



Boulder County
Parks and Open Space Department



Natural and Cultural History Programs: A Survey of Participants from 2006 to 2008

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Acknowledgements

Boulder County Parks and Open Space would like to thank all of the Boulder County Seniors, volunteers and staff who helped make this study successful.

The Department would like to thank the 423 individuals who, after attending a Boulder County Parks and Open Space program, took the time to sit down and fill out our questionnaire.

Thank you.

Executive Summary

The Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department (BCPOS) provides free natural and cultural history programming throughout the county. From April 2006 to July 2008, BCPOS surveyed these programs' participants to enhance and extend current and future programming, and to provide the best in public service to the citizens of Boulder County.

Discover Boulder County Programs

The majority of "Discover Boulder County Program" (DBC) attendees are aged 40 or older, and attended programs on birds, wildlife & habitats or general nature hikes. Most knew a little about the topic prior to attending. The majority of respondents had attended either one or more DBC programs in the past year, or they were attending their first ever.

The vast majority of respondents (97%) would attend another DBC program in the future, and prefer that they be held at local libraries, either on weekday mornings or Saturday mornings. Most often, they learned about these programs from announcements in local papers, or in the BCPOS newsletter "Images."

Requested Programs

The majority of respondents who requested programs from BCPOS knew "a little" to "nothing" about the program topic. The majority had requested at least one program in the past year, perhaps two to five. Respondents mostly requested programs about birds, cultural history or "Life Zones" because they trust and enjoy BCPOS volunteers and staff. All of them would request a program again, probably about wildlife & habitats or plants. The majority of requesters learned about BCPOS programs from BCPOS volunteers or staff. They prefer indoor programs of 1.5 hours or less, and rate BCPOS as "above average" compared to other local agencies.

School Programs

The majority of teachers who responded to this questionnaire had requested school programs about wildlife & habitats, or general nature hikes. On a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent), the majority of teachers rated BCPOS school program topics and presenters either a 4 or 5. Teachers rated BCPOS that way because of the presenters' skills and the appropriateness of topics to their curricula. The vast majority (97%) would request school programs from BCPOS in the future.

1. Introduction

Boulder County Parks and Open Space (BCPOS) Department provides free natural and cultural history programming throughout the county, largely through volunteers. The program presenter records the participants who attend these programs apparent age, gender and race. Also, the participants are provided with pre-written cards to give BCPOS feedback about their program and its presenter. These cards have been useful in rating individual presenters and the content of their programs, but were designed to be short and succinct. A deeper survey analysis of natural and cultural history program participants has been 11 years hence. The present study was intended to update and enhance our current level of understanding.

Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of this study was to determine the opinions, preferences and demographics of participants who attended BCPOS cultural and natural history programs.

The objectives of the study were as follows:

- Ask participants of BCPOS natural and cultural history programs to participate in the survey.
- Utilize these results to help guide the direction of cultural and natural history programming for the near future.
- Assess how well school programs meet the needs and expectations of the local educators

2. Methods

Survey Design

This survey utilized three similar, but different, questionnaires (Appendix A) for three distinct program types:

- 1) *Discover Boulder County programs* – programs advertised to and provided for the general public;
- 2) *Requested programs* – specific programs for individuals and organizations by whom BCPOS was contacted;
- 3) *School programs* – programs requested by local teachers or school administrators.

The Education & Outreach staff designed each of the three types of questionnaires. All three utilized open-ended and closed-ended questions, collecting both qualitative and quantitative data. See Appendix A for question design.

Data Collection

This study was initiated in 2006. Data collection began in spring of that year, continued throughout 2007 and was concluded in July of 2008.

Natural and Cultural History Program Coordinators and the Education Liaison were provided copies of the appropriate questionnaires to distribute appropriately. For “Discover Boulder County” programs, presenters asked all willing participants to complete questionnaires at the program’s end. Respondents were given the option of either turning them in to the presenter or mailing them directly to BCPOS. For the school and requested programs, presenters gave questionnaires only to the individual from the local school (teacher) or group (leader) that requested the program.

Data was analyzed using Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Access and Statistics Package for Social Science (SPSS).

3. Results

Results from this study are divided into three sections, as follows:

- Discover Boulder County programs
- Requested programs
- School programs

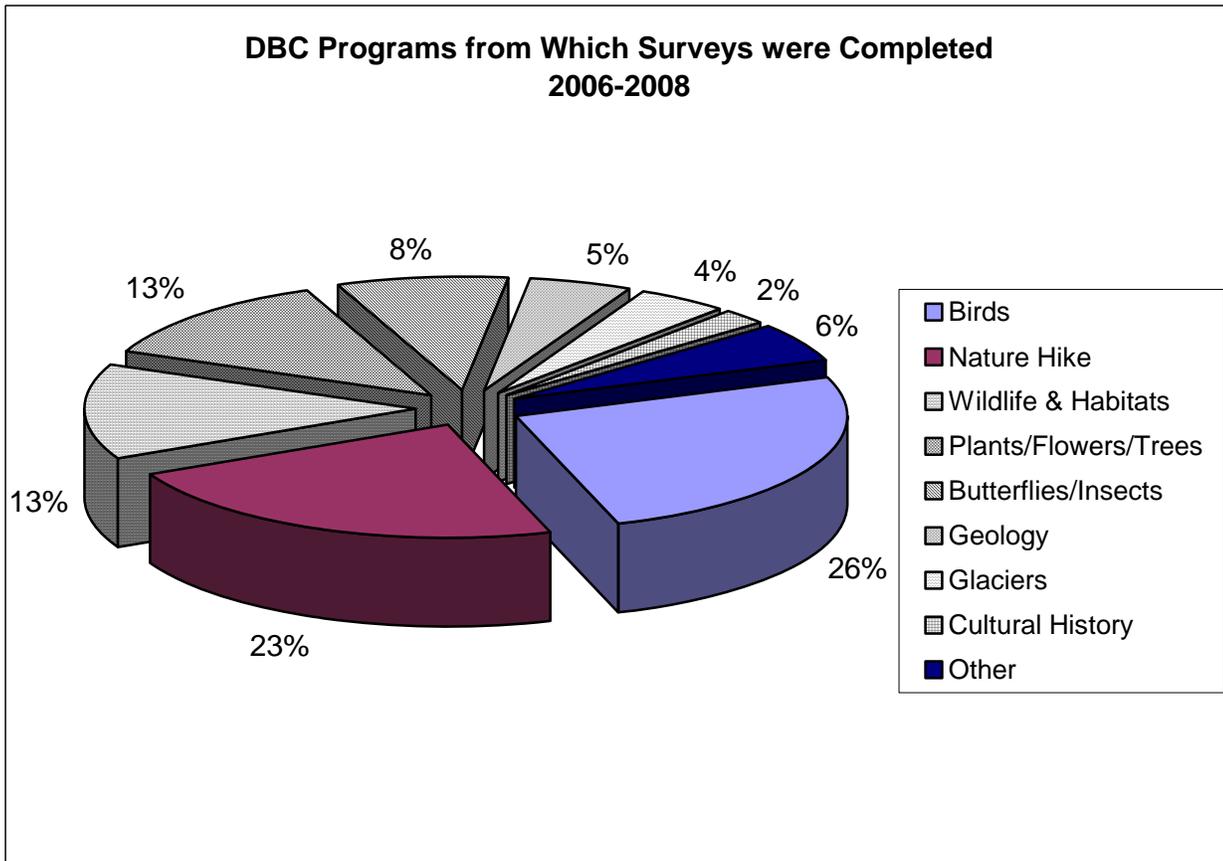
Discover Boulder County Programs

“Discover Boulder County” programs are regularly advertised to the general population through local papers, radio, agency newsletters and email lists. These programs are free, and take place throughout the year at locations all over Boulder County.

Three hundred forty-three participants from 70 different Discover Boulder County (DBC) programs returned completed questionnaires between April 2006 and June 2008. Program topics here have been aggregated into larger, broad categories. The program topics from which we received the most surveys are listed in Table 1.

Of note, 53% of the respondents to this questionnaire reported being over the age of 60, and may be in retirement. As such, results are always skewed to this particular age group.

Table 1. Top Ten Programs from which Surveys were Returned



Comparatively, the top program topics from 2006 to 2008 by *attendance* are listed below.

| Program Topic | 2006 - 2008 |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| General ecology, nature hikes | 31% |
| Birds | 19% |
| Wildlife and habitats | 16% |
| Plants/flowers/trees | 13% |
| Geology | 7% |
| Miscellaneous | 6% |
| Butterflies/Insects | 2% |
| Nature Detectives Club | 1% |
| General ecology, indoor | 1% |

In comparing the number of participants to these programs to the number of surveys received during this period, we see that the number of surveys received is a fairly representative sample. The exception being “Butterflies/Insects” and “Glaciers”, both of which were overly represented in the survey sample.

Reasons for Attending DBC Programs

What is the one main reason why you attended this program?

Respondents’ written comments describing their reasons for attending were varied and different, depending on the program topic and location. Most of them described learning more about the subject at hand, learning something new, personal affinity for the subject (e.g. “I love...”), and being outside in nature. A coded list of each respondent’s reasons for their attendance can be found in Appendix B.

Prior Knowledge of the Subject

Which of the following best describes how much you personally knew of the subject prior to attending this program?

| Prior Knowledge of Subject | % of Total |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| A Little | 46 |
| Moderate | 30 |
| Nothing | 16 |
| A Lot | 6 |
| Blank | 2 |
| Total | 100% |

Prior Program Participation

Have you ever attended a BCPOS program before?

| Past Attendance | % of Total |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Yes | 59 |
| No | 37 |
| Not Sure | 4 |
| Total | 100% |

How many BCPOS natural or cultural history programs have you attended in the past year?

| Programs Attended | % of Total |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| My First Ever | 38 |
| Two to Five | 31 |
| One Program | 21 |
| Six or More | 6 |
| Blank | 4 |
| Total | 100% |

What topics were presented at those programs?

| Program Topic | % of Total |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Wildflowers | 20 |
| Cultural History | 19 |
| General Nature Hikes | 17 |
| Birds | 15 |
| Wildlife & Habitats | 15 |
| Geology | 5 |
| Wetland/Riparian | 5 |
| Plants | 4 |
| Forests | 2 |
| Other | 2 |
| Total | 100% |

Though respondents were able to choose multiple responses, they have been ranked by proportion of total number of responses.

Preferred Topics for the Future

What topics would you likely attend in the future?

| Program Topic | % of Total |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Wildflowers | 21 |
| Cultural History | 19 |
| General Nature Hikes | 17 |
| Wildlife & Habitats | 13 |
| Wetland/Riparian | 12 |
| Birds | 8 |
| Forests | 4 |
| Geology | 4 |
| Other | 1 |
| All of the Above | 1 |
| Total | 100% |

As with the past topics, though respondents were able to choose multiple responses here, they have been ranked in order of their proportion of total responses to total 100%.

Likelihood of Attending Future BCPOS Programs

Would you attend a BCPOS program again?

| Response | % of Total |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Yes | 97 |
| Not Sure | 2 |
| Blank | 1 |
| Total | 100% |

Why did you answer that way?

Most of the reasons centered on the programs being “fun,” “interesting,” or “educational.” Please see Appendix C for a full description of each respondent’s responses.

Preferred Times and Locations for DBC Programs

Where in your community would you prefer we hold indoor programs?

| Location | % of Total |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Generic "Libraries" | 23 |
| Boulder Public Library | 10 |
| No Preference | 9 |
| Boulder Rec. Centers | 9 |
| Generic "Senior Centers" | 8 |
| Longmont Public Libraries | 6 |
| Boulder | 4 |
| Louisville Library | 3 |
| Reynolds Branch Library, Boulder | 3 |
| Longmont | 3 |
| Louisville Rec. Center | 2 |
| Lafayette Public Libraries | 2 |
| Generic "Outdoors" | 2 |
| Louisville | 1 |
| All others combined | 15 |
| Total | 100% |

What time works best for you to attend a program?

| Preferred Time | % of Total |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Weekday Mornings | 35 |
| Saturday Mornings | 33 |
| Weekday Evenings | 10 |
| Weekday Afternoons | 8 |
| Saturday Afternoons | 8 |
| Sunday Mornings | 2 |
| Sunday Afternoons | 2 |
| Saturday Evenings | 1 |
| Any | 1 |
| Total | 100% |

Answers for preferred program times differed sharply by age. Respondents over aged 60, who represent 53% of all respondents, preferred weekday mornings overall at 49%. Those aged 25-39 (13%) preferred Saturday mornings at 52%, as did 51% of respondents 40-60 years old (33% of respondents). Finally, of those respondents under age 18 (2% of respondents), 75% preferred Saturday afternoons.

How Respondent Learned of Program

How did you find out about this program?

| Where Learned About Program | % of Total |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Boulder Daily Camera | 36 |
| Other | 19 |
| Images Newsletter | 18 |
| Family/Friends | 15 |
| Longmont Times-Call | 5 |
| Louisville Times | 2 |
| POS Website | 2 |
| Lafayette News | 1 |
| Radio | 1 |
| POS Employee | 1 |
| Erie Review | 1 |
| Blank | 1 |
| Total | 100% |

Those who selected “other” were provided a space to describe where they found the DBC program. These are detailed in Appendix D.

Finally, we asked respondents to provide general demographic information, both for long-term tracking as well as program design purposes.

| | Respondent Demographic | Number of Respondents | % of Total Respondents |
|-----------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Gender | Female | 399 | 75 |
| | Male | 130 | 24 |
| | Blank | 5 | 1 |
| Residence | Boulder | 216 | 40 |
| | Longmont | 112 | 21 |
| | Unincorporated Boulder County | 60 | 11 |
| | Louisville | 55 | 10 |
| | Lafayette | 42 | 8 |
| | Erie | 10 | 2 |
| | Superior | 7 | 1 |
| | Broomfield | 6 | 1 |
| | Nederland | 2 | 1 |
| | Lyons | 3 | 1 |
| | Other | 21 | 4 |
| Age | Over 60 | 281 | 53 |
| | 40-60 | 175 | 33 |
| | 25-39 | 67 | 12 |

| | | | |
|-----|----------|---|----|
| Age | Under 18 | 8 | 2 |
| | 18-24 | 2 | <1 |
| | Blank | 1 | <1 |

Requested Programs

The “Requested Programs” are those natural and cultural history programs which local groups request from BCPOS. Those groups may be, and have been, for example, homeowners associations, senior centers and residences, Girl and Boy Scout Troops, nonprofit groups, other governmental entities, hiking clubs (e.g. Sierra Club), and special population organizations (e.g. developmentally disabled adults).

Unlike the DBC programs, questionnaires at requested programs were given only to one person, the group planner or trip leader. As such, each returned questionnaire is from one distinct program event. Twenty-three group leaders whom requested programs from BCPOS returned completed questionnaires between April 2006 and June 2008. Of these 23 individuals, 12 different program topics were identified, and seven were left blank. Four of the programs, while separate events, were repeated topics.

Topics requested from BCPOS are listed below.

| Program Topic | Number of Questionnaires Returned |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Agricultural Heritage Center | 3 |
| Birds of Boulder County | 2 |
| Life Zones of Boulder County | 2 |
| Boulder County Natural History | 2 |
| Sustainable Farming | 1 |
| Betasso Preserve | 1 |
| Local Pollinators | 1 |
| Bats and Owls | 1 |
| Raptors | 1 |
| Boulder County Open Space | 1 |
| Butterflies | 1 |
| Caribou Ranch | 1 |
| Left blank | 6 |
| Total | 23 |

Reasons for Requesting BCPOS Programs

What is the one main reason you requested this program?

The main reasons that respondents provided for requesting BCPOS programs were varied. A full description of each programs’ reasons can be found in Appendix E.

Prior Knowledge of Subject

Which of the following best describes how much your group knew of the subject prior to attending this program?

| Prior Knowledge of Subject | % of Total |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| A Little | 70 |
| Nothing | 17 |
| A Lot | 9 |
| Moderate | 4 |
| Total | 100% |

Prior Requested Programs

Have you ever requested a BCPOS program for your group before?

| Ever Requested a BCPOS Program | % of Total |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Yes | 65 |
| No | 22 |
| Not sure | 13 |
| Total | 100% |

How many BCPOS natural or cultural history programs have you requested in the past year?

| # of Programs Requested | % of Total |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| One | 35 |
| Two to Five | 30 |
| My first ever | 26 |
| Blank | 9 |
| Total | 100% |

What topics were presented at those programs?

| Program Topic | % of Total |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Wildlife and Habitats | 20 |
| Plants | 13 |
| Birds | 13 |
| Wildflowers | 11 |
| Geology | 9 |
| Cultural History | 9 |
| General Nature Hikes | 9 |
| Other | 9 |
| Forests | 4 |
| Wetlands/Riparian | 4 |
| Total | 100% |

Though respondents were able to choose multiple responses, they have been ranked here in order of their proportion of total responses.

Future Program Requests

What topics would you likely request in the future?

| Program Topic | % of Total |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Wildlife and Habitats | 14 |
| Plants | 13 |
| Birds | 12 |
| General Nature Hikes | 10 |
| Wildflowers | 10 |
| Forests | 10 |
| Cultural History | 10 |
| Wetlands/Riparian | 9 |
| Geology | 9 |
| Other | 1 |
| Total | 100% |

As with the past topics, though respondents were able to choose multiple responses here, they have been ranked in order of their proportion of total responses.

Program Preference

Which of the following do you prefer when requesting BCPOS programs?

| Program Type | % of Total Responses |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Indoor Programs | 58 |
| Field Trips | 36 |
| Other | 6 |
| Total | 100% |

How Respondents Learned of Program

How did you find out about the opportunity to request a BCPOS program?

| Where I Learned About Requesting BCPOS | % of Total |
|---|-------------------|
| Other | 40 |
| POS Employee or Volunteer | 28 |
| Blank | 8 |
| Family/Friend | 8 |
| School Teacher | 8 |
| Scout Leader | 4 |
| School Administrator | 4 |
| Total | 100% |

The “other” ways that respondents reported are outlined in the table below

| “Other” Means of Learning about BCPOS | # of Occurrences |
|--|-------------------------|
| I used to be a BCPOS volunteer | 3 |
| Flyer in school | 2 |
| Blank | 2 |
| Senior Services | 1 |
| Co-worker | 1 |
| Board Member | 1 |

Program Preferences and Quality

How long should a BCPOS program be for your needs?

| Preferred Program Length | % of Total |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 to 1.5 hours | 41 |
| Less than 1 hour | 33 |
| 2 to 2.5 hours | 11 |
| 1.5 to 2 hours | 7 |
| All Day | 4 |
| Half Day | 4 |
| Total | 100% |

Was the ratio of presenter to participants good at this program?

| Appropriate Number of Presenters | % of Total |
|---|-------------------|
| Yes | 92 |
| No | 4 |
| Blank | 4 |
| Total | 100% |

How do BCPOS natural and cultural history programs compare to other local government agencies’ interpretive programs?

| BCPOS vs. Other Local Agencies | % of Total |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Above Average | 56 |
| Average | 9 |
| Blank | 35 |
| Total | 100% |

Why did you answer that way?

Respondents' reasons for rating BCPOS are listed in Appendix F.

Would you request a BCPOS program again?

All 23 respondents (100%) who requested programs for their group or agency replied that they would, indeed, request another BCPOS program in the future. A full, detailed list of those is found in Appendix G.

Where does your group currently meet?

| Location Group Currently Meets | % of Total |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Boulder | 52 |
| Louisville | 18 |
| Lafayette | 9 |
| Broomfield | 4 |
| Other | 4 |
| Superior | 4 |
| Blank | 9 |
| Total | 100% |

School Programs

School programs are natural and cultural history programs that local schoolteachers or administrators specifically request from BCPOS.

Like the "Requested Programs," questionnaires were given only to one person: the teacher or school administrator. As such, each returned questionnaire represents one distinct program event. Fifty-seven teachers and/or school administrators that requested programs from BCPOS returned completed questionnaires between April 2006 and June 2008. Of these 57 individuals, 17 different program topics were identified, and four were left blank.

Topics requested by local schools are listed here.

| Program Topic | Number of Questionnaires Returned |
|---|--|
| Wildlife & Habitats | 11 |
| General Nature Hikes | 11 |
| Birds | 9 |
| Education Trailer - Life Zones of Boulder County | 9 |
| Agricultural Heritage Center at the Lohr/MacIntosh Farm | 9 |
| Walker Ranch Homestead | 4 |
| Wetlands | 2 |
| Insects | 2 |
| Left blank | 4 |
| Total | 57 |

Program Content and Program Presenter Ratings

Respondents rated the quality of both the program’s content and its presenter. These ratings were across four separate categories each, on a scale of one to five, where one is “poor” and five is “excellent.” Table 2 illustrates these responses.

Table 2. Program Content and Presenter Ratings

| Quality Rating: 1 - 5 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|
| 1 = Poor, 3 = Fair, 5 = Excellent | | | | | | | |
| | | % of Total Responses | | | | | |
| | Rated Quality | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Blank |
| Program Content | <i>Valuable learning experience</i> | - | - | 2 | 26 | 70 | 2 |
| | <i>Met curriculum needs</i> | - | - | 2 | 30 | 63 | 5 |
| | <i>Appropriate for age/ability level</i> | - | - | 5 | 25 | 68 | 2 |
| | <i>Engaging for students</i> | - | - | 5 | 26 | 67 | 2 |
| Program Leader(s) | <i>Communication prior to program</i> | - | - | 3 | 12 | 74 | 11 |
| | <i>Knowledge of subject</i> | - | - | - | 17 | 81 | 2 |
| | <i>Rapport/interaction with group</i> | - | 2 | 5 | 16 | 75 | 2 |
| | <i>Receptive/responsive to questions</i> | - | 2 | - | 15 | 79 | 4 |

In addition, respondents included written comments about the program topic and presenter. These comments are detailed in Appendix H.

What did you like about the program?

Responses were varied, especially from topic to topic. The most prevalent responses centered on interactive and hands-on activities, hiking or walking, and being outside. A full list of these responses is provided in Appendix I.

How could the program be improved to better suit your needs?

Respondents were given six options from which to choose as areas where BCPOS school programs could better suit their needs.

| Option Chosen | % of Respondents |
|---|-------------------------|
| Nothing! Great as is | 49 |
| Interactive activities | 19 |
| Pre/Post activities and/or background information | 14 |
| Handouts to complement program | 12 |
| Other | 11 |
| Additional “props” or materials | 9 |

Totals are greater than 100% due to multiple options chosen. Those who selected “other” were provided a space to include their suggestions, which are detailed in Appendix J.

Will you consider requesting another program with us?

| Response | % of Respondents |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Yes | 91 |
| Blank | 7 |
| Maybe | 2 |
| No | - |

Why or why not?

Reasons given for requesting future programming with BCPOS are fully outlined, verbatim, in Appendix K.

Is there anything else you’d like to share with us?

Please see Appendix L for a complete list of these comments.

4. Discussion

This section discusses the results of the study in more detail. Each program type is discussed separately.

Discover Boulder County Programs

“Discover Boulder County” programs are regularly advertised to the general population through local papers, radio, agency newsletters and email lists. These programs are free, and take place throughout the year at locations all over Boulder County.

When viewing these results, it is important to note that 53% of the respondents to these programs reported being over the age of 60, and may be in retirement. As such, the results for DBC programs are skewed toward this particular age group.

Requested Programs

The “Requested Programs” are those that local groups or individuals specifically request from BCPOS. These groups, for example, have been homeowners associations, senior centers and residences, Girl and Boy Scout Troops, nonprofit organizations, other governmental entities, outdoor clubs (e.g. Sierra Club), and special population organizations (e.g. developmentally disabled adults).

Unlike the DBC programs, questionnaires for the requested programs were given only to one person, the group planner or trip leader. As such, each returned questionnaire is from one distinct program event, and reflects only the opinions and experiences of the trip leader.

School Programs

School Programs are marketed and targeted to the Saint Vrain Valley and Boulder Valley School Districts. Like the “Requested Programs,” questionnaires at School Programs were given only to one person: the teacher or school administrator. As such, they reflect the opinions and experiences of the individual teachers in assessing how well the school programs meet their educational needs and expectations.

Next Steps

BCPOS will use the information from this study to hone and improve our public programming. Program Coordinators will review and assess this information, and share the report with volunteers, since they conduct more than 80% of programs. Also, we will continue to solicit feedback from program participants and those requesting programs through more informal, observational means. And, in order to improve and extend communication and information with Boulder County residents, BCPOS will offer program participants the option of joining our email listserv. In these ways, we can maximize benefits to the community and to all the residents of Boulder County.

Appendix A.
Survey Questionnaires

Part 1:
“Discover Boulder County” (DBC) Program Questionnaire

Boulder County Parks and Open Space (BCPOS) is conducting this survey to better serve the community. The information you provide on this survey will help us focus our efforts on providing quality natural and cultural history programming. Thank you for taking time to participate!

What was the date and topic of your program today?

Which of the following best describes how much you personally knew of the subject prior to attending this program? (check only one)

- Nothing
- A little
- Moderate
- A lot

Have you ever attended a BCPOS program before?

- No
- Yes
- Not Sure

How many BCPOS natural or cultural history programs have you attended in the past year?

- My first ever
- 1 program
- 2 to 5
- 6 or more

What topics were presented at those programs? (check all that apply)

- Cultural history
- General Nature Hikes
- Birds
- Wildflowers
- Wildlife & Habitats
- Plants
- Wetland/Riparian
- Forests
- Geology
- Other: _____

What topics would you likely attend in the future? (check all that apply)

- Cultural history
- General Nature Hikes
- Birds
- Wildflowers
- Wildlife & Habitats
- Plants
- Wetland/Riparian
- Forests
- Geology
- Other: _____

WHAT TIME works best for you to attend a program?

(check all that apply)

- Weekday mornings
- Weekday afternoons
- Weekday evenings
- Saturday mornings
- Saturday afternoons
- Saturday evenings
- Sunday mornings
- Sunday afternoons
- Sunday evenings

What is the ONE MAIN REASON why you attended this program?

How did you find out about this program?

- Boulder Daily Camera
- Longmont Times-Call
- Erie Review
- Lafayette News
- Louisville Times
- Radio
- "Images" newsletter
- Family/friends
- Parks employee
- POS Website
- Other: _____

Where in your community would you prefer we hold indoor programs?

Would you attend a BCPOS program again?

- No
- Yes
- Not Sure

Why did you answer that way?

Where do you currently RESIDE?

- Unincorporated Boulder County
- Boulder
- Broomfield
- Longmont
- Lafayette
- Louisville
- Superior
- Erie
- Broomfield
- Nederland
- Lyons
- Ward
- Other (where?) _____

Please check your appropriate AGE category:

- Under 18
- 18-24
- 25-39
- 40-60
- Over 60

Gender?

- Female
- Male

If you would like to receive the Department's free quarterly journal Images that includes program listings, please provide your name and address below.

Name: _____ Address: _____

Zip Code: _____

Please read the other side for mailing instructions!

Part 2:
“Requested Program” Questionnaire

Boulder County Parks and Open Space (BCPOS) is conducting this survey to better serve the community. The information you provide on this survey will help us focus our efforts on providing quality natural and cultural history programming. Thank you for taking time to participate!

What was the date and topic of your program today?

Which of the following best describes how much your group knew of the subject prior to attending this program? (check only one)

Nothing A little Moderate A lot

Have you ever requested a BCPOS program for your group before?

No Yes Not Sure

How many BCPOS natural or cultural history programs have you requested in the past year?

My first ever 1 program 2 to 5 6 or more

What topics were presented at those programs? (check all that apply)

Cultural history General Nature Hikes Birds
 Wildflowers Wildlife & Habitats Plants
 Wetland/Riparian Forests Geology
 Other: _____

What topics would you likely request in the future? (check all that apply)

Cultural history General Nature Hikes Birds
 Wildflowers Wildlife & Habitats Plants
 Wetland/Riparian Forests Geology
 Other: _____

Which of the following do you prefer when requesting BCPOS programs?

(check any that apply)

Indoor presentations Field trips
 Other: _____

How did you find out about the opportunity to request a BCPOS program?

School teacher School administrator Family/Friend
 Parks employee or volunteer Scouts leader
 Other: _____ POS Website

What is the ONE MAIN REASON you requested this program?

HOW LONG should a BCPOS program be for your needs?

(check any that apply)

Less than one hour 1 to 1.5 hours 1.5 to 2 hours
 2 to 2.5 hours Half day All day

Was the ratio of presenter to participants good at this program?

Yes, it was a good ratio No, there weren't enough presenters

Would you request a BCPOS program again?

No Yes Not Sure

Why did you answer that way?

How do BCPOS natural and cultural history programs compare to other local government agencies' interpretive programs?

Below average Average
 Above average Not comparable

Why did you answer that way?

Where does your group currently meet?

Boulder Broomfield Longmont Lafayette
 Louisville Superior Erie Nederland
 Lyons Other (where?) _____
 Unincorporated Boulder County

Please read the other side for mailing instructions

Part 3:
“School Program” Questionnaire



Boulder County Parks and Open Space Program Evaluation

Thank you for taking a moment to evaluate the program that your class received.

Program Description/Activities: _____

Program Date: _____ Program Leader/s: _____

Program Content:

| | <u>Poor</u> | | <u>Fair</u> | | <u>Excellent</u> |
|---|-------------|---|-------------|---|------------------|
| • Program was a valuable learning experience for students. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| • Program met curriculum needs. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| • Program content and activities were appropriate for age/ability level of the group. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| • Program was engaging for students | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Program Leader/s:

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| • Communication prior to program | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| • Knowledge of subject | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| • Rapport/interaction with group | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| • Receptive/responsive to questions | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

What did you like about the program?

How could the program be improved to better suit your needs?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nothing! Great as is <input type="checkbox"/> Interactive activities <input type="checkbox"/> Additional "props"/materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Pre/post activities and/or background info <input type="checkbox"/> Hand-outs to complement program <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe below): |
|---|--|

Will you consider requesting another program with BCPOS? Why or why not?

Is there anything else you'd like to share with us?

Appendix B.

Respondents “Main Reason” for Attending DBC Program

| Program Topic | “Main Reason” for attending program |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Animal Tracking at Caribou Ranch | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn • General “interest” • Enjoy snowshoeing (2) • To be outdoors • To visit Caribou Ranch |
| Baby Animals | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be outdoors |
| Bald Mountain Sunset Hike | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be outdoors (2) • To walk (2) • Flowers (2) |
| Bald Mountain Wildflower Hike | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn • Work-related |
| Bears in Boulder County | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about bears (2) |
| Birds of Boulder County | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about birds (2) • Interest in birds • Training as Volunteer Naturalist |
| Birds of Prey Driving Tour | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about raptors |
| Birds of Prey Slideshow | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about raptors (2) • Interest in raptors (2) |
| Birds of the Plains | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn more about local birds (2) • “Curious” about birds (2) |
| Birds of Walden Ponds | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about birds • Interest in birds |
| Birds, Bees, Flowers, Trees | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about pollination • To learn about environment • To be at Caribou Ranch (2) |
| Boulder Bird Club – Caribou Ranch | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boulder Bird Club outing |
| Boulder County Wildflowers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training as Volunteer Naturalist • Interest in wildflowers • To gain flower identification skill (2) • Near to home |
| Boulder County Wildlife | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offered at living facility |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Butterflies and Blossoms | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional botanist, interested in topic • Professional lepidopterist • Interested in topic • Aware of knowledgeable presenters • Generic “butterflies” • Enjoy learning (2) • To learn about topic (4) • Invited by family member • Invited by friend |
| Caribou Ranch Senior Hike | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To see how property has changed (2) |
| Caribou Ranch Sunset Hike | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn more about BCPOS |
| Caribou Ranch Wildflowers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore new territory • Group hike (2) • Learn about flowers |
| Carolyn Holmberg Preserve | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invited by presenter • To be outside |
| Carolyn Holmberg Preserve Senior Hike | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about a new area |
| Winter Waterfowl Driving Tour | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested in birds • Not too early |
| Circle of Stones Women’s Hike | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hike for women only |
| Colorful Colorado | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sounded interesting |
| Conifers of the Front Range | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To view Caribou Ranch and hike |
| Fossils and Flowers of Six-Mile Fold | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested in geology • See unusual geologic formations • Enjoy learning |
| Fossils of Boulder County | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To complement another class • To learn about local fossils (2) • To get more information |
| Geology of Boulder County | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest in topic (2) • Very interested in topic (2) • To learn • Invited by another • Get informed about area |
| Glaciers of Boulder County | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn (3) • Interest in topic (3) • Get informed about area (3) • Affinity for topic |
| Grandparent and Grandchild Hike | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To do something with grandkids |
| Heil Valley Ranch | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To exercise (2) • To get information (2) |

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Heil Valley Ranch – Full Moon Hike | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To see a park at night |
| Heil Valley Ranch – Sunset Hike | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good time to attend (2) |
| “I Spy” | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To attend with child (2) • Convenient location (2) • Child wanted to attend (2) |
| Living in Lion Country | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To accompany an older relative (2) • To learn more about Lions • To update information • Interest/Fear in topic • Presenter is neighbor |
| Mud Lake Montane Forest | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about the area • Good hike for young child • To learn about nature (2) |
| Owls of Boulder County | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about local wildlife • To learn about topic (3) • Interest in topic (2) • To recognize birds • To teach my own Env. Ed. program • Close to home |
| Pella Crossing Senior Hike | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To get information • To learn about area (2) |
| Pella Crossing Sunset Hike | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about area (2) |
| Prairie Winter Hike | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To visit the area • To hike |
| Quaking Aspen | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The safety of hiking in a group • To learn about topic |
| Coyote Cunning Trickster | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education for children |
| Rabbit Mountain Sunset Hike | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about topic |
| Rabbit Mountain Wildflower Hike | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about topic (3) • Came with spouse |
| Raptor Driving Tour | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce topic to family • To learn about topic (13) • Gain greater raptor ID skill (3) • Advice of friend • Popular thing to do • Fun/enjoyment (3) • To see raptors (3) • Avid raptor watcher • Be outside with a social group • Sounded interesting (2) |
| Raptor Slideshow | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about topic (4) • Gain greater raptor ID skill (4) • Training for teaching • Interest in birds |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Rattlesnake hike at Rabbit Mountain | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To bring my child • To learn about topic (2) • Proximity to home |
| Trees/Forests | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about nature (2) • To learn about the topic |
| Spring wildflower slideshow | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest in topic |
| Stories in the Landscape | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about CO (2) |
| Streams and Ponds | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about topic • To learn about area • Drove to event |
| Walker Ranch Senior Hike | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To hike • Hike with seniors |
| Spring Hike at Heil | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCPOS programs are always excellent • To learn about topic (4) • Child-friendly program • Family member • Fun/enjoyment |
| Wild Cats of Boulder County | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about topic (2) |
| Wildflowers of Legion Park | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about topic (2) |
| Wildflowers of Caribou Ranch | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity to Home • To learn about topic (2) • To gain greater ID skill (3) • The VN presenter • To be outdoors |
| Wildflowers of Heil Valley Ranch | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about topic • To gain greater teaching skill |
| Winter Weasel Walk | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about topic |
| Women's Nature Hike - Listening | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn about topic |
| Writing in Nature | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enjoy nature more • To be outdoors |
| Yuck! Barf & Poop | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good outdoor activity for children (4) |

Appendix C.

Reasons Respondents Would, or Not, Attend BCPOS Programs Again

| <i>Respondents' Reasons for Attending BCPOS Program Again</i> | | |
|---|---|---|
| Program Topic | Would You Attend Again? | Included |
| Left blank | Yes | Enjoyed this one |
| | Yes | I enjoy them, I learn too! |
| | Yes | Enjoyable, got us out to nature |
| | Yes | Much informative |
| | Yes | Interests me |
| | Yes | have enjoyed the programs I've attended |
| | Yes | great information |
| | Yes | want to learn and know as much as I can about the area |
| | Yes | quality, time, and close to my home |
| | Yes | enjoy pace of senior hikes & info presented |
| | Yes | Have enjoyed many in the past |
| | Yes | very informative |
| | Yes | Excellent presentation and informative |
| | Yes | It's great info |
| | Yes | Good program |
| | Yes | I enjoy learning about nature and wildlife and the outdoors |
| | Yes | I learned a lot |
| | Yes | This program was very interesting and fun |
| | Yes | It was interesting |
| | Yes | like to hike and meet people |
| | Yes | Speakers, great info |
| | Yes | it's a way to know more about the county's open spaces |
| | Yes | Educational |
| | Yes | It was great! |
| | Yes | Guides were so knowledgeable & made it so interesting |
| | Yes | I enjoyed it and it was informative |
| | Yes | Enjoyed it; the naturalist volunteers were great, informative without being overwhelming, pedantic, or talking down to us |
| | Yes | I love to learn new things & nature |
| | Yes | it's always informative |
| | Yes | very informative! Very interesting, good program |
| | Yes | Because of how much I enjoyed yesterday's tour |
| | Yes | good info |
| | Yes | for education |
| Yes | it was great | |
| Yes | enjoyed past program | |
| Yes | good family outing | |
| Yes | fun! | |
| Yes | Enjoyed the presentation | |
| Yes | They are always informative | |
| Yes | we always learn new facts & can better identify flora/fauna | |
| Yes | The programs are enjoyable and informative | |

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| Left blank | Yes | enjoy them and find them informative as well as enjoy the company of kindred spirits |
| | Yes | they are good |
| | Yes | it was great |
| | Yes | very informative! Very interesting, good program |
| | Yes | good info |
| | Yes | they are good |
| | Yes | it's a way to know more about the county's open spaces |
| | Yes | Loved it! |
| | Yes | it's always informative |
| | Yes | enjoyed it; the naturalist volunteers were great, informative without being overwhelming, pedantic, or talking down to us |
| | Yes | It's good information for the children |
| | Yes | great information |
| | Yes | very pleasant people attend. Pleasant interpreters |
| | Yes | enjoyed past program |
| | Yes | good family outing |
| | Yes | fun! |
| Yes | we always learn new facts & can better identify flora/fauna | |
| Baby Animals | Yes | Enjoyed the first one |
| Bats | Yes | "GREAT" Program by Ms. Susan Holley & Louise Alderson; particularly Ms Holley, who REALLY knows how to communicate with kids & draw the out |
| Bears | Yes | Really enjoyed all of them - informative and fun |
| | Yes | liked the volunteers & their enthusiasm, knowledge & depth of knowledge |
| Birds of Caribou Ranch | Yes | Love learning about the natural environment |
| Birds of Walden Pond | Yes | Very interesting and informative |
| | Yes | Informative |
| | Yes | Very informative, knowledgeable guides |
| Birds of Boulder County | Yes | I do not know it all |
| | Yes | they are free and usually very informative |
| | Yes | I enjoy these topics |
| | Yes | I have enjoyed all the BCPOS programs I have attended |
| | Yes | There's always more to learn |
| | Yes | enjoyed it |
| Birds of Lafayette | Yes | I learned a lot even though I'm fairly knowledgeable already |
| | Yes | it was well worth it |
| Local Pollinators | Yes | Always excellent quality |
| | Yes | Learned a lot and talking with new people |
| | Yes | This particular program was very informative - pictures good, presenters kept to the subjects |
| | Yes | I learn and really like going to these programs |
| | Yes | I found the topic fascinating and well presented |
| | Yes | I always learn something |
| | Yes | good information |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| Local Pollinators | Yes | interesting and enjoyable - looking forward to the walk on June 5 |
| | Yes | detailed, excellent pictures & presentation |
| | Yes | great programs, comfortable location and good time of day |
| | Yes | interesting new info |
| | Yes | This was my first one and it was wonderful; |
| | Yes | I enjoyed them all |
| | Yes | I enjoyed the program immediately |
| | Yes | it was interesting and the speakers well informed |
| | Yes | I'm a VN |
| | Yes | learn and enjoy information |
| | Yes | with each program I learn something new |
| | Yes | interesting |
| | Yes | the 2 I've been to have been very good |
| Winter Waterfowl Driving Tour | Yes | I love learning about our area. Former naturalist (volunteer) for BCPOS |
| | Yes | It was so informative |
| Circle of Stones workshop | Yes | because I love learning more about myself and my natural surroundings |
| | Yes | It was fun, I liked being in nature |
| Fossils | Yes | This presentation was one of the best |
| | Yes | it was great! Speakers informative and interesting |
| Geology | Yes | We have for years. Won't stop now!! |
| | Yes | I enjoy getting out and leaning new things |
| | Yes | I love nature and environmental information |
| | Yes | My first program try was an excellent program |
| | Yes | always want to learn more of our area |
| | Yes | All programs have been excellent |
| | Yes | informative, educational |
| | Yes | I enjoyed this program. The program was well presented |
| The Glacial Legacy of Boulder County | Yes | I've enjoyed the ones I've gone to |
| | Yes | they are interesting |
| | Yes | I enjoy the subjects & can always learn |
| | Yes | Great and interesting presentation |
| | Yes | they are of interest to me |
| | Yes | Interested in things about Boulder County |
| | Yes | I enjoy details our natural surroundings |
| | Yes | quantity |
| | Yes | because I will |
| | Not Sure | what would be presented? |
| Yes | because they have been good and I would like to get involved with the education program | |
| Grandparent and grandchild hike | Yes | every program we've attended has been excellent |
| I Spy Bones | Yes | I loved it |
| | Yes | I loved it |
| | Yes | I enjoyed it |
| | Yes | kids enjoyed it |
| Lafayette/Deer | Yes | a lot more fun to go out as a group than on your own |

| | | |
|------------------------|-----|---|
| Creek bird walk | Yes | I enjoyed myself |
| Lions/Wild Cats | Yes | I found my first experience enjoyable and knowledgeable |
| | Yes | The content was well presented, informative and useful. |
| | Yes | very well done, educational and interesting. Well paced. |
| | Yes | It was a great program and I learned a lot. This type of activity helps to remind me why Boulder is such a special place! |
| | Yes | it was very interesting and our guide was very amicable |
| | Yes | very interesting, enjoyable |
| Nature Walks | Yes | Learn more about Boulder County |
| | Yes | Interest in nature and good volunteers |
| | Yes | Had fun, learned |
| | Yes | I love these hikes. Maybe twice a month |
| | Yes | enjoyed listening to Lucas |
| | Yes | have enjoyed all the programs I've attended |
| | Yes | I really enjoyed them |
| | Yes | very enjoyable |
| | Yes | I really enjoyed them |
| | Yes | I enjoyed it |
| | Yes | caribou ranch was ideal bike-flat trail; even surface; some shade |
| | Yes | Interested in wildlife |
| Night Hike | Yes | Very much fun |
| | Yes | Curious |
| | Yes | I've been to many programs |
| Open space | Yes | it was enjoyable, knowledgeable and helpful |
| Owls of Boulder County | Yes | you offer program on birds |
| | Yes | to learn |
| | Yes | I enjoyed it |
| | Yes | very good talk |
| | Yes | entertaining, educational |
| | Yes | it was fascinating |
| | Yes | they've all been interesting |
| | Yes | they are informative |
| | Yes | I want to learn more about nature |
| | Yes | good information |
| | Yes | always informative and interesting |
| | Yes | I enjoyed the program I attended |
| Prairie Winter Hike | Yes | very informative |
| | Yes | I learn something new on each outing |
| Raptor Driving Tour | Yes | Volunteer interpreters bring unique styles to provide a learning experience |
| | Yes | Enjoyed it |
| | Yes | Had fun and learned a lot |
| | Yes | I enjoyed learning what I did about birds of prey |
| | Yes | It (the program tonight) was well done. I learned something new |
| | Yes | very well done |
| | Yes | every one we have attended has been good |

| | | |
|-------------------|-----|---|
| | Yes | fantastic, great info |
| | Yes | informative & free |
| | Yes | Programs are very informative and interesting |
| | Yes | The tour was well done. The naturalists were friendly and knowledgeable |
| | Yes | I feel the Co guides are knowledgeable as well as other participants |
| | Yes | Great for meeting people as well as knowledge learned |
| | Yes | enjoyable and informational |
| | Yes | All I have attended in the past have been very interesting |
| | Yes | Today's program was good and I'd be interested in others related to birds & wildlife |
| | Yes | I have enjoyed their programs & their tours in the past |
| | Yes | They're informative |
| | Yes | great experience, really nice, informed people |
| | Yes | my partner made me do it |
| | Yes | I gained valuable information |
| | Yes | love this type of info |
| | Yes | I enjoyed it. Speakers were knowledgeable |
| | Yes | I am interested in learning more about the natural habitat where I live |
| | Yes | Lots of good information, especially for someone new to Boulder |
| | Yes | Enjoyed the company, spotting scope, seeing raptors & being outside |
| Raptor Slide Show | Yes | We learn a lot from each presentation |
| | Yes | I'd love to learn more! |
| | Yes | I thought the program was very informative & organized |
| | Yes | Fun and informative. Kids love them |
| | Yes | It was a good program |
| | Yes | It's true |
| | Yes | They are wonderful! |
| | Yes | It was a valued presentation |
| Rattlesnake! | Yes | lots more to learn |
| | Yes | It was informative and fun |
| | Yes | I wish we could have started our hike a little earlier and done more hiking and talking at the same time. |
| Trees | Yes | Very well done |
| | Yes | enjoyed the program |
| | Yes | friendly atmosphere |
| | Yes | I enjoy learning about nature |
| | Yes | It makes me appreciate and more aware of the living plants, trees and how they contribute to the Earth and how they affect humans and Animals |
| | Yes | learn more |
| Senior's Hike | Yes | I liked lucas & janette & it was informative, as well as beautiful |
| | Yes | Learned quite a lot |
| | Yes | informative |
| | Yes | I enjoy them |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|--|
| | Yes | I enjoy them very much |
| | Yes | educational, enjoyable |
| | Yes | Excellent programs & the people are great |
| | Yes | They have been very interesting |
| | Yes | they are enjoyable, educational, good exercise and outdoors |
| | Yes | Because they have been good |
| | Yes | nice people, "use our tax-provided services or lose them" |
| Spring wildflower slide show | Yes | enjoyed both we've seen |
| Stories of the Landscape | Yes | Interested in BCPOS Natural/Cultural history |
| | Yes | They're great! |
| | Yes | Matt and the material were interesting |
| Sunset Hike | Yes | I've been on programs in the past, but not for a year |
| | Yes | nice to know we can learn more about where we live |
| | Yes | it was a pleasant, informational experience |
| | Yes | Programs are interesting & informative |
| | Yes | I enjoyed the program very much |
| | Yes | I enjoyed the program very much |
| | Yes | I enjoyed the enthusiasm of the naturalists presenters and learned about the area |
| | Yes | I enjoyed the enthusiasm of the naturalists presenters and learned about the area |
| | Yes | very professional, interesting info, friendly people |
| | Yes | I found that I enjoy learning about the BCPOS areas |
| The Quaking Aspen | Yes | enjoyed it |
| | Yes | group hike/safety from mtn lions /Bear |
| | Yes | Volunteer interpreters were knowledgeable and interested in the subjects taught, also wanted to learn more about this new park |
| Tracking Animals | Yes | I enjoyed Michael Bauer's presentation |
| | Yes | I got outside, had fun, and learned some things |
| | Yes | thoroughly enjoyable and educational - Michael was a good leader |
| | Yes | Informative |
| | Yes | program was interesting |
| Walden and Sawhill Ponds | Yes | the programs are interesting and educational |
| | Yes | Good way to get fresh air |
| | Yes | Volunteers knowledgeable and friendly |
| Walker ranch - glimpse of the past | Yes | it was enjoyable and educational |
| | Yes | it was enjoyable, educational & interactive |
| | Yes | it was fun & educational |
| | Yes | positive experience with those we have attended so far |
| | Yes | I enjoy them. They are educational |
| | Yes | loved it! |
| | Yes | enjoy learning about local history & ecology |
| | Yes | great info presented |
| | Yes | trip leader, mary wiener, did a wonderful job of making the hike very interesting! |
| | Yes | It was fun |

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| | Yes | I answered because it taught me a bit about the wild west |
| What's the Deal with Spring? | Yes | Very interesting |
| | Yes | Learning more about my open spaces and so are my children |
| | Yes | enjoy them so much |
| | Yes | enjoy learning about habitat around us |
| | Yes | Want to learn more |
| | Wildflower Hike | Yes |
| Yes | | your programs are wonderful! |
| Yes | | Interesting and well run |
| Yes | | see other answer |
| Yes | | to learn about hiking areas |
| Yes | | I learned a great deal and they're well presented. |
| Yes | | b/c it was fun & I learned |
| Yes | | Volunteers are great |
| Yes | | the quality is always excellent & friendly naturalists |
| Yes | | they have all been informative and interesting |
| Yes | | It was a very good and interesting presentation |
| Yes | | They have been very rewarding in the past |
| Yes | | Program was good and will help me w/ ID flowers and with my yard |
| Yes | | volunteer guides were so friendly, knowledgeable & genuinely interested in the subject and the participants |
| Yes | | They are great, I learn a lot |
| Yes | | always enjoy them and there's so much to learn |
| Yes | | excellent information, friendly presenters |
| Yes | | volunteer guides were so friendly, knowledgeable & genuinely interested in the subject and the participants |
| Yes | | the quality is always excellent & friendly naturalists |
| Yes | | excellent information, friendly presenters |
| Yes | | Enjoyed the entire program |
| Yes | | thoroughly enjoyed the experience |
| Yes | friendly, knowledgeable staff | |
| Yes | Very interesting and informative | |
| Winter Weasel Walk | Yes | The programs and content are outdoors and interesting |
| Women's walk - listening | Yes | Good programs |
| | Yes | Lot to offer |
| Writing out in nature | Yes | love it |
| | Yes | friendly knowledgeable handy |
| | Yes | Volunteers did a great job - it was enjoyable |
| | Yes | friendly knowledgeable handy |
| | Yes | the programs often are well prepared, educationally stimulating & user friendly |
| Young Animals | Yes | It was a positive experience |
| Yuck! Barf & poop | Yes | it was fun & informative |
| | Yes | great program topics, enthusiastic naturalists! |

Appendix D.

“Other” Means by which Respondents Found DBC Programs

| What was the topic of the Program today? | “Other” means of finding out about program |
|--|--|
| Bird Club Visit to Caribou Ranch | Boulder Bird Club newsletter |
| Birding at Walden Ponds | Left blank |
| | Boulder Bird Club newsletter |
| | Boulder Bird Club newsletter |
| Boulder County Glaciers | School |
| | Louisville Senior Center |
| | Longmont Senior Center |
| | Longmont Senior Center |
| | Left blank |
| | At another BCPOS program |
| | At another BCPOS program |
| | Sierra Club |
| | Senior Center |
| | Senior Center |
| | Sierra Club |
| Butterflies | “Yellow Scene” magazine |
| | Left blank |
| Geologic history of Boulder County | Left blank |
| | Longmont Senior Center |
| | Left blank |
| | Left blank |
| | Louisville Senior Center |
| | At another BCPOS program |
| | Left blank |
| Nature Walks | Left blank |
| Open space | Left blank |
| Owls | Boulder Bird Club newsletter |
| | Boulder Bird Club newsletter |
| | Left blank |
| | Longmont Senior Center |
| | “Yellow Scene” magazine |
| | “Yellow Scene” magazine |
| Prairie Winter Hike | Longmont Senior Center |
| Rabbit Mountain Hike | Longmont Senior Center |
| Raptor Driving Tour | Boulder Bird Club newsletter |
| Raptors slideshow | Louisville Senior Center |
| Senior hike at Hall Ranch | Longmont Senior Center |
| Signs of Spring at Heil Valley Ranch | School |
| Snowshoe walk - Caribou Ranch | Nederland Visitors Center |
| Streams and ponds | Left blank |

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Walden and Sawmill Ponds | Boulder Bird Club newsletter |
| | Left blank |
| Wildflowers | My friend is a VN |
| | Left blank |
| | School |

Appendix E.

Respondents “Main Reason” for Requesting BCPOS Program

| <i>Respondents “Main Reason” for Requesting Program</i> | |
|---|--|
| Program Topic | “Main Reason” for requesting program |
| Left blank | Price |
| | The quality of the programs & personal contact with presenters to help plan the program |
| | We had an owl family meeting at NCAR |
| | Our Optimist Club looks for interesting subjects on many different subjects of interest |
| Animals and fauna at Betasso Preserve | Very professional and age specific- I can count on you guys! |
| Bats & Owls | Program offers hands-on items I do not have |
| BCOS trails/wildlife | To acquaint newcomers to the area w/ trails, wildlife, outdoor excursions |
| | Expose group to activities of openspace programs, nature, locations etc |
| Birds of Boulder County | Wrap up our program on birds |
| | We presented a 3-part series at the Louisville Senior Center (Bird Class, field trip, art class) |
| Birds of prey | Activity to involve residents in a interesting topic, prep for driving tour |
| Butterflies & Blossoms | To enhance our knowledge when adding plants to our gardens that will assist/support pollinators in this area. |
| | The club is interested in providing plants used/needed by butterflies. |
| Caribou Ranch Senior Hike | Seniors enjoy guided hikes |
| | Caribou Ranch and the fact that hikes of different capability levels were offered for seniors |
| Farming History in Boulder County | To provide a 1st hand experience for kids w/an expert from your program |
| | This is a life skills day for us & we wanted to increase their knowledge about the environment around them |
| | BVSD standards -- History -- Comparing families long ago to families now |
| | To expose Doorways' international women and children to our country's opportunities to learn more about Colorado |

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Life zones of Boulder County | Give the students an expert's perspective |
| Natural History | Educational/ outside, "fun" trip |

Appendix F.

Respondents Reason for Rating BCPOS Program vs. Other Local Agencies

| <i>Respondents' Stated Reasons for Rating BCPOS vs. Other Local Agencies</i> | | |
|--|---------------|---|
| Program Requested | Rating | Stated Reason for Rating |
| Left blank | Above Average | On time, on target, receptive to questions at the end. |
| | Above Average | BCPOS is unique in that I have an opportunity to discuss my needs in advance and have a more customized program instead of a "set" program we've used in the past |
| Animals and fauna at Betasso Preserve | Above Average | Programs from NCAR and NOAA are very difficult to organize with them |
| Bats & Owls | Above Average | Depends upon the presenter |
| Birds of Boulder County | Above Average | Volunteers were very knowledgeable and enthusiastic |
| Boulder Co. Open Space | Above Average | Haven't compared many (?) government programs |
| Butterflies | Above Average | All the programs are consistently professionally presented - excellent detail and information - speakers are always well prepared and knowledgeable. |
| Caribou Ranch Senior Hike | Above Average | The naturalists presentation were so well prepared! And each naturalist was so engaging and energetic |
| Farming History in Boulder County | Average | Boulder has great programs/volunteers (comparing to Boulder Historical Society Program last year) |
| | Above Average | Presenters hold our interest and relate well to young children |
| Local pollinators | Above Average | Informative - full topic coverage |
| Natural History | Above Average | They were very prepared w/age appropriate activities |

Appendix G.

Reasons Respondents Would Request BCPOS Program Again

| Program Topic | Would You Request a BCPOS Program Again? | Reason Stated |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| Left blank | Yes | The children learned a lot and had fun |
| | Yes | The volunteers and their resources are terrific |
| | Yes | Right length and level for a very mixed audience |
| | Yes | Very concise and to the point. Excellent speakers knew the subject well. |
| | Yes | Volunteers are always kind and work well with our senior population |
| Animals and fauna at Betasso Preserve | Yes | I can count on you guys to do your best! |
| Bats & Owls | Yes | These programs enrich my lesson plans |
| BCPOS trails/wildlife | Yes | very interesting! We requested that a repeat of last years' program be presented to our group |
| | Yes | Group reception - maybe a bird slide show could be of interest |
| Birds of Boulder County | Yes | It was excellent. The participants enjoyed the great learning experience. |
| Birds of prey | Yes | There was a great turn out of residents, and they really enjoyed topic, information and presenters |
| Butterflies | Yes | It was an interesting and professionally presented program. Also, the club does not have to provide equipment. |
| Caribou Ranch Senior Hike | Yes | The participants enjoyed having 5 naturalists - we could break into groups and pace everyone according to their needs |
| | Yes | The presenters were all excellent, passionate and knowledgeable. Very open and engaging with our group. |
| Farming History in Boulder County | Yes | Having the knowledge & eyes of another & an expert is so rewarding |
| | Yes | The participants really seemed to enjoy the program, especially all of the hands on activities |
| | Yes | Presenters were very knowledgeable, had good management skills with kids and the program was set up without much notice |

| | | |
|--|-----|--|
| | Yes | Presenters were very knowledgeable, had good management skills with kids and the program was set up without much notice |
| | Yes | Tom McMichen is fascinating in his presentation of AHC information (& showing the player piano & victrola). Chautauqua's naturalists are excellent too |
| Life zones and animals of Boulder County | Yes | Informative, and material related to campers (what they experienced and where they live) |
| Local pollinators | Yes | Dependability - always interesting, professional, informative, and complete presentations |
| Natural History | Yes | The volunteers were fabulous and the students enjoyed themselves |
| Natural History | Yes | Great volunteers! |

Appendix H.

Comments Regarding Program Topics and Program Presenters

| <i>Comments regarding Program Topic or Presenter</i> | | |
|--|--|--|
| Program Topic | Comments for Topic | Comments for Presenter |
| Left Blank | Only because if we think its great we won't keep challenging ourselves | Wow! Tiffany |
| AHC (Agricultural Heritage Center at Lohr/MacIntosh Farm) | Left blank | Guides knew info, One guide was not ready for third graders - she was impatient and hard to follow |
| Life Zones – Education Trailer | Could have been at a higher level | Left blank |
| | Left blank | It was fun meeting your boss too. |
| Mammals | Sometimes a little advanced for kindergarten | Left blank |
| Mud Lake | Seed collection was engaging, Mud Lake was not | Left blank |
| Walker Ranch/School Days | Left blank | Gene was a bit grumpy with kids. |

Appendix I.

Teachers' comments about what they liked

| <i>Teachers' Comments Regarding What they Liked</i> | |
|---|---|
| Program Requested | What Teachers Liked |
| Left blank | Activities, visuals |
| | Small groups at end - hands-on great |
| AHC (Agricultural Heritage Center at the Lohr/MacIntosh Farm) | Everything the staff went above & beyond to meet our Ag. Science needs! |
| | Wow! The facilitators were knowledgeable, pleasant and presented content that integrated beautifully with our study of Colorado history |
| | Hands on, friendly, local |
| | Aligned with our Social Studies curriculum. Lots of fun. |
| | Jim's enthusiasm, history, learning about components of farm, interactive questions |
| | The variety of items to see is great. The outdoors is a plus. |
| | Hands-on, kids get to see the house |
| Animals in Winter | Lots of fascinating info. About animals, great photos, and 3-D examples. The kids sat a little long, so perhaps we could have moved a little more in between. |
| Bald Mountain | The hike, views, and facts about animals preparing for winter, the focus on senses, the knowledge of our tour guides. Everything was wonderful! |
| Bats & Owls | hands-on; having 2 presenters |
| Bears | The artifacts, the information shared, the questions the presenters ask to engage the children |
| | The multi-sensory approach & the enthusiasm of the presenters. |
| Carnivores, Herbivores, Omnivores | Children loved seeing actual herbivore, carnivore, and omnivore skulls/teeth! What a great visual for them before making their own salt dough models! |
| | I love the hands-on |
| | That students got to touch real animal teeth & see the difference in their teeth. |
| | Kids engaged - age appropriate and hands-on |
| | The skulls were great for the kids to see, touch, and feel! |
| Ecology | It was well organized and very educational. The program leaders were very well informed. |
| "Field Trip" | The seed gathering was great. The morning hike was too much talking, not enough doing! |
| | Loved the interactive barn and the farmhouse |
| | We loved the hands-on activities - the models of paw prints, droppings, & the fur pelts. |
| Heil Valley Ranch | The naturalists knew a lot of good info about the area |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Insects | great rapport w/ children, great knowledge, beautiful park |
| Life Zones - Education Trailer | Very hands on with lots of visual aids |
| | Awesome. Some kids would never be able to experience some of these learning activities if it couldn't come right to us!! Thanks |
| | The visuals were great! The animal pelts and interactive trailer kept students very interested and motivated. The leader was great with the kids. |
| | I liked the visuals, the important information and the interactive/sensory-filled activities |
| | We had talked about Life Zones in class. This program enriched our class work. |
| | It was perfect for what we had in mind - an introduction to the animals of the region and the different life zones. We would not have had time to do much more. |
| | Visuals and examples of animals (skull, mammoth tooth, mounts, etc.) for the students to see; knowledgeable presenter |
| | Expanded on curriculum material we have. The leaders were good with the kids and knowledgeable about the subject. |
| Mammals | Hands-on pelts, stuffed animals |
| | puppets, hands-on items, storytelling |
| | Hands-on items, combination of lecture and stations, program moved very well for kindergarten attention span |
| Mud Lake | Being outside - seed collection was interesting & brought a connection to the area |
| | AM assembly with current information, seed collection was age appropriate |
| Raptors | Everything |
| Walker Ranch Homestead | Beautiful setting, living history, demonstrations, live animals, and hands-on activities |
| | Blacksmith was outstanding. Kids really enjoyed entire program. |
| | We love all the hands-on activities in a beautiful environment. |
| Wetlands | Tiffany has an easy rapport with students and has the patience to speak with them at their pace rather than talk to them or talk at them. |
| | Being outdoors; close proximity to school; built upon morning trip to Butterfly Pavilion. |
| Wildlife | The leaders rapport w/ children was great and the hands on (pelts, prints, etc. was perfect for 5 & 6 year olds) |
| | Flexibility of instructor to supplement topic the students are studying. Opportunities for hands-on and learning. Knowledge of content appropriate for students. |
| | Hands on activities |

Appendix J.

“Other” Suggestions to Improve School Programs

| <i>Respondents’ “Other” Suggestions for Improving Programs</i> | |
|---|--|
| Program Requested | “Other” suggestions for improving program |
| AHC (Agricultural Heritage Center at Lohr/MacIntosh Farm) | More time needed in barn for interactive activities. More info about family life specifically related to the house and chores of children. |
| | More to show English language learners; docents who are patient and understand third grade behavior |
| | Good beginning - kids were asked to look for silos, barns as homework. |
| | Creates more communication between school, home, and BCPOS |
| Mammals | A bit long when talking - watch body language of children and get them moving to and then bring back |
| Life Zones - Education Trailer | Follow-up classroom activities |
| | Live animal (I know this is difficult) that may be unable to return to wild or video/DVD |
| Carnivores, Herbivores, Omnivores | More time for making carnivore/omnivore/herbivore jaws |
| Field Trip | Give kids something to do on the walk |
| Mud Lake | Mid-level could use more interactive program at Mud Lake. Information was lower level. |

Appendix K.

Reasons For Requesting BCPOS School Programs in the Future

| <i>Respondents' reasons for requesting BCPOS school programs again</i> | |
|--|--|
| Program Topic | Reasons for Requesting BCPOS Again |
| AHC (Agricultural Heritage Center at the Lohr/MacIntosh Farm) | Yes! In another 2 years when we do Science Week again! It fully met our needs! |
| | Yes - your attention to the academic needs/readiness of our students was wonderful! |
| | Yes - We go to this one every year and always enjoy it. It also fits our Social Studies standard. |
| Wildlife | Yes, it was very well organized & a great learning experience. |
| | Yes - great addition to our insect curriculum |
| | Absolutely! You are responsive, kid-oriented, and enthusiastic. |
| | Definitely would consider again in the future. You have a variety of themes the students are interested in. |
| | Yes - the children will remember what they learned. They could touch things, so it will stay with them. |
| | Yes, if it meets curriculum needs. I will also recommend it to others. |
| | Yes I will - it is always nice to have other adults present information, then I'm not the only source and it engages the students' interest. |
| | Yes. Good relevant information designed well for educating this age level student. |
| | Yes, kids loved it and it also filled gaps in our curriculum |
| | Absolutely - schedule earlier in the Spring! |
| | Sure!! It fits in very well with our Food/Farm unit. |
| | Maybe, if you can prepare your guides and allow us to have 3 groups instead of 2. You told us we would have 3 groups, but when we arrived you put us into 2, which made 33 kids per group (too big). |
| | Definitely - tailored to our needs; accommodating |
| | Yes - the students loved it. It really helped bring history alive. |
| | Yes!! Students can learn from others' expertise |
| | Always do. |
| Certainly - any time we can show children how adults love the environment and have a passion for their job, it's worth it. | |
| Yes! We love this program. Thank you so much for doing this for free! | |
| Yes! You are great to work with & a wonderful resource. | |
| Nature Hike Field Trip | Kids seemed to enjoy it. |
| | Yes - it can meet standards for students I'd love to have more real/hands-on activities. |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| | Yes - appropriate for first grader |
| | Yes - It was a wonderful field trip that was very engaging for the students. |
| | Yes - great learning experience. |
| | Yes - we do every year! |
| | Yes - great program |
| | Yes, the children learn so much with hands on activities |
| Life Zones – Education Trailer | Yes, it was awesome. |
| | Definitely because the quality of the program is outstanding! |
| Walker Ranch Homestead | Yes - always great! |
| | Yes! You do a fantastic job! |

Appendix L.

Teachers' Responses to "Anything Else"

| <i>Teachers' "Anything Else" Comments</i> | |
|---|---|
| Program Requested | Ending Comments |
| Left blank | Thanks! |
| | Thanks! |
| | The children truly enjoyed all the props Jean and Bruce shared. Parents came back talking about the program as children went home excited and talked about it. |
| AHC (Ag Heritage Center at Lohr/MacIntosh Farm) | Thank you from all of us! |
| | It was great! |
| | One group did not get to see the chickens. Kids were disappointed. |
| | Our docent didn't have much "control." I was quite worried when we entered the house. She had it totally unstructured rather than gather and focus on one room at a time. |
| | Nope |
| | Thanks! |
| | Tom McMichen, our tour guide was fantastic! |
| Wildlife | Thanks you! |
| | It was all great! Thank you! |
| | Love your program! Thank You! |
| | Thank you! |
| | This was a great team of naturalists - they complimented each other very well. |
| | The volunteers were wonderful with the children. |
| | The kids really enjoyed this - especially the hands-on |
| | The children loved hearing the recorded sounds of the owls. I think they most loved the mounted owls. When can we get more? |
| | Keep up the great work and we'll see you next year! |
| | We hope to see you again next November. |
| Nature Hike Field Trip | This was a lot of coordination work on your end. Thank you! |
| | Yes! Students said, "This was the Best Fieldtrip!" They look forward to repeating and sharing w/ their families. |
| | I think next time we'd like to focus on the interactive barn and farmhouse first, then animals, etc. if there is time at the end. |
| | Nope, thanks, it was a great day! |
| | Just a small item - the trash receptacles weren't adequate. A lot of trash was overflowing. |

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Life Zones - Education Trailer | The beginning discussion could have been broken up with an activity to keep students interest up so they weren't having to listen for more than 10 minutes at a time. |
| | Thank you for coming! |
| | Walker Ranch Field Trip was great too. Beautiful Day, Great Opportunity |
| | I hope you can come again! Thank you! |
| | Good job! |
| Walker Ranch Homestead | The tour was interesting for the students. They loved the blacksmith presentation and the animals. They were curious about life on the Ranch! It would be great if you could think of other activities that the children could do to experience first hand! |
| | We refer to our experiences at Walker Ranch at school all year as we study American history. It serves as a reference point for the children as they visualize and read text about history. |
| Wetlands | One of my students announced that she wants a job like Tiffany's when she grows up! |