

GIVENS & GUIDELINES

The givens identify those elements of the Master and Management Plan that are not negotiable. They represent the responsibilities of the City of Colorado Springs Parks Recreation and Cultural Services Department (PRCS) and provide the parameters for the decisions that will be made through the Fishers Canyon Open Space master planning process.

- The City's PRCS Department is legally responsible for design, maintenance, operations, and management of all resources for Fishers Canyon Open Space.
 - The Master and Management Plan must conform to provisions in the Trails, Open Space (TOPS) and Parks Regulations Ordinances.
 - The Plan must honor HOA and utility easements currently in place.
 - The PRCS Department's stewardship and recreation decisions will be based on collected data, changing conditions, and industry best management practices.
- As defined by the City of Colorado Springs Parks System Master Plan, an open space is a natural area that can range from 10 to over 1,000 acres. **Only 10 percent of open space property can be enhanced with improvements like trailheads, picnic areas and trails.** Open spaces provide natural areas for passive recreation and habitat conservation. These guidelines define what enhancements are possible at Fishers Canyon Open Space.
- All decisions regarding lands under the jurisdiction of adjacent agencies including the United States Forest Service (USFWS), Colorado State Parks and Cheyenne Mountain Space Force Station (CMSFS) are the jurisdiction of those agencies.
- Decisions regarding sensitive and federally protected wildlife management, habitat and protection will be made with guidance from Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).
- Many groups and individuals are interested in and encouraged to help develop the best possible Master and Management Plan; all voices will be equal in the decision-making process.
- Implementation of the Fishers Canyon Open Space Master and Management Plan will occur as funding allows.
- The recommended Master and Management Plan will be submitted to the TOPS Working Committee for recommendation and to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for approval.



Stay Informed
Please visit the project website
or contact the Project Team.

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