

BOISE CITY RIDGE TO RIVERS FY22 FIRST QUARTER PARTNERSHIP MEETING
BOISE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2021
8:30 A.M.

Partners Present: Sara Arkle and Doug Holloway (Boise Parks and Recreation); Brent Ralston (Bureau of Land Management); Scott Koberg (Ada County); Brian Pearson and Ann Moser (Idaho Department of Fish and Game); Kristyn Stauber and Stephaney Kerley (US Forest Service); David Gordon (Ridge to Rivers).

Others Present: None

MEETING SUMMARY NOTES:

A. FY 2022 1st Quarter Budget and Work Plan Review

There were no questions or comments on the budget or work plan.

B. Fall Trail Work Update

Boise Foothill volunteer groups were utilized on Cartwright, Barn Owl, Hawkins and Polecat trail areas.

Smaller projects were underway on Polecat, 3 Bears and Trail 17. Moisture in the foothills was adjusting restoration projects throughout the system.

40 steps were fabricated and installed along Camel's Back Trails.

C. Goose Creek Fire

The Goose Creek Fire (which was ignited by illegal firework usage) burned over 400 acres in the Eagle Foothills before being contained on Oct. 7. Some Ridge to Rivers closure fences and retaining walls were affected by the fire and would be replaced as vegetation grew back. The City of Boise was in contact with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Ada County about possible improvements that could now be an option. Ada County and partners were developing bitterbrush and sagebrush planting efforts to aid in fire restoration. Aerial imagery would be taken of the burn area to better inform efforts.

D. Hawkins Loop Trail Update

Construction of the directional six-mile trail on Hawkins Range Reserve had started and would shut down soon for the winter. It was not yet decided what direction the loop would go. A connecting link would be designed on city property to allow for a shorter route than the six miles. Location options for a trailhead were still being evaluated; there could be a potential timing-challenge of the trail being completed prior to the trailhead.

E. Cartwright Ridge/Barn Owl Trail Update

Easements with Hidden Springs and Cartwright Ranch allowed Ridge to Rivers to connect Barn Owl Trail. A quarter-mile connection along Barn Owl Trail to Cartwright Ridge was constructed, as well as a quarter mile reroute on Cartwright Ridge. More reroutes were planned for next summer.

G. Memorial Wall Update

The community had expressed interested in the ability to purchase a memorial plaque to be placed along Foothills trails. In response, the department had incorporated a memorial wall into its Memorial Policy, allowing for Ridge to Rivers to construct a wall structure at a popular trailhead. The wall would be located in Lower Hulls Gulch area. Once a design was finalized, the department would look for funding. Plaque purchases would go into the city's Heritage Trust Fund for foothills and open space use. The memorial plaques would cost \$3,000.

H. R2R Coordination Challenges

Trail crew members continued to breakup illegally constructed trails throughout the system.

Coyote reports and attacks had increased this year. Idaho Fish & Game was working on hazing efforts to help deter aggressive behaviors from trail users and pets.

"No E-Bike" signage was continually defaced, vandalism and/or removed. City trail staff had experienced hostile confrontations when educating trail users about e-bike policies. City staff were having discussions about coordinating enforcement across the partnership, and the potential for a public service announcement regarding compliance and etiquette by trail users.

I. Ridge to Rivers Map Revision

New trail maps were planned for late winter. The new maps would include trails completed since 2017, as well as trails planned through next summer.

J. R2R Partner Updates

Ada County

There had been a crossover repair effort in the City of Eagle following the Goose Creek Fire where construction activity happened on unpermitted land.

A new position of Trail Crew Foreman was hired. Seasonal hires would still happen spring through fall.

Boise City

The city dedicated Heroes Trail on Oct. 5. The trail connected from the Boise VA Medical Center into Military Reserve. St. Luke's donated \$12,000 for the development of the trail.

There would be some restoration projects at Hillside to Hollow in the fall.

The city was about to close on a 29-acre purchase. The city was using levy funds to purchase the property off Pierce Park Lane in the northwest Boise Foothills.

Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Buck-and-rail fencing was being installed on pull-outs on Highland Valley Road to prevent the areas from increasing in size and vehicles travelling off-road.

A new vault toilet will be installed at the archery range.

Boise National Forest Service

The Forest Service was working on the timber sale at the Stack Rock Trailhead.

V. IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Partnership, the meeting adjourned.