



OPPI Project List

The projects below have been selected as regional priorities through a robust 3.5 year process based on community engagement and with the guidance of the Outdoor Pikes Peak Initiative Task Force. The OPPI will lead, partner, or support these projects and respects that each one has unique jurisdictions and supporting organizations.





REGIONAL TRAIL MASTER PLAN



RING THE PEAK MASTER PLAN

CLOSING THE GAP RING THE PEAK TRAIL



NORTH SLOPE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE



REGIONAL RECREATION MANAGEMENT MODEL



CAMPING MANAGEMENT PLAN



WALDO CANYON



DOWNHILL MOUNTAIN BIKE COURSE



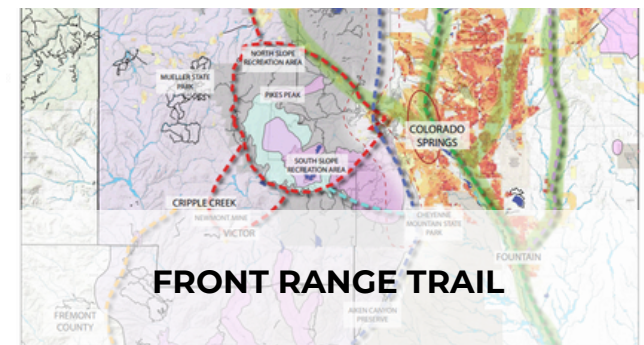
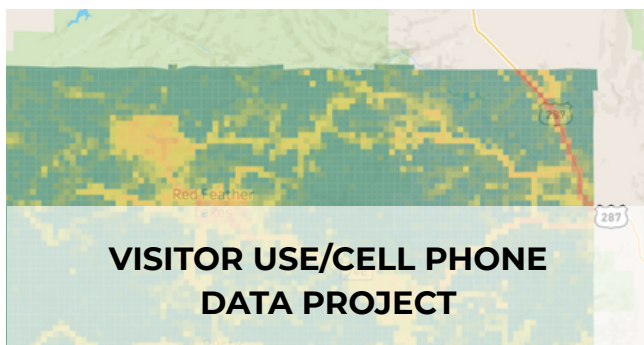
PIKES PEAK HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE



USFS PSICC FOREST PLAN UPDATE



CENTENNIAL PARK PLAY WAVE 2





ALL



The regional trail master plan will unify existing and future trails into a seamless, user-focused network. By collaborating with land managers and stakeholders, it will ensure sustainability and provide an exceptional trail experience.

EL PASO, TELLER



The completion of the 63-mile Ring the Peak Trail will encircle Pikes Peak, connecting communities and integrating existing trails into a continuous loop. This project will preserve natural habitats while offering an unparalleled outdoor experience for hikers, bikers, and nature enthusiasts.

TELLER



With the increase in recreation on the North Slope and the need to protect water resources, Colorado Springs Utilities is updating its North Slope Management Plan. This update aims to better adjust and prepare for future pressures on both recreational use and water resource protection.

EL PASO, TELLER



Through the OPPI planning process, the need for a collaborative management effort for the Pikes Peak massif emerged. Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) was identified as the key entity to lead cross-jurisdictional wildlife and recreation management in the region and is in exploratory status.

ALL



The camping management plan will assess existing camping facilities, evaluate their current state, and identify both current and future needs. It will also determine optimal locations for additional camping facilities to enhance visitor experiences and meet growing demand.

EL PASO



WALDO CANYON

Multiple organizations are working together to continue to move forward the 2020 Re-Imagine Waldo Canyon master plan.

ALL



DOWNHILL MOUNTAIN BIKE COURSE

The project would explore appropriate location and construction of a cutting-edge downhill mountain bike course that leverages innovative design and the natural terrain of undevelopable public land. This course would provide an exhilarating experience for riders while maximizing the use of existing resources and preserving the surrounding environment.

EL PASO, TELLER



PIKES PEAK HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

This project would examine existing management systems in place and explore potential collaborations or alterations.

ALL



USFS PSICC FOREST PLAN UPDATE

The project will update the forest plan, incorporating changes in development, economics, recreation, habitat, and climate since the last plan in 1984. This updated plan will ensure the forest's management aligns with current conditions and future sustainability needs.

FREMONT



CENTENNIAL PARK PLAY WAVE

2

A second play wave near the "Ice House" wave in Cañon City's Centennial Park will ease demand on the popular first wave. As river surfing grows, Royal Gorge RIO aims to expand amenities for this family-friendly sport in the Royal Gorge Region.

FREMONT



The 80-year-old Minnequa Dam, located 0.4 miles upstream of Florence's Pathfinder Park, has long been inaccessible to floating anglers, boaters, and aquatic species, blocking passage from the upper Arkansas to Pueblo Reservoir. This project aims to engineer a new dam that resolves these issues while ensuring agricultural, city, and industrial water users receive their allotted water.

EL PASO



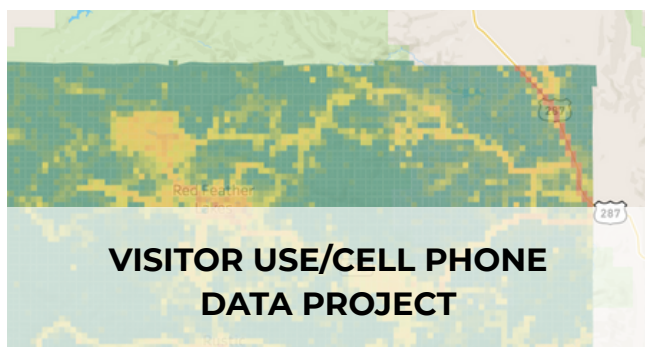
The COS Creek Plan establishes a comprehensive vision for the future investments and stewardship of the Fountain Creek Watershed with a specific focus on segments of the Monument and Fountain creeks adjacent to Downtown Colorado Springs.

ALL



The project will create a regional land conservation plan that integrates all uses of publicly owned land, ensuring a balanced approach to conservation, recreation, and development. This comprehensive plan will guide sustainable land management and preserve vital natural resources for future generations.

ALL



The project will analyze visitor use data by utilizing cell phone data from the three-county region to gain insights into patterns and trends. This analysis will identify key areas of opportunity for improving visitor experiences and optimizing resource management.

ALL



The project will develop a watershed protection strategy across three counties, focusing on safeguarding water sources and waterways from pollutants, drought, and habitat degradation. This strategy will incorporate sustainable land use practices, conservation efforts, and community engagement to ensure long-term water quality and availability.

TELLER, FREMONT



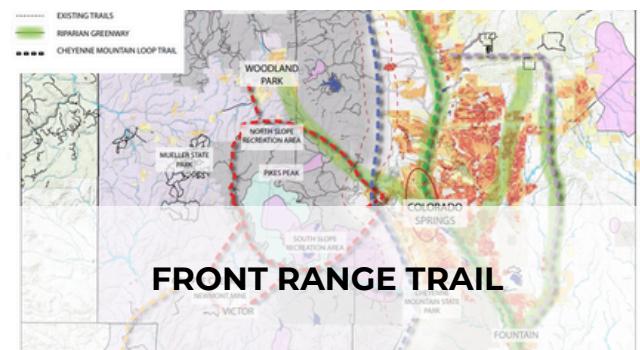
The project identifies a need for enhanced coordination and strategic collaboration to strengthen forest health and wildfire mitigation efforts in the Pikes Peak region. By bringing together key stakeholders, it aims to improve resource sharing, align priorities, and foster more effective, region-wide action.

ALL



With the growing use of trails for OHV activity, there is an urgent need for a regional training center to educate both users and trail enforcers on responsible practices. This center would help protect the region's natural resources while promoting the safe and appropriate use of OHV trails.

EL PASO



The idea of a Front Range Trail linking existing trails and communities has been discussed for years, highlighting the region's interest in enhanced connectivity. This plan addresses the need to develop a comprehensive trail strategy and outlines practical methods for its implementation.

ALL



The OPPI planning process revealed a recurring need and shared desire to connect land managers in a structured, ongoing way to strengthen partnerships and collaboration. One proposed solution is to host an annual Land Manager Summit, providing a dedicated space for communication, idea-sharing, and coordinated action.

ALL



Research into recreation programs that use a mix of volunteers and non-armed rangers to support official rangers in managing recreational areas has shown promising results. The OPPI plan aims to explore implementing a similar approach in appropriate areas of the Pikes Peak region to enhance recreational management and support.

FREMONT



This project will transfer ownership of the historic W.N. Clark power plant site in Cañon City from Black Hills to the City. Included in the 2017 Arkansas River Corridor Master Plan, the site offers potential for recreation, such as campsites, boating access, trailheads, and a park, benefiting residents, outfitters, and visitors.

ALL



While most land managers currently have active communication plans, the OPPI process highlighted a community desire for a more coordinated system to reach constituents. The OPPI plan recognizes this need and proposes initiating collaboration to develop a regional messaging system.

ALL



As visitor numbers rise in the Pikes Peak region, the need for a central wildlife rehabilitation and education center has become clear to help educate and train current and future patrons. This center would also serve as a valuable amenity, enhancing the region's commitment to wildlife preservation and public engagement.

FREMONT



The OPPI process identified reconnecting John Griffin Park's channels to the Arkansas River in Canon City as a priority, with \$50 million secured for water storage, wildfire protection, and recreation. Additional stakeholders and partners are needed to complete the project and enhance water resource management and safety.

FREMONT



Part of the 2013 Eastern Fremont Trails Master Plan, this project will complete a singletrack trail linking Cañon City to the Royal Gorge Bridge, Park, and Trails. With most of the 40-mile loop complete, only the final stretch through Grand Canyon Hills near Temple Canyon Park remains.

FREMONT, TELLER



The Gold Belt Byway Trail feasibility study concluded that while the trail is technically feasible, social and political constraints currently make it unfeasible. However, the trail could offer significant benefits to the communities in the future if these challenges are addressed.

ALL



During community engagement, confusion around varying e-bike policies emerged as a key concern. To address this, the need to explore a regional policy has been identified to promote consistency and enhance safety.

ALL



The OPPI process revealed a communication gap between agriculture and private landowners regarding regional concerns and opportunities. This process identified the need to explore creating a mechanism to foster better communication and collaboration between these groups.

ALL



This initiative acknowledges the disparity in outdoor amenity access among Pikes Peak region residents. It would seek to explore ways to provide equitable access to these amenities for all communities and demographics.

ALL



This study would assess existing cell phone coverage in the Pikes Peak region, focusing on areas with limited service. It aims to explore solutions for expanding coverage across the region to improve safety and access to emergency services.