



Natural Areas Department



naturally yours

Mission

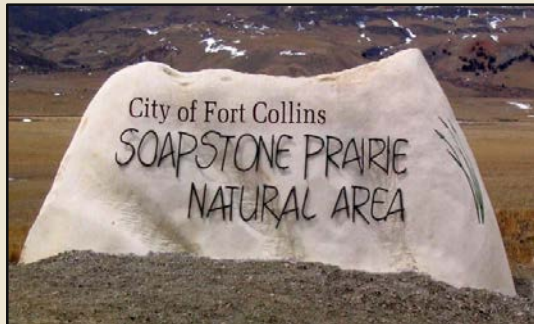
To conserve and enhance lands with natural resource, scenic and agricultural values, while providing for education and recreation opportunities.



naturally yours



LAND CONSERVATION



50 Natural Areas

(42 currently open to the public)

46 Local

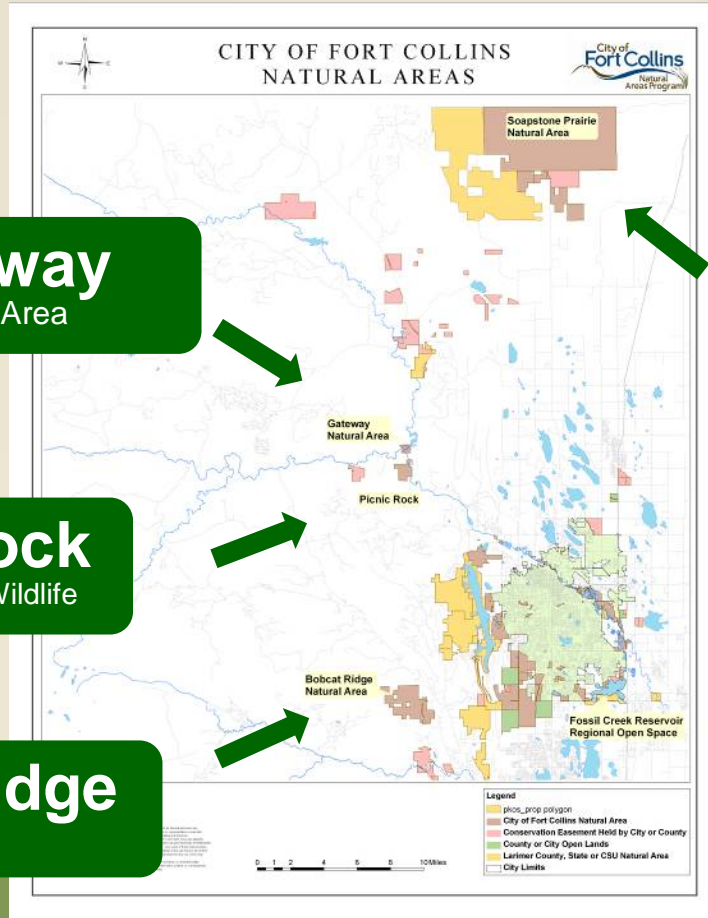
4 Regional

Total: 36,865 acres

(1-22,258 acres)

126 Miles of Trails

(18 miles of Paved Trail)



Gateway
Natural Area

Picnic Rock
Colorado Parks & Wildlife

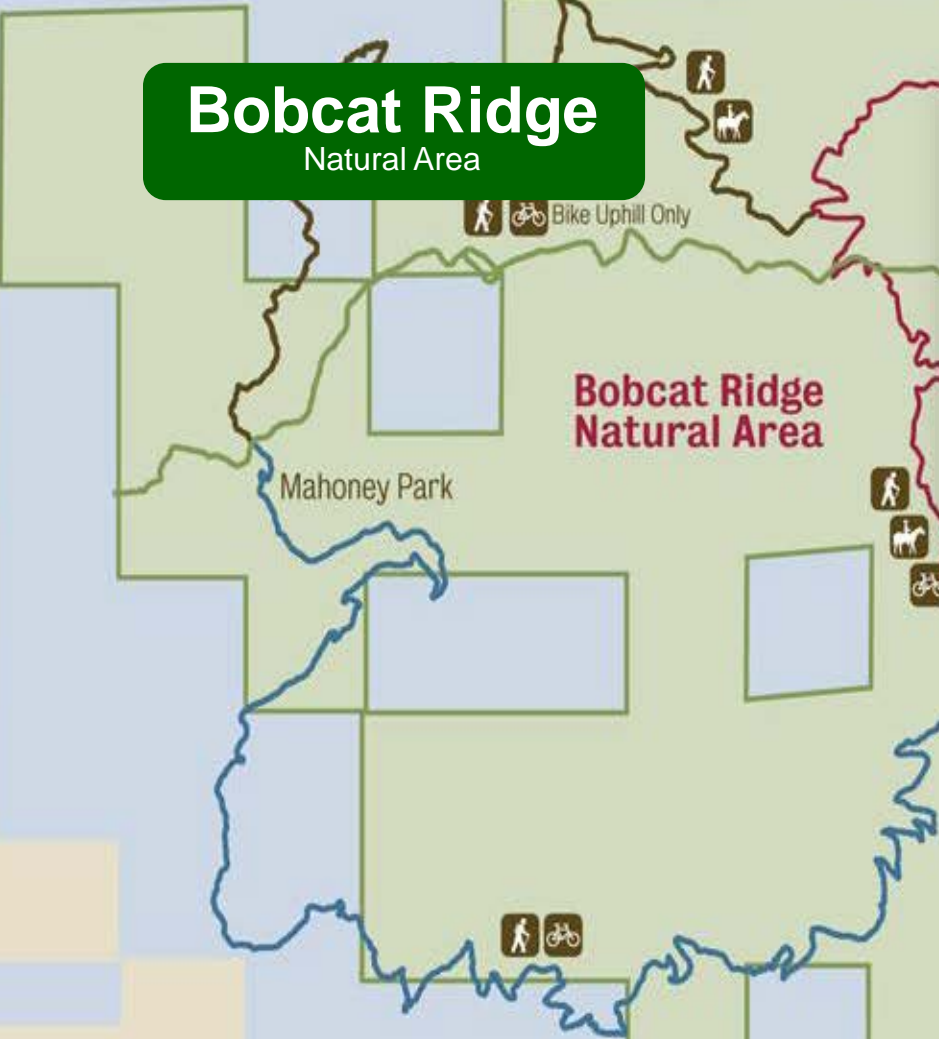
Bobcat Ridge
Natural Area

Soapstone Prairie
Natural Area

Bobcat Ridge

Natural Area

Private Property



- Accessible-grade trail
- Kiosk - Cabin 1.4 miles



Gateway

Natural Area

Poudre River State Trust

Poudre
River
State
Trust

Gateway Natural Area

Cache la Poudre River

14

Overlook Trail 0.3 mi



View

Trail 0.1 mi

Black Powder Trail 0.5 mi



0.3 mi

To Fort Collins

Roosevelt National
Forest

Roosevelt National
Forest

Poudre River
State Trust





Soapstone Prairie

Natural Area

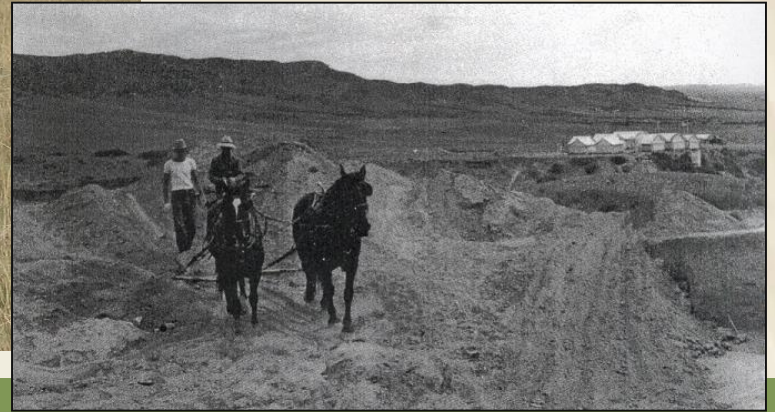


Ranch Manager Residence
No Public Access









The Lindenmeier Site



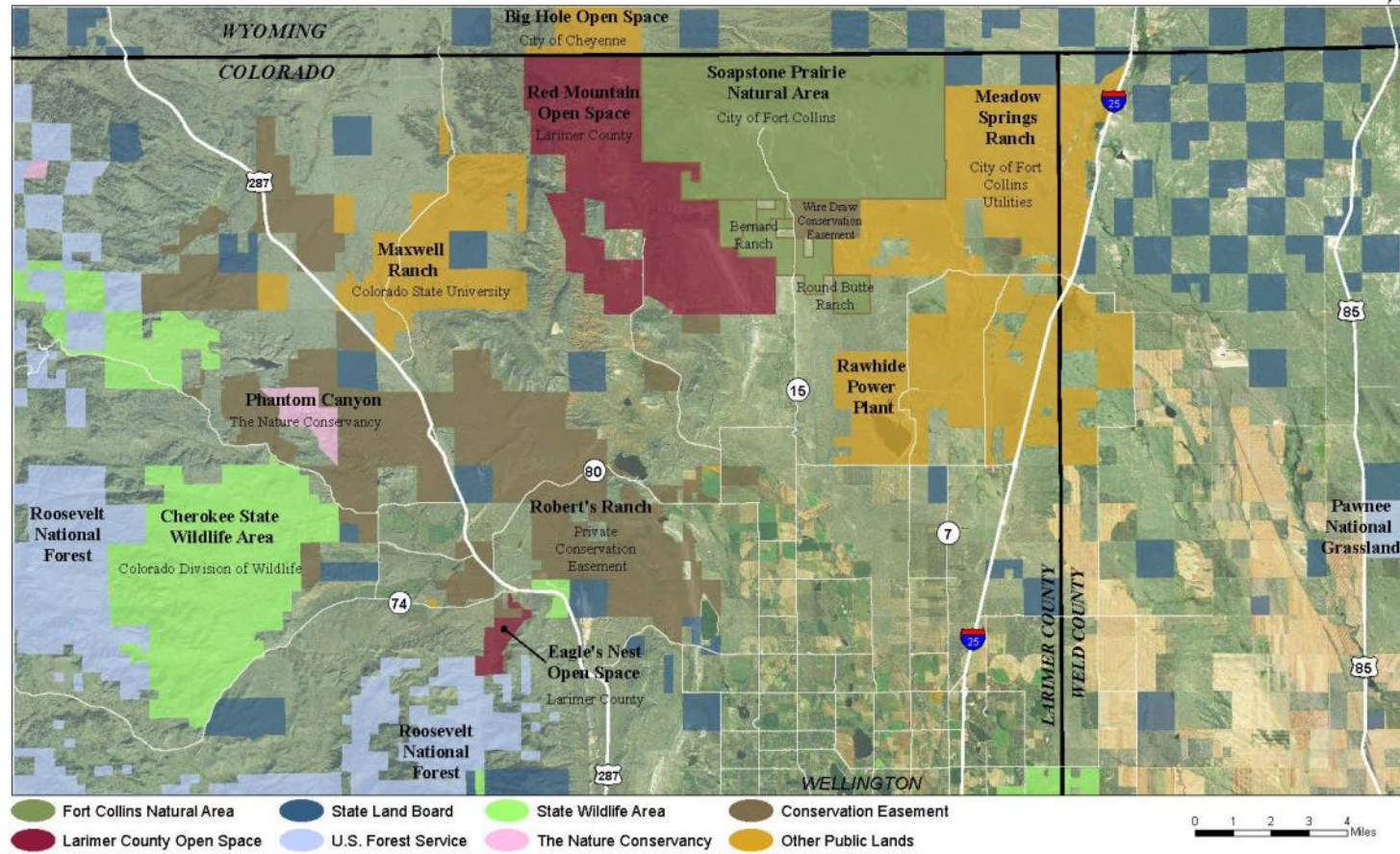




Laramie Foothills: Mountains to Plains Project



Laramie Foothills Mountains to Plains Project



Land Conservation: Focus Area

Conservation Values

- wildlife habitat
- agriculture
- recreation
- community separators
- education
- archeological
- scenic views
- watershed protection
- floodplains
- historical



Land Conservation Purchases: \$92,000,000

- Regional
- Local
- Community Separator

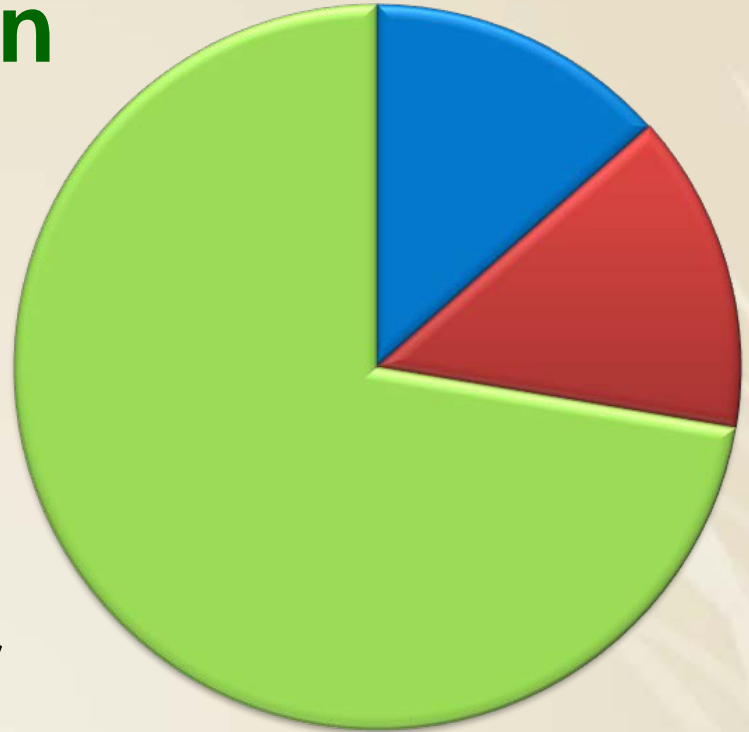


Land Conservation Acreage: 44,400

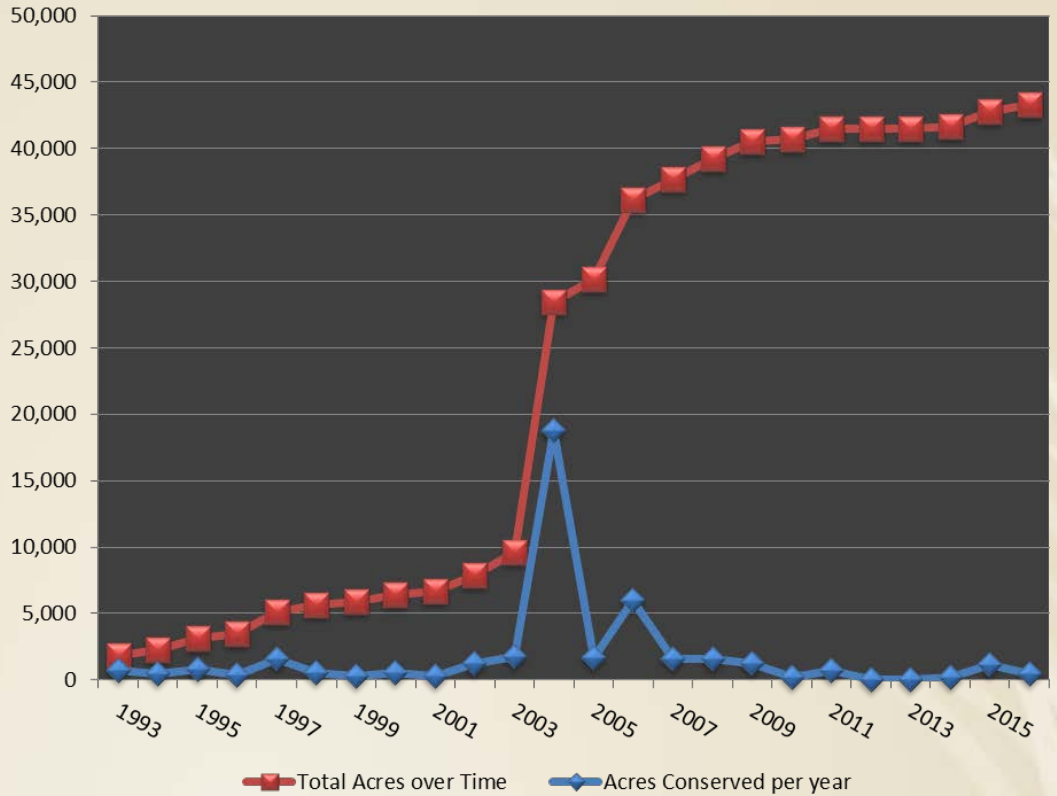
 Local

 Regional

 Community Separator



Total Acres Per Year 1993-2016



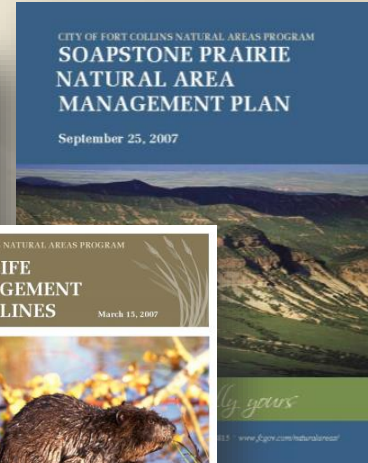
Priorities for the next 10 Years of Land Conservation

- Local
- Foothills
- Community Separators



STEWARDSHIP





Department Management





Land Management







Resource Management

Vegetation and Soil Management



Land Preparation



Planting and Seeding



Erosion Control



Restoring Ecological Processes

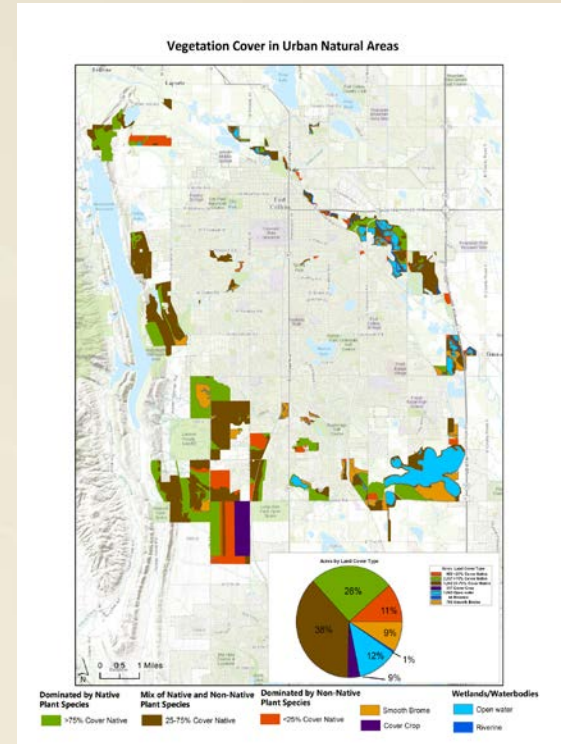
Restoration



Ten-Year Restoration Plan

Overarching Goals

- Accelerate the pace of restoration – grasslands by 2019 and Poudre River by 2024 (target priority restoration areas)
- Create high-quality restoration goals with specific plant community composition and target wildlife and plant species of interest habitat needs
- Increase monitoring efforts to increase understanding of NA system, habitat quality and restoration success
- Consider future climatic scenarios in restoration efforts as a necessary consideration for long-term viability





Hazaleus Natural Area

Magpie Meander
Natural Area



Cache la Poudre River

McMurry Natural Area



Homestead Natural Area

Weed Control



Chemical



Biological



Mechanical



Russian Olive Removal



Before



After

Making Canada Thistle Disappear: Salyer Natural Area



September 2004



Cirsium arvense



June 2005



June 2007



Wildlife Management

Multiple Challenges



Native Species Monitoring



Native Species Recovery



Habitat Protection



Wildlife and Human Conflicts



Natural Areas and Trails Rangers



Visitor and Resource Protection



Prevention and Response



Patrol of Natural Areas and Trails





Public Improvements



126 Miles



Trail Construction and Maintenance



A paved path winds through a wooded area with bare trees and dry grass. The path is light-colored and curves to the right. The trees are mostly without leaves, and the ground is covered in dry grass and fallen leaves. A large tree trunk is visible on the left side of the path.

18 Miles

ADA Access







Birds Love These Bushes

Overgrown gardens like this one are a great place to visit and find birds. Some birds are common residents, others hang out here part-time, and some that fly in only once a year to nest on their long migration.

Lead hummingbird
These little garden visitors feed on 80 colors of light.

Western gnatcatcher
Watch for a flash of yellow in the face and the orange and black wing pattern.

The blue-gray gnatcatcher
An unusual summer visitor - look for a light yellow throat.

How'd That Get There?
Do you know how a bird got to a bird house? It's a long journey. That bird could have flown here from a nearby tree, or it could have been blown through on the way to Mexico for the winter.

On the Edge

The edge of a forest where two types of habitat meet. These "edges" contain the best of both worlds. Many birds and mammals like to hunt and feed here. Many species that don't nest here will come to feed on the edge of the forest. Turkey, blue jays, and many other birds like to eat here.

Also available by the egg in April to July
After an incubation period, the bird shows up on the edge of the forest. Turkey, blue jays, and many other birds like to eat here.

Don't forget the wild and beautiful
It's a great place to see a wild animal.

Take Care...

As you enjoy this wild place, explore with care and be aware.

Cherish your land!
Tread lightly—staying on the trails leaves wild spaces for wildlife. Take out the trash, yours and others, and leave everything in nature exactly as you find it.

Be wise in the wild!
Squirrels, mountain lions, and rattlesnakes live here. Respect them—and give them plenty of space.

Plan Ahead and Prepare!
Stay alert. Storms build quickly here. Lightning is dangerous and heavy rains can rapidly flood low-lying areas.

Remember to take sunscreen and plenty of water.

Don't climb the hotspots!
These fragile formations break easily and are home to many of this area's unique plants and animals.













Recreational Opportunities

























Facility Operations

Nix Farm



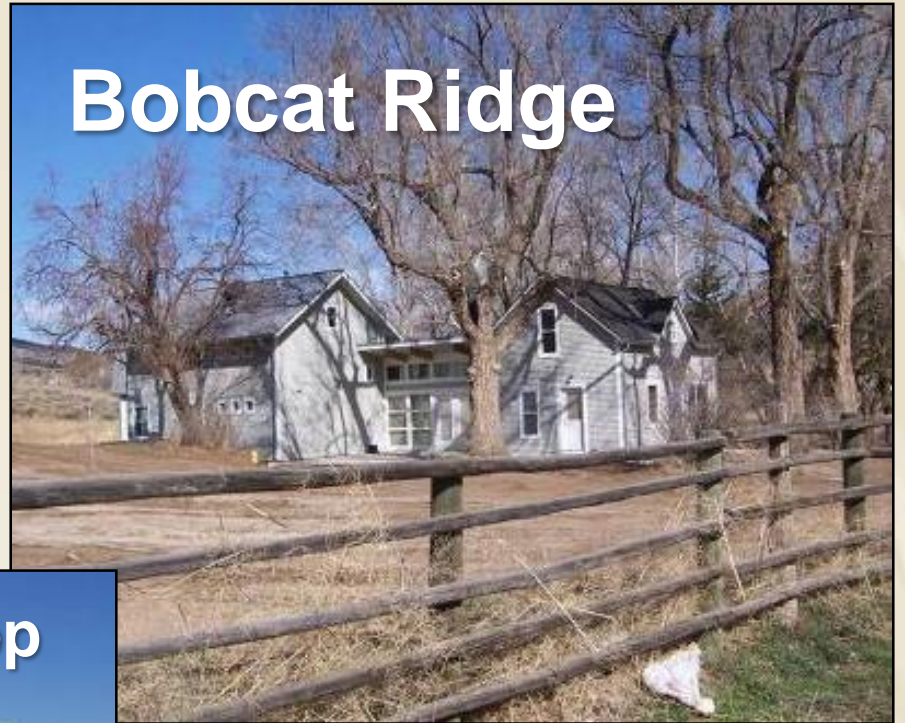
Primrose Studio



Gateway



Bobcat Ridge



FCRNA Ranger Office/Shop





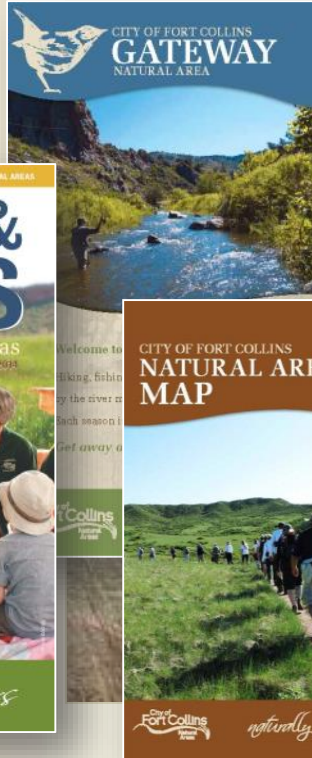
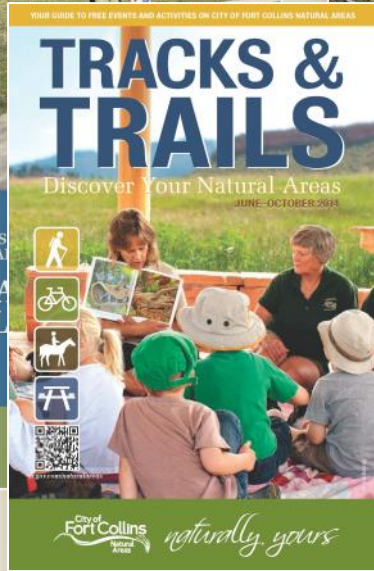
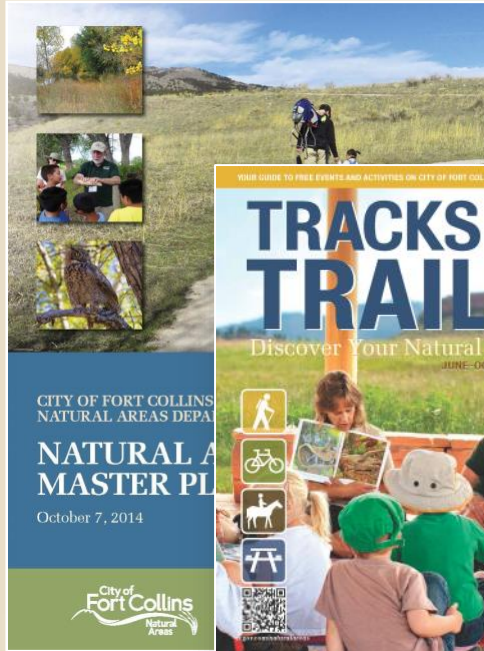
COMMUNITY OUTREACH



These "edges" combine the best of both worlds. Watch for both.




Interpretive Signs



Printed Materials

CITY OF FORT COLLINS NATURAL AREAS news November 2014
Naturally Yours
Site is affiliated with Wamsutter/NISN

Trails for November





This month we celebrate gratitude and thankfulness- are trails something you are thankful for?

November is a great time to visit [Sagestone Prairie Natural Area](#), known for its vast grasslands and wide open views. At this remote site you can get a sense for the shortgrass prairie, soundscape, and vistas that settlers might have experienced. There are over 40 miles of trails for hiking, biking or horseback riding. Sagestone closes in December, January and February, so its a great time to make one last visit for 2014! This is the place where endangered black-footed ferrets were reintroduced this year. Wildlife camera have captured the [first photo of Sagestone's ferret](#). Thank you CSU Wildlife Society volunteers who monitor the motion-triggered cameras!

Looking for somewhere closer to home to explore? Visit [Running Deer Natural Area's](#) fire cab- it was once on top of White Pine Mountain, 26 miles west of Fort Collins. Years ago, the U.S. Forest Service relied on people (not airplanes or satellite images) to spot forest fires. Trail people stationed on remote mountaintops were paid to watch for fires- every day, all summer long. The fire cab (top), is now a nice destination and place to watch for wildlife. Start at the Welcome Center parking lot and head west about 1 mile on the flat trail.

Dam-free Anniversary

A year ago, a stretch of the Poudre River became dam-free when the abandoned Footh Asens diversion structure at [North Shields Park Natural Area](#) was removed. It was replaced with a series of riffles (small rapids). The project was an exciting partnership between the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department and the Colorado Water Trust to improve fish passage, connect the river to its floodplain, improve river-based recreation, and reduce downstream

City of Fort Collins Natural Areas
Outdoors · Sports & Recreation

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790 people like this
Carlin Chongwa and 2 other friends

2,564 people have been here

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City of Fort Collins News Release

City of Fort Collins about our city

CITY SERVICES NEWS/EVENTS CITY LEADERSHIP PUBLIC RECORDS JOBS BUSINESS CONTACT US

14 WHEN LOCAL MATTERS

Now Playing: Fort Collins City Council Meeting 11/24/14

Fort Collins City Council Meeting 11/24/14
City Council discusses the Affordable Housing Ordinance, priority actions for fiscal year 2015, the new utility administration building, the 2013-2014 City Budget, & other news, news, 11/24/14

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Home Videos Playlists Channels Discussion About

Black-footed Ferret Welcome Home
814 views 1 month ago

Karen Weikumar Mayor of Fort Collins

Media Outreach

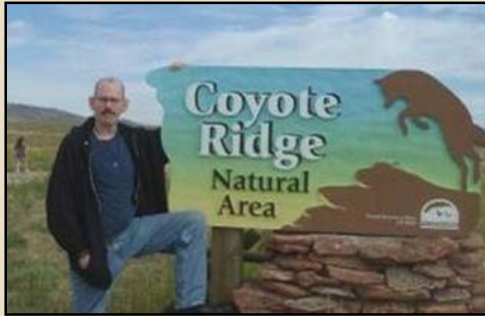




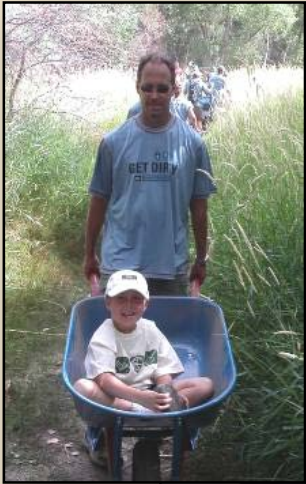
Programs by Staff Educators



Programs by Master Naturalists



Volunteers



Volunteer Projects



Summer 2010

Volunteer News

NATURALIST'S NICHE

MEET THE CLASS OF 2010!

This spring a new group of Master Naturalists and Master Naturalist Assistants (MNAs) joined our program. The MNAs serve as important aids to Master Naturalists assisting with group management, equipment, and activities.

Master Naturalists provide educational programs on the natural areas to groups including schools, clubs and scouts. Often groups are large, the settings take place in remote areas, or the activities are complex, and Master Naturalists need a helping hand. MNAs provide just this assistance. They can take an active role in the education program without the time commitment or specialized training required of Master Naturalists. It's also a great way to gain experience in interpretation, natural history, and



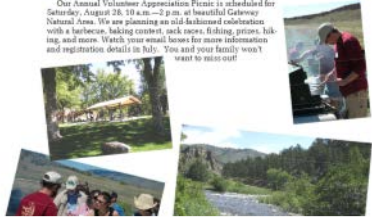
Class of 2010 pose at Johnson Shale.

*New Master Naturalists and Master Naturalist Assistants:
Beth Anderson, Janey Cervelli, Emma Doral, Amanda Haggerty, Katie Hoffmann, Ellen Hsieh, James Ireland, Maggie Knaub, Julie Legg, Linda Lightsey, Asia Marco,
Photo: Mark Kistner, Photo: Christine Walker, Photo: Christine Walker*

SAVE THE DATE!

ANNUAL VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PICNIC IS SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 7th!

Our Annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 28, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at beautiful Gateway Natural Area. We are planning an old-fashioned celebration with a barbecue, baking contest, sack races, fishing, prizes, hiking, and more. Watch your email boxes for more information and registration details in July. You and your family won't want to miss out!



Volunteer Appreciation



FUNDING

2017 Budgeted Revenue \$13,087,136

- Open Space Yes!
- Miscellaneous Income
- 1996 HPOS Larimer
County 1/4 Cent Sales Tax



2017 Budgeted Expenditures

\$12,720,629





the end



Natural Areas Department



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