



**Open Space & Recreation Advisory Committee
Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, February 3, 2021
2:00 PM
ONLINE MEETING
Public Meeting Room / Eagle Town Hall
200 Broadway
Eagle, CO**

This agenda and the meetings can be viewed at www.Townofeagle.org.

MEETING ACCESS PUBLIC WIFI - TOEG – townofeagle2019

This will be a Zoom Meeting, the link can be found here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83472864496>
Meeting ID: 834 7286 4496

2:00pm CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES

2:05pm DISCUSSION

2:05pm (10 min) Eagle County Wildlife Roundtable Action Plan - adoption strategy discussion

2:15pm (15 min) Haymaker Trailhead discussion

1. Timeline update from Janet and Mountain Rec
2. Partnership and funding discussion for trailhead infrastructure

2:30pm (20 min) 2021 Open Space Budget presentation and discussion

2:50pm (10 min) TOE Open Space spring work plan discussion

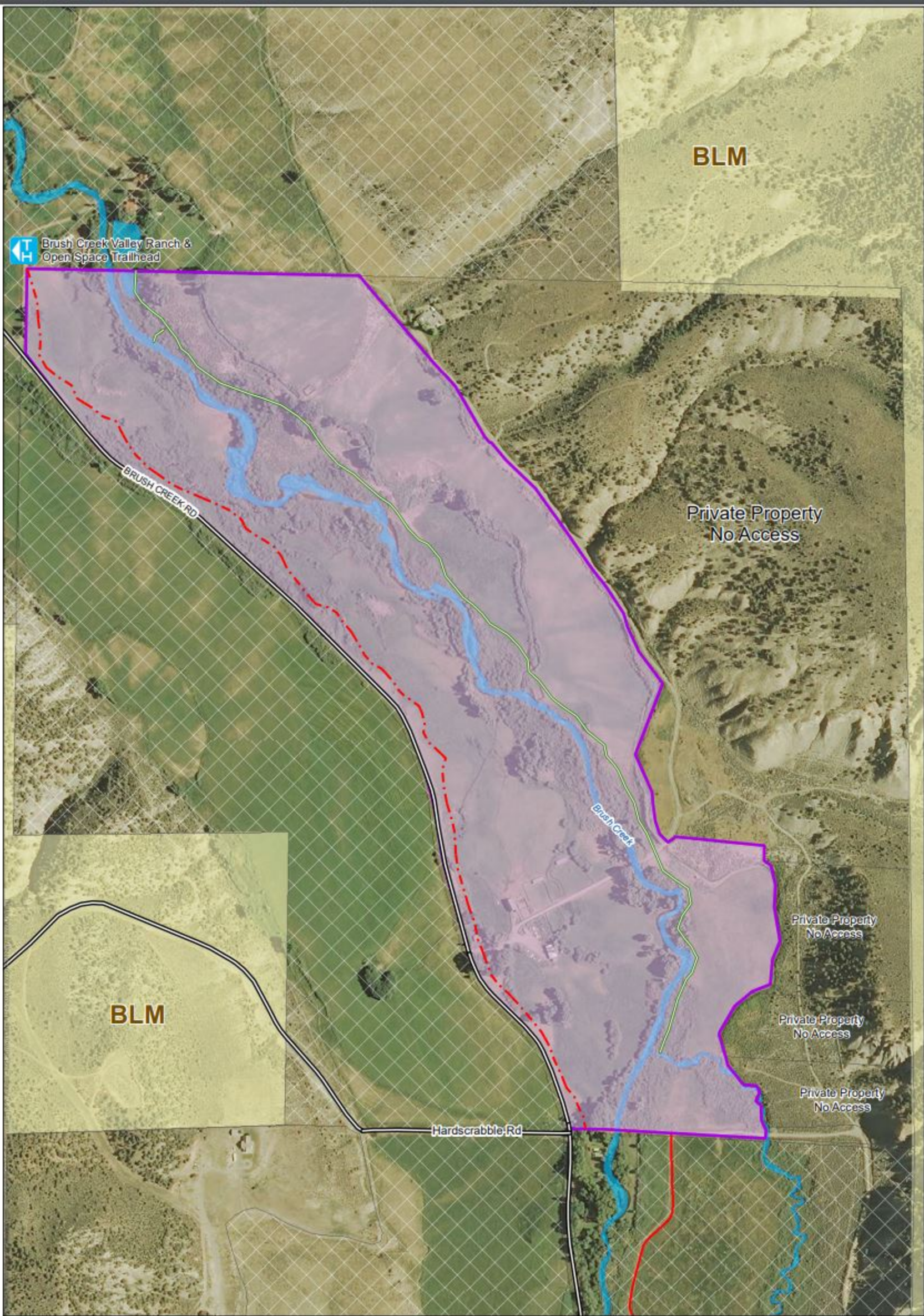
3:00 (10 min) Brush Creek Ranch Management Plan- TOE comments

3:10 (15 min) Brain Wodrich introduction – New CPW District Ranger – Seasonal trail closures

3:25pm (5 min) Future agenda items/ new business

1. Town of Eagle Open Space Master Plan
2. Corky's appraisal

3:30pm ADJOURN



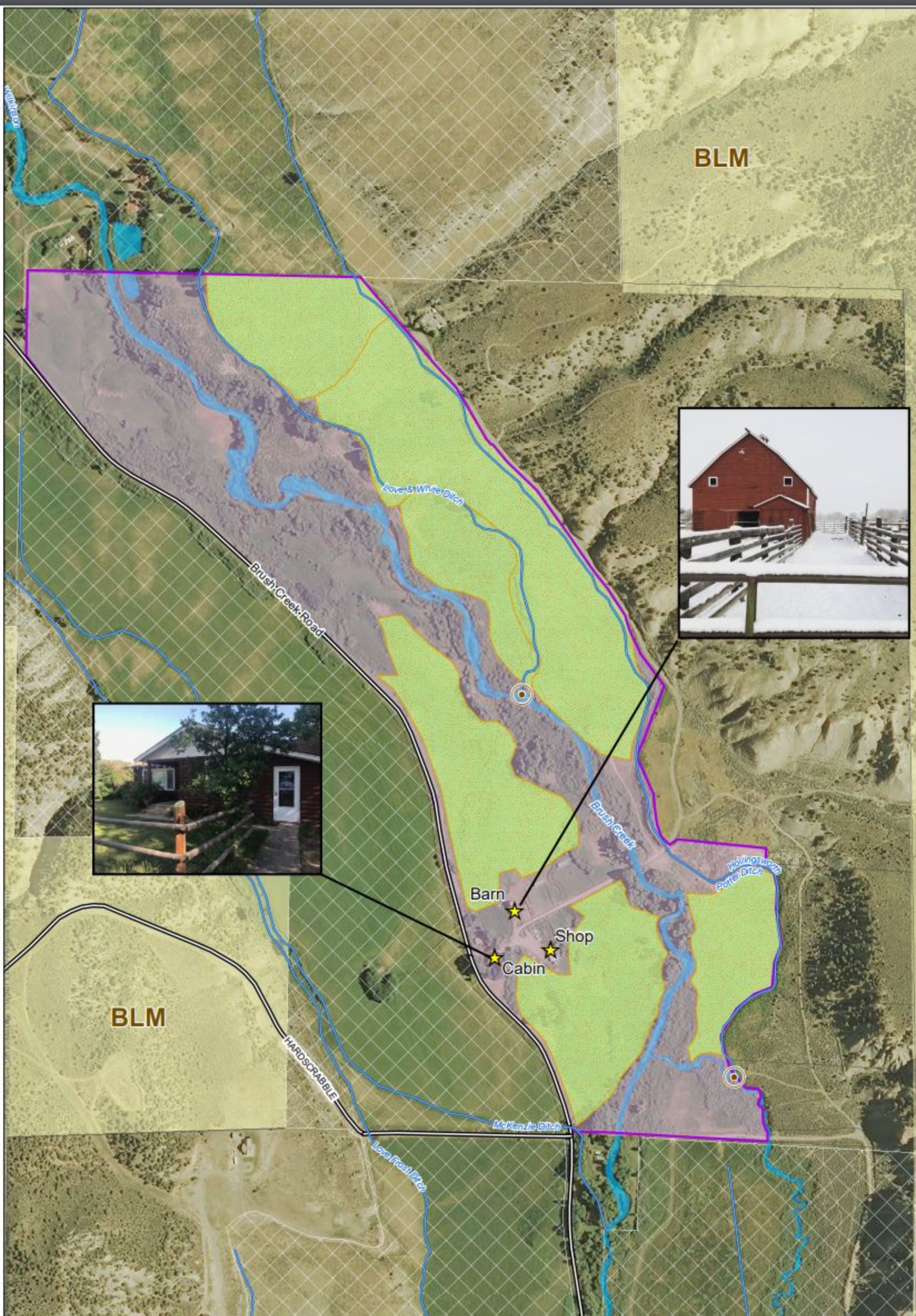
Ridgway Inholding Access Map

- Potential Paved Path
- Potential Fishing Access
- Existing Paved Path
- Subject Property

- Parcel Boundary
- Brush Creek Valley Ranch and Open Space
- Bureau of Land Management



This map was created for the Eagle County GIS Department. Use of this map should be for general purposes only. Eagle County does not warrant the accuracy of the data contained herein.



Ridgway Inholding Parcel

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| ★ Building Location | Subject Property |
| ○ Diversion Structure | Parcel Boundary |
| — Ditch | Brush Creek Valley Ranch and Open Space |
| ■ Irrigated Field | Bureau of Land Management |

1 inch = 400 feet

0 190 380 Feet

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12" x 18" Dibond
digital print, UV laminate
\$39.00/ea.

12 in

18 in

TRAIL & OPEN SPACE CURRENTLY CLOSED

**Area CLOSED to all human activity
and dogs to protect
wintering habitat for elk and deer**



*Town of Eagle Open Space and Trails Program
970-328-6678 x542*

Thank you for your cooperation!!

****Violations are subject to a maximum fine of \$2,650 and/or up to a 364-day imprisonment****

SEASONAL WILDLIFE CLOSURE CURRENTLY IN EFFECT



TOWN OF EAGLE open space and trails are closed from December 15 through at least April 15 annually to all activities for protection of an important elk and mule deer winter range.

All user groups and dogs are currently prohibited from accessing trails and open space at this location.

During the winter, human activity of any kind can displace and stress wintering elk and deer. With little food available and deep snow to navigate, this stress is often life threatening. Closure violations are subject to a maximum fine of \$2,650 and/or up to 364-days in jail.

Please respect our valley's wildlife by recreating in other areas without seasonal closures. The following trails in Eagle are currently OPEN:

- ✓ Boneyard and Bellyache Road
- ✓ Redneck Ridge
- ✓ Haymaker (loops 1 and 2 only)
- ✓ Town of Eagle and Eagle Ranch paved recreation paths
- ✓ Eagle Ranch Golf Course loop
- ✓ Eagle County Open Space Salt Creek loop

For more information on wildlife closures and trails, please call 970-328-6678 x542 or visit <https://www.townofeagle.org/177/Open-Space-Trail-Information>. Thank You!

OPENSOURCE FUND-OPERATING EXPENDITURES		2020 BUDGET REVISED						2021 BUDGET REQUEST					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT TITLE	TOTAL	DETAIL	ONE TIME (X)	ON GOING (X)	CARRY OVER (\$)	NOTES	TOTAL	DETAIL	ONE TIME (X)	ON GOING (X)	CARRY OVER (\$)	NOTES
8150110	SALARIES & WAGES	43,031	43,031		X			83,326	83,326		X		
8150120	OVERTIME	-	-		X			-	-		X		
8150125	BONUS	112	112		X			863	863		X		
8150141	UMEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	129	129		X			253	253		X		
8150142	WORKER'S COMPENSATION	1,168	1,168		X			2,253	2,253		X		
8150143	HEALTH BENEFITS	2,526	2,526		X			21,960	21,960		X		
8150144	FICA - EMPLOYER'S	3,300	3,300		X			6,441	6,441		X		
8150145	RETIREMENT	167	167		X			5,137	5,137		X		
8150146	WAGE ADJUSTMENT	-	-		X			-	-		X		
8150210	OFFICE SUPPLIES	100	100		X			100	100		x		
8150225	UNIFORMS	150	150		X			150	150		x		
8150230	R & M SUPPLIES	4,000	4,000		X			5,000	5,000		x		Lumber, hardware, signs, materials, etc. (Alpine
8150231	VEHICLE REPAIR & MNT SUPPLIES	1,000	1,000		X		Repairs for Jeep, truck, and ATV	1,000	1,000		x		Repairs for Jeep, truck, and ATV
8150232	GAS & OIL	600	600		X			800	800		x		gas for Jeep, truck, and ATV
8150235	EQUIPMENT - SUPPLIES	38	38	x			Computer Replacement - 3% HR Mgr. Allocation	3,575	3,575		x		Computer Replacement-Laptop for Open Space Coordinator - \$1500 New Laptop: 3% x \$1500- IT Mgr Office Furniture: 3% \$1,000 - IT Mgr chainsaw, trailer, brushmower, hand tools, trail buiding tools,
8150310	COMMUNICATION & TRANSPORTATION	-	-		X			200	200		x		
8150320	LEGAL NOTICES	-						-					
8150343	RECRUITMENT	1,500	1,500	X				-	-				
8150347	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	-		x			OS master plan moved to Conservation Trust Fund per Brandy	-					
8150351	LEGAL	500	500		X			500	500		x		
8150352	AUDITING	-						-					
8150355	APPRAISALS	-						10,000	10,000	X			Appraisal for Corky's Property
8150359	GRANT WRITING SERVICES	-						-					
8150360	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE SERVICES	2,000	2,000		X		Miscellaneous contracted services	9,800	9,800		x		Miscellaneous contracted professional services, Plant ecologist, restoration consulting services, tree services, outside skilled labor, etc.
8150361	TRAIL REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	6,000	6,000		X		Annual trail maintenace and reroute services in technical locations to be performed by professional trail builders. Open Space Seasonal technician and volunteers will be used for additional maintenance.	6,000	6,000		x		Annual trail maintenace and reroute services in technical locations to be performed by professional trail builders. Open Space Seasonal technician and volunteers will be used for additional maintenance.
8150362	COMPUTER SUPPORT	2,506	2,506		X		Computer Tech: \$1,500; Office 365: \$456; Adobe: \$200 1/3 GIS license maintenance (Open Space, Com Dev, Water/WW) - \$350	2,097	2,097		x		Executech/Forward Tech Support: \$1,056 Office 365: 2.03 x \$22/mo =\$536 Adobe: \$155 GIS 1/3 subscription-WATER, WW, OPEN SPACE - \$350
8150363	WEED & PEST CONTROL	21,000	21,000		X		2019 has been a very bad year for weeds due the the unusually wet winter and spring, generating addional seed which will germinate in 2020. Problems with ground squirrels occuring in field south of pump track due to development pressure.	21,000	21,000		x		2020 has lesser weed infestation, but increased problems with ground squirrels occuring town wide.
8150364	WEB SITE	-						-					
8150365	SURVEYING SERVICES	-	-		X		BLM NEPA permitting for trail expansions in the East Eagle SRMA will require additonal archeological surveys.	10,000	10,000		x		BLM NEPA permitting for trail expansions in the East Eagle SRMA will require additonal archeological surveys.
8150366	RESTORATION PLANNING SERVICES	-						-					

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8150380	TUITION & BOOKS	-	-		X		2020 Open Space conference and/or trails conference attendance registration fee; one class registration for Seasonal Tech	1,000	1,000		x		2021 Open Space conference and/or trails conference attendance registration fee; one class registration for Seasonal Tech
8150385	PROPERTY TAXES & TREASURER FEE	-						-					
8150394	VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION	-	-					-					
8150395	CONTRACT SERVICES	-						-					
8150510	INSURANCE	2,286	2,286		x		CIRSA	2,355	2,355		x		CIRSA-ADD 3%
8150900	CONTINGENCY	-						-					
8150915	COMMUNITY REQUESTS	5,000	5,000	X			Contribution to Eagle Valley Land Trust to help raise \$3.5 million to purchase sweetwater lake for public use (10k-removed) - Added \$5k for Will's Thrill Trail to Hardscrabble Trails Coalition	-	-		x		Contribution to annual monitoring efforts on Abrams Creek and Spud Cellar Open Space Properties.
8150920	TRANSFER TO GENERAL FUND	-						-					
8150930	TRANSFER TO WATER	-						-					
8150940	TRANSFER TO SALES TAX CIF	-						-					
8150950	TRANSFER TO CAPITAL IMP. FUND	-						-					
TOTAL		97,113	97,113	6,538	90,575	-		193,810	193,810	10,000	183,810	-	

Summary & Detail Agree

2020 Revised Budget is =< Original Budget

One Time & On Going = Total Budget

GOOD

GOOD

GOOD

Summary & Detail Agree

2021 Budget is within Target Budget

One Time & On Going = Total Budget

GOOD

ERROR

GOOD

TARGET BUDGET	
WAGES&BENEFITS	120,233
ALL OTHER ON GOING EXPENDITURES	25,294
INCREASED CONTRACTS	-
CARRY OVER FROM 2020	-
TARGET	145,527

OPEN SPACE - CAPITAL EXPENDITURES													
8150710	EQUIPMENT PURCHASE	-											
8150715	ACQUISITIONS	10,000	10,000	x			Ridgeway Acquisition	-					
8150730	BRUSH CREEK INV. & ENHANCEMENT	-	-	X			Eagle Ranch Wildlife Committee Capital Project - Partnership Funding-Yet to be specified capital projects such as Brush Creek structural habitat improvments, additional fishing ponds, etc.	-					
8150747	TRAIL CONSTRUCTION	-	-		X		New trail building on East Eagle SRMA	27,960	17,960	X			Adrams Creek Property Trail Improvements (50% Covered by CO Youth Conservation Core Grant) - If Grant is not received project will be delayed
8150751	DOG PARK IMPROVEMENTS	-						10,000	X				Haymaker II Trail - Brush Creek Valley Ranch
8150752	EAGLE RIVER PLANNING/GYPSUM	-											
8150753	EAGLE RIVER PARK IMPROVEMENTS	-											
8150755	SWALLOW OIL PROPERTY	-											
8150756	POOL & ICE CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS	-						17,000					BMX Starting Gate
8150757	CAMPGROUND	-	-				Campground moved to CTF						
TOTAL		10,000	10,000	10,000	-	-		27,960	44,960	27,960	-	-	
TOTAL		107,113	107,113	16,538	90,575			221,770	238,770	37,960	183,810	-	

Brush Creek Valley Ranch & Open Space Management Plan

Supplement - Ridgway Inholding Parcel

Property Overview

Eagle County purchased the 131-acre inholding (the “Property”), on July 22, 2020. The Property contains outstanding wildlife habitat, critical riparian zones and Brush Creek corridor, an increased opportunity for dispersed recreation, and the potential for sustainable agricultural operations.

Upon closing, Eagle County granted a conservation easement to Eagle Valley Land Trust (EVLTL) to ensure its conservation values are protected in perpetuity. The Property will be incorporated into the management of Brush Creek Valley Ranch and Open Space by an amended conservation easement and management plan update.

Acquisition

The Property met specific selection criteria as required by Open Space ballot language. Open Space staff and the citizens Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC) recognized the conservation values of the Property and made a recommendation to the Eagle County Board of County Commissioners for funding consideration. All primary Open Space Selection Criteria were identified to have a *high* (scale: *low-medium-high*) value by staff and OSAC:

- Physical and Visual Buffers
- Access to Streams, Rivers, Public Lands and Dispersed Recreation Opportunities
- Sensitive Lands & Environments
- Regional Heritage, Agriculture and Ranching
- Wildlife, Wildlife Habitat and Migration Routes
- Scenic Landscapes and Vistas

Eagle County purchased the Property using the dedicated Open Space Fund which was reauthorized by voters in 2018, along with significant support from many partners.

Total Acquisition Cost: \$2.306 million

- \$1,310,000 plus transaction costs — Eagle County Open Space Fund
- \$700,000 — GOCO
- \$200,000 —Eagle Ranch Wildlife Committee
- \$13,300 — Eagle Valley Land Trust
- \$10,000 — Town of Eagle
- \$10,000 -- Colorado Parks and Wildlife Habitat Partnership Program (towards transaction costs)

Existing Conditions

For over 100 years the Property has been in agricultural use. Though once part of a larger working landscape in the Brush Creek Valley, the Property is dramatically more diverse, vibrant, and resilient to natural processes. The relatively unique ecological diversity along Brush Creek can be attributed to land management and agricultural practices.

- Irrigated meadows: roughly 50% of the Property is irrigated hay meadows and in excellent condition. These meadows are located between Brush Creek Rd and Brush Creek, at the base of the hillsides of the eastern side of the Property, and along the northern border with BCVROS.
- Riparian wetland complex: roughly 47% of the Property is a central riparian corridor and 1.1 miles of Brush Creek as it winds through the Property from south to north. This corridor is ecologically diverse hosting multiple species of plants and animals. At points, this wetland complex reaches nearly the entire width of the Property.

- Upland shrublands: less than 1% of the Property, these sage dominated areas rise above the Brush Creek valley and are located along the eastern border of the Property leading towards the adjacent private property.

Agriculture:

The Property has historically been utilized for hay farming and grazing livestock. Cattle activities ended on the Property in 1984 and were replaced by seasonal horse pasture grazing. Irrigated hay meadows and pasture encompass roughly 49% of the Property and rely on flood irrigation from the Hollingsworth Potter and Love & White ditches. Significant water rights were acquired with the purchase and tied to the Property via the conservation easement. Groundwater lies at or just below the surface in many areas making some pasture seasonally unable to support livestock or haying.

Plants and Wildlife:

The Property hosts a diverse array of plants and animals and high-quality habitat. The 1.1 mile stretch of Brush Creek supports a diversity of aquatic macroinvertebrate and includes cold water riffle-run habitat suitable for brown and rainbow trout. Significant riparian overstory consisting of thin-leaf alder and cottonwood provide forage and habitat for a variety of songbirds and migratory species. High quality wildlife habitat for large mammals including game species exists throughout the Property, including areas mapped by CPW as severe winter range and winter concentration areas for mule deer and elk.

Proposed Uses and Opportunities:

Agricultural:

Agricultural operations have been managed by the existing BCVROS lessee through an agreement with Eagle County since the acquisition. Previously held grazing leases were extinguished with the transfer to County ownership. Open Space intends to continue the Property's agricultural operations including hay production and grazing managed by the existing BCVROS lessee. This would incorporate the agricultural management of the Property into the existing management priorities and projects as stated in the BCVROS management plan. Subleases for agricultural operations on the Property and/or BCVROS may be executed by the lessee on the leased portion(s) with approval by Eagle County Open Space. All leased acreage is subject to an annual operating plan that is mutually agreed upon by lessee and Eagle County Open Space, which may include a grazing plan or other considerations that may regulate or limit the intensity of agricultural activities. Other agricultural opportunities may be contemplated at the Property's ranch headquarters during the Property's management planning process.

Recreational/Public access:

Currently, there are no trails located on the Property and previous recreational access was limited to private guided fishing on Brush Creek via agreements between the private landowner and local outfitters. Existing routes on the Property are two-track dirt roads primarily used for ranching and ditch maintenance activities. Though the Property does not border federal public lands, there are possible trail connections to BCVROS. As stated in the BCVROS management plan, hunting will not be allowed on the Property unless via a "special hunt" (i.e. disabled veteran, youth, etc.) prescribed and managed by Colorado Parks and Wildlife. A Recreation Easement through the adjacent private property was granted to allow for pass-through, dispersed access to nearby BLM lands. Proposed public access and recreation opportunities can be seen on the Ridgway Inholding Access Map attached to this document. Staff has identified the following opportunities for access and recreation:

- Limited access for walk and wade fishing on the Property is proposed via the BCVROS main trailhead area.
- Extension of a "community trail" (trail section exists at BCVROS's south end toward Frost Creek Mountain Club) paralleling Brush Creek and Brush Creek Road that connects to the Town of Eagle. Alignment is approximate and would require further study.

Any proposed or additional recreational opportunities will require additional planning and funding to implement. Impacts to wildlife, sensitive ecological areas, neighboring property owners, and agricultural operation, should be assessed prior to implementation of these proposed recreational projects.

Eagle County has requested: We would like to hear your thoughts on the proposed public access, agricultural operations, and/or other uses. Are there other considerations you would like to see included in the planning process?