



Town of Green Mountain Falls

Parks, Recreation, and Trails Advisory Committee

P.O. Box 524; 10615 Green Mountain Falls Road

Green Mountain Falls, CO 80819

Wednesday, 9/27/2023 at 4:00 p.m.

Zoom and In Person Meeting

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82871150378>

Meeting ID: 828 7115 0378

REGULAR MEETING:

	ITEM
1.	CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL
2.	ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CORRECTION TO THE AGENDA
3.	PERSONS PRESENT NOT ON THE AGENDA: 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER
4.	CONSENT AGENDA a. Meeting Minutes from PRT Committee Meeting held on 8/9/2023
5.	BUSINESS a. Creek Week 2023: Sunday, October 8th b. Stilling Basin Landscaping: Input from Public Forum c. 2026 Pool Park: Schedule First Precept Workshop d. PRT Updated 2023 Goals
6.	CORRESPONDENCE
7.	REPORTS a. Pool: Walker b. Trail Ambassador End of Season Report: Dixon c. HSA: McIntire d. FoUPT Workday Reports: August 19, 23 and Sept 10, 20 2023
8.	ADJOURN

*The Town shall provide reasonable accommodation for those with disabilities on a case-by-case basis. Please send accommodation requests to clerk@gmfco.us by 3pm on the date of the meeting.



**Town of Green Mountain Falls
Parks, Recreation, and Trails Meeting Minutes
10615 Green Mountain Falls Road
Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.**

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present

Chair Jesse Stroope
Vice Chair Jay Kita (4:05)
Member Nancy Dixon
Member Don Walker

Board Members Absent

Member Philip McIntire

Secretary

Member Nancy Dixon

Town Staff Present

Trustees Present

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Parks, Recreation, and Trails meeting called to order at 4:01pm by Chair Stroope.

2. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CORRECTION TO THE AGENDA

Dixon moved to approve the agenda. Walker seconded. Motion passed - 3/0.

3. SPEAKERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

No public comments.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Dixon moved to approve the meeting minutes from July 26, 2023. Stroope seconded. Motion passed - 4/0.

Action items reviewed:

Dixon has submitted advice memos to town staff regarding downed tree on Conn Trail and concerns about the high flow of water on Catamount Creek. Walker will check with public works about the tree on Conn Trail.

A list of concerns on the stilling basin from McIntire and Walker are still needed for an advice memo to town staff and Planning Commission.

An advice memo regarding playground equipment still needs to be written to town staff. The smaller piece of equipment does not need the orange mesh since the other side had been designed to be open. The larger piece of equipment needs a panel which has been ordered. The order needs to be checked on.

Kita: inventory the memorial benches to assess their conditions.

5. BUSINESS

- a. Committee discussed the draft stilling basin landscaping plan. The following was agreed on: take off the two extra paths from Ute Pass Ave, add a pathway from Stop sign to the social trail, have the Stop sign area be drought tolerant and low growing plants so they do not obstruct drivers line of sight. Chair Stroope will ask Carla Chapman to incorporate these changes before the public meeting on August 16th. Chapman has donated her time to make these plans. How to water the area? Possibly water from a private residence. **Kita will check on the viability of the water hydrant on the stilling basin site.** Is there landscaping around the boulders? Could the boulders be dropped to lower their profile? **Dixon and Chair Stroope will work on the power point for the public meeting.** Chair Stroope will present the revised plan by dividing it into quadrants for discussion. It was agreed by the committee that 2-3 public meetings on the stilling basin should be sufficient.
- b. Chair Stroope and Walker will meet to discuss the RFP for the Gazebo bridge grant on Friday, August 11, at 9:00am at the Greenbox offices.
- c. Creek Week 2023 will be October 7th. Kita moved to recommend to the Board the Creek Week proclamation and that the town will be participating on Saturday, October 7th. Dixon seconded. Motion passed - 4/0. **Dixon will write an advice memo for the September Board meeting.**
- d. Chair Stroope reiterated about the HGMFF gift to the town for the 250th birthday of America and the 150th anniversary of Colorado. They are wanting to reinvision pool park with PRT's assistance. This could include year round public restrooms and a welcome center. PRT will pull ideas together and engage the community with public meetings. The funding could also be used for matching funds for other grants. Dixon asked about the timeline. The following was planned:
Present-January 2024: PRT has 3 precept workshops to define scope.
February-August 2024: Engage community. Meet with other town committees.
September 2024-August 2025: Engineering design. Order equipment.
September 2025: Break ground.
May 2026: Ribbon cutting.
Chair Stroope will present a PRT committee report regarding this project at the next Board meeting.
Conn Trail easement should be a project that PRT continues to work on as the Pool Park project is being done.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

An email from Deacon Patrick was about concern on the Thomas Trail crossing the falls and a flooded piece of trail at the beginning of the Garden of Eden. CSU has been unresponsive to requests about reducing water flow from the reservoirs. Kita suggested more high water signs at Thomas. **Dixon will provide to Kita.** Friends have been mitigating the clogging of the creek to reduce the flooded trail.

Chair Stroope received a phone call from the El Paso County deputy about a woman who has 2 dogs that was threatened by a man on the Wallace Reserve. The man has a large dog that was unleashed and the woman sprayed his dog with bear spray. He then threatened to spray her with bear spray. Wallace Reserve is located in unincorporated El Paso county but the trails are on the GMF town trail maps. Chair Stroope will post more signs and make a presence when the man regularly hikes. **Dixon will provide Chair Stroope with Bark Ambassador posters.**

7. REPORTS

Walker reported that the pool had 90+ people at the pool, there has been adequate staffing and more donations made. Pool is still operational with the help of bandaids. Suggests that volunteers be trained next year. **Chair Stroope asked that Walker write a draft pool budget for 2024.** Mayor Dixon had obtained a lifeguard schedule that was helpful. Pool parking lot fence is finished. There is room for 3-5 parking spaces plus the handicap space inside the fence. PRT's budget includes \$2,000 to repaint the pool fence. Walker asked for input on having a planter in one of the corners of the fence. **Kita will revise the pool parking site plan and send it to Chair Stroope.** Chair Stroope would like to have the PRT sponsor an end of summer town celebration at the pool with a food truck and a suggestion to wear Hawaiian shirts. **PRT set a date of September 9, 4-8pm.**

Kita and Zeh mitigated musk thistle on HGMFF Joyland property but there is much more to mitigate.

9. ADJOURNMENT at 5:44pm.

Stilling Basin Landscaping Notes

August 16, 2023

6:30-7:30pm

Ten GMF residents, four PRT committee members and the Town Manager attended the Stilling Basin (SB) landscaping public forum.

OVERVIEW

Hydrant at SB is not active. Previous irrigation was displaced by the SB project. Need to research how to irrigate new landscaping.

Crosswalk markings on Ute Pass Ave at the STOP sign will be replaced once the SB project is completed. The project is 95% complete: first hydro seeding by Hotel St and Ute Pass Ave did not take and needs to be reseeded. PRT is requesting that the contractor use the recommended native seed mix of clover and wildflowers.

Nothing permanent can be located in the area where the SB will be dredged. It can be seeded though.

Memorial benches will be relocated to Gazebo Park while SB landscaping is being done.

PROPOSED STOP SIGN AREA LANDSCAPING

Needs to be low growing for drivers/pedestrians safety/line of sight.

Transition across Ute Pass Ave needs to be distinguished.

Native plantings to complement the culture of GMF.

First phase: hardscaping and native grasses/wildflowers

PROPOSED HOTEL ST LANDSCAPING

Be conscious of the utilities and other obstructions in this area

Wayfinding signs, memorials, benches, history of GMF Hotel

Native grasses/wildflowers, bushes

PROPOSED RECESSED BENCH AREA

No planting by retaining wall (private property)

Need to know the property line/have meeting with property owner

Level the areas in between buttresses for benches

Leftover landscaping materials from the fishing pier project are available

PROPOSED BUSHES/TREES for LANDSCAPING

Canada Cherry tree does not do well at our altitude, existing ones are dead or dying

Recommended to use native, low water, sustainable plants

Use CSU Extension as a resource

Native plants that do well: sage, lavender, salvia, Russian sage, mountain mahogany, chokecherry bushes, yucca, potentilla (yellow and white), yarrow

Plant bushes around top of SB to prevent exploration of the SB

More ground cover vs bushes, better erosion control: kinnikinnick, spiderwort, sedum

MEMORIALS

GMF Hotel granite marker should be more visible. Possibly located on the sloped area on the walking path between the STOP sign and the Ute Pass Ave side of the social trail.

Could spots be sold for additional memorials in that area? Possible fundraising potential.

PROPOSED PARK NAMES

Hotel Park

Hotel Garden Park

Memorial Park

Park Ave Pass Through

Douglass Park

Goose Crossing

Just Up from the Lake

The Park on the Hill

Chokecherry Park

Bear-ly There Park

Hotel Street through Way

Sit A Spell

East Side Overlook

Hilltop Park

Thanks to Nancy E. for the majority of the list above!

2023 PRT Goals: **UPDATED August 2023**

Pool Park bathroom location/design

Recommend location and plan for Bear Proof Trash Cans/Dumpster Blind design - **CWP Grant, Spring 2023 Completion, RFP August 2023**

Trail Maps - **2023 budget item, Final Maps close to delivery-August 2023**

Spring Work Day - **May 13, 2023**

Fall Creek Week Clean Up - **October 7, 2023**

Engage community to confirm/imagine park names

Town Signage Restoration - **In progress - ?**

Informative trailhead signage be installed at all trailheads - **In progress - ?**

Recognize private citizens or groups who have improved areas of town property with signage and thank yous

Inventory of the memorials in town and document for town records

Recommend and Review monthly administration of 2023 Park Maintenance Plan and revise for the 2024 Park Maintenance Plan

PRT Master Plan - GOCO grant

ADT Reroute/Town Connector Trails - **TAG Grant**

Flagstones on Gazebo Island

Renovating the old Marshal's Office

Renovating Creekside areas

Engage community with revisioning 'Memorial Park' (stilling basin): **March 23, August 16**

Repairing/rebuilding Gazebo bridge - **CDBG Phase II grant/submitted: AWARDED July 2023**

Repairing/painting the Gazebo: **Repainting-July 2023 (KFF grant), HSA being explored**

ADDITIONS TO 2023 GOAL LIST

Pool opening and operations proposal

Pool parking lot redesign

Playground mulch/sand: KFF Grant

Mowing/trimming of GMF parks

Participated in CIP exercise for Board recommendation

Tree removal recommendation by memorial in Squires Park

Dead tree removal recommendation at Catamount trailhead

High water in Catamount Creek recommendation

Removal of felled tree on Conn trail recommendation

Grant writing and submission for recycling grant (RREO) - not awarded

Coordinated UPES 4th/5th grade Adopt-a-Park proposals

Shade sail recommendation for Fitness Court

PRT Members Contributing to other town committees:

Evaluation of stilling basin

Evaluation of guard rail

Evaluation of available town staging areas

GMF Trail Ambassador Report

2021-2023

	2021	2022	2023
Memorial Day/June	668	824	389**
July	452	475	348
August/Labor Day	56*	329	408
Total Hikers per year	1176	1447	1145
Total Hikers (2021-23)			3768
Empty Shifts (either weather or no volunteer to cover)	16/50	22/58	16/50
Number of active Trail Ambassadors	13	19	18

*Catamount Trail closed

**Cool, wet June



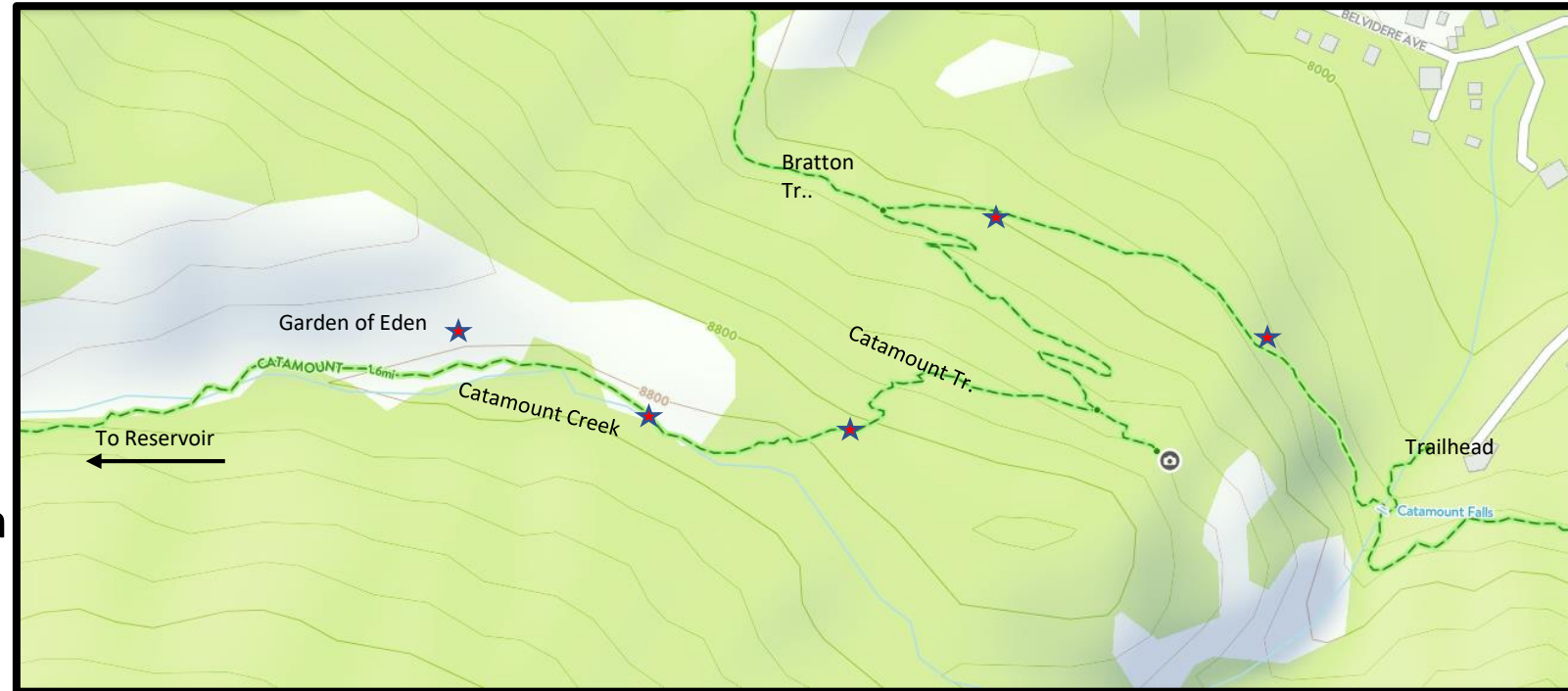
Friends of Ute Pass Trails

Catamount Re-Route

Town of GMF Land

Workday 4, August 19, 2023: 22 Volunteers 118 volunteer hours
Internal workday, August 23, 2023: 4 Volunteers 29 volunteer hours

- Finished re-route to avoid eroded trail section, dug in channels and water bars to protect new trail from erosion
- Removed noxious weeds from fragile Garden of Eden meadow
- Completed dredging the diversion canal to prevent the rising Catamount Creek from flooding the trail
- Lopped/pruned vegetation overgrowth
- Installed 50' split rail fence into solid bedrock to guide hikers onto the new re-route
- Installed signage to direct hikers



★ = Areas Addressed

The Upper Re-route

Created diversion water bars to reclaim the eroded hillside and obliterated the old eroded trail

Before



During



The Upper Re-route

Created diversion water bars to reclaim the eroded hillside and obliterated the old eroded trail

During



After



Before



After



The Upper Re-route

Built up the critical edge with stones to protect the tread over a three-water bar erosion control section

Before



During



After



Deepened read to better define the trail

Built stone causeway to connect the upper and lower re-routes over the eroded drainage

Before

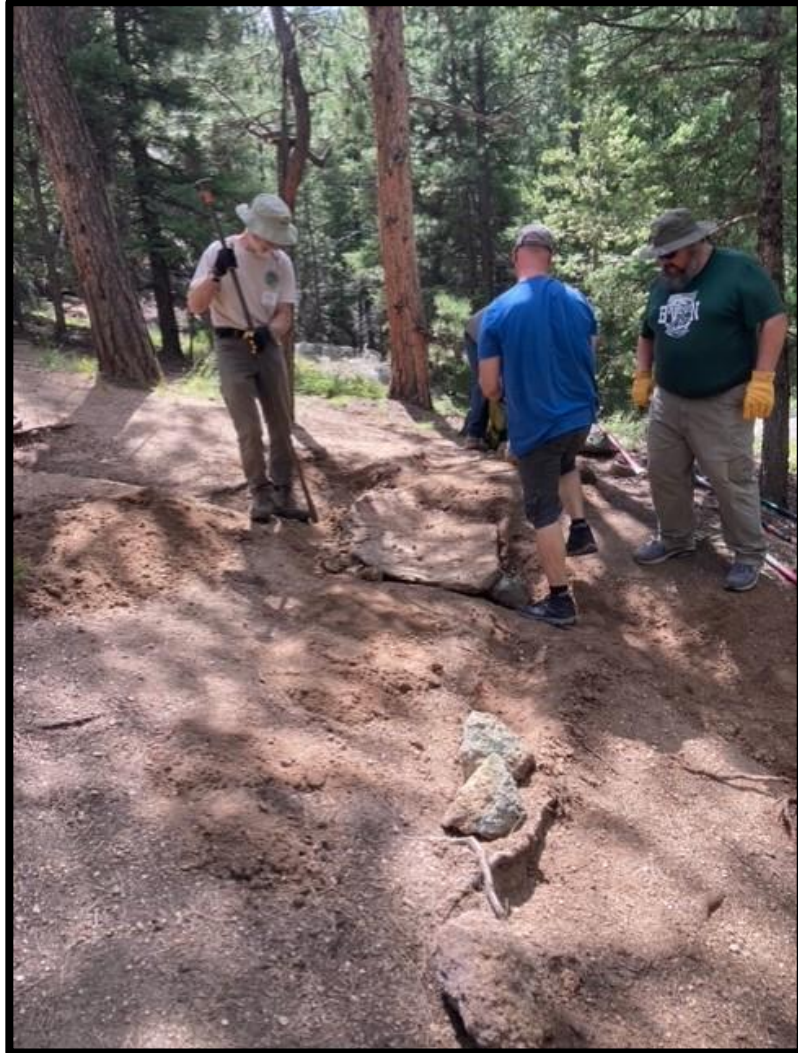


During



Built stone causeway to connect the upper and lower re-routes over the eroded drainage

During



After



Completed the Lower Re-route

Before

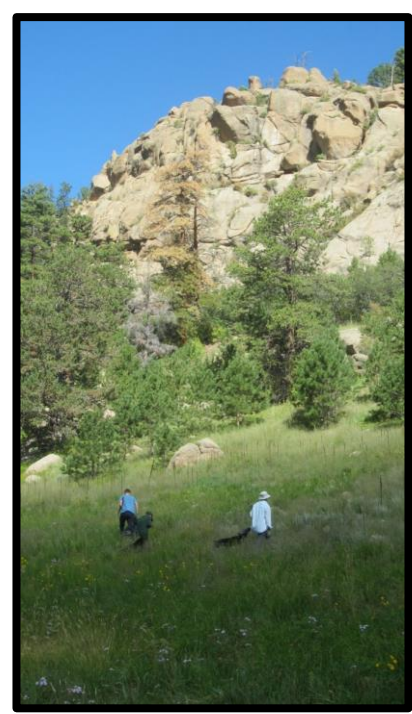


After



Obliterating the old trail

Removed Noxious Weeds from Garden of Eden



Internal workday, August 23: 50' fence

Before

During



Dredging of the diversion canal

After



Thanks to our sponsors!

Kirkpatrick Family Fund



Bratton Trails Fund



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Wealth Strategies Group
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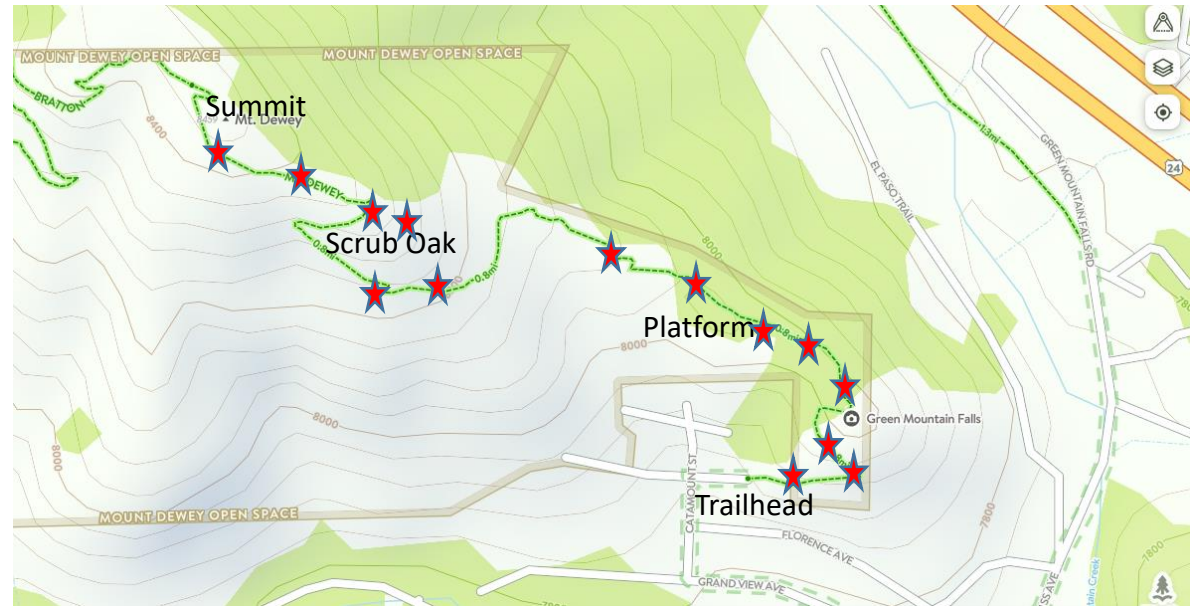




Friends of Ute Pass Trails Mount Dewey

Workday 5, August 19, 2023: 17 Volunteers 85 volunteer hours
Historic Green Mountain Falls Foundation Land

- Cleaned and built water bar diverts to direct water flow
- Lopped/pruned vegetation overgrowth
- Building retaining structure to address erosion



★ = Areas Addressed

Cleaned, Built Water Diverts

During



After



Cleaned, Built Water Diverts

After



Lopped / Pruned Vegetation

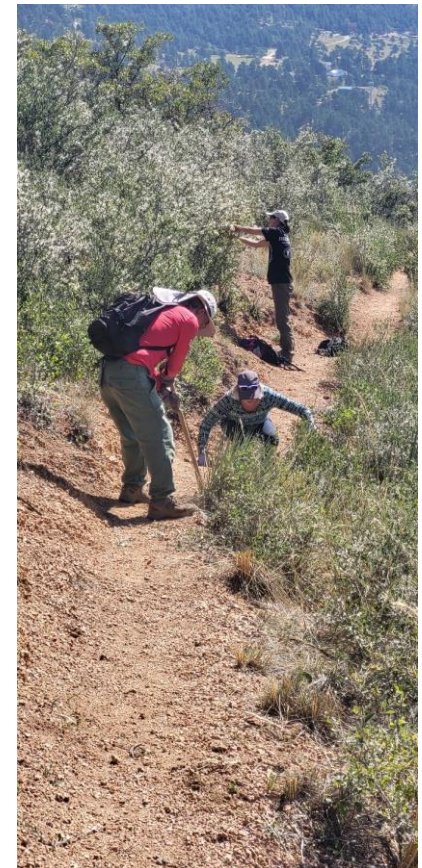
Before



After



During



Lopped / Pruned Vegetation

Before



After



During



Built Retaining Structure

Before



During



Partial Finish

During



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Kirkpatrick Family Fund



Bratton Trails Fund



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Peter & Rosalea
Carttar & Family





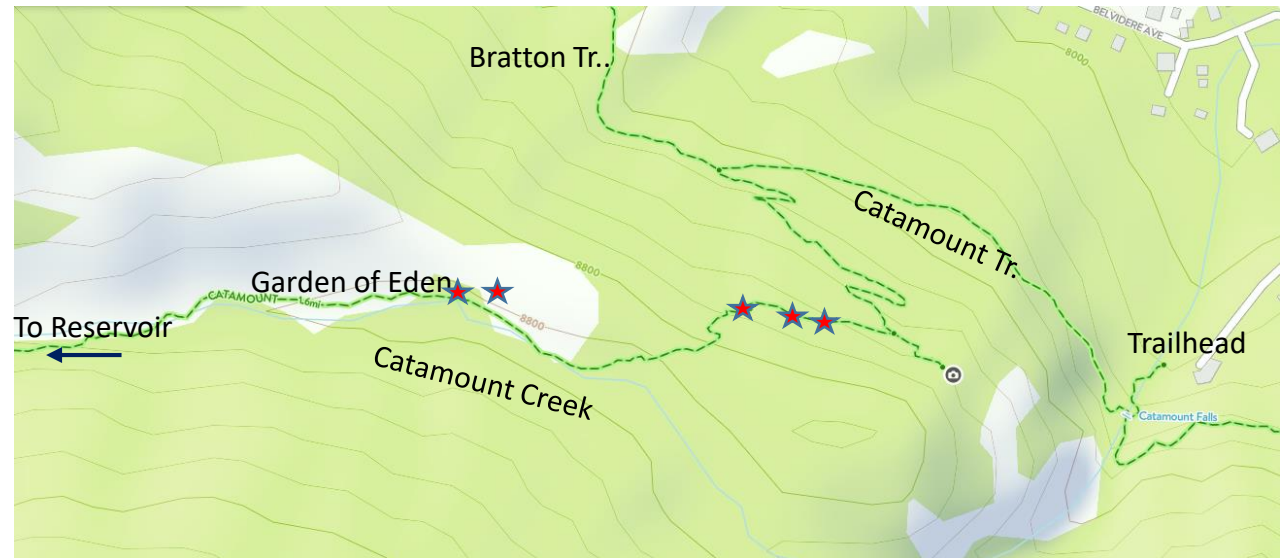
Friends of Ute Pass Trails

Catamount Trail

Internal Work Day, September 20 2023
Town of GMF Land

6 Volunteers, 30 volunteer hours

- Chiseled rock near summit above switchbacks
- Removed invasive weeds at Garden of Eden Meadow
- Installed rock steps to aid hiker transition

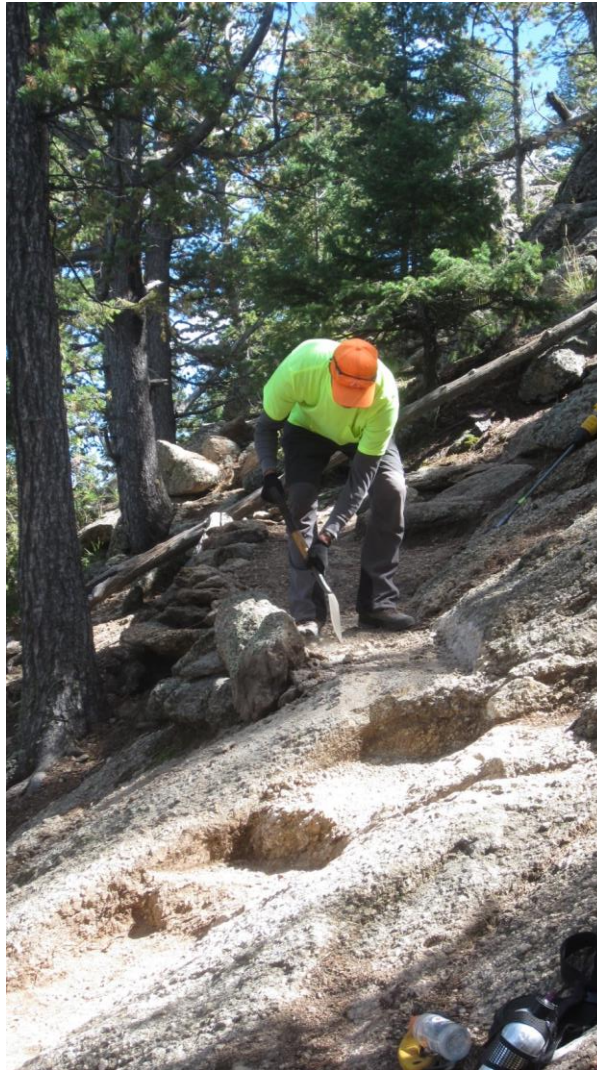


★ = Areas Addressed

Chiseled Rock

During

After



Removed Weeds

Before



After



Installed Rock Steps

Before



After



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