



**Open Space & Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, February 7, 2023, at 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

OSRAC MEETING ACCESS INFORMATION

This will be an in-person meeting with access via Microsoft Teams. First-time users of Microsoft Teams will need to download the free app before joining the meeting.

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Meeting ID: 252 517 008 239

Passcode: E6WQzL

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9:00 a.m. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

9:05 a.m. PUBLIC COMMENT

9:10 a.m. APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES

9:15 a.m. DISCUSSION/ BUSINESS ITEMS

9:15 a.m. (20 min) Open Space property management plans project update

9:35 a.m. (20 min) OSRAC retreat plan and update

9:55 a.m. (30 min) Hardscrabble Trails Coalition Proposed Projects Environmental Analysis submission to the Bureau of Land Management discussion and update

10:25 a.m. (25 min) Hardscrabble Trails Coalition/ Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance wildlife communication project update

10:50 a.m. (10 min) New Business/ Future Agenda items

11:00 a.m. ADJOURN



**Open Space & Recreation Advisory Committee
Unapproved Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 9:00 AM
Council Chambers - Eagle Town Hall
200 Broadway Eagle, CO 81631**

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9:00 a.m. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

Call to Order at: 9:10

Roll Call:

Committee members present: Ernest Saeger, Jessica Foulis, Rodger Mitchell, Phil Kirkman, Chris Kehoe, Erinn Hoban

Committee members absent: Lizzy Owens

Staff Present: Brian Lieberman

Town Council Present: Ellen Bodenheimer

9:05 a.m. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

9:10 a.m. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER MINUTES

MOTION to approve the DECEMBER OSRAC meeting minutes by Foulis and second by Kehoe. Motion passed with a vote of 6 in favor (Kehoe, Mitchell, Foulis, Saeger, Kirkman, and Hoban) and 0 opposed.

9:15 a.m. DISCUSSION/ BUSINESS ITEMS

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) presentation concerning a potential dusk-to-dawn voluntary wildlife closure on the Haymaker Trail.

- Brian Wodrich, District Wildlife Manager for the Eagle area, presented information to the Committee regarding the potential benefits of a dusk-to-dawn closure for the Haymaker Trail.
- CPW recommended that the Committee consider a full seasonal closure for the Haymaker Trail and that it would be much more effective at reducing disturbance to wildlife than a dusk-to-dawn closure.
- The Committee asked CPW questions.
- The Committee discussed CPW's recommendations.
- The Committee accepted public comment.
- The Committee resolved to continue with the existing plan of addressing any potential use restrictions for the Haymaker trail during the Property Management Plan process slated for this year.

Election of Committee Officers

MOTION to nominate and support the current Committee Officers continuing their OSRAC appointments for 2023 as follows: Ernest Saeger as Chair, Jessica Foulis as Vice Chair, Erinn Hoban as Secretary, and Ellen Bodenheimer as Committee Coordinator. Motion made by Kehoe and second by Saeger. Motion passed with a vote of 6 in favor (Kehoe, Mitchell, Foulis, Saeger, Kirkman, and Hoban) and 0 opposed.

HTC/VVMTA wildlife communication project update

- Ernest Saeger with the Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance (VVMTA) and Nicky Asselin with the Hardscrabble Trails Coalition (HTC) provided an update to the Committee on the Eagle Wildlife communication and education project.
- VVMTA and HTC are working with 970 Design from Avon on communication for the campaign.
- All wildlife material and information will be reviewed by CPW and appropriate land managers before publication.
- The Campaign launch is scheduled for Feb. 21, 2023, at the Brush Creek Pavilion. The public and stakeholders will be invited to attend.

VVMTA Haymaker Bike Park planning update

- Ernest Saeger with the Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance (VVMTA) presented the final concept design for a bike park at the Haymaker Trailhead to the Committee.
- VVMTA has worked with Council and Town staff to identify the appropriate location that satisfies several long-term planning documents.
- VVMTA and Town staff are still working out logistics such as maintenance, vegetation, and watering.
- Saeger said that an RPF has been put out by the VVMTA for a contractor to do the work.

- Saeger said that the park will be closed from December 1 – April 15 for the protection of wildlife and natural resources.
- VVMTA intends to start construction of the park this spring. Completion of the project will depend on the final project cost and fundraising.

OSRAC retreat planning discussion

- The Committee provided the following guidance to staff for retreat planning:
 - o 10am – 3pm w/ working lunch (half day retreat)
 - o Location TBD – not in the Council Chambers
 - o Retreat will be scheduled between 3/13 – 3/24/23. End of the week works better. Staff will send out a doodle poll to determine the final date.
- Hiring a facilitator would be beneficial. Staff will look to see if this could be a possibility.
- Retreat planning around the implementation of the Open Space and Trails plan.

New Business/ Future Agenda Items

- None

MOTION to ADJOURN at 10:59 by Saeger and second by Foulis. Motion passed with a vote of 6 in favor (Kehoe, Mitchell, Foulis, Saeger, Kirkman, and Hoban) and 0 opposed.



To: Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC)

From: Brian Lieberman, Open Space and Trails Manager

Date: February 7, 2023

Agenda Item: Open Space property management plans project update

Request: None at this time.

Background: Staff released an RFP for the development of open space property management plans on Thursday, January 26, 2023. Proposals are due by February 16, and staff hopes to have a consultant selected by the beginning of March.

The primary purpose of the Open Space and Trails Master Plan (OSTMP) was to develop a community and stakeholder vision for open space and trails in the Eagle area. Although the OSTMP cataloged some natural resource and recreation conditions, the plan did not include the level of depth often contained in property-specific management plans. As the Town completed the master plan process, it was clear that the community and stakeholders desired this level of detailed information to drive management decisions for the Town. Based on that feedback, one of the primary recommendations from the 2022 OSTMP was to develop property management plans for open space properties owned by the Town of Eagle.

The OSTMP placed a high emphasis on addressing the following in the Management Plans: seasonal trail closures, ecological assessments to determine areas ripe for restoration, noxious weed/pest management, fuels management, and developing a better catalog of natural resource conditions and open space assets. The selected consultant will be tasked with developing the management plan structure, research and analysis techniques, and leading public and stakeholder engagement. The goal is to complete the management plans by the end of 2023.

Analysis: OSRAC will be involved with the development of the plans. Staff will keep OSRAC up to date on the process throughout the year.

Community Input: Community input will be essential to the success of the plans. After a consultant is selected, staff will have an update on the community/stakeholder engagement plan.

Budget/ Staff Impact: This project will take considerable staff coordination throughout the year. The project budget is \$55,000.

Strategic Plan(s) Alignment: The Open Space Management plan will be a significant step forward for the following OSTMP goals. Staff views the Open Space Management Plans as the first step for accomplishing numerous objectives in the OSTMP.

- OS6 - Ecological Assessments
- OS7 – Spatial Inventory of Town Open Spaces
- OS8 – Development of Open Space Management Plans
- OS10 – Fuels Management
- OS11 – Noxious Weed Management
- OS13 – Unsanctioned Trail Management
- M9 – Annual Maintenance Plans
- P2 – Seasonal Wildlife Closures

Recommend Action or Proposed Motion: None at this time.

Attachments: None.



Agenda Item: OSRAC Retreat Plan and Update

Request: Please bring your calendars to the OSRAC meeting. Staff will solidify the OSRAC retreat date at the next meeting.

Background: The proposed date for the OSRAC retreat is Thursday, March 23, 2023. If there is significant discrepancy in committee members' availability, an alternative date could be considered. The retreat will take place at the Frost Creek Clubhouse. Staff is shooting for 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. with a working lunch. A facilitator will lead the retreat. The goals of the OSRAC retreat include addressing new member evaluation, new member orientation, review of Committee Bylaws, revisiting the Committee's mission, vision, short-term and long-term goals, touch on OSTMP implementation, and overall team building.

Recommend Action or Proposed Motion: None at this time.

Attachments: None.



Agenda Item: Hardscrabble Trails Coalition Proposed Projects Environmental Analysis submission to the Bureau of Land Management discussion and update

Request: Staff requests that the Committee review the Hardscrabble Trails Coalition (HTC) and Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance (VVMTA) proposal to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for improvements in the East and West Eagle areas. The applicants (HTC & VVMTA) have requested that the Town review the proposal and provide any feedback at the February 16 Council meeting.

Background: Based on the results of the Town's Open Space and Trails Master Plan (OSTMP), HTC and VVMTA submitted a proposal for reroutes, trail decommissioning, and small sections of new trails on lands managed by the BLM adjacent to Eagle. The Committee first reviewed this in November 2022. Since then, there have not been any major changes to the proposal. VVMTA and the BLM have requested that the Town review and provide any comments on the proposal before it is officially noticed and scoped for public comment and environmental assessment. That way, we can address any issues from the Town ahead of scoping. Town Council will review the proposal at the February 16 Council meeting. OSRAC should provide any comments to Council ahead of that meeting.

Analysis: Staff is generally very supportive of the proposal submitted to the BLM by HTC and VVMTA. The proposal addresses several high-priority recommendations in the OSTMP. The proposal focuses on reroutes, trail decommissioning, and establishing trail hubs. The trail hubs will provide better locations to install informative/educational signage and help the trail system's overall flow. Further, the work accomplished in this proposal will be the backbone for later stages of implementation. Overall, the proposal fits very well with the priorities in the OSTMP.

Proposed projects included in HTC/VVMTA's proposal to the BLM that were not contained in OSTMP include the following:

- Road and trail decommissioning in the East Eagle area
 - The OSTMP broadly supports inventorying and decommissioning unsanctioned and duplicate trails. However, the master plan does not specifically address decommissioning of existing routes. This was left vague because the Town received feedback that existing route decommissioning required further engagement with stakeholders, the public, and the BLM.
 - The polygon titled "East Eagle area for further study of habitat, conservation, and trails, consistent with the SRMA" was intended to apply for new trails and trail decommissioning. The feeling at the end of the master plan process was that more engagement was needed before route decommissioning occurred.

- Dirt surfer and Haymeadow/Three Sister's Study areas
 - Similar to East Eagle, the OSTMP suggests that further engagement with stakeholders is needed in these two zones before projects are implemented.
- Third Gulch reroute
 - This project was left out of the OSTMP because Third Gulch is in an Area of Critical Environmental Concern. Feedback from stakeholders and the public during the OSTMP process suggested minimizing new disturbances in ACECs.
- Top section of Abrams Gulch Double Track
 - The Town uses this for motorized access to the LOV Connection bridge and the Abrams Creek Open Space. Staff is not supportive of decommissioning this route.

Community Input: Significant public outreach and engagement was involved with the development of the OSTMP. The VVMATA/HTC proposal will include a scoping period once noticed. The community can provide additional input to the BLM at that point.

Budget/ Staff Impact: The Town has budgeted \$30,000 for OSTMP planning phase 1 in 2023. Staff will coordinate with the project applicants and the BLM to determine participation in the environmental analysis for the project.

Strategic Plan(s) Alignment: The proposal addresses several high-priority recommendations in the OSTMP. The proposal focuses on reroutes, trail decommissioning, and establishing trail hubs.

Recommend Action or Proposed Motion: Provide any feedback to Town Council on the proposal to the BLM.

Attachments: HTC/VVMATA's proposal is attached.

 HIGH (0-3 YEARS)	 MEDIUM (4-6 YEARS)	 LOW (7-10 YEARS)
OS1. Enforcement Officer/Ranger OS2. Habitat Improvement Projects OS5. Regional Habitat Studies OS6. Ecological Assessments OS9. Wetlands OS10. Fuels Management OS11. Noxious Weeds Management OS13. Unsanctioned Trail Management OS14. Restoration Brush Creek/Eagle River AE1. Wildlife Education AE2. Natural Resource Education T3. Trail Hubs T8. Haymaker/Road Gulch/3 Sisters M1. Re-Routes M3. Trail Maintenance Collaboration M4. Early Season Maintenance M7. Quarterly Meeting M8. Maintenance Tracking System M9. Annual Maintenance Plan SF1. Haymaker Trailhead SF3. Wayfinding Signage SF5. Replaceable + Replicable Signage SF6. Motorized Access SF8. BLM Camping Level	OS8. Open Space Management Plans OS12. Adjacent Property Weed Coordination AE3. Spanish Signage + Maps AE5. Creative User Etiquette Signage AE6. Etiquette Standards AE7. Messaging System AE8. Beginner Friendly Opportunities T4. Motorized Dead-ends T5. Support Horse Access T6. Bike Skills Park T7. Use Changes T9. Dirt Surfer Discussion M2. Unsanctioned Trails M5. Trail Conditions Facebook M6. Haymaker Testing Ground SF2. Trailheads Access SF4. Visitor Information Strategy SF7. In-Town Camping SF9. BLM Camping Services P1. E-bikes	OS7. Spatial Inventory of Town Open Spaces T10. Hermit Discussion T11. Forest Service Discussion SF10. BLM Camping Capacity P3. Permitting Structure
ADVOCACY/CONTINUED INITIATIVES		
OS3. Dog Control Policies OS4. Dog/Wildlife Conflict OS15. Restoration Organization Support OS16. Restoration Efforts Coordination OS17. Open Space Acquisition OS18. Development Standards OS19. ACEC/SRMA OS20. Open Space Budgeting OS21. Consistent Funding Source	T2. Criteria Development T12. Funding Relationships/Restoration Opportunities SF11. Trailhead w/ Wildlife in Mind M10. Trail Organization Support M11. Adopt-A-Trail P2. Seasonal Wildlife Closures P4. Trail Sustainability P5. Unsanctioned Trail Policy	

All projects are listed in this table with an estimated cost. Cost ranges are listed as approximate under the following \$ (\$0 - \$15,000), \$\$ (\$15,000 - \$50,000), \$\$\$ (\$50,000+).



Figure 9. Trail Recommendations Map

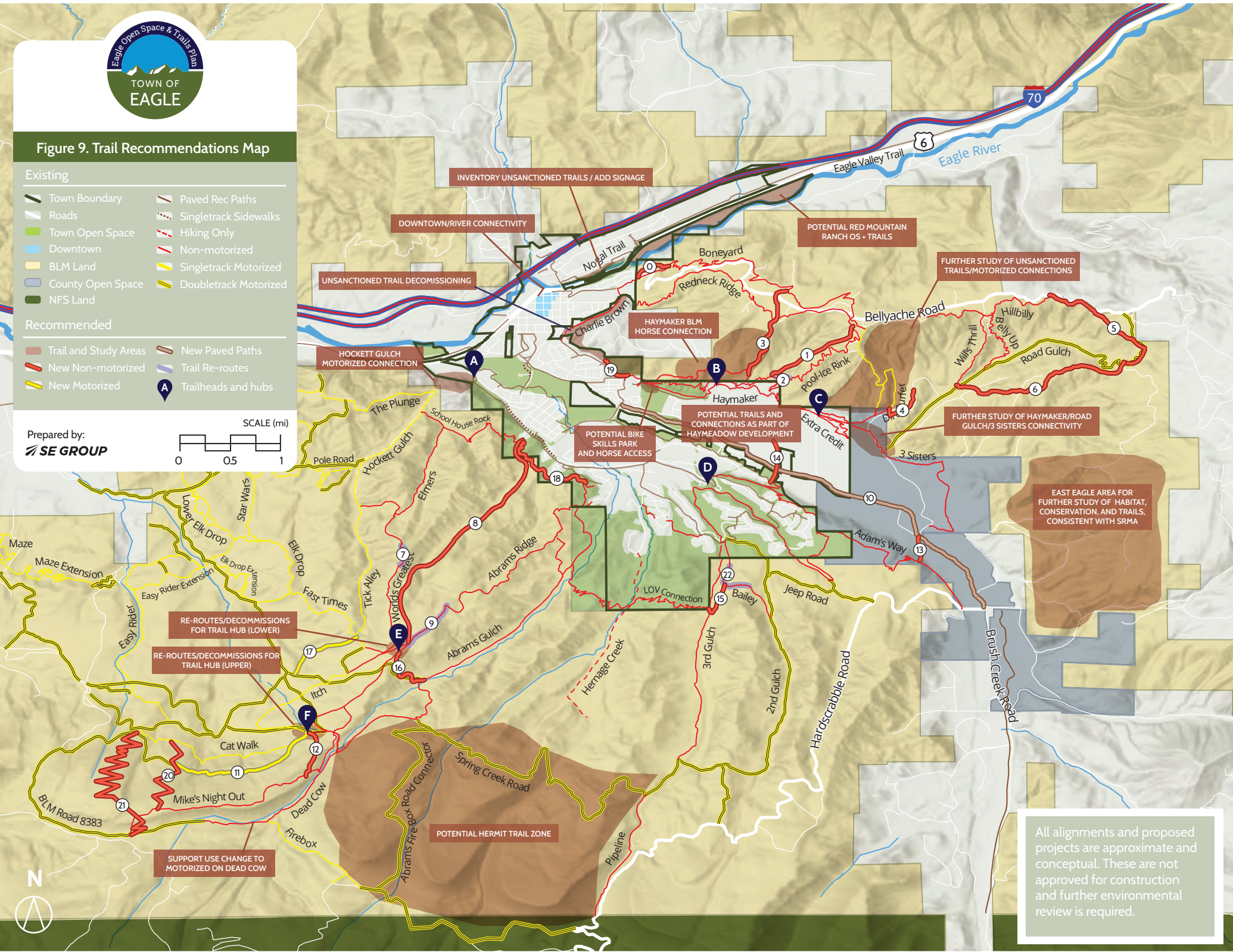
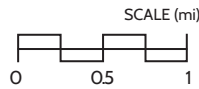
Existing

- Town Boundary
- Roads
- Town Open Space
- Downtown
- BLM Land
- County Open Space
- NFS Land
- Paved Rec Paths
- Singletrack Sidewalks
- Hiking Only
- Non-motorized
- Singletrack Motorized
- Doubletrack Motorized

Recommended

- Trail and Study Areas
- New Non-motorized
- New Motorized
- New Paved Paths
- Trail Re-routes
- Trailheads and hubs

Prepared by:
SE GROUP

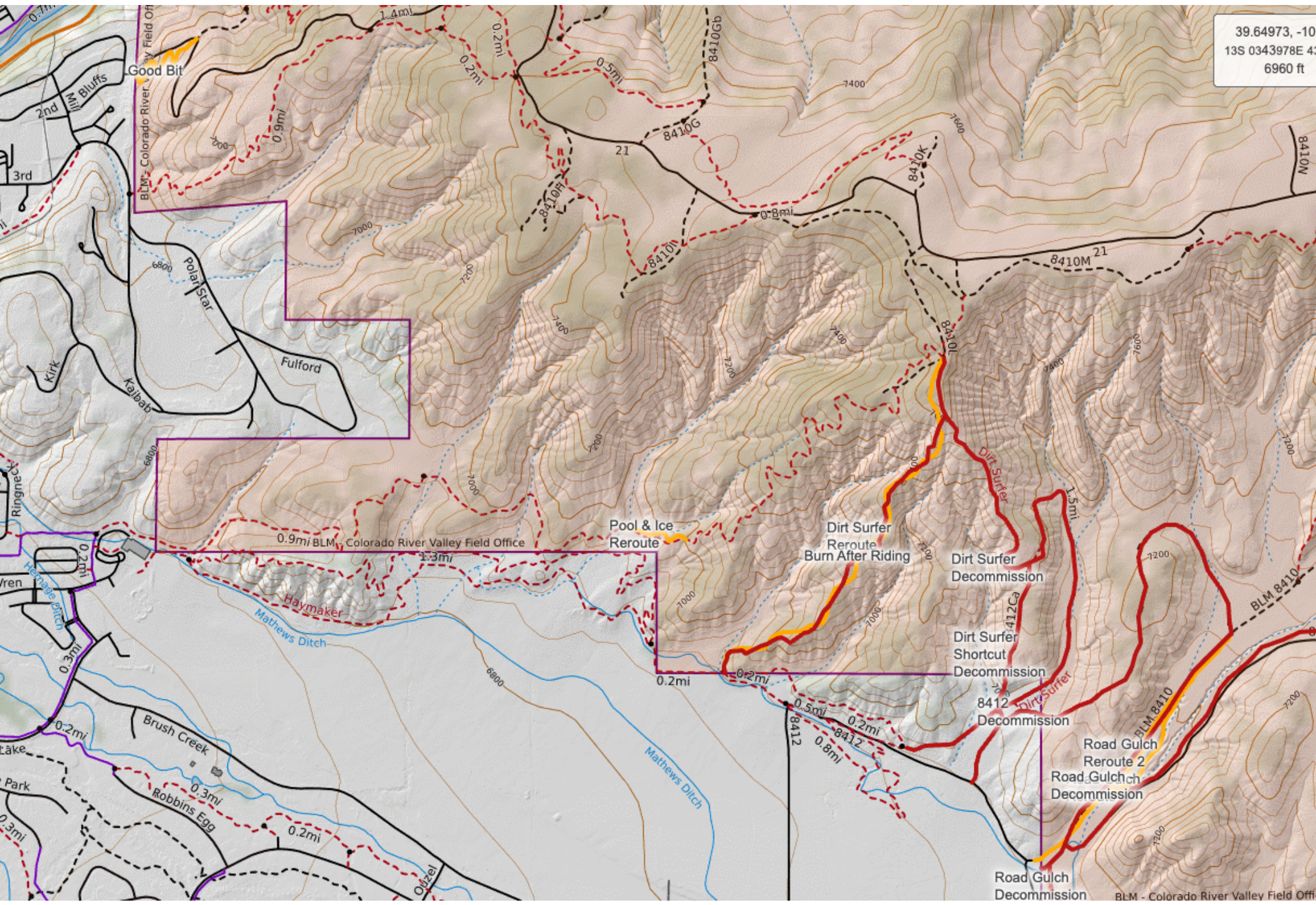


All alignments and proposed projects are approximate and conceptual. These are not approved for construction and further environmental review is required.

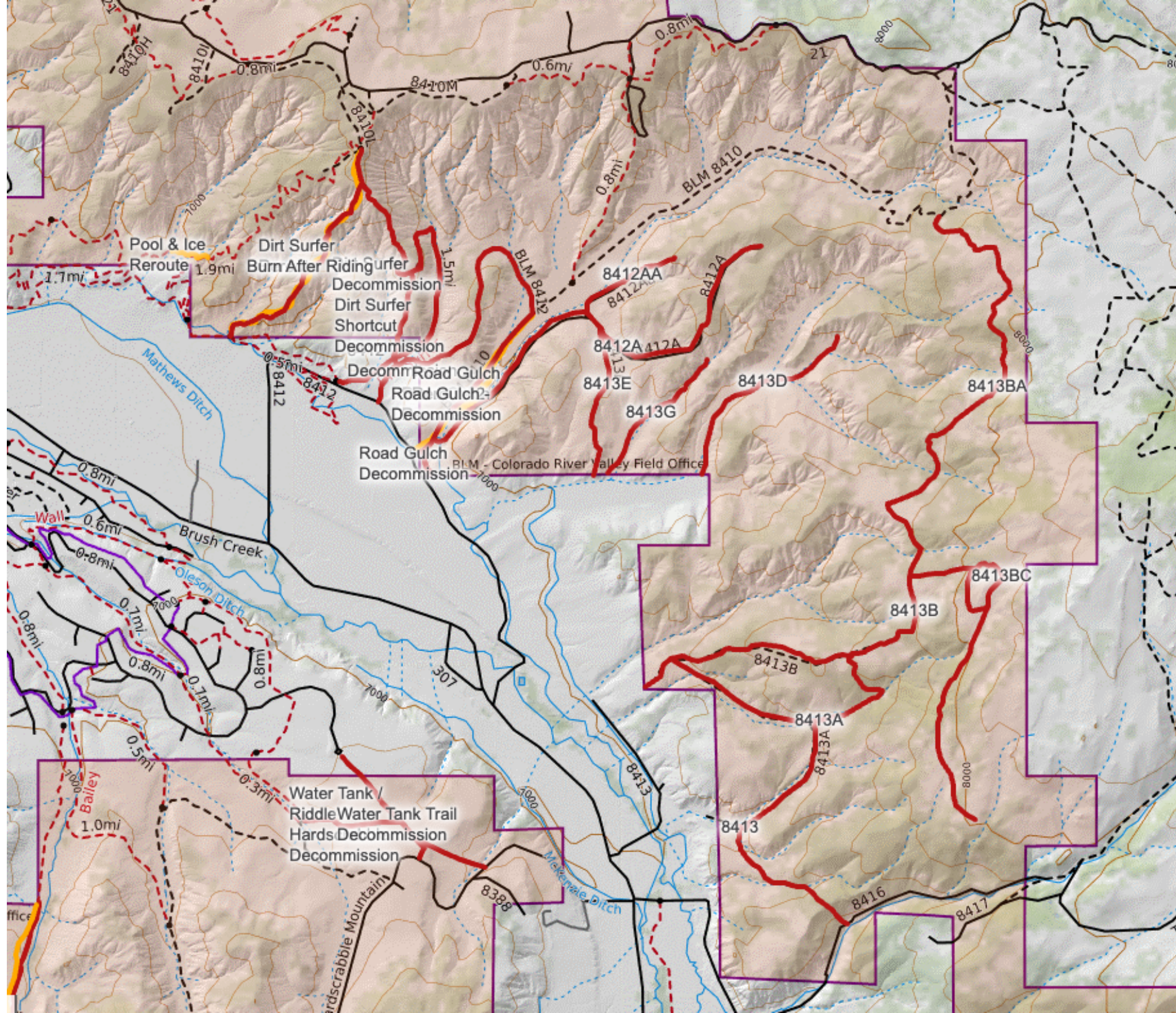
Trail/Project	Length (miles)	Land Manager	Seasonal Wildlife Closure	Description
East Eagle				
Good Bit	0.27	BLM	No	Creates singletrack connection from the Bluff's neighborhood to Boneyard, bypassing steep, lower Bellyache Rd
Pool & Ice Rink - Reroute Brake Bumps	0.15	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Reroute brake bumps at bottom. Trail is widening significantly and will continue to grow.
Burn After Riding	-0.82	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Decommission
Braaap	0.62	BLM		Close illegal trail
Dirt Surfer	0.50	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Decommission and reroute to a more sustainable alignment, close to motorized use, and direct new alignment out of BCVROS property
Dirt Surfer Shortcut	-0.32	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Decommission
BLM 8412	0.65	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Decommission
Road Gulch Reroute (Partial)	0.65	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Decommission road below Will's Thrill intersection and reroute to non-motorized singletrack
8412A Decommission	-1.67	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Decommission
8412AA Decommission	-0.39	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Decommission
8413E Decommission	-0.56	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Decommission
8413G Decommission	-0.56	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Decommission
8413D Decommission	-0.76	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Decommission
8413BA Decommission	-1.85	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Decommission
8413B Decommission	-3.14	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Decommission
8413 Decommission	-2.15	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Decommission
8413BC Decommission	-0.28	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Decommission
Eagle Ranch				
3rd Gulch Reroute	2.00	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Reroute existing 3rd Gulch trail/road that is severely eroding and create sustainable singletrack alignment.
Water Tank Trail / Riddle Area	-0.75	BLM/TOE	December 1 - April 15	Decommission social trail from water tank to Hardscrabble Rd. and social trail connection to Riddle
West Eagle				

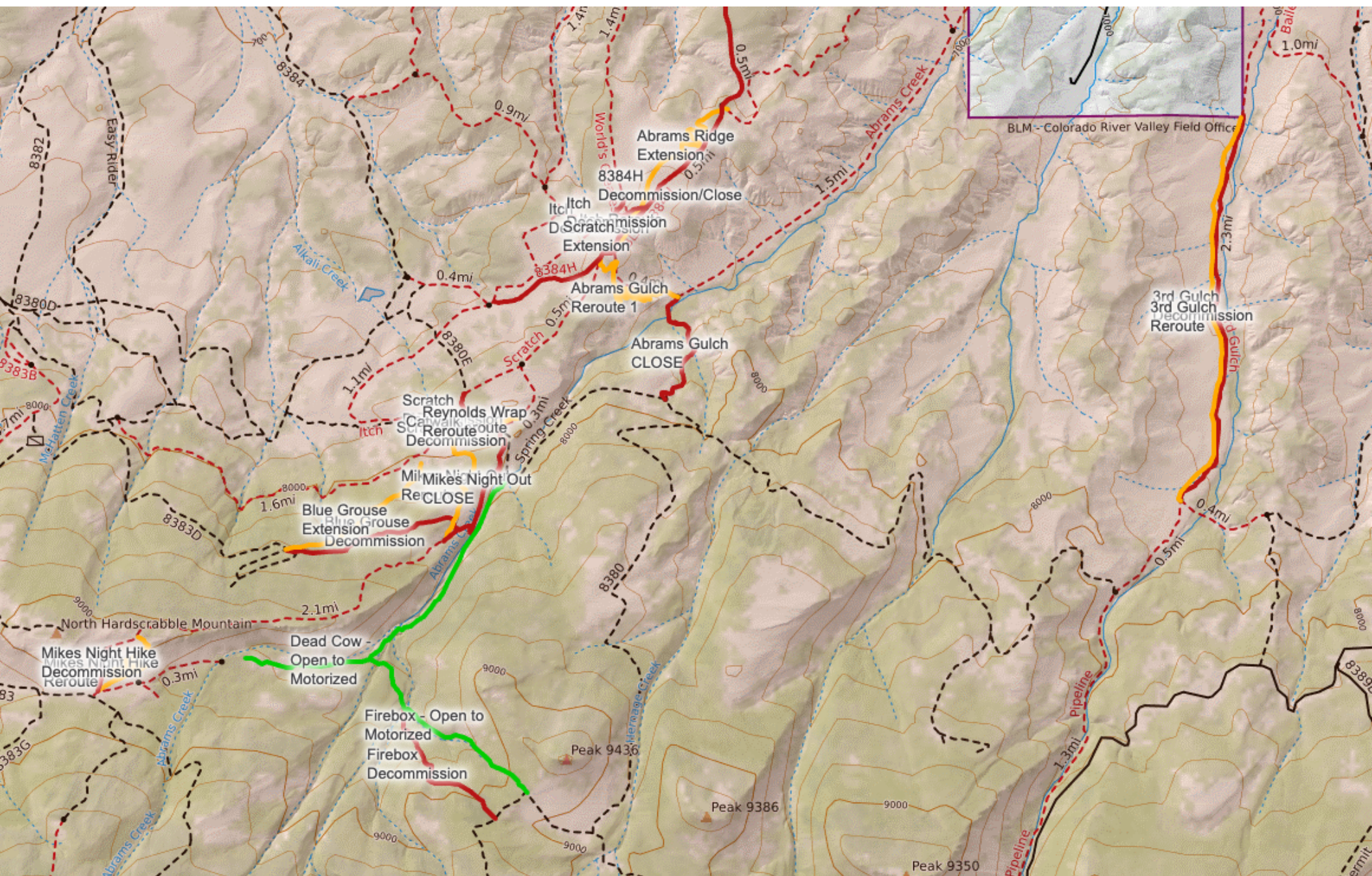
Trail/Project	Length (miles)	Land Manager	Seasonal Wildlife Closure	Description
Abrams Ridge Extension	0.45	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Extend Abram's Ridge by building new singletrack and connecting to new Worlds Greatest Trail Hub. Decommission existing doubletrack road
8384B	-1.77	BLM		Decommission existing road that is currently closed to motorized use and leads to a dead end
Abrams Gulch Reroute	0.75	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Reroute upper section of Abrams Gulch and build new singletrack that connects with Scratch. Decommission steep Abrams Gulch road (0.57 miles)
Itch Reroute	0.15	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Close and decommission Itch trail below World's Greatest and move to World's Greatest trail start.
Scratch Extension	0.11	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Extend Scratch singletrack to connect with World's Greatest and new proposed Itch start
Scratch Reroute	0.15	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Reroute Scratch to connect with the Shire Trail Hub location. Decommission existing sections of Scratch.
Reynolds Wrap Reroute	0.25	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Reroute Reynolds Wrap to extend into Scratch.
Mike's Night Out Reroute	0.75	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Extend Mike's Night Out singletrack downhill to connect into Shire Trail Hub. Close (not decommission) existing 0.59 miles of trail on utility road
Mike's Night Out Hike Reroute	0.55	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Decommission Mike's hike-a-bike and build singletrack trail
Dead Cow	1.14	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Open to dirt bikes
Firebox Singletrack	0.88	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Open to dirt bikes
Firebox Alternative	-0.91	BLM		Close illegal trail
Blue Grouse Extension	0.68	BLM	December 1 - April 15	Decommission existing illegal section and reroute to Catwalk to create a new motorized loop connecting in with Shire Trail Hub
Blue Grouse Decommission	-0.75			Decommission existing illegal section that connects into Mike's Night Out

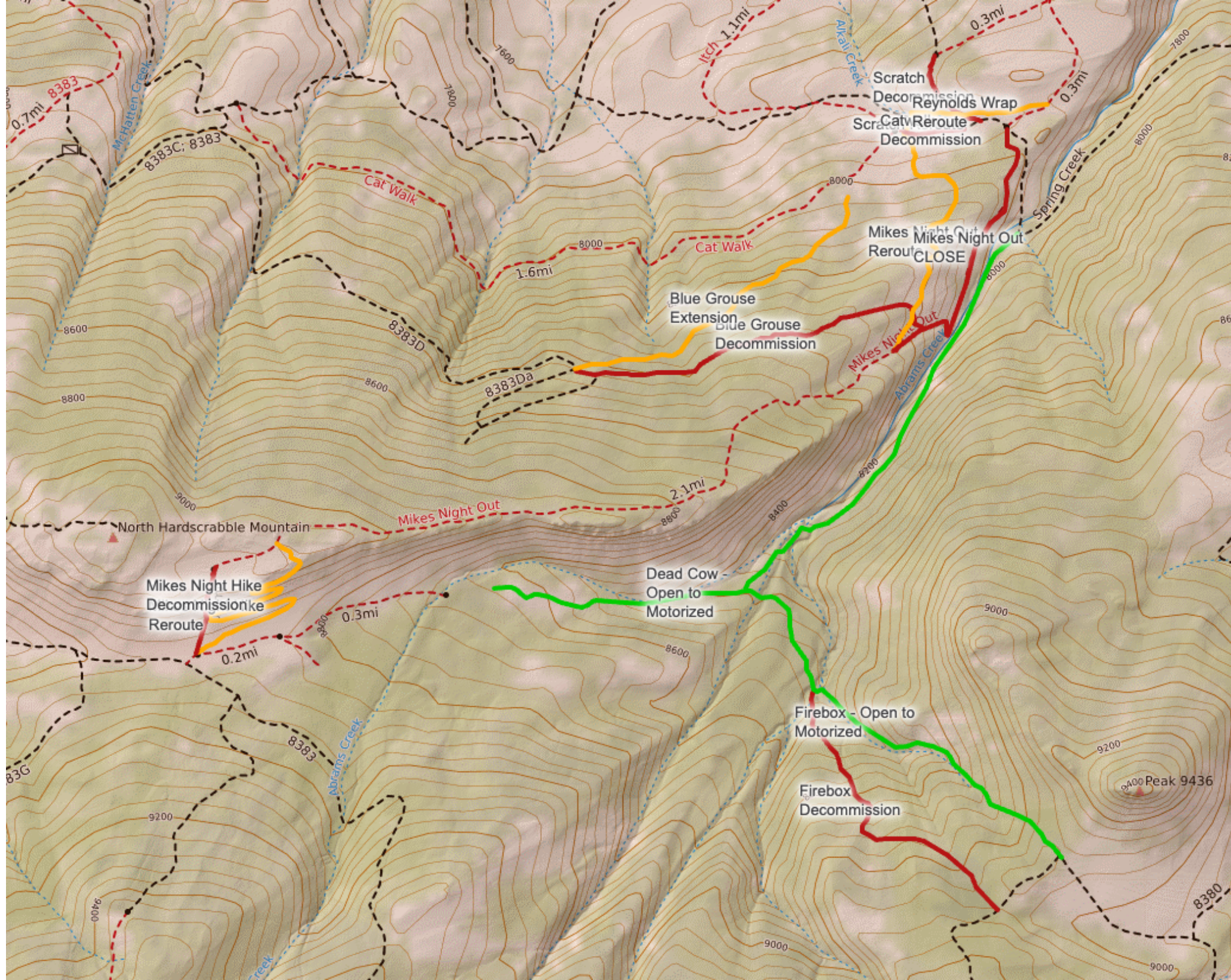
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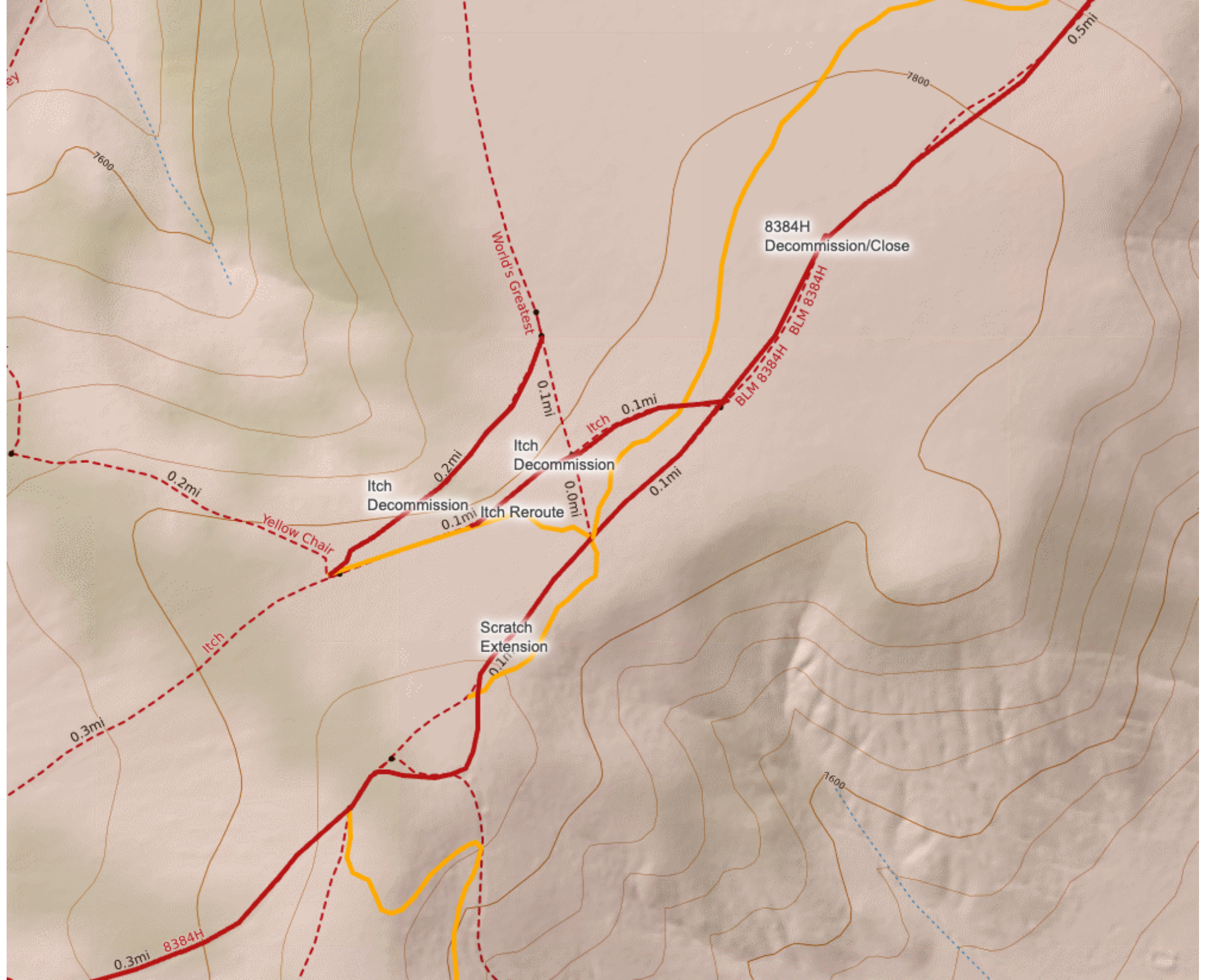


BLM - Colorado River Valley Field Office











Agenda Item: Hardscrabble Trails Coalition/ Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance wildlife communication project update

Request: None.

Background: HTC and VVMTA will present an update on their wildlife communication and education campaign project to the Committee. Staff and HTC will provide an update from the presentation of the campaign to the Town Council earlier in January.

Strategic Plan(s) Alignment: Accessibility and Education recommendation #1 from the 2022 Open Space and Trails Master Plan: "Develop educational materials about area wildlife and their habitat, how to recreate responsibly with wildlife, and the value of seasonal wildlife closures for wildlife and residents. These materials could be shared through trailhead kiosks, the Town of Eagle website, Town social media platforms, open houses, and via partners' networks."

Recommend Action or Proposed Motion: None.

Attachments: None.