



# Parks & Open Space

5201 St. Vrain Road • Longmont, CO 80503  
303-678-6200 • POSinfo@bouldercounty.gov  
www.BoulderCountyOpenSpace.org

## **PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Time/Date of Meeting: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 21, 2024

Location: Boulder County Courthouse

1325 Pearl Street, Third Floor, Boulder

<b>TO:</b>	<b>Parks &amp; Open Space Advisory Committee</b>
<b>FROM/PRESENTER:</b>	Ron West, Natural Resource Planner
<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b>	<b>Resource Planner Role in CP&amp;P Development Review</b>
<b>ACTION REQUESTED:</b>	Information Only

### Summary

When the Land Use Department (now CP&P) started the Site Plan Review process in 1996, a POS Resource Planner position was established. The role of this position is to review all CP&P development proposals across the unincorporated county in three arenas: 1) four Comprehensive Plan Elements -- Environmental Resources, Open Space, Agriculture, and Cultural Resources; 2) any previously unrecognized ecological or environmental concerns raised in review and site visits; and 3) possible impacts of the developments to POS lands and trails, and any other public lands in the county.

Most Comprehensive Plan Elements have associated mapping where previous work has identified sub-elements in the field or from cartography. These include: wetland areas, riparian, Environmental Conservation Areas and Riparian Habitat Connectors, High Biodiversity Areas, Critical Wildlife Habitats, Preble's meadow jumping mouse habitat, bald eagle nest sites, Significant Natural Communities, Rare Plant Areas, Natural Landmarks, Natural Areas, View Protection Corridors, Archeologically Sensitive Areas, Agricultural Lands of National/Statewide/or Local Significance, and Agricultural Ditches, among others.

Staff visits the site and overlays these sub-elements with the parcel's boundaries, and the actual construction sites, to summarize potential resource impacts. Changes in locations, designs, and mitigating measures are recommended.

### Attachments

Review Concerns Notes

## POS Review Concerns, November 2024

Three arenas – Comprehensive Plan; ecology/environmental issues; POS/public-land specific

Four Comp Plan Elements – Environmental, Open Space, Agriculture, Cultural

### Elements from Comprehensive Plan

“Fine” filter:

Critical Wildlife Habitats ~96

Wildlife Migration Areas – based on elk field/collar data

Preble’s meadow jumping mouse; federally threatened, categories, USFWS review

Significant Natural Communities

Rare Plant Areas

Riparian Areas

Wetlands

Natural Landmarks – 26

“Coarse” filter:

Environmental Conservation Areas (ECAs)

Overland Habitat Connectors/Stream Habitat Connectors (for ECAs)

High Biodiversity Areas (HBAs)

Natural Areas -- 10

Other:

Adjacent to, or visible from, open space/public lands, and visual impacts to neighbors

View Protection Corridors – scenic concerns along public roads/rights-of-way

Trails – existing or proposed

Archaeologically Sensitive Areas, and Travel Routes

Important Agricultural Lands of National, Statewide, and Local Significance

Historic sites and structures

### Additional Concerns

Re-vegetation – native species, techniques

*Spiranthes diluvialis*; Ute Lady’s Tresses; federally threatened, USFWS review

Bald eagle nest sites (~15), and wintering areas

Wildlife Species of Special Concern ~180 species

Plant Species and Communities of Special Concern, 100+

County-listed noxious weeds – 13 species; and Russian-olive

State-listed noxious weeds – 58 species

Agricultural ditches – large county holdings

Water wells/uses – irrigation, etc.

Mining claims/BLM lands

Oil & Gas wells/infrastructure – huge changes in recent years