



Open Space & Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, January 10, 2024, 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.

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.

Join on your computer, mobile app, or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 252 517 008 239

Passcode: E6WQzL

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 469-770-0416](tel:+14697700416), [870694782](tel:+1870694782)# Phone Conference ID: 870 694 782#

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

9:05 a.m. PUBLIC COMMENT

9:10 a.m. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER MINUTES

9:15 a.m. DISCUSSION/ BUSINESS ITEMS

9:15 a.m. (10 min) Election of Committee Officers

9:25 a.m. (30 min) Eagle Environmental Assessment Update for non-motorized projects on Bureau of Land Management Lands

9:55 a.m. (30 min) Eagle Bureau of Land Management Camping Management and Capacity Discussion

10:25 a.m. (30 min) Hardscrabble Road Use Designation Consistency for Spring Non-Motorized Travel

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

11:00 a.m. ADJOURN



**Open Space & Recreation Advisory Committee
Unapproved Meeting Minutes
December 13, 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.

Join on your computer, mobile app, or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 252 517 008 239

Passcode: E6WQzL

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 469-770-0416,,870694782#](#) United States, Dallas

Phone Conference ID: 870 694 782#

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

Call to Order at: 9:03

Roll Call:

Committee members present: Ernest Saeger, Erinn Hoban, Jess Foulis, Chris Kehoe, Roger Mitchell, Anna Nakae, Lizzy Owens

Committee members absent: Phil Kirkman

Staff Present: Brian Lieberman, Open Space and Trails Manager

Town Council Present: Ellen Bodenheimer

9:05 a.m. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None.

9:10 a.m. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MINUTES

MOTION to approve the NOVEMBER OSRAC meeting minutes by Kehoe and second by Nakae. Motion passed with a vote of 7 in favor (Saeger, Hoban, Foulis, Kehoe, Mitchell, Nakae, and Owens) and 0 opposed.

9:15 a.m. DISCUSSION/ BUSINESS ITEMS

Open Space management plan council update and next steps

- Town Council adopted the Open Space Management Plans at their meeting in early December.
- Council agreed with the recommendations to continue the status quo on Second Gulch and E-bikes through the adoption of the new Open Space Management Plans.
- Next steps for the Management Plans include implementing high-priority projects and adjusting regular operations to address goals in the plans.
- Consideration for staff to come to the Committee with a timeline and budget based on Management Plan recommendations and priorities.
- The Committee accepted public comment.

Wildlife Seasonal Closure update and messaging

- Gates closed on Dec. 1, and signage has gone out. Large panels are coming to cover the entire trailhead kiosks to try to draw attention to the closure.
- New educational and interpretive signage will be installed this summer that will target responsible winter trail usage.
- There was no comment from the public.

Respect the Wild update

- The Hardscrabble Trails Coalition and Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance presented highlights, updates, and information about the Respect the Wild Campaign to the Committee.
- There will be a paid staff member who will be at trailheads in Eagle 20 hours per week for educational purposes.
- The Committee accepted public comment.

New Business/ Future Agenda Items

- Update on the EA for the trail plans for the Eagle area.
- New terms and new committee roles to be discussed in January.

MOTION to ADJOURN at 10:26 by Saeger and second by Kehoe. Motion passed with a vote of 7 in favor (Saeger, Hoban, Foulis, Kehoe, Mitchell, Nakae, and Owens) and 0 opposed.



To: Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC)

From: Brian Lieberman, Open Space and Trails Manager

Date: January 10, 2024

Agenda Item: Election of Committee Officers

REQUEST: Staff requests that the Committee elect a Chairperson for the 2024 calendar year.

BACKGROUND: According to the OSRAC Bylaws, a Committee Chairperson must be elected at the first meeting of every calendar year. There are no limits on the number of times a committee member can be nominated or elected as the Chairperson. The terms for all other Committee officers, including the Vice Chair, are two-year terms and do not need to be elected this year. Voting Committee members may nominate themselves or another Committee member.

COMMUNITY INPUT: The Committee can choose to accept public comment on this agenda item. However, no public comment is required.

RECOMMEND ACTION OR PROPOSED MOTION: Motion to elect _____ as the Committee Chair of the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee for the 2024 calendar year.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. OSRAC Committee Bylaws can be found at this link: [Committee Bylaws Link](#)
2. Below is a chart of OSRAC Members and Committee Officers as of December 2023.

Ernest Saeger December 2024	Chair December 2023	Roger Mitchell December 2024	Voting member
Jessica Foulis December 2024	Vice-chair December 2024	Lizzy Owens December 2024	Voting member
Ellen Bodenhemier	Committee Coordinator	Chris Kehoe May 2025	Voting Member
Erinn Hoban December 2024	Secretary December 2024	Phillip Kirkman December 2024	Voting Member
Anna Nakae December 2024	Alternate member		



To: Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC)

From: Brian Lieberman, Open Space and Trails Manager

Date: January 10, 2024

Agenda Item: Eagle Environmental Assessment Update for non-motorized projects on Bureau of Land Management Lands

REQUEST: None.

BACKGROUND: Alan Czepinski, Outdoor Recreation Planner for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Colorado River Valley Field Office, will attend the meeting to provide an update on the ongoing Environmental Assessment in the Eagle area.

In early 2023, the Hardscrabble Trails Coalition (HTC) and the Vail Valley Mountain Trails Alliance (VVMTA) submitted a proposal for trail decommissioning, reroutes, and some new trail miles on BLM lands adjacent to the Town of Eagle. The proposed projects are largely derived from high-priority items identified in the Town's 2022 Open Space and Trails Master Plan (OST Plan).

The proposal is currently being reviewed by the BLM through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. Alan will provide an update on the review process for the Committee.

Projects in the proposal can be reviewed on the BLM's website at this link:

<https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2024351/510>.

COMMUNITY INPUT: The public was involved in the development of the Town's 2022 OST Plan. The Bureau of Land Management accepted public and stakeholder comments during the project's NEPA scoping phase last summer.

RECOMMEND ACTION OR PROPOSED MOTION: None.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Projects in the proposal can be reviewed on the BLM's website at this link: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2024351/510>.
- The Town's OST Plan can be viewed at this link: <https://www.townofeagle.org/402/2022-Open-Space-and-Trails-Plan>.



To: Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC)

From: Brian Lieberman, Open Space and Trails Manager

Date: January 10, 2024

Agenda Item: Eagle Bureau of Land Management Camping Management and Capacity Discussion

REQUEST: Staff requests that the Committee consider the current level of camping and the associated effects on natural resources on adjacent Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands and discuss if there are any needs for potential mitigation efforts.

BACKGROUND: Alan Czepinski, Outdoor Recreation Planner for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Colorado River Valley Field Office, will attend the meeting to discuss camping on BLM lands adjacent to the Town of Eagle. The 2022 Open Space and Trails Master Plan (OST Plan) identified working with the - BLM “to establish a community supported level of dispersed camping in areas near Town that limits impacts to natural resources” as a high priority project.

Currently, dispersed camping is permitted on lands managed by the BLM in previously disturbed sites within the Hardscrabble and East Eagle areas. There are some additional regulations along Spring Creek Road, and in general, camping is limited to 14 days.

During the development of the 2022 OST Plan, the community and stakeholders expressed concern about the growth of camping along Bellyache Road and Hardscrabble Road. Concerns included impacts on natural resources, safety, wildfires, human waste, trash, and user conflicts.

At the same time, some community members and stakeholders were concerned that overregulation of camping on nearby public lands could have adverse impacts on economic development and tourism.

The resulting master plan suggested working with the community, stakeholders, and the BLM to find a community-supported level of camping adjacent to town that supports visitation but minimizes impacts to natural resources.

Town staff suggests that the Committee start the conversation about camping management and capacity with Alan at the upcoming meeting.

RECOMMEND ACTION OR PROPOSED MOTION: None.

ATTACHMENTS: Additional information about camping in the Hardscrabble area can be viewed on the BLM website at this link: <https://www.blm.gov/documents/colorado/public-room/map/hardscrabble-special-recreation-management-area-map>.



To: Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC)

From: Brian Lieberman, Open Space and Trails Manager

Date: January 10, 2024

Agenda Item: Hardscrabble Road Use Designation Consistency for Spring Non-Motorized Travel

REQUEST: Staff requests that the Committee consider travel management on Hardscrabble Road and recommend to Council and Staff if the Town should pursue changes to address consistency for mechanized use in the spring.

BACKGROUND: The lower portion of Hardscrabble Road travels through lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management below the Wolverton area. However, the entire road is managed and maintained by the National Forest Service (NFS), including travel management. This has led to some discrepancies in travel management decisions, particularly pertaining to seasonal use restrictions.

The entire Hardscrabble Road is closed to wheeled vehicles (including bikes) from late November through mid-May. This is the typical seasonal use restriction for roads managed by the NFS in the Eagle area.

Trails and Roads managed by the BLM are closed to mechanized and motorized use from December 1 – April 15. This has led to some differences in management on trail loops that could use Hardscrabble Road to connect the new Adam’s Way trail, Eagle Ranch Loops, 2nd Gulch, Pipeline, and others from April 16 – May 22.

ANALYSIS: The NFS has indicated that it would be willing to work with the Town to address this inconsistency. However, any change in seasonal use restriction would require some level of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis. The Town, or one of its partners, would like need to take on the time and funding to submit a proposal for this change.

COMMUNITY INPUT/ STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT: In general, the 2022 Open Space and Trails Master Plan suggested that the Town should pursue projects that help simplify and provide consistency among the different land managers and trail systems. This project was not specifically addressed in the plan, however.

BUDGET/ STAFF IMPACT: Further discussion with the NFS would be required to determine a budget for this project.

RECOMMEND ACTION OR PROPOSED MOTION:

1. Motion to recommend that the Town pursue modifying the mechanized use restriction on Hardscrabble Road (Forest Service Road 413) from April 16 – May 22 to permit mechanized use.
2. Motion to recommend that the Town does not pursue modifying the mechanized use restriction on Hardscrabble Road (Forest Service Road 413).

ATTACHMENTS: Figure 4 from the Town's Open Space and Trails Master Plan. The map illustrates the location of Hardscrabble Road as it travels through BLM lands (tan) before reaching NFS lands (green). Several BLM trails and roads connect with Hardscrabble Road and have different use restrictions, which causes inconsistencies in the spring for recreation management.

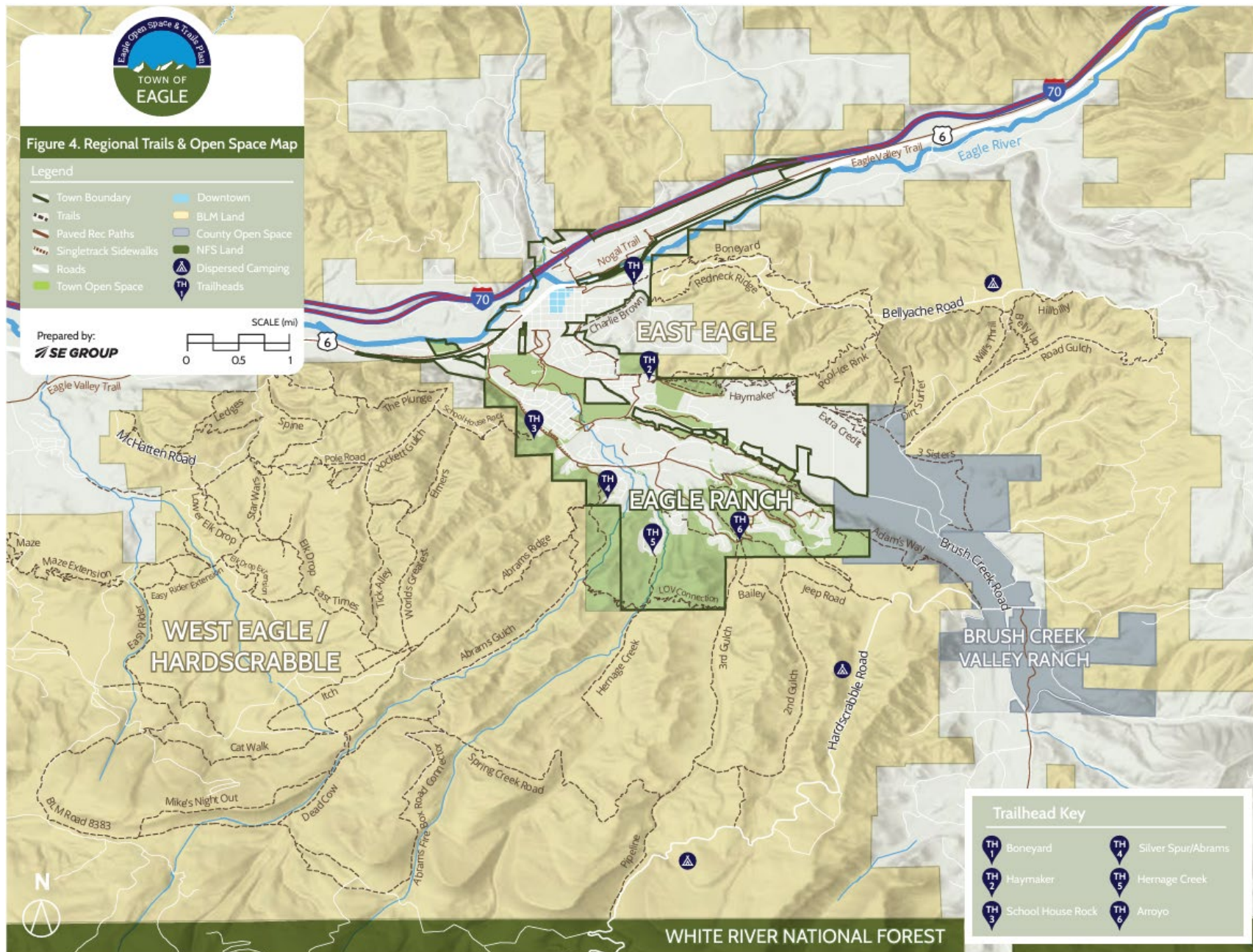
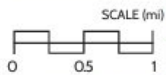


Figure 4. Regional Trails & Open Space Map

Legend

- Town Boundary
- Trails
- Paved Rec Paths
- Singletrack Sidewalks
- Roads
- Town Open Space
- Downtown
- BLM Land
- County Open Space
- NFS Land
- Dispersed Camping
- Trailheads

Prepared by:
SE GROUP



Trailhead Key

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| TH 1 Boneyard | TH 4 Silver Spur/Abrams |
| TH 2 Haymaker | TH 5 Hernage Creek |
| TH 3 School House Rock | TH 6 Arroyo |

WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST