

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

Friends Interested in Dogs and Open Space

May Newsletter

Greetings from FIDOS. We're experimenting with various tools to be able to keep in contact with members. As there is no major "public participation" issue this month (but there are a couple of quite interesting issues below, as well as items of general interest), it seemed like a good moment to try a new format.

Voice and Sight in Boulder County

There are only two trails in Boulder County which allow Voice and Sight (V&S) access, one up in Nederland, and the 0.7 mile trail around West Twin Lake in Boulder. The official line is that there is so little access because there is no public interest.

This is a real problem as it forces county residents to use the City Open Space, increasing traffic in the trails on which V&S is allowed. Also some of the surrounding cities take their dog access guidance from the County Rules, which limits access everywhere.

We now have an opportunity to get involved in this process.

The county is working on the [Lagerman-Imel-AHI Park Plan](#), a new Open Space north of Boulder .

FIDOS is petitioning to allow V&S access in this area and any supporting requests from FIDOS members, particularly from County Residents would be very useful.

[Problem is, the closing date for the public comment period is 1 MAY, \(Tuesday\).](#)

If you are interested in V&S access in the proposed Park you have the next 2 days to make a request on the [COMMENT FORM](#) of the above web site.

Sorry for the short notice.

"

Trail Around Boulder

The Boulder Area Trails Coalition (BATCO) has been working on a 36 mile, multiuse Trail Around Boulder. Most of the trail already exists but about 7 miles would need to be built. The Camera recently did a [story on it](#) when it was brought before Council.

FIDOS is involved in this as we need to ensure we retain our current access and hopefully gain access to the new trails. Any time there is change there is the risk of further restrictions.

To keep informed on this project keep an eye on the [Facebook Page](#) or the [Website](#) which is still under development.

V&S Metrics

Members of FIDOS have been going over the numbers OSMP keep on V&S compliance on the trails since 2006 and we will be letting you know of the results once we have sorted them into a digestible format.

There are some interesting details buried in the thousands of records in the spreadsheets and lessons to be noted.

In general, despite what we hear, compliance to the rules is pretty good. Actually I think compliance is excellent but don't want to be accused of "interpreting the results favourably" you can make up your own mind once we get the info out. However there are a couple of areas we could improve on.

The biggest sore point is picking poop. Too many people are seen bagging but leaving the bags on the trail, and those numbers can be really skewed. This is the message we continually hear, too many bags on the trail. Unfortunately there is no count of the people who pick up the bags, which we must be doing as the bags are not piling up.

The message is just pay attention to what's going on and be a responsible visitor in the Open Space. We learned from the Spring Brook Trail Study that the rangers can be hiding in the bushes to keep an eye on the visitors. If you see a staff member with a clipboard, be aware that they could be observing you and your dogs and taking notes.

FIDOS Membership and Feedback

Members of FIDOS include a wide cross section of the Boulder Community, the most common factor is an interest and protecting the 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 whats going on 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.

Friends Interested in Dogs and Open Space
PO Box 17181
Boulder, Colorado 80305



[Forward this email](#)



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



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