



TOWN OF BRECKENRIDGE
OPEN SPACE & TRAILS

Breckenridge Open Space Advisory Commission

March 28, 2022

Council Chambers in Town Hall

150 Ski Hill Road, Breckenridge, CO 80424

THE TOWN OF BRECKENRIDGE IS NOW HOLDING HYBRID MEETINGS. THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN PERSON AT BRECKENRIDGE TOWN HALL. ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. IN PERSON ATTENDEES MUST NOT ACCESS THE VIRTUAL MEETING WHILE IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

This meeting will also be broadcast live over Zoom. Log-in information is available in the calendar section of our website: www.townofbreckenridge.com.

Questions and comments can be submitted prior to the meeting to websiteopenspace@townofbreckenridge.com.

5:30 pm	<i>Call to Order</i>	
5:35 pm	<i>Discussion/Approval of Minutes</i>	1
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• February 28, 2022 Draft BOSAC Minutes• March 14, 2022 Draft BOSAC Minutes	
5:40 pm	<i>Discussion/Approval of Agenda</i>	
5:45 pm	<i>Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)</i>	
5:50 pm	<i>Staff Summary</i>	14
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Field Season Update• Friends of Breckenridge Trails• Seasonal Hires• Forest Health Projects• Master Plan Update	
6:00 pm	<i>Open Space Discussion</i>	15
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BreckCreate BIFA and Trail Mix• McCain Property Updates	
7:00 pm	<i>Adjournment</i>	

Roll Call

Duke Barlow called the February 28, 2022 meeting to order at 5:37 pm. Other BOSAC members present included Erin Gigliello, Ian Hamilton, Nikki LaRoche, Matt Powers, David Rossi, and Chris Tennial. Staff members present included Scott Reid, Anne Lowe, Tony Overlock, and Zara Hickman. Local residents included Jessica Doran (EcoMetrics), Mike Flynn, Dustin Johnson, Krysten Joyce, Kelly Owens (Town Council member), Jim Testin (Breckenridge Ski Resort). Virtual attendance included Jeffrey Bergeron (Town Council member), Bill Campie (DTJ Design), Francois de Kock (DTJ Design), Allison Mitchell (Summit County Open Space), and local resident Bobbie Zanca.

Approval of Minutes

The January 24, 2022 meeting minutes were approved.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Staff Summary

Winter Field Season

Ms. Lowe: The OST winter field season activities are underway. We are currently collaborating with a Frisco fifth-grade class for a winter Doody Free Breck collection day in French Gulch.

Forest Health Projects

Ms. Lowe: We are planning for several forest health projects on Town-owned lands. The Airport Road and Shock Hill Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Forest Health project encompasses four parcels with many dead and diseased trees. We hope the Upper Blue Sanitation District will join us by treating their adjoining five acres for the eight-acre parcel above Airport Road. Additionally, Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) is working with individuals in the Peak 7 neighborhood to treat their adjoining properties using the Denver Forests to Faucets grant money. The Request for Proposals (RFP) will be released at the beginning of April. When OST staff have a contracted agreement, we will begin public communications outreach. Additionally, the Peabody Placer project in partnership with Summit County is now under contract with Colorado Timber Resources (CTR). CTR may begin project work this summer after July 1, 2022 to avoid sensitive calving and fawning times in the spring, but have until October 2023 to complete the project. They will also cease operations for the upcoming winter after October 30th to avoid the Nordic season and spring calving season. Staff, CSFS, and Summit County Open Space have begun working on a messaging and communication strategy. A forestry project page will be available on the County's website soon.

Master Plan Update

Ms. Lowe: The next big public engagement effort as part of the Master Plan will take place this Thursday, March 3, at the Breckenridge Recreation Center at 5:30 pm. Our consultants, DTJ Design, have collected public feedback and begun initial analyses. The March 3rd Open House will be an opportunity to discuss their findings to date and gather further public input on emerging themes and concepts. This Open House is not a presentation of a final plan; nothing has been finalized. This is another opportunity for public

engagement and input prior to drafting the plan and an opportunity for BOSAC to participate. Following the meeting, DTJ Design will begin work on a draft, which they will refine and send to BOSAC a week prior to the next BOSAC meeting in which they will present a final plan.

Mr. Campie: The Master Plan is in progress right now. We will refine it based on the feedback we have received. The March 3rd Open House will focus on high-level discussion with the public.

Mr. Rossi: Regarding the Open House, how does DTJ anticipate receiving feedback? For example, will there be attendance polling similar to the October Open House?

Mr. de Kock: Our partners at Civic Brand will run the polling for the event. The Open House will begin with our presentation on how the master plan has evolved since the last Open House. We will also discuss general survey statistics and trends. Maps will also be available in large format for the public to review and make comments. We intend to collect public feedback in several capacities to capture as much input as possible.

Open Space Discussion

Cucumber Gulch Preserve 2021 Annual Reports

Ms. Doran: Cucumber Gulch Preserve's wetland health and functionality make it a vital asset to our native wildlife and our community. It is important to remember that biodiversity is why the Town of Breckenridge preserved the property and has a long-standing commitment to ensure its protection. Each year, EcoMetrics creates wetland health scorecards to compare and evaluate management actions. From 2020 to 2021, there were no significant changes across environmental variables. EcoMetrics uses an Army Core of Engineers accepted methodology in creating these scorecards that start with the basic assumption that if there are no signs of alteration, then the least impacted natural state is the healthiest.

There has been beaver monitoring in the Preserve for over twenty years. Our methods utilize pond area as an indicator of beaver activity. In 2019 and 2020, EcoMetrics did work in the middle portion of the Preserve in the absence of beaver activity to slow down and spread out the water. The amount of work beavers can do versus humans is astounding.

This season, Dr. Brad Lambert, a vertebrate zoologist with Colorado Natural Heritage Program, joined us for our boreal toad monitoring. Dr. Lambert participated in the initial 1999 surveys when toads were actively breeding inside the Preserve. While we did not see any toads this past summer, Dr. Lambert confirmed the natural breeding value of the habitat and praised the Town's management activities. As a result, Cucumber Gulch Preserve may be a potential toad translocation area.

Dr. Christy Carello conducted the annual avian monitoring within Cucumber Gulch Preserve. This monitoring has been ongoing since 2003. Her results show that bird biodiversity is declining over time. This is the most direct measure of the Preserve's biodiversity. In addition, it is a defensible dataset, as statistical methods and protocols are performed each year.

The naturalists produced a graph showing wildlife distribution within the Preserve from images captured on the trail cameras. Although this is not a statistically verified dataset, it is very informative. For example, the cameras showed a high number of mule deer inside the Preserve, which is encouraging, as mule deer are declining across the region.

Ms. Lowe: Staff is excited to have a long-term, renewable five-year contract with the ski resort regarding a spring and fall dark period when the gondola will not be operating to transport people to and from the

mountain during sensitive wildlife times. We are thankful to our partners at the ski resort for this agreement. We would like to set specific dates for the opening and closing of the Preserve to foot traffic and bicycles each season, with July 6th as an opening date and November 1st as a closing date. This will make for easier and more effective messaging to the public, as well as adjacent landowners. The fall closure will give Breckenridge Nordic Center time to setup for their winter operations.

Ms. Doran: In conclusion, EcoMetrics did not see any significant impacts to Cucumber Gulch Preserve in 2021, and the wetlands appear healthy. We recommend reenergizing the noxious weed removal efforts to address the reed canary grass, especially in Upper Cucumber. Additionally, we feel the naturalist's efforts and their educational programming are greatly helping human behavior in the Preserve. Finally, we hope to see beavers return to the middle portion of the Gulch. While our management actions can positively impact the water distribution, beavers can do so much more. For example, our work is not meant to be permanent, and it will break down over time. This degradation is a good thing, as we want beavers to return and continue their work and maintenance.

Ms. LaRochelle: From the report, it appears the ponds are increasing. Does EcoMetrics feel that this is encouraging?

Ms. Doran: Yes, some are increasing due to beaver activity. Previously, the most beaver activity was near Josie's Cabin. However, as that pond has held, the beavers have moved up into other parts of Cucumber Gulch Preserve.

Mr. Powers: With so much ongoing monitoring, is there anyone that can benefit from this work?

Ms. Doran: One of the most valuable aspects of the Preserve is that it is a relatively healthy and intact system. Cucumber Gulch Preserve can serve as an example for others to aim for management-wise.

2021 State of the Open Space Report

Ms. Lowe: The State of the Open Space Report is a synopsis of our 2021 Open Space program. Last year, the program reached an important threshold as we crossed over 5,000 protected acres of land and 64.5 miles of trails within our network. In the past, much of the program's focus was on acquiring land and constructing new trails. The emphasis now is primarily on stewardship and the overall sustainability of what we have protected and constructed. In addition, the vast majority of new trail construction focuses on creating connections to utilize our existing network better.

Our program has increased its environmental education and outreach to the community and visitors alike. The naturalists estimated reaching over 9,500 people through interpretive stations at high-use trailheads like Illinois Creek. This past season, nearly 500 visitors signed up for guided hikes in the Preserve. Additionally, there were many repeat attendees as the naturalists had unique topics for each hike.

We continued our volunteer outreach with trail building and land management activities. The Friends of Breckenridge Trails (FOBT) allows us to work with individuals and different groups such as the Rocky Mountain Youth Corps (RMYC). Events such as these help build leadership and technical skills for our young folks as they give back to the community.

Breck Create BIFA and 2022 Trail Mix

Ms. Lowe: Breck Create has approached the Open Space and Trails program in their initial planning phases of the Breckenridge International Festival of Arts (BIFA). The festival has been on a two-year

hiatus but will return on 8/11/2022. This timing coincides with the Breck Epic Race (8/14-8/19). Breck Create wants to reimagine the Trail Mix series so that installations would stay up through 9/25 to coincide with Mountain Towns 2030 conference, if desired and weather dependent. Breck Create plans to scale down the number of installations and musical performances. Additionally, they aim to be strategic with installation placement to focus on areas that can withstand larger visitor capacity that would not interfere with commuting or recreation traffic. Moonstone, Iowa Hill, and the River Trails were identified as locations for installations or performances. There will be no Trail Mix installations at Illinois Creek, as this is a particularly busy area.

Ms. Gigliello: What is the parking capacity of Iowa Hill?

Ms. Lowe: There are six dedicated spots with overflow parking along the access road. Additionally, there is a transit stop nearby. One of Breck Create's goals is to encourage public transit and decrease car congestion to view various installations.

Mr. Reid: The only time this area sees parking congestion is when the Breckenridge Heritage Association gives Heritage Tours. I believe BIFA would create a similar crowd size.

Mr. Powers: I like the idea of public art installations. It is an excellent experience for visitors. However, I worry about these installations over time and outside in the elements. In the past, we have discussed stewardship with BIFA. I also worry about trail congestion and user conflict. Increased trail user traffic might make finding suitable locations for these installations more challenging, especially if they are up for a more extended period. For these reasons, I am a no.

Ms. LaRochelle: Anne, what are your and Scott's thoughts on this?

Ms. Lowe: We are both supportive of art and music in the outdoors for a limited time and in locations that don't interfere with most trail use or race events such as the Breck Epic. Additionally, there are fewer installations proposed than in previous years. I support focusing on public transit and leave no trace messaging with a complete cleanup after the event.

Mr. Reid: I agree with Anne. The Trail Mix series took a two-year hiatus. We have had this event for eight years previously and the community has supported it.

Ms. LaRochelle: My concerns focus on the management of these installations. For example, the clay and glass pieces seem harder to manage, especially in the outdoors and the chance they could get scattered.

Mr. Rossi: My concern is that the unicorn and daddy-long-legs installations will be attractive for the same reasons the troll was and still is. I also have concerns with the extended period through September. Additionally, with several of these pieces, I worry about clay and rocks being picked up and displacing it throughout the forest, creating new management issues. The Town views destination events differently now than when BIFA started. I vote no on extended installations.

Mr. Barlow: I support the art installations for ten days only through BIFA with the understanding the exhibits are completely cleaned up afterward. I like the proposed locations and do not think they will cause crowding. The installations should not remain up until 9/25.

Mr. Hamilton: I agree with Duke's comments and believe this to be a multi-generational opportunity. I do not support the installations remaining until 9/25. Additionally, I am a yes to trail music.

Mr. Tennial: I am not opposed to art on the trailsides or in our open space. I worry these art installations support the concept of fairy forests. If we find the right art, for example, from indigenous cultures or

celebrating our natural spaces, I would support it all year. I support the timeline if the art fits our open spaces.

Ms. Gigliello: I do not support this as it may portray a confusing message. Additionally, I am not in favor of the locations. We should learn from the lessons of the troll for placement. What will an installation do to River Park if it's nearby? I believe that visitor attractions should be separate from our neighborhoods. Lastly, I hope folks would utilize transit. I do support music on the trails.

2022 Trail Construction Projects

Ms. Lowe: Our last agenda topic is 2022 trail construction projects. At the 2021 June Open House, we discussed trails that were initially proposed within the Golden Horseshoe Special Use Authorization that we have discussed many times since 2017. We collaborated with the White River National Forest (WRNF) and Summit County, who contracted the NEPA analysis for these trails. We are waiting to receive the final NEPA Decision Memo, which has taken longer than anticipated, but is expected soon. In the interim, we submitted our CPW State Trails application, and there were several wildlife concerns raised regarding three routes. Our staff, the County, and the WRNF Dillon Ranger District want to vet these concerns further and meet with CPW staff. For example, the proposed Rock Island Climb creates habitat and fragmentation concerns. The two routes in the western portion of the Golden Horseshoe, Chantilly to Upper Flume and Dry Gulch to ZL, have known spring calving and fawning concerns. One possible mitigation strategy for these two trails is to not start construction until after 7/1. Staff is coordinating times to walk the trail alignments after snowmelt with CPW staff to discuss any concerns. We will not begin construction on any of these routes until and if CPW and our partners are on board.

For 2022, we would like to move forward with trail planning for the following connections. First, the Betty's to Chantilly connections utilize FOBT and RMYC volunteer support. Additionally, staff has received requests from BGV and other volunteer groups that want to participate in community trail construction. It is an ideal location and did not have any CPW or NEPA concerns. Second, we propose Mineral Hill Phase 2 as it yielded no environmental or wildlife concerns. Last year, we completed the hiking-only portion of the trail. The County has contracted with RMYC for three weeks to complete this trail segment. The third segment is Tiger Road to Galena, as this trail did not raise any concerns for habitat or natural resources. Staff is coordinating with Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado (VOC) to complete this connection. Initially, staff had planned for VOC to work on Rock Island Climb, but due to the habitat concerns, have rescheduled them for this segment, as it works well for staging and camping logistics. Finally, there is some remaining touchup and rockwork to complete the Little Mountain hiking trail, which was started in 2021.

Mr. Barlow: When are we going to reroute Toad Alley in Cucumber Gulch?

Ms. Lowe: Staff needs to perform a detailed planning effort for a Toad Alley reroute to find the best route that avoids wetlands. The current alignment cuts off important hydrological flows and significantly fragments habitat. Additionally, we need to coordinate with a granting authority from a 2004 LWCF grant. There is an old road bed from Peak 8 that we can partially recover for the new route. The greatest challenge for this project would be removing existing elements such as turnpike and other features that impede hydrologic flow.

Last year, Council had us put the Rose trail construction on pause. While this discussion occurred last year, we would like to bring this back for discussion with BOSAC. The master plan consultants have found no environmental concerns and feel the trail's location is appropriate within the frontcountry zone,

which can support this capacity and type of specific trail. A beginner mountain bike loop would be a great feature in that location.

Mr. Rossi: What is the reason for no compaction along with the Rock Island Climb?

Mr. Reid: There is a certain mileage of trail compaction across USFS lands that they track and do not want to exceed. This is due to the winter range as opportunist species such as foxes and coyotes can get further into the backcountry along compacted routes. This pushes sensitive species such as lynx and elk out of critical habitat.

Mr. Powers: I am in favor of all the trails presented. I believe these are great connections that disperse folks out on the trail network. However, I am on the fence about the continuation of the Rose Trail and further congestion within the French Gulch.

Mr. Tennial: I would like to see the Rose Trail pause continued until the Master Plan is finished. I like the connectivity for the other proposed trails.

Mr. Hamilton: I am for all the trails proposed. I think the priority should go to the Toad Alley Trail, as it would make a great impact for Cucumber Gulch Preserve. Additionally, I would like to see the Rose Trail begin again. The proposed connections would add further benefit to our trail system.

Ms. LaRochelle: I support all proposed trail projects as well.

Mr. Barlow: I agree with Ian's comments, Toad Alley should be prioritized. While Chris makes a good point in waiting for DTJ's recommendations, I am still in favor of the Rose Trail.

Mr. Rossi: I support the Toad Alley trail's prioritization. With the Tiger Road to Galena trail, I would like to see that it is inclusive for winter use and connection. Additionally, with the Rose Trail, I still worry about congestion in the backyards of workforce housing neighborhoods. I support the concept, but not the location.

Ms. Gigliello: I support all trail projects except for the Rose. Additionally, I agree Toad Alley should be a planning priority.

Ms. Lowe: The master plan's proposed management zones are a tool to help address congestion concerns within our network. I hope BOSAC members will bring questions and concerns to the March 3, 2022 Open House. Please encourage your families, friends, coworkers, and networks to attend.

David Rossi made a motion to adjourn the BOSAC meeting. Mr. Barlow seconded the motion. The general meeting of BOSAC concluded at 8:21 pm.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 28, 2022, at 5:30 pm.

Duke Barlow, Chair

Special Topic Meeting

Roll Call

Duke Barlow called the March 24, 2022, special BOSAC meeting to order at 12:08 pm. Other BOSAC members present included Erin Gigliello, Ian Hamilton, Nikki LaRochelle, Matt Powers, David Rossi, and Chris Tennal. Staff members present included Rick Holman, Shannon Haynes, Scott Reid, Mark Truckey, Julia Puester (virtual), Anne Lowe, Zara Hickman, and Tony Overlock. Town Council members Jeffrey Bergeron and Kelly Owens were also in attendance. Katherine King and Christine Zenel from Summit County Open Space attended virtually for a first half of the meeting. Bill Campie, Bill Mangle, and Francois De Kock (virtual) were present from DTJ Design and ERO Resources.

Open Space Discussion with DTJ Design

Mr. Barlow: The purpose of this special meeting is to continue the conversation with DTJ Design.

Ms. Lowe: We wanted to provide an additional opportunity for BOSAC to have one-on-one time with DTJ Design to recap the Open House and talk about the overall direction and concepts for the Master Plan. DTJ Design has provided an outline of the major themes and concepts they hope to include in the Master Plan. DTJ Design will also present to Council at their March 22, 2022 meeting. I will turn this over to Duke and Erin for specific BOSAC questions and feedback.

Mr. Campie: For this conversation, I believe it would be beneficial to first discuss process and where DTJ Design is within this project process. Due to the requests for additional public engagement and meetings, our original timeline has been extended. This Master Plan process represents the most extensive public outreach and engagement that DTJ has done. Our goal is to ensure we hear all viewpoints or perspectives and not to miss any critical issue, while identifying all the critical and hot button issues. We do believe we have received feedback from all user groups at this point in time and will create a plan that addresses open space as a whole. We want your feedback if we have missed any groups of people or perspectives, particularly for trails. We are not done yet and further work is required. We will provide BOSAC with a draft to review when the plan document itself is further developed and written.

I would like to discuss the overarching philosophy of this plan. Our goal from the beginning has been to create a decision-making framework, highlighting processes, and providing suites of tools to assist in decision making efforts in the coming decade. We envision this to be a dynamic, living document has a longer life span and can evolve with changing times and issues. DTJ would like BOSAC's feedback on this philosophy to ensure we have not gone too far in one direction or the other.

Mr. Powers: My understanding is that this process has been to create a framework and a toolbox from the beginning. I have been looking at this process and recommendations BOSAC has given to staff through that perspective from the very beginning. That was my expectation. The decision making framework is what BOSAC asked for and expected.

Ms. Gigliello: I believe the trail loop suggestion is more prescriptive than the toolbox approach. Can we discuss this topic further?

Mr. Campie: We provided the trail loops as an example to give the public something to which they can react. These are an example of implied ideas versus a specific and prescriptive action. DTJ is writing the plan to include the decision making framework, as well as details to provide a case studies and as both a congestion and communication tool.

Ms. Gigliello: I believe the concern pertains to the idea of trail loops, not the specific trail loops presented at the Open House.

Mr. Campie: Regarding the trail loops concept, we believe there is a need for loops on both sides of Highway 9; short, long, loops that meet the criteria of the management zones for different user groups. The concept would include separate recommended loops for both hikers and bikers, as well as a loops of different lengths that would serve different users' expectations. DTJ seeks reaction to these ideas from staff and BOSAC and assistance to identify areas to target for the loops. They would be considered a management tool to help direct use where it is appropriate or preferred, while also helping meet users' expectations. This decision-making framework doesn't mean staff must go out the next day and execute specific loops. Breckenridge is a complicated environment with no single solution or silver bullet to address and resolve all identified issues. Finally, these solutions have worked and do work for other communities. As professionals, DTJ recommends ideas that have shown to alleviate and manage some of the challenges that Breckenridge faces.

Mr. Rossi: It sounds as if this is a framework that utilizes trail loops as a tool. Does DTJ anticipate the document including the specific loops as an example?

Mr. Campie: Yes, DTJ plans to include the identified loops as a tool to decrease congestion issues and improve trail user communication.

Mr. Rossi: I struggle with including specific loops because it makes the master plan document more prescriptive. I do not know where the balance is.

Mr. Tennial: I believe we all interpreted the trail loops differently. I would like to see the trail loop example as a case study that DTJ can walk us through as a tool to use our trail system.

Mr. Campie: DTJ intends to include the trail loops example in that way. This tool is one small management strategy, but we wanted to present it to the public to receive their reactions and feedback.

Mr. Tennial: I am unsure if the case study should be included in the master plan document. For example, maybe the case study exists in a separate document, and the Master Plan is only the decision-making framework.

Mr. Mangle: This conversation around trail loops, as an example, coincides with the discussions DTJ has had as a planning team. The trail loops exist as an example of one of the tools within the toolbox. The Master Plan illustrates the problem staff would be trying to solve and includes the nuances to solve these issues.

Ms. LaRochelle: Are we going to stop building trails? When do we stop?

Mr. Mangle: The framework will not totally address this question. In our experience, there's always something to do, from realigning a trail that is no long sustainable or resolving some other issue that requires construction. The decision-making framework and suite of tools will help guide this. Ultimately, though, it is up to Town Council and BOSAC to make those decisions and our role as consultants is to help provide the framework to help make those decisions.

Ms. Gigliello: Would DTJ please walk BOSAC through how the plan is used to build a trail?

Mr. Campie: The process is multi-layered. The first layer would examine the management zone concept. If a potential trail is in a specific management zone, it will have different criteria for evaluation. The other

factor to consider would be conservation. For example, would this trail alignment impact habitat, wetland, or other ecologically sensitive areas?

Mr. Mangle: There are guidelines and criteria from an environmental standpoint. For example, new alignments should be compatible with both wildlife and management zoning. Does this alignment create a logical new connection or solve a problem? Can we eliminate a social trail or unstable route with a new alignment? While site-specific evaluation is still necessary, this process helps to winnow down assessment through a logical, step-wise, and fair process before a trail is considered for construction.

Ms. Gigliello: Is DTJ saying, in regards to management zones, that if a trail is in the front country, it is good?

Mr. Campie: It is preferred to have a higher density trail network in the front country through the management zone concept. The backcountry would have fewer trails and is more critical to habitat. Many of the evaluation criteria relate to existing human disturbance. There is a link between habitat sensitivity and human disturbance in the decision-making framework.

Mr. Mangle: For example, an optimized bike trail with features in the backcountry is not ideal. The master plan minimizes new or redundant trails and has a lighter management touch for backcountry zones.

Mr. Reid: DTJ has given examples of operational mechanics so far. There is still a public input and planning process for new trail construction as well. Can we please make sure to include the public input element in this new trail discussion?

Mr. Campie: The Master Plan will certainly include a section on the public engagement process.

Ms. Gigliello: I think that BOSAC can all share our views on the loops and then the decision-making framework. For example, I know that a comprehensive signage plan is very important to Mayor Mamula.

Mr. Tennial: Does a comprehensive sign plan fall into the prescriptive plan category?

Ms. Gigliello: It is, but two council members would like this to be a prescriptive Master Plan. For example, being prescriptive encompasses best practices. I would like to see the plan inform us of ways to be most impactful to trail users.

Mr. Campie: The Master Plan will address signage while providing criteria and best practices to improve current signage, but it is not included in our scope of work to dictate the specific signs or their locations or to specifically design them.

Mr. Hamilton: Where in the Master Plan would that be addressed? Would it be in the main document or in an appendix?

Mr. Campie: That is a good question. The DTJ planning team is striking a balance of digestible material in an executive summary-type format at the beginning of the plan document versus what should be detailed in an appendix in the back.

Mr. Barlow: What is DTJ's anticipated timeline for this Master Plan?

Mr. Campie: DTJ expects to be done within the next few months. We are having the meetings we need now to develop a draft document following public engagement and feedback. First, DTJ will give staff a draft plan and receive their feedback; then, we will present a draft to BOSAC. DTJ as a planning team welcomes feedback for dynamic document projects such as this Master Plan.

Mr. Powers: How does the Master Plan define BOSAC's role? Does it lay out new directives for us? Additionally, will the Master Plan address the Town's partners, such as Summit County Open Space and the US Forest Services?

Mr. Campie: The Master Plan will not modify the role of BOSAC; that is a governmental process and we are not intending to create a new framework for BOSAC. The master plan will not modify the existing framework; it is written to utilize the current framework as established by the Town Council and its charter.

Mr. Rossi: How does the Master Plan address our partners? For example, the staff has a great working relationship with Summit County Open Space and OSAC for acquisition. However, if one of the tools is signage and wayfinding, how do we work with them to achieve a cohesive plan? Additionally, there is a lack of ski area input and participation.

Mr. Campie: From what I am hearing, maybe there is a goal framework for cooperation and continued cooperation to further specific goals and ideas. Examples could include a more connected ski area or communication on acquisition. These are essential conversations as Breckenridge is part of a more extensive system. The trail system is already interconnected, and the level of cooperation between land managers is rare. We will certainly encourage continued partnership and cooperation with other entities- in fact the current model where the Town and County partner on land acquisitions- really is a model that other programs envy.

Mr. Tennial: I have a community-based question. One of the practical tools we have seen is the overlay maps. What constitutes the backcountry zone? How are these zones designed?

Mr. Mangle: The management zones were designed to be dynamic. The zones were designed around existing ecological data and GIS analysis of existing human disturbance. The character of different zones reflects the volume of human activity, the number of trails, and the trail type. The planning team first defined the front country where the human footprint is the largest and worked our way out from there to define mid- and backcountry zones.

Mr. Campie: The Master Plan's appendix will include ample information on the analysis process. The management boundaries can change and shift based on local knowledge and management best practices.

Mr. Rossi: I believe there is a wide range of considerations for the front country. The front country includes hot spots areas that should stand out. I am concerned with hot spots that will continue to grow. For example, workforce-housing neighborhoods should have trail connections, but do we want major trailheads driving more visitors into these neighborhoods?

Ms. Gigliello: I think that is a good context for evaluation. I would like to see neighborhoods, tourism management, and parking as critical decision criteria.

Mr. Tennial: Are there enough data to make a recommendation or provide tools for the Town's parking?

Mr. Campie: We have enough information on specific locations, such as the B&B trailhead, to help make specific recommendations.

Mr. Bergeron: When DTJ differentiates between summer and winter use, please remember that folks bike to the trailhead during the summer. In the winter, most users drive. Driving and parking cars create more congestion, especially with snow piles to contend with. I believe a tool to consider is identifying and

creating satellite parking areas where folks can go to winter recreate besides the Sallie Barber and B&B trailheads. This plan should utilize spreading folks out across the system to minimize the winter impact.

Mr. Campie: Yes, I think DTJ can highlight and address spreading folks out across the system as a tool.

Ms. Gigliello: Regarding tools for user groups and conflict, how do you address biking-only trail recommendations and not be too prescriptive?

Mr. Campie: I think it is important to begin testing approaches because of the level of use on the Breckenridge trail system. The framework will help drive decisions of which trails should be single-use or directional. Single-use or directional management are real solutions that do work and are typically appropriate in more frontcountry areas. The public comments regarding this plan at the open house and otherwise were quite favorable for the identified loops and uses. I suggest trying these approaches and adjusting as needed through adaptive management.

Mr. Mangle: The single-use and directional methods relate to management zones. As professionals, we know that spreading people out and utilizing single-use trails in congested areas works well. These methods work even better when considering these as options for new trails. It is harder to retrofit trails as single use or directional, but when they are designed and constructed that way, they work really well.

Mr. Rossi: BOSAC has revived the raw data, but can BOSAC review overall messages? For example, the Open House received positive feedback for the trail loops. I would like to know what percentage of each user group favored the trail loops. The public comments only represent who was there, not the Town as a whole.

Mr. Campie: Unfortunately, the feedback is not a statistically significant survey like a census. However, having the opportunity for public engagement is the right thing to do in order to flesh out and identify topics and critical issues. Public engagement allows DTJ and the larger planning team to collect critical information and identify problems to address.

Mr. Rossi: The winter use survey is part of the reason the Master Plan timeline has been pushed back. I appreciate the work DTJ has done. Is DTJ looking at our system comprehensively for both summer and winter?

Mr. Campie: Our approach from the beginning has been comprehensive. Winter trail use has always been part of the conversation throughout this process. For example, the stakeholder meetings included all types of users, winter and summer. Additionally, staff has consistently reminded us of the winter planning element and feedback throughout this process. We fully planned from the beginning to address both winter and summer uses and considerations. Also, Jeffrey's comment regarding parking has been an issue the planning team was aware of early on.

Ms. LaRochelle: I want to consider all the previous documents, including the current Master Plan, within this process. I am worried previous information will not be captured. How will you incorporate the previous information into this plan?

Mr. Campie: DTJ is thinking about the previous plans' ideas, but we will not duplicate them outside the current Master Plan. Those ideas are captured by the management actions that the plans govern. The DTJ planning team has met with many of the original folks who wrote these plans, and we are not ignoring them. This plan is the next logical evolution of planning to face current and future problems for the next ten years.

Mr. Barlow: I would just like to reiterate the importance of this plan's shelf life. The more high-level the plan can be, the longer its relevance will be. So the more we can say on signs within the decision-making framework, the better, but without being too prescriptive.

Ms. Gigliello: Should the Master Plan include the proposed wilderness and protected areas?

Mr. Mangle: I will look up the proposed wilderness boundary, but those have not been made into law yet. The Master Plan should be consistent with the other land management agencies.

Mr. Rossi: Will the plan include a framework for outreach and education? For example, trail etiquette or trail use? Perhaps this could be done with a high-level diagram on communication strategy?

Mr. Campie: The Master Plan includes a section on the communication of critical issues, for example, trail signs. The Town already has excellent resources in use and working relationships with trail mapping applications.

Mr. Hamilton: This discussion has not addressed land acquisition.

Mr. Campie: The master plan includes a section on land acquisition and criteria.

Mr. Hamilton: I noticed the vision statement was revised in the Open House slides.

Mr. De Kock: The original vision statement is quite comprehensive. The planning team wanted to see if it could be improved, if slightly. The idea of promoting is about improving the opportunity to conserve and protect the Town's open space.

Mr. Holman: DTJ Design works for BOSAC, Town Council, staff, and the Town as a whole. They were hired to craft and write the Master Plan; however, BOSAC must reach consensus on what is included in that plan. If something isn't how BOSAC wants it to be, speak up and staff can help. I feel that too little of this plan has been written in a vacuum. Town Council wants the plan to continue going in the right direction with BOSAC's feedback.

Ms. LaRoche: I have a question regarding the conservation overlay. I noticed that Lincoln Meadow is omitted, and I believe it should be included in the overlay.

Mr. Mangle: The conservation overlays are derived from both Cucumber Gulch Preserve and the Habitat Sensitivity maps shown at the Open House with buffers from human disturbance. The overlay is derived from the most significant areas of undisturbed land. I will look over the Lincoln Meadows area, but I believe it was excluded due to the number of trails and roads crossing that location.

Mr. Campie: To address Rick's comment, I see this as a community-driven plan, not a DTJ-driven plan. DTJ has never done a plan with as much community feedback and involvement to date. DTJ would like to know if BOSAC has had enough input and is not missing anything as we draft the plan.

Mr. Tennial: It is hard to comment on specifics or ask more detailed questions as BOSAC has not reviewed the draft. We need a draft. For example, I could not say if the mission statement ties back into this Master Plan iteration.

Mr. Rossi: I agree; it is difficult to comment without reviewing a draft. I have another question about the Open House; what were the thoughts behind what was shown to the public? I can think of more controversial topics. I feel that there is pressure from staff to complete this draft and go to Council. When Council reviews this document, will BOSAC have had all questions addressed? I feel that this session was helpful and appreciate DTJ participating in this event.

Mr. Campie: As summer is a busy season for staff, we understand that having an adopted plan means implementation can start and they can begin to put some tools in place.

Mr. Hamilton: To address Rick's comment, it would require BOSAC to review and comment on a draft plan. We need a draft plan.

Ms. Gigliello: BOSAC thanks DTJ for this event and thank you for meeting with Town Council.

Mr. Tennial moved to adjourn the special meeting of BOSAC. Mr. Hamilton seconded the motion. The special meeting of BOSAC concluded at 2:13 pm.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 28, 2022, at 5:30 pm.

Duke Barlow, Chair

Memorandum

To: Breckenridge Open Space Advisory Commission
From: Open Space & Trails Staff
Re: March 28, 2022 Meeting

Staff Summary

Winter Field Season

The following projects are completed or underway:

- Snowmobile grooming continues on a weekly basis on permitted trails adjacent to the Gold Run Nordic Center, including Dry Gulch, Upper Flume, Middle Flume, Tom's Baby, Slalom, Hard Luck, Fall Classic, and Gold Run Road.
- Removing downed trees system wide.

Friends of Breckenridge Trails

Staff is working on finalizing a schedule and projects for the Friends of Breckenridge Trails volunteer program. Potential projects will include a combination of trail-based construction projects and stewardship projects targeting invasive species on open spaces.

Seasonal Hires

There are four OST Technicians returning in summer 2022 and there are three additional slots to fill. The job posting for this position is active on the Town employment website. The two OST Naturalists from 2021 are returning in summer 2022.

Forest Health Projects

The Peabody Placer Fuels Reduction and Forest Health Project is under contract with Colorado Timber Resources (CTR). CTR may begin work in July 2022, but has until October 2023 to complete the project with seasonal closures for winter recreation and spring calving. For more information, please visit the County's [project website](#). Our partners will schedule a site visit in June for interested stakeholders, elected officials, and HOA representatives.

The Shock Hill and Airport Road Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Forest Health Project Requests for Proposals (RFP's) will post in April 2022. Staff hope to have the project under contract by early summer.

Staff and partner organizations of Summit County and Colorado State Forest Service are coordinating communications and outreach for each project.

Master Plan Update

Following the special BOSAC meeting on March 14th and Council meeting on March 22nd, DTJ is now drafting the OST Master Plan. As soon as a full draft is available, staff will forward that to BOSAC and Town Council for review. DTJ anticipates having a draft soon within the next week or two and expects make any iterations and edits following feedback from staff, BOSAC, and Town Council. DTJ will be available at the April 25th BOSAC meeting to gather further input and answer questions.

Open Space and Trails Discussion

BreckCreate BIFA and 2022 Trail Mix

BreckCreate (BCA) staff will be presenting information on BIFA and the proposed Trail Mix proposals for 2022. Town Council strongly supports BCA and BIFA and wants to make sure that BOSAC has an opportunity to have any questions answered regarding Trail Mix 2022.

Please remember that BOSAC is tasked with examining open space issues related to trails, installation locations, congestion, accessibility, and cleanup/restoration, and not on the artwork itself.

BCA will be available to answer any questions. Staff requests that BOSAC reflect on the following:

- 1. Does BOSAC have any questions about the proposed Trail Mix series for 2022 and its proposed locations?***

McCain Property Updates

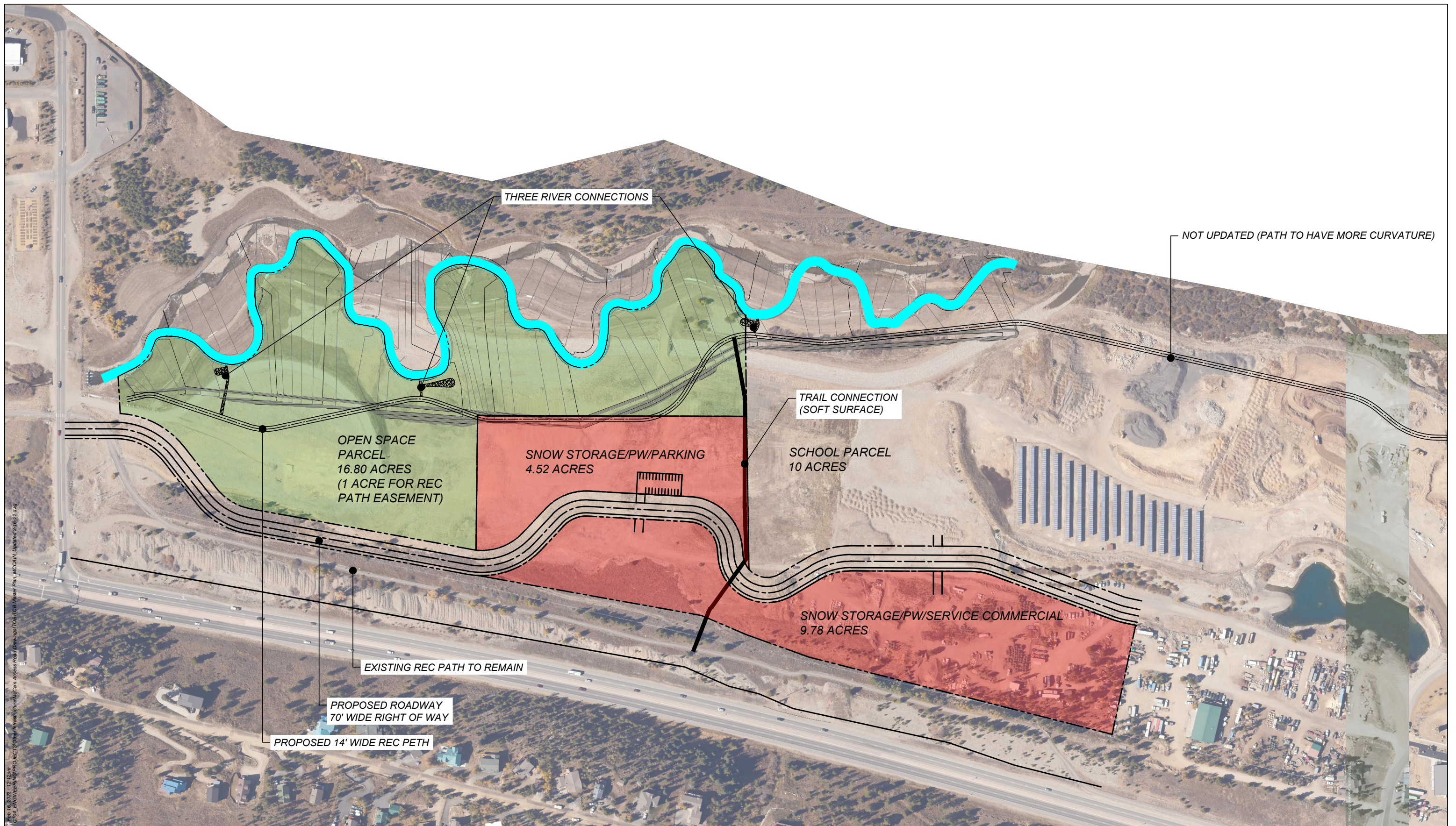
As BOSAC recalls, Council directed Open Space & Trails to purchase 15 additional acres of the McCain property as open space in 2021. That purchase occurred in 2021 and the Town engineers have updated the site plan to show this additional acreage together with the existing open space along the river. Please see the enclosed site plan.

River restoration on the McCain property will occur this spring and summer in tandem with a capital project to replace the culverts under Coyne Valley Road. The culverts will allow for larger flows and better fish passage. As part of this project, the existing recpath will also be rerouted under Coyne Valley Road, creating a safer experience and eliminating a busy road crossing. Coyne Valley Road will be closed from April to September 2022 as part of these projects. A temporary reroute of the recpath will be paved closer to Highway 9 to avoid closures during construction.

While the river restoration is anticipated to be completed in one season, revegetation efforts will take several years to complete. It is the goal of Open Space & Trails to ensure that any grasses, shrubs, trees, and other vegetation have the opportunity to establish without being impacted by the general public. The Town engineers overseeing this project intend to provide fill and overseeding of the site with gentle topographic relief to establish the area as a more natural setting than the flat dredge rock site that exists today.

While the project will take some time to complete, especially revegetation efforts, staff would like to engage BOSAC and the general public to brainstorm possible uses of this site at the upcoming Open Space & Trails annual Open House. Staff requests that BOSAC reflect on the following:

- 1. Does BOSAC have any questions about project updates on the McCain property?***
- 2. Does BOSAC have any initial ideas for how the site should be used for open space? Staff can develop and bring these ideas to the Open House for public engagement.***



Feb. 16, 2022 - 12:30pm
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TOWN OF BRECKENRIDGE
ENGINEERING

MCCAIN MASTER PLAN UPDATE
 TOWN OF BRECKENRIDGE
 UPDATED 2-16-22
 SHEET 1 OF 1



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 SCALE: 1" = 250'