

PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

PARK OPERATIONS ~ ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ~ RECREATION/CULTURAL SERVICES ~ CSU EXTENSION

Park Advisory Board

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, June 14, 2023 – 1:30 p.m.

Centennial Hall, 200 S. Cascade, Colorado Springs

<u>Item</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Recommended Action</u>
1. Call Meeting to Order	Chair	
2. Approval of the Agenda	Chair	Approval
3. Approval of Minutes	Chair	Approval
4. Introductions / Presentations		
5. Citizen Comments / Correspondence on items not on the agenda (limited to three (3) minutes unless extended by Chair)	Chair	
6. Development Applications		
A. Double Spur Ranch Minor Subdivision	Ross Williams	Endorsement
7. Information / Action Items		
A. Pikes Peak Birding and Nature Festival	Jessica Miller	Information
B. Proclamation of Support for Fox Run Nature Center	Theresa Odello/ Jason Meyer	Endorsement

<u>Item</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Recommended Action</u>
8. Monthly Reports	Staff	Information
9. Board / Staff Comments		
10. Adjournment		

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

*Minutes of the May 10, 2023
El Paso County Park Advisory Board Meeting
Centennial Hall, 200 S. Cascade
Colorado Springs, Colorado*

Members Present:

Ed Hartl, Chair

Anne Schofield, 2nd Vice Chair

Susan Jarvis-Weber, Secretary

Terry Martinez

Kiersten Steel, 3rd Vice Chair

Vincent Prins

John Wallace (via phone)

Thomas Lachocki

Staff Present:

Todd Marts, Executive Director

Brian Bobeck, Park Operations Division Manager

Sabine Carter, Administrative Services Coordinator

Jason Meyer, Park Planning Division Manager

Ross Williams, Park Planner

Greg Stachon, Landscape Architect

Theresa Odello, Recreation & Cultural Services Manager

MaryJo Lewis, Bear Creek Nature Center Supervisor

The following minutes are a summary of the proceedings. A recording is available upon request at the El Paso County Parks Administration Office.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Ed Hartl, Chair.
2. Approval of Agenda: **Vincent Prins made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Thomas Lachocki seconded the motion. The motion carried 7 - 0.**
3. Approval of Minutes: **Anne Schofield made a motion to approve the April 12, 2023, meeting minutes. Vincent Prins seconded the motion. The motion carried 7 - 0.**

(Terry Martinez joined the meeting by TEAMS at 1:33 p.m.)

4. Introductions and Presentations:

A. Pikes Peak Pickleball Association Donation

The Pikes Peak Pickleball Association presented a \$7,000 check to El Paso County Parks. The funds will be used to purchase a new shade structure near the Bear Creek Regional Park pickleball courts.

B. 2023 County Fair

Andschana Aljets, Fair & Events Center Supervisor presented an overview of the 2023 El Paso County Fair being held on July 15-22 at the Fair & Events Center in Calhan, CO.

5. Citizen Comments:

Corey Sutela, Director of Medicine Wheel Trail Advocates commented on Jones Park. He asked the Park Advisory Board for their recommendation to the County Commissioners to show the trail outlined in his handout to be included in the El Paso County Master Plan.

These trails were the results of an extensive public engagement process.

Chair Ed Hartl stated that the Master Plan has not been finalized at this point. Once it is, trails and other details will be discussed during public hearings.

Robert Rickgauer, citizen and representative of several equestrian riding clubs also commented to Jones Park and asked the board for recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners to not remove a specific trail from the Master Plan. (He referred to the handout for details).

6. Development Applications:

A. **Falcon Field Residential and Commercial Preliminary Plan**

Greg Stachon presented the Falcon Field Residential and Commercial Preliminary Plan and answered questions from the board. The board requested to add the following amended recommendation.

Thomas Lachocki recommended that the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners include the following conditions when considering and/or approving the Falcon Field Residential and Commercial Preliminary Plan: (1) require fees in lieu of land dedication for regional park purposes in the amount of \$77,740, and urban park fees in the amount of \$49,010. (2) encourage the applicant to provide a transition between the higher density proposed land use and the adjacent 5-acre residential lots and consider the existing natural drainage with the proposed development. John Wallace seconded the motion. The motion carried 8 – 0.

B. **Grandview Reserve Filing No. 1 Final Plat**

Jason Meyer presented an overview of Grandview Reserve Filing No. 1 Final Plat and addressed questions by the board.

Vincent Prins recommended that the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners include the following conditions when considering and/or approving the Grandview Reserve Filing No. 1 Final Plat: (1) work with El Paso County Parks and Public Works staff to develop a final layout and design for the Eastonville Primary Regional Trail along the southeastern side of Eastonville Road; (2) designate and provide to El Paso County a 25-foot trail easement along Eastonville Road, that allows for construction, maintenance, and public access of the Eastonville Primary Regional Trail; (3) the trail easement shall be shown and dedicated to El Paso County on the Final Plat; (4) fees in lieu of land dedication for regional park purposes in the amount of \$54,740 and urban park purposes in the amount of \$34,510 will be required at time of the recording of the Final Plat. A park lands agreement may be an acceptable alternative to urban park fees provided the agreement is approved by the County and

executed prior to recording the forthcoming Final Plat(s). John Wallace seconded the motion. The motion carried 8 – 0.

C. Waterbury Filing No. 1 Final Plat

Jason Meyer provided an overview of the Waterbury Filing No. 1 Final Plat and addressed questions by the board.

Thomas Lachocki recommended that the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners include the following condition when considering and/or approving Waterbury Filing No. 1 Final Plat: (1) require fees in lieu of land dedication for regional park purposes in the amount of \$91,080 and urban park purposes in the amount of \$57,420 to be paid upon the recording of this Final Plat. A Park Lands Agreement may be an acceptable alternative to urban park fees provided the agreement is approved by the County and executed prior to recording this Final Plat. Anne Schofield seconded the motion. The motion carried 8 – 0.

D. Claremont Ranch Tract F Preliminary Plan

Jason Meyer presented the Claremont Ranch Tract F Preliminary Plan and addressed questions by the board.

Vincent Prins recommended that the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners include the following conditions when considering and/or approving the Claremont Ranch Tract F Preliminary Plan: require fees in lieu of land dedication for regional park purposes in the amount of \$49,220 and urban park fees in the amount of \$31,030. John Wallace seconded the motion. The motion carried 8 – 0.

7. Information / Action Items:

A. 2023 Urban & Regional Park Fees

Todd Marts stated that the Park Advisory Board annually reviews and endorses park development fees for regional park and urban park purposes required per the El Paso County Land Development Code. The proposed 2023 park development fee rates for regional park fees and urban park fees are included in the presentation shown. These fees are determined by a set methodology outlined in the El Paso County Land Development Code using land sale values determined by the County Assessor. The Park Fee Advisory Committee endorsed the proposed 2023 park development fees in February 2023. Following Park Advisory Board endorsement in May, the proposed park development fees will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for their approval. Several board members commented on the fee structures.

Thomas Lachocki moved to endorse the 2023 park development fee rates for Regional Park purposes at \$505 per dwelling unit and Urban Park purposes at \$318 per dwelling unit. Terry Martinez seconded the motion. The motion carried 8 – 0.

B. Fox Run Nature Center Update

Jason Meyer, Todd Marts and Theresa Odello provided updates on the Fox Run Nature Center. A conceptual design has been developed, the project team will launch on stakeholder and public outreach with the first public meeting being held on May 17th at Antelope Trails Elementary School starting at 6:00 p.m. A project website has been developed and will be the hub for project updates, engagement activities, and fundraising efforts. The project website can be found here: www.TDG-FRNC.com. Staff also answered questions from board members.

C. Anne Schofield Resolution

Chair Ed Hartl and the board as well as the director of Parks & Community Services thanked Mrs. Anne Schofield for her many years of outstanding service on the Park Advisory Board to include her years of service as 2nd Vice Chair.

Vincent Prins moved to approve the resolution for Anne Schofield. Thomas Lachocki seconded the motion. The motion carried 8 – 0.

D. Ed Hartl Resolution

Todd Marts and the members of the Park Advisory Board thanked Mr. Ed Hartl for his years of outstanding service. Mr. Hartl also served as Chair of the board for many years.

Terry Martinez moved to approve the resolution for Ed Hartl. Vincent Prins seconded the motion. The motion carried 8 – 0.

E. Urban Park Lands Agreement - Sterling Ranch Metropolitan District No. 3 Homestead North at Sterling Ranch Filing No. 2

Jason Meyer presented the Urban Park Lands Agreement - Sterling Ranch Metropolitan District No. 3 Homestead North at Sterling Ranch Filing No. 2 and addressed questions by a board member.

Vincent Prins moved to endorse the approval of the Urban Park Lands Agreement with Sterling Ranch Metropolitan District No. 3 for Homestead North at Sterling Ranch Filing No. 2. Anne Schofield seconded the motion. The motion carried 8 – 0.

F. Urban Park Lands Agreement - Sterling Ranch Metropolitan District No. 3 Homestead North at Sterling Ranch Filing No. 3

Jason Meyer presented the Urban Park Lands Agreement - Sterling Ranch Metropolitan District No. 3 Homestead North at Sterling Ranch Filing No. 3 and addressed a question by a board member.

Thomas Lachocki moved to endorse the approval of the Urban Park Lands Agreement with Sterling Ranch Metropolitan District No. 3 for Homestead North at Sterling Ranch Filing No. 3. Anne Schofield seconded the motion. The motion carried 8 – 0.

G. 2023-24 Officer Elections

The Park Advisory Board By-Laws include the election of officers at the May meeting.

Anne Schofield moved to elect the following slate of candidates for the 2023 - 2024 year.

Chairperson -	Thomas Lachocki
Vice-Chairperson -	Terry Martinez
Second Vice-Chairperson -	John Wallace
Third Vice-Chairperson -	Kiersten Steel
Secretary -	Susan Jarvis - Weber

Vincent Prins seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

8. Monthly Reports:

Brian Bobeck provided a brief itinerary for the upcoming Park Advisory tour scheduled for Friday, May 12th.

9. Board/Staff Comments:

Chair Ed Hartl and 2nd Vice Chair Anne Schofield expressed their appreciation to fellow board members and staff for their support during their volunteer services to the Park Advisory Board.

10. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

Susan Jarvis-Weber, Secretary

El Paso County Parks

Agenda Item Summary Form

Agenda Item Title: Double Spur Ranch Minor Subdivision

Agenda Date: June 14, 2023

Agenda Item Number: #6 - A

Presenter: Ross Williams, Park Planner

Information: **Endorsement:** X

Background Information:

This is a request by Land Development Consultants, Inc., on behalf of Joan Hathcock, for endorsement of Double Spur Ranch Minor Subdivision. Double Spur Ranch is zoned RR-5 and is located north of the intersection of Ayer Road and Meridian Road. This proposed 39.83-acre development will include 3 single-family residential lots, with a minimum lot size of 5.65 acres.

The 2022 El Paso County Parks Master Plan shows impacts to the proposed Latigo Secondary Regional Trail, which traverses the northern boundary of the property, and will provide regional trail access from the proposed Latigo Trails Open Space to nearby existing Pineries Open Space. This particular stretch of the Latigo Regional Trail is considered an alternative proposed route until such time that additional trail easements can be secured along either the primary or alternative routes, and the final trail alignment determined. The requested 25-foot trail easement may be collocated within the existing 50' electrical easement along the northern property boundary.

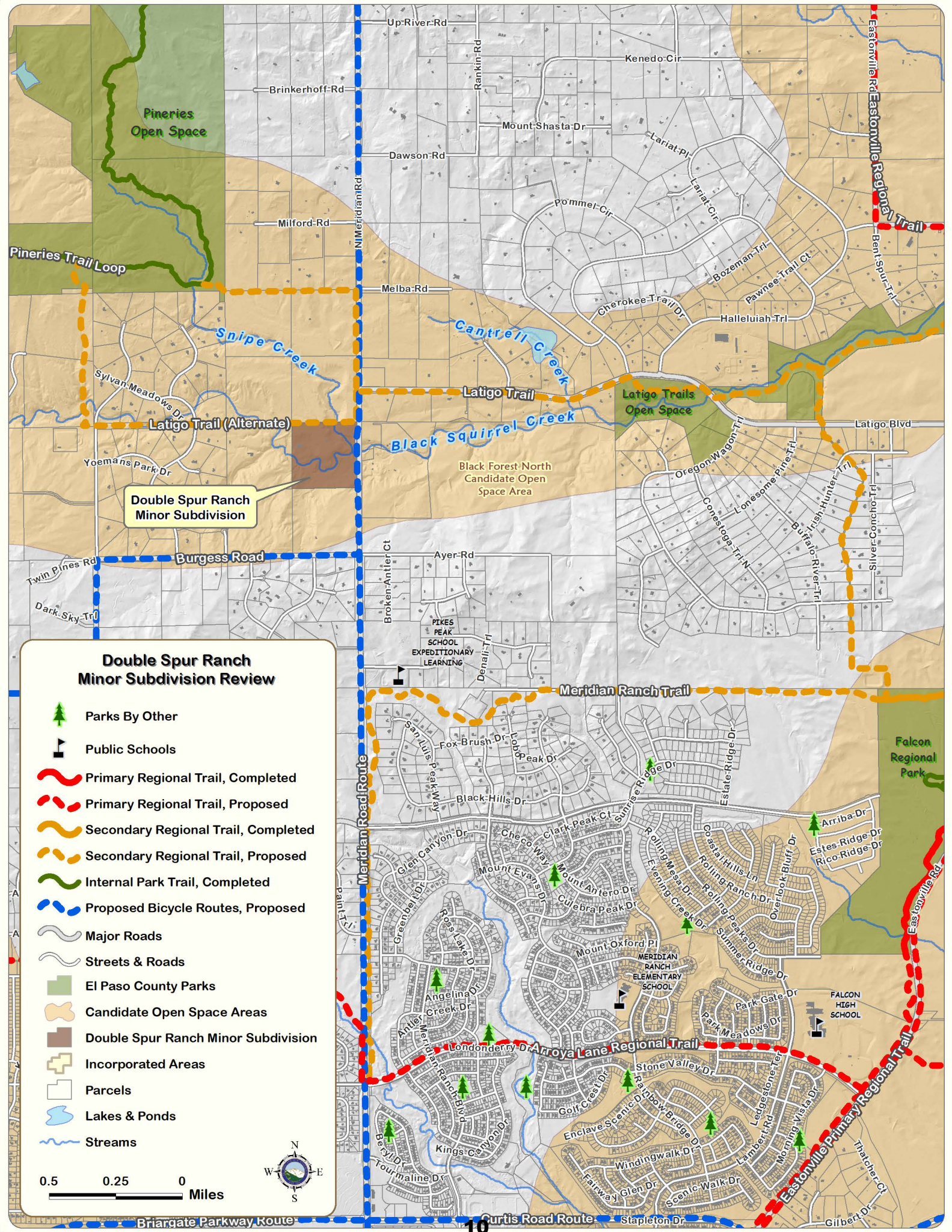
Because Double Spur Ranch Minor Subdivision is zoned RR-5, the project is not subject to the El Paso County Land Development Code's 10% open space requirement. However, large acreage lots, natural landscaping, and noted FEMA floodplain corridors allow for protection of local waterways, which include sections of Upper Black Squirrel Creek and Snipe Creek, and therefore greatly reduce overall impacts to the surrounding natural environment.

In addition to the aforementioned trail easement dedication, staff recommends regional park fees in lieu of land dedication due at the time of the recording of the Minor Subdivision.

Recommended Motion (Minor Subdivision):

The Park Advisory Board recommends that the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners include the following conditions when considering and/or approving the Double Spur Ranch Minor Subdivision: (1) designate and provide to El Paso County a 25-foot trail easement along the northern boundary of Double Spur Ranch Minor Subdivision that allows for the construction, maintenance, and public

access of the Latigo Secondary Regional Trail, and dedicate the aforementioned easement to El Paso County prior to the recording of the Minor Subdivision; (2) fees in lieu of land dedication for regional park purposes in the total amount of \$1,380 will be required at the time of the recording of the Minor Subdivision.



Double Spur Ranch Minor Subdivision Review

- Parks By Other
- Public Schools
- Primary Regional Trail, Completed
- Primary Regional Trail, Proposed
- Secondary Regional Trail, Completed
- Secondary Regional Trail, Proposed
- Internal Park Trail, Completed
- Proposed Bicycle Routes, Proposed
- Major Roads
- Streets & Roads
- El Paso County Parks
- Candidate Open Space Areas
- Double Spur Ranch Minor Subdivision
- Incorporated Areas
- Parcels
- Lakes & Ponds
- Streams

0.5 0.25 0 Miles



Development
Application
Permit
Review



COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Park Operations - Community Outreach - Environmental Services
Veterans Services - Recreation / Cultural Services

June 14, 2023

Subdivision requirements referenced in Section 8.5.2 of the El Paso County Land Development Code. Fees are based on average land values within designated areas. See El Paso County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) Resolution for fees established on an annual basis. The Park Advisory Board meets the second Wednesday of each month, 1:30 p.m., BoCC Auditorium, second floor of Centennial Hall, 200 South Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs.

Name:	Double Spur Ranch Minor Subdivision	Application Type:	Minor Subdivision
PCD Reference #:	MS-23-005	Total Acreage:	39.83
		Total # of Dwelling Units:	3
Applicant / Owner:	Owner's Representative:	Dwelling Units Per 2.5 Acres:	0.19
Joan M. Hathcock	Land Development Consultants, Inc.	Regional Park Area:	2
12420 North Meridian Road	Daniel Kupfer	Urban Park Area:	3
Elbert, CO 80106	3898 Maizeland Road	Existing Zoning Code:	RR-5
	Colorado Springs, CO 80909	Proposed Zoning Code:	RR-5

REGIONAL AND URBAN PARK DEDICATION AND FEE REQUIREMENTS

Regional Park land dedication shall be 7.76 acres of park land per 1,000 projected residents, while Urban Park land dedication shall be 4 acres of park land per 1,000 projected residents. The number of projected residents shall be based on 2.5 residents per dwelling unit.	The EPC Land Development Code defines urban density as land development of higher density and intensity which is characteristically provided with services of an urban nature. This category of development includes residential uses with densities of more than one dwelling unit per 2.5 acres.
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LAND REQUIREMENTS		Urban Density (≥ 1 Dwelling Unit Per 2.5 Acres):		NO
Regional Park Area: 2		Urban Park Area: 3		
0.0194 Acres x 3 Dwelling Units = 0.058		Neighborhood:	0.00375 Acres x 3 Dwelling Units =	0.00
Total Regional Park Acres: 0.058		Community:	0.00625 Acres x 3 Dwelling Units =	0.00
		Total Urban Park Acres:		0.00
FEE REQUIREMENTS		Urban Park Area: 3		
Regional Park Area: 2		Neighborhood:	\$114 / Dwelling Unit x 3 Dwelling Units =	\$0
\$460 / Dwelling Unit x 3 Dwelling Units = \$1,380		Community:	\$176 / Dwelling Unit x 3 Dwelling Units =	\$0
Total Regional Park Fees: \$1,380		Total Urban Park Fees:		\$0

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff Recommendation:	The Park Advisory Board recommends that the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners include the following conditions when considering and/or approving the Double Spur Ranch Minor Subdivision: (1) designate and provide to El Paso County a 25-foot trail easement along the northern boundary of Double Spur Ranch Minor Subdivision that allows for the construction, maintenance, and public access of the Latigo Secondary Regional Trail, and dedicate the aforementioned easement to El Paso County prior to the recording of the Minor Subdivision; (2) fees in lieu of land dedication for regional park purposes in the total amount of \$1,380 will be required at the time of the recording of the Minor Subdivision.
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Park Advisory Board Recommendation:

March 21, 2023

DOUBLE SPUR RANCH
Project No. 22001

LETTER OF INTENT

RE: 52130-00-007
12420 N. Meridian Road

LDC, Inc. is representing:
Joan Hathcock
12420 N. Meridian Road
Elbert, CO 80106

This is an application for approval of a Final Plat. The property is 39.834 acres and is currently unplatted. The property is zoned RR-5, and three lots are proposed. Upon approval of the plat, Double Spur Ranch will contain three lots, all of which will be 5+ acres in size. There is one existing residence, so there will only be 2 new homes. Each of these lots is proposed for a single-family residence with barns or other structures permitted by code.

We are asking for approval of a 3 lot Minor Subdivision with an existing private drive. We are asking for a waiver of the Land Use Code requiring frontage on a public road to allow for the continued use of the existing private drive. The existing drive is an approximately 18 feet wide gravel surface with drainage culverts. Water will be by individual wells, and septic systems will be constructed on each of the lots.

Review criteria for a minor subdivision is as follows:

This application meets the Minor Subdivision submittal requirements, the standards for Divisions of Land in Chapter 7, and the standards for Subdivisions in Chapter 8 of the El Paso County Land Development Code (2016). Minor Subdivisions are reviewed and approved in consideration of the review criteria found in the El Paso County Land Development Code. Each criteria is listed below followed by the appropriate justification.

1. *The subdivision is in conformance with the goals, objectives, and policies of the Master Plan.* The Master Plan is comprised of several elements. One of the elements is the El Paso County Policy Plan (1998), which does not include site-specific land use policies, but establishes broad policies and goals which are intended to serve as a framework for decision-making regarding development of the County. The project satisfies the following policies from the Policy Plan as they specifically relate to this request:
Goal 6.4 – “Develop and maintain rural residential areas in a manner which protects their integrity, addresses the carrying capacity of the natural environment and provides for an adequate level of non-urban facilities and services.” and “Policy 6.1.3 - Encourage new development which is contiguous and compatible with

previously developed areas in terms of factors such as density, land use and access.” The proposed Minor Plat will not create the need for additional roadways or public facilities.

The site will remain rural residential and is surrounded by existing rural residential development on the north, south, east, and west sides.; *Policy 6.1.14 – “Support development which compliments the unique environmental conditions and established land use character of each sub-area of the County.”;* This area of the County is conducive to rural residential development. The five acres lots in the area have lot impact on environmental conditions. The proposed Minor Plat is consistent with the Black Forest Preservation Plan as it applies to the Southern Transitional sub-area which is discussed below.; *Policy 6.4.4 - “Encourage new rural residential subdivisions to be located within or contiguous with existing rural residential area or to be incorporated as a buffer between higher density and undevelopable areas.”;* The proposed Minor Plat is in an area adjacent to rural residential development with RR-5 to the north, west, south and east.;

Goal 6.1 A – “Encourage patterns of growth and development which compliment the regions’ unique natural environments and which reinforce community character.” The existing community character is preserved with this Minor Plat. Density and land use are compatible with the surrounding area and the natural features of the site will remain preserved, even with the addition of 3 more residential lots on the site.

Another element of the Master Plan is the Small Area Plan. The Double Spur Ranch site is located within the area of the Black Forest Preservation Plan (1987), specifically within the “Southern Transitional sub-area” of the plan. Although this small area plan is out of date, the goals for land use within this sub-area are still valid. The area desires that the rural residential development pattern be encouraged, while providing a gradual buffer from higher density to lower density development. The preferred density of one dwelling unit per five acres is encouraged in the northern portion of the sub-area which approaches the treed area. This coincides with the proposed subdivision density. The proposed Minor Plat is consistent with the Black Forest Preservation Plan.

The proposed Minor Plat is in compliance with the Parks Master Plan, which does not appear to call for trails or parks in the site vicinity. Any required Park Fees will be paid at the time of plating. The proposed subdivision is also in compliance with the 2040 Major Transportation Corridors Plan (MTCP) and Master Plan for Mineral Extraction as no separate mineral estate owners were found for the property and the existing development on surrounding properties is not compatible with any potential mineral extraction operations.

The proposed subdivision is in compliance with the El Paso County Water Master Plan (2018). The District Court, Water Division 2 Colorado, has decreed certain water rights and approved a plan for augmentation as necessary to allow use of the existing well and the drilling of a second well for the subdivision in Case No. 19CW3006 recorded under reception number 219086827 of the records of El Paso County. The owner seeks a finding of sufficiency from the Colorado Division of Water Resources and the eventual granting of the additional well permit based on the decreed water rights. A listing of some of the policies of the Water Master Plan that are supported by the proposed development follow: *Policy 4.1.3 – Support enhanced monitoring of sources of surface and tributary groundwater in the County.* The referenced decree requires use of metering for the wells

to insure compliance with the terms of the permit; *Policy 6.2.1.2 – Encourage re- use of treated wastewater for irrigation and other acceptable uses when feasible.* Both the existing residence and the new single-family residence on the proposed 5 acre lot will utilize onsite wastewater treatment systems which will provide “Return Flows” the environment as a condition of the groundwater findings and order and the well permit.

2. *The subdivision is in substantial conformance with the approved preliminary plan.*

This is a proposed Minor Subdivision and requires no Preliminary Plan for Plat approval. The subdivision will be developed in accordance with the currently proposed land use applications.

3. *The subdivision is consistent with the subdivision design standards and regulations and meets all planning, engineering, and surveying requirements of the County for maps, data, surveys, analyses, studies, reports, plans, designs, documents, and other supporting materials.*

The proposed Minor Subdivision Plat is prepared in accordance with applicable subdivision design standards. No public improvements are required for this subdivision.

4. *A sufficient water supply has been acquired in terms of quantity, quality, and dependability for the type of subdivision proposed, as determined in accordance with the standards set forth in the water supply standards [C.R.S. §30-28-133(6)(a)] and the requirements of Chapter 8 of this Code.*

Water service is to be provided by individual on site wells operated under a State approved Water Augmentation Plan.

5. *A public sewage disposal system has been established and, if other methods of sewage disposal are proposed, the system complies with State and local laws and regulations, [C.R.S. §30-28- 133(6)(b)] and the requirements of Chapter 8 of this Code.*

Waste water is intended to be treated via individual on site septic systems designed, constructed and operated under State and County Health Department rules and regulations and in accordance with the Water Decree.

6. *All areas of the proposed subdivision which may involve soil or topographical conditions presenting hazards or requiring special precautions have been identified and that the proposed subdivision is compatible with such conditions [C.R.S. §30-28-133(6)(c)].*

A soils report has been prepared for the site and the owner will comply with the recommendations of the report.

7. *Adequate drainage improvements are proposed that comply with State Statute [C.R.S. §30-28- 133(3)(c)(VIII)] and the requirements of this Code and the ECM.*

The proposed Minor Subdivision is consistent with the submitted Final Drainage Report. There are no public Drainage facilities needed or proposed with this development. The owner will comply with the requirements of the drainage report.

8. *Legal and physical access is provided to all parcels by public rights-of-way or private drive, acceptable to the County in compliance with this Code and the ECM.*

9. *Necessary services, including police and fire protection, recreation, utilities, and*

transportation systems, are or will be made available to serve the proposed subdivision.

The site is located within the jurisdiction of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's office currently provides police protection for the site and surrounding area. Double Spur Ranch is located within the Falcon Fire Protection District which is providing fire protection for the site and has agreed to serve this subdivision. Water and sanitary sewer provisions are discussed in items 4 & 5 above. The property is located within the service areas of Mountain View Electric Association, Blackhills Energy Corporation, Centurylink Telephone, and School District 49, which will serve the subdivision. Transportation is being facilitated by the existing adjacent roadway system.

10. *The Minor Subdivision plans provide evidence to show that the proposed methods for fire protection comply with Chapter 6 of this Code.*

Double Spur Ranch is located within the Falcon Fire Protection District which is providing fire protection for the site and the surrounding area. The District has agreed to serve this subdivision. Building permits for each structure shall be in accordance with the requirements of the Fire District as administered by the Pikes Peak Regional Building Department.

11. *Off-site impacts were evaluated and related off-site improvements are roughly proportional and will mitigate the impacts of the subdivision in accordance with applicable requirements of Chapter 8.*

12. *Adequate public facilities or infrastructure, or cash-in-lieu, for impacts reasonably related to the proposed subdivision have been constructed or are financially guaranteed through the SIA so the impacts of the subdivision will be adequately mitigated.*

There are no public facilities or infrastructure required or proposed for this subdivision. The platting of the site will include the collection of the applicable School Fees, Park Fees, Drainage Fees and Traffic Impact fees due for this project.

13. *The subdivision meets other applicable sections of Chapter 6 and 8.*
The subdivision meets the requirements of the Land Development Code.

14. *The extraction of any known commercial mining deposit shall not be impeded by this subdivision [C.R.S. §§34-1-302(1), et seq.].* A search of the County Clerk and Recorder's records did not identify a separate mineral estates owner for this property.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Respectfully:

Daniel L. Kupferer, PLS
President, Land Development Consultants, Inc.

DOUBLE SPUR RANCH MINOR SUBDIVISION

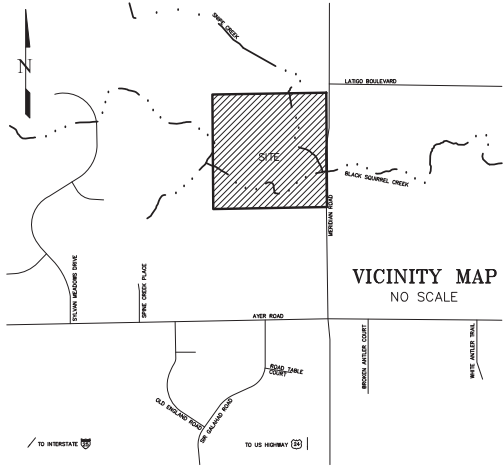
A PORTION OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 13,
TOWNSHIP 12 SOUTH, RANGE 65 WEST IN THE 6TH P.M., IN EL PASO COUNTY, COLORADO

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That Joan M. Hathcock, being the owner of the following described tract of land to wit:

A TRACT IN THE NORTHEAST QUARTER (NE/4) OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER (NE/4) OF SECTION THIRTEEN (13), TOWNSHIP TWELVE (12) SOUTH, RANGE SIXTY-FIVE (65) WEST OF THE 6TH P.M., DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER (NE/4) OF SECTION THIRTEEN (13), TOWNSHIP TWELVE (12) SOUTH, RANGE SIXTY-FIVE (65) WEST OF THE 6TH P.M., THENCE NORTH PARALLEL TO THE EAST LINE OF SAID SECTION, SAID SECTION ALSO THE WEST LINE OF MERIDIAN ROAD, A DISTANCE OF 1319.45 FEET; THENCE WEST AND PARALLEL WITH THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION A DISTANCE OF 1321.50 FEET; THENCE EAST AND PARALLEL WITH THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION A DISTANCE OF 1313.63 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, COUNTY OF EL PASO, STATE OF COLORADO.

Containing 39.834 acres, more or less.



LATIGO COUNTRY ESTATES FILING NO. 1
(Plat D-3, Book 5)

Lot 1

OWNERS CERTIFICATE:

The undersigned, being all the owners, mortgagees, beneficiaries of deeds of trust and holders of other interests in the land described herein, have laid out, subdivided, and platted said lands into lots, public right-of-way and additions, public right-of-way addition reservations and easements as shown hereon under the name and subdivision of DOUBLE SPUR RANCH MINOR SUBDIVISION. All public improvements, and public right-of-way and additions, so platted are hereby dedicated to public use and said owner does hereby covenant and agree that the public improvements will be constructed to El Paso County standards and that proper drainage and erosion control for same will be provided at said owner's expense, all to the satisfaction of the Board of County Commissioners of El Paso County, Colorado. Upon acceptance by resolution, all public improvements so dedicated will become matters of maintenance by El Paso County, Colorado. The utility easements shown hereon are hereby dedicated for public utilities and communication systems and other purposes as shown hereon. The entities responsible for providing the services for which the easements are established are hereby granted the perpetual right of ingress and egress from and to adjacent properties for installation, maintenance, and replacement of utility lines and related facilities.

By: Joan M. Hathcock
Title: _____
By: _____
Title: _____

NOTES:

- o - Indicates survey monument recovered as a #4 rebar with Surveyor's Cap, PLS #18465.
• - Indicates recovered survey monument as noted.
- This survey name does not constitute a title search by LDC, Inc. to determine ownership or easements of record. The client did not provide a title commitment for the property, therefore, no rights-of-way or easements of record were available for review by LDC, Inc. with this survey.
- Basis of bearings is the West line of the NW 1/4 of Section 13, monumented as shown and assumed to bear N00°30'35"W.
- FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, Flood Insurance Rate Map, Map Number 08041C0340 G, effective date December 7, 2018, indicates the area in the vicinity of this parcel of land to be a Zone X "white" (area determined to be out of the 500 year flood plain).

SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATION:

I Daniel Kupferer, a duly registered Professional Land Surveyor in the State of Colorado, do hereby certify that this plat truly and correctly represents the results of a survey made on date of survey, by me or under my direct supervision and that all monuments exist as shown hereon; that mathematical closure errors are less than 1:10,000; and that said plat has been prepared in full compliance with all applicable laws of the State of Colorado dealing with monuments, subdivision, or surveying of land and all applicable provisions of the El Paso County Land Development Code.

Daniel L. Kupferer
Colorado Professional Land Surveyor No. 18465

PRELIMINARY COPY
SUBJECT TO FINAL
COUNTY APPROVAL

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CERTIFICATE:

This plat for DOUBLE SPUR RANCH MINOR SUBDIVISION was approved for filing by the El Paso County, Colorado Board of County

Commissioners on the ____ day of _____, 20____, subject to any notes specified hereon and any conditions included in the resolution of approval. The dedications of land to the public streets and easements are accepted, but the public improvements thereon will not become the maintenance responsibility of El Paso County until preliminary acceptance of the public improvements in accordance with the requirements of the Land Development Code and Engineering Criteria Manual, and the Subdivision Improvements Agreement.

Chair, Board of County Commissioners _____ Date _____

APPROVALS:

This subdivision was approved by the El Paso County Development Services Department this _____ day of _____, 20____ A.D.

Development Services Director _____

FEES:

Park Fee: _____ Drainage Fee: _____
School Fee: _____ Bridge Fee: _____

DSD FILE NO.: _____

According to Colorado law, you must commence any survey within three years after you have received such defect in the survey or any defect in the survey based upon any defect in the survey be commenced more than three years after the date of the certification shown hereon.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

811

DIAL 811
FOR UTILITY LOCATIONS
FOR LOCATING AND MARKING GAS, ELECTRIC, WATER
AND WASTEWATER

No.	Description	By	Date

H Scale: 1"=100'	V Scale: N/A	Designed By: N/A	Drawn By: BRH	Checked By: DLK	Date: 01/17/22
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Land Development Consultants, Inc.
PLANNING · SURVEYING
www ldc-inc com · TEL: (719) 528-6133 · FAX: (719) 528-6848
3965 MANZELAND ROAD · COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80909

DOUBLE SPUR RANCH
MINOR SUBDIVISION
FINAL PLAT

Project No.: 22001
Sheet: 1 of 1

El Paso County Park Advisory Board

Agenda Item Summary Form

Agenda Item Title: Pikes Peak Birding and Nature Festival

Agenda Date: June 14, 2023

Agenda Item Number: #7 - A

Presenter: Jessica Miller, Fountain Creek Nature Center Supervisor
Theresa Odello, Division Manager

Information: X **Endorsement:**

Background Information:

The El Paso County Recreation & Cultural Services started the Pikes Peak Birding and Nature Festival in 2016 with sixteen public, private and non-profits joining for an ecotourism birding and nature festival that promotes conservation and education to explore the area's natural and agricultural heritage resources of the Pikes Peak Region.

This month's four-day festival had 60 unique opportunities for participants. Field trips took participants from Pikes Peak to the prairie. The festivals draw is based on experienced field trip leader for a birding experience in unique locations across the region.

The festival committee is a group of dedicated professionals from sixteen public and private, and non-profit agencies that collaborate to provide a unique opportunity to highlight the diversity of birds and wildlife in our region, parks and facilities.

Partners & Sponsors

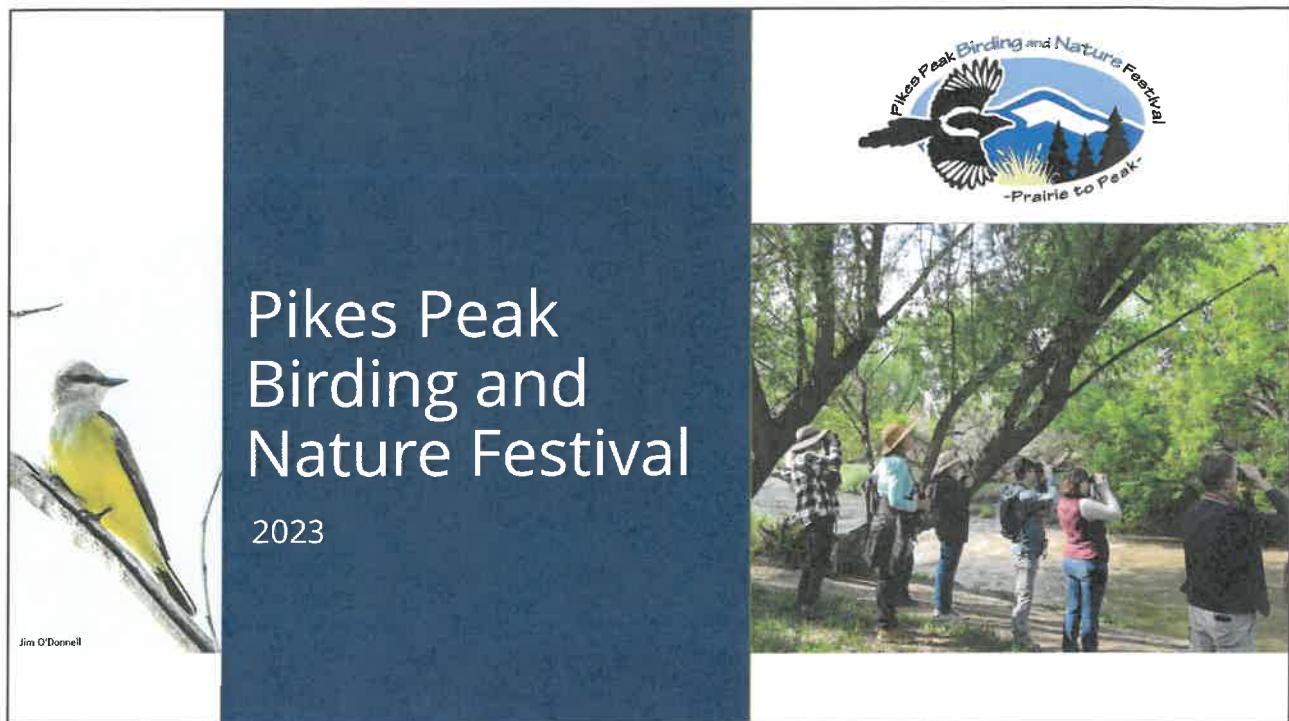
Aiken Audubon Society
Bear Creek Nature Center
Bringinghurst Natural Beef
Cheyenne Mountain State Park
Cheyenne Mountain Zoo
Chico Basin Ranch
Colorado Parks & Wildlife
Colorado Springs Convention & Visitor Bureau
Colorado Springs Parks & Recreation
Colorado Springs Utilities
Corner Post Meats
El Paso County Parks
Fountain Creek Nature Center
Fountain Valley School
Friends of EPC Nature Centers
Garden of the Gods Visitor/Nature Center
J&R Group
Nature Conservancy

Palmer Land Trust
Phantom Canyon Brewing Company
Pikes Peak Community College
Pinello Ranch & Venetucci
Starsmore Visitor & Nature Center
US Forest Service
Wild Birds Unlimited

Field Trip & Seminars

Chico Basin Ranch, Bird Walk & Bird Banding Demo
Fountain Valley School, Bird Walk
Adams Open Space, Bird Hike
Mueller State Park, Bird Hike
Corral Bluffs Open Space, Paleontology Hike
Paint Mines Interpretive Park, Bird Hike
Live Birds of Prey, FCNC
Paint Mines Interpretive Park, Ethnobotany & Wildflower Hike
Bird Photography, Virtual
Flammulated Owls, Virtual
Garden of the Gods, Bird Walk
Fountain Creek Regional Park, Bird Walk
Garden of the Gods, Swifts, Falcons & Geology Walk
Bear Creek Regional Park, Insect Black Lighting
Chico Basin Ranch, Bird Walk & Bird Banding Demo
Horse Creek Ranch, Bird Hike
Cheyenne Mountain State Park, Ovenbird/Hermit Thrush Hike
Brett Gray Ranch or Leader's Choice, Bird Hike
Aiken Canyon Preserve, Bird Hike
Hanna Ranch, Bird Hike
Clear Spring Ranch, Bird Walk
Corral Bluffs Open Space, Bird Hike
Starsmore V&NC, Hummingbird Banding – Session #1
Fountain Valley School, Bird Walk
Adams Open Space, Bird Walk
Fountain Creek Regional Park, Bird Walk
Manitou Lake, Bird Hike
Starsmore V&NC, Hummingbird Banding – Session #2
Garden of the Gods, Swifts, Falcons & Geology Walk
Hummingbirds" Starsmore
The Origins of Birds – the Dinosaur Connection", Virtual
Chico Basin Ranch, Lunch w/Ranch Ecology & History
Nature Sketching, Virtual
Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, "Behind the Scenes" Bird Tour
Raptor Identification, Virtual
Birds and Brews
Chico Basin Ranch, Bird Walk & Bird Banding Demo
Aiken Canyon Preserve, Bird Hike
Clear Spring Ranch, Bird Walk
Jimmy Camp Creek Open Space, Bird Hike
Fountain Valley School, Bird Walk
Bear Creek Canyon by Ear, Bird Walk

Fountain Creek Regional Park, Bird Walk
Venetucci Farm/Cross Creek Park, Bird Hike
Kiowa Creek Ranch, Bird Hike
Manitou Lake Recreation Area, Montane Bird Hike
Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, "Behind the Scenes" Bird Tour



1

Our Impact

- This Festival
 - Total Participants: **326**
 - Total trip/event Registrations: **1288**
 - Number of field trips/seminars: **66**
 - **16** participants from out-of-state
- Having more bird species in the environment and watching birds have been shown to be good for people's **psychological well-being**^(a) whereas listening to bird song has been shown to contribute toward perceived **attention restoration** and **stress recovery**^(b).
- Birders spend an average of **\$40 billion** per year on equipment and travel.
- Bird watchers may be as many as **20%** of Americans.










2
6/7/2023

2

Our Impact



"Thank you for your part in organizing a fabulous festival! It was incredibly well organized with wonderful activities. My birding identification skills made great progress over the weekend... we're looking forward to returning next year."

"Not only did we add 10 more birds to our life list on Sunday, but we also saw a bear! I guess there's a reason why it's called Bear Creek. All the same, we certainly didn't expect to see a bear in Colorado Springs." *(This person saw 25 lifers with Clark at Clear Spring Ranch on Saturday)*

"Thank you very much for leading this trip. Even though it was rainy throughout the trip, I still found it very enjoyable. I enjoyed being introduced to a new place. The highlight for me was the Bobolink, a lifer. The grasshopper sparrow was also a really great bird."

"This was the fourth time I have been to the Pikes Peak Birding and Nature Festival, and I learned so much more every time. Every trip I went on led by someone who was very knowledgeable about birds and about the site. This year I got seven lifers. I am already looking forward to next year! Thank you again."



3

6/7/2023

Add a footer

3

Sponsors - \$9,000



Wild Birds Unlimited
Nature Shop



4

6/7/2023

4



5



6

El Paso County Park Advisory Board

Agenda Item Summary Form

Agenda Item Title: Proclamation of Support for Fox Run Nature Center

Agenda Date: June 14, 2022

Agenda Item Number: #7 - B

Presenter: Theresa Odello, Manager, Recreation & Cultural Services
Jason Meyer, Manager, Planning

Information: **Endorsement:** X

Background Information:

The overarching mission for El Paso County Nature Centers is to connect people to their natural and cultural resources, thus inspiring them to become stewards for parks and the environment. This is reflected in several El Paso County documents that guide strategic decision-making processes: El Paso County Strategic Plan; the El Paso County Parks Master Plan; Capital Improvement Program; and the Fox Run Nature Center Feasibility Study. To fulfill this mission, El Paso County operates two award winning nature centers at Fountain Creek Regional Park and Bear Creek Regional Park. These two Nature Centers offer unique opportunities to educate and connect people of all backgrounds to the outdoor environment.

The two existing Nature Centers are popular, busy facilities, with children's programming already at capacity. The popularity of Nature Centers creates a challenge for El Paso County to meet the demand of residents who want to participate in programming provided at the Nature Centers, especially programming for school-aged children. Population growth, a 2013 gap analysis and a 2019 Feasibility Study all demonstrate the need to build a new Nature Center.

El Paso County's population has more than doubled since the Bear Creek Nature Center opened in 1976; the County's population has grown by 300,000 since Fountain Creek opened in 1992. El Paso County now has a population of about 738,000.

Recommended action:

Motion to endorse the Proclamation of Support for Fox Run Nature Center.

PROCLAMATION OF SUPPORT FOR FOX RUN NATURE CENTER

- WHEREAS,** El Paso County is fortunate to have extensive and diverse natural resources, such as forests, grasslands, riparian areas, lakes, creeks and a wide variety of open spaces; and
- WHEREAS,** the El Paso County Parks & Community Services Department provides a variety of programs and services that are valued by our residents and enhance the quality of life in El Paso County; and
- WHEREAS,** El Paso County Nature Centers are nationally recognized award-winning centers that have been providing quality programs and services to the El Paso County Community and visitors since 1976; and
- WHEREAS,** El Paso County Nature Centers instills a love of nature in thousands of children and adults by providing quality hands-on displays and innovative environmental education programs that provide for the exploration of nature by El Paso County residents and visitors of all ages; and
- WHEREAS,** the new Fox Run Nature Center will function as an educational and interpretive center, focusing on the Black Forest and its ponderosa forests; and
- WHEREAS,** the visitor's experience at Fox Run Nature Center will be one that balances the engaging indoor interpretations that reveal the adjacent natural setting of the forest with expanding their understanding and care for the quality of the forest and ecosystem beyond; and
- WHEREAS,** there has been strong and ongoing community support of El Paso County Nature Centers and the El Paso County Nature Centers continues to serve as a greatly valued center for environmental education and the enjoyment of nature that draws thousands of visitors each year; and
- WHEREAS,** the current two El Paso County Nature Centers address the needs of the community in the central and southern areas of El Paso County leaving an identified documented need in northern El Paso County.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Park Advisory Board of El Paso County, Colorado, hereby proclaims its support of the Fox Run Nature Center, for its unique role in interpreting and preserving El Paso County's parks and open spaces, and for helping to build and enhance the community's connection to their natural and cultural resources and inspire them to become stewards of the parks and environment.

DONE THIS 14th day of June 2023 at Colorado Springs, Colorado

THE PARK ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS OF EL PASO COUNTY, COLORADO

Thomas Lachocki, Chair

Terry Martinez, Vice Chair

John Wallace, Second Vice Chair

Kiersten Steel, Third Vice Chair

Susan Jarvis-Weber, Secretary

Vincent Prins, Board Member

**El Paso County Parks
2023 Action Plan**

Recreation / Cultural Services	Project Manager	Priority	Status
Fox Run Nature Center Fundraising	Theresa Odello / Dana Nordstrom	High	In Progress
Cubs Corner Updates	Mary Jo Lewis	Low	
Trailability Program Volunteers	Mary Jo Lewis / Jessica Miller	High	Trainings in Progress
Ute Education Kit	Mary Jo Lewis		Completed
Field Trip Rainy Day Programming	Mary Jo Lewis	Low	
Wildlife Observation Blind	Jessica Miller	Low	
Audible Trail Stops	Jessica Miller	Medium	
Art Exhibit	Victoria Dinkel		Completed
Monarch Butterfly Exhibit	Andy Talley	Low	
Paint Mines Field Trip	Ryan Dorough	Low	
County Fair Vendors	Andschana Aljets	Complete	Working on Vendor Handbook
County Fair Programming	Andschana Aljets	High	In Progress
County Fair Marketing	Andschana Aljets	High	In Progress
Non-Fair Programming	Andschana Aljets	Medium	In Progress
Park Operations and Park Planning Divisions	Project Manager	Priority	Status
Update Park Maintenance Standards	Brian Bobeck	Medium	Planning
New Capital Improvement Program	Brian Bobeck / Jason Meyer	High	Planning
Ute Pass Regional Trail	Jason Meyer	Medium	Design
County Fairgrounds Barn Replacement	Brian Bobeck		Completed
Fox Run Regional Park Improvements (Restroom)	Greg Stachon	High	Design
Black Forest Regional Park Improvements	Brian Bobeck	High	Construction
Homestead Ranch Regional Park Improvements	Greg Stachon	Medium	Design
Fountain Creek Regional Park Parking & ADA	Greg Stachon	Low	Design / Funding
Fox Run Nature Center Design	Jason Meyer	High	Design
Widefield Park / Crews Gulch Trail Improvements	Ross Williams	High	Construction
Paint Mines Interpretive Park Master Plan	Ross Williams	High	

Community Services Department							
Parks / Recreation & Cultural Services Divisions							
May 2023 Monthly Report							
<u>Facility Revenue Totals To Date</u>		<u>2023</u>				<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
		<u>Budget</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Balance</u>		<u>Totals to Date</u>	<u>Totals to Date</u>
Parks Facility Reservation Revenue		\$ 180,000	\$ 165,410	\$ 14,590		\$ 138,243	\$ 118,976
County Fair / Fairgrounds		\$ 301,000	\$ 160,667	\$ 140,333		\$ 145,593	\$ 87,404
Total		\$ 481,000	\$ 326,077	\$ 154,923		\$ 283,836	\$ 206,380
<u>Fundraising Revenue</u>		<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>				
	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>		<u>Totals to Date</u>	<u>Totals to Date</u>
County Fair Sponsorships	Fair Operations	\$ 80,000	\$ 58,000	\$ 22,000		\$ 82,000	\$ 68,000
Partners in the Park Program	Park Operations	\$ 45,000	\$ 67,500	\$ (22,500)		\$ 57,500	\$ 53,750
Trust for County Parks	Park Operations	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,344	\$ (5,344)		\$ 30,728	\$ 36,919
Nature Center Fundraising	Nature Center Support	\$ 25,000	\$ 6,586	\$ 18,414		\$ 4,874	\$ 4,650
County Fairgrounds Support (Fairgrounds Corp)	Programming/Facility Support	\$ 40,000	\$ 70,000	\$ (30,000)		\$ 40,000	\$ 15,000
Total		\$ 200,000	\$ 217,430	\$ (17,430)		\$ 215,102	\$ 178,319
<u>Grant / 3rd Party Funding</u>		<u>Awarded</u>					
<u>Parks Division Reservations</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2021</u>
<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Evaluation</u>	<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Rental</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
January	11	966	N/A	3	510	3	22
February	15	778	N/A	5	446	5	233
March	51	1306	N/A	29	702	4	31
April	299	10619	4.6	271	8698	157	3892
May	448	16919	4.4	419	15932	423	11907
June							
July							
August							
September							
October							
November							
December							
Total	824	30588	4.6	727	26288	592	16085

<u>Parks Facility Reservations</u>		2023	2023	2022	2022	2021	2021	
<u>May</u>		<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	
<u>Bear Creek Regional Park</u>								
Archery Lanes		24	48			11	20	
Athletic Fields		43	2410	42	2230	14	560	
Pavilions		68	3290	82	4088	109	3174	
Trails								
Vendor		4	16	5	18	2	8	
Tennis Courts								
Pickleball Courts		6	34	6	24			
Vita Course								
Meeting Room		7	53			1	10	
<u>Black Forest Regional Park</u>								
Athletic Fields		12	395	9	225			
Pavilions		25	915	29	1040	25	705	
Vendor								
Tennis Courts				3	12	8	32	
<u>Falcon Regional Park</u>								
Baseball Fields		87	2775	52	1420	33	825	
Athletic Field		15	495					
Vendor		3	12					
<u>Fountain Creek Regional Park</u>								
Athletic Fields		1	100	4	110	7	320	
Pavilions		40	2095	37	1583	48	1337	
Trails						1	200	
Disc Golf Course		1	50	3	210	1	72	
Vendor		1	4	7	26	2	6	
<u>Fox Run Regional Park</u>								
Athletic Fields		31	1145	48	1630	44	1210	
Gazebo		3	140	6	217	13	611	
Warming Hut		2	13	2	30	6	60	
Pavilions		58	2593	64	2643	79	2427	
Vendor		1	4					
Trails		1	30	2	55	1	11	
<u>Homestead Ranch Regional Park</u>								
Pavilions		6	214	8	305	11	275	
Athletic Fields								
Trails								
<u>Palmer Lake Recreational Area</u>								
Palmer Lake Santa Fe Trail								
<u>New Santa Fe Trail</u>								
Monument Trail Head New Santa Fe Trail								
Baptist Road Santa Fe Trail								
AFA Santa Fe Trail								
Vendor - Santa Fe Trailheads								
<u>Paint Mines Trail</u>		8	38	10	66	7	44	
<u>Rock Island Trail</u>		1	50					
<u>Black Forest Section 16</u>								
<u>Rainbow Falls Historic Site</u>								
<u>Pineries Open Space</u>								
Total Park Facility Reservations		448	16919	419	15932	423	11907	

<u>Fairgrounds Facility Reservations</u>		2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2021	2021
<u>Year to Date</u>		<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Evaluation</u>	<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
January		8	173	N/A	7	150	0	0
February		14	735	N/A	19	726	6	178
March		12	1160	N/A	13	471	8	459
April		18	7161	N/A	50	2781	20	1608
May		23	4150	N/A	30	3791	16	1496
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Total		75	13,379	N/A	119	7,919	50	3,741
<u>Fairgrounds Facility Reservations</u>		2023	2023	2022	2022			
<u>May</u>		<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Rentals</u>	<u>Attendance</u>			
<u>Swink Hall - Fairgrounds</u>								
Lions Club Meeting		1	30	1	30			
Fair Corp Meeting		1	10	1	6			
Calhan Posse Mtg		1	20	1	20			
4-H Club Meeting		1	20	1	20			
EPCA Banquet		1	50					
Fair Advisory Board Meeting		1	25	1	20			
Hitch N' Post 4-H Meeting		1	20					
Jr. Livestock Sale Committee		1	15	2	35			
<u>Grand Stands Building</u>								
<u>Track</u>								
Race Track Rental		1	15					
BST Auto Race		2	3000					
<u>Barns</u>								
4-H Poultry Project Meeting		1	65					
<u>Livestock Arena</u>								
4-H Goat/Sheep Tag In		1	100	1	100			
Australian Shepard Show		1	35	1	50			
4-H Sheep Clinic		1	55	1	60			
4-H Graduate Series		1	200					
4-H Beef Re-Weigh		1	100					
Calhan Posse Show		1	200					
Magic Circus Show		1	200					
<u>Whittemore - Fairgrounds</u>								
4-H Rabbit Rally		1	100	2	50			
4-H Rocket Fly		1	100					
Church Camping at the Fairgrounds		1	50					
Nite Nite Kennels Dog Show		1	100					
Month Total Fair Facility Reservations		23	4,510	12	391			

<u>Vandalism Report</u>								
<u>Incident</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Cost</u>				
Graffiti removal	1/26/2023	Widefield, Southmoore, Crew Gulch	South	\$200				
Homeless camp clean-up / illegal dumping	1/26/2023	Willow Springs, Maxwell Street	South	TBD				
Graffiti removal (Fountain tunnel, playground)	2/3/2023	Widefield	South	\$75				
Homeless camp clean-up	2/6/2023	Hanson Bridge	South	\$50				
Illegal Dumping	2/6/2023	Crew Gulch	South	\$50				
Graffiti removal (Main park sign)	2/7/2023	John Ceresa	South	\$50				
Homeless camp clean-up / illegal dumping	2/7, 2/10	Christian Open Space	South	\$700				
Homeless camp clean-up / illegal dumping	2/13/2023	Academy blvd trail crossing	South	\$100				
Homeless camp clean-up / illegal dumping	2/14/2023	Maxwell trailhead	South	\$50				
Homeless camp clean-up / illegal dumping	2/14/2023	South of mule train	South	\$50				
Homeless camp clean-up / illegal dumping	2/17/2023	South of Hanson trailhead	South	\$50				
Maintenance shop: damaged lock and chain	2/20/2023	Fox Run Regional Park	North	\$100				
Illegal Dumping	3/1/2023	Nature Center parking lot	South	\$50				
Graffiti removal (Flight memorial, pavilion, floor & wall)	3/2/2023	Widefield Community Park	South	\$200				
Illegal Dumping (Tree limbs, yard debris)	3/16/2023	Stratmoor Valley	South	\$50				
Graffiti removal (Exterior of restroom)	3/20, 3/30	Widefield Community Park	South	\$200				
Homeless camp clean-up / illegal dumping	5/4/2023	Stratmoor Valley	South	\$90				
Homeless camp clean-up	5/4/2023	Hanson Bridge	South	\$90				
Graffiti removal (Fountain tunnel)	5/4, 5/8, 5/16	Widefield Community Park	South	\$270				
Graffiti removal	5/8, 5/16	Crew Gulch	South	\$180				
Turf damage from vehicle	5/26/2023	Bear Creek Terrace	Central	\$200				
			Total	\$2,805				

<u>Volunteerism</u>		2023		2022		2021		
Total for Year	Goal	Volunteers	Total Hours	Volunteers	Total Hours	Volunteers	Total Hours	
January		138	728	180	609	106	372	
February		292	1,302	60	327	100	468	
March		229	932	118	682	159	713	
April		413	1,701	407	1,830	365	1556	
May		501	2,225	491	2,021	425	1579	
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Totals		1573	6,888	1,256	5,469	1,155	4,688	
		2023						
<u>May</u>		<u>Volunteers</u>	<u>Total Hours</u>					
Park Advisory Board		9	35					
Fair Advisory Board		25	75					
Fairgrounds Corporation		10	20					
Fair and Events Center		11	62					
Friends of the Nature Centers/Rec. Services		48	453					
Adopt-A-Park / Trail / Volunteer Projects		398	1,580					
Total		501	2,225					

Programming		2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2021	2021
Totals for Year		Programs	Attendance	Evaluation	Programs	Attendance	Programs	Attendance
January		45	1152	4.99	29	452	25	218
February		43	2032	4.95	37	952	27	230
March		89	2376	4.99	48	986	50	753
April		161	5139	4.92	109	3003	58	1006
May		162	4216	4.94	148	5401	84	1377
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Totals	800 / 21,000	500	14915	4.96	371	10794	244	3584
		2023	2023	2023				
May	Facility	Programs	Attendance	Evaluation				
Free Archery Day	BCRP	1	112	4.25				
Archery Camp Wk 1	BCRP	1	16					
Discover Bear Creek	BCNC	20	296	5.00				
Habitat	BCNC	20	280	4.96				
Incredible Insects	BCNC	6	96	5.00				
Colorado Wildlife Detectives	BCNC	5	60	5.00				
Little Wonders: Go Go Grasshoppers	BCNC	2	50	5.00				
Birthday Parties	BCNC	2	30	5.00				
Pikes Peak Mycological Society	BCNC	1	37					
Bear Den Rental: Girl Scouts	BCNC	1	12					
Paula Megorden Celebration of Life	BCNC	1	80					
Group Visits	BCNC	7	96					
Pikes Peak Birding & Nature Fest Events	BCNC	4	78					
Pikes Peak Birding & Nature Fest: Birds, Brews & Bites	BCNC	1	160					
Nature Explorers: There's Trout in Dem Hills	BCNC	2	50					
CO School for the Deaf and Blind VIP Trail	BCNC	2	29					
Friends of EPCNC Board Meeting	BCNC	1	12					
Awesome Arthropods	FCNC	11	228	4.80				
Walk the Wetlands	FCNC	21	382	5.00				
Discover the Wetlands	FCNC	9	152	5.00				
Nature Adventures: Feathered Frenzy	FCNC	2	78	5.00				
2's & 3's Outdoors: Mighty Muskrats	FCNC	2	65	4.80				
Family Fun Day	FCNC	1	650	5.00				
Spring Bird Count	FCNC	1	40	5.00				
Adult Bird Club	FCNC	2	23	5.00				
Fountain Creek Watershed District Meeting	FCNC	1	12					
Birthday Parties	FCNC	4	100	5.00				
Active Adult: Sunset Bird Photography	FCNC	1	12	5.00				
Kids Outdoor Survival Skills Series	FCNC	1	13	5.00				
Group Volunteer Project: ILC	FCNC	1	15					
Group Volunteer Project: Black Hills Energy	FCNC	1	10					
Group Visits	FCNC	5	70					
Park Advisory Board Tour	FCNC	1	10					
Pikes Peak Birding and Nature Festival Trips/Events	FCNC	9	168					
Trailability Program	FCNC & BCNC	5	14					
Cornhole League	FEC	5	325					
Back to Eden Garden Class	FEC	1	80					
Summer Vibes Concert	FEC	1	275					
TOTALS		162	4216	4.94				

Visitor Contacts <i>(does not include programs)</i>	Bear Creek Nature Center	Fountain Creek Nature Center	Paint Mines Interpretive Park	Rainbow Falls Historic Site				
January	662	731	0	0				
February	811	809	0	0				
March	917	1187	0	0				
April	904	943	3853	0				
May	1222	1175	3434	0				
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Totals	4516	4845	7287	0				

PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

PARK OPERATIONS ~ ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ~ RECREATION/CULTURAL SERVICES ~ CSU EXTENSION

**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
MONTHLY REPORT**

SABINE CARTER, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COORDINATOR
DEBRA REID, ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISOR

May 2023

General Updates:

1. Facility rentals have generated \$165,410 which is 91% of our \$180,000 annual revenue goal.

Special Events:

1. The Colorado Disc Dogs held a dog frisbee competition at Fox Run Regional Park. 50 dogs were signed up and had a great time. (Dog not competing will be on leash).
2. Summit Ministries started their youth day camps this month. The organization is bussing 150 to 175 kids to Bear Creek Regional Park three-times per week for field sports and activities. The day camps last until the middle of August.
3. Kids on Bikes started their bike camps this month. The organization is bringing 20+ kids, ages 3 to 16 to Bear Creek Regional Park for daily bike camps to teach mountain bike skills and experience a variety of terrains.
4. Athletic fields are seeing a daily high usage by many sports leagues. Baseball, soccer, youth rugby, Lacrosse, Frisbee, flag football and mixed-sports camps are taking place throughout our park system.
4. 10 commercial photography permits were issued for the Paint Mines Interpretive Park.

PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

PARK OPERATIONS ~ ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ~ RECREATION/CULTURAL SERVICES ~ CSU EXTENSION

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Monthly Report – May 2023

Dana Nordstrom, Community Outreach Coordinator

Partners in the Park:

Please join me in welcoming our **NEW Partner in the Park for Falcon Regional Park**, Debbie Collins. Debbie wanted to honor her husband's memory by supporting one of his favorite County Parks. Our new partner is bringing our total up to sixteen this year! We are currently seeking partners for Homestead Regional Park, Black Forest Regional Park, Fountain Creek Regional Park, and Widefield Community Park. Please forward any suggestions to DanaNordstrom@elpasoco.com

El Paso County Fair:

We have surpassed our financial goal and sponsors have committed \$101,500 towards the County Fair this year. Please mark your calendars for the **VIP Luncheon hosted by the County Commissioners at Noon, on Opening Day, Saturday, July 15** at the Fair and Events Center. If you haven't received an email invite, please reach out to DanaNordstrom@elpasoco.com.

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Fox Run Nature Center:

Staff has scheduled our community outreach events which include Concerts in the Park, Black Forest Farmers Market, TirLakes Cares Client Appreciation Day, Forge Evolution Youth Day, Panamara Park Backpack Bash and Black Forest Festival. Staff has also presented to fourteen potential donors in the last month! To learn more and stay up to date, please visit our project website at <https://www.tdg-frnc.com/>



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COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80905
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PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT





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Recreation & Cultural Services Division

Monthly Report – May 2023

Submitted by Theresa Odello, Recreation & Cultural Services Division Manager

Programs & Special Events:

- Fountain Creek Nature Center hosted another successful **Family Fun Day** on Saturday May 6th. About 650 people came out to enjoy a variety of activities along the Nature Trail. Friends of El Paso County Nature Centers docents hosted bug sweeps, bug hat craft, and a pond study. Partner organizations along the trail were Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Resource Center, Fountain Farmers 4-H and their menagerie of animals, New Horizons Youth and Family Services, Colorado Springs Utilities Volunteers, Aiken Audubon Club, Cool Science, 719 Kindness Rocks, Garden of the Gods, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Girls Scouts of CO, Pikes Peak State College Wild Things, and Theatre Across Borders. Commissioners Gonzalez and VanderWerf cooked up free hotdogs and Papa Murphey's Pizza of Fountain was on site all day serving fresh pizza. It was the perfect day for the community to spend time together outdoors interreacting with STEAM activities!
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- Fountain Creek Nature Center, being a birding hotspot in the County, was a site for many **Pikes Peak Birding and Nature Festival** field trips, workshops, and seminars. This year's festival attracted 326 registrants from 16 states! Besides being a central hub of information, the Nature Center hosted 16 field trips and workshops including a Bat Research Seminar and Night Hike, Raptor ID, Bird Photography, and Live Birds of Prey. Site Supervisor Jessica Miller led field trips to Kane Ranch Open Space, Fountain Creek Regional Park, and the virtual "Birds of the Pikes Peak Region" seminar.
- 
- Approximately 150 Pikes Peak Birding and Nature Festival participants *flocked* to Bear Creek Regional Park on May 20th for the festival's social event, '**Birds, Bites & Brews**.' This festival social event allows attendees to gather for food, drink, live music, silent auction and camaraderie among other bird and nature enthusiasts. Another event highlight is the engaging partner tables with activities, information, and free giveaways. This year's table partners included festival Sponsors, Wild Birds Unlimited as well as Aiken Audubon, Friends of Corral Bluffs, Pikes Peak State College, Better Bird Watching, Mile High Bug Club, The Nature Conservancy, COS TOPS Program, CS Utilities Raptor Program, CSU Extension and Colorado Parks & Wildlife.
- 
- Fountain Creek Nature Center unveiled its newest **Birthday Party Program, "Rad Reptiles"**, to the great enjoyment of birthday kids and their guests! Three parties chose the new theme this month. Party goers learn about reptiles and their adaptations before meeting one or both of the Nature Center's education reptiles, Keya the Ornate Box Turtle and Ferdy the Bull snake. During their guided hike along the nature trail, partygoers learn from staff what makes a good habitat for a reptile, leading to some scaley discoveries outside!
- 

- This year's **Free Archery Day**, which occurred on National Archery Day, May 13th, was a great success. Over 120 people showed up at the Bear Creek Archery Range for a free 25-minute archery lesson. Lessons were provided by an instructor from Archery School of the Rockies, who is a multi-Olympic winner from the USA Olympic Archery Team. Many participants said that this was a great event, and they were happy the county provided such events.



- The first three-day **Archery Camp** session at Bear Creek Regional Park started this month on May 30th. We have partnered up with Archery School of the Rockies once again to provide five Archery Camp sessions, which will take place from now until the end of July. For the first camp session, 16 campers between the ages of six and thirteen were registered, and the camps are completely full for the rest of the summer.

- **Paint Mines Interpretive Park's** busy season is upon us. We have our two part-time seasonal interpreters working out at the park each weekend until the end of October. In the past month, the two interpreters encountered and interacted with over 3434 visitors, while diving deeper into interpretation with at least 225 of those visitors. With spring rains happening every week and erosion very active in the park, the interpreters have found and safely extracted parts of what is believed to be an unearthed partial bison skull! Starting on June 10, the interpreters will be starting our regularly offered guided hikes to registered participants.



Outreach Events and Other Items:

- Bear Creek Nature Center staff and a volunteer participated in the Annual Pikes **Peak Children's Water Festival** on May 19th at the UCCS Cybersecurity Building. The rainy day did not put a damper on enthusiasm and fun and complemented the event theme! The festival gave hundreds of fourth-grade students from the Pikes Peak Region a chance to learn about water, wildlife, and pollution as they traveled through fun, hands-on stations. El Paso County Nature Centers' station, 'Life On, In, and Around the Water' gave groups of children a chance to view and identify macroinvertebrates from Fountain Creek ponds then play a game that demonstrates how plants in a wetlands filter pollutants.

- Although April showers brought more May showers, we kept busy out at the **El Paso County Fair & Events Center**. 4H was on the grounds every weekend as hogs & cattle were weighed, Goats & Sheep were tagged, and Miniature Horse Project meetings took place. In addition, the Grad Series camp, to teach and train 4H participants, was held onsite and open to 4H participants across the state. Two more Auto Races lit up some rainy evenings this month, and even included a bull riding halftime show. Granny in the Garden held her Back to Eden class and 80 gardeners are ready for the next planting season. Finally, the El Paso County Fair & Events Center in Partnership with Calhan Community Events, despite the pouring rain, brought together nearly 300 locals to enjoy some music, community connection, and family fun with the Summer Vibes Concert.



- What is the **VIP Trail**, you may ask? It's our NEW **Visually Impaired Persons' Trail**, creating access to trails for even more visitors. On May 24th and 25th, groups of students and teachers from the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind tested our recordings using an audio device called a "Pen Friend" on our beloved Songbird Trail. Following a walking path with rope and knots created and installed by our marvelous maintenance crew, our guests were able to hear the signs along the trail, touch, and smell some of the plants, and even hear the birds. They appreciated the independence the trail represents for them and "just being outside!"





Special Events and Program Calendar

June 14 - July 12, 2023

Date	Day of Week	Program	Location	Target Audience	Notes*
June 12-16	Monday-Friday	Summer Nature Camp: Prehistoric Colorado	Fox Run Regional Park	Children entering grades 1-5	9am-12pm, \$110 per child
June 13-15	Tues-Thurs	Archery Camp Wk 2	BCRP Archery	Ages 6-17	9am-12pm / \$110 per camper
June 14	Wednesday	Little Wonders: Bird Bonanza	Bear Creek Nature Center	Ages 2-3 with caregiver	9-10:30am & 1-2:30pm/ \$3 per person
June 14	Wednesday	Rock Island Cornhole League	Fair & Events Center	Teens & Adults to Play; All ages are welcome	6pm-10pm, \$10 per person
June 15	Wednesday	Nature Explorers: Let's Go Hiking	Bear Creek Nature Center	Ages 4-6 with caregiver	9-10:30am & 1-2:30pm/ \$3 per person
June 16	Friday	Kids Night Out: Summer Fun Moonlight Hike	Bear Creek Nature Center	Ages 6-12 can be dropped off by caregiver	5:30-9:00pm/ \$30 per child includes dinner
June 17	Saturday	FRNC Outreach: Black Forest Farmers Market	Black Forest Farmer's Market	ALL	9am-2pm: Free: outreach event for Fox Run Nature Center
June 17	Saturday	Kite Festival	Falcon Regional Park	ALL	10am-2pm / FREE!
June 20	Tuesday	Night Sky/Milky Way Photography Workshop	Paint Mines Interpretive park	Adults	9pm, to 7am / \$300 per person
June 21	Wednesday	Rock Island Cornhole League	Fair & Events Center	Teens & Adults to Play; All ages are welcome	6pm-10pm, \$10 per person
June 22, 23	Thursday, Friday	2s & 3s Outdoors: Mighty Muskrats	Fountain Creek Nature Center	Children age 2-3 with an adult	9-10:15am, \$3 per person
June 24	Saturday	Paint Mines Interpretive Hike	Paint Mines Interpretive park	All ages	9:30-11:30am / \$3 suggested donation/person
June 24	Saturday	Milkweed Menagerie	Fountain Creek Nature Center	All ages	10am-12pm / \$5 per person
June 24	Saturday	FORGE Evolution Youth Event	2132 East Bijou Street Colorado Springs, Colorado . 80909	All ages, primarily teens and their families	FREE Outreach event
June 24	Saturday	Forest Bathing Walk with Listening Pines	Bear Creek Nature Center	Adults	1-3pm/ \$30 per person
June 24	Saturday	BST Auto Races	Fair & Events Center	All Ages	6pm-10pm / \$20 entry
June 28	Wednesday	Rock Island Cornhole League	Fair & Events Center	Teens & Adults to Play; All ages are welcome	6pm-10pm, \$10 per person
June 27-29	Tues-Thurs	Archery Camp Wk 3	BCRP Archery	Ages 6-17	9am-12pm, \$110 per child
July 5	Wednesday	Rock Island Cornhole League	Fair & Events Center	Teens & Adults to Play; All ages are welcome	6pm-10pm, \$10 per person
July 8	Saturday	Paint Mines Interpretive Hike	Paint Mines Interpretive park	All ages	9:30-11:30am / \$3 suggested donation/person
July 11-13	Tues-Thurs	Archery Camp Wk 4	BCRP Archery	Ages 6-17	9am-12pm, \$110 per child
July 12	Wednesday	Jazz in the Parks-Concert in the Park	BCRP	ALL	6-8 pm: Free
June 26-30	Monday-Friday	Summer Nature Camp: Surfin' the Food Web	Fountain Creek Nature Center	Children entering grades 1-5	9am-3pm, \$150 per child
July 29	Saturday	Beautiful Blooms at Bear Creek Hike	Bear Creek Nature Center	Ages 12+	9-11am / \$5 per person
July 6,7	Thursday & Friday	Nature Adventures: Crabby Crawdads	Fountain Creek Nature Center	Children ages 3-6 and their families	9-10:30am, \$3 per person
July 7, 8	Friday & Saturday	Firefly Celebration and Night Hike	Fountain Creek Nature Center	All Ages	7:30-9pm & 8-9:30pm, \$5 per person
July 10-14	Monday-Friday	Summer Nature Camp: Wild Child Adventures	Fountain Creek Nature Center	Children entering grades 6-8	9am-3pm, \$150 per child
July 12	Wednesday	Rock Island Cornhole League	Fair & Events Center	Teens & Adults to Play; All ages are welcome	6pm-10pm, \$10 per person

* Nature Center Members may receive an additional discount

PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

PARK OPERATIONS ~ ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ~ RECREATION/CULTURAL SERVICES ~ CSU EXTENSION

**PARKS PLANNING DIVISION & PARK OPERATIONS DIVISION
MONTHLY REPORT
MAY 2023**

Parks Planning

Capital Project Management / Planning:

Bear Creek Regional Park Pickleball Retaining Wall – The retaining walls directly west of the pickleball courts were dilapidated and needed replacement. The project included demolition of the old timber walls and construction of a new concrete block retaining wall. A new plaza behind the retaining wall was constructed to provide an area for observation, seating, and event space. Timberline Landscaping began construction in April and completed the project in May 2023.

Black Forest Regional Park Tennis Courts – The two existing tennis courts in Black Forest Regional Park are in the need of replacement due to age, playability, and safety concerns. County Parks has contracted with FieldTurf, LLC (Sourcewell Contract 060518-FTU) to remove the two existing tennis courts and replace with two new post-tension concrete tennis courts. The courts will also be lined for pickleball play. The project began with court demolition September 2022. Due to contractor schedule and winter weather, construction resumed April 2023 and concrete was placed April 24. Anticipated project completion date is June 2023.

Crews Gulch Regional Trail Paving – The Crews Gulch Primary Regional Trail runs southwest to northeast from Ceresa Park and the Fountain Creek Regional Trail, northeast through Widefield Community Park, to its terminus at Fontaine Boulevard. While some of the trail is paved through Widefield Community Park, the section south of Quebec Street is currently gravel surfaced. The 2017 Widefield Community Park Master Plan identified the southern section of the Crews Gulch Trail as a candidate for concrete paving, thus allowing for more robust ADA accessibility through the park. El Paso County Parks was awarded a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to complete this project. A Notice to Proceed was issued to Jarcco Construction in May 2023 with construction to begin in mid-June and continue to mid-July 2023.

County Fairgrounds Barn Replacement – The project removed and replaced several small animal barns that are located west of Owens Livestock Arena. The existing, dilapidated wooden barns were replaced with a new 7,500 square foot barn. The project was completed on schedule in May 2023.

Fountain Creek Repairs at Duckwood Trailhead– The embankment along Fountain Creek has sustained erosion from repeated high-water events and is now threatening the Fountain Creek Regional

Trail and Chilcott Irrigation ditch infrastructure. Planned repairs include installation of riprap armoring, geotextile fabric, and revegetation of the creekbank. Funds have been allocated to launch engineering and design in 2023 with construction planned for winter 2024-25. Potential grant opportunities are being explored to leverage dedicated funds.

Fountain Creek Nature Center Sidewalks– The main sidewalk leading from the parking lot to the main entrance does not meet ADA compliance. Additionally, the current storm drains are not adequately sized to convey stormwater. A design contract with Baseline Engineering was completed in 2022. A separate contract for construction will be advertised with Baseline providing construction support services. County Parks submitted a CDBG grant application in February 2023 for project funding. CDBG funding announcements are expected in July 2023.

Fox Run Nature Center – A request for proposals was issued in June 2022 seeking architectural and site design services for the new nature center located in Fox Run Regional Park. After a review of four submitted proposals, a team led by TDG Architecture was selected. A project kick-off was held in October and preliminary data gathering has begun. The El Paso County Commissioners allocated \$1 million in funding towards the project in November. Several site visits and project team meetings have been held to discuss building location and exhibit design. Public and key stakeholders will be engaged starting in May 2023 to inform design of the building, exhibits, and surrounding site. Public meeting one was held on May 17 with over 50 in attendance. Public feedback will be collected via interviews, community events, and through the project website. Design work will continue with 30% due in July, 60% in fall, and final design by end of 2023.

Fox Run Regional Park Oak and Pine Meadow Restrooms – This project consists of renovating the Oak and Pine Meadow restrooms from a pit vault composting system to a flush system. The current pit vault composting waste systems will be removed, and a new on-site wastewater treatment system will be installed with new internal plumbing and fixtures. The project will be completed in two phases, design first with a construction project to follow. A design contract was awarded to Design Edge in April 2023. Design is underway with anticipated completion by end of Summer 2023.

Homestead Ranch Regional Park Improvements –This project will implement recommendations from the 2022 Homestead Ranch Master Plan. The scope of work includes trail upgrades, parking lot and drainage improvements, signage, and forest management tasks. Staff is in the process of bidding projects for fencing repairs, signage, and trail improvements. Construction is anticipated this summer-fall.

Paint Mines Interpretive Park Master Plan – In recent years the number of visitors to the park has increased leading to several management challenges which includes vehicle congestion, user-created social trails, climbing on the formations, and overall site degradation. In response to these challenges, the County completed two projects in 2020 - 2021 aimed at improving the existing parking areas, resurfacing existing trails, completing minor ditch and drainage improvements, and adding fencing and signage to guide park visitors. El Paso County is now looking to create a Master Plan which will build-upon these improvements and provide a long-term plan to manage park visitors while also protecting the fragile formations. Staff is completing document and site review in preparation for a request for proposal to initiate the master plan this summer.

Santa Fe Open Space – The master plan process has been completed with BoCC approval in March 2021. A contract for single-track trail corridor clearing and construction was awarded to Performance Recreation in September 2021. Construction has been completed and the grand opening was held on April 7, 2022. The Phase I Improvement Project was completed in April 2023 through the installation of two new custom information kiosks and Martin Marietta Partners in the Park signs at each entrance of the open space on the New Santa Fe Regional Trail.

Ute Pass Regional Trail - El Paso County was previously awarded two federal grants to fund design and construction of the remaining 3.75-mile segment of the Ute Pass Regional Trail. An Intergovernmental Agreement with CDOT was approved by the BoCC in April 2019. A revised scope of work was approved in 2022 to reduce the project to 1.5 miles to end at the intersection of US 24 and Fountain Ave. Stantec Consulting Services was selected to complete engineering and design of the Ute Pass Regional Trail. Permitting and regulatory approvals are ongoing. Review and coordination with several agencies are ongoing. A third grant was awarded to the County in 2022 and other funding options are being pursued. The final design package is scheduled to be completed in 2023. Construction is planned for 2024.

Other:

Development Permit Application Reviews - Staff reviewed 1 development permit application to be presented for endorsement at the June 2023 meeting and provided internal administrative comments for an additional 16 applications during May 2023.

Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District - Staff continues to serve on the Technical Advisory Committee. The committee helps develop and implement watershed restoration and enhancement projects. The district has launched the greenway master plan and staff is participating as a stakeholder.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) - Staff is working with the County Information Technology Department to expand El Paso County Parks' use of GIS for data collection, operational, and planning applications. New regional park maps have been completed or are in process, and new and/or improved datasets have been received. Staff has received training in the new ArcGIS Pro mapping software program and is migrating existing maps to the new format.

Grants – El Paso County Parks was awarded a \$145,000 Community Development Block Grant for the paving the Crews Gulch Trail through Widefield Community Park. A notice to proceed was awarded in fall 2022 with procurement scheduled for April 2023. A grant application was submitted to Great Outdoors Colorado in August to fund five weeks of work by the Mile High Youth Corps and Rocky Mountain Field Institute at Pinerias Open Space in 2023. Unfortunately, this grant was not successful.

Interdepartmental Coordination- Staff is representing County Parks and providing technical assistance for several projects to ensure compliance with the El Paso County Parks Master Plan and to support advancement of multi-modal opportunities. This includes the Peyton Drainage and Transportation Master Plan, Eastonville Road design project, South Powers Extension Study, the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG) Active Transportation Plan, and the Jackson Creek Parkway Corridor Plan.

Park Operations

Central District:

District Properties - Bear Creek Regional Park, Bear Creek Dog Park, Bear Creek Nature Center, Rainbow Falls Historic Site, landscape maintenance at eleven (11) County facilities, Ute Pass Regional Trail, Jones Park Open Space

Monthly Summary – Central staff continued their daily efforts to keep all properties clean and safe during the month of May. Above average precipitation totals, and moderate temperatures have helped boost the natural beauty throughout the park. Parking lot and trail maintenance, landscape bed maintenance, continuous illegal camping checks, turf maintenance, and playground inspections have all been priorities during the reporting period.

Bear Creek Regional Park hosted a group of The Classical Academy students for their annual volunteer day on May 5th. For this year's project, the thirteen member "Titan" team helped install multiple varieties of perennial plants and moved twenty tons of rock mulch into five landscape beds at Bear Creek Terrace. As always, TCA students did an exceptional job with this project, and we greatly appreciate their efforts!

Finsterwald Irrigation and Landscaping is near completion with the Bear Creek East non-potable irrigation conversion. This project entails disconnecting the current irrigation system from the potable water source, connecting it to the non-potable water source, and combining all current irrigation controllers into one centralized location. The Finsterwald team is slowly making progress and completion should take place in the next reporting period. Park Operations staff has maintained oversight during all stages of this project. Non potable use notification signs have been placed at key locations, all valve box covers have been converted to the standardized purple, and all irrigation heads will be marked purple, as well.

The Central team installed sixteen speed bumps to the large dirt parking lot at Bear Creek West. This parking area is frequently used as a drifting track by locals, requiring constant maintenance from staff. The addition of these speed bumps has already proven successful in deterring this activity, as well as slowing down daily traffic throughout the lot.

Greg Stachon, with the EPC Park Planning Division, recently contracted Timberline Landscaping to upgrade the Bear Creek Pickleball complex. A new, multi-tiered seating area is being installed on the west side of the courts. This project will provide tiered seating and a large shaded common area for spectators. Timberline did a great job in completing the seating area and common area platform, the shade structures will be installed in the near future.

East District:

District Properties – El Paso County Fair and Events Center, Falcon Regional Park, Falcon Regional Dog Park, Homestead Ranch Regional Park, Paint Mines Interpretive Park, Rock Island Regional Trail, Drake Lake Open Space, Palmer Divide Trail at Wood Lake, Heritage Ranch Open Space, Latigo Trails Open Space, Falcon Vista Open Space, Peyton Pines Open Space, Forest Green Open Space

Monthly Summary – The Fairgrounds has been a busy destination of late. Several rentals and meetings took place this month. Auto races occurred twice this month, multiple dog shows, and the Board of County Commissioners held their monthly meeting at the Fairgrounds. When the team is not setting up for a meeting, we have been working on the fairgrounds prep list. The County Fair is right around the corner, so it is quickly becoming our top priority.

In addition to prepping for the Fair and weekly events, our team has been addressing several drainage issues throughout the district. Many ruts and washouts were repaired in the south parking lot at the Fairgrounds. The rain has exposed several issues that needed attention. With the repairs that were made, the storm water is draining where desired without causing major ruts in the parking lots and driveways.

The parks team was able to complete the refurbishment of the information kiosk by the restrooms at Homestead Ranch Regional Park. The team replaced the plexiglass, painted the frame, and replaced the cork board within.

All the general turf maintenance procedures were completed this month as well. Seed, fertilizer, and aeration were completed in all our fields and now the team is focusing on keeping up with mowing operations. Heavy and consistent rains have complicated mowing efforts to this point in the season. The parks team began planning for two landscape bed renovation projects, one at Falcon Regional Park main entrance and the other will be plant replacement and rock install at Homestead Ranch Regional Park.

North District:

District Properties - Fox Run Regional Park, Fox Run Regional Trail, Black Forest Regional Park, Black Forest Section 16, Pineries Open Space, Palmer Lake Recreation Area, Santa Fe Open Space, New Santa Fe Regional Trail, Baptist Road Trailhead, Forest Lakes Regional Trail, Cherry Creek Regional Trail

Monthly Summary – The priority in the North District this month was improving active use areas and storm damage clean-up. We are pleased to add two new seasonal employees to the team this month as well.

All active use areas were aerated, fertilized, and treated for weeds. Soil amendments were also applied to all fields for improved turf health and quality. Soil tests were taken for monitoring and planning purposes. The irrigation systems have been tested for required repairs. All broken sprinkler heads and irrigation leaks have been repaired.

The forestry project was completed at the Pineries Open Space to help reduce Mountain Pine Beetle populations on the property and preserve the forest. A training session was conducted at the Pineries to help identify future MPB infestations and the best management practices for prevention. Mile High Youth Corps also conducted a multi-day sawyer training which improved the access road area and provided the necessary training experience. A new bench was installed at the overlook area at the Pineries on behalf of the Black Forest Trails Association, we appreciate the continued support within our district.

Friends of Fox Run Park performed two days of volunteer work to replace several damaged split rail fence posts and rails. The initial training and supplies were supplied by the North District Staff, but the labor and care to perform the repairs was generously donated.

Maintenance of the parking lots, roads, trails, and drainage continues. Parks, trails, and facilities continue to be inspected and cleaned daily.

South District:

District Properties - Fountain Creek Regional Park, Fountain Creek Dog Park, Fountain Creek Nature Center, Fountain Creek Regional Trail, Clear Springs Ranch, Christian Open Space, Willow Springs Park, John Ceresa Park, Crews Gulch Trail, Kane Ranch Open Space, Stratmoor Hills Park, Stratmoor Valley Park, Schreder Open Space, Widefield Community Park, Grinnell Boulevard

Monthly Summary – Our team's primary efforts this month were turf improvements and trail maintenance. Staff members focused on improving irrigation coverage, improving the efficiency of water usage, and

treating unwanted weeds along trail systems, parking lots, and other areas to suppress the growth of weeds.

The South district sustained significant damage due to the recent storms. Staff members repaired multiple washouts, slumping of trails, small sink holes, erosion, and cleared pipe culverts. Our team worked diligently to make the needed repairs while keeping all trails open to public access. In addition, the main restroom in Fountain Creek Regional Park was struck by lightning on May 24. The restroom has been closed due to electrical damage and portable restrooms are onsite. Assessments have been completed to determine the extent of damage to the electrical and irrigation systems and overall, we are very fortunate as to the extent of damage. An electrical contractor has been hired and is currently making the necessary electrical repairs through an insurance claim.

Staff completed weekly maintenance and mowing schedules and have begun native mowing operations on the exteriors of the parks, regional trails, and open spaces. We also continue to widen areas of our trail system that have been claimed by slowly encroaching vegetation.