# News from BOULDER COUNTY NATURE ASSOCIATION

Our mission: To conserve resilient natural ecosystems in our region through science, education, and advocacy



### **Upper Watershed Ecosystems Tour**



#### DATE AND TIME

Saturday, August 19, 2023 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM MDT

#### **LOCATION**

Camp St. Malo 10758 CO-7 Allenspark, CO 80510

Do you know what a healthy watershed looks like? Join us on a tour of upper watershed ecosystems as we investigate!

This a a rare chance to see the area around St. Malo west of the Peak-to-Peak Highway and to learn about the upper watershed and the forests in this area. As we all know, climate change is having a significant impact on both, and this class will point out ways to manage both the watershed and the forest in the face of these changes.

More information

Register Now

## North American Bears – Evolution, Behavior, and Population Status

Instructor: W. Perry Conway



Indoor class: Thursday, September 14, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Field class: Saturday, September 16, 6:30 am-11:00 am

(carpool to various sites)

Tuition: \$75 total for the 2-day class

Registration opens soon (August 5 for BCNA members and August 8 for everyone)

Bears are a wilderness icon. North America has three of the world's eight species. Boulder County, at one time, had both grizzlies and black bears, now we only have the black. Learn the natural history of all three North American species through a beautifully illustrated classroom session followed by a field trip. Food items, habitat needs, and bear signs will all be covered, as well as where to go to view and photograph the three North American species safely and effectively.

# It's time to comment on the East Boulder Creek Site Management Plan Due Monday, July 31st

**Link to Survey** 

Management of the East Boulder Creek site, 1,377 acres of land in eastern Boulder County that includes the confluence of Boulder and Coal Creeks, five miles of streams, 12 ponds, and four agricultural leases, is now in the planning process. We strongly encourage you to share your thoughts and recommendations with Boulder County planners by Monday, July 31.

Suggestions for commenting and further information:

- Make your answers meaningful. To do this, write in the comment boxes. These
  comments will be synthesized and categorized for Boulder County Planning
  Commission, the Boulder County Commissioners, and the public. They do have an
  impact on the planning process. To see how this will be done, look at how the first
  survey was handled: <u>Survey 1 Report</u> and <u>Survey 1 Appendix</u>.
- Use the Boulder County Nature Association's mission, to conserve resilient natural ecosystems in our region through science, education, and advocacy, to help focus your comments. How should science guide the management plans? In what ways can future management of this site further education and understanding of the natural world?
- Another approach is to use the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan as the basis for your comments. See the Guiding Principles of the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan below and look at the link to <u>quotes from the Countywide</u> <u>Goals in the Comprehensive Plan</u> to identify key points to include in your comments.
- Consider for inclusion points from Boulder Audubon's <u>detailed list of points</u>
- Study the maps and comment about what really matters to you wildlife, nature, fishing, easy access for everyone, trails away from water, access to water, observation blinds. What do you value?

Most important: Take action and submit your comments. Yes, real people do read them, think about them, and learn from them.

Guiding Principles: Boulder County Comprehensive Plan

## II. GUIDING PRINCIPLES In shaping and navigating our future, Boulder County supports the following Guiding Principles: Consider and weigh the interconnections among social, environmental, and economic areas in all decisions. Encourage and promote the respectful stewardship and preservation of our natural systems and environment by pursuing goals and policies that achieve significant reductions in our environmental footprint. Create policies and make decisions that are responsive to issues of social equity, fairness, and access to community resources for all county residents. Encourage and support a dynamic, stable, and flexible local economy that distinguishes between urban and rural economies and directs uses to appropriate locations. Maintain the rural character and function of the unincorporated area of Boulder County by protecting environmental resources, agricultural uses, open spaces, vistas, and the distinction between urban and rural areas of the county. Encourage and promote regional cooperation and coordination in working with other entities and jurisdictions. Actively engage the public in the planning process. BOULDER COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN Guiding Principles GP-1

### The Annual Ecosymposium is Returning!

# IT STARTS AT THE TOP: THE INTERTWINED FATES OF WATER AND ECOSYSTEMS IN THE CLIMATE CRISIS

September 23, 2023

9 am - 3 pm

Center for Sustainable Landscapes and Communities Sustainability, Energy and Environment Complex (SEEC) University of Colorado Boulder 4001 Discovery Drive, Boulder



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Please consider renewing today if you have not already done so.
New members are always welcome!

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