
ALTERNATIVE DAY USE AT BETASSO PRESERVE

A SURVEY OF PARK VISITORS



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2013

INTRODUCTION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the summer of 2013, Boulder County Parks and Open Space (BCPOS) senior tax workers and staff collected 458 surveys (response rate 86%) at Betasso Preserve to evaluate visitor opinion related to the alternative day use regulation. The alternative day use regulation allows mountain bike use at Betasso Preserve five days a week and prohibits biking on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

A sample of 458 surveys, at a 95% confidence level, provided a 4.6% margin of error.

The key findings of the survey include:

- ❖ The top three primary activities reported at Betasso Preserve were biking (51%), hiking (27%), and running (9%). On biking days (Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday) 69% of respondents were bikers and on non-biking days (Wednesday, Saturday) 51% of respondents were hikers.
- ❖ Most visitors support the alternative day use regulation (68% support, 19% do not support, 12% don't know). On non-biking days visitors more often reported support for the regulation (84% support, 4% do not support) than on biking days (62% support, 25% do not support).
- ❖ Between the top three primary activities reported, runners most often reported support for the regulation (90% support, 0% do not support), followed by hikers (84% support, 2% do not support), and then bikers (57% support, 32% do not support).
- ❖ The frequency of visitors that reported going to Betasso Preserve frequently (monthly, weekly, or more than once a week) was 53%. Likewise, 46% of visitors reported visiting infrequently (first time, once or twice in a year, or seasonally).
- ❖ Frequency of visitation appears to be correlated to visitor opinion for the alternative day use regulation. Although the majority of visitors support the regulation either way, visitors that go to the park less frequently such as once or twice in the past year more often support the regulation (80% support, 12% do not support) than visitors that go to the park very frequently such as more than once a week (60% support, 38% do not support).
- ❖ Listed in order of frequency, the most common reasons respondents gave in support of the alternative day use regulation are that it a) improves the visitor experience, b) provides a good compromise, c) reduces crowding, and d) relieves safety concerns. Additionally, some respondents in support of the regulation listed management suggestions such as a) utilizing the alternative day use regulation on other trails, b) needing more bike trails near Boulder, and c) adding bike-only days.
- ❖ Listed in order of frequency, the most common reasons respondents gave as to why they do not support the alternative day use regulation are that a) it restricts access and limits availability for mountain bikers, b) they want changes to bike management (such as adding bike-only days), c) there are not many bike trails near Boulder, and d) all visitors should share the trail.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this study was to evaluate park visitor opinions about the alternative day use regulation at Betasso Preserve two years following the construction and expansion of the trail system.

BACKGROUND

The alternate day use regulation at Betasso Preserve, which prohibits mountain bike use on Wednesday and Saturdays, was implemented in the fall of 2001.

The purpose of the regulation was to provide other users – especially those with young children, seniors, equestrians, naturalist-led programs, and others uncomfortable sharing the trail with mountain bikes – an opportunity to utilize the trail two days a week, while still providing mountain bikers five days a week to ride the Canyon Loop Trail.

A survey of visitors conducted in fall 2002 found 67% of the people interviewed supported the regulation, including many mountain bikers. Based in part on this data, the County Commissioners in 2003, voted to extend the alternate day use regulation.

In 2007, BCPOS began a planning process to update the Betasso Preserve Management Plan after the acquisition of the Benjamin property. The plan was adopted in 2009 by the County Commissioners and included new multiple use trails and the continuation of the alternative day use regulation.

In 2011 and 2012, approximately 4 miles of multi-use trail were added to Betasso Preserve with the opening of the Benjamin Loop and Fourmile Link trails. Following the opening of these trails, the Betasso Preserve Management plan required the re-evaluation of visitor support for the alternative day use regulation.

METHODS

DATA COLLECTION AND SAMPLING

In 2013, BCPOS collected 458 surveys between June 26 and September 8. The methodology and survey questions for the study were reviewed by Marcella Wells, a visitor studies consultant, prior to data collection.

Survey staff collected 458 completed surveys out of 533 attempted surveys. The overall response rate was 86%. A total of 45 hours were spent across 23 survey sessions. Staff collected about 10 surveys per hour.

Surveys were conducted by three Senior Property Tax Work-Off participants and one staff member. Each surveyor attended a formal training session and wore a BCPOS hat and/or nametag for identification.

Surveys were collected at three main park access points: the main Betasso trailhead, the Betasso Link trail, and the Fourmile Link trail. Every third visitor was asked to participate in the survey on busy days, whereas an attempt to survey all visitors was made on slower days.

Survey sessions were two hours long, conducted in the morning (8:00am to 11:59am), afternoon (12:00pm to 3:59pm), and evening (4:00pm to 7:59pm). Survey collection was attempted during all three time-periods on weekdays and weekends, and during both biking days and non-biking days. The last two survey shifts scheduled were cancelled in mid-September due to extensive flooding and road closures in Boulder County. A total of nine survey shifts (39%) were held on non-biking days and 14 survey shifts (61%) were held on biking days.

Sample Size by Day	# Surveys Collected	Percentage (%)
Biking Days	334	73%
Non-Biking Days	124	27%
Total	458	100%

Accurate representation of the visitation patterns at the different park entrances required the collection of larger samples at the main Betasso trailhead and smaller samples at the Betasso Link trail and Fourmile Link trail. Based on vehicle and pedestrian counter data, the goal was to collect 63% of the surveys from the main parking lot, 19% of the surveys at the Betasso Link trail, and 18% of the surveys from the Fourmile Link trail.

Sample size by park entrance	Attempted Sampling Fraction	Obtained Sampling Fraction
Main Betasso Trailhead	63%	58%
Betasso Link Trail	19%	22%
Fourmile Link Trail	18%	19%

The estimated number of park visitors at Betasso Preserve in 2012 was 42,300 people. This number was adjusted down from the estimated number of park visits based on visitors' self-reported frequency of visitation in the five-year study surveys.

An overall sample of 458 surveys, at a 95% confidence level, provided a 4.6% margin of error. Some results are segmented by biking and non-biking days. For biking days, a sample of 334 surveys, at a 95% confidence level, provided a 5.3% margin of error. For non-biking days, a sample of 124 surveys, at a 95% confidence level, provided an 8.8% margin of error.

Furthermore, results of some questions are segmented by activity or frequency of visitation. The sample sizes in these results will be smaller and therefore will have a higher margin of error.

RESULTS

VISITOR PRIMARY ACTIVITY

Question 1: Which one activity do you consider your primary activity today at this park?
(Check *ONLY one*)

Primary Activity ¹	Percent (%)
Bike	51.2%
Hike	26.5%
Run	9.4%
Walk the Dog	3.4%
Family Gathering	3%
Photography/Art	2.2%
Picnic	1.4%
Other ²	1.2%
View Wildlife	1.2%
Ride a Horse	.4%

The reported activities in this study are similar to the observed visitor activities recorded by volunteers and paid staff while on patrol at Betasso Preserve. In 2012, the top three activities at Betasso Preserve, based on 2,647 visitor observations, were biking (50%), hiking (34%), and running (8%).

Primary Activity ¹	Non-biking Days	
	Wednesday/Saturday	Biking Days
Bike	6.3% ³	69.3%
Hike	51%	16.6%
Run	13.3%	7.9%
Walk the Dog	7.7%	1.7%
Family Gathering	9.1%	.6%
Photography/Art	4.9%	1.1%
Picnic	2.1%	1.1%
Other	2.1%	.8%
View Wildlife	2.1%	.8%
Ride a Horse	1.4%	--

The most frequently reported primary activity on non-biking days was hiking (51% of respondents) and the most frequently reported primary activity on biking days was biking (69% of respondents).

¹ Occasionally, respondents reported more than one primary activity on the survey form. In that case, all activities that they selected were included in the analysis.

² The "other" responses recorded for primary activity include unicycling, attending a rehearsal dinner, catering, and bird watching.

³ Four of the nine respondents who reported biking as their primary activity on non-biking days were surveyed on the Betasso Link trail, where biking is allowed seven days a week. Additionally, three respondents selected other activities, in addition to biking, as their primary activity on the survey form.

FREQUENCY OF VISITS

Question 2: In the past year, about how often have you visited this park? (Check ONLY one)

Frequency of Visits	Percent (%)
First Time	26%
Once per Month	22%
Once per Week	19%
Once or Twice in a Year	14%
More than Once a Week	12%
About Once per Season	6%
Other	<1%
Blank	<1%

The frequency of visitors that reported going to Betasso Preserve frequently (monthly, weekly, or more than once a week) was 53%.

Likewise, 46% of visitors reported visiting infrequently (first time, once or twice in a year, or seasonally).

OPINION ON ALTERNATIVE DAY USE REGULATION

Question 3: The alternative day use regulation allows mountain bike use at Betasso Preserve five days a week and prohibits biking on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Do you support this regulation or not? (Check ONLY one)

Support Alternative Day Use	2013 Study Percent (%)	2002 Study Percent (%)
Yes	68.3%	67%
No	19%	24%
Don't know	12.4%	9%
Blank	.2%	--

In fall 2002, a survey of 183 visitors found that 67% of the people interviewed supported the alternative day use regulation. The current study, which was conducted with self-administered surveys rather than interviews, had similar results with the majority of respondents (68%) supporting the alternative day use regulation.

Support Alternative Day Use	Non-biking Days Wednesday/Saturday	Biking Days
Yes	84.3%	62.2%
No	3.9%	24.8%
Don't know	11.8%	12.7%
Blank	--	.3%

On non-biking days visitors more often reported support for the regulation (84% support, 4% do not support) than on biking days (62% support, 25% do not support).

Support Alternative Day Use⁴	Bike	Hike	Run
Yes	56.6%	84.3%	89.7%
No	32.4%	1.7%	0%
Don't know	10.7%	14%	10.3%
Blank	.3%	--	--

Between the top three primary activities reported, runners most often reported support for the regulation (90% support, 0% do not support), followed by hikers (84% support, 2% do not support), and then bikers (57% support, 32% do not support).

Support Alternative Day Use	First Time	Once or Twice in a Year	About Once per Season	Once per Month	Once per Week	More than Once a Week
Yes	62.8%	80.3%	70.4%	71.6%	67.8%	60.4%
No	6.6%	12.1%	11.1%	23.5%	26.4%	37.7%
Don't know	30.6%	7.6%	18.5%	4.9%	5.7%	--
Blank	--	--	--	--	--	1.9%

Frequency of visitation appears to be correlated to visitor opinion for the alternative day use regulation. Although the majority of visitors support the regulation either way, visitors that go to the park less frequently such as once or twice in the past year more often support the regulation (80% support, 12% do not support) than visitors that go to the park very frequently such as more than once a week (60% support, 38% do not support).

⁴ The respondents that reported more than one primary activity on the survey form were not included in this analysis.

EXPLAIN OPINION ON ALTERNATIVE DAY USE REGULATION

Question 4: Please briefly explain why you answered that way:

The comments from this open-ended question were organized into categories. The most common explanations given by respondents for their opinion about the alternative day use regulation are listed in order of frequency in the table below, followed by the complete listing of comments.

Summary of Reasons Given for Opinion about Alternative Day Use Regulation
Yes: Support Regulation
Improves Visitor Experience: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good for a variety of visitors seeking different experiences • Allows visitors two days a week to avoid bikes • Everyone is able to enjoy the park • Reduces visitor conflicts and improves the relationship between user groups • Different visitor activities don't mix
Good Compromise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fair and reasonable approach • Share the trail • Balances the needs of various visitors
Reduces Crowding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulates traffic of visitors • Reduce the volume of visitors
Relieves Safety Concerns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dangerous for visitors to share the trail at Betasso Preserve • Narrow trail, tight turns
Management Suggestions for Bikes on Trails: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support using alternative day use regulation on more trails • Add bike-only day/s • Need more bike trails (especially near Boulder)
No: Do Not Support Regulation
Restricts Access and Limits Availability for Mountain Bikers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mountain bikers should be allowed seven days a week • There are scheduling conflicts with available bike days which limits ability to visit • Saturday is the best day to ride bikes • Discriminates against mountain biking
Alternative Management Suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would support only if there are also bike-only days • Change the number of days, days of the week, or consider hourly restrictions for bikes
Need More Local Bike Trails: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mountain biking options limited near Boulder • Lots of trails available to hikers near Boulder
Share the trail: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mountain biking does not/should not cause conflicts with other visitors • All visitors should share the trail

Don't Know : Unsure if Do or Do Not Support Regulation

No opinion:

- First time at Betasso Preserve
- Not well informed or familiar with the regulation
- Do not bike

Undecided:

- Enjoy biking, but also understand the point of view of other visitors
- Mountain biking options limited near Boulder
- Unsure as to whether the regulation achieves anything

All Reasons Given for Opinion about Alternative Day Use Regulation

Yes : Support Regulation

Visitor Activity	Comment Provided
Bike	Allowing bike-free compromises
Bike	Alternative use is not that annoying and increases safety I would imagine.
Bike	Although I ride bikes I can understand how hikers would appreciate a couple of days to themselves.
Bike	As a biker, I'd like to ride it more, but feel it is fair versus the alternative of no biking
Bike	As a hiker, I can appreciate a quiet trail w/out bikes. MTBers have enough trails to go on the other days.
Bike	As a mtn biker I support this. Gives hikers and horses a good opportunity to use those days and avoid bikes
Bike	As a runner & cyclist I appreciate have low volume days when running. It's a tight fast trail.
Bike	As many activities such as hiking, walking, and biking. It's good to restrict biking to bring in new ppl.
Bike	B/C I bike and run, and can appreciate having two days w/o bikes around
Bike	B/C when bikers can be dangers
Bike	Because bikes can intimidate people from using the trail, so having no bike days is good.
Bike	Because hikers and horses need days too.
Bike	Because hikers should have the trail to themselves some days, as well as bikers on other days.
Bike	Because I believe it is fair and square to allow hikers two days of bike free hiking & walking - I do NOT think I would want more than 2 days bike free.
Bike	Because I understand we need to share
Bike	Because I'm more into biking than hiking
Bike	Because it helps ease the strain between cyclists and hikers!
Bike	Because it is a multi use
Bike	Because it's great for hikers/picnickers to have some off days.
Bike	Because the regulation allows for hikers to use the trail without getting run over.
Bike	Bike & hike
Bike	Bikers and hikers don't mix
Bike	Bikes should be allowed @ Betasso.

Bike	Easier to ride w/o tons of hikers
Bike	Equality keeps the peace.
Bike	Everyone deserves a day for themselves. I wish there would be specific mtb days too.
Bike	Everyone should have their time
Bike	Fewer people on riding days
Bike	For good keep up of trails
Bike	Give hikers a break from riders. Hopefully less hikers on Sundays
Bike	Give hikers a break from us bikers
Bike	Gives everyone a chance to enjoy the trail.
Bike	Gives the hikers a chance to enjoy w/o interruptions
Bike	Gives Time for much needed trail maintenance + 2 days for hikers only!
Bike	Gives walkers and runners a chance to enjoy the trail w/out worry about bike traffic!
Bike	Good balance for hikers for quiet
Bike	Good to give hikers/walkers some time.
Bike	Good to have 2 days dedicated to hiking only
Bike	Good to hike with the family without bikers
Bike	Good way to share the trail
Bike	Great to come hike when there are no bikes
Bike	Helps maintain multi use and less conflicts
Bike	High demand areas should have some time available for quiet activities as long as more areas are opened to bicycles
Bike	I believe all user groups should have access to the trails
Bike	I believe it's good to have a couple hiker only days without bikes
Bike	I can relax and not worry about as many hikers
Bike	I can work around Wed & Sat
Bike	I know there is a lot of conflict between hikers and cyclists, so I think this is a good alternative.
Bike	I like to bike most days, but for running/hiking on Wed/Sat. It is nice not to worry about bikes.
Bike	I like to hike w/o bikes
Bike	I mainly bike, but I think it's fair that hikers have a few primary days
Bike	I respect sharing multi-use open spaces
Bike	I run too
Bike	I think hikers like having a couple days without bikes on the trail. That being said I would not reduce the bike days to less than 5.
Bike	I think it's a great solution to share the trails
Bike	I think it's important to share the trails, but I also understand why hikers don't want to be run over by bikes.
Bike	I think it's safer and more enjoyable for both bikes and hikers
Bike	I trail run and bike. It's nice to have days for each activity when you don't have to worry about the other one.
Bike	I understand there have been biker/hiker conflicts here. It's good to give hikers the chance to avoid us if they want. Also like the one direction only rule (good for beginning bikers too!).
Bike	I would fight a regulation that made this true for all trails, but a few in the county is ok. Better for hikers.

Bike	I would prefer to have access to more trails on alternate days than fewer trails all the time.
Bike	If each bike/walk has a day to themselves there will be less conflict in general
Bike	I'm also a hiker - it's nice to have a deserted trail on the wknds.
Bike	I'm fine w/ it and I like to hike sometimes
Bike	Important to allow hikers time without bikes
Bike	It allows hikers & runners to have the trail access alone & great for kids. Also reduces wear on the trail
Bike	It allows the area to be enjoyed for more activities
Bike	It gives hikers a chance to hike bike free and to know when to expect bikers.
Bike	It gives hikers the possibility to enjoy the trails without looking for bikes!
Bike	It is good to allow hikers 2 days a week of just hiking.
Bike	It is nice to have days for hikers or bikes however it would be great to have a no hiking day. I like to come up here and run on the no bike days. The trail is narrow which makes it difficult for hikers or bikers running into hikers. Perhaps have 2 days of no hiking and 2 days of no biking and the remaining days hikers and bikers. It would be great to have more bike trails near town to access and not have to drive to - lower carbon emissions too!
Bike	It nice to have days where you don't have to worry about slower/faster traffic
Bike	It provides trail users w/ different experiences
Bike	It seems fair & it also seems to moderate traffic whether it be foot traffic or bike traffic.
Bike	It works for everyone.
Bike	It's a good way to share the trails
Bike	It's fair
Bike	It's fair.
Bike	It's good for hikers (& dogs) to have days to not worry about the bikes - that is good!
Bike	It's great to limit bicycle use for hikers/runners
Bike	It's nice for hikers to know they can hike bike free
Bike	It's nice to have a day dedicated to hikers
Bike	Keep traffic down
Bike	Less problem's
Bike	Lower impact
Bike	Makes hiking less tedious
Bike	More bikers than hikers
Bike	More trails in & around Boulder should allow bikes and more trails should be built for single track. Regulating direction and prohibiting bikes 2 days per week is a great way to share.
Bike	More trails in Boulder should operate this way. It is ridiculous to outlaw bikes on most trails
Bike	Most trails should have 1-2 day/week bike-free.
Bike	Mtn biking is a booming sport; the county should provide more opportunities & trails.
Bike	Nice to give hikers two days just for them
Bike	No preference
Bike	Peace for every trail user!
Bike	Prevents over-use
Bike	REASONABLE ANSWER TO TRAIL CONFLICTS

Bike	Reasonable compromise
Bike	Reasonable concession for better relations w/ hikers
Bike	Relieves biker/hiker tensions
Bike	Save the trails!
Bike	Seems fair
Bike	Seems fair
Bike	Seems reasonable
Bike	Sensible compromise
Bike	Share the trail
Bike	Share the trail - it's good for hikers to have a day without bikes (we both hike and bike). Still - having mtn. bike trails near City of Boulder is important.
Bike	Share the trail!
Bike	Shared use of Bike, Hike, & Horse is not the best experience for either of these groups
Bike	Silent hiking is nice!
Bike	So hopefully hikers only come wed/sat
Bike	The alternative day use seems to be a good way to minimize conflict between different use groups
Bike	The hikers need to have a few days to hike wo/ bikes
Bike	There are other trails to ride.
Bike	There is often a lot of traffic on the trails, most of which is from bikes, so I think it's important for hikers to have some days on which they have trails to themselves.
Bike	Think it's fair on a narrow, heavily used trail such as this one
Bike	Think it's more comfortable for hikers, and okay with me as a biker.
Bike	To make the trail enjoyable for all
Bike	Tolerance + diversity = good things
Bike	Too crowded and there's plenty to ride elsewhere
Bike	Very popular bike destination - hikers/equestrians need their own time w/o a flurry of bikes!
Bike	We all want use of park and can share time and trail
Bike	We are bikers but this seems reasonable. Please keep mtb access
Bike	We are from out of town - great park and trail system! Thanks!
Bike	Works most days
Bike	Would prefer no restrictions, but accept that this may be necessary to share the resource.
Bike	Would support this on additional trails! Allows everyone an opportunity to enjoy!
Bike	Yes, but it would be nice to have 1 biking only day too.
Hike	Allows days if people are bothered by bikes
Hike	Allows horses and hikers to hike without bikers
Hike	As a mountain biker and a hiker with small children it is a wonderful balance
Hike	As a biker and a hiker it's nice to have a bike free day.
Hike	As a hiker, it's great to have certain days where the hiking experience is more peaceful & doesn't require being constantly on guard for bikes. Plus, less trail damage.
Hike	Because it allows for users to keep traffic separate
Hike	Because it sucks to hike w/ mountain bikes on the narrow trail & I love that we have options

Hike	Bikes and hikers don't mix that well on narrow trails & with young kids
Hike	Bikes are fine, really, but not needing to move out of the way of bikers.
Hike	Bikes are great, but it is hard to hike with watching out for them.
Hike	Bikes are ok
Hike	Bikes could damage the trail if ride often
Hike	Boulder Bird Club meets on Wednesdays - bikes disturb trail birds
Hike	Cause only come on sat and wed for this reason
Hike	Don't come because of bikes. Bikers get lions share with 5 days. I whole heartedly support/encourage no bikes 3 days week. Hall ranch should also have no bike days - bikes not only make hiking considerable less enjoyable, it is bad for environment because hikers have to step off - spreading seeds of noxious weeds from our shoes/boots
Hike	Don't mind mountain bikers
Hike	Easier to not have to pay attention
Hike	Enjoy hiking w/out needing to move off trail for bikers.
Hike	For biking it is great knowing that hikers have a day when they can hike w/o bikes and are less likely to be on trail on bike days
Hike	Good balance
Hike	Good for hikers
Hike	Good for runners/walkers a couple days/week
Hike	Good to have the option to hike without mtn bikes.
Hike	Good to know some days are bike-free
Hike	Great to have some days for other activities w/o the cyclists (although I support them too!)
Hike	Helped guide our decision to hike here today.
Hike	I believe the regulation gives fair use to users this way.
Hike	I can come Saturday if I don't want to see bikes or Sunday if I do - I like bikes!!
Hike	I can understand that alternated traffic can help the park environment
Hike	I don't like to hike with mountain bikes
Hike	I feel much safer without the bikes roaring by. I also bike but go much slower than most.
Hike	I hike w/ my dog on Weds and Sat to avoid the biker (too much traffic)
Hike	I hike with my dog. Huge problem constantly getting her off trail so bikers can pass
Hike	I imagine a lot of families with small children visit on Saturdays.
Hike	I like hiking and some bikers don't always respect the rules - harder to hike when you're looking over your shoulders!
Hike	I like the option of coming out here on days when mountain bikes are not on the trail.
Hike	I like to hike w/out bikes - easier & nice hike
Hike	I love that I can hike without worrying about disrupting a biker on Saturdays
Hike	I only come here to hike and run on days when biking is not allowed. I love the bike-free days especially Saturdays.
Hike	I prefer to be walking on a path with only other walkers. It is a little crazy with bikes on a hiking trail.
Hike	I support nature!! Deer sightings!!
Hike	I wasn't entirely sure why at first, but I like the idea of the trail being more hiker friendly for certain days, since certain parts are very narrow.

Hike	In my case, I just prefer to hiking, whenever I see someone who ride bike, it makes me a little bike care to me.
Hike	It gives people who don't bike a chance to not have to worry about bikes
Hike	It is nice to have both
Hike	It shouldn't be all one way
Hike	It was nice to have the path to hike and run today w/o sharing the path with bikers and I'm sure they enjoy time on the paths to themselves as well.
Hike	It would be nice if the cyclist had one day without hikers.
Hike	It's good not to worry about cyclists. However, one day per week should be bikes only
Hike	It's good to not to contend w/ bikes & safer.
Hike	It's much nicer to walk the dog and hike with kids when you don't have to worry about bikes. However, I've found bikers on this trail to be very considerate
Hike	It's nice to enjoy a long hike w/o bikers
Hike	It's nice to have a day or two w/o worrying about cyclists
Hike	It's nice to hike without having to worry about someone coming around the corner at a high speed
Hike	It's nice to not be on the lookout. But, I also think there should be biker only days to be fair.
Hike	It's nice to not to have to contend with bikes so gives you a choice.
Hike	Just gives 2 day break
Hike	Keeps trail free for non-cyclists on certain days. Should have "bike only" days as well
Hike	Kids need to ride somewhere
Hike	Less traffic on trail
Hike	Like a day w/o bikes
Hike	Love being able to hike on a day when there are no bikes.
Hike	My dad's the park ranger up here and that's the way it's always been.
Hike	Nice for families and kids to not have to watch for bikers
Hike	Nice to have a day or two not to have to watch for bikes
Hike	Nice to have trails to themselves (hikers only) at least a couple times a week
Hike	Nice to walk w/out worrying about bikes
Hike	No reason - just sounds like a good idea
Hike	No room for bikers & hikers = danger
Hike	Not all bikers follow rules
Hike	Not as disruptive
Hike	Our hiking group can walk together the bikes go fast & don't share well
Hike	Quiet is nice and I usually hike
Hike	Quiet! - Don't have to worry about traffic. Another though give the bikers a "Day for Biker's Only"
Hike	Regulate activity. Allow walkers time with no biking interruption
Hike	Split time for bikes and hikers
Hike	The road needs to be regulated often
Hike	There needs to be days that are free from bike riders
Hike	To give hikers a chance not to dodge bikes but I like sharing the trail with bikes
Hike	To tight for both
Hike	Too dangerous to hike loop on bike days.
Hike	Too hard to hike when many bikers, so current days good.

Hike	Variety
Hike	We are huge mtn. bike riders but also hike so think this is a good alternative
Hike	We come to hike and only come on Sat or Wed
Hike	We like hiking and riding - makes everyone happy
Run	100%! I run the trails here & sometimes I feel slightly scared of the bikers b/c some don't know the rules, not experienced, etc.
Run	And I am a cyclist. I like to not have to worry about bikes on my runs (and I bike, too)
Run	As a runner and hiker it is amazing to have a close & amazing trail to run. On days with bikes, it is almost impossible to run
Run	As a runner, this trail can be frustrating when bikers are also on it.
Run	Because of the trail are made for hiker!!! (and runners too :) !)
Run	High traffic/volume/distance to Boulder
Run	Higher volume of hikers/runners on Saturdays - no bikes increases safety on these high volume days
Run	I hate dodging bikes while I run or hike. I like to have a peaceful experience out in nature, and the fast pace of bikes ruin this. I'd like to have more no-bike days here. Also, I usually see bikes here on Wednesdays and Saturdays - not a lot but it's annoying, because I make a special effort to come here on no-bike days, to avoid them.
Run	I like being able to come on Saturday w/ my dog and not dodge bikes on my hike
Run	I like being able to run/hike without running into bikes.
Run	I only run Betasso on non-bike days.
Run	I support the regulation because it can be dangerous to run when mountain bikes are on trail
Run	I think shared use is okay + helps people share
Run	I'm a runner & it can be difficult to run on days when there are lots of cyclists.
Run	It is nice to have 2 days bike-free!
Run	It's a fair balance. Allowing bike access is important and it's also nice for hikers/runners to have a few bike-free days
Run	It's nice to have days that I don't have to let MTB's pass, but it's also nice that MTB's get to use the trails also.
Run	It's nice to run without bikes on the trail those days
Run	It's nice to walk/run without mbers flying by.
Run	It's tight on turns and nice to know a bike won't be coming around corner when I run on those days. But glad to share w/ bikes on other days.
Run	Like having 'no bike days' for trail running
Run	Like to trail run and walk my dogs. Prefer to separate bikes and running
Run	Love a time where don't have to worry about bike traffic
Run	Makes trail more family friendly & runner/hiker accessible. (I mountain bike more than I run)
Run	More room for foot traffic
Run	Nice to be able to run Saturdays w/o worrying about bikes
Run	Nice to not have to worry about getting out of the way of bikes
Run	Seems a dependable time to plan to enjoy trail sans velo
Run	Seems like a fair compromise
Run	There should be days when hikers and horses have trails to self.

Run	We bring kids to hike and bikes are too dangerous with little kids (3 & 6) and a chariot.
Run	We run, impossible on bike days
Run	When we run on Sundays we have to stop over 30 times due to bikes
Walk Dog	Because I don't bike, its nice to not have to worry about bikes
Walk Dog	Even tho I bike this almost once a week I love a couple of days running, walking the dog without the bikes
Walk Dog	Gives a fair chance for everyone to enjoy
Walk Dog	I like biking, but when I hike I like less traffic.
Walk Dog	I like knowing I can hike without getting hit by a bike or having to quickly jump off the trail when one is coming.
Walk Dog	Sometimes dog walkers are too slow for mountain bikers.
Family Gathering	As a trail runner I have nearly been run over a number of times by bike riders, so it's nice to know there are a few no-bike times.
Family Gathering	Because my mountain bike friends said so.
Family Gathering	Hikers can feel comfortable utilizing trail system 2 days/week - SHARING the trails
Family Gathering	I think the variety is needed to promote a balance with the people who enjoy this park.
Family Gathering	This is one of the few places in town accessible by mountain-bikers. And is primarily maintained by mountainbikers. The trail sharing allows a lot of users to enjoy the trails safely regardless of their activities
Photo/Art	Everyone certainly should be allowed to enjoy the park. At times mtn. biking can crowd a trail...
Photo/Art	It allows those who hope to utilize the park for film/photography to plan around mtn bike use.
Photo/Art	More peaceful without bikes!!!
Photo/Art	When I was here last time there was a lot of bike traffic. It is nice to have less traffic when walking the trails.
Picnic	Bikes and dogs don't mix. It is good to have some separation between the various uses.
Picnic	It allows more peaceful hiking 2 days a week
Picnic	Good way to share - I think
Ride Horse	Absolutely! It's the only safe way for horses.
Ride Horse	Safety for horse, rider, and biker is top
Other	Everyone should be able to use the park for multiple purposes!
Other	It makes biking and hiking more pleasant
Other	Seems fair.
Other	There are other places to bike so it's nice that there's a place to hike where you don't always have to watch for bikes

Bike, Run, Family Gathering	As long as the county does not mess with alternatives, such as a Guerico property north of Ned, there are places to go.
Hike, Walk Dog	But would prefer less bike days
Bike, Photo/Art	Dangerous on busy
Hike, View Wildlife, Walk Dog	Easy to walk dogs
Hike, Bike	Gives others a chance to enjoy without concern of bikes
Hike, Walk Dog	Hard w/ dogs to get out of the way of bikes
Hike, View Wildlife	I do not bike, the trails are narrow.
Hike, Run	I like having a day with no bikes. Should bikes have a day with no hikers?
Hike, Bike	I like sharing
Hike, Bike	I like to bike
Hike, Bike	I think having dedicated hiking is a good thing
Hike, Bike, Run, Walk Dog	I think it a fair process. Would like to see it on other trails. Also some days should be for only bikers
Hike, Bike	I think it is fine for now
Hike, View Wildlife	I think it's important hikers and dog walkers can walk relaxed w/out fear of bikes coming up
Bike, Walk Dog	Need to share
Hike, Picnic	Nice to support biking...and hiking too!
Hike, Photo/Art	No bikes on Sat & Wed is great for hiking
Hike, Walk Dog	Peaceful hikes
Hike, Bike, Run	Separate bike days from hiking
Hike, View Wildlife	Too many bicycles would be more erosive on trail...also breaks encourage more walkers...
Hike, Run	We hiked on Sunday and found that we had to stop a lot to move for the bikers. We couldn't keep a consistent pace.

No: Do Not Support Regulation	
Visitor Activity	Comment Provided
Bike	1) Policy discrimination 2) Bike only days would REDUCE CONFRONTATION
Bike	BECAUSE I MOUNTAIN BIKE
Bike	Because if there was at least one bike only day, I would have checked yes.
Bike	Benjamin provides a lot more trail.
Bike	Bikes & hikers do okay with directional traffic.
Bike	Bikes are way too limited on trails in boulder
Bike	Bikes don't bother anyone
Bike	Bikes should be allowed every day
Bike	Doesn't conflict w/ hikers, equestrian
Bike	Don't restrict use for trails supported by taxpayer funds. Instead divide trail in 2 parts (one for hiking - canyon one for bike - benjamin)
Bike	Don't understand why it's necessary - seems as if all users can share the trails all days

Bike	Flexibility to ride
Bike	I believe all users should share and be polite to each other
Bike	I can only come here on the weekends and I can't come here on Saturdays.
Bike	I don't feel it is fair to single out mt. bikers.
Bike	I don't keep track of days of the week, for better or for worse. I don't know how many times I've come to Betasso on a Wed. or Sat. and been turned away. And I know the rules. It seems to me to be a waste of gas and time... certainly for those from out of town and assume that the trail is open to hikers and bikers everyday - like most every other trail on the front range. 95% of trails in Boulder proper disallow the use of bikes. It's time to soften the restrictions.
Bike	I feel that there are lots of hiking only trails in the boulder area. If hikers have a hike only day, I would like a bike only day. OR no restrictions for all!
Bike	I have no good reason except selfishness :)
Bike	I like to ride and do not always have that much flexibility
Bike	I love biking and limited local trails
Bike	I prefer off & even days for bike/hike
Bike	I rather it stay open all the time to bikes, but as long as it placates hikers who don't want bikes and would otherwise close it. Please keep this trail open to bikes :) I hike here too and don't mind bike traffic.
Bike	I support open access for all user groups on each day of the week - particularly when the one user group who is excluded played a major part in the construction of this trail system.
Bike	I think all user groups can coexist without conflict
Bike	I think they should be allows all days because there are enough hiking trail to accommodate the selfish hikers
Bike	I understand allowing hikers a day not to play w/ bike & vice versa but maybe an alternative day plan could work like Jeffcos Centennial Cone
Bike	I want to bike MORE!
Bike	I wish they'd split each weekend day
Bike	I would prefer to bike more often
Bike	I would support #3 if it was equal = hikers prohibited Thursday & Sunday (or 2 days also)
Bike	I would support this if there was a bikers only day much like they do at centennial cone in Jeffco Open Space (everyone - weekdays; bikes only even weekend days; hikers only odd weekend days)
Bike	I would visit the park more.
Bike	I'd like to see restrictions on hiking at least 2 days a week to match the biking restrictions
Bike	I'd prefer hourly restrictions vs. full days (I.e. 11 - 4 pm)
Bike	It should be mixed use all the time.
Bike	It would be nice to ride it any day
Bike	It's not possible to ride any day
Bike	Like to ride on weekends
Bike	Limits ability to use open space on important days. My wife cannot biker here due to religious sabbath restrictions :(
Bike	More days of the week to bike are helpful when trying to plan!
Bike	More mountain biking days due to the limited trails in Boulder.

Bike	Move it to Wed & Sundays to prohibit biking
Bike	Not that much foot traffic anyways, far enough outside Boulder for there to be 7 day/week biking
Bike	Not wednesdays at least. Weekday, trail is for both
Bike	Numerous hiking opportunities abound for hikers in the area, this is one of the good biking trails, I'm sad its closed 2 days a week
Bike	Only few bike trails around Boulder
Bike	Only if there are days or 1/2 days where trails are closed to hikers, would I support this.
Bike	Only trail you can get to from boulder. Please make it 7 days a week.
Bike	Park is big enough to support both on alternate trail days
Bike	Peds don't understand that Weds and Sats are days that they have 100%, other days (Sunday) should be for cyclists.
Bike	Plenty of places to hike that are closer to town. Few places to mtb.
Bike	Rather shared use every day.
Bike	Ride everyday would be preferable
Bike	Saturday is the best day to ride
Bike	Saturday would be a great day to ride. Weekdays aren't an option.
Bike	Saturday would be the easiest day to come out to ride our bikes
Bike	Saturdays are when out of town visitors can ride
Bike	Should be a limit on hikers, too.
Bike	Should be biker only days. Where's the equity?
Bike	Should do odd, even days
Bike	There are a number of bikers in town and not enough places to go.
Bike	There are few bike built trails in the county
Bike	There are lots of other excellent hiking venues w/ out bikes
Bike	There are not a lot of places to bike that are close to Boulder but plenty of places to hike.
Bike	This is the only! Mtn bike ride from town. On Wed & Sat I load up the SUV & head to Jefferson Co. where rider, hikers, and horses are share the trails. It would be an economic boom for boulder, if bikers could ride & catch lunch downtown. For those of us who live close, it is a green move to ride from home.
Bike	TRAILS SHOULD JUST BE OPEN.
Bike	Want biking everyday
Bike	We should all have equal access. HORRIBLE RESTRICTION OF LIBERTY
Bike	What days do you prohibit hiking?
Bike	Why are bikers discriminated against?
Bike	Why penalize bikes. Just post signs w/ right of way rules.
Bike	Would be nice to have no hiking days as well.
Bike	Would like bikes to be allowed every day
Bike	Would like to see trail open to Bikes 7 days
Hike	Bikers need choices just like hiker. This is well regulated and it seems to work for all.
Hike	The bikers are very respectful
Walk Dog	Saturday is the best day for a mountain bike trip

Family Gathering	Nice park & trails & mountain biking is awesome - good place for it!
Family Gathering	Public trail, should be able to be used by all.
Other	I don't really see the point, moderate in convenience not to opposed to it.
Bike, Run	A lot of trails for hike/horse only, very few town accessible bike trails :)
Bike, Run	Multi use should be every day
Bike, Photo/Art	There's lots of hiking trails near here and almost no single track other than here

Don't Know : Unsure if Do or Do Not Support Regulation	
Visitor Activity	Comment Provided
Bike	1st time here
Bike	1st time here
Bike	Ambivalent. I like shared use but also enjoy free biking.
Bike	As it works out Wed & Sat are often the days I like to ride. Maybe alternate year to year?
Bike	First time here, see how it goes
Bike	Haven't been, thanx
Bike	I enjoy biking but respect wishes of hikers
Bike	I think Boulder should do a better job making more trails available to bikers such that they wouldn't have to limit trails use on Betasso due to overcrowding
Bike	I would rather have biking every day, but if there are a lot of hikers then that is ok.
Bike	It doesn't bother me, but I'm not sure it is achieves anything. Ie, does it actually increase ped/equestrian use?
Bike	I've never been here before.
Bike	Not a big deal if it helps runners and walkers (I am a mtn biker). Last time I forgot & came up on a Wed, couldn't ride, bummer.
Bike	Not from here
Bike	Not from town
Bike	Not here enough to have an opinion
Bike	Not sure the rational for the closure
Bike	Out of town- not familiar w/ park system
Bike	Unsure
Bike	Where mtb only more hike options
Hike	1st time on the trail
Hike	Bike maybe 3 or 4 days/week?
Hike	Don't mountain bike
Hike	First time here. Bikers don't bother me.
Hike	Haven't visited enough
Hike	I don't bike ride, so my answer is N/A

Hike	I don't have any opinion on this topic
Hike	I'm not convinced it changes my experience at Betasso
Hike	I'm not familiar with the issues around mountain biking every day. Mountain bikers don't bother me though.
Hike	Might be nice to not have bikers around on a busy Saturday
Hike	Not enough background
Hike	Not from around here
Hike	Was unaware of present bike regulation
Run	It's nice to not compete with cyclists but there aren't many places for mountain biking around Boulder.
Walk Dog	First time here and it Sat. so no bikes. Probably support this.
Family Gathering	Don't live here so not aware of the issue specifics. It sounds like a good compromise to me!
Family Gathering	I don't ride mountain bike, so I don't know
Family Gathering	I live in Seattle so not well-informed here.
Family Gathering	It has not yet affected me - first time visitor
Family Gathering	We don't understand the trade-offs. We support the use of mountain biking, but understand the issues of mixed use.
Photo/Art	I photograph here so bikers really don't get in my shots!
Other, Photo/Art, Picnic	There should be room for walking/horses and I suspect without the restriction bikes would take over

Blank	
Visitor Activity	Comment Provided
Bike	Wish we could bike on Saturdays

ANYTHING ELSE

Question 5: If there is anything else you would like to tell us, please continue writing on the back:

All Anything Else Comments	
Visitor Activity	Comment Provided
Bike	Alternate parts of trails for bikes and hikers. One day Link/Benjamin for bikes and Canyon part for hikers then vice-versa. Great Park. Fun!
Bike	BCPOS does an amazing
Bike	Beautiful beautiful beautiful great trail maintenance
Bike	Betasso is a fantastic bike experience Thank you! As a biker, I support No bikes on the existing County Open Space trails. However, more bike only trails should be established.
Bike	Boulder needs more mountain biking areas. Should reduce user conflict.
Bike	Boulder Open Space Rocks and I appreciate all the trails!
Bike	Consider using this same regulation at other trails to use mtn bikes :)
Bike	From Chicago
Bike	Good trail!
Bike	Great park
Bike	Great PARK!
Bike	Great park.
Bike	Great trail
Bike	Great trail
Bike	Great trail
Bike	Great trail system
Bike	Great trail system! Thanks!
Bike	Great trail to use
Bike	Great trail, great ride! Thanks for the 4mile link and benjamin loop! Love it! One thing I don't like however is the ride direction changes. Counter clockwise isn't a fun direction to mountain bike Betasso. I feel like I lose a month of rides with the direction changes. That's when I only ride half of Betasso then take 4mile link back to boulder.
Bike	Great trail, love it!!!
Bike	Great trail. Thank you!
Bike	Great trails!
Bike	Great trails. Thanks.
Bike	Great work on new trails!!!
Bike	Hikers should also be directional (opposite of bikes). Wednesdays & Saturdays betasso - hikers benjamin - bikers
Bike	I don't like light flash no animal cameras
Bike	I love Betasso trails. PERFECT :)
Bike	I love this place and it kills my family schedule to have to ride Sundays. I would pay for Saturday access. Call me (***)***_** Brian *****

Bike	I ride Betasso every morning and evening before and after work. On Wednesday and Saturdays I am unable to complete my routine, because Betasso offers the only good trails within riding distance from Boulder. I don't have time to drive anywhere else. Feel free to contact me further at *****@gmail.com
Bike	I would suggest making 1 or 2 days "bikes only"
Bike	It would be great to have similar trail use on separate bike only trails developed to accommodate hikers and riders separately
Bike	It's beautiful here!!
Bike	Keep building awesome trails! :)
Bike	Keep up the good work!
Bike	Keep up the good work!
Bike	Keep up the good work! Love it!
Bike	Like the biking one-way/direction
Bike	Like the one way (alternating) scheme also.
Bike	Love it here!
Bike	Love the one way system. Great!!
Bike	Love the work you do. Thank you!!
Bike	Love this place
Bike	Love to bike here! Can we get rid of all the poison ivy?
Bike	Make both restroom multi gender
Bike	Make more mtb trails. I love it.
Bike	Maybe 1 day/week bike only!
Bike	More mtb is great
Bike	More mtn bike trails in Boulder!
Bike	More mtn. bike trails from town.
Bike	More singletrack accessible from town on your bike! Mark ***** 7/4/13
Bike	More trails & connections for bikes
Bike	More trails!!!
Bike	N/A
Bike	N/A
Bike	Nice trails.
Bike	No
Bike	No
Bike	No
Bike	Nope
Bike	One of the best single tracks in F. range
Bike	Otherwise you guys rock!
Bike	Parallel MTB only trails might be nice
Bike	Please add alternative kicker for more advanced riders
Bike	Please add jump lines that beak off to the side of the main trail so it doesn't interfere with use of the main trail.
Bike	Please add more mtn bike
Bike	Please consider alternating "no bike" weekend days. I understand desire to have bike-free experience, but my wife cannot ride on sundays due to sabbath. Also as wednesdays are not crowded, would be nice to find better management methods.
Bike	Please give us at least one bike only day.

Bike	Please keep this open to bikes
Bike	Please open more MTB trails.
Bike	Please open North - South corridor!
Bike	Q2. 24 times in the summer The trail is looking great!!
Bike	Really enjoy the new additions!
Bike	Straightening trails is better than building numerous humps and curves - more dangerous with curves & humps
Bike	Thank you
Bike	Thank you for all the trail work done!
Bike	Thank you for the park!
Bike	Thank you!
Bike	Thank you!
Bike	Thank you!! County Commissioners are awesome!
Bike	Thanks
Bike	Thanks
Bike	Thanks
Bike	Thanks for adding the benjamin loop
Bike	Thanks for all the open space!
Bike	Thanks for the great trail!!
Bike	Thanks for the hard work!
Bike	Thanks for the park!
Bike	Thanks!
Bike	Thanks.
Bike	The trail maintenance has been great
Bike	The trails rock!!
Bike	This is a great facility, the trail improvements are wonderful.
Bike	This trail is great I appreciate the trail provided
Bike	Trail improvements done in last year are professionally done and encouraged
Bike	Very happy
Bike	We should add a 2nd link to benjamin to avoid 2 way traffic
Bike	Will live with 5 days if that's what keeps it open
Bike	Would like to see the direction of the loop for bikes changed more often
Hike	Always come here on Sat. to avoid bikes.
Hike	Bear sighting 8/17/13 Maybe signage with instructions about what to do
Hike	Beautiful day!
Hike	Betasso Preserve is my favorite in Boulder.
Hike	Canyon loop very enjoyable trail - nice flowers.
Hike	Good trail
Hike	Good winter snow shoeing
Hike	Great park - thanks
Hike	Great trails! I appreciate that biking is directional.
Hike	Have running water available
Hike	I love this park!
Hike	I will come back soon

Hike	It's a great place to hike!
Hike	Keep it up!
Hike	Keep up the quality - it's great!
Hike	Love it
Hike	Love it!
Hike	Love open space
Hike	Love the place
Hike	Love this area!!
Hike	Love this place.
Hike	Make hiker only 3 days is more equitable
Hike	Nice area!
Hike	Nice place. Thanks!
Hike	Nice trail. Bike free days would be good for all trails - different days for different trails
Hike	Nope
Hike	Nothing else.
Hike	Thank you for listening :)
Hike	Thank you!
Hike	Thank you!
Hike	Thanks!
Hike	Thanks.
Hike	The trails are awesome. Very well maintained.
Hike	This is a BEAUTIFUL park!
Hike	This is the most beautiful trail EVER
Hike	Trail is beautifully maintained, people very friendly.
Hike	We couldn't go very far b/c it was too sunny for our 4-year-old
Hike	Well groomed trails & well signed.
Run	A water fountain would be great!
Run	Beautiful running trail challenging but achievable
Run	Beautiful trail but holy s*** it is hot out
Run	Great place.
Run	I love biking too
Run	I love this place!
Run	I think that the yielding rule should be more enforced.
Run	It's beautiful
Run	Keep the alternate day regulations!!
Run	More trails please & we love them too
Run	Most cyclists yield, in my experience
Run	Nope
Run	Please rake away some of the loose rocks on the Canyon Loop Trail especially west of Link junction occasionally, so that we don't have to run/walk/bike around them & widen trail. I'd volunteer to help!
Run	Thank you great trail!
Run	Thanks for this resource!
Run	Thanks!
Run	We love all the trails. Thanks for all you do!

Run	Well maintained - love it!
Run	Wonderful trails - thanks Boulder County!
Walk Dog	Should add a doggie bag dispenser for those who forget.
Family Gathering	Beautiful park :)
Family Gathering	Beautifully maintained trails! Thanks!
Family Gathering	It's GREAT!
Family Gathering	Thanks for a great trail system!!
Photo/Art	Beautiful! Thanks so much!
Photo/Art	Love Betasso!
Picnic	I think it would be good to have some dog-free days for bikers too.
Ride Horse	Thank you
Ride Horse	This is our favorite place to horseback ride - Wed & Sat only! Love it! :)
Hike, Bike, Run, Walk Dog	Boulder County is doing a great job thank you!
Hike, Bike	Great job the trail looks great
Hike, Bike	Great trail
Bike, Photo/Art	I love these trails
Hike, Bike	Keep up the good trails
Other, Photo/Art, Picnic	Let folks choose more than 1 and prioritize 1st, 2nd, 3rd
Bike, Run, Family Gathering	Loving the land doesn't mean only allowing trails - people need to have access
Bike, Walk Dog	More trails :)
Bike, Run	Signal direction is very smart.
Hike, Family Gathering, Photo/Art, View Wildlife	Thanks you!
Hike, Photo/Art	Visit once or twice in 5 years