



# **Parks and Open Space Mission**

A scenic landscape featuring a body of water in the foreground, a barn and other buildings in the middle ground, and mountains in the background. The scene is reflected in the water.

**To conserve natural, cultural and agricultural resources and provide public uses that reflect sound resource management and community values.**

# Parks and Open Space Goals



1. To preserve rural lands and buffers.
2. To preserve and restore natural resources for the benefit of the environment and the public.
3. To provide public outreach, partnerships and volunteer opportunities to increase awareness and appreciation of Boulder County's open space.
4. To protect, restore and interpret cultural resources for the education and enjoyment of current and future generations.
5. To provide quality recreational experiences while protecting open space resources.
6. To promote and provide for sustainable agriculture in Boulder County for the natural, cultural and economic values it provides.
7. To develop human resources potential, employ sustainable and sound business practices, and pursue technological advancements.

**GOAL 1:**  
**To preserve rural land**  
**(48)**



1-1: Preserve at least  
5,000 additional acres (17)

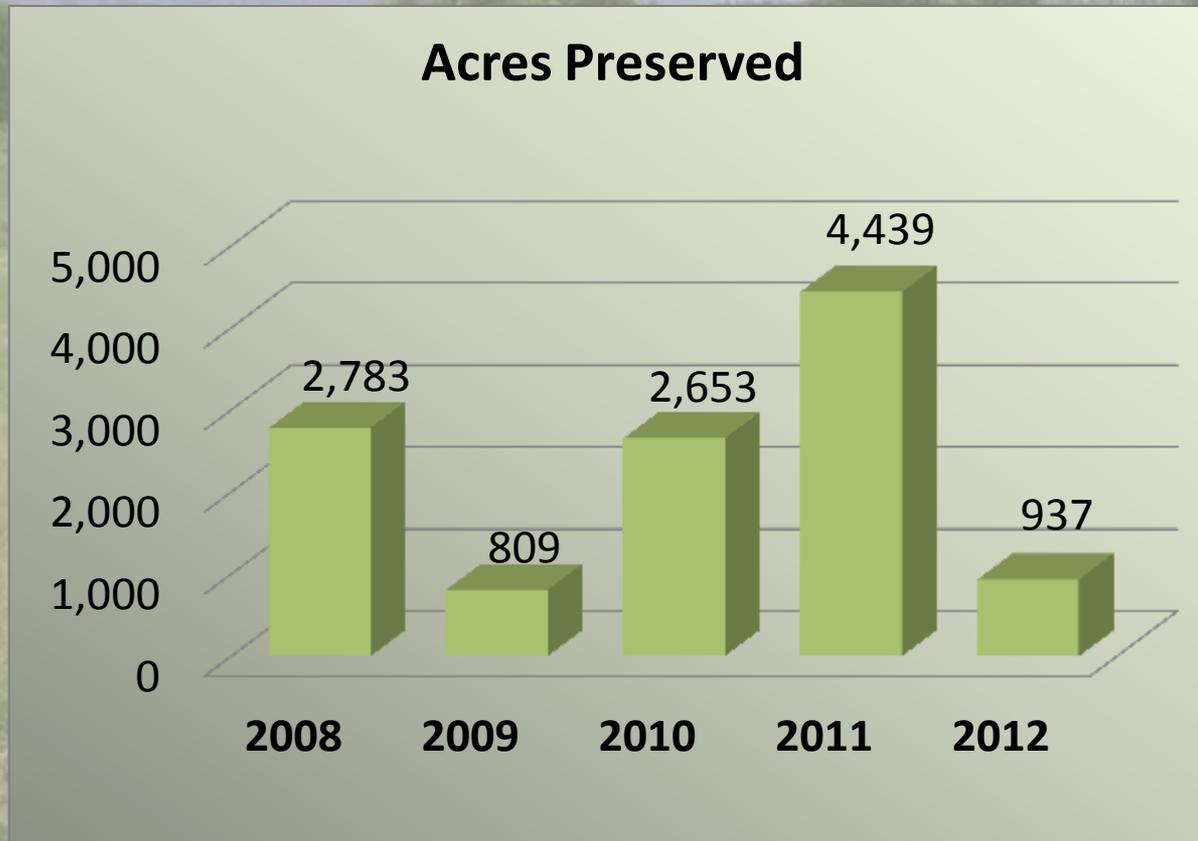


1-2: CE program (21)

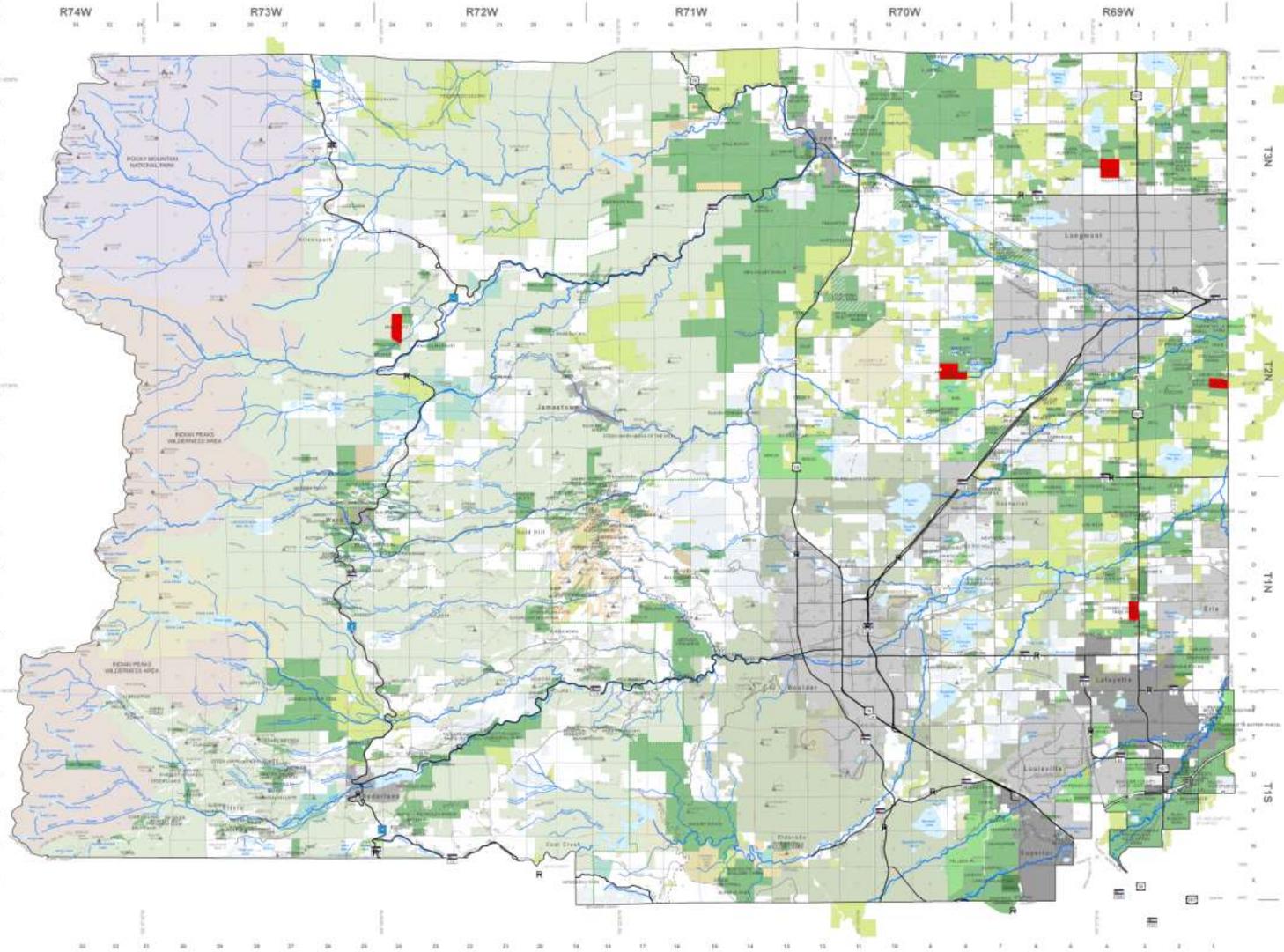


1-3: The 3-way Gold Hill  
Exchange (10)

# 1-1: Preserve 5,000 additional acres



**We doubled the goal!**



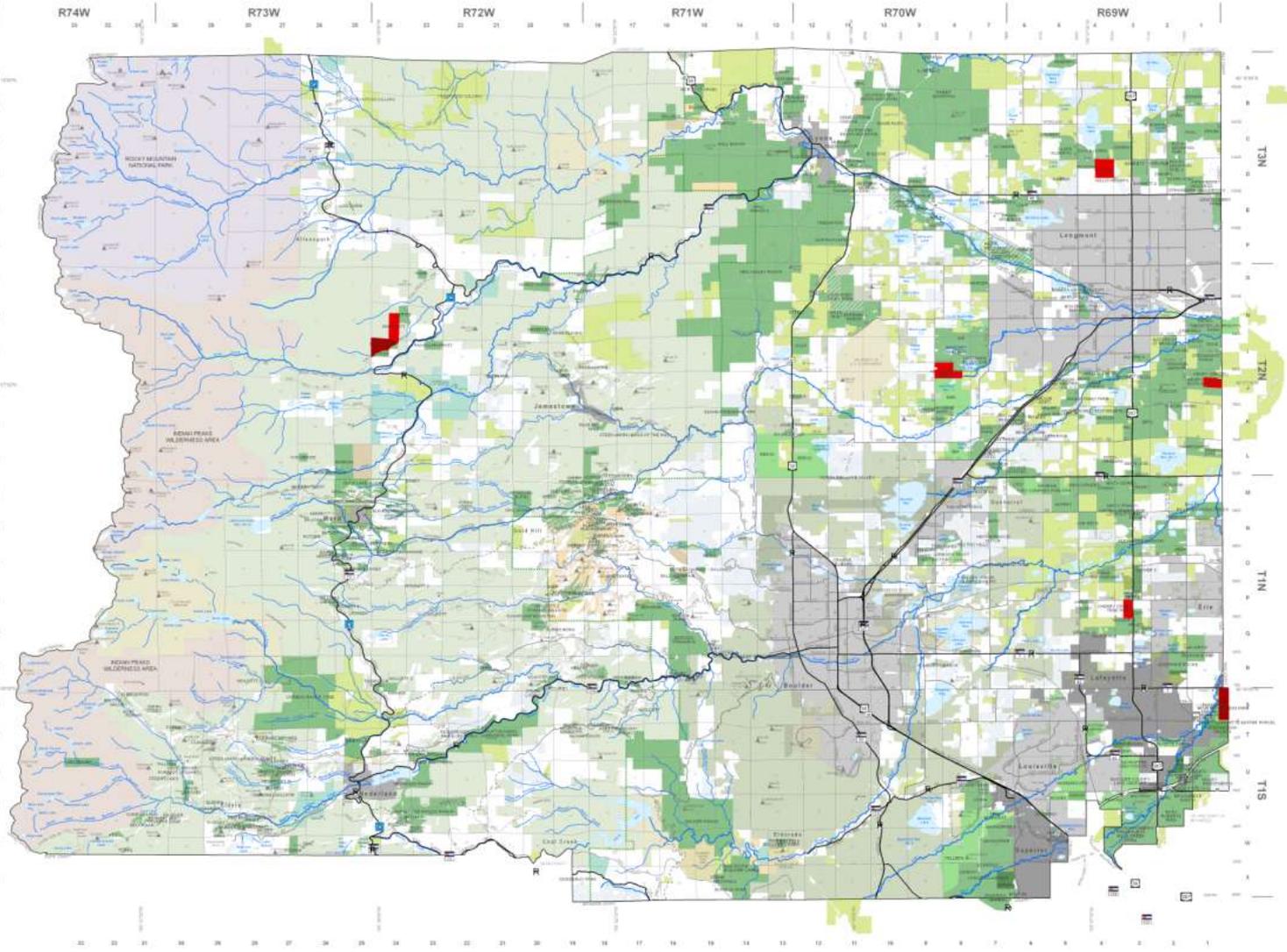
# 2008 Major Open Space Acquisitions

 2008 Properties



1 0.5 0 1 Kilometers  
1 0.5 0 1 Miles

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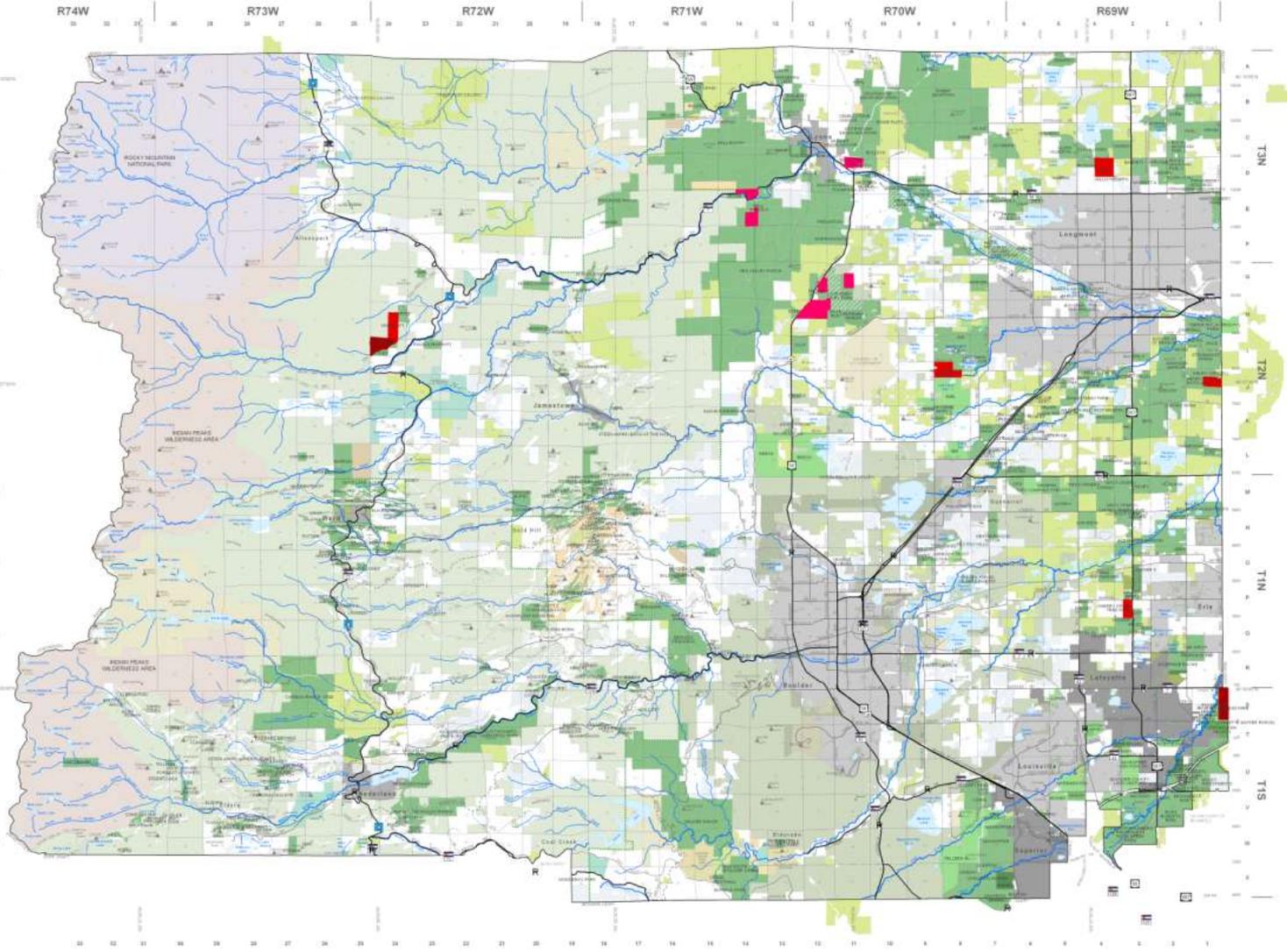
**2009**

**Major  
Open Space  
Acquisitions**

- 2008 Properties
- 2009 Properties

1 0.5 0 1 Kilometers  
1 0.5 0 1 Miles

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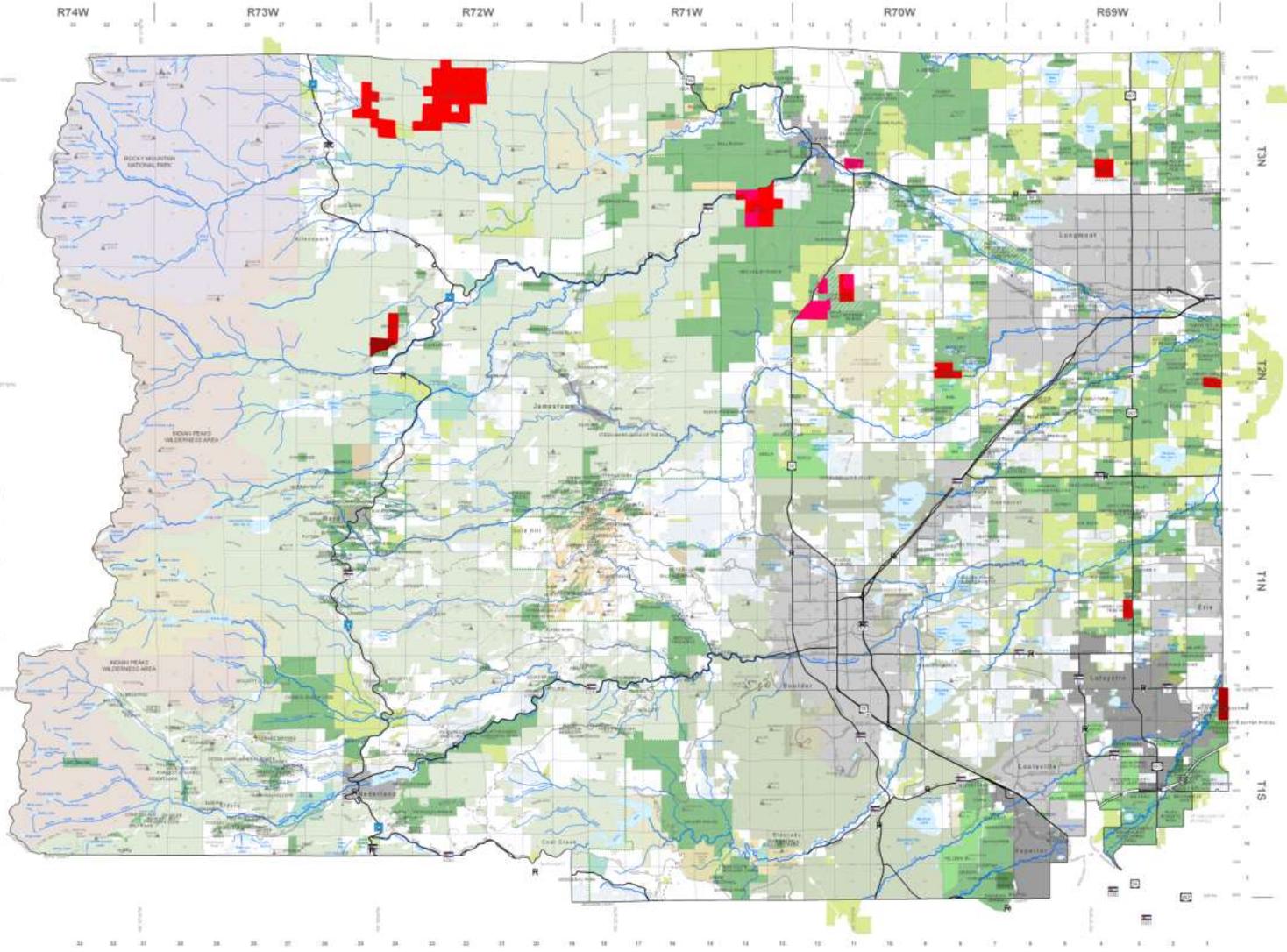
# 2010

## Major Open Space Acquisitions

- 2008 Properties
- 2009 Properties
- 2010 Properties

1 Kilometers  
 1 Miles

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# 2011

## Major Open Space Acquisitions

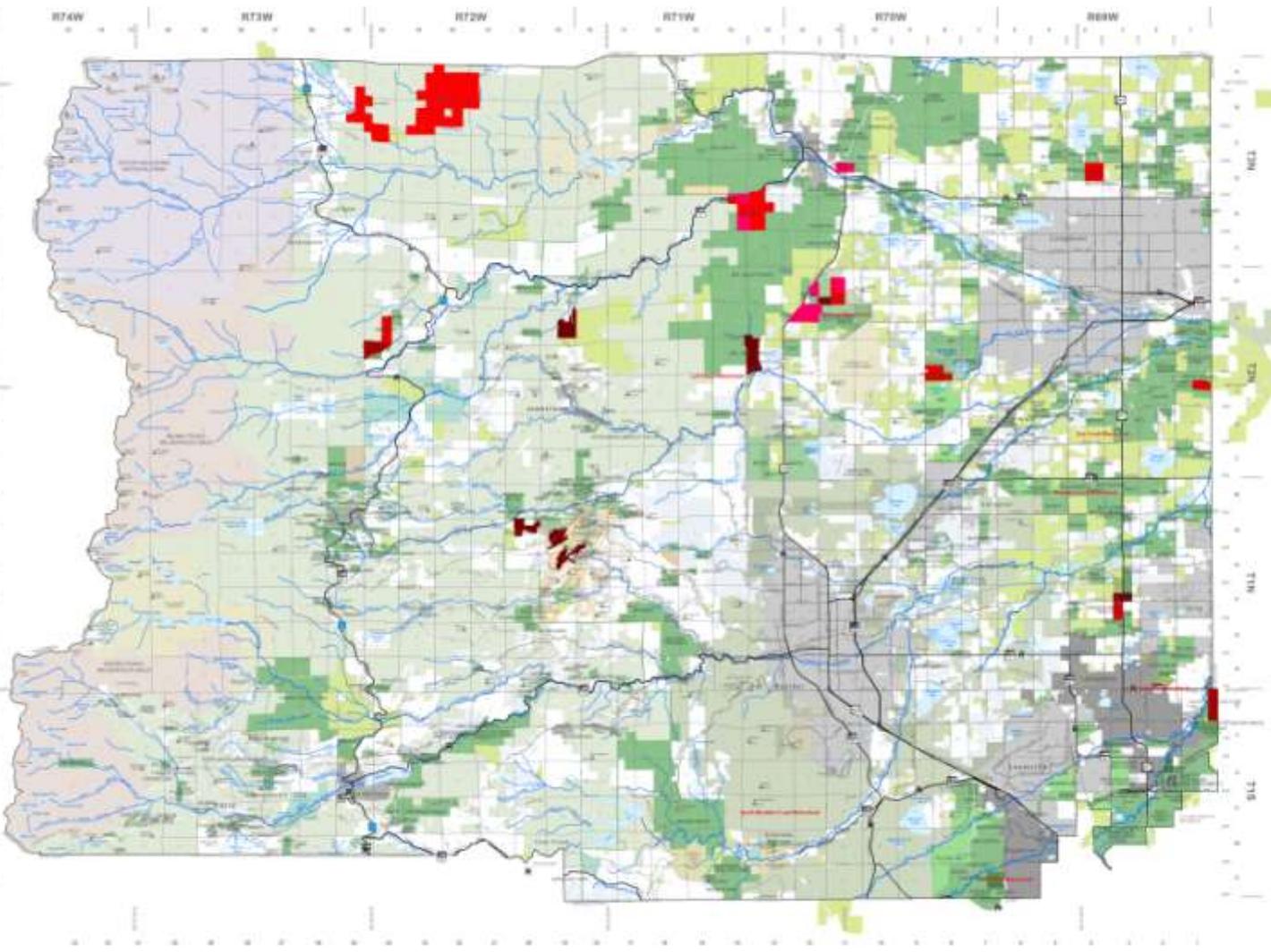
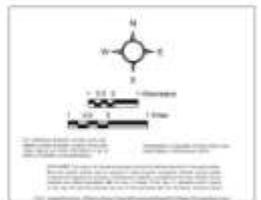
- 2008 Properties
- 2009 Properties
- 2010 Properties
- 2011 Properties



**2012**

# Major Open Space Acquisitions

- 2008 Properties
- 2009 Properties
- 2010 Properties
- 2011 Properties
- 2012 Properties



# 1-2: Conservation Easement Program

- **Baseline backlog banished!**
- **Every CE property monitored (>900)**
- **Monitor all CE properties every 4 years**
- **CE program certified by the state**

# 1-3: The 3-way Gold Hill Exchange

- Efforts thwarted
- Federal staffing shortages
- Pursuing legislative action

## **GOAL 2:**

**To preserve and restore natural  
resources for the benefit of the  
environment and public**

**(134)**

**2-1: Management plans, policies & updates on Major Planning Projects (30)**

**2-2: Baseline inventory of all native vegetation (12)**

**2-3: Monitoring schedule for indicator species (25)**

**2-4: Russian olives reduction, inventory and treatment (12)**

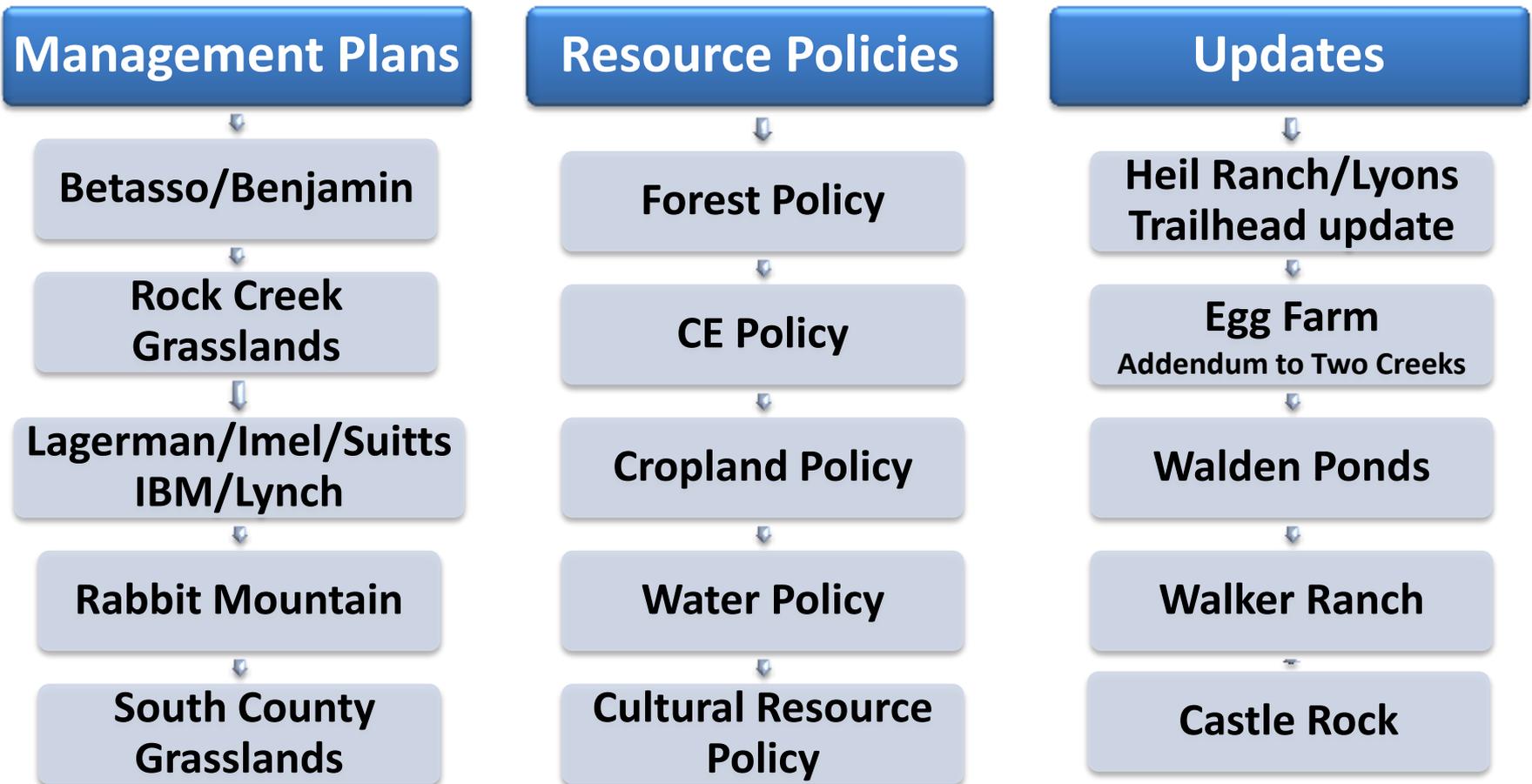
**2-5: Restore 1,000 acres of forestland (18)**

**2-6: Reclaim 1,700 acres of grasslands (14)**

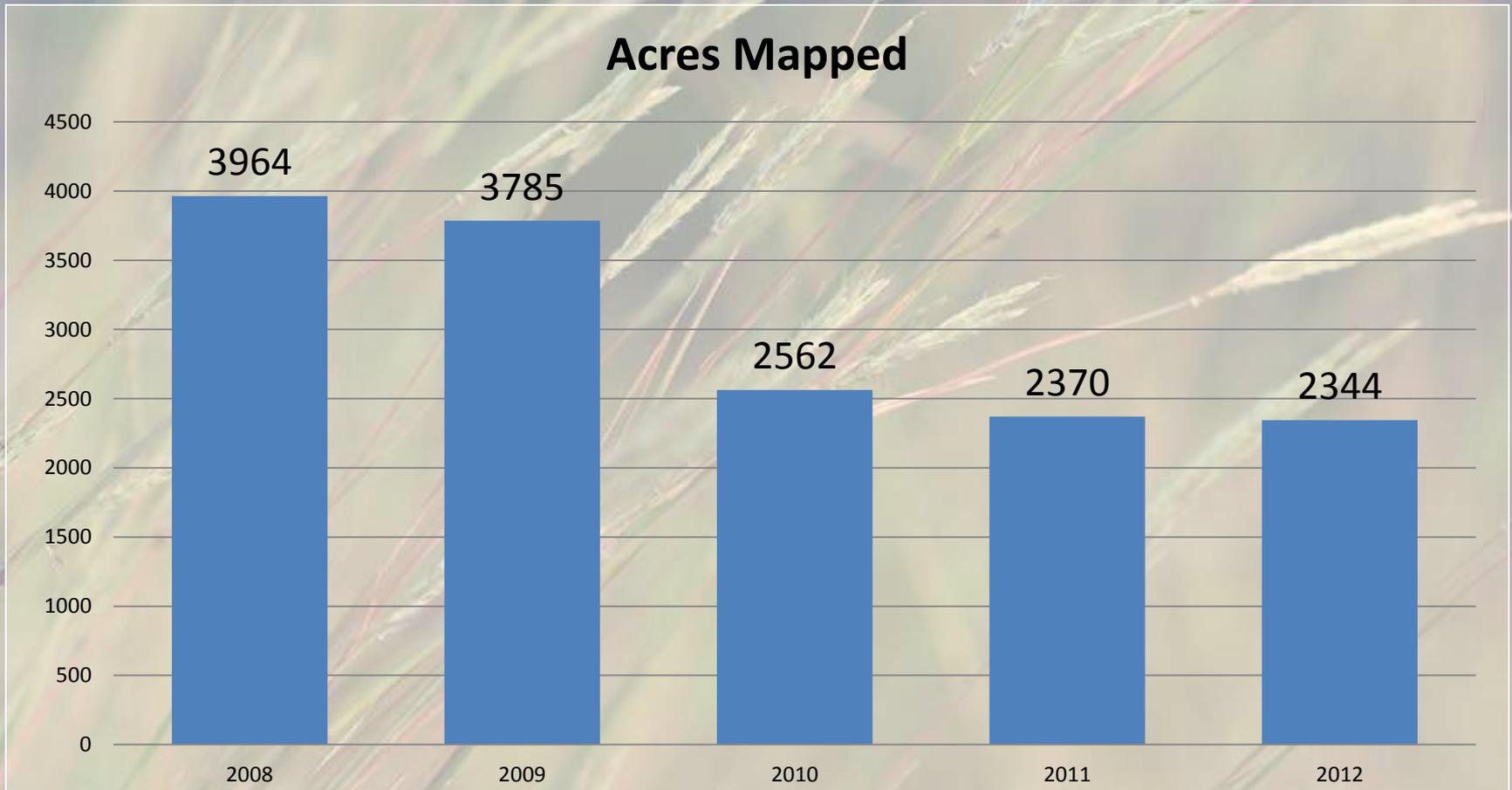
**2-7: Enhance wildlife habitat/stream function on at least 8 properties (18)**

**2-8: Maintain viability of existing and pending water rights (5)**

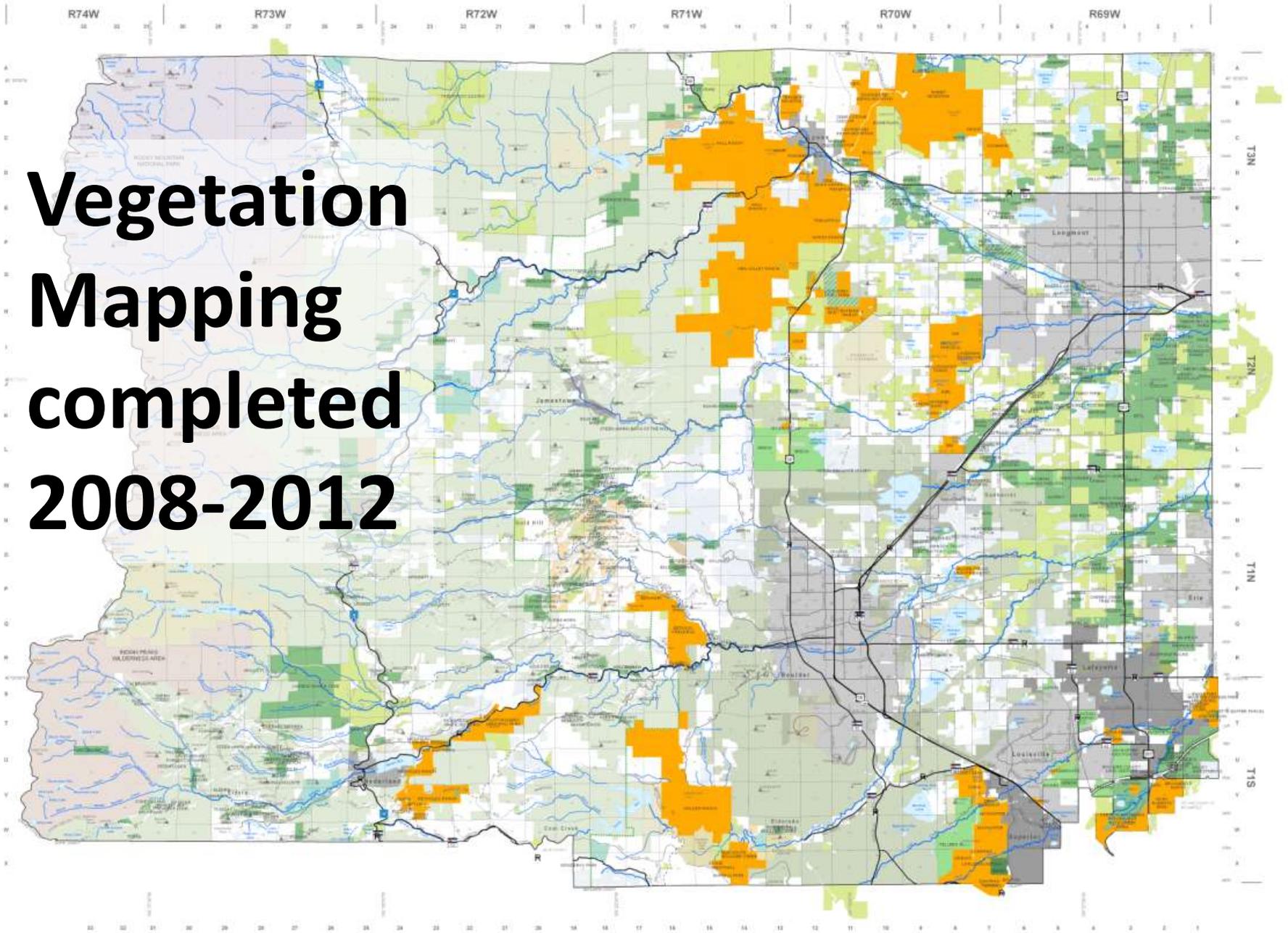
# 2-1: Management plans, policies & updates on Major Planning Projects (30)



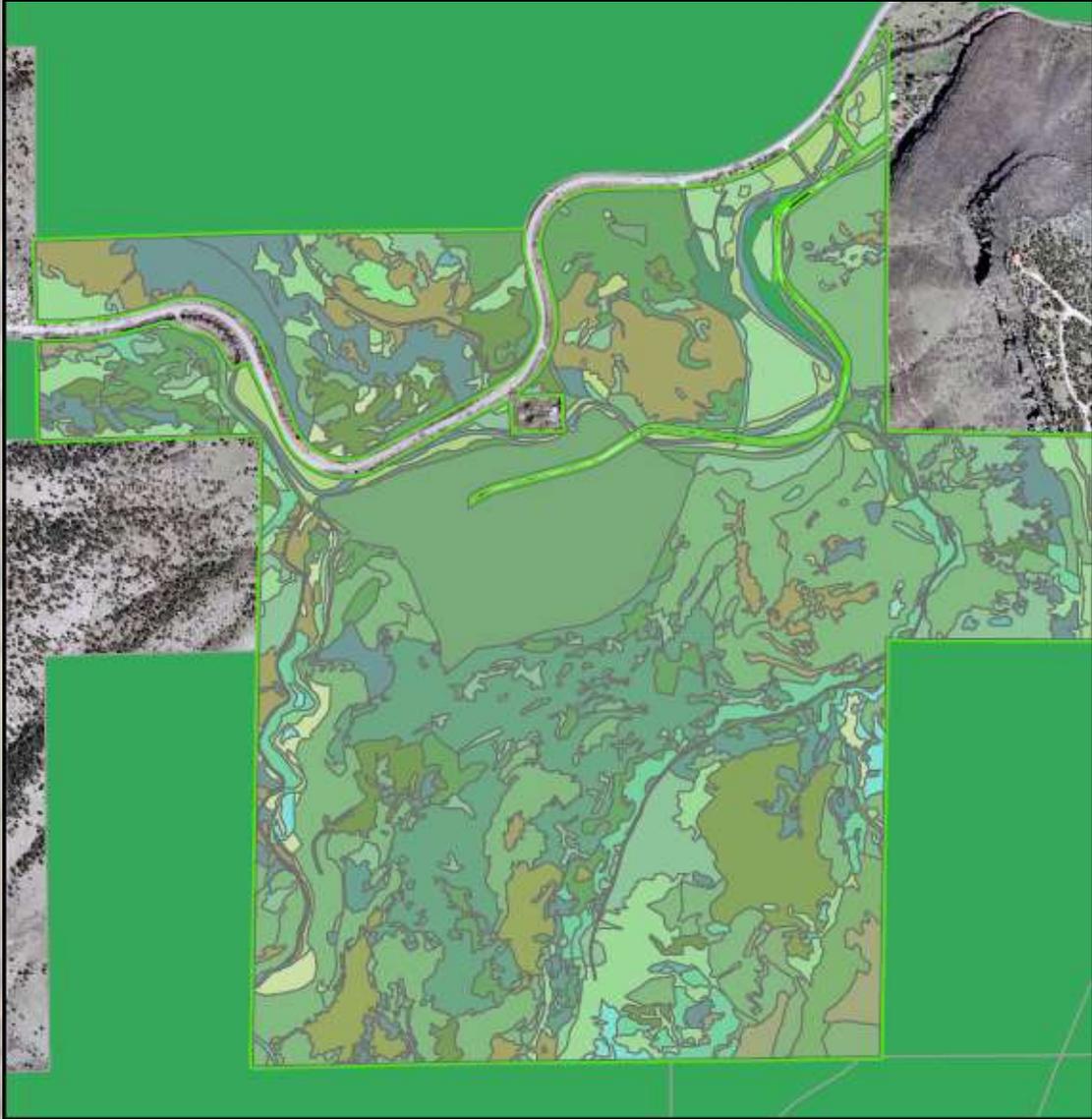
# 2-2: Baseline Inventory Native Vegetation



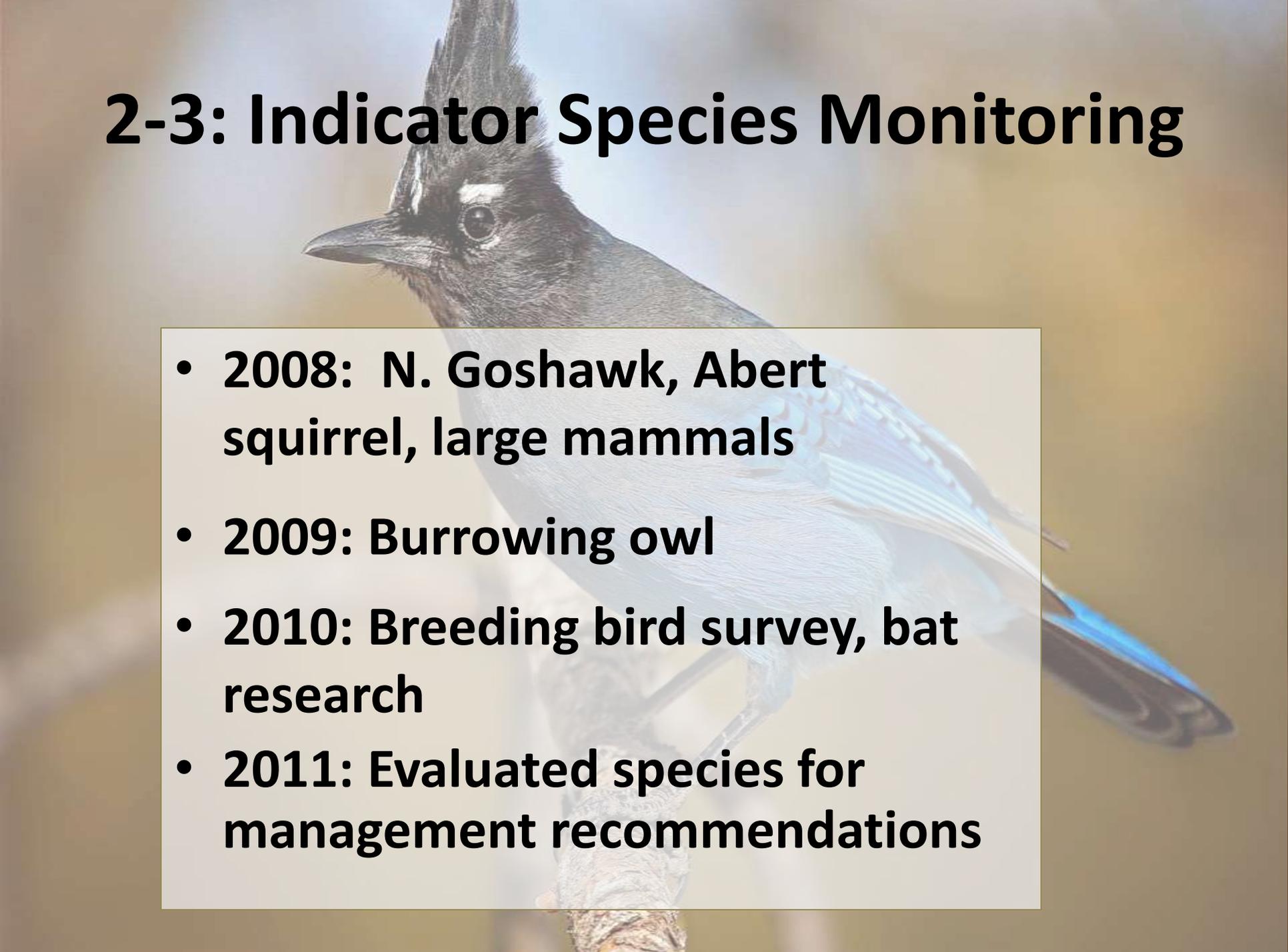
# Vegetation Mapping completed 2008-2012



# Hall Ranch II vegetation mapping

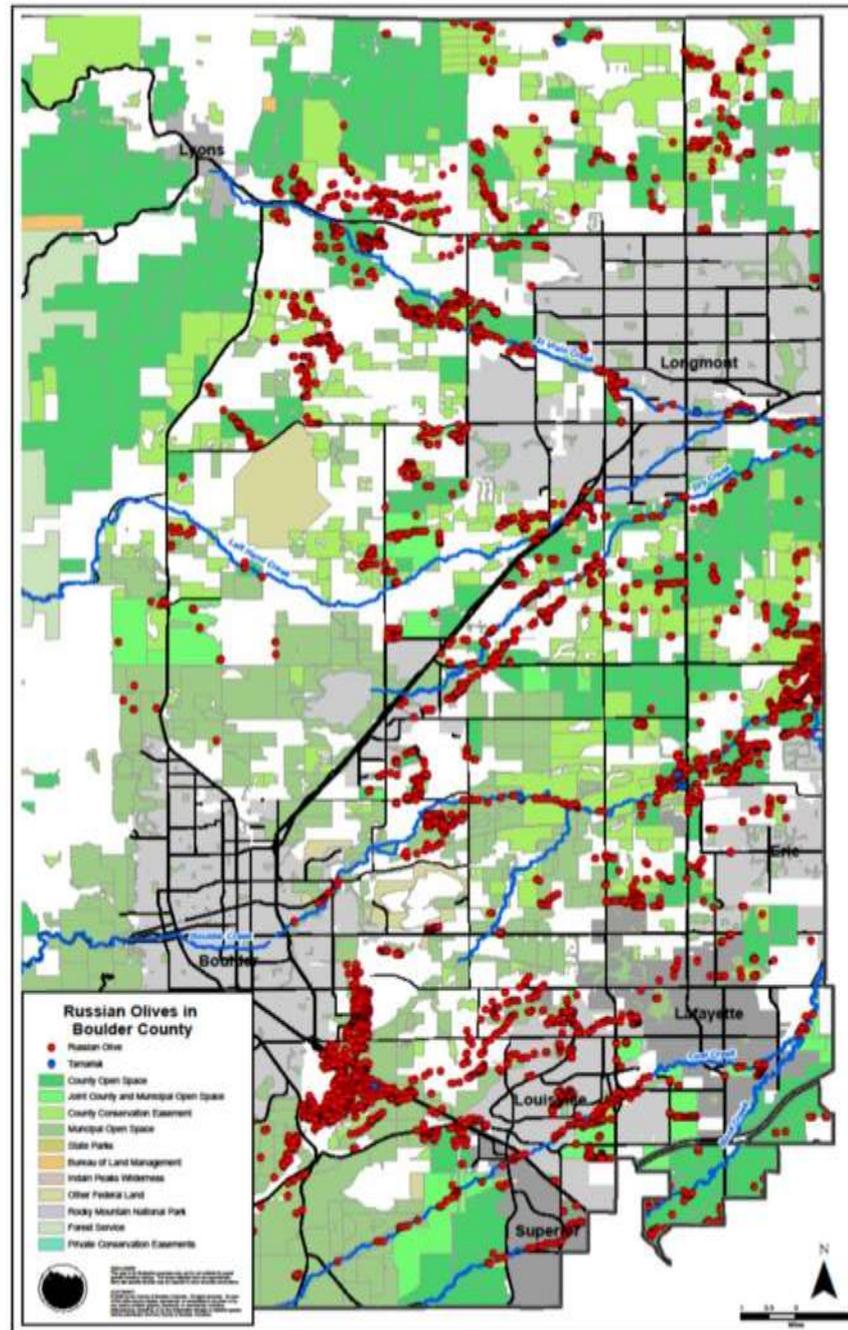


## 2-3: Indicator Species Monitoring



- **2008: N. Goshawk, Abert squirrel, large mammals**
- **2009: Burrowing owl**
- **2010: Breeding bird survey, bat research**
- **2011: Evaluated species for management recommendations**

# 2-4: Russian Olive Tree Removal



# 2-4: Russian Olive Tree Removal



# 2-5: Restore 1,000 acres of forestland



## **2-6: Reclaimed 1,700 acres of grasslands (14)**

<b>Rock Creek Grasslands</b>	<b>1,032 ac</b>
<b>Dowe Flats/CEMEX</b>	<b>276 ac</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>277 ac</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,587 ac</b>

# **2-7: Enhance wildlife habitat/stream function on at least 8 properties**

## **Plains**

- **South Branch St. Vrain**
- **Rock Creek (CHP/RCF)**
- **Rock Creek (Zaharias)**
- **Buffalo Gulch**
- **Kenosha ponds**
- **Monarch riparian area**

## **Mountains**

- **Spring Gulch**
- **Middle Boulder Creek**

## **GOAL 3:**

**To provide public outreach and  
volunteer opportunities to  
increase awareness and  
appreciation of Boulder  
County's open space**

**(120)**

3-1: Double  
volunteer hours by  
2012 (16)

3-2: Double  
participation in  
programs &  
projects (27)

3-3: Public  
information about  
department  
activities (29)

3-4: Enhance  
outreach to  
underserved  
populations (11)

3-5: Launch one  
new program  
every year (11)

3-6: Develop  
Partnership  
Program (26)

# 3-1: Double volunteer hours by 2012 (16)



# 3-3: Public Information About Department Activities (29)

The image is a screenshot of a Facebook page for "Boulder County Parks and Open Space". The page header includes the Facebook logo, a search bar, and the user's name "Tina Nielsen". The main content area features a post from May 5 titled "May 5th Trail Project at Heil" with 10 photos. The text of the post describes a trail restoration project at Heil Valley Ranch, mentioning that volunteers constructed 150 feet of rerouted trail, restored 100 feet of old trail, and installed rock structures. Below the text is a photograph of two men in a forest setting, one kneeling and one standing, working on the trail. To the right of the main post is a sidebar with a list of organizations: Longmont Times-Call, National Park Service, and Nederland Area Trails Organization (NATO). Below this is an "Activity" section with recent events: "Farm Tour" (May 4) and "Annual Seniors Fish-Off" (April 19). At the bottom, there is another post from May 4 titled "Farm Tour" with the text "Join us for the first Farm Tour of the season." and a photo of a farm.

facebook 4 Search Tina Nielsen

Boulder County Parks and ... Timeline Now Highlights

**Boulder County Parks and Open Space**  
May 5

**May 5th Trail Project at Heil** (10 photos)  
A great job this morning by volunteers at Heil Valley Ranch. A hardworking group constructed 150 feet of rerouted trail, restored 100 feet of old trail and installed several rock structures along the new trail. Thanks for the help!



**Times Call** Longmont Times-Call  
2 friends also like this.

**National Park Service**  
Government Organization

**NATO** Nederland Area Trails Organization (NATO)  
Non-Profit Organization

Activity  
Recent

**Boulder County Parks and Open Space** created the event Farm Tour.  
May 4

**Boulder County Parks and Open Space** created the event Annual Seniors Fish-Off.  
April 19

**Boulder County Parks and Open Space**  
May 4

Join us for the first Farm Tour of the season.

**Farm Tour**  
Tuesday, June 12 at 5:30pm at Buses depart Boulder County Fairgrounds

# 3-6: Develop Partnership Program (26)



## **GOAL 4:**

**To protect, restore and interpret  
cultural resources for the  
education and enjoyment of  
current and future generations**

**(36)**



**4-1:**  
**Restore &  
open facilities  
related to  
metal mining  
& agricultural  
history (21)**



**4-2:**  
**Cultural  
Resource  
Management  
Policy (6)**



**4-3:**  
**Increase  
visitation to  
cultural  
resources by  
20% (9)**

## **4-1: Restore and open facilities related to metal mining and agricultural history**

- **2008: Blue Jay Mine, Ramey House, Bluebird Bunkhouse, Moore House, Quicksilver granary**
- **2009: Walker Ranch House**
- **2010: Harney-Lastoka House**
- **2011: Cardinal Mill (mult. years)**
- **2012: Nederland Museum, Cardinal Access**

## 4-3: Increase visitation to Cultural Resources

14% increase, 8,785 to 10,005 visits

- School programs
- Walker Ranch events
- Ag Heritage Center
- Assay Office Museum
- Dougherty Museum



**GOAL 5:**  
**To provide quality recreational  
experiences while protecting  
open space resources**  
**(70)**

5-1: Add 17 miles  
of trail and  
associated  
facilities (24)

5-2: Maintain  
visitor use  
experience (7)

5-3: Develop  
construction &  
maintenance  
standards (10)

5-4: Increase  
compliance with  
Rules and  
Regs (17)

5-5: Fairgrounds  
Improvements (12)

# 5-1: Add 17 miles of trail (24)

<b>2008</b>	<b>Picture Rock</b>	<b>5.2 mi</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>Ruth Roberts</b>	<b>0.9 mi</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>Mayhoffer/Singletree extension</b>	<b>1.5 mi</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>Betasso/Benjamin Loop</b>	<b>3.6 mi</b>
	<b>Meadowlark Trail</b>	<b>2.8 mi</b>
	<b>LOBO (83<sup>rd</sup>-95<sup>th</sup>)</b>	<b>3.0 mi</b>
<b>2012</b>	<b>Niwot/Dry Creek Trail</b>	<b>2.0 mi</b>
	<b>Betasso/4-mi connection</b>	<b>0.8 mi</b>
	<b>Lagerman to 75<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>0.5 mi</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>20.3 mi</b>

# 5-4: Increase Compliance with Rules & Regulations



33% increase in patrol hours from 2008 - 2012

# 5-5: Improve Fairgrounds (12)

2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New sprinkler system, indoor arena</li><li>• Building signage and way finding</li><li>• Power to N. midway for Farmers' market</li></ul>
2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Electrical improvements for Farmers' market</li><li>• 115 trees planted</li></ul>
2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Drainage improvements</li></ul>
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Farmers' market expansion</li></ul>
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Farmers' market shelter &amp; arbor</li></ul>

## **GOAL 6:**

**To promote and provide for sustainable agriculture in Boulder County for the natural, cultural and economic values it provides**

**6-1: Adopt Water Policy (18)**

**6-3: Support “Grow Local” marketing (8)**

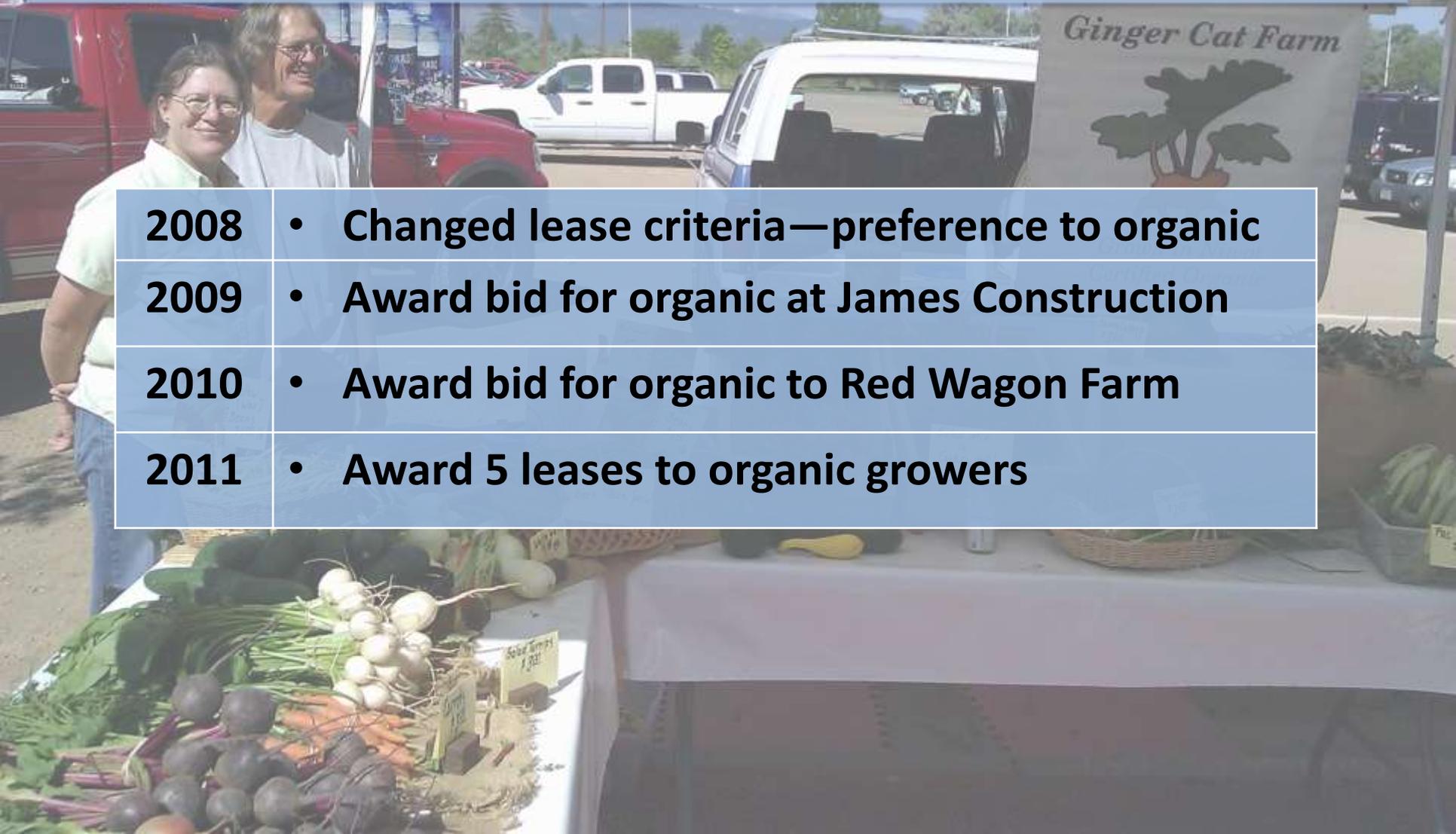
**6-5: Maintain & enhance agricultural infrastructure (6)**

**6-2: Cropland Management Policy & Operations Plans for all leased ag properties (6)**

**6-4: Convert 10% of ag land to organic (10)**

# 6-4: Convert 10% of Ag Land to Organic Production

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 2008 | • Changed lease criteria—preference to organic |
| 2009 | • Award bid for organic at James Construction  |
| 2010 | • Award bid for organic to Red Wagon Farm      |
| 2011 | • Award 5 leases to organic growers            |



## **GOAL 7:**

**To develop human resources potential, employ sustainable and sound business practices, and pursue technological advancements**

**(42)**

**7-1: Use best practices  
& technologies for  
administration &  
project  
management (13)**

**7-2: Pursue sustainable  
practices in all  
operations (16)**

**7-3: Adopt five-year  
Capital Equipment  
replacement  
schedule (7)**

**7-4: Individual  
Development Plans for  
all employees (6)**

# 7-2: Pursue Sustainable practices

<b>2008</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Internal sustainability comm.</b></li></ul>
<b>2009</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>County Fair is Zero waste</b></li></ul>
<b>2010</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Individual development plans</b></li><li>• <b>Adopt telework policy</b></li></ul>
<b>2011</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Division competition for gas savings</b></li></ul>
<b>2012</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Real Estate Data Base delivered</b></li></ul>





# Riparian Restoration Projects

# Rock Creek at Zaharias

**March 2010**

An aerial photograph of a construction site for Rock Creek at Zaharias. The site is a large, irregularly shaped area with a winding creek. Several construction vehicles are visible: a yellow excavator on the left, a yellow bulldozer in the center, a red tractor in the center, and a white pickup truck on a dirt road. A large pile of rocks is visible near the center of the site. The surrounding area is a mix of green and brown grass. The image is taken from a high angle, showing the layout of the site and the surrounding landscape.



**April 2010**



**July 2011**

Compliments of  
Left Hand Excavating



**Rock Creek at Carolyn  
Holmberg Preserve  
Rock Creek Farm**



Compliment of  
Left Hand Excavating

# Carolyn Holmberg Preserve, Rock Creek Farm

A photograph of a stream in a field. The stream flows from the upper left towards the lower right. A wooden barrier, consisting of two horizontal planks supported by a vertical post, spans across the stream. The water is murky and brown. The banks are covered in tall, dry, yellowish-brown grasses and some fallen branches. In the background, there is a flat field with scattered trees and a clear sky. A pink flag is visible on the right bank.

November 2010



**March 2011**



**August 2011**



**Middle Boulder Creek restoration  
Platte Rogers property**

A close-up, slightly blurred photograph of tall grasses with brownish seed heads, serving as a background for the text.

# **Grassland Restoration Projects**



# Collecting Native seed



**Seeding Corona Hill (Hall Ranch)  
2011**

# Forest Restoration Projects



# Heil Valley Ranch Forest Restoration BEFORE



# Heil Valley Ranch Forest Restoration AFTER



A rustic log cabin with a gabled roof, surrounded by pine trees and grass. The cabin is constructed from dark, weathered logs and has a large, dark doorway. The text is overlaid on the center of the image.

**Cultural Resource  
Restoration  
&  
Interpretation**



**Bluebird Bunk House: BEFORE**



**2008**

**Bluebird Bunk House: AFTER**



**Bluebird Mine Moore House: BEFORE**



**2009**

**Bluebird Mine Moore House: AFTER**



**Caribou Ranch DeLonde Barn: BEFORE**

# Caribou Ranch DeLonde Barn: AFTER (2007)





**Artist-in-Residence quarters**







**...and facilities**



**2011 painting by WF Daniels**



**Cardinal  
Mill  
Circa 1904**



**Phase I: West Wall BEFORE**



**(2005)**

**Phase I: West Wall AFTER**



**Phase II: East Wall BEFORE**



**2008**

**Phase II: East Wall AFTER**



**Phase III: lower roof BEFORE**



**2010**

**Phase III: lower roof AFTER**



**Windows BEFORE**



**2011**

**Windows AFTER**



**Blue Jay Mine: BEFORE**



**2010**

**Blue Jay Mine: AFTER**

# Walker Ranch House

destroyed by fire 1992







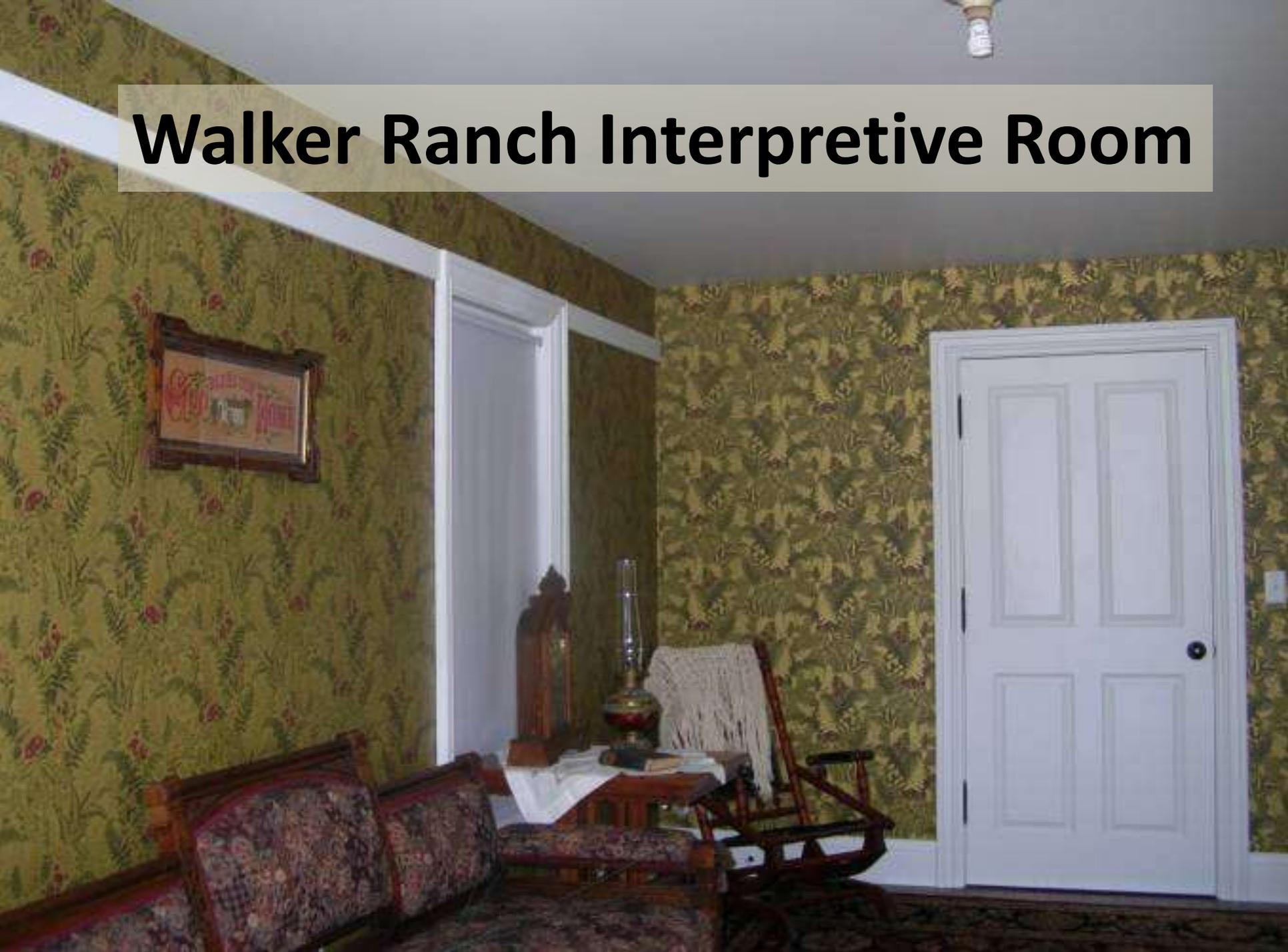
**2009**

**Walker Ranch House reconstructed**



**Walker Ranch Interpretive Room**

# Walker Ranch Interpretive Room



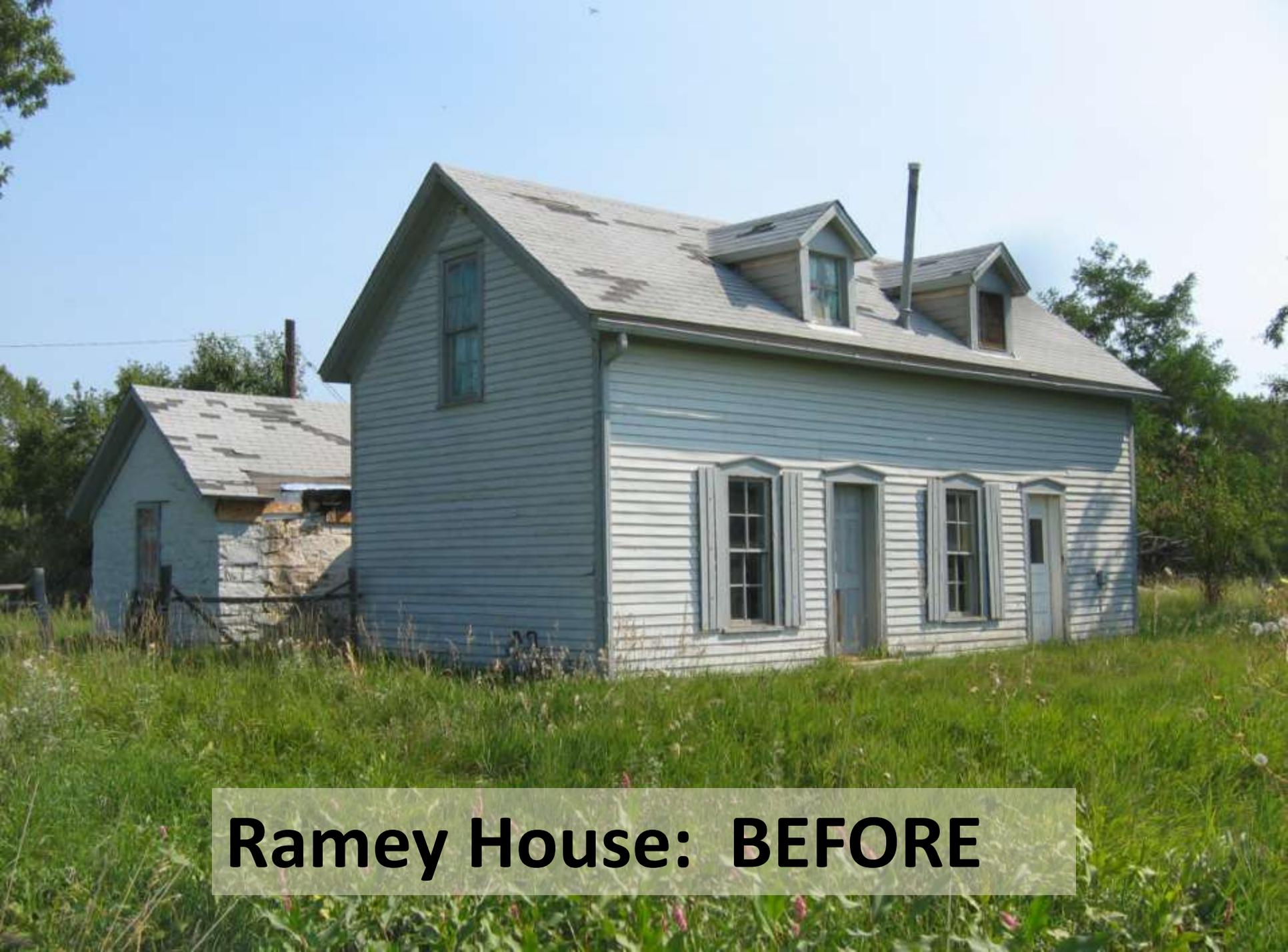


**Walker Ranch Lower Barn: BEFORE**



**2011**

**Walker Ranch Lower Barn: DURING**



**Ramey House: BEFORE**



**2008**

**Ramey House: AFTER**

# Ag Heritage Center Honey House









# Ag Heritage Center Smokehouse









# Quicksilver Granary: BEFORE



**2008 (moved to AHC)**

**Quicksilver Granary: AFTER**



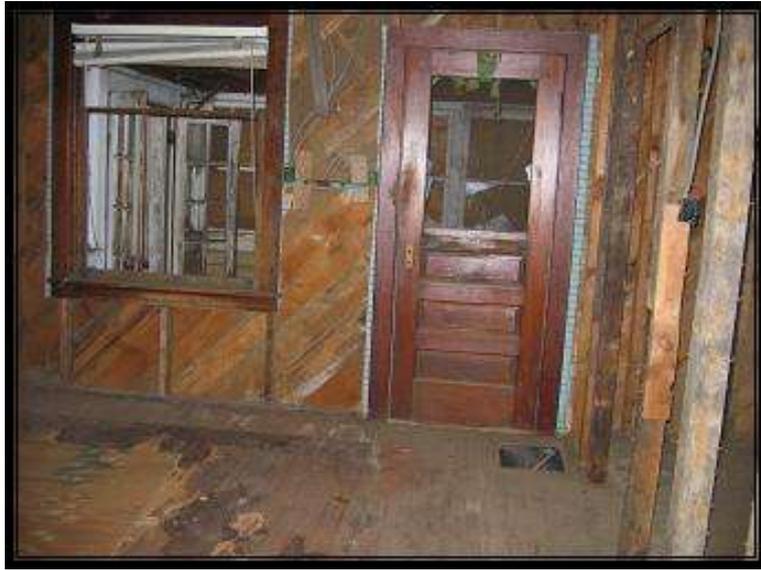
**Golden Barracks: BEFORE**



**2009**

**Golden Barracks: AFTER**

# Harney-Lastoka House: BEFORE





**2010**

**Harney-Lastoka House: AFTER**



**Harney-Lastoka  
Milk House and Milking parlour**

A scenic view of a lake with a wooden bench and a wooden walkway leading to it, framed by trees and grass. The text "Recreation Facilities" is overlaid in the center.

# Recreation Facilities



**2008**

**Picture Rock Trailhead  
Heil Valley Ranch**

25 3:09PM

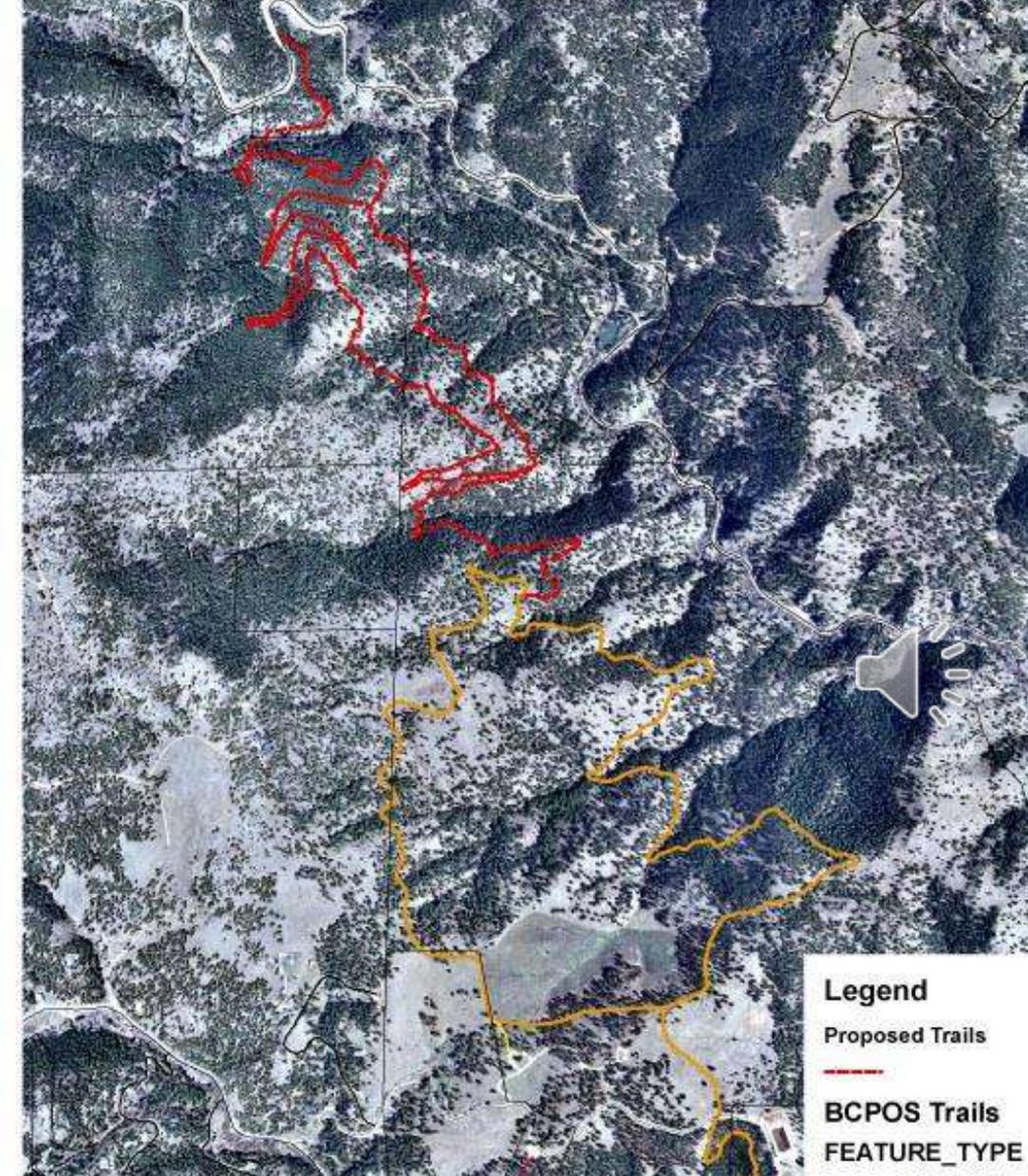








# Betasso Improvements & Benjamin Trail Construction



## Legend

Proposed Trails



BCPOS Trails

FEATURE\_TYPE

Access Trail



Hiking Trail



Multiuse Trail



Sidewalk

### DISCLAIMER:

This map is for illustrative purposes only, and is not suitable for parcel specific decision making. The areas depicted here are approximations. More site specific studies may be required to draw accurate conclusions.

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## Betasso Trails



**2009**

**Benjamin Loop construction, Betasso**





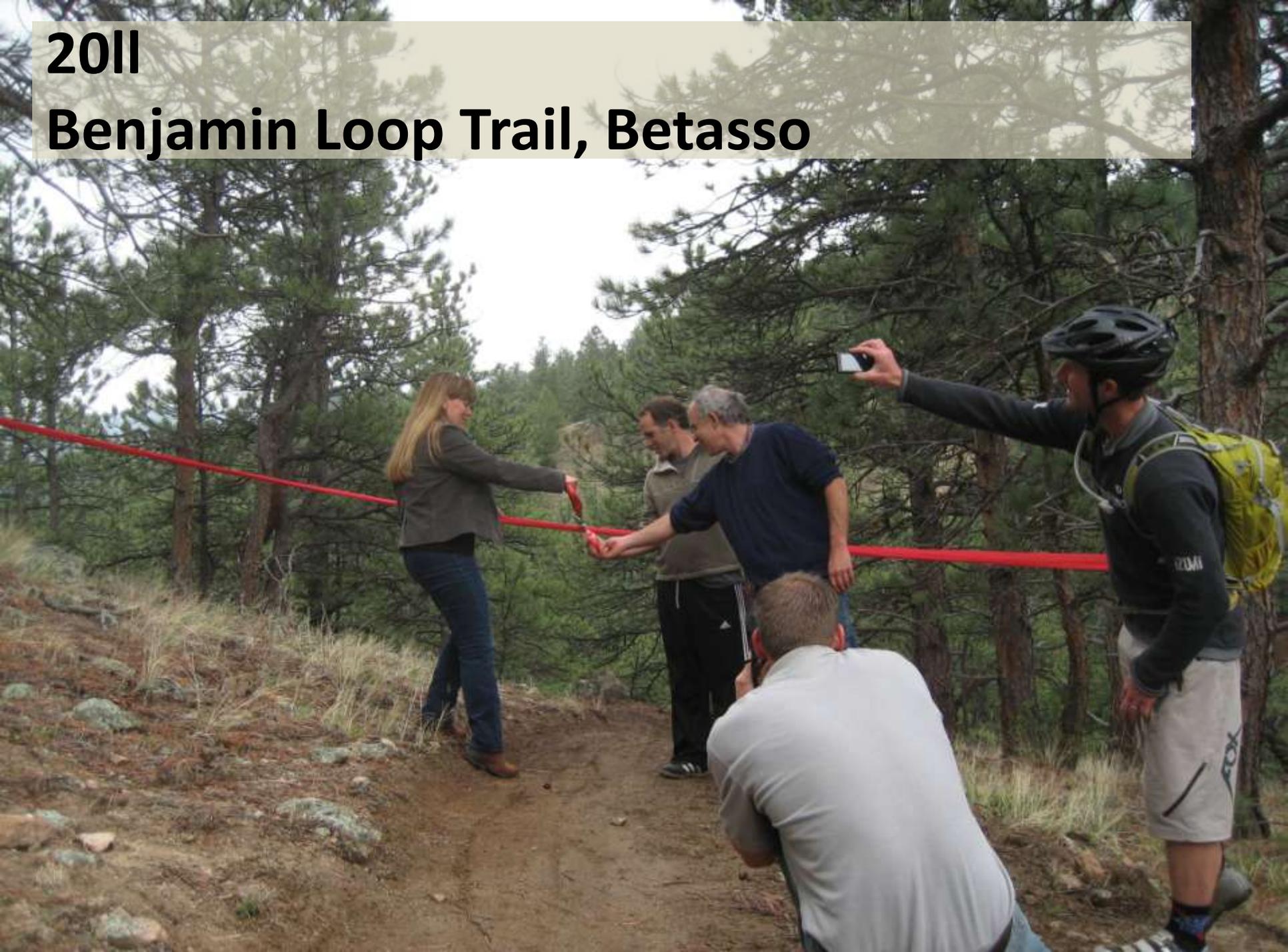






2011

# Benjamin Loop Trail, Betasso



**2011**

# **Trail Link to Bummers Rock, Betasso**



**2011  
Blanchard Trail, Betasso**







**2010**

**Bluebird Loop, Caribou Ranch**







**2010**

**Mayhoffer-Singletree Trail**





**2010**

**Coalton Trailhead roundabout**



**2011**  
**Coalton Trailhead**





**2011**

**Meadowlark Trail**



# 2012 Dry Creek/Niwot Loop





