

Hi there,

I did not see my comments included in the PDF document linked below, even though I emailed my comments to Reederj@ci.boulder.co.us on 9/13/05. Looking through the document, I only noticed two comments from mountain bikers like myself; I would like to see my "segment of the population" be better represented in the Marshall Mesa TSA comments and therefore I feel somewhat slighted.

Regardless, I have included my comments below and would like for them to be taken into consideration. It may appear that I cut-and-pasted the Boulder Offroad Alliance suggestions, but this letter is actually my own and includes additional suggestions. Maybe my original email was thrown out because you considered it simply a copy of others????

Thank you,
andria

Subject: Marshall Mesa-Southern Grasslands Trail Alternatives

I am an avid cyclist, and as a concerned Boulder 'recreator' I am responding to the call for comments on the Marshall Mesa/Southern Grasslands Trail Study Area (TSA). I support the City of Boulder's Open Space Program and I look forward to seeing the details of the Visitor Master Plan implemented, especially the details of providing me with a higher quality user experience.

I agree with and support the formal recommendations of Boulder Offroad Alliance (BOA) for the Marshall Mesa and the Southern Grasslands Trail Study Area. I have reiterated BOA's main recommendations below, and hope to see many (if not all!) of these trail alternatives implemented.

1. Marshall Mesa to Superior Trail Alternatives 10 (Option 1) and 13 (Option 2). Note that this and the following item are previously approved, comprehensive plan regional connections. They are vital to the final trail plan.

2. Greenbelt Plateau Trailhead to Coalton Trail (Alternative 33, Option 2).

3. Two east-west alignments, Alternatives 23 and 35 would be excellent user experiences while still keeping a wide berth for the Coal Creek stream corridor. These offer the user views of the stream corridor that would otherwise be unavailable.

4. A link from the Coalton Trail to Coal Creek Drive that crosses Coal Creek just east of private property (part of Alternative 35). This link will allow for a connection between the northern and southern sections of the study area and open up additional route possibilities. We believe that the crossing can be engineered to prevent access to the stream corridor and to provide excellent education opportunities via installation of display signs.

In addition, I feel that all types of users would benefit from safety-oriented improvements -- changes to parking access on Marshall Road, and a safe way to connect Marshall Mesa trails with Community Ditch as it goes to Eldo. As

recommended by BOA, building the City Limits Trailhead (Alternative 2), and an underpass at the Community Ditch Trail Crossing (Alternative 3) resolves these serious problems. Alternative 4 creates an additional trail corridor from the City Limits trailhead, which would disperse users quicker and mitigate user conflict.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project; I love Boulder and love being a part of the process to make Boulder an even better place to live.

Thank you,
Andria Bilich
3300 Bridger Trail, #111
Boulder 80301

Jim et al,

It appears that my email didn't make it into the public comments for the marshall mesa TSA. I also sent in a copy of the BOA email on 9/13. I was wondering whether you could tell me (or make available publicly) how many of those emails you got (it would make me feel better to know that my comments are represented at least by a number if the actual email doesn't get included). It sure would help establish the magnitude of the cycling community's interest in this TSA, too.

If possible, please include my email from 9/13 forwarded as inline text below in the official public comments record. It seems to me from reading other email comments that were included in your 9/22 summary that I was right on about the "pretty bad misunderstandings about both what mountain bikers want and what causes problems with other trail users." Some people seem to think Alternative 9 means building stunts or something. While some of us would love to see something like that, we know better than to ask for it at this juncture. Right now we simply want quality trail that is fun and engineers out as much trail user conflict as possible.

Thanks for your time,

Jason

--- Jason Vogel <vogelman157@yahoo.com> wrote:

> Date: Tue, 13 Sep 2005 13:21:39 -0700 (PDT)
> From: Jason Vogel <vogelman157@yahoo.com>
> Subject: Re: marshall mesa TSA
> To: Jim Reeder <Reederj@ci.boulder.co.us>
>
> Jim,
>
> Thanks for replying. Before you get deluged with
> BOA
> emails (which you might). I just wanted to add one
> personal comment. I read through the TSA
> alternatives
> and Alternative 9, "Improvements for Bike Access on
> the Community Ditch Trail (making trails narrower,
> planned obstacles, reroutes, etc.)," has some pretty
> bad misunderstandings about both what mountain

> bikers
> want and what causes problems with other trail
> users.
> Most importantly -- although keeping trails narrower
> and more technical does make the trail more fun for
> bikes, it also slows us down. Think of it this way
> --
> are you more comfortable running full out on a city
> street or on a tight rope? We're not *only* pushing
> for our own interests here. Trails designed with
> bikes in mind (NOTE: not for bikes exclusively)
> will
> reduce user conflict, preserve the trail, and
> provide
> for a better recreation experience accross the board
> (e.g. do you prefer hiking on a 4' wide trail or on
> a
> narrow path?).
>
> Thanks for your time, I do appreciate the magnitude
> of
> your job and your willingness to listen.
>
> Jason
>
> --- Jim Reeder <Reederj@ci.boulder.co.us> wrote:
>
> > Jason:
> >
> > Thanks for your comments. Jim
> >
> > >> Jason Vogel <vogelman157@yahoo.com> 9/13/2005
> > 12:33:44 PM >>>
> >
> > To: Jim Reeder, Boulder Open Space and Mountain
> > Parks
> >
> > Subject: Marshall Mesa-Southern Grasslands Trail
> > Alternatives
> >
> > I am responding to the call for comments on the
> > Marshall Mesa/Southern Grasslands Trail Study
> > Area(TSA).
> >
> > As a member of the cycling community, the results
> > of
> > this study will directly affect me and future
> > recreation opportunities on lands I chose to be
> > taxed
> > to obtain. I support the City of Boulder s Open
> > Space
> > Program and I look forward to seeing the details
> > of
> > the Visitor Master Plan implemented, especially
> > the
> > details of providing me with a higher quality user
> > experience.
> >
> > This letter contains BOA's formal recommendations
> > for
> > the Marshall Mesa and the Southern Grasslands
> > Trail
> > Study Area. The area offers wonderful
> > opportunities
> > for recreation, environmental protection and
> > education. We hope OSMP maximizes these
> > opportunities

> > to the fullest extent.
> >
> > While I did not personally write these
> > recommendations, I rely upon my representatives
> > with
> > Boulder Off-road Alliance to do the research and
> > develop a response that I will support. Here are
> > the
> > most important points:
> >
> > 1. Marshall Mesa to Superior Trail Alternatives 10
> > (Option 1) and 13 (Option 2). Note that this and
> > the
> > following item are previously approved,
> > comprehensive
> > plan regional connections. They are vital to the
> > final
> > trail plan.
> >
> > 2. Greenbelt Plateau Trailhead to Coalton Trail
> > (Alternative 33, Option 2).
> >
> > 3. Two east-west alignments, Alternatives 23 and
> > 35
> > would be excellent user experiences while still
> > keeping a wide berth for the Coal Creek stream
> > corridor. These offer the user views of the
> > stream
> > corridor that would otherwise be unavailable.
> >
> > 4. A link from the Coalton Trail to Coal Creek
> > Drive
> > that crosses Coal Creek just east of private
> > property
> > (part of Alternative 35). This link will allow for
> > a
> > connection between the northern and southern
> > sections
> > of the study area and open up additional route
> > possibilities. We believe that the crossing can be
> > engineered to prevent access to the stream
> > corridor
> > and to provide excellent education opportunities
> > via
> > installation of display signs.
> >
> > In addition, the final trail plan must remedy the
> > parking dangers at the Marshall Mesa trailhead and
> > the
> > unsafe Highway 93 crossings. Building the City
> > Limits
> > Trailhead (Alternative 2), and an underpass at the
> > Community Ditch Trail Crossing (Alternative 3)
> > resolves these serious problems. Alternative 4
> > creates an additional trail corridor from the City
> > Limits trailhead, which would disperse users
> > quicker
> > and mitigate user conflict.
> >
> > I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this
> > project. It is important to me as resident,
> > taxpayer
> > and registered voter.
> >
> > _____
> > Do You Yahoo!?
> > Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam

2. Greenbelt Plateau Trailhead to Coalton Trail (Alternative 33, Option 2).

3. Two east-west alignments, Alternatives 23 and 35 would be excellent user experiences while still keeping a wide berth for the Coal Creek stream corridor. These offer the user views of the stream corridor that would otherwise be unavailable.

4. A link from the Coalton Trail to Coal Creek Drive that crosses Coal Creek just east of private property (part of Alternative 35). This link will allow for a connection between the northern and southern sections of the study area and open up additional route possibilities. We believe that the crossing can be engineered to prevent access to the stream corridor and to provide excellent education opportunities via installation of display signs.

In addition, the final trail plan must remedy the parking dangers at the Marshall Mesa trailhead and the unsafe Highway 93 crossings. Building the City Limits Trailhead (Alternative 2), and an underpass at the Community Ditch Trail Crossing (Alternative 3) resolves these serious problems. Alternative 4 creates an additional trail corridor from the City Limits trailhead, which would disperse users quicker and mitigate user conflict.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project. It is important to me as resident, taxpayer and registered voter.

Thanks,
Elaine C. Erb
Niwot, CO