

Public Notice
Apex Park and White Ranch Park Trail Repairs and Partial Relocations Environmental
Assessment (EA)
Jefferson County, Colorado

Notification is hereby given to the public that it is the intent of the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide funds to Jefferson County Open Space for trail repairs and partial relocation in Apex Park and White Ranch Park. The trails were severely damaged during the September, 2013 flood event. Funding would be provided through FEMA's Public Assistance program, which provides grants for repair of infrastructure damaged as the result of a Presidentially-declared disaster (FEMA 4145-DR- CO), pursuant to the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93-288, as amended (The Stafford Act).

FEMA is required to take into account environmental considerations when authorizing or approving FEMA actions. The President of the United States has issued Executive Orders (EO) that require Federal agencies, when considering an action for funding, to focus attention on the environment and human health with respect to Floodplain Management (EO 11988); Protection of Wetlands (EO 11990); and Environmental Justice (EO 12898). Compliance with these Executive Orders, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Endangered Species Act (ESA), Clean Water Act (CWA), other applicable environmental laws and regulations is required as a condition of FEMA funding. A disaster-wide initial public notice was published in the Denver Post on November 10, 2013.

Jeffco Open Space operates with a three-fold mission to preserve open space and parklands, protect natural and park resources, and provide for healthy nature-based experiences. The trails provide access to the outdoors while protecting the natural environment. The trails must be safe, cost effective to build and maintain, and be continuously usable. This project is needed to repair, and where necessary, relocate trails damaged during the September 2013 storms. In Apex Park, Apex Trail, Grubstake Trail, Pick 'N' Sledge Trail, and Poco Calle Trail will undergo significant realignments and repairs. In White Ranch Park, Mustang Trail, Rawhide Trail and Wrangler's Run Trail will undergo significant realignments and repair. Approximately three miles of trails in these two parks will be realigned for this project. Jeffco Open Space anticipates completing the proposed work in Spring 2015. The Draft Environmental Assessment for the current project at Apex and White Ranch Parks is available for review on the Jeffco Open Space website: www.jeffco.us/parks/documents and at the Jeffco Open Space office at: 700 Jefferson County Parkway, Suite 100, Golden, CO 80401. Deadline for comments is August 29, 2014, EOB. Submit comments to: relsner@jeffco.us or by mail to: Regina Elsner, Jeffco Open Space, at the address above. Additional project information may be obtained by contacting Kim Frederick at 303-271-5987 or at kfrederi@jeffco.us.

This notice will constitute as the final notice for public review as required by EO11988, EO 11990, EO 12898, NEPA, NHPA, and other applicable environmental laws and regulations for the proposed actions stated above. All interested persons, groups and agencies are invited to submit written comments regarding the proposed use of federal funds to support a project located in a floodplain. If no significant issues are identified during the comment period, FEMA will conclude its reviews and provide funding for the Apex Park and White Ranch Park Trail Repairs and Partial Relocations.

Interested parties may submit comments for 15 days after the date of this Final Public Notice by contacting Richard Myers, FEMA Region VIII Deputy Environmental Officer by email at richard.myers2@fema.dhs.gov.