

## Change in open lands tax distribution advances

Larimer County would receive larger share under proposal favored by advisory group

**By Saja Hindi**

*Reporter-Herald Staff Writer*

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Loveland resident Cody Sewell lands a fish while fly-fishing Thursday along the bank of a pond at the recently-opened River's Edge Natural Area. River's Edge was the largest recipient of the city's share of open lands spending in 2013. (Steve Stoner / Loveland Reporter-Herald)

The Larimer County Open Lands Advisory Board favors a new allocation for the county's open lands sales tax and presented that recommendation Thursday to the Larimer Board of County Commissioners. It decreases the share cities such as Loveland would receive.

Commissioners will decide July 29 whether to place that recommendation on the November ballot.

Through a citizen-led initiative, the "Help Preserve Open Lands Sales Tax" was approved by voters in November 1995, and in 1999, citizens voted to extend the tax until 2018 and establish bonding authority for Larimer County. The quarter-cent sales tax goes toward land acquisition, management and maintenance of open space, natural areas, wildlife habitats, regional parks and trails. Officials were able to preserve 43,000 acres through the Open Lands Program in Larimer County as a result of having the tax money to spend.

Currently, the cities in Larimer split 58 percent of the sales tax revenue, and the county receives 42 percent. However, an open lands sales tax committee has been working nearly a year on a few different options for future allocations, according to Program Manager Kerri Rollins, and of the three scenarios the committee came up with, the advisory board recommended — on a 7-1 vote — one that would increase the county's share to 50 percent and the lower the cities' share. It also extends the tax for 20 years.

"All recent surveys taken of our Larimer County residents tell of astronomical support and satisfaction for what this tax has accomplished over the past 18 years," she said at Thursday's meeting. When the tax first started, the division of revenue made sense, she said. But as Larimer County has grown its program, acquired more spaces to manage and developed partnerships with the cities, she said it was time to make a change.

County Commissioner Tom Donnelly agreed.

"I think that what the language of the original tax envisioned was a brand new county department. It was just starting out and probably appropriate. The county didn't really have any open lands," he said.

K-Lynn Cameron, chairwoman of the citizens campaign for the tax, attended Thursday's meeting and said she was part of the initiatives in 1994 and 1998 — the second while employed by the county as its open lands director.

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"We have been working together to piece together a proposal that really takes advantage that Larimer County has one of the top open lands programs in the state," she said. Like Donnelly, she thought the initial allocation for revenues worked for the time.

"The county was just setting up its program," she said. "Now, it's 18 years later, and the county has just excelled."

The only person who voted against the proposal at Wednesday's advisory board meeting was the representative from Loveland, City Councilman Hugh McKean.

McKean said the cut in funding to the city would have a negative impact, especially because he didn't think a dedicated open space sales tax could pass for Loveland such as the one Fort Collins has in place.

Other members also had concerns about the cuts to cities but ultimately voted in favor of the change because they said the county needs the money and because partnerships with the county could in turn benefit the cities.

"We have a good collaboration model ... second to none," Rollins said.

Rollins said surveys indicate residents want to see more open space, and the Open Lands Master Plan details those recommendations.

The ballot language puts restrictions on amount of the county's share that can be used toward acquisition and restoration as well as long-term management and development. The cities don't have to follow a specific formula for their funds.

The make-up of the Open Lands Advisory Board would change as well if voters approve the measure.

Representation would change to "at least nine citizens with geographic representation substantially in proportion to population and sales tax generation," according to the proposed language. The Board of County Commissioners will appoint members on the board, and Fort Collins, Loveland, Estes Park and Berthoud would have at least one seat on the board.

Although there has been some pushback about the change in revenue sharing, the county partners with cities on many projects, and so advisory board members said the new proposal would further benefit the cities.

"They're all very supportive of the collaborations and support we've had over the years," Rollins said.

Donnelly said he wants to reach a model that is reasonable for both revenue and board makeup.

"The last thing we want to do is fight with our municipal partners. We want to find something that satisfies them and satisfies our needs as well," Donnelly said.

## City, county officials debate open spaces sales tax future

City of Loveland would lose \$264,000 a year hit until county proposal

**By Jessica Maher**

*Reporter-Herald Staff Writer*

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Cam Vincent rides along on a trail Tuesday while mountain biking with Brenden Wingard and Phil Drake, not pictured, at Devil's Backbone Open Space west of Loveland. The open space is one that is maintained by Larimer County and county officials are advocating for a new split to the open spaces sales tax to provide more funds for county properties. (Steve Stoner / Loveland Reporter-Herald)

Loveland city councilors had a look Tuesday at a hotly debated open spaces sales tax proposal that city officials fear would have a detrimental impact on a coveted program.

County voters are expected to see a request this fall to extend the Larimer County Help Preserve Open Spaces sales tax. The tax allocates funds to every municipality in the county, currently with about 43 percent of the taxes distributed to the county and 57 distributed to municipalities including Loveland.

County staff and members of the county Open Lands Advisory Board have advocated for a new scenario for the sales tax — a 50/50 split between the county and the cities.

The county received unanimous support from the Fort Collins City Council Tuesday for that proposal. But because of the nature of Loveland's program, and the lack of a local open space tax, officials are concerned about the impact on the city's open lands program.

"The 50/50 split is troublesome because it actually has us taking steps backwards with our process here," Mayor Cecil Gutierrez said.

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Under the proposal, Loveland would receive \$264,000 less annually during the 25-year term of the extension, city Parks and Recreation Department Director Gary Havener told councilors.

The city's Open Lands Advisory Commission unanimously opposed the 50/50 split scenario during its meeting last month.

During Tuesday's study session, county representatives shared the table with the council and commissioners from the city's Open Lands Advisory Commission.

Key to the tax extension — in every scenario that's been proposed — is reducing the amount the county is required to apply to land acquisition. From the county's current share, the 70 percent mandated for land acquisition has tied the county's hands, Larimer County Commissioner Tom Donnelly said.

The new proposals would drop the level for county property acquisitions down to 35 percent.

"That's more a viable solution to us as a long-term management strategy going forward," Donnelly said. "The county has a mature program now so I think this is a responsible way to go forward."

But some councilors asked why Loveland had to take a financial hit in addition. Discussion of changing the make-up of the county open lands board with citizens was also met with discord.

"The thought of taking away our local control, our local funding and our local representation sounds a little bit outrageous to me," councilor John Fogle.

Donnelly asked councilors to consider alternatives, including expiration of the tax and a loss of maintenance of county-run spaces like Devil's Backbone.

Councilors continued to discuss the tax past deadline on Tuesday, but were not expected to take action.

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## Future of city's open space funds on agenda

Proposed scenario would reduce Loveland's distribution about \$10 million over 25 years

**By Jessica Maher**

*Reporter-Herald Staff Writer*

POSTED: 07/05/2014 05:24:12 PM MDT

### If you go

**What:** Loveland City Council study session.

**When:** 6:30 p.m. Tuesday.

**Where:** City Hall's Council Chamber, 500 E. Third St.

**Watch it live:** Televised on city cable channel 16; streamed online at [cityofloveland.org/lovelandmeets](http://cityofloveland.org/lovelandmeets).

The Loveland City Council is expected to provide input Tuesday on the future of the county sales tax that is the primary funding mechanism for the city's Open Lands Program.

The Larimer County Help Preserve Open Spaces sales tax, which allocates funds to each municipality in the county based on population or sales tax revenue generated, is due to expire in 2018. County voters are expected to see a request this fall to extend the sales tax, but what that request looks like is growing to be the center of a heated dispute.

Currently, the county receives about 43 percent of the taxes generated by the sales tax, with about 57 percent distributed to municipalities.

With a November ballot measure, county staff and members of the county lands board have advocated changing the distribution to a 50/50 split. By 2019, the county will need additional money to manage and maintain existing properties, officials have said.

The scenario would reduce Loveland's distribution by an estimated \$264,000 in 2019 and by \$9 million to \$13 million over the 25-year term of the tax, according to a memo to council from Parks and Recreation Department Director Gary Havener.

"A reduction in funding as proposed ... could adversely impact many of the municipal programs' efforts and weaken the overall effort and municipal activity in open lands," Havener wrote. "There is value to listening to the citizens when they say they are pleased with current open space efforts and plans."

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During a meeting last month, the Loveland Open Lands Advisory Commission unanimously opposed the change. Commissioners instead recommended a renewal scenario that keeps funding distribution as it currently exists.

According to projections from city staff, the greatest impact of the county's proposal is that the Loveland Open Lands Program would deplete its reserve account — which is used for long-term maintenance — by 2039.

"The impact is not just \$10 million," city councilor Hugh McKean said of the county's proposal during the recent Loveland Open Lands Advisory Commission meeting. "It is a visceral change to the way that we do things over time."

After receiving feedback from the municipalities and the county's open lands board, the Larimer County Board of County Commissioners is expected to decide on ballot language for the tax extension on July 29. The Fort Collins City Council will be discussing the measure on Tuesday night, as well.

The council will also hear an update on the direction and vision of the city's open lands program during Tuesday's study session.

Also on the agenda Tuesday is a nine-month flood recovery update.

## Chimney Hollow to host 'BioBlitz'

**By Shelley Widhalm**

*Reporter-Herald Staff Writer*

POSTED: 07/10/2014 08:23:59 PM MDT

Before Chimney Hollow Open Space opens to the public, Larimer County Natural Resources wants to collect data on the plant and animal species that inhabit the 1,800 acres of public land.

To do that, the department is hosting a first-time 24-hour BioBlitz species observation Friday night into Saturday of fungi, aquatic microbes, plants, reptiles, amphibians, moths, butterflies, birds and wildlife. The public will be able to participate in some of the observations on Saturday.

"We really wanted to have the event to engage the public out in the field (to show) how science and conservation take place and how decisions are made," said Heather Young, education program coordinator for Larimer County Natural Resources.

Volunteer scientists will work in species groups to gather data on the total number of species and the diversity within each group, using cameras, binoculars, physical observations and catch-and-release methods.

The scientists will gather data about reptiles and amphibians on Friday and the other species on Saturday. Six of the 10 groups working on Saturday will be open to the public.

"We tried to pick things that are engaging and hands-on for the public to participate in," Young said.

The data gathered by the groups will be used to make decisions on how Chimney Hollow will be used and to develop management and recreation plans to inform those decisions, such as trail placement and recreation opportunities, Young said. The property, purchased in 2004 by the county and Great Outdoors Colorado, is not yet open to the public, she said.

"The open space won't be open until decisions on the reservoir have been made," Young said, referring to Chimney Hollow Reservoir on the property.

Larimer County Natural Resources is hosting a fair 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday with science-based activities, such as hiking, writing in field journals and making species observations. There will be booths from local conservation and natural resources groups, such as Project Budburst and the Colorado Native Plant Society.

The fair will be at the Larimer County Natural Resources Administrative Offices, northwest of Carter Lake in Loveland.

"It brings the public closer to what scientists do on a day-to-day basis and on what conservation means," Young said.

## Counting species for future trails

Larimer County Natural Resources holds first-ever BioBlitz

**By Shelley Widhalm**

*Reporter-Herald Staff Writer*

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Jeffrey Boring, resource specialist with Larimer County Natural Resources, colors in the segments of a caterpillar to represent the number of species scientists and volunteers identified Saturday during the first-ever BioBlitz at Chimney Hollow Open Space. (*Shelley Widhalm / Loveland Reporter-Herald*)

Fort Collins zoologist John Sovell found common hops Saturday morning at Chimney Hollow Open Space but not the hop azure caterpillar that feeds on them.

The hop azure, a rare form of butterfly that lives one to two weeks, can be found mid-June to mid-July along the Front Range from Colorado Springs to southern Wyoming. Chimney Hollow seemed to be the perfect feeding ground for the caterpillar that feeds only on common hops before becoming a butterfly.

"There's the potential we missed the flight period," said Sovell, a zoologist with the Colorado Natural Heritage Program at Colorado State University, which collects data about rare species of plants and animals to help local governments develop conservation plans.

Sovell and two volunteers spent three hours conducting a species count of butterflies and moths at one of the drainages at Chimney Hollow, finding eight common butterfly and four moth species. The species group might have found more, but there was cloud cover and drizzly conditions that are not ideal for butterflies that prefer dry, warm conditions for feeding, sunning and flying.

"A lot of them were flying up the drainage and nectaring on flowers. Some were sunning on rocks to warm up their muscles to be more agile on their flights," Sovell said.

Sovell led one of 10 species groups for a first-time, 24-hour BioBlitz species observation of wildlife, birds, reptiles, amphibians, plants, aquatic microbes and fungi at Chimney Hollow, hosted by Larimer County Natural Resources. Volunteer scientists led the groups of three to 10 people, bringing in volunteers for more than half of them to help collect data on the

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species that inhabit the 1,800 acres of public land of ponderosa pine, sandstone cliffs and streams.



Don Hunter, science director at the Rocky Mountain Cat Conservancy, demonstrates how to use a remote camera to photograph and collect data on wildlife during the first-ever BioBlitz event Saturday at Chimney Hollow Open Space. (*Shelley Widhalm / Loveland Reporter-Herald*)

The species groups identified more than 300 species, including 175 plants, 35 birds, 63 diatoms or microscopic organisms, 15 algae, five insects, one amphibian (a chorus frog), one reptile (a sagebrush lizard) and two forms of wildlife (elk and mule deer).

"It gives the public the opportunity to see science in action and the effort it takes and the skill set it takes to complete an inventory of a property," said Jeffrey Boring, resource specialist at Larimer County Natural Resources.

The species inventory will be used to help identify where to place trails and create recreational opportunities at Chimney Hollow without impacting any of the species there, Boring said.

"It's not developed for the public yet," Boring said about Chimney Hollow. "We scheduled this event to give them a glimpse of what's out there."

CSU graduate student Evan Thomas surveyed diatoms and algae in four different streams two weeks ago to prepare for the BioBlitz, having better access to fuller streambeds earlier in the season. He made observations of his data collection using a microscope, finding what he is certain is a new species of diatom, he said.

"It's nothing I've seen before. It was very unique," said Thomas, who is studying diatom taxonomy in CSU's Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

Don Hunter, science director at the Rocky Mountain Cat Conservancy, had a booth set up during the fair part of the BioBlitz event to show off the equipment and photos from his observations of wildlife. He and his partner, Caroline Krumm, director of the conservancy, use remote cameras to photograph and identify species along the Front Range, including Chimney Hollow where there are three cameras that their species group used for the wildlife count.

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The cameras contain an infrared heat sensor that's triggered to take photographs from a combination of heat and motion caused by the movement of animals passing in front of them.

"It's completely non-invasive," Hunter said. "There's nothing making them alter their behaviors."

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## Woman airlifted off Devil's Backbone trail for heat exhaustion

*Reporter-Herald News Staff*

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A 55-year-old woman suffering heat exhaustion was airlifted off a Devil's Backbone trail Thursday afternoon, after Loveland Fire Rescue Authority crews battled heat and rough terrain to reach her.

The woman was located about 2 1/2 miles up the trail off Hidden Valley trailhead, according to Loveland Fire Rescue Authority Battalion Chief Michael Cerovski. Engine 3, squad 2, truck crew 6 and a paramedic responded and it took about an hour to access the patient. Crews first used a utility transportation vehicle on the trail and then had to go on foot for the last quarter of a mile, Cerovski said.

Because of the condition of the patient and the terrain where she was located, an Air Link helicopter was called in and transported the woman to Medical Center of the Rockies. Cerovski did not know her status.

A paramedic involved in the rescue was also treated on the scene for heat exhaustion, Cerovski said.

## Campsites packed for July 4 holiday

A few campsites that are first-come-first-serve could still have spots left, but officials can't make any guarantees

***By Saja Hindi***

*Reporter-Herald Staff Writer*

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### Tips for campers

Bears come out any time of day. Store food in car trunks, hard-sided canister if backcountry camping (required) or in food storage lockers if provided. If food is not stored properly, campers could receive a citation.

Fireworks are strictly prohibited.

Check pet requirements for parks and leash requirements.

Respect quiet hours.

Leave campsites clean.

Bring the right equipment and enough layers of clothing — it gets cold at night.

Never bring wood from another state — it could spread invasive species.

State parks only allow 3.2 percent alcoholic beverages.

Build rings of rocks around fires.

Sources: Jennifer Churchill, Colorado Parks and Wildlife; Grant Pardington, Arapahoe and Roosevelt National Forests; and Kyle Patterson, Rocky Mountain National Park.

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Campgrounds at Rocky Mountain National Park, Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and at the 42 Colorado state parks are full for the July Fourth weekend, and have been for months, with a few exceptions.

According to U.S. Forest Service Public Information Officer Reghan Cloudman, all of the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests' reservable sites are filled, and while some of the first-come-first-serve sites have availability, she expects those to be filling up Thursday. One option is Jacks Gulch campground on Pingree Park Road, which has about 60 available campsites. Cloudman said because it's not right off of Colo. 14 or by Red Feather Lakes, it might have a little more availability than the other sites.

The other option for campers is dispersed camping off of Pingree Park Road as well as off Crown Point Road and along Laramie River Road.

"You can park on the side of the road ... All you have to do is make sure your car stays within 300 feet of the road," Grant Pardington, a summer intern at the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests' information services, said.

Pardington said because there are no fire bans in effect right now in Colorado, campers can build fires as long as they are 200 feet from any road, trail or body of water.

For more specific information on the campsites at Arapaho and Roosevelt Forests, go to [fs.usda.gov/arp](https://fs.usda.gov/arp).

At Rocky Mountain National Park, campers have two options, backcountry camping and frontcountry camping. Frontcountry camping is camping in areas that are more easily accessible by car.

Crystal Brindle, visitor use assistant at the backcountry office, said space is tight on the east side of the park because the Dunraven Trailhead is closed due to flooding, so campsites filled up fast.

"We are very, very busy this summer, more than other summers," Brindle said.

Kyle Patterson, Rocky Mountain National Park public information officer, said three of the five frontcountry campgrounds are by reservation, and those are filled for the weekend. The other two first-come-first-serve are at Longs Peak — tent only — and Timber Creek. But

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Patterson said she thinks Longs Peak will be full by the end of Wednesday with only three sites left and Timber Creek could be filled shortly after.

When the holiday falls on a weekend or close to the weekend and when the weather is expected to be nice, Patterson said the spots fill up fast.

"We always encourage folks to start booking in February ... We know that particularly since the Fourth falls on a Friday, a lot of folks usually com up the day before so that they can get a campsite," she said. "Usually they're booked by March or April."

For more information on Rocky Mountain National Park camping, go to [nps.gov](https://www.nps.gov).

The same is the case for the 42 state parks, according to Colorado Parks and Wildlife Information Office Jennifer Churchill.

For more information on particular state parks, campers can visit [cpw.state.co.us](https://cpw.state.co.us).

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## Officers urge boaters to use common sense

Colorado Parks and Wildlife officers, Larimer County rangers advise boaters against boating while intoxicated, participate in nationwide campaign to inform on BUIs.

***By Saja Hindi***

*Reporter-Herald Staff Writer*

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For some Colorado residents, Independence Day weekend is a time to get together with family and friends and go boating. But long, warm, holiday weekends also mark a time in increased arrests for boating under the influence, so officers are participating in a nationwide campaign called "Operation Dry Water" today through Sunday.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife officers will be on the water, aiming to remind people of the dangers of boating while intoxicated from alcohol or drugs. Larimer County officers also received help from the state agency's traveling patrol to provide extra patrol at Horsetooth Reservoir and Carter Lake last weekend.

Kris Wahlers, Colorado Parks and Wildlife boating safety program manager, said officers have been participating in the program since 2009.

"It's a good national campaign cracking down on boating and drinking," he said.

Wahlers said in 2013, of 51 boating accidents, 10 involved alcohol, which is about the average of previous years and a slight decrease from 2012.

"Every year, we talk to more and more boaters ... It always starts with education," he said.

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Larimer County's Natural Resources Education Program Coordinator Rob Novak said the county steps up staffing to meet demand, especially on Father's Day weekend and Independence Day weekend.

"We want folks to be safe, but we want people to have a good time out on the water," Novak said. "But being drunk doesn't really make that conducive to anyone."

According to Novak, in 2013, Larimer County rangers made 10 BUI arrests. So far in 2014, they have made two. Rangers put in 1,786 hours on the water.

"We've been pretty lucky this year so far, but we also haven't had the high use just yet. It hasn't been super hot yet, but we're expecting it to warm up later this week," he said.

Novak said rangers will conduct sobriety tests if they suspect a boater is drunk and operating the boat unsafely, but they will also be checking to make sure everyone on the boat has life jackets, especially children. And Novak said rangers will be conducting general safety checks because many times, boaters will exhibit the same signs of being intoxicated when they've been out in the sun and water all day from all the compounding factors and fatigue.

If that happens, officers "might suggest that someone else operate the water craft and give that person a break," Novak said.

Boaters should just be aware of what's going on surrounding them, Novak said.

"It's a 360-degree environment, so you have to be watching all around you. Boats don't have breaks," he said.

Boaters will see informational signs near entrance stations and an increased presence of patrol boats on the water this weekend.

"It's never OK to drink and drive, but we want to raise people's awareness this weekend," Wahlers said.

In the past, CPW has used more emotional appeals to voters, but Wahlers said the feedback hasn't been positive, so this year, officers will use more facts and statistics.

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"It's kind of fine line because we still want to encourage people to go boating ... (but) while they're out there, we want them to do it safely," he said.

Wahlers urges boaters to use common sense.

"Everybody's known for a long time that it's not OK to drink and drive a car, but I think people look at it differently with boats — they look at it as more recreational," he said.

He also reminds boaters that while BUIs don't only apply to alcohol but to drugs as well. The alcohol limit is 0.08, and while the state has set the nanogram limit for marijuana while driving, officials haven't set one for boating yet, according to Wahlers. However, Wahlers said if officers prove a person is operating a boat unsafely because of drug use, he or she will still receive a BUI citation. He hopes the state will address the limit for boating next year.

Larimer County officers haven't come across a situation with drugs on a boat yet, Novak said, but "impaired is impaired."

"Obviously the same rules apply to drug use as in the rest of the areas," he said.

## Larimer County seeking input on Open Lands Master Plan

BY [NFN](#) ON JUNE 27, 2014 IN [DISPATCHES](#) · [ADD COMMENT](#)

In 2013, Larimer County and all its cities and towns partnered to complete a regional study of land conservation, outdoor recreation, and natural resources stewardship.

The study, Our Lands – Our Future: examined citizen preferences for conservation and recreation, analyzed the economic benefits of open space in Larimer County, and developed an online interactive mapping tool and a financial model to help predict future funding scenarios. The study provided a wealth of information and has been recognized nationally, receiving awards from the Society for Outdoor Recreation Professionals and the Colorado chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

On the heels of Our Lands – Our Future, Larimer County Natural Resources is updating the 2001 Open Lands Master Plan. The County kicked off the process at the end of April, and is now prepared to share the recommendations of the new master plan with the public.

The purpose of the meeting is to collect citizen input on the preliminary recommendations for the new Open Lands Master Plan that will guide the County's Open Lands Program for the next decade. This come-and-go style event is free and open to the public. Food and refreshments will be provided.

Meeting Details:

July 9, 5 to 7:30 p.m.

Loveland Public Library, Gertrude Scott Room  
300 N. Adams Ave, Loveland

## Hermit Park post-flood road repair proceeding on schedule

*For the Trail-Gazette*

POSTED: 06/16/2014 10:05:35 AM MDT

Flood repairs to the roads at Hermit Park Open Space are proceeding on schedule, according to Larimer County officials.

There will be limited access to the area beginning on the July 4th weekend and other weekends during July until the project is complete.

Camping reservations for the July 4 and subsequent weekends can be made beginning at 8 a.m. on Sunday, June 15 by [visitingwww.larimercamping.com](http://visitingwww.larimercamping.com) or calling 1-800-397-7795.

Availability will include Hermit's Hollow and Bobcat Campgrounds and select cabins. Visitors can begin accessing the area for both overnight and day use at 8 a.m. on Thursday, July 3. The area will close again at 6 p.m. on Sunday July 6, but will re-open the following weekend. The Kruger Rock Trail will be open, but there will not be any public access beyond the pavilion area, therefore no access to the Homestead Meadows Trail from Hermit Park Open Space will be available until repairs are complete.

As July 4th is a holiday weekend, the standard reservation rules will apply. Reservations must be for three days, Thursday July 3rd through the night of Saturday, July 5. During this period of time water will only be available at the Open Space entrance.

Road construction will continue during the week, and the project be completed later in July, when a full opening of the area will take place.

The most current information about Hermit Park Open Space will be available on <http://larimer.org/naturalresources/hermitpark.cfm>.

## County plans open lands open house

Coloradoan staff 11:29 p.m. MDT June 29, 2014



*(Photo: Erin Hooley/The Coloradoan )*

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Larimer County residents are invited to a July 9 open house to discuss the county's update to its open lands master plan.

The county is updating its 2001 plan for open spaces and is sharing information and seeking input during the drop-in open house held from 5-7:30 p.m. at the Loveland Public Library Gertrude Scott Room, 300 N. Adams Ave. Input on preliminary recommendations will help form

the plan that will guide the county's open lands program for the next decade, according to a release.

The event is free to attend, and food and refreshments will be served.