





REFINING THE PROPOSED REFUGE TRAIL SYSTEM

Please consider the following topics and share your feedback with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service). The Service invites you to draw your ideas on one of these 11x17 handouts or the larger trail system maps, post your comments using the sticky notes, or fill out a comment card.

- 1

**Location of Trails**

  - Consider the proposed trail corridors.
  - Review access points and regional trail connections.
- 2

**Trail Design, Trail Management, and Trail Uses**

  - How can the trail system accommodate multiple types of users?
  - Share ideas on the desired trail experience and types of trail (e.g., surfacing, width, etc.)?
- 3

**Trail-Related Facilities**

  - Consider parking, trailheads, signs, overlooks, and other trail-related facilities that would enhance the refuge experience.

If you have additional comments or ideas related to the future trail system at Rocky Flats NWR, feel free to email them to the Service at: [Rockyflats@fws.gov](mailto:Rockyflats@fws.gov)



BACKGROUND INFO ON TRAIL PLANNING FOR ROCKY FLATS NWR

- A

**Rocky Flats NWR will be open to public use.**

Public use was envisioned and authorized in the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge Act of 2001. Following the passage of this federal legislation, The Service initiated a Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact (CCP/EIS) process in 2002. During this multi-year planning effort (2002-2005), the Service worked very closely with partners, the public, and other interested stakeholders to determine future visitor uses and management approaches for Rocky Flats NWR. This collaborative CCP/EIS process included extensive public involvement and reaffirmed that Rocky Flats NWR should be open to visitor uses.
- B

**A multi-use trail system is envisioned for Rocky Flats NWR.**

The 2005 [Rocky Flats NWR Comprehensive Conservation Plan](#) included trail planning. That Plan stipulates the following related to trails:

  - The majority of the trails will follow converted road corridors away from riparian areas. Trails within the Rock Creek drainage and other sensitive areas will be subject to seasonal closures as needed to protect wildlife.
  - Looped pedestrian-only and multi-use trails as well as connections to adjacent trail systems will accommodate a variety of trail users.
  - Although biking and equestrian uses are not priority public uses for the Service, refuge staff recognizes that these uses will provide means for visitors to access the Refuge’s interior to observe wildlife and explore the prairie landscape.
  - Biking will be allowed on all multi-use trails, but equestrian use will be limited to the multi-use trails in the southern half of the site. The southern multi-use trails will provide equestrians with links to adjacent trail systems in Westminster, Broomfield and Arvada.
  - Off-trail use will be permitted seasonally in the southern half of the Refuge. Off-trail use will provide visitors with increased opportunities to view wildlife and to explore the grasslands.
- C

**The trail system and visitor management must be sensitive to wildlife and their habitat**
- D

**The Service plans to open the Refuge and some of the trails by Spring 2018.**

Trail design will hopefully begin in the spring with some trail construction and road conversions occurring next summer and fall. Construction of a multi-use building is slated to begin later this winter and should be completed in March 2018. Given this schedule, the Service hopes to open Rocky Flats NWR to regular, daily visitor use in spring 2018. Some of the trail construction, including the Rocky Mountain Greenway and its trailheads will occur in 2019.

Rocky Flats NWR is a national wildlife refuge managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Its legislated purpose is to restore and preserve native ecosystems (Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge Act of 2001). The mission of the Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

