



East Boulder Creek Site Management Plan

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# Community Survey 2 Results

Appendix I: Survey 2 Responses

**Boulder County**  
Parks & Open Space

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## East Boulder Creek Site Management Plan Survey Questions

Please be sure you watch the East Boulder Creek video before taking the survey.

Thank you for sharing your feedback!

### 1. Indicate your level of support for closing certain areas to protect critical wildlife habitat and agricultural operations.

- Strongly Support
- Support
- Neutral
- Do Not Support
- Strongly Do Not Support

### 2. Please tell us any other comments related to the conservation of the site.

### 3. Rank the following features in order of importance.

- Accessible Trail Near Water
- Fishing Piers
- Natural Play Area
- Off-Trail Area
- Paddleboard/Kayak Access
- Shaded Resting Areas

### 4. Please share any other comments related to outdoor experiences and recreation.

### 5. What feature should be used in the future site name?

- Heron
- Coyote
- East Boulder Creek
- Coal Creek
- Other (must be inspired by a natural feature)

### 6. Is there any other feedback you would like us to consider?

### 7. Which of the following best describes your race or ethnicity?

- White or Caucasian
- Hispanic or Latinx
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- Asian or Asian American
- Black or African American
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- I prefer not to answer
- I prefer to self-describe (please specify)

### 8. Where do you live?

- Unincorporated Boulder County
- A town or city in Boulder County
- Outside Boulder County but in Colorado
- Outside of Colorado

## Question 2 Long Answers

Please tell us any other comments related to the conservation of the site.

Strongly support wildlife habitat and current agricultural uses. Do not develop this area

Leave this area alone! If the county truly cares about conservation of this site, it would not be developed.

Conservation should be the first priority, Then develop limited wildlife and outdoor public access opportunities with wildlife in mind.

In order to protect habitat, we need to minimize human encroachment, such as trails and parks and recreation activities

As our local populations continue to rise and more and more land is being developed for housing, these riparian areas are going to be increasingly more important conservation areas and critical wildlife habitat.

These comments are from the Boulder County Audubon Society (BCAS). BCAS's mission is to be "a voice for birds and wildlife conservation through habitat protection, advocacy, and nature education." We consider it of the utmost importance to prioritize protection, restoration, and enhancement of wildlife and habitats when determining how and where human access will be allowed at the EBC site. Because the EBC site has experienced limited human access, this special area presents an opportunity to continue to protect and restore native prairie, riparian corridors, and other important habitats, while allowing for some human uses. Species diversity is quite high on portions of the area, particularly Kenosha Wetlands and along Coal Creek. To maintain this diversity of over 140 bird species and a variety of native mammals, amphibians, and other organisms observed on the site, we strongly believe that human access needs to be carefully planned and controlled. This includes consideration of seasons of use by wildlife - for example, some bird species nest in the area, while for others the site provides valuable migration or wintering habitat. Species and habitats that deserve priority in management planning for EBC include: The three Critical Wildlife Habitats in the area designated in the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan Environmental Resource Element (ERE) - Kenosha Wetlands, Kenosha Heronry, and Lower Boulder Creek Riparian Area. Additional ERE designations in the area including the East County:

The stream and riparian corridors of the front range are largely paralleled by trails or impacted by development. Additional access along Boulder Creek is not necessary and repetitious to many other opportunities in the area. Human use should be focused away from creek and surrounding areas and the floodplain and creek restored to natural habitat/floodplain conditions and protected from human use

I am more in support of protecting critical wildlife habitat than I am supporting agricultural operations.

Don't spray East Boulder Creek Site with toxic chemicals. Prescribed burns, targeted goat grazing, targeted grazing windows for cows, and weed removal volunteer groups are successful ecologically sound ecosystem health restoration techniques that build soil microbiome health instead of destroying soil health with pesticides. A healthy soil is our best option to retain water and sequester carbon in order to address the climate crisis.

## Question 2 Long Answers (cont.)

Plains Environmental Conservation Area, Riparian Habitat Connector, and Potential Restoration, Contiguous area for the Federally threatened Preble's meadow jumping mouse (PMJM). This potential restoration area is a necessary part of a longer recovery section of Boulder Creek if it is selected for restoration as part of the recovery process for PMJM. Buffer areas for raptor nests and the Great Blue Heron heronry, as recommended by Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Ongoing monitoring and periodic changes will be needed, to accommodate changing locations of raptor nests and heronries. State or Federally listed threatened or endangered species. Species of Special Concern listed in the ERE. Some of these species, such as the northern harrier, occur or nest in so few sites in the county that the loss or compromise of even one site could affect their survival in the county. Stream, riparian, wetland, and upland prairie habitats

Conservation should be central for the already designated environmental resource elements here. Critical prairie and riparian areas support nesting of raptors and herons, Preble's meadow jumping mouse, and many species of birds and animals. Protect the riparian corridor and keep people, cows, horses and dogs out of it!

This site is difficult to fit into many of the Boulder County standards and recommendations for preservation of natural lands of critical importance because it has been used for mining, gas wells, and agriculture. However, some of the areas have been restored and more will be. If the restoration is done to restore wildlife and native plants to this area (or plants that will survive in a warming climate), then this area will provide an excellent natural area in eastern Boulder County. It seems this should be the most important use of this land. The water in the area, the two creeks merging here, make this a unique habitat in eastern Boulder County. There are

few areas in the eastern part of the County that are fit Standard 1 in the Environmental Resources section of the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan: "1. Conserve & Preserve. Boulder County shall conserve and preserve environmental resources including its unique or distinctive natural features, biodiversity, and ecosystems through protection and restoration in recognition of the irreplaceable character of such resources and their importance to the quality of life in Boulder County." (p CG-4 in the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan). I believe this to be the best use of this land. Restoration of the land does not mean people must stay out of it completely, but it does mean that activities should be ones that lead to appreciation of the natural landscape, vegetation, and wildlife.

Our wildlife are dwindling from destruction of habitat and encroachment from human (and dog) activities. They need priority and protection from added development and disturbance.

I find this question odd - for one thing combining CWH and Ag into one question doesn't make sense to me. Also, CWH is only one type of important Comp Plan ERE habitat designations at the site, AND the term Critical Wildlife Habitat is also an official designation under the Endangered Species Act, another potential point of confusion. Additionally, it is not made clear how much of the ag this question is asking about is cattle grazing vs. crops. In general I am in favor of conserving local cropland, and limiting cattle grazing to where it can be managed to maintain or enhance native grasslands and avoid harm to riparian and wetland habitats. Important habitats and species that I would like to see protected from human access and cattle grazing, and restored and/or enhanced where possible include: \* Three Critical Wildlife Habitats in the area designated in the ERE - Kenosha Wetlands, Kenosha Heronry, and Lower Boulder Creek Riparian Area. \* Additional ERE designations in the area



## Question 2 Long Answers (cont.)

- East County: Plains Environmental Conservation Area, Riparian Habitat Connector, and potential contiguous restoration area for Preble's meadow jumping mouse, a Federally listed threatened species

\* Buffer areas for raptor nests and the Great Blue Heron heronry, as recommended by Colorado Parks and Wildlife \* Animal and plant Species of Special Concern designated in the ERE, which includes state or Federally listed T&E species \* Stream, riparian, and wetland habitats along both East Boulder Creek and Coal Creek, and upland prairie habitats \* Prairie dogs, for their keystone species role and as prey for multiple raptor species in the area

keep establishing open space within walking, biking distance from human housing, including pocket parks, wetlands, places to walk dogs, playgrounds, and bigger nature preserves

Critical wildlife habitat

The very last thing we need in Boulder County is more recreation areas at the cost of protecting wildlife. With the Climate crisis we are already experiencing, every bit of additional land, especially riparian areas, should be protected. Dogs should not be allowed; if allowed, they should be on leash and that should be strictly enforced.

I used to conduct waterfowl monitoring for BCPOS at the Kenosha site. It is a spectacular place for wildlife. It shouldn't be treated just as another recreation site. Wildlife and habitat conservation should be the first priority.

Limit and strictly control access to water and riparian habitats, to avoid impacts to areas with the greatest wildlife and habitat values, such as Kenosha Wetlands. This includes leaving contiguous riparian corridors for bird nesting and movement of mammals and other wildlife.

I think the majority of the area should be closed to protect species. There should be very few places people can go with off-leash dogs.

Enough of OSMP land has been treated as defacto wilderness area. It is enough.

Let's keep the space for outdoor recreation - humans will increasingly need this in the future to maintain mental health.

I strongly support the Southern Arapaho & Cheyenne Tribes returning to their homeland as co-stewards of the land and to restore grasslands and buffalo to the Boulder Valley.

I never been USA I never been America before I buy Amex defender platinum credit financing limited defenders insurance company AMEX UK enquires@idplatinum.co.uk I pay 2 trillion sterling silver I buy American express company bank Colorado IR@aexp.com I pay 2 trillion dollars I never been USA Adrian calvagna Arnaud calvagna my blonde twins sons out of my belly in tel Aviv at 1988 I never been America before I don't understand Portuguese language I never been Brazil before too

What areas would you conserve. This is way too little info to actually make an informed decision. Why would you close them? What habitat is there?

Aquatic and terrestrial invasive species are a high risk. Please close all areas with native species to prevent infestations and preserve remaining native plants, insects, vertebrates, etc. Upstream, OSMP has allowed infestations of New Zealand mudsnails and many Colo A and B listed invasives. Everything possible should be done to prevent movement of these invasives into this area.

### Question 2 Long Answers (cont.)

Please prioritize the protection, restoration, and enhancement of wildlife and habitat. Provide buffer areas for bird and raptor nests and for wildlife corridors. Do ongoing plant and animal surveys to assess when to adjust management plans. Agricultural operations should only be allowed if they are organic and any animal runoff or grazing will not negatively affect waterways, wetlands, wildlife, and plants. Restrict trails and other infrastructure and human access to areas with the least wildlife impacts. Consider trails through agricultural areas, which would still provide views of the mountains. Leave the provision of urban, park-like amenities such as playgrounds to local towns and cities like Erie, which lists 13 parks on their website that provide playgrounds, sports fields, and many other amenities.

Protecting critical wildlife habitats is important to our local ecosystems, while also allowing our children the opportunity to see how natural environments thrive and experience nature the way it is intended.

Prefer closing off a large percentage for wildlife protection.

yes for wildlife, no for Agriculture.

Previous site surveys have already documented an impressive variety of wildlife at the site, including migrating & breeding birds/raptors, mammals, and amphibians. Protecting them and their supporting habitats should be paramount. With guidance from experts such as biologists, we should be supporting and preserving biodiversity, especially in open space areas like this, where we have a chance to keep what's already there, rather than struggling to restore what's lost.

This is a prime area for stream corridor and grassland restoration for wildlife. The site ERE notes presence of 3 Critical Wildlife Habitats, an Environmental Conservation Area, importance of the area as a riparian habitat connector, including being a potential site for recovery of the Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse, and presence of several raptor nesting sites and a Great Blue Heron rookery with their respective buffer zones. Many other birds, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles have been documented to use this area, including some species, plant and animal, of special concern. I strongly support the recommendations of the comprehensive Management Plan done in 1998 that emphasized stream restoration, riparian and grassland revegetation, restriction of cattle access in the streams, and use of fencing for targeted grazing to facilitate native grassland recovery. To meet the Comp Plan goals of conserving and protecting ecosystem health while allowing for recreation, trail access should be very carefully planned to protect wildlife stream corridors, wetlands, nesting sites, and other sensitive areas, with very limited stream access in selected spots only as advised by professional staff. Dogs should be on leash only and all recreation should be passive and minimally intrusive to wildlife. Please consult with the county's wildlife biologists and botanists in planning trails and other recreational activities, including updating plant and animal surveys as needed. The presence of prairie dogs, a keystone species and major source of prey for raptors and other animals, should be protected.

It's too hard to control when people bring dogs to an area.

## Question 2 Long Answers (cont.)

Wildlife habitat is decreasing all along the Front Range of Colorado, which is affecting the number of wildlife. Boulder County has always been at the forefront of protecting such habitat. Because other counties aren't as progressive or as concerned about wildlife, I believe Boulder County is in a good position to make sure we protect as much wildlife habitat as possible.

Areas should be closed to the public for nesting birds or migration paths.

Closing some acreage to protect critical wildlife habitat is OK. Closing some acreage for agricultural operations I do not support.

I think the protection of critical wildlife habitat should be a top priority above anything else for this site. I hope you'll incorporate recommendations and concerns from BCPOS resource staff including wildlife biologists and plant ecologists.

I love the inclusion of wheel chair accessibility, kayaking, fishing. I would not like play ground equipment or baseball fields. I imagine and support this to be a quiet and meditative area for people to enjoy in their way.

Wildlife habitat, yes, definitely; agricultural operations less so. Agricultural closures should be time limited and less than 6-8 weeks per year.

Hoping that Indigenous people from Tribes will help to guide, direct, utilize, and staff this new park.

The County must work to limit recreational and private airplane traffic that use East Boulder County as a playground. Currently, that highly subsidized, highly polluting activity is growing without bounds.

I fully support closing for critical wildlife habitat, however, I believe that any agricultural operations need to be organic and/or have no negative impact regarding fertilizer/pesticide runoff, or taking water and native food from wildlife.

most important to protect critical wildlife habitat - there is so little that remains....

Support the concept but should also provide access for the miles of trails and connection to BERT

I strongly agree with the items noted in the letter submitted by the Boulder County Audubon Board - prioritize protection of wetlands, riparian habitat, and native prairie habitats and plants. these resources are rapidly dwindling along the front range and are critical for birds and other wildlife. Similar to Coot Lake or Lagerman Reservoir; human access is limited in certain areas during bird nesting seasons. That restriction should also be applied in East Boulder Creek areas.

I choose "strongly support" protecting critical wildlife habitat. I feel this is absolutely critical. I feel less strongly about protecting agriculture, however I do know that non-human species need more spaces to avoid people. There are already plenty of other trails and parks in Boulder County where humans can go for recreation.

I'm ok with closing areas as long as closures are balanced with human needs - there aren't large open space areas like this in east boulder county and I hope those opportunities are emphasized.

Critical Wildlife Habitats in the area designated in the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan Environmental Resource Element (ERE) - Kenosha Wetlands, Kenosha Heronry, and Lower Boulder Creek Riparian Area



## Question 2 Long Answers (cont.)

to conserve and protect species and vegetation.  
Restrict trails from human access to minimize spread  
of invasive species and destruction by mammals.

Most interested in conservation of habitat

Any and all changes should prioritize protecting the  
watershed.

I strongly support banning dogs from the site as the  
issues with dog waste, chasing animals, and conflicts  
are well known. Follow the lead of Button Rock. There  
are way too few dog free natural areas in Boulder  
County.

I'd like to see some of the area farmed as it has  
been for the last few decades and protect the heron  
rookery

Don't turn wilderness into a zoo experience.

Balance recreational use with habitat conservation...  
the less structural building the better

Agricultural operations should be eliminated from  
open space.

All I can think about is the amount of homeless we  
have in our parks right now.

In an ideal setting wildlife protection & community  
enjoyment would go hand in hand. If the conservation  
areas can be viewed by the public from a distance it  
would add to the experience to have them?

I'm not thrilled about closing areas for ag ops. For  
wildlife habitat, I would prefer limiting use so human  
use is compatible with wildlife, if possible (eg: no  
dogs, or seasonal closures)

protect critical wildlife habitat not agricultural  
operations

It is hard to protect after something is destroyed.

I've spent a lot of time with my family in these areas  
already. Its ripe for a park.

Would be nice to try and manage Coyotes. They are  
going after dogs on Phillips rd

No dogs on the property! Also no bikes, walking only.  
Like Button Rock is managed.

I'm all in favor of conservation, but I feel like the  
County is taking a horrible misstep by starting off a  
survey with "what should we close to the public."  
Come on, it's a riparian area, of course we need to  
manage for wildlife and plant conservation. However,  
I believe we have too many "closed spaces" in Boulder  
County. We need Open Spaces to be OPEN! Please  
take this opportunity to turn over a new leaf.

This is a unique part of Boulder County which has  
been preserved for wildlife. We need to continue to  
protect this environment and the nature we love

Protect raptor and songbirds and their nests; protect  
mammals such as coyotes; try to reduce the noxious  
weeds and install native plants

I am an avid sportsman and fully support closing areas  
to protect wildlife.

Conservation should always be the highest priority.

Accessibility and respect to nature are what makes  
living out here so beautiful.

## Question 2 Long Answers (cont.)

How are agricultural operations part of a question about protecting critical habitat? I am not against agriculture but it is a perplexing question.

This is a unique opportunity to give nature a chance to reclaim an important area

We are loving our open space to death, and I support empowering the scientific staff to designate zones of high environmental priority and limit access to people and pets.

I support closing areas for wildlife habitat, but not for ag operations. I've recently had experience with one of your tenants leasing ag. space, as well as private property adjacent to my acreage, and he is NOT a good steward of the land. If that's the kind of person you guys are picking, then let's leave off the ag. component of this new property.

Important to allow wildlife to live in peace. and to stop all fishing. Catch and release traumatizes the fish. Just because the fisherman doesn't feel the fishes pain and shock, doesn't mean the fish isn't hurt. Leave the fish for the turtles and birds.

we need to protect agricultural operations and this should be the main purpose of this property

Agriculture is a private, commercial activity, and a park is recreational and educational -- mutually exclusive. And excluding people from area removes that benefit completely. The benefit to delicate habitat or endangered species would have to be significant.

Protecting the birds and wildlife is of paramount importance to us. We don't need access to all of it - just to know it's there. Please, please limit dogs to only the least sensitive trails. It doesn't matter

what you do, people do not keep them leashed and enforcement is impossible. Same with bikes - have some areas just for pedestrians or at least a speed limit. Coal Creek has become like a speedway, making it very difficult to just enjoy the birds.

The wilder, the better.

No farm/agricultural, just wildlife habitat.

We are in the middle of a MASS EXTINCTION event we need to be doing everything we can to support wildlife and natural environments.

There is not enough open space for all the millions of people who want to play in Boulder County. If you want to conserve open space for wildlife, then prohibit ebikes (motorized - yes, an ebike has a motor - duh) on ALL openspace properties.

Close areas to protect critical wildlife habitat - Strongly support. Close areas to agricultural operations - would need to know more

not for agriculture, only wildlife habitat

Support more for habitat than ag.

I fervently hope the efforts of the state legislature to destroy our ability to manage growth will not also result in the destruction of our open space and wildlife habitats. I've never seen such a willful ignorance and blatant disregard than HB 23-1255 and SB 213. I expect city leaders to do EVERYTHING POSSIBLE to thwart this legislation and save our community from greedy developers and politicians!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

## Question 2 Long Answers (cont.)

It depends which areas for what type of conservation and how that will affect access through the site.

Habitat preservation should be the top priority. While some access is a good idea, public use should have minimal impact on the habitat.

I value maintaining the Critical Wildlife Habitat areas. I fully support the dedication of this area for recreation as long as there is a responsible effort to maintain the Critical Wildlife Habitat as well. Serving as a keystone species, the prairie dogs serve as a functional and literal symbol of our local ecosystem, so I specifically value conservation of their habitat via area closures, leash restrictions, and limiting off-trail recreation to areas that are deemed non-critical for their prosperity. I also value contiguous access to the creeks and nearby habitats. Full access up and downstream is crucial for the well-being of the wildlife population. Riparian habitats play a key role in maintaining a healthy and biodiverse population along the Front Range.

Preserve threatened rare habitats while still available

Restrict trails and other infrastructure and human access to areas with the least wildlife impacts. Consider trails through agricultural areas, which would still provide views of the mountains. And no Dogs! Dogs harass wildlife and their humans leave poop bags behind.

Let's concentrate recreation where it does the least harm, and protect the areas that have the highest potential for wildlife refugia (so no recreation whatever there, and discouragement of social trails).

There is so much development in East County that it is imperative to have some areas remain natural and away from the public.

I would like the top priority of this project be to protect wildlife.

Habitat loss is a prime factor in the decline of many species of wildlife (birds, mammals, insects, etc.) so the more we preserve the better.

Hopefully there will be a trail system that allows access to the whole riparian area.

Restrict trails and human access to the areas that will have the least impact on critical wildlife habitat.

Leave it as wild as it is now.

particularly closing during sensitive times; please limit agriculture impacts by non-pesticide & herbicide use, non-GMO crops & limiting ag activities during sensitive wildlife times

Wetlands and riparian areas should not be developed.

Boulder County already has a large number of people/wildlife/natural environment interactive spaces. What it needs is enhanced protection of critical wildlife habitat where possible and EBC is a key area for such designation. Our lands and wildlife are already so impacted in so many unsustainable ways that supporting protective corridors where possible is an opportunity not to be missed. We owe it to the wildlife and to ourselves to set aside certain areas of minimal interruption where wildlife can thrive and have respite from all of the other stressors imposed on them by human activity.

1. Prioritize protection, restoration, and enhancement of wildlife and habitats when determining how and where human access will be allowed. Species and habitats that deserve priority include: Three Critical Wildlife Habitats in the area designated in the

## Question Long Answers (cont.)

Boulder County Comprehensive Plan Environmental Resource Element (ERE) - Kenosha Wetlands, Kenosha Heronry, and Lower Boulder Creek Riparian Area. Additional ERE designations in the area include the East County: Plains Environmental Conservation Area, Riparian Habitat Connector, and potential contiguous restoration area for Preble's meadow jumping mouse, a Federally listed threatened species. Buffer areas for raptor nests and the Great Blue Heron heronry, as recommended by Colorado Parks and Wildlife. State or Federally listed threatened or endangered species. Animal and plant Species of Special Concern also included in the ERE. Stream, riparian, wetland, and upland prairie habitats.

2. Incorporate recommendations and concerns from BCPOS resource staff including wildlife biologists and plant ecologists.

3. Conduct additional plant and/or animal surveys as determined to be needed by resource staff, including ongoing monitoring and management changes as needed to reduce or eliminate impacts to wildlife and habitats.

4. Limit and strictly control access to water and riparian habitats, to avoid impacts to areas with the greatest wildlife and habitat values, such as Kenosha Wetlands. This includes leaving contiguous riparian corridors for bird nesting and movement of mammals and other wildlife.

5. Restrict trails and other infrastructure and human access to areas with the least wildlife impacts. Consider trails through agricultural areas, which would still provide views of the mountains.

6. Limit human access and disturbance to specific areas in order to minimize introduction and spread of terrestrial and aquatic invasive species. For example, New Zealand mudsnails occur upstream in Boulder Creek and are very easily spread by clinging to boots, watercraft, and dogs.

7. Eliminate grazing from riparian habitats, streams, ponds, and wetlands.

8. Continue to provide for prairie dogs on the site, as

an important food source for bald eagles and other birds of prey nesting and wintering in the area.

9. If dogs are allowed, strictly limit them to specific areas where wildlife impacts would be minimized and require them to be leashed.

10. Leave the provision of urban, park-like amenities such as playgrounds to local towns and cities. The closest town to the site, Erie, lists thirteen parks on their website that provide playgrounds, sports fields, and many other amenities.

11. Incorporate, where still applicable, project objectives, management recommendations, and survey data from the 1998 Lower Boulder Creek and Coal Creek Open Space Master Plan. Include updated information such as any changes in use of the area, changes from the 2013 flood, and updated plant and animal surveys.

While I am in favor of some off-trail access, it is critical that we protect the habitat as a higher priority.

For the sake of the wildlife please do not allow dogs throughout this corridor. Might be hard to police though.

I wasn't aware they were open in the first place. I've never seen people over there.

I would like to see native plant/grass restoration on part of the site, with interpretive signs about the prairie ecosystem. Much of our interpretive signage in county parks is slanted heavily towards wildlife rather than plant life. But of course, they are interwoven!

Love the idea of building a new recreation site and understand that some of the available property might need to have limited/no access to ensure the development does not impact critical wildlife areas.

## Question 2 Long Answers (cont.)

Protect the natural environment primarily, while giving public access to water areas for fishing and paddle boards/kayaks.

The wildlife corridor along Boulder Creek is robust and beautiful. It is critical to preserve it and not disturb the species that use it to live, breed and survive. Adequate thought must be put in as to access, where, how much and when to protect what we have.

You need to define what you consider as critical . I do not consider Prarie Dogs as wild life or critical.

The west side of 287 is home to bald eagles, red-tail hawks, Colorado pelicans, great blue Herons, egrets, a variety of ducks, cormorants, Canadian Geese, and occasionally coyotes. The water fowl vary from season to season

There are sensitive wildlife areas and valuable wetland habitats that support waterbirds. There is a heronry on site that needs, at a minimum, a seasonal closure to human activities.

The area west of 287, just south of Dawson school has a lot of wildlife including a bald eagle nest. It is imperative that this area be protected and closed to human traffic.

Please keep conservation and open space with limited access the priority

For critical wildlife habitat, not for agricultural operations....

The area west of 287 is fragile and should not invite significant activity. That parcel includes a bald eagles' nest that has been active for years and is currently occupied with three new eaglets this year, plus

parents. That same area is home to osprey, red tailed hawks and many blue heron as well as coyotes. Even minimal public access could threaten these habitats. Off-trail areas and Natural play areas should be restricted to parcels that are not home to eagles, heron, osprey, and other wildlife sensitive to such disruption. The Boulder Creek parcel that is west of 287 and south of Dawson school seems especially sensitive to off-trail activities and play areas. To protect critical wildlife habitat, especially west of 287, hiking, biking and dog walking should be restricted to trails only and dogs should be on leash.

Closing wildlife habitat should be considered separate from agricultural operations. They are not the same, and mere human presence near the wildlife garners respect for them, absence is not desirable.

As a nearby resident I would look forward to open space trails etc but am quite worried about traffic impacts. Kenosha Road is known as 'The Kenosha Speedway' by locals and lowering the speed limit to 35 as it is on nearby roads (east Lookout, Jasper) could really help with this concern. Also as a resident who picks up trash on the roadside, there is a huge number of alcoholic container trash. Combine that with a parking lot, trails and increased traffic, it could be dangerous. I didn't see the size of the proposed parking area, that could also be of concern.

Saying "Critical Wildlife AND Agricultural" seems to make this difficult to answer. I'm not in favor of Ag use of the open space land - but am in strong favor of wildlife habitat including having parts which are not accessible by people and dogs etc..

I strongly believe that some of the area should be off limits to recreation to protect critical wildlife habitat.



## Question 2 Long Answers (cont.)

Please keep in mind that nearby activity and noise can disturb wildlife in protected areas. Make sure the protected areas are large enough to function.

Public spaces should be open to the public.

Hiring one or more Indigenous consultants to create guidelines and develop educational exhibits would help inform how to not only best conserve these lands but also convey the importance in doing so.

No development!

I think there are other ways to limit/contain use to certain areas (like natural sight and physical barriers, using infrastructure to direct traffic elsewhere etc...) I would like to see some of these implemented and for outright closures to be used only if they prove insufficient or for the intermittent protection of specific species (e.g. nesting raptors etc...)

Wildlife is always my top priority. It is precious and must be protected.

Seems like there is lots of space here. Should be room for ag and habitat while also giving people the chance to enjoy publicly-owned open space, especially the creeks!

It past time to get rid of GMO on our open space lands. Many of the agricultural leases are awarded in a non competitive process and some of the ag land is poorly managed

I don't think you need to close the area to protect critical wildlife. That wildlife will come and live there anyway whether people are walking on a trail or not. I would maybe close some areas off from dogs. But

don't limit the trail from erie to boulder. Please just make a trail along the entire length of east boulder creek.

I think it is always important to conserve but I think it is important to let the public enjoy it as well. I do not think the entire 1,377 acres need to be for public use but protect critical areas.

I support closing certain areas if other areas are open and if the closed areas are critical across all of the land Boulder County owns, not just this one location.

Could be neat to have seasonal, guided educational outings into the closed areas

WHITE SUPREMACY AND COLONIALISM IS ALL ABOUT "closing" SPACES TO BLACK AND BROWN BODIES

If you mean close a portion of it, which is different than closing most or half of it, then yeah, sure. But if we're talking 50%... No.

You may limit some areas but in general should allow public access to the majority of area.

Land is for people to use and enjoy. With the massive expansion of new homes in the area; we need a place to enjoy, relax and have fun.

Wildlife should be priority.

Please control the number of dogs allowed with each individual visitor. I think allowing limited access to dogs to certain areas would be helpful.

Habitat yes, agriculture no.

## Question 2 Long Answers (cont.)

I would prefer that the development happen off of Hwy 52 to limit traffic on County Line Rd and Kenosha Rd. It's already too much traffic on those two-lane roads for those living in the area.

The key here is to error on the side of keeping it as natural as possible.

Strongly support if native ecology is supported, e.g. controlling weeds and prairie dogs; possibly planting native vegetation. Keeping people away from ecologically devastated areas doesn't make sense.

I strongly support protecting critical wildlife habitat but agricultural operations should be a separate question because that could encompass many approaches, I would support a biodiverse, organic ag approach that feeds local area and supports food banks

I am neutral until more information is provided about how much area will be set aside.

Allowing any watercraft, even non-motorized, on the water does not promote conservation.

The area west of 287 is fragile and should not invite significant activity. That parcel includes a bald eagles nest that has been active for years and is currently occupied with three new eaglets this year, plus parents. That same area is home to osprey, red tailed hawks and many blue heron as well as coyotes. Even minimal public access could threaten these habitats.

This question asks two very different things in one questions and should be changed to two separate ones. I support protecting wildlife habitat but not agricultural operations on public land.

Near us, which is a part of this conservation area we have had a bald eagle nesting sight for the last 10 years and now a red tail hawk nesting sight for the last 3 years. These are extremely special and need to be protected from human activity.

Yes important. The creeks are the primary, and perhaps the only decent wildlife corridor available in the eastern plains for wildlife movement and migration.

Protect Eagle nest south of Boulder Creek and west of 287...and Eagle perches that have been described in other BCPW documents. Also protect any Blue Heron Rookeries.

Protecting current wildlife habitat is a priority for a healthy ecosystem.

It would be nice to have shade - plant lots of trees for people, pets, and wild life. Perhaps a space for dog to jump in the water and swim/cool off. Fishing is a must - though catch and release only, and strict rules about fishing lines. If you notice, all fishing areas have fishing line embedded in the shore - though fishing is a nice outdoor activity, it seems seems to go hand in hand with littering. Walking trails, free roaming space, and responsible kayaking/canoeing would be nice. But what are you going to do about the homeless population and litter, which also go hand in hand. My husband and son canoe Boulder Creek and fill a trash bag every trip. On one occasion, when using the Platt, they came home 16 (that's right) - 16 decoy ducks that were left floating or trapped in the river with lines attached.

Boulder County should not continue so support ranching along Boulder Creek corridor; only organic plant/vegetable agriculture should be considered along riparian open space (or any open space).

## Question 2 Long Answers (cont.)

There should be some limit on public access to all areas lest you lose access to places to reflect and embrace the quiet away from people.

Protected wild space is critical to provide habitat for the small mammals (rabbits, voles, prairie dogs, etc.) that are the food source for the many hawks and eagles in the area. Dogs should be prohibited and humans allowed only on trails. Nesting areas should be protected. An osprey platform would be a nice addition.

Yes, protect critical habitat, but let people use as much as possible. For instance, some areas might be ok for people but not dogs...

My 'strongly agree' comment is related to critical wildlife habitat, not agriculture. Why are you lumping these two very different land uses together on this survey?

Horse riding can be consistent with agricultural use. Riding agricultural access roads can be part of the equestrian experience.

It would be great to see dogs banned or limited. BCPOS managed areas I frequent are overrun with dog waste and enforcement appears nonexistent. Citizens have proven they do not care for our open space in a conservation-oriented way, and Boulder County dog owners have no respect for rules. Achieving all of these goals, but especially conservation, is best done by limiting the space where dogs are allowed. Button Rock Preserve management plan contains significant scientific documentation justifying this request.

Agriculture should be very low priority.

Not only for wildlife protection, water conservation is required by law wetlands are federal protected. This is a much needed protection.

i believe POS should allow responsible public access to this area while protecting all environmental issues for both flora & fauna.

Need more information on how the county scores and determines "Critical Wildlife Habitat."

Critical wildlife habitat is not compatible with agriculture. I do not support agricultural lands in this area. These should be 2 separate questions on the survey.

limiting activities in certain areas is much more appropriate than restricting access.

I strongly support protecting critical wildlife habitat. I am indifferent to protecting agricultural operations.

provide educational signs/pamphlets for closed areas describing the goals, wildlife, effects

Agricultural operations are fully compatible with public visitor use. I am in favor of seasonal closures to protect critical wildlife habitat, but not for agricultural operations

## Question 4 Long Answers

Please share any other comments related to outdoor experiences and recreation.

Any development for recreation should be balanced with concern for wildlife habitat.

No recreation

Interpretation is important. Minimize trail impacts to wildlife riparian corridors. Keep trails on edges where ever possible.

All of these are a high degree of development/ infrastructure. These amenities should be focused in areas of low habitat/restoration value or potential away from the creek, which should be restored to natural floodplain and left protected without human use

I do not support any paddleboard/kayak access on any of the ponds. Please put a priority on protecting wildlife and their habitat.

I don't want any of these areas on the Open Space that my tax dollars helped to purchase. Allowing fishing shouldn't even be considered. How would you like it if someone put a hook into your cheek so they could pull you underwater where you couldn't breathe so they could look at you? Just to entertain themselves. Despicable. How is building on this area to encourage human use conserving it?

Accessible warm water fishing should be a priority over the conflicting recreational activities such as paddle boarding and kayaking. It would be nice if the area provided another warm water fishery opportunity for the community that fosters community engagement in stewardship of the area. What ever development occurs, permanent shade should always be a priority.

Much as I love hiking, biking and canoeing, we need to limit access to the areas preserved for wildlife. Maybe 50% for people, and 50% with no access? You don't want another Greenway trail in Longmont; or Coal Creek trail in Louisville/Lafayette - great trails for people, outdoor classrooms, play areas, and I use them all the time, but not so great for wildlife

To avoid impacts to areas with the greatest wildlife and habitat values, such as Kenosha Wetlands Critical Wildlife Habitat, Boulder County Audubon Society believes that access to water and riparian habitats should be limited and strictly controlled. This would include leaving continuous riparian corridors for bird nesting and movement of mammals and other wildlife, uninterrupted by human presence. Trails and other infrastructure should be located in areas with the least wildlife impacts - for example, trails through agricultural areas would provide mountain views while minimizing wildlife and habitat impacts. Eliminating grazing from riparian habitats, streams, ponds, and wetlands will help facilitate recovery of these areas. Restricting human disturbance to specific areas will also help to minimize introduction and spread of terrestrial invasive species, plus aquatic invasives such as New Zealand mudsnails. BCAS would like to see prairie dogs continue on the site, in areas determined to be appropriate by resource staff, as a keystone species and an important food source for bald eagles and other raptors nesting and wintering in the area. If pet dogs are allowed, we believe they should be leashed and strictly limited to specific areas where wildlife impacts would be minimized. Additionally, it is our considered opinion that the provision of urban, park-like amenities such as playgrounds and paddle boarding should be left to local towns and cities. As just one example, Erie lists thirteen parks on their website that provide playgrounds and many other amenities.

## Question 4 Long Answers (cont.)

People do not need access to every inch of this property. Plans should start with excellent inventories of biodiversity and regular monitoring for changes.

The outdoor experiences should focus on encouraging appreciation for the environment found in this area, for conserving and appreciating the natural community of the plants and wildlife. A focus on recreational activities is better suited for urban parks than for a site that is environmentally unique in the County. Thus, which I do think access to the site should be permitted, it is not a good place for play areas or off-trail area recreation.

Hiking trails for quiet observation of wildlife are all that is needed, and costs would be minimal. Please do not permit bikes and other vehicles, nor dogs in the area.

I am not in favor of some of these amenities for the site and did not like having to rank them. I think the area lends itself to providing some accessible trails, fishing access, and shaded resting areas, plus perhaps opportunities for education for local school groups and trails for nature walks and quiet reflection, to the extent that these activities and features can be provided in areas and seasons that will avoid impacts to Kenosha Wetlands, Coal Creek, a contiguous riparian corridor along East Boulder Creek, and other native wildlife and ecosystems on the site. I believe that access to water should be limited to specific areas and strictly controlled, I do not want to see urban amenities such as a “natural” play area or paddleboarding/kayaks, or off-trail areas. I am not in favor of allowing dogs at the site - nearby towns have paths, parks, and dog parks to accommodate dogs, and it is difficult to enforce on-leash rules, get people to pick up waste, and keep dogs from swimming in areas where they are not allowed. I am also not in favor of opening the area to bikes. There are very few trails in Boulder County without

dogs and/or bikes, and this unique area presents an opportunity to provide for nature walks and quiet reflection without those disruptions. I recognize that there are a number of constraints in the area to work around for providing human access. Still I hope and expect that access will be located in areas with the least wildlife and habitat impacts. For example, some trails could be located in agricultural areas, providing mountain views while avoiding important habitat. Careful planning of infrastructure and human activity locations will help to minimize the need for seasonal wildlife closures, and will also help to minimize the spread of terrestrial and aquatic invasive species.

Accessible fishing piers.

As noted above, the very last thing we need is more recreation. Our open space is being recreated to death. Very few areas are properly protected. I do not support anything more than the very basic access, if even that.

NO dogs should be allowed at this site. There aren't enough rangers to ensure they remain on-leash and dog crap is picked up. Dog presence also has a chilling effect on wildlife. There are few places where people can enjoy nature without it becoming a glorified dog park. Any bike trails should also be placed as far as possible from the wetland areas to protect sensitive and nesting wildlife. It would also be optimal for there to be several, or most, trails limited to pedestrians. It's tiring to try and watch wildlife when you have to worry about getting run over by a bike.

Prioritize protection, restoration, and enhancement of wildlife and habitats when determining how and where human access will be allowed. Species and habitats that deserve priority include: Three Critical Wildlife Habitats in the area designated in the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan Environmental Resource Element (ERE) - Kenosha Wetlands, Kenosha



## Question 4 Long Answers (cont.)

Heronry, and Lower Boulder Creek Riparian Area  
Additional ERE designations in the area include the East County: Plains Environmental Conservation Area, Riparian Habitat Connector, and potential contiguous restoration area for Preble's meadow jumping mouse, a Federally listed threatened species Buffer areas for raptor nests and the Great Blue Heron heronry, as recommended by Colorado Parks and Wildlife State or Federally listed threatened or endangered species Animal and plant Species of Special Concern also included in the ERE Stream, riparian, wetland, and upland prairie habitats

I'm worried that you'll destroy habitats during construction. Everything done should be done to protect habitats including during construction.

Please be sure to make trail connection to the larger trail network. If it is not connected it is of very little use. Open to all user groups. Do not exclude cyclists. Please make it fun not a graveled over road.

Areas for people to enjoy nature are most important

walking trails, in shade where possible

Build infrastructure for Wildlife Viewing Areas & Picnics

I would like to see some innovative water practices showcased such as bioretention areas/rain gardens with educational signage. I would also like to see how water quality might be improved at the site and for it to be used to promote environmental education.

I'm owner hotel de Paris monte Carlo since 1983 resort@sbm.mc I'm owner hotel I'm married Ivan Artolli Monaco court rabbinical since 1984 I'm pilot lotus car since 1984 monaco I never been USA I never been America before I'm owner Hermes corporate 57

trillion euros register fr00000052292 myaccount@hermes.com

don't do any of these things. it all includes paving and ruining it. leave it as is.

Biking is an outdoor experience and type of recreation I would like to see.

This area should be preserved and restored with a focus on nature. Kayaking, playgrounds, etc should occur in city parks and at the reservoir...NOT here

Current access and features are unique and adequate

I love the idea of a natural play area not full of plastics and other man made materials ... I think this will help kids think outside the box and entertain the idea that everyday things can be fun and interactive.

If this site would already allow fishing and miles of multiuse trails, I think other recreation options should be limited and secondary to protecting the ecosystem. Parks for people can be built in many places. But healthy wetlands and grasslands where animals can thrive are getting ever more scarce.

Other than carefully selected accessible trails near water, shaded resting areas, and perhaps a play area in places deemed appropriate by wildlife biology staff, I do not support off-trail access, fishing, paddleboarding or other stream activities, or any other intrusive activities that would compromise the wildlife value of the area and that are more appropriate for city parks, not natural ecosystem spaces. Boulder County residents cherish their natural spaces and wildlife, and this open area presents an amazing opportunity to restore a large area of native grasslands and riparian habitat to its more natural state, allowing the recovery of many

## Question 4 Long Answers (cont.)

species of concern as well as those that have been extirpated from BOCO. I, along with many others, would welcome the opportunity to enjoy this area and view wildlife, but a critically careful balance is needed to ensure that the wildlife and its habitat remain for generations. So many of our open spaces are under increasing pressure from ever growing numbers of people and dogs, overgrazing, stream degradation, and encroaching development, all of which have devastating effects on our wildlife populations. Please do not allow this area to become a playground that puts further pressure on our native species. Let's have a restored prairie, thriving riparian corridor, and wildlife refuge that we will be a showcase for the region and that we will all cherish for decades to come.

There should be enough areas to paddleboard.

I believe areas for human "play" should be available but limited, and precedence should go toward helping wildlife (including wild plants) flourish.

there is no need for an off trail area - it just confuses the public who already tend to be of the mindset "it's all outdoors/open so no need to respect native grasses etc.

While these all sound nice there are many other parks in Boulder County that offer these experiences. The protection of these riparian corridors are crucial to area wildlife. I would only want these developments to take place if it was determined that they would have minimal impact on existing wildlife habitat. I am particularly concerned about bringing fishing to the area as I encounter fishing line and lures at other county parks that allow fishing. These are hazards to wildlife. Use of the water for recreation can also lead to the spread of invasive species such as the New Zealand mudsnail.

It would be great if any off-trail area was also approved for drone flight usage.

Must prioritize preservation, natural habitat.

I think that the shaded areas, paddleboard/kayak access and natural play areas may end up increasing the human footprint to cause too much impact and degradation of natural areas. Not to mention trash and litter.

Bike paths please. Thanks so much for this project.

prefer no motorized ebikes or scooters - changes the whole feel and impacts wildlife. also dangerous to pedestrians

1. Off-trail use should be minimized especially during bird nesting seasons. Large areas should be left intact without trails or human access to avoid disturbing nesting birds and mammals.

1a. Human access leads to spread of invasive plants. Reinstatement of native plants should take a higher priority. I am part of the Skunk Creek Weeding Group. Skunk Creek is very overused and the weeds are now a significant part of the plant communities up there. We do our best but the spread of weeds is significant with human use. Also, will horses need to be fed weed free hay etc?

2. Boating is problematic because of zebra mussels. How do you plan to avoid the spread of these mussels. Boulder Creek near Eldorado Springs has already been blocked off because of zebra mussels. Why allow boating downstream if there might be a problem.

3. Is there a need for more play areas in the area? A natural one would be best as presented. Perhaps have an educational purpose - say an interactive site to discover wildlife.

## Question 4 Long Answers (cont.)

Most important to me are - bike/running trails which connect to other trails - fishing/non motorized boats

Please IGNORE my rankings for additional recreation amenities. I do not feel really strongly about ANY of them except the first one (shade).

Please, please, please provide additional hiker/pedestrian, equestrian, and bike access points in addition the parking area off Kenosha. This is such a big space that forcing all users to enter through vehicle parking doesn't make sense and increases car use. Please provide entry points especially on the easternmost side of the open space near CR1 for non-vehicular access for local residents to walk, ride a bike, or ride a horse onto the property. Thanks!!

Let's avoid most of these . Let the plants and animals live.

Limit dogs and no bikes Kids can play at a nearby park and not off trails.

PLEASE - no ebikes.

Natural off-trail fishing access

Good signage that provides history of area and wildlife present

No fishing!

Just ranked to submit.

None of the above

No dogs off leash preferably no dogs at all quiet, peaceful, tranquil setting separate from loud gatherings and playground

PLEASE connect these trails to the ones in boulder. Please make trails and connect to the ones in Boulder. Please connect to Erie trails and Lafayette's (excuse for) trails.

This is a unique area in Boulder County. Its uniqueness will be impaired by allowing many of the activities proposed.

Please consider a decent singletrack made of dirt with some nice benches and fun features for people riding and hiking to enjoy. Not just a crusher fine path, but make the trail itself fun. Lot and lots of covered benches for picnics and a few with groups of them so families can come for birthday parties and such.

You're BS-ing us. I did not see "several miles" of potential trails when I attended open house.

please minimize human disturbance of any native plant areas or resources (such as the lake and the creek) used by native animals. Ensure dogs and people do not introduce aquatic invasive species.

I have children now. I want it to be a good place to take my kids. Trails that are set back from the water. Places to enter the water safely.

I prefer that you prioritize NOT expanding the human footprint in this area - in other words, new trails, new structures, new areas for people to enjoy, etc, all increase the human impact on the landscape and especially on wildlife. I believe wildlife should be the highest priority.

Rifle/ pistol range

I feel paddle boarding has taken over almost every recreational site. There are plenty of them so I hope this site does not become another. I feel fishing

### Question 4 Long Answers (cont.)

should be allowed with floating devices usable while fishing only. Along with the fishing I would like to see warm water species only. There are trout ponds everywhere already. Let alone, the water gets way too warm to support trout properly. No bait. Flies and lures only. Allowing bait draws too many shore fishermen which unfortunately leave the place messing up shorelines and leaving lots of trash.

Should try to keep the site as wild as possible and remember that for much of the year Colorado has the potential for snow.

Paddleboarding will disrupt the aquatic system and negatively impact the wildlife who use this area

I enjoy paddleboarding, however it definitely creates a busier, less natural open space, so maybe not at this location

Important to allow wildlife to live in peace. and to stop all fishing. Catch and release traumatizes the fish. Just because the fisherman doesn't feel the fishes pain and shock, doesn't mean the fish isn't hurt. Leave the fish for the turtles and birds. Also NO SMOKING, NO TRASH NO AUDIBLE MUSIC

Accessibility is good but keep it simple and natural.

It's nice to let the kids enjoy outdoors, but they don't need a structured play area - they have those in towns. I would like to see access for people with disabilities, and while we don't fish, a lot of people really enjoy this contemplative activity and the piers are nice for everyone.

Bike/ walking trails connecting to other Boulder county trails.

Increase the placement of 'bat-boxes' to help re-wild the area.

E bikes should be allowed, and paths should be wide enough for bikes and pedestrians.

"Please consider the Boulder County Audubon recommendations: . Prioritize protection, restoration, and enhancement of wildlife and habitats when determining how and where human access will be allowed. Species and habitats that deserve priority include: Three Critical Wildlife Habitats in the area designated in the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan Environmental Resource Element (ERE) - Kenosha Wetlands, Kenosha Heronry, and Lower Boulder Creek Riparian Area Additional ERE designations in the area include the East County: Plains Environmental Conservation Area, Riparian Habitat Connector, and potential contiguous restoration area for Preble's meadow jumping mouse, a Federally listed threatened species Buffer areas for raptor nests and the Great Blue Heron heronry, as recommended by Colorado Parks and Wildlife State or Federally listed threatened or endangered species Animal and plant Species of Special Concern also included in the ERE Stream, riparian, wetland, and upland prairie habitats

2. Incorporate recommendations and concerns from BCPOS resource staff including wildlife biologists and plant ecologists.

3. Conduct additional plant and/or animal surveys as determined to be needed by resource staff, including ongoing monitoring and management changes as needed to reduce or eliminate impacts to wildlife and habitats.

4. Limit and strictly control access to water and riparian habitats, to avoid impacts to areas with the greatest wildlife and habitat values, such as Kenosha Wetlands. This includes leaving contiguous riparian corridors for bird nesting and movement of mammals and other wildlife.

## Question 4 Long Answers (cont.)

5. Restrict trails and other infrastructure and human access to areas with the least wildlife impacts.

Consider trails through agricultural areas, which would still provide views of the mountains.

6. Limit human access and disturbance to specific areas in order to minimize introduction and spread of terrestrial and aquatic invasive species. For example, New Zealand mudsnails occur upstream in Boulder Creek and are very easily spread by clinging to boots, watercraft, and dogs.

7. Eliminate grazing from riparian habitats, streams, ponds, and wetlands.

8. Continue to provide for prairie dogs on the site, as an important food source for bald eagles and other birds of prey nesting and wintering in the area.

9. If dogs are allowed, strictly limit them to specific areas where wildlife impacts would be minimized and require them to be leashed.

10. Leave the provision of urban, park-like amenities such as playgrounds to local towns and cities. The closest town to the site, Erie, lists thirteen parks on their website that provide playgrounds, sports fields, and many other amenities.

11. Incorporate, where still applicable, project objectives, management recommendations, and survey data from the 1998 Lower Boulder Creek and Coal Creek Open Space Master Plan. Include updated information such as any changes in use of the area, changes from the 2013 flood, and updated plant and animal surveys."

No ebikes please.

No to #s 1,2,3,4. Yes to #5 & 6

It would be great if any trail was wide enough to accommodate horses and let bikes, runners, walkers etc. give the horses a wide berth.

I don't think paddleboard and kayak access is appropriate.

It's hard to say without know what kinds of trails are already being planned for biking and hiking. It would be nice to offer a regional path through the site to connect to other areas and 1 - 3 multiuse singletrack loops through the property.

Golf course or other sport complex

Access to the water would be great if it can be done and not disturb the habitats.

Access to the creek occasionally (or seasonal water spigot at TH) for dogs would be great

Please include interconnected trails for walking and running

Would Love to see bike trail through this area connecting to teller farm trail

Off trail sites are key

There are all ready play areas in and around Erie

None of these. Need trail access through the area for pedestrians and bikes

Again, with good planning we can concentrate recreation of all kinds, and allow a few areas for contemplative hiking (no dogs or bikes) only. OSMP - sadly - increasingly has sacrificed the latter.

There are ample areas in East County, where all these activities can be engaged in, including parks in Erie, Lafayette, and existing County Open Space areas in East County. My preference is to limit all these facilities in the East Boulder Creek Open Space.



## Question 4 Long Answers (cont.)

Rather than fishing piers I would like to see wildlife viewing piers.

I want to be able to watch wildlife. That doesn't seem to be compatible with children's play areas.

I don't agree that there should be fishing access. If fishing is allowed it should be to a minimal number of areas.

Why all this infrastructure? Leave the area alone. Limit access. There's little enough habitat left with all the development.

Nothing motorized Most leave natural Trails to discourage bush whacking

No play areas no fishing piers no kayaking or paddle boarding no off trail areas All this will disturb birds nesting areas and wildlife

I only ranked Accessible and Shaded. We really don't need the others since those are readily available in other places in the County that don't risk impacting the wildlife as much as EBC.

I'd like to see just trails along the creek in the shaded areas with limited access points down to the water that are hardened with natural stone steps that can also be seating areas. These areas should be sited so there is topographic or vegetative blocks to further access up or down creek so that social trails don't develop right next to the creek. For the lakes, non-motorized craft like kayaks, paddleboards and canoes would be great.

Please preserve

Some interpretive signs would be nice

No bikes - especially e bikes Dogs on leash at all times

I would love to see a Nature Detectives program here

One thing I think people (including me) are seeking in going to a park is QUIET. So having some trails that are not accessible to bikes or horses and are not near picnic shelters, etc, would be great.

While the site is within a developed part of the county, it should look, feel, and be managed to feel as natural and "wild" as it can be. Even developed features should strive to be more natural and small in scale, such as having a number of small or even tiny fishing piers as opposed to a few large ones. Accessible trails should look and feel quirky like any other trail; less curvilinear, with slightly varying width and natural shapes. Some accessible trails might have native soil treads with the understanding that they will be muddy at times; they could be closed when muddy.

Would like to see biking trails for connectivity to Erie and Boulder County trail systems.

Please add horsetail away from pedestrians and bicycles and any wheeled items such as electric bikes or baby carriages. Horseback riders and horses cannot hear them approaching.

Do the options of paddleboard and play ground equipment indicate a change in Boulder County Parks and Open Space conservation and recreation philosophy? Are these activities allowed and promoted on other BCPOS properties currently? I do not support developed playgrounds or paddleboard/kayak access except for fishing activities.

All these options sound great and should be located on the east side of 287, north of Jasper road. There

## Question 4 Long Answers (cont.)

have been numerous accidents, several fatal, on the stretch between Jasper and Lookout. There is currently no traffic light and traffic moves fast in that stretch. I am worried about the increased likelihood of accidents if traffic patterns are not considered.

Limit the outdoor experiences to one area to minimize human impact

All of these activities should be placed East of US287. The westside area is home to extensive wildlife, and access would pose danger because of the already current heavy traffic. There is a school and two home developments who would be highly impacted due to an increase number of vehicles, in an area that has already been affected by numerous and deadly car wrecks. That section of US287 is on a downward slope, which reduces visibility to Dawson School's gate. To increase traffic on that area is potentially increase the risks for car accidents, because even on weekends sports events happen at Dawson's campus.

Keeping this as natural as possible, no built in things other than a trail would be nice.

What about hiking and biking trails? Any plans for the decommissioned RR Track running through/near this area? Could be a great trail for hiking/biking.

no motorized boats or anything please! Even Bikes are questionable in my mind. I think the saw ponds area is a good model of what I personally would like - peaceful walk - gravel trail - not speeding bikes... Also fishing leaves lots of trash :( horses yes.. would be awesome to have nest poles for eagles and osprey

Protecting critical wildlife habitat should take priority over recreational activities like paddle boarding and kayaking.

I would like the emphasis to be on a space for quiet, contemplative walks, birding, etc.

Stock with large gamefish, catch and release only, flies lures only

The play area looks like rattlesnake habitat

No development.

please no bikes or bikes!

Voice and sight dog area would be great, especially with year round water.

I recently had a really bad experience with a bird caught in a large amount of fishing line at Walden Pond. This disturbed me so much. I'm dismayed that people who fish leave such trash behind that harms our wildlife.

I'm not in favor of providing a lot of built amenities here - there's lots in Erie already. I think it should focus on connecting with nature and water thru trails, informal picnicking, fishing, and stuff for kids...if there's a nature play area it should just be a bunch of natural materials - not something that feels more like a playground (as shown in the photo). Also, the boating access feels forced...open water seems limited-don't spend a lot on making this place something it isn't

We don't need Walden pond version 2 east of here

Please DO NOT ALLOW E-BIKES!!

We live on 119th near Kenosha in Erie and are really looking forward to some kind of trail system nearby. our street doesn't even have a shoulder or bike lane.

## Question 4 Long Answers (cont.)

So us and our kids have to walk or ride in the street for at least 1.5 miles to get to the nearest sidewalk or trail. We would love a hiking and biking trail along the boulder creek since thats so close to our house. and we used to live in Downtown boulder and would love to be able to ride our bikes all along the boulder creek from our house in Erie to Downtown Boulder.

It would be amazing to allow paddleboarding/ kayaking. There are so many lakes that allow fishing in Boulder County but not many for paddleboarding/ kayaking.

Are the fishing piers along the river? There are not many accessible locations for fishing along streams/ rivers.

There are not enough kid-friendly places to easily access nature. A natural play area (not a playground) would be incredible

Trails for walking, running, and biking would be wonderful to get people out exercising and a quiet place to be in nature. A place for fishing would be great. I think it would be best to not over develop it with playgrounds and structures, keep it natural with trails for people to explore.

THE WORD "natural" IS RACIST AS IT SUGGESTS THAT BLACK AND BROWN BODIES ARE NOT NATURAL, ALL PLAYGROUNDS ARE BUILT ON COLONIAL IDEALS OF WHITENESS AND RACIST CREATIONS LIKE "monkey bars".

Getting it open should be top priority, and should include ADA access. Expensive "improvements" beyond basic access should be lower priorities.

Fishing!! Add more places to fish please!!

Having paddleboard and kayak access in Erie is important, as well as walking trails. Many residents travel to Longmont, Lyons, and Lafayette for these activities.

I would have put a bike/walking trail as #1 I would have put fishing access (via trail/path) as #2

Lots of benches along trails for young and old

If it is possible to protect wildlife while providing a swim and off leash walk for dogs that would be great. It improves their socialization and swimming is great exercise. Twin Peaks off leash dog park in Gunbarrel has just been redone and might be a place to look at for some ideas

In conjunction to resting areas what if meditation areas could be created?

I am an equestrian and hope this will be accessible to horseback riders.

Please try to keep this place as natural as possible near the water. Facilities should be away from the water. Barr Lake is a good example of this. Also, if you put in a play area make sure it is a lot of play stuff, not 2 or 3 things like most of the parks in Erie.

Naturalist related education activities

Off-trail areas and Natural play areas should be restricted to parcels that are not home to eagles, heron, osprey, and other wildlife sensitive to such disruption.

walking trails should be the main priority. I would not want to see bikes on the trails. There is just too much dangerous interaction with bicyclists on other trails.

## Question 4 Long Answers (cont.)

Loop trails preferred.

Reduce the human impact to these areas by not including kayak access nor natural play areas

PLEASE create a space for dogs to jump in and get wet - it's so hot here and dogs need to get wet!

Emphasize environmental attributes and de-emphasize recreation. Keep riparian environment untouched by humans. Cattle already bask in water upstream of this area--try to keep them out, and certainly don't have human activity in this waterway.

No Dogs! No picnic areas (people don't pick up there trash)!

Dogs must be on leash.

An off leash dog space w/ access to water would be amazing

It is unclear where the boating recreation would be on these properties. Please don't put this type of recreation on the creek, which would lead to loss of the important habitat.

Horseback trails near water Reserved parking for horse trailers and plenty of parking for canoe/kayak trailers.

Non-motorized connectivity to other trails is extremely important. I would prefer to avoid driving to the area.

Access to water for horses to drink is desirable.

I don't understand how off-trail recreation could possibly support conservation goals. I would like to

not see that at all, because those areas will rapidly experience devegetation and desertification. This site is very exposed, meaning desertification will result in high dust levels and make the site far less accessible or even harmful to those with breathing problems.

Actually the outdoor experience should be limited to fishing and trails only. There is no need for fishing piers due to the waste of resources. Resting area with that shade in the picture is off putting. Where is the natural shade? What is off trail area means? It means to continue destroy the natural habitat and plants???? Paddle board?? This is not acceptable by offering this as a recreational due to water conservation, testing water cost, destroying the natural habitat from birds nesting and other important eco cycle critters. It is better to have everything done naturally in nature mode, no concrete, cloth shade wood piers should not be in the plan. It is a nature background.

large enough spaces for fly fisherman to cast without injuring someone.

extensive walking paths would be good

## Question 6 Long Answers

Is there any other feedback you would like us to consider?

Please keep closed to public access.

Changing the name to a natural feature takes removes its connection to the landscape, it is in fact East Boulder Creek.

Too many open spaces are dominated by bikes and dogs and are not accessible to persons with disabilities. Please make this property accessible and prioritize the protection of wildlife habitat to give people an opportunity to enjoy nature in all of its forms.

I've lived in Boulder County since 1996. We've lived in our home in East Boulder County since 2010. We are tired of Boulder County and oil & gas wanting to develop this area. Just leave it alone! How many millions of taxpayer dollars did the county waste on wanting to build that ridiculous compost factory? Leave this land and those of us who live in East Boulder County alone! We don't want extra traffic on our dirt road. The sheriff's office has told me they have one officer in this area and they're too busy to run radar on our road. How is that already overwhelmed officer going to keep an open space area safe? Seriously--just STOP this.

Ideally, the EBC management plan should incorporate, where still applicable, project objectives, management recommendations, and survey data from the 1998 Lower Boulder Creek and Coal Creek Open Space Master Plan, plus updated information such as any changes in use of the area, changes from the 2013 flood, and updated plant and animal surveys. Boulder County Audubon Society urges BCPOS to incorporate recommendations and concerns from resource staff--including wildlife biologists and plant ecologists--into EBC management plans. These

may include conducting additional plant and animal surveys, and ongoing monitoring and management changes in the future as needed to reduce or eliminate impacts to wildlife and habitats, based on updated site information and relevant research studies.

Don't turn this into a city park.

East Boulder Creek lets people know what this site is about and where it is. Names like Heron or Coyote are not unique to this site.

I believe it is critical that the planning process and draft management plan prioritize recommendations and concerns from BCPOS resource staff including wildlife biologists and plant ecologists. This includes conducting additional plant and/or animal surveys as determined to be needed by resource staff, including ongoing monitoring and management changes to reduce or eliminate impacts to wildlife and habitats. Additionally, the 1998 Lower Boulder Creek and Coal Creek Open Space Master Plan includes project objectives, management recommendations, and survey data that were carefully considered by a highly qualified consultant team. Much of this information is still relevant and could be updated with any changes in use and/or conditions of the area, changes from the 2013 flood, and updated plant and animal surveys.

Please consult with and take seriously recommendations of biologists and ecologists. We desperately need more protected areas, not areas for recreation or development. This is a unique riparian area and it would be a shame to turn it into a city park-like space. Species protection should be the driving consideration. Public opinion, if it favors

## Question 6 Long Answers (cont.)

recreation, should not be the major consideration. Scientific recommendations by biologists, botanists, and wildlife staff should be the major determinants of the management plan.

Again, please designate this area for gentle recreation. It should not become a dog park, a boat rental area, or another mountain bike autobahn. I also worry about fishing as I've seen the effects of lures and fishing line that have not been properly disposed of at other parks in the county, including a Northern Flicker that ended up strangled and hanged upside down like an effigy.

Please keep the water accessible and open. Also what is the plan to deal with the mud snails.

I had issues with rankings as only two choices were available for picking - as a result my order of importance does not reflect my wishes

I need instructions please I never been Brazil I never been Sao Paulo Brazil I don't understand Portuguese language

Why would you call it Coal Creek if it's East Boulder Creek?

Human access and human impacts should be excluded from aquatic, wetlands, and terrestrial wildlife habitat. Blinds and viewing areas should be placed at the outside edges of there rich, valuable habitats. Dogs should NOT be allowed near wildlife habitat; elsewhere, dogs must be controlled on leash. On trail use must be required for all users.

Don't allow humans to do fishing, let the Herons, Egrets, and Pelicans do this. Allowing fishing by humans risks ecosystem imbalance and risks the introduction and spread of terrestrial and aquatic

invasive species such as New Zealand mudsnails which are already upstream in Boulder Creek.

I love this idea and am open to any "natural feature" name being used for this park .... Coyote is my 2nd favorite to include in the name ... Heron 1st because of high volumes in our watershed areas.

These names are not very creative or inspiring.

I feel strongly that dogs on trails in the site should be leashed, and that hikers also should have to stay on trails to protect vegetation, ground-nesting birds, etc. Hopefully rangers or educational signage could help with that.

An incredible amount of work went into the original 1998 (or earlier) management plan for this area, and I think it is unfortunate that there appears to have been little follow-up on this. While it is valuable to consider public opinion in management decisions, it should only be only one factor that does not outweigh the scientific recommendations of wildlife and botany staff, natural resource surveys, and the considered opinions of the professionals who were asked to contribute to the management plan. Recreation decisions should be made in concert with stringent environmental protection policies to protect the existing wetlands, nesting sites, wildlife corridors, and animal species, as well as to enhance and restore the area for recovery of species who have been extirpated or are of special concern. The value of this area for recreation will be lost if we do not protect its diversity. Please do not turn this into a city park and lose the opportunity to restore a fully functioning, healthy grassland and riparian ecosystem--this is an important and rare opportunity.



### Question 6 Long Answers (cont.)

Protection, restoration, and enhancement of wildlife and habitats must be prioritized over human access. Natural places are not human jungle gyms! . The ERE designations and identifications must be honored. This includes protection of potential habitat for the Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse and buffers for the Blue Heron heronry that CPW recommends. The recommendations of BCPOS staff needs to be incorporated. Additional surveys for plants and wildlife potential and on-going monitoring also need to be included. A minimum of a 300 foot riparian buffer needs to be in place with human access completely off limits. This must be strictly enforced to protect riparian habitat. Creeks, streams and rivers are wildlife movement corridors so maintaining contiguous protections are necessary. Reroute trails/ human access as needed to protect this sensitive area. Prairie dogs are on this site and need to be maintained as they are a keystone species other wildlife depends on for survival. Dogs should not be allowed in sensitive areas (if at all) and if they are, there needs to be very strict rules

Overall I think we need to strongly limit human impact on the riparian habitat this site has and we should make that habitat's protection the top priority.

It would be good to see Bison return to POS lands

It would be nice to have an area where dogs could swim.

I hope you are able to conserve this important area for birds and wildlife.

No grazing of domestic animals

NO electric bikes, scooters, etc.

Boulder county appears to be losing open space rapidly. Since I moved here 23 years ago Boulder has gone from promising to keep open space as is, if not increase it. Now I see development everywhere including in the 119 corridor between the roads. From reading various articles I understand that Boulder county (City and surrounding County living areas) has seen an increase of 20,000 new apartment rentals in buildings rising to 3 or 4 stories!

Seriously, if we are changing names like Mount Evans based on his past, we should consider changing the name of Teller Farm trail: read <https://coloradoencyclopedia.org/article/henry-teller>

Who created this survey? There should be options for "don't care" for each of the questions ... instead of defaulting to "must make a selection"

Please, please, please provide additional hiker/ pedestrian, equestrian, and bike access points in addition the one parking area off Kenosha. This is such a big space that forcing all users to enter through vehicle parking doesn't make sense. Please provide entry points especially on the easternmost side of the open space near CR1 for non-vehicular access for local residents to walk, ride a bike, or ride a horse onto the property. Thanks!!

We have many playgrounds in cities and don't need more. Birds are decreasing and going extinct -- let's protect them.

Really need to build the rail trail from Boulder to County Line. Make a nice area for bike parking.

Take care of prairie dogs as a keystone species. Restrict trails eliminate grazing near any wetland. Check with wildlife biologists and get

## Question 6 Long Answers (cont.)

recommendations from them before starting to bulldoze!

Strive for maximal balance and harmony as possible

No need to overthink this

Reducing the homeless in our parks and along our paths on Boulder.

bike path away from roads

Do this fast. Please don't make rules to lock it out for people. Light parking if any.

Parking will be an issue. As it is a residential area. Hate to see a parking lot, but maybe people can use Boulder Valley farm lot or something by the railroad tracks or even a shuttle from teller farm...

Limit activity on this unique property!

Please make this a truly open space. Rather than telling people "nature is over there. You can't go in!" Make this an area where people are encouraged to see and interact with nature. Yes, this is a bit more impact on the environment, but we actually don't have places on BoCo Open Space where you actually try to integrate people with nature. You treat humans as if they are a problem that needs to be kept away from nature. Or, if you allow people in nature, you tell them they can only do so in quiet contemplation. People love to be in nature, but they want to do that with their families and have picnics and ride their bikes and sit on a rock on the side of the stream (not a fenced in area 50 ft away from it). Make this more integrated and let people play in nature.

Consider starting a program where volunteers can help reduce the intensity of noxious weeds on the site, and help to seed, install native plants instead.

If this is a high use area I would be willing to pay to support high certain high quality amenities like reserving shelters. An electric car charger in the parking lot would be nice to have. It should be pay to charge. Free chargers have people that don't need to charge topping up. My car is older and only gets 80 miles. I would pay a considerable amount to ensure the charger is free.

Duck and goose hunting

This area provides a unique opportunity to provide a continuous environment for nature. Habitat fragmentation is one of the main reasons our natural environment is deteriorating.

I was not clear on what an "off-trail area" meant.

Important to allow wildlife to live in peace. and to stop all fishing. Catch and release traumatizes the fish. Just because the fisherman doesn't feel the fishes pain and shock, doesn't mean the fish isn't hurt. Leave the fish for the turtles and birds.

It should not be named anything with coal creek unless it is along the coal creek...

Not every open space needs to serve the recreational desires of everyone....there are so many places in the county to find the right place for each activity;.

Off leash dog trails Dog swimming

## Question 6 Long Answers (cont.)

Is this survey available in Spanish? Please make sure that people who speak Spanish as their first language/primary language can access this too.

Let's keep it simple and use the name folks are familiar with.

If you allow horseback riding, they should allow for bikes to pass. I've been on multi use paths in East Boulder County, where horse riders refused to allow bikes to pass.

No e-bikes please

No opinion

protect this environment!!!

This area should have bike paths that tie into regional bike transportation systems. Ebike accessible for older populations.

Emphasize birdwatching/wildlife watching opportunities. Severely limit or prohibit horse access. The proximity of commercial horse riding operations immediately adjacent to the property poses a risk of overuse. Prohibit drone flights.

Yes! HB 23-1255 and SB 213 will destroy Lafayette and make these questions irrelevant. We have to pull together as a city to stop the state from forcing this legislation on us or we will quickly become just another I-25 corridor strip mall condo community and the heart and soul of Lafayette will be doomed. PLEASE LEAD US IN FIGHTING THIS TERRIBLE LEGISLATION!!!!!!!!!!

Plenty of parks have either the Coal or Boulder creek present or nearby. Also, plenty have herons and coyotes. Names that cite one of those would be interchangeable with other parks. However, Confluence Conservation Area would highlight the confluence of Coal and Boulder creeks.

Let's give the Arapaho equivalent on all signage.

This is not a big issue for me. Although, it should not be named for a person!

Focus on protecting and expanding habitat for wildlife.

Heron is better than coyote since there is a rookery, but Confluence (as in confluence of Boulder and Coal Creeks) would be better.

Why the development? Leave some habitat for native plants and animals.

Parking at least 200 yards from trails and water. You have to walk to enjoy it!:

Please no structures - keep it natural as possible.

1. Prioritize protection, restoration, and enhancement of wildlife and habitats when determining how and where human access will be allowed. Species and habitats that deserve priority include: Three Critical Wildlife Habitats in the area designated in the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan Environmental Resource Element (ERE) - Kenosha Wetlands, Kenosha Heronry, and Lower Boulder Creek Riparian Area. Additional ERE designations in the area include the East County: Plains Environmental Conservation Area, Riparian Habitat Connector, and potential contiguous restoration area for Preble's meadow jumping mouse,

## Question 6 Long Answers (cont.)

a Federally listed threatened species Buffer areas for raptor nests and the Great Blue Heron heronry, as recommended by Colorado Parks and Wildlife State or Federally listed threatened or endangered species Animal and plant Species of Special Concern also included in the ERE Stream, riparian, wetland, and upland prairie habitats

2. Incorporate recommendations and concerns from BCPOS resource staff including wildlife biologists and plant ecologists.

3. Conduct additional plant and/or animal surveys as determined to be needed by resource staff, including ongoing monitoring and management changes as needed to reduce or eliminate impacts to wildlife and habitats.

4. Limit and strictly control access to water and riparian habitats, to avoid impacts to areas with the greatest wildlife and habitat values, such as Kenosha Wetlands. This includes leaving contiguous riparian corridors for bird nesting and movement of mammals and other wildlife.

5. Restrict trails and other infrastructure and human access to areas with the least wildlife impacts.

Consider trails through agricultural areas, which would still provide views of the mountains.

6. Limit human access and disturbance to specific areas in order to minimize introduction and spread of terrestrial and aquatic invasive species. For example, New Zealand mudsnails occur upstream in Boulder Creek and are very easily spread by clinging to boots, watercraft, and dogs.

7. Eliminate grazing from riparian habitats, streams, ponds, and wetlands.

8. Continue to provide for prairie dogs on the site, as an important food source for bald eagles and other birds of prey nesting and wintering in the area.

9. If dogs are allowed, strictly limit them to specific areas where wildlife impacts would be minimized and require them to be leashed.

10. Leave the provision of urban, park-like amenities such as playgrounds to local towns and cities. The closest town to the site, Erie, lists thirteen parks on their website that provide playgrounds, sports fields, and many other amenities.

11. Incorporate, where still applicable, project objectives, management recommendations, and survey data from the 1998 Lower Boulder Creek and Coal Creek Open Space Master Plan. Include updated information such as any changes in use of the area, changes from the 2013 flood, and updated plant and animal surveys.

It is a special place and should remain in agricultural production. Care should be taken to guard against whole sale human intrusion. The entire “ parcel “ would be hard to monitor and further to patrol and regulate use. Strategic areas for continual visitor use should be at the edges and not woven throughout the entire site.

Not coal creek. It's already associated with other areas.

some combination of e boulder and coal creeks

There should be a place where children, even young children, and adults can play in shallow water in a creek or pond. Think “Last Child in the Woods.” This place should have native trees and shade, preferably a gravel bottom (of natural gravel) and immediate shoreline, and shaded benches. BCPOS would support a certain amount of environmental degradation here as “kids will be kids.” Perhaps this area could be part of a picnic area.

We are super excited for this project and would love to see it completed soon so our kids can enjoy it while they're still young! We really hope there will be kayak

## Question 6 Long Answers (cont.)

and paddle board access and enough parking that it won't fill up on weekends. Thanks for your hard work on this project!

A toilet facility at the parking area is important.

I do not like the name East Boulder Creek or Coal Creek. Coyote would be fine

Please work with the Town of Erie to make sure that north end of Coal Creek meets this conservation vision

Off-trail areas and natural play areas should be restricted to parcels that are not near eagles, heron, osprey, and other wildlife sensitive to such disruption. The Boulder Creek parcel that is west of 287 and south of Dawson school seems especially sensitive to off-trail activities and play areas...with nesting bald eagles, nesting herons etc. Best to minimize people in this area. To protect critical wildlife habitat, especially west of 287, hiking, biking and dog walking should be minimized and restricted to trails only and dogs should be on leash.

As the protections of other parts of Boulder Creek are being eroded, please set up this area to truly protect the ecosystem that has been laboriously reclaimed.

Indigenous consultation was integral to the process of renaming Mount Evans to Mount Blue Sky so this special place held a deeper meaning for Colorado residents. If preservation is the goal of this project, the name should not only reflect the present but also the past and future history of the land.

No development

Let's move away from naming after creek names that have connections to white settlement (i.e. Boulder and Coal).

E-bikes activated by throttle should be classified as motorized vehicles. They should be allowed on roads only.

Please hire Native American consultants to offer information about how their peoples have used this area historically, also their plant and ecological knowledge. It would be wonderful to hear the Arapaho language spoken and see interpretive signs that share Indigenous knowledge, history, and language.

your resident question is missing Weld County-town of Erie

We live on 119th near Kenosha in Erie and are really looking forward to some kind of trail system nearby. our street doesn't even have a shoulder or bike lane. So us and our kids have to walk or ride in the street for at least 1.5 miles to get to the nearest sidewalk or trail. We would love a hiking and biking trail along the boulder creek since thats so close to our house. and we used to live in Downtown boulder and would love to be able to ride our bikes all along the boulder creek from our house in Erie to Downtown Boulder.

In looking at the property acquisition map, there are many more miles of streams where people are not allowed than areas where we are. This seems like a good place to allow people to get to the stream and not just for a point or two but for long distances.

My family lives in the Kenosha neighborhood and we have always wanted to bird watch near these ponds. Space for children to explore nature (not just walking

## Question 6 Long Answers (cont.)

trails where you keep moving) would be amazing for families with small children who struggle to get to the mountains.

Thank you for getting us more open space - this is what will keep Erie a great place to live. Preserve as much open natural space as you can so the people that live here can walk, run, exercise in nature.

PLEASE SEGREGATE THE TRAILS AND PARK FEATURES SO THAT PEOPLE OF COLOR CAN SAFELY WALK ON TRAILS WITHOUT FEELING THE DISCOMFORT OF HAVING TO SEE WHITENESS IN ALL ITS FORMS. THERE IS NOTHING WORSE THAN BEING A PERSON OF COLOR AND HAVING TO SEE WHITE PEOPLE IN THE WILDERNESS.

Connection to trails systems should also be considered when building the park.

More fishing and water activities!!!

It's crazy to me that you want to develop this area, which will push the coyotes and herons off of the land, but still want to name it after them.

Making this mostly accessible via bike/hiking paths tends to be lesser intrusive/impacting. Tying it into Boulder and even up to the St Vrain Greenway is the way to go here IMHO.

I support restrooms, changing stations, water and shade for disabled children and adults - their needs beyond a walkable path are often unrecognized, I hope you have consultants (families) with this expertise to inform you of areas of need that are often unseen. thank you

Ample trail space (width) for both walkers and bicyclists

Adequate horse trailer parking

Don't mess up a natural area just to make a park.

To protect critical wildlife habitat, especially west of 287, hiking, biking and dog walking should be restricted to trails only and dogs should be on leash.

Do something bold like create an urban swimming hole. See what they did in Chico, CA, here: <https://youtu.be/mJUmcwvUJtE>

Limit the impacts to this area. If not broken, why change it

If at all possible, it would be nice to limit litter, give pets access to the water, walking and shaded space - plant trees!

Cattle continue to destroy corridor (at least near 109th St.); this restored area must be protected for wildlife only.

Thank you for protecting this space from development. Structures in the park should be minimal, limited to a restroom and a covered picnic site.

Too many other places in Boulder County with Coal Creek in the name.

Even though I don't see bike trails mentioned, please ensure that cyclists can easily travel to the site and park bikes safely once there. How about a covered bike parking area?

No



## **Question 6 Long Answers (cont.)**

Please no more white male names memorialized please. Keep those for buildings, but never natural areas or lands.

make sure there is plenty of parking, multiple points of access would be best.

Ability to bike to there from Boulder

## Email Comments

**The following response is from Gerry Kelly President, Boulder County Nature Association (BCNA) Board of Directors:**

1. It appears that BCPOS will attempt to prioritize protection, restoration, and enhancement of wildlife and habitats when determining how and where human access will be allowed. Please maintain this priority throughout the planning process. Species and habitats that deserve priority include: Three Critical Wildlife Habitats in the area designated in the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan Environmental Resource Element (ERE) - Kenosha Wetlands, Kenosha Heronry, and Lower Boulder Creek Riparian Area. Additional ERE designations in the area include the East County: Plains Environmental Conservation Area, Riparian Habitat Connector, and potential contiguous restoration area for Preble's meadow jumping mouse, a Federally listed threatened species. Buffer areas for raptor nests and the Great Blue Heron heronry, as recommended by Colorado Parks and Wildlife. State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species. Animal and plant Species of Special Concern, also included in the ERE. Stream, riparian, wetland and upland prairie habitats.
2. BCNA also very much supports the County's focus on providing access and opportunities for nature observation, education, and appreciation for persons of all abilities.
3. In addition, BCNA supports the use of interpretative signage to educate users on the many aspects of the natural world, including a systems approach that connects the various ecological aspects and their important functions.
4. Incorporate recommendations and concerns from BCPOS resource staff, including wildlife biologists and plant ecologists.
5. Conduct additional plant and/or animal surveys as determined to be needed by resource staff, including monitoring to establish a strong ecological baseline and to determine positive and negative impacts associated with various management strategies as needed to reduce or eliminate impacts to wildlife and habitats.
6. Limit and strictly control access to water and riparian habitats to avoid impacts to areas with the greatest wildlife and habitat values, such as Kenosha Wetlands. This includes leaving contiguous riparian corridors for bird nesting and movement of mammals and other wildlife. However, try to incorporate wildlife viewing around/near such area, including the limited use of blinds, as appropriate.
7. Restrict trails, other infrastructure and human access to areas with the least wildlife impacts.
8. Limit human access and disturbance to minimize introduction and spread of terrestrial and aquatic invasive species. For example, New Zealand mudsnails occur upstream in Boulder Creek and are very easily spread by clinging to boots and dogs.
9. Eliminate grazing from riparian habitats, streams, ponds and wetlands.
10. Continue to provide for prairie dogs on the site, as an important food source for bald eagles and other birds of prey nesting and wintering in the area.

11. If dogs are allowed, strictly limit them to specific areas where wildlife impacts would be minimized, and require them to be leashed. This will require management budgets to include enforcement.

12. Leave the provision of urban, park-like amenities, such as playgrounds, to local towns and cities. For example, the town of Erie is quite close to the site, and its website lists thirteen parks that provide playgrounds, sports fields and many other amenities. The site plan should make the natural world a key focus -- to enable users to experience a more natural world and its great ecological diversity.

13. Incorporate, where still applicable, project objectives, management recommendations, and survey data from the 1998 Lower Boulder Creek and Coal Creek Open Space Master Plan. Include updated information such as any changes in use of the area, changes from the 2013 flood, and updated plant and animal surveys.

**The following response is from Carol McCasland, [Treasurer of] Board of Directors of Boulder County Audubon Society (BCAS):**

BCAS's mission is to be a "voice for birds and wildlife conservation through habitat protection, advocacy, and nature education." We consider it of the utmost importance to prioritize protection, restoration, and enhancement of wildlife and habitats when determining how and where human access will be allowed at the EBC site.

Because the EBC site has experienced limited human access, this special area presents an opportunity to continue to protect and restore native prairie, riparian corridors, and other important habitats, while allowing for some human uses. Species diversity is quite big on portions of the area, particularly Kenosha Wetlands and along Coal Creek. To maintain this diversity of over 140 bird species and a variety of native mammals, amphibians, and other organisms observed on the site, we strongly believe that human access needs to be carefully planned and controlled. This includes consideration of seasons of use by wildlife - for example, some bird species nest in the area, while for others the site provides valuable migration or wintering habitat.

Species and habitats that deserve priority in management planning for EBC include:

- The three Critical Wildlife Habitats in the area designated in the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan Environmental Resource Element (ERE) - Kenosha Wetlands, Kenosha Heronry, and Lower Boulder Creek Riparian Area.
- Additional ERE designations in the area including the East County: Plains Environmental Conservation Area, Riparian Habitat Connector, and Potential Restoration, Contiguous area for the Federally threatened Preble's meadow jumping mouse (PMJM). This potential restoration area is a necessary part of a longer recovery section of Boulder Creek if it is selected for restoration as part of the recovery process for PMJM.
- Buffer areas for raptor nests and the Great Blue Heron heronry, as recommended by Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Ongoing monitoring and periodic changes will be needed, to accommodate changing locations of raptor nests and heronries.
- State or Federally listed threatened or endangered species.
- Species of Special Concern listed in the ERE. Some of these species, such as the northern harrier, occur or nest in so few sites in the county that loss or compromise of even one site could affect their survival in the county,
- Stream, riparian, wetlands, and upland prairie habitats

To avoid impacts to areas with the greatest wildlife and habitat values, such as Kenosha Wetlands Critical Wildlife Habitat, we believe that access to water and riparian habitats should be limited and strictly controlled. This would leave continuous riparian corridors for bird nesting and movement of mammals and other wildlife, uninterrupted by human presence. Trails and other infrastructure should be located in areas with the least wildlife impacts - for example, trails through agricultural areas would provide mountain views while minimizing wildlife and habitat impacts. Eliminating grazing from riparian habitats, streams, ponds, and wetlands will help facilitate recovery of these areas. Restricting human disturbance to specific areas will also help to minimize introduction and spread of terrestrial invasive species, plus aquatic invasives such as New Zealand mudsnails.

BCAS would like to see prairie dogs continue on the site, in area determined to be appropriate by resource staff, as a keystone species and an important food source for bald eagles and other raptors nesting and wintering in the area. If pet dogs are allowed, we believe they should be leashed and strictly limited to specific areas where wildlife impact would be minimized. Additionally, it is our considered opinion that the provision of urban, park-life amenities such as playgrounds and paddle boarding should be left to local towns and cities. As just one example, Erie lists thirteen parks on their website that provide playgrounds and many other amenities.

Ideally, the EBC management plan should incorporate, where still applicable, project objectives, management recommendations, and survey data from the 1998 Lower Boulder Creek and Coal Creek Open Space Master Plan, plus updated information such as any changes in use of the area, changes from the 2013 flood, and updated plant and animal surveys.

Finally, we urge BCPOS to incorporate recommendations and concerns from resource staff including wildlife biologists and plant ecologists—into EBC management plans. These may include conducting additional plant and animal surveys, and ongoing monitoring and management changes in the future as needed to reduce or eliminate impacts to wildlife and habitats, based on updated site information and relevant research studies.