



**Open Space & Recreation Advisory Committee
September Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, September 6, 2022
9:00 AM
Council Chambers - Eagle Town Hall
200 Broadway
Eagle, CO 81631**

This agenda, meetings, and information about the Committee can be viewed at www.Townofeagle.org.

The public is invited to comment at the end of each agenda item

MEETING ACCESS PUBLIC WIFI - TOEG – townofeagle2019

This will be an in-person meeting, although participants can still join via zoom. The link can be found here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83472864496> Meeting ID: 834 7286 4496

9:00 a.m. CALL TO ORDER

9:05 a.m. APPROVAL OF AUGUST MINUTES

9:10 a.m. DISCUSSION

9:10 a.m. (10 min) New Committee Member Search Recommendation

9:20 a.m. (40 min) Second Gulch Motorized Width Limit Recommendation

10:00 a.m. (40 min) Town of Eagle and BLM Seasonal Closure Dates Coordination Recommendation

10:40 a.m. (15 min) Haymaker Winter Use Strategy Evaluation Discussion

10:55 a.m. (5 min) New Business/ Future Agenda Items

11:00 a.m. ADJOURN



**Open Space & Recreation Advisory Committee
Unapproved Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 12, 2022
9:00 AM
Eagle Town Hall
200 Broadway
Eagle, CO 81631**

*This agenda and the meetings can be viewed at www.Townofeagle.org.
*The public is invited to comment at the end of each agenda item**

MEETING ACCESS PUBLIC WIFI - TOEG – townofeagle2019

This was an in-person meeting, participants could join via zoom.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83472864496>

Meeting ID: 834 7286 4496

9:00am CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order at: 9:02

Absent: Lizzy Owens

9:05am APPROVAL OF JULY MINUTES

MOTION to approve the JULY OSRAC meeting minutes by Foulis and second by Kehoe. Motion passes unanimously.

9:10am DISCUSSION

Open Space and Trails Master Plan Follow-Up and Next Steps

- Staff is currently in the budging process. Working to incorporate recommendations in the OSTMP into the budget.
- Priorities for 2023 include wildlife signage, open space management plans, and planning for NEPA/ Town review of high-priority projects in the master plan.
- Full master plan will be posted on the Town of Eagle website for public reference.

Second Gulch Motorized Width Limit Discussion

MOTION to direct staff and community partners to evaluate opening access on Second Gulch to vehicles wider than 50". Staff and partners should evaluate:

- 1. Entrance off Arroyo Drive**
- 2. Path crossing**

3. Widening/Site Lines
4. Cattle guard
5. Surround community policies/width
6. Signage/Etiquette
7. Federal Land Manager Partners Informed/Feedback
8. Budgetary Implications

Motion by Saeger and second by Foulis. Motion passes unanimously.

Bureau of Land Management Resource Management Plan Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

- The Open Space and Trails Master plan, 2021 Community Survey, and Elevate Eagle Comprehensive Plan all indicate that Eagle Residents place immense value on access to natural open space, recreation, and the existence of wildlife in our area. In general, resource extraction can detract from these values.
- To comply with a settlement agreement in litigation of the CRVFO, the BLM is completing a SEIS to evaluate downstream impacts of oil and gas leasing on federal lands. The SEIS will augment the CRVFO 2015 Resource Management Plan (RMP). The Town of Eagle is participating in this process as a Cooperating Agency.
- The BLM requested that all Cooperating Agencies provide initial comment letters by the end of July. Town Council sent a letter in for a July deadline.
- Additional opportunities will be available for OSRAC to be involved.

New Business/ Future Agenda Items

- Town of Eagle and BLM Seasonal Closure Dates Coordination Recommendation
- Application period will be opened for a new OSRAC vacancy. Applications will be reviewed at the September meeting.

MOTION to move Roger Mitchell to be a voting member of OSRAC by Foulis and second by Kehoe. Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION to ADJOURN at 11:05 by Saeger and second by Foulis. Motion passes unanimously.



To: Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee

From: Brian Lieberman, Open Space and Trails Manager

Date: September 6, 2022

Agenda Item: New Committee Member Search Recommendation

Request: Staff requests that OSRAC review the application received for the alternate Committee member vacancy. Consider recommending the applicant to Town Council for the appointment or motion to reopen the application period.

Background: After John Bailey stepped down from the Committee in August 2022, staff advertised a vacancy on OSRAC for an alternate member. The application period was open and announced from August 2 – August 9, 2022. The four applicants from the previous vacancy who were not selected were notified and encouraged to reapply. Only one of the applicants, Kirstin Shaw, resubmitted an application. The other three declined to reapply. The Committee vacancy was advertised on the Town website and Town social media.

Analysis: According to the Committee Bylaws, staff establishes an application process to fill Committee vacancies. Council can (and generally does) accept recommendations made by Committee members for new appointments. However, appointments are officially made Town Council.

Only one application was received for this vacancy. The application period was condensed because it was assumed there would be more interest from the four applicants who applied and were unsuccessful in July. However, only one candidate resubmitted their application.

The Committee can elect to recommend Kirstin Shaw for the appointment or motion for the application period to be reopened and readvertised.

Community Input: The Committee vacancy was advertised for one week on the Town website and social media. All four prior applicants were notified and encouraged to apply. The Committee can accept public comment on this agenda item at the meeting. However, it is not required.

Recommend Action or Proposed Motion:

1. *Motion to recommend that the Town Council of the Town of Eagle, Colorado, appoint Kirstin Shaw as the alternate Committee member for the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee to fulfill and existing term through May 2024.*
2. *Motion to reopen and readvertise the OSRAC committee vacancy.*

Attachments: The application received from Kirstin Shaw is included in the packet.

Kirstin Shaw OSRAC Application

Commission & Committee Application Form

Select the Council,
Commission, or Committee
applying for

Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee

PERSONAL INFORMATION

First Name	Kirstin
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Last Name	Shaw
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Address1	2189 Brush Creek Rd
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Address2	pobox 1147
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City	Eagle
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State	CO
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Zip	81631
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Email Address	shaw.kirstin@yahoo.com
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Contact Phone Number	7175756704
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Business Address	2189 Brush Creek Rd Eagle, CO 81631
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Business Phone Number	970-331-1924
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Occupation	owner of Shaw Property Service LLC
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(Section Break)

COMMITTEE INFORMATION:

Economic Vitality Committee: Meetings: 1:00 p.m., meet typically on the third Monday of each month.

Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee: Meetings 9:00 a.m., meet typically on the first Tuesday of each month.

Downtown Development Authority: Meetings: 1:00 p.m., meet typically on the first Wednesday of each month.

(Section Break)

ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Are you or have you served
on other Boards,
Commissions, or
Committees?

No

If yes, which

Field not completed.

Please list organization
memberships and positions
held

Eagle County 4H leader, PSIA/AASI, Rocky Mountain Elk
Foundation

Please List Areas of Special
Interest

Hunting Fishing Wildlife Conservation

(Section Break)

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

What opportunities does
the Town of Eagle have?

we have the opportunity to manage our open space through
education and smart trail usage/development, not only for our
own enjoyment but for visitors alike. If we take care of our
resources such as our resident elk herd, we can continue to
enjoy the close proximity to our wild Colorado.

What challenges currently
exist in the Town of Eagle?

Wildlife education and mindful trail usage are our challenge.

As a Committee Member,
how would you approach
these challenges?

By coming up with resources and rules so that everyone can
enjoy our wild spaces. A trail system that flows (even with
adaptive closures) and allows animals their space along with
appropriate trails that don't require weekly upkeep and
maintenance.

Are you a resident of Eagle
or do you own real
property, own a business or
work for an Eagle owned
business?

Yes

Please attach a cover letter
or experience information

[open space council.pdf](#)

Dear Town of Eagle,

I have lived in Colorado for 18 years and the Eagle River Valley for 16. I have recreated here for the entirety. Although I do not have formal education in wildlife management, forest service or environmental science, I do have an experiential education. As an avid hunter, fisher, hiker, equine explorer and outdoors adventurer I have a great interest in preserving what Colorado has offered me, those before me for those to come. I have seen some of the mistakes that man has made in these mountains and hope to help the town utilize this knowledge to improve the relationship we have with our wild spaces and those who inhabit it. The open space that this town has is a valuable resource and I am so proud that we as a community are taking action to care for it with methodical plans to ensure coexistence for man and wild. I as a hunter want to help the elk population by encouraging seasonal trail closures by way of signage, gates, apps and education. This herd needs to be left alone in their native and historic habitats that generations have imprinted in their DNA to maintain. This is known as Critical Wildlife Habitat. I also feel we can help our wildlife by keeping certain migration routs free of regular human traffic, not blocking water sources and allowing animal traffic to and from bedding areas year round. This is imperative! I am an avid angler and feel our waters need a certain amount of protection also. Brush Creek is now apart of our open space jurisdiction and operating anglers need to be aware of when proper fishing can and should be done. Water temperatures and levels have a huge impact on our trout health and trauma recovery. This issues really should be to be addressed before the waters fully open up. I have enjoyed hiking as a needed mental health activity from as far back as I can remember. When I was 13, I took a two week backpacking trip along the continental divide and knew Colorado was the home I wanted to get to know better. Hiking and exploring the history of Eagle County has been a passion of mine which has helped me discover hidden lakes, mining areas and breathtaking sunrises in the wilderness. Enjoying this area is something everyone should have access to, in its raw form. If we put trails everywhere, the explorations can become lost. This is where education once again comes into play, not only for local audiences but visitors as well. As an equine adventurer, I feel the joy of saddling up and riding out of my home and exploring the mountains while going virtually undetected by other animals... because they recognize the horse and not the human. This gives me the privilege of observing animals that would normally feel pressure from a human and run. I hope Eagle always recognizes the importance of our roots and history by keeping equine travel a priority and respected means of transportation.



To: Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC)

From: Brian Lieberman, Open Space and Trails Manager

Date: September 6, 2022

Agenda Item: Second Gulch Motorized Width Limit Recommendation

Request: Staff requests that OSRAC review the Town's motorized width restrictions on the Second Gulch trail and consider if the width restrictions are still consistent given advancements/ changes in motorized technology. The requested information from the last meeting has been added to the Analysis and Budget sections below. Staff requests that the Committee consider providing a recommendation to Town Council on how to proceed.

Background: The Town of Eagle travel management plan is embedded in [Title 6 of the Town of Eagle Municipal Code](#). Among other things, the Code regulates the types of uses permitted on trails through Open Space and other travel management restrictions.

[Section 6.03.030 of the Municipal Code](#) addresses motorized use in open space areas. Subsection A covers the Second Gulch trail:

- A. *"Operation of motor vehicles, motor bikes, motorcycles, snowmobiles or off-highway vehicles (OHV) which are less than 50 inches in width shall be allowed access to the Hardscrabble Road via the trail going up Second Gulch. Access to such trail is obtained by following the Second Gulch Trail signs from the parking area located at the bottom of Arroyo Drive. See map contained in Section 6.03.130. The operation of any motor vehicle, motor bike, motorcycle, snowmobile or other off-highway vehicle (OHV) in any other open space area is prohibited."*

[Section 11.09.020 of the Municipal Code](#) addresses Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) use on Town streets:

- A. *In accordance with C.R.S. § 33-14.5-108, all Town streets, roads, and alleys, except any street or road which is part of the State Highway System, within the Town are hereby designated as limited off-highway vehicle routes. Off-highway vehicles shall be permitted on such routes for the limited purpose of traveling to or from the owner's or operator's residence or place of storage directly to or from a recreational site that allows the use of such vehicles.*

These two provisions in the Town Municipal Code permit Eagle residents to access BLM and National Forest System lands via an OHV from their residence or storage without trailing their machines to a trailhead. This is helpful because the only trailhead in the Town of Eagle built for trailers is the Arroyo trailhead, with minimal spots available.

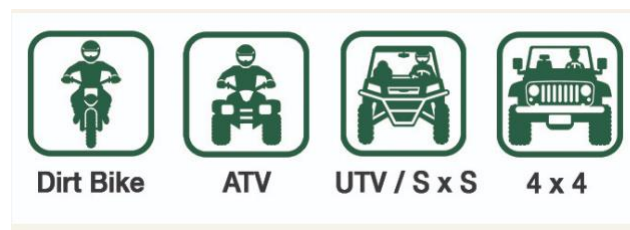
However, the abovementioned arrangement only provides this access to OHVs that are 50-inches or less. Full-size vehicles and OHVs larger than 50 inches must access trails in West Eagle via Hardscrabble Road (FS Road 413) above the National Forest Service (NFS) boundary or Spring Creek Road from Gypsum.

The goal of this restriction was to permit OHVs access to public lands from Town without allowing access for full-size vehicles. The Town did not want this to turn into a destination trailhead or have BLM car traffic routed through neighborhoods.

However, OHV technology has advanced over the past 15. Whereas All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV) were the primary OHV use in the past, Side by Sides (S x S) and Utility Terrain Vehicles (UTV) have become much more common. UTVs and S x S are generally wider than ATVs.

OHV Technology

The typical width of an ATV is less than 50 inches. This is the reason for the 50-inch width restriction on Second Gulch. UTV and S x S can be as wide as full-size vehicles, but most are narrower. Generally, UTV and S x S vehicles are between 58-68 inches in width. Most 4x4 and full-size cars are wider than 70-72 inches.



Second Gulch Management and History

The 50-inch rule has been the prevailing rule since the late 2000s. At the bottom of the Second Gulch trail, giant boulders limit the width restriction on the trail. However, the actual width of the boulders was not exactly 50-inches. This has been permitting much larger vehicles to access the Second Gulch Trail. Certain features on Second Gulch were not built to accommodate the width and weight of UTVs and S x S vehicles.

There is a cattle guard at the Town boundary on Second Gulch. The cattle guard has sustained consistent damage over the years due to larger and heavier vehicles accessing the trail. Significant staff time and resources have been invested in maintaining this cattle guard.

In spring 2021, staff replaced a broken cattle guard on the trail. By fall 2021, the cattle guard was damaged beyond repair. In spring 2022, staff partnered with the BLM to install a new cattle guard on the trail. The width and strength of this new cattle guard are specific for ATVs at 50-inches or less.

Following the installation of the cattle guard, Town and BLM staff placed width restrictions at both ends of the trail to 50-inches to protect this new cattle guard. This enforced the width limit in the Town Municipal Code on the trail.

Analysis: Enforcement of the 50-inch rule on Second Gulch in 2022 to protect infrastructure and adhere to the provisions in the Municipal Code caused some concerns among UTV and S x S owners in the Eagle

community. At a Council meeting in June, a member of the public requested that the Council reconsider this rule. In coordination with adjoining land managers, Town Council will ultimately need to determine if the rule changes. Council has requested that OSRAC weigh in on this issue.

Adjusting this rule would provide UTV and S x S users access from their residence to BLM lands without needing to trailer their equipment to Gypsum or Hardscrabble Road. Advocates have asserted that this is in line with the original intent of our code – the change would just be to accommodate updates in technology. UTV and S x S are equipped with more safety features than traditional ATVs and are easier to drive. Last, Second Gulch is the only motorized access point and trail in Eagle. All other routes that leave from Town to public lands are non-motorized.

Upholding the existing rule would likely limit the motorized traffic on Second Gulch owing to the decrease in popularity of ATVs. Further, the Town would not need to invest in new infrastructure to accommodate the increase in vehicle size and weight.

In the past, staff members have fielded concerns from the community about motorized traffic on Second Gulch. The complaints have mostly been related to speed, etiquette, and noise of motorized users on Second Gulch. Some community members have also expressed concern about the dust and damage to the trail caused by motorized use.

Trail Improvement Analysis

- Entrance to Second Gulch from Arroyo Drive
 - The intersection of Second Gulch and Arroyo Drive is in decent shape and would not require much work to sustain additional and wider vehicle traffic. Some drainage and millings work could be completed to protect this transition. Town staff could likely provide the equipment and materials.
- Second Gulch crossing the Eagle Ranch paved rec path
 - Millings were fitted using a plate-compacted at the path crossing this past summer. More milling would help with drainage and erosion issues in this location. This could likely be accomplished by Town staff.
- Widening/Sight Lines on trail
 - The narrowest section of the trail is 70 inches and is located along the off-camber section (see Map 1). The entire trail would likely not need to be wider, but the development of passing areas within sight lines of narrow sections would be beneficial. Three sections would benefit from passing lanes, labeled on Map 1.
 - The Town does not have a machine that could assist with grading and developing passing areas. The machine would need to be rented. Town staff could operate the machine. Signage should accompany the passing areas.
 - Other sections of the trail are wide enough for two vehicles to pass with some negotiation.
- Cattle Guard Improvements
 - Most cattle guard manufacturers offer a 60", 65", or 72" prefabricated structure. Custom cattle guards are possible, but they are more expensive.
 - It is recommended that the cattle guard be slightly wider than the width limit on the trail.

- The new cattle guard would also require some modifications to the fence. The pedestrian bypass gate would need to be relocated and new h-braces installed.

Partner Coordination and Research:

- Surround Community Policies and Width Restrictions
 - From research of surrounding trail systems and conversations with OHV staff with the State of Colorado, it is apparent that Eagle has a somewhat unique situation.
 - Most trail and land managers determine the width rating by evaluating trail features, terrain, topography, and adjoining land manager restrictions.
 - It was tough to find a situation where land managers attempted to accomplish the goals of providing OHV use while restricting full-sized vehicles from a subdivision.
 - Here are some examples from nearby communities:
 - [The Wagon Wheel trail](#) system outside Meeker, Colorado, offers a wide range of trails. Some of these trails start from the Town limits. [The Wagon Wheel OHV Trail Guide](#) lays out the restrictions on trails in the area. Width restrictions range from 50", 62", and full size depending on the trail itself, terrain, topography, and adjoining land manager restrictions.
 - The OHV trail that starts and ends in Town does not have a width restriction.
 - Wildridge – Forest Service Road #779, out of the Wildridge subdivision in Avon, does not have a width restriction. OHVs are permitted on town streets to access the trail.
 - Gypsum – most double tracks are open to OHVs at any width but are often not recommended for full-size vehicles. Gypsum has limited OHV use on town streets directly to and from trailheads.

• Signage/Etiquette

Keep Count

When passing or meeting other riders on the trail, give them a hand signal to let them know how many riders are left behind you in your group.



Two Riders Behind Me

Two fingers means you have two riders behind you.



One Rider Behind Me

One finger means you have one rider behind you.



I'm the Last Rider

A closed fist means you're the last vehicle in your group.

Use five fingers if you have five or more riders behind you. When you see the closed fist, the trail is clear for now but remain alert for other groups.



- Federal and County Land Manager Partners Informed/Feedback
 - National Forest Service (NFS)
 - The lower section of Hardscrabble Road (FS Road 413) is open to highway legal vehicles only, no OHV use is permitted until the NFS boundary.
 - Therefore, the NFS requests that any OHV traffic be routed on Second Gulch and away from Hardscrabble Road.
 - Technically, OHV users over 50-inches need to trailer their machine to the NFS boundary on Hardscrabble Road, Sylvan Lake, or Gypsum to access the trails system.
 - Eagle County
 - No OHV use is permitted on County managed sections of Brush Creek Road and Hardscrabble Road. Trailering is not encouraged/permitted at the bottom of Hardscrabble Road.
 - Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
 - To establish legal access to the trail network for OHVs over 50-inches, two route designations changes would be required on BLM trails (see Map 2):
 - BLM section of Second Gulch (currently limited to 50" ATVs).
 - BLM Route 8388E and the section of Pipeline connecting to BLM Route 8387B (currently limited to 50" ATVs).

Community Input: Specific community feedback has been summarized in the Analysis section above. Staff encourages the Committee to accept public comment at the OSRAC meeting to identify other community sentiments on this issue.

Budget/ Staff Impact:

Total budget estimate: \$3,825 – \$4,250 and significant staff time involvement

- Entrance off Arroyo Drive to Second Gulch
 - The intersection of Second Gulch and Arroyo Drive is in decent shape and would not require much work to sustain additional and wider vehicle traffic. Some drainage and millings work could be completed to protect this transition. Town staff could likely provide the equipment and materials.
- Second Gulch crossing the Eagle Ranch paved rec path
 - Millings were plate-compacted at the path crossing this past summer. More milling would help with drainage and erosion issues in this location. This could likely be accomplished by Town staff.
 - Signage:
 - \$75 for new signage, posts, and hardware alerting users of a motorized trail crossing.
- Widening and Site line
 - Machine rental for grading and passing lanes - \$1,000
 - New passing signage - \$200
- Cattle Guard
 - 72" bike and pedestrian-friendly cattle guard - \$1,350 plus shipping (\$500)
 - New h-braces - \$500

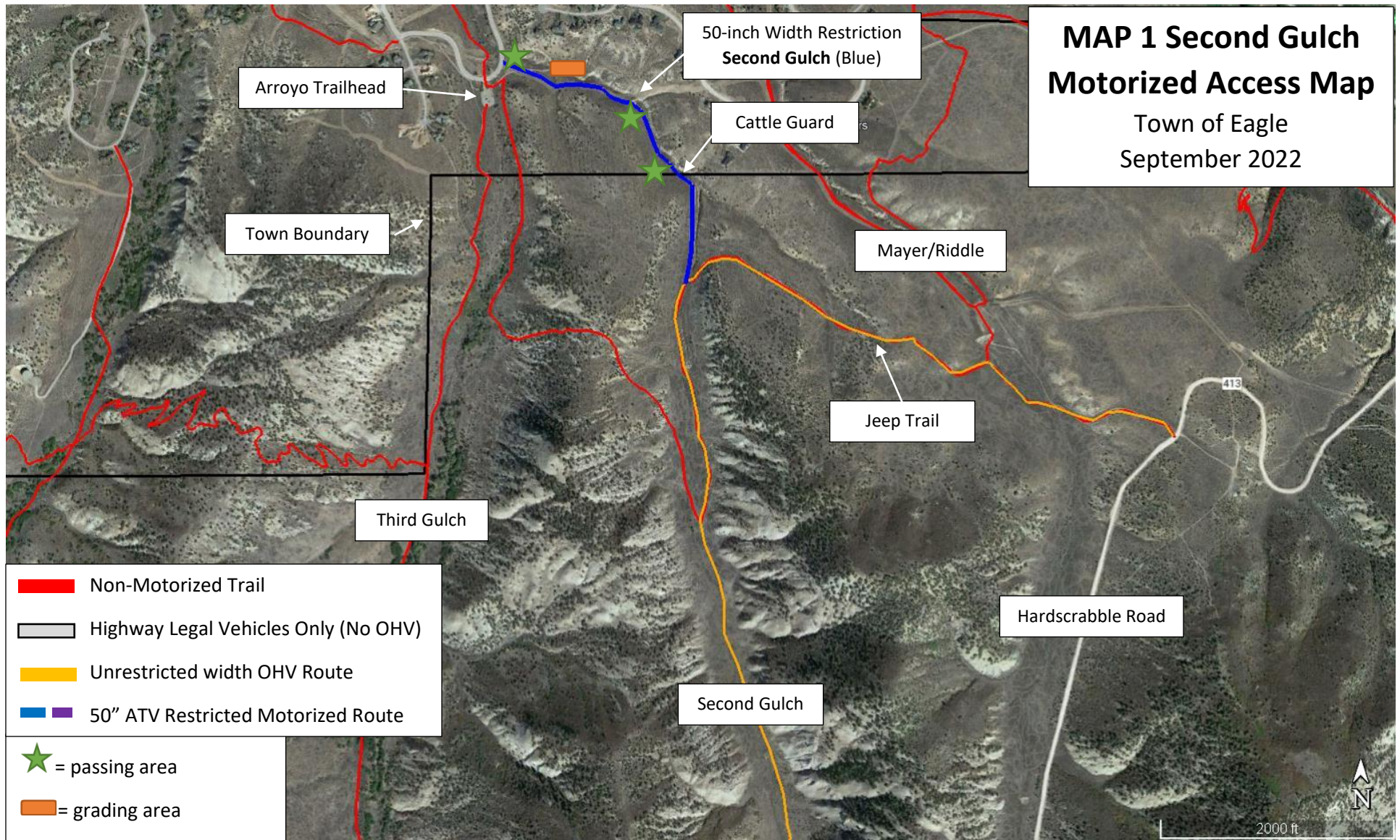
- Etiquette/ trail signage
 - Design, fabrication, posts, and hardware for etiquette trail signage could range from \$200 to \$500.
- Most of the labor could be accomplished by Town staff and Trail Conservation Crew members.

Recommend Action or Proposed Motion:

1. Motion to continue agenda item to next meeting, gather additional information, and continue partner coordination to evaluate changing the second Gulch Trail's motorized width restriction.
2. Motion to recommend that the Town Council of the Town of Eagle, Colorado, maintain the existing width restriction for OHVs in Section 6.03.030A of the Town of Eagle Municipal Code for access to Hardscrabble via the Second Gulch Trail.
3. Motion to recommend that the Town Council of the Town of Eagle, Colorado, work with adjoining land managers to change Section 6.03.030A of the Town of Eagle Municipal Code to permit OHVs which are less than XX inches in width to access Hardscrabble via the Second Gulch trail.

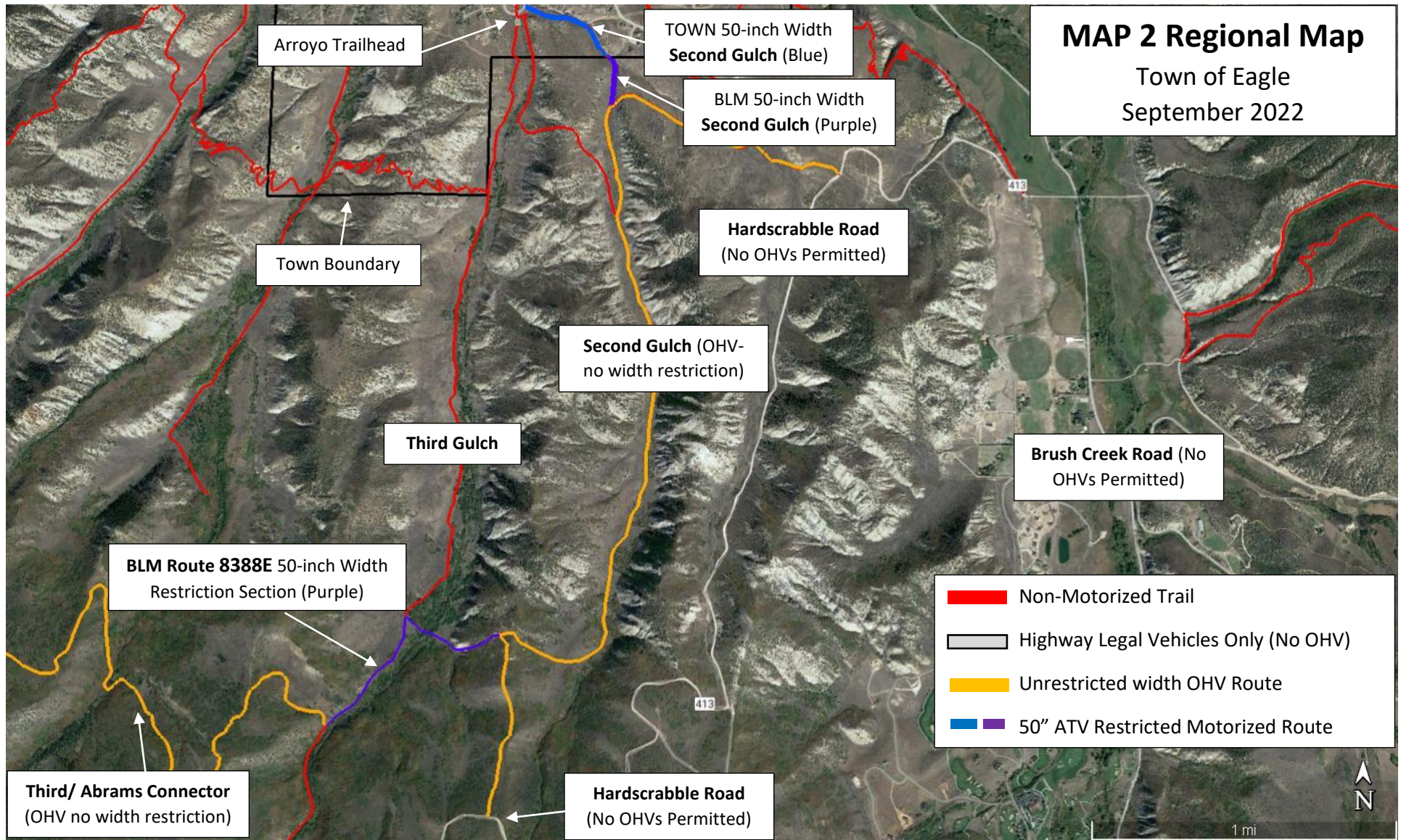
Attachments:

1. Map 1 – Second Gulch Motorized Access Map
2. Map 2 - Regional Map



Map 1: Motorized access from Town of Eagle to BLM Lands via Second Gulch. Non-motorized trails are in red. OHV motorized trails are in orange. Roads that accommodate full-size vehicles are in grey. The section of Second Gulch that is limited to 50-inch width or less is in Blue. The Town of Eagle boundary is in black.

Motorized vehicles above 50-inches must trailer their machines and access BLM lands via Hardscrabble Road above the Forest Service Boundary or from Gypsum. Under 50-inch OHVs can travel from the owner's or operator's residence or place of storage in Eagle directly to Second Gulch to access BLM land.



Map 2: Regional map of OHV access from Eagle to BLM/NFS land. BLM Route 8388E, the BLM side of Second Gulch, and Town side of Second Gulch would need to change the width restriction to provide legal access for OHVs greater than 50 inches to the rest of the trail system. Hardscrabble Road does not permit OHV use. OHV access from Town is via Second Gulch to BLM Route 8388E to Third/Abrams Connector.



To: Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC)

From: Brian Lieberman, Open Space and Trails Manager

Date: September 6, 2022

Agenda Item: Town of Eagle and BLM Seasonal Use Restriction Dates Coordination Recommendation

REQUEST: Staff requests that the Committee consider seasonal closure management on Town of Eagle open space with the changing seasonal closure dates on lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management in the West Eagle/ Hardscrabble area. Consider making a recommendation to Town Council on how to proceed with seasonal restriction management for Town of Eagle Open Space.

BACKGROUND: Starting in 2022, seasonal use restriction dates in the West Eagle/ Hardscrabble area will change for motorized and mechanized users from January 16 – April 15 to December 1 – April 15. This area will no longer have a late-season hunt, and at the recommendation of Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW), the BLM elected to make the change for the 2022/23 winter season.

In West Eagle, most Town of Eagle trails quickly cross the boundary over to lands managed by the BLM. Staff request that OSRAC consider if adjustments to the Town of Eagle wildlife closure dates (December 15 – April 15) are necessary to ensure consistency for trail users and the protection of wintering wildlife. Staff requests that the Committee make a recommendation to Town Council on how to proceed.

A map and additional information about seasonal wildlife closure dates in the Eagle area can be viewed on the [Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance](#) website.

ANALYSIS: Because most Town of Eagle trails quickly cross the boundary over to lands managed by the BLM, it could be very confusing for users to have different seasonal restriction dates. For instance, the School House Rock and Abrams trails have less than ½ mile before crossing onto federal lands. With different seasonal restriction dates, these trails could be extremely challenging to manage and set users up to violate closure restrictions.

In addition, throughout the Master Planning process, the Town has heard requests for consistency and simplification for seasonal restriction dates. Changing all Town of Eagle dates to match the BLM dates would provide consistency throughout the Eagle and greater Colorado River Valley area.

Substantial research has not been completed to identify benefits for wildlife by providing 15 extra days at the beginning of the closure period. During earlier winters, these 15 additional days would likely be beneficial, however, in years where winter comes later, perhaps not as much. CPW did recommend that the BLM move to the December 1 date, and in general, that date has been the recommendation of CPW for this area.

Changing the dates would eliminate 15 days of recreation on trails and open space during the year. The Master Planning process also highlighted the desire for maintained winter recreation opportunities. However, keeping the December 15 date on Town of Eagle trails would not provide many recreation opportunities as trails would be closed at the BLM boundary.

COMMUNITY INPUT: See the analysis section above for community input gathered during the Master Planning process. It would be beneficial for the Committee to gather additional community input on this subject.

BUDGET/ STAFF IMPACTS: None.

RECOMMENDED ACTION/MOTION:

1. Motion to continue the agenda item to the next meeting, gather additional information, and continue partner coordination to evaluate changing closure dates on Town of Eagle open space and trails.
2. Motion to recommend that the Town Council of the Town of Eagle, Colorado, take no action and keep the existing seasonal closure dates of December 15 – April 15.
3. Motion to recommend that the Town Council of the Town of Eagle, Colorado, change the seasonal closure restriction dates on all Town trails and open space to December 1 – April 15.
4. Motion to recommend that the Town Council of the Town of Eagle, Colorado, pursues a hybrid system, whereby some trails would continue with a closure from December 15 – April 15 and others changed to match the new BLM closure dates from December 1 – April 15. The breakdown of recommended closures is included here:



To: Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee

From: Brian Lieberman, Open Space and Trails Manager

Date: September 6, 2021

Agenda Item: Haymaker Winter Use Strategy Evaluation Discussion

Request: Staff requests that the Committee review the data and evaluate the management approach on the Haymaker Trail from last winter. Evaluate how the winter went and start thinking about any changes to propose for the 2022/23 winter season.

Background: The following data were collected by the Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance during the 2022 winter on the Haymaker Trail. Data were collected to help inform management strategies on the trail during the winter.

Wildlife Trail Ambassador data:

There were a total of 27 WTA shifts (some included two volunteers) and 58 volunteer hours at the Haymaker trailhead. A majority, almost all, were provided by the International Youth Conservation Coalition.

Results from the game camera on the Haymaker Trail:

	People	Dogs	% Off Leash	Hike	Bike	Ski
December	316	152	95%	226	78	12
January	260	149	85%	198	60	2
February	205	105	85%	169	30	6
March	127	53	62%	103	19	5
Total	908	459	82%	696	187	25
User %		50.55%		76.65%	20.59%	2.75%

Recommend Action: Evaluate how the winter went and start thinking about any changes for the 2022/23 season.