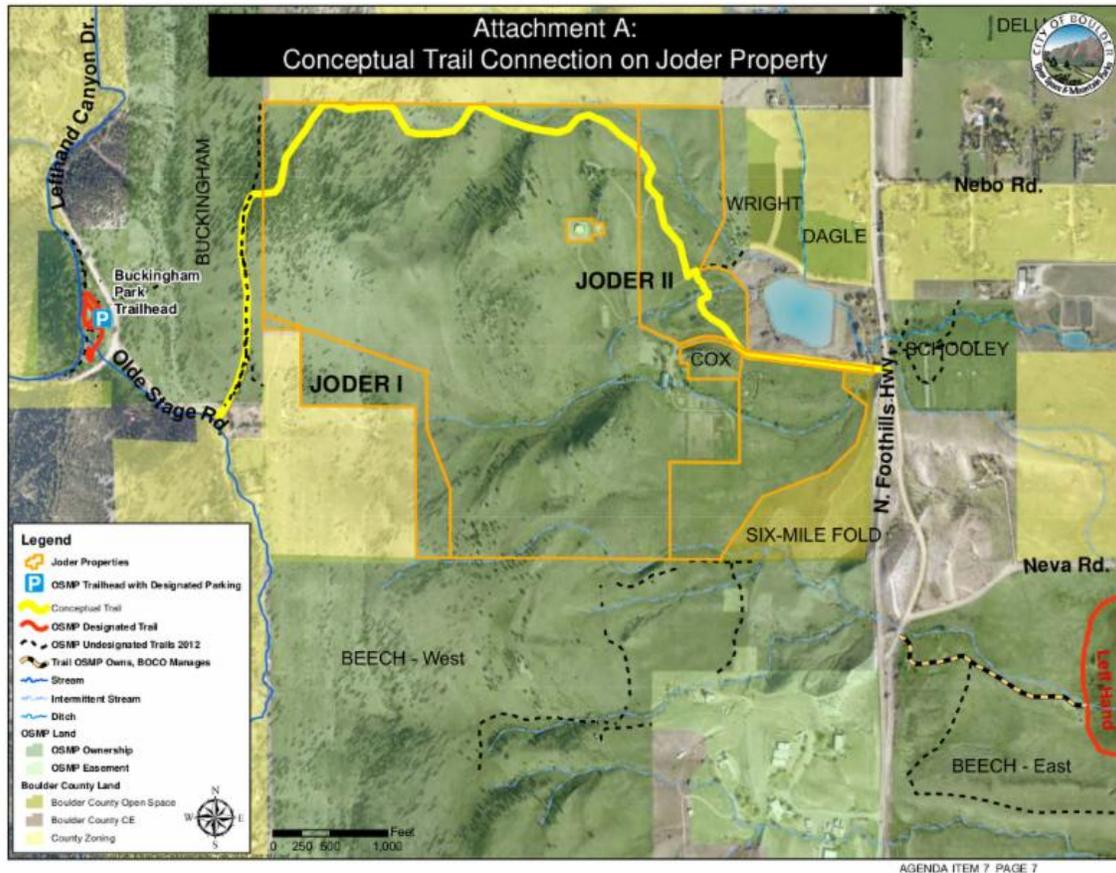
1. Follow biological consultant recommendations for annual data collection related to management goals for species populations and habitat quality.
(Will there be future studies that result in closures or loss of Voice & Sight access for dogs?)
2. Maintain existing closures and implement closures and restrictions if populations decline or habitat degradation is observed in annual monitoring.
(Will they reduce Voice & Sight access?)
3. Hire seasonal rangers and engage volunteer ambassadors to assist in education and enforcement of restrictions and ordinances related to environmental policy
4. Construct and maintain sustainable contour trails that prevent erosion.
(Will they route trails away from the N Shore?)
5. Monitor specific use and implement best practices to prevent infestation by dogs swimming.
(Will they prohibit or reduce areas where dogs can swim at the N Shore?)
6. Install interpretive signage, fencing, and information related to environmental qualities and habitat preservation

North Boulder Trails under discussion - Joder and Buckingham.

OSMP purchased the Joder Ranch property, located off of the North Foothills Highway, in 2013. This 300+ acre ranch currently has 8 miles of existing trails, although they have not yet been opened for public access. At the Nov 12th Open Space Board of Trustees (OSBT) meeting, the OSBT asked that OSMP return to the board with options for public access on the Joder property, using the existing roads and trails, before the North Trail Study Area (NTSA) process is undertaken. The North TSA could easily be years away.

The Joder property has a long history of recreational use as a working horse ranch. In keeping with the recreational nature of

the property, FIDOS has asked for some Voice & Sight access on the Joder Ranch trails. OSMP however, proposes to designate the Joder Ranch property with the most stringent designation, Habitat Conservation Area (HCA). This designation seems quite inconsistent with the property's history. FIDOS may be asking for your help in the near future to write letters in support of Voice & Sight Access on the Joder Property. This property presents a rare opportunity to finally have some additional Voice & Sight trails in our community.



Trail Openings in the past month

Two V&S trails re-opened this week, Community Ditch Connector under RT 93 at Marshall Mesa, (pic of the Opening ceremony from from Suzanne Webel below) and the Royal Arch Trail.



The Royal Arch Trail has been reconstructed by the climbing community following the floods. Both are beautiful trails showing aspects of the the Open Space at its best. If you are not familiar with these, both are well worth the trip, and bring your camera as well as the pup(s).

Green Tags!!

Please remember to attend one of the OSMP Voice & Sight meetings before the end of the year. This class is mandatory to retain future Voice & Sight privileges beginning January 1, 2015. These classes are filling up (especially for the daytime and weekend classes).

See the below link for more information and to sign up.

<https://bouldercolorado.gov/osmp/voice-and-sight>

Around Town

[Boulder Area Trails Coalition](#) (BATCO) has just (October 2014) released the new version of the Boulder County Trails Map which has the latest version of the V&S Trails on following the West TSA.



The map is waterproof and tear resistant and costs \$12.50 from all good retailers in Boulder County.

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

Dogs on leash

The commentary on leashed dogs and the Yellow Ribbon program last month provoked some discussion and we should really revisit the issue. Problem is that dog control and training is much too big a topic for these few lines.

Suffice to say, if someone has a leashed dog its leashed for a reason, it may be a runner and will disappear over the horizon or down the nearest prairie dog hole if allowed off leash or it may be reactive to other dogs, you just don't know. As dog are sociable and inquisitive there's a good chance your dog will be interesting in passing the time of day with the leashed dog and that could cause problems. Irrespective of the rules, its just polite to keep you dog away from a potentially bad situation.

This doesn't however mean that people with leashed dogs have the right of way, just as a V&S owner is responsible for the dog in all circumstances, owners with leashed dogs are responsible for their dogs in all circumstances.

In reality, walking with a dog on a leash is a skill that is taught by some trainers in the same way as "Come" or "Sit".

As with everything else in the world, we all need to be considerate to others and tolerant of those that aren't.

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

[Forward this email](#)



This email was sent to info@fidus.org by 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