Parks and Open Space Mission

To conserve natural, cultural and agricultural resources and provide public uses that reflect sound resource management and community values.
Parks and Open Space Goals

1. To preserve rural lands and buffers.
2. To preserve and restore natural resources for the benefit of the environment and the public.
3. To provide public outreach, partnerships and volunteer opportunities to increase awareness and appreciation of Boulder County’s open space.
4. To protect, restore and interpret cultural resources for the education and enjoyment of current and future generations.
5. To provide quality recreational experiences while protecting open space resources.
6. To promote and provide for sustainable agriculture in Boulder County for the natural, cultural and economic values it provides.
7. To develop human resources potential, employ sustainable and sound business practices, and pursue technological advancements.
GOAL 1:
To preserve rural land
(48)
1-1: Preserve at least 5,000 additional acres (17)

1-2: CE program (21)

1-3: The 3-way Gold Hill Exchange (10)
1-1: Preserve 5,000 additional acres

We doubled the goal!
2009
Major Open Space Acquisitions

- 2008 Properties
- 2009 Properties
2012
Major Open Space Acquisitions

- 2008 Properties
- 2009 Properties
- 2010 Properties
- 2011 Properties
- 2012 Properties
1-2: Conservation Easement Program

- Baseline backlog banished!
- Every CE property monitored (>900)
- Monitor all CE properties every 4 years
- CE program certified by the state
1-3: The 3-way Gold Hill Exchange

- Efforts thwarted
- Federal staffing shortages
- Pursuing legislative action
GOAL 2: To preserve and restore natural resources for the benefit of the environment and public (134)
2-1: Management plans, policies & updates on Major Planning Projects (30)
2-2: Baseline inventory of all native vegetation (12)
2-3: Monitoring schedule for indicator species (25)
2-4: Russian olives reduction, inventory and treatment (12)
2-5: Restore 1,000 acres of forestland (18)
2-6: Reclaim 1,700 acres of grasslands (14)
2-7: Enhance wildlife habitat/stream function on at least 8 properties (18)
2-8: Maintain viability of existing and pending water rights (5)
2-1: Management plans, policies & updates on Major Planning Projects (30)

**Management Plans**
- Betasso/Benjamin
- Rock Creek Grasslands
- Lagerman/Imel/Suitts IBM/Lynch
- Rabbit Mountain
- South County Grasslands

**Resource Policies**
- Forest Policy
- CE Policy
- Cropland Policy
- Water Policy
- Cultural Resource Policy

**Updates**
- Heil Ranch/Lyons Trailhead update
- Egg Farm Addendum to Two Creeks
- Walden Ponds
- Walker Ranch
- Castle Rock
2-2: Baseline Inventory Native Vegetation

Acres Mapped

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Acres Mapped</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>3964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>3785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>2344</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Vegetation Mapping completed 2008-2012
Hall Ranch II vegetation mapping
2-3: Indicator Species Monitoring

- 2008: N. Goshawk, Abert squirrel, large mammals
- 2009: Burrowing owl
- 2010: Breeding bird survey, bat research
- 2011: Evaluated species for management recommendations
2-4: Russian Olive Tree Removal
2-4: Russian Olive Tree Removal

- Russian Olive Removal
  - Trees Removed

Russian Olive Removal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Russian Olives</th>
<th>Trees Removed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>10,531</td>
<td>2,883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>7,648</td>
<td>4,602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>3,046</td>
<td>2,901</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2-5: Restore 1,000 acres of forestland

Acres Restored

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Acres Restored</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2-6: Reclaimed 1,700 acres of grasslands (14)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Acres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rock Creek Grasslands</td>
<td>1,032 ac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dowe Flats/CEMEX</td>
<td>276 ac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>277 ac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,587 ac</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2-7: Enhance wildlife habitat/stream function on at least 8 properties

**Plains**
- South Branch St. Vrain
- Rock Creek (CHP/RCF)
- Rock Creek (Zaharias)
- Buffalo Gulch
- Kenosha ponds
- Monarch riparian area

**Mountains**
- Spring Gulch
- Middle Boulder Creek
GOAL 3:
To provide public outreach and volunteer opportunities to increase awareness and appreciation of Boulder County’s open space.
3-1: Double volunteer hours by 2012 (16)

3-2: Double participation in programs & projects (27)

3-3: Public information about department activities (29)

3-4: Enhance outreach to underserved populations (11)

3-5: Launch one new program every year (11)

3-6: Develop Partnership Program (26)
3-1: Double volunteer hours by 2012 (16)

Total Volunteer Hours

- 2007: 14,990
- 2008: 22,300
- 2009: 25,597
- 2010: 29,037
- 2011: 33,981
- 2012: 31,189
May 5th Trail Project at Heil (10 photos)
A great job this morning by volunteers at Heil Valley Ranch. A hardworking group constructed 150 feet of rerouted trail, restored 100 feet of old trail and installed several rock structures along the new trail. Thanks for the help!

Join us for the first Farm Tour of the season.
3-6: Develop Partnership Program (26)

**Partners**

- 2009: 24
- 2010: 27
- 2011: 31
- 2012: 36

**Hours**

- 2009: 2974
- 2010: 3098
- 2011: 3216
- 2012: 6179
GOAL 4:
To protect, restore and interpret cultural resources for the education and enjoyment of current and future generations (36)
4-1: Restore & open facilities related to metal mining & agricultural history (21)

4-2: Cultural Resource Management Policy (6)

4-3: Increase visitation to cultural resources by 20% (9)
4-1: Restore and open facilities related to metal mining and agricultural history

- 2008: Blue Jay Mine, Ramey House, Bluebird Bunkhouse, Moore House, Quicksilver granary
- 2009: Walker Ranch House
- 2010: Harney-Lastoka House
- 2011: Cardinal Mill (mult. years)
- 2012: Nederland Museum, Cardinal Access
4-3: Increase visitation to Cultural Resources

14% increase, 8,785 to 10,005 visits

- School programs
- Walker Ranch events
- Ag Heritage Center
- Assay Office Museum
- Dougherty Museum
GOAL 5:
To provide quality recreational experiences while protecting open space resources
(70)
5-1: Add 17 miles of trail and associated facilities (24)

5-2: Maintain visitor use experience (7)

5-3: Develop construction & maintenance standards (10)

5-4: Increase compliance with Rules and Regs (17)

5-5: Fairgrounds Improvements (12)
## 5-1: Add 17 miles of trail (24)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Picture Rock</td>
<td>5.2 mi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Ruth Roberts</td>
<td>0.9 mi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Mayhoffer/Singletree extension</td>
<td>1.5 mi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Betasso/Benjamin Loop Meadowlark Trail LOBO (83&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;-95&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;)</td>
<td>3.6 mi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.8 mi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.0 mi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Niwot/Dry Creek Trail Betasso/4-mi connection Lagerman to 75&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>2.0 mi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.8 mi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.5 mi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>20.3 mi</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5-4: Increase Compliance with Rules & Regulations

2012 Patrol Hours

- Hike: 4,177
- Vehicle: 2,156
- Bike: 1,121
- Horse: 180
- Unassigned: 349

33% increase in patrol hours from 2008 - 2012
## 5-5: Improve Fairgrounds (12)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2008 | - New sprinkler system, indoor arena  
      - Building signage and way finding  
      - Power to N. midway for Farmers’ market |
| 2009 | - Electrical improvements for Farmers’ market  
      - 115 trees planted |
| 2010 | - Drainage improvements |
| 2011 | - Farmers’ market expansion |
| 2012 | - Farmers’ market shelter & arbor |
GOAL 6:
To promote and provide for sustainable agriculture in Boulder County for the natural, cultural and economic values it provides
6-1: Adopt Water Policy (18)

6-2: Cropland Management Policy & Operations Plans for all leased ag properties (6)

6-3: Support “Grow Local” marketing (8)

6-4: Convert 10% of ag land to organic (10)

6-5: Maintain & enhance agricultural infrastructure (6)
### 6-4: Convert 10% of Ag Land to Organic Production

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Changed lease criteria—preference to organic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Award bid for organic at James Construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Award bid for organic to Red Wagon Farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Award 5 leases to organic growers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GOAL 7:
To develop human resources potential, employ sustainable and sound business practices, and pursue technological advancements (42)
7-1: Use best practices & technologies for administration & project management (13)

7-2: Pursue sustainable practices in all operations (16)

7-3: Adopt five-year Capital Equipment replacement schedule (7)

7-4: Individual Development Plans for all employees (6)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Internal sustainability comm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>County Fair is Zero waste</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2010 | Individual development plans  
| | Adopt telework policy |
| 2011 | Division competition for gas savings |
| 2012 | Real Estate Data Base delivered |
Riparian Restoration Projects
Rock Creek at Zaharias

March 2010
April 2010
Compliments of
Left Hand Excavating

July 2011
Carolyn Holmberg Preserve, Rock Creek Farm

November 2010
Middle Boulder Creek restoration
Platte Rogers property
Grassland Restoration Projects
Collecting Native seed
Seeding Corona Hill (Hall Ranch)
2011
Forest Restoration Projects
Heil Valley Ranch Forest Restoration BEFORE
Heil Valley Ranch Forest Restoration AFTER
Cultural Resource Restoration & Interpretation
2008
Bluebird Bunk House: AFTER
Bluebird Mine Moore House: BEFORE
2009
Bluebird Mine Moore House: AFTER
Caribou Ranch DeLonde Barn: BEFORE
Caribou Ranch DeLonde Barn: AFTER (2007)
...and facilities
2011 painting by WF Daniels
Cardinal Mill
Circa 1904
Phase I: West Wall BEFORE
Phase I: West Wall AFTER

(2005)
2008
Phase II: East Wall AFTER
Phase III: lower roof BEFORE
2010
Phase III: lower roof AFTER
Blue Jay Mine: BEFORE
2010
Blue Jay Mine: AFTER
Walker Ranch House
destroyed by fire 1992
2009
Walker Ranch House reconstructed
Walker Ranch Interpretive Room
Walker Ranch Lower Barn: BEFORE
2011
Walker Ranch Lower Barn: DURING
Ag Heritage Center Honey House
2008 (moved to AHC)
Quicksilver Granary: AFTER
Golden Barracks: BEFORE
2009
Golden Barracks: AFTER
Harney-Lastoka House: BEFORE
Harney-Lastoka Milk House and Milking parlour
Recreation Facilities
2008
Picture Rock Trailhead
Heil Valley Ranch
Betasso Improvements & Benjamin Trail Construction
2009
Benjamin Loop construction, Betasso
2011
Benjamin Loop Trail, Betasso
2011
Trail Link to Bummers Rock, Betasso
2011 Blanchard Trail, Betasso
2010
Mayhoffer-Singletree Trail
2010
Coalton Trailhead roundabout
2011 Meadowlark Trail
2012
Dry Creek/Niwot Loop
Vision Accomplished!

Parks & Open Space

2008-2012