2018 REVENUES

2018 EXPENSES

Preserve Open Spaces tax.

benefits from the Help

Larimer County receive

sharing agreement ensures

upon the highest yield of

municipalities are based

Distributions to

more than $227 million.

revenue collected to date is

prescription drugs. The total

will sunset in 2043. It is

the county. The tax was

Help Preserve Open Spaces

Revenue from the 1/4-cent

HELP PRESERVE OPEN SPACES TAX REVENUES

Expenses for 2018 were $22.3 million, including a number of one-time capital development projects on County parks and open spaces.

Revenues for Larimer County Department of Natural Resources are realized from a number of sources and totaled $22.6 million in 2018.

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES SUMMARY OF FINANCES

Intergovernment 29%

FINANCIALS

2005

2006

3,532,580 123,913 218,445 3,205,119 — 1,314,655 7,083 66,730 —

2002

3,565,146 122,889 229,886 3,323,372 — 1,321,205 5,887 64,589 —

2000

2,259,975 71,154 161,905 2,107,473 — 847,210 4,221 29,848 —

1998

2,707,553 87,574 193,453 2,487,606 — 1,003,872 5,025 40,557 —

2010

4,152,187 129,513 252,524 3,529,570 34,285 1,554,153 10,563 122,196 54,760

2009

3,956,426 120,359 240,167 3,189,107 38,772 1,470,884 9,121 122,125 55,744

2008

4,777,403 133,751 309,913 3,814,068 74,128 1,904,909 81,646 167,553 124,097

2013

5,718,927 160,117 366,203 4,555,811 88,500 2,368,947 99,959 202,066 151,192

2014

5,388,708 151,014 347,758 4,289,731 82,150 2,229,709 94,508 190,388 141,199

2016

2017

40.84% 1.16% 2.63% 33.14% .74% 17.16% 1.41% 1.58% 1.34%

% Total

Charges 26%

User Fees & Service

Revenue 4%

Development 52%

Acquisition &

Open Space

20%

Open Spaces

Forestry Services 1%

District 6%

Pest (Weed)

OUR VISITORS

report, visit larimer.org/naturalresources.

from the study. For a full copy of the visitor study

Here are some fun facts the department learned

of experiences these people are having. The study

numbers of visitors, who is visiting and what types

department gained valuable insights into the

Open Space and Horsetooth Reservoir.

Horsetooth Mountain Open Space, Red Mountain

at three properties managed by Larimer County:

(970) 619-4570

Loveland, CO 80537

1800 S. County Road 31

Department of Natural Resources

Department of Natural Resources. Thank you to our amazing

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT: 2018 BY THE NUMBERS

173 volunteers donated

2018, reaching 5,139 people

Photo © Jeanie Sumrall-Ajero

2018, reaching 55,860 people

2018, reaching 5,139 people

55,860 people

Red Mountain

Red Mountain

Red Mountain

Red Mountain

Red Mountain

Red Mountain

Red Mountain

Red Mountain

Dogs are not allowed at Red Mountain Open Space.

Dogs are not allowed at Red Mountain Open Space.

* Dogs are not allowed at Red Mountain Open Space.

Red Mountain

Red Mountain

Red Mountain

Red Mountain

Red Mountain

Red Mountain

Red Mountain

Red Mountain

%*
OUR MISSION
To establish, protect and manage significant regional parks and open lands providing quality outdoor recreational opportunities and stewardship of natural resource values. We are committed to fostering a sense of community and appreciation for the natural and agricultural heritage of Larimer County for present and future generations.

A TIME OF NEW BEGINNINGS
In January of 2019, I began my tenure as director of Larimer County Department of Natural Resources. Having worked alongside this department for many years, I’m honored to lead such a dedicated, accomplished and well-respected staff. The many successes in this annual report highlight the positive impact our staff makes every day on conservation and recreation in Larimer County.

These accomplishments were made possible, in part, thanks to funding from the citizen-led, 1/4-cent Help Preserve Open Spaces sales tax. I’m grateful to those citizens who had the foresight more than 20 years ago to initiate this important source of funding and to the residents of Larimer County who voted overwhelmingly four years ago to continue the tax beyond 2018.

With your support, this department will continue to conserve and provide access to the special places that make Larimer County our home. Get outdoors and enjoy your parks and open spaces!

Daylan Figg, Director, Department of Natural Resources

THANK YOU TO OUR CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARDS

Land Stewardship Advisory Board
Renee Galeano-Popp
Ronald Harris
Ernie Marx
Richard “Hitch” McCulloch
Gordon Nuttall (vice chair)
Ed Redente (chair)

Open Lands Advisory Board
Paul Abalack
Jason Brothers
K-Lynn Cameron
Suzan Fritchel
Marilyn Hilgenberg
Gerry Horak
Peter Kelly (chair)
David Marvin (vice chair)
Carl Sorrentino
Sheri Valentine
Nancy Wallace
Ken Zornes

Parks Advisory Board
Steve Ambrose
Mark DeGregorio
Russell Fruits (chair)
Stephanie Hansen
Robert Harris (vice chair)
Chris Klaas
Kathy Maher
Brian Rasch
Michael Robinson
Ruthie Rollins
Deborah Shulman

Larimer County Government Officials
Board of County Commissioners:
John Kefalas, Steve Johnson, Tom Donnelly
County Manager: Linda Hoffmann
Community Planning, Infrastructure and Resources Director: Todd Blomstrom
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

CONSERVING 800 ACRES INSIDE RED MOUNTAIN

Last August, Larimer County purchased an 800-acre ranch that existed entirely within the boundary of Red Mountain Open Space, conserving this key piece of land and its ecological values. With the ranch now a part of the open space, Larimer County Department of Natural Resources can manage all of Red Mountain as one continuous landscape, which is good for both wildlife and people.

The former inholding contains a portion of the iconic Table Mountain, which dominates the view at Red Mountain Open Space. The ranch also contains habitat for deer, pronghorn, elk and other wildlife, opportunities for agriculture and known archaeological resources. Any outdoor recreation there will be determined during an upcoming management planning process for Red Mountain Open Space.

In the meantime, the open space has over 15 miles of trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding.

BRINGING PARKS BACK TO LIFE AFTER THE FLOOD

The Big Thompson River flood devastated Forks and Narrows parks in the Big Thompson Canyon in 2013. Since then, Larimer County has been working with the Colorado Department of Transportation, Big Thompson Watershed Coalition and others to restore these parks so they can reopen to the public. This has included restoring both the river and surrounding lands, with Larimer County monitoring and maintaining much of the plant restoration work at these and other places in the canyon.

Much of the work has been completed at Forks Park in Drake, including a new parking area. At Narrows Park further down the canyon, new parking spots will be built this year, and Larimer County will build trails to the river at both parks. Forks and Narrows parks should reopen in 2019.

RECEIVING AWARD FOR LARGE-SCALE CONSERVATION

Last year, the Colorado Lottery recognized Larimer County and City of Fort Collins with a Starburst Award for a project that conserved nearly 2,500 acres of land in the Horsetooth area. Through grants from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO), lottery proceeds provided $4.8 million toward the project.
CONNECTING OUR CITIES’ PAVED TRAIL SYSTEMS

On Aug. 18, 2018, eager bikers, walkers and runners joined elected officials and staff to celebrate the opening of the Long View Trail, the second paved trail to connect Loveland and Fort Collins. The 4.4-mile trail runs parallel to Taft Avenue in Loveland and Shields Street in Fort Collins, providing a safe, non-motorized alternative for traveling between the two cities. The Long View Trail crosses through five open spaces and natural areas, offering sweeping views of the foothills and mountains as it meanders through agricultural fields and wildlife habitat. It was a joint project among Larimer County, City of Loveland and City of Fort Collins, with funding from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) and the Colorado Department of Transportation.

ERADICATING PRIORITY WEEDS

For nearly a decade, Larimer County Department of Natural Resources has provided an Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) crew to survey, identify and eliminate high-priority noxious weeds in the county. After several years of treatments, the EDRR crew has successfully eradicated yellow starthistle and Chinese clematis in Larimer County. The crew will continue to monitor the locations of these invasive plants to ensure they do not return.

ENHANCING AMENITIES AT HERMIT PARK OPEN SPACE

Last year, Larimer County Department of Natural Resources completed the Limber Pine Trail at Hermit Park Open Space, opening a new 2.5-mile section of the trail that connects to the Hermit’s Hollow Campground and new Saddle Trailhead. The department also opened the new Kruger Rock Trailhead and upgraded the Homestead Meadows Trailhead and Hermit’s Cabin day use area.

In addition to trails, the department installed bear boxes at many of the campgrounds at Hermit Park, offering campers a safe place to store food, trash and other fragrant items.

Along with a new parking area, vault toilet and other amenities at the Hermit’s Cabin, volunteers from HistoriCorps stabilized the cabin itself, which dates to the early 1900s. Photo © HistoriCorps

PROTECTING RESERVOIRS FROM INVASIVE SPECIES

Aquatic nuisance species (ANS) inspectors with Larimer County intercepted 11 boats infested with zebra and quagga mussels at Horsetooth Reservoir — the most of any water body in Colorado last year. They also intercepted one infested boat at Carter Lake. Way to go, ANS team!

Yellow starthistle is one of the noxious weeds included in the third edition of the County’s knapweed guide. Call 498-5768 for a copy.
Revenues for Larimer County Department of Natural Resources are realized from a number of sources and totaled $22.6 million in 2018. Expenses for 2018 were $22.3 million, including a number of one-time capital development projects on County parks and open spaces.

Revenues for Larimer County Department of Natural Resources are realized from a number of sources and totaled $22.6 million in 2018. Expenses for 2018 were $22.3 million, including a number of one-time capital development projects on County parks and open spaces.

2018 REVENUES

- Specific Designated Taxes 39%
  - Help Preserve Open Spaces Tax
  - Pest District
  - Property Tax Levy
  - Other Taxes

- User Fees & Service Charges 26%
- Intergovernment 29%
- General County Governmental Funds 2%
- All Other Revenue 4%

2018 EXPENSES

- Open Space Acquisition & Development 52%
- Parks Capital Projects 3%
- Open Spaces Management 18%
- Parks Capital Projects 20%
- Pest (Weed) District 6%
- Forestry Services 1%

Help Preserve Open Spaces Tax Revenues

Revenue from the 1/4-cent Help Preserve Open Spaces sales and use tax is shared among Larimer County and the eight municipalities in the county. The tax was extended in 2014 and will sunset in 2043. It is not imposed on food or prescription drugs. The total revenue collected to date is more than $227 million.

Distributions to municipalities are based upon the highest yield of either population or sales tax generation. This revenue sharing agreement ensures that residents throughout Larimer County receive benefits from the Help Preserve Open Spaces tax.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Larimer Co.</th>
<th>Berthoud</th>
<th>Estes Park</th>
<th>Fort Collins</th>
<th>Johnstown</th>
<th>Loveland</th>
<th>Timnath</th>
<th>Wellington</th>
<th>Windsor</th>
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<td>71,154</td>
<td>161,905</td>
<td>2,107,473</td>
<td>847,210</td>
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<td>1,309,001</td>
<td>1,234,060</td>
<td>5,742</td>
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<td>77,782</td>
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<td>122,199</td>
<td>54,760</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>4,152,187</td>
<td>129,513</td>
<td>252,524</td>
<td>1,554,153</td>
<td>13,196</td>
<td>77,782</td>
<td>13,379</td>
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<td>109,178</td>
<td>224,318</td>
<td>1,410,859</td>
<td>7,103</td>
<td>114,630</td>
<td>49,957</td>
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<tr>
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<td>110,862</td>
<td>244,384</td>
<td>1,558,011</td>
<td>6,746</td>
<td>123,466</td>
<td>59,200</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>4,377,403</td>
<td>133,751</td>
<td>309,913</td>
<td>1,904,909</td>
<td>81,646</td>
<td>167,553</td>
<td>124,097</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>4,485,954</td>
<td>124,545</td>
<td>288,754</td>
<td>1,740,460</td>
<td>73,910</td>
<td>155,336</td>
<td>113,641</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>5,388,708</td>
<td>151,014</td>
<td>347,758</td>
<td>2,229,709</td>
<td>94,508</td>
<td>190,388</td>
<td>141,199</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>5,718,927</td>
<td>160,117</td>
<td>366,203</td>
<td>2,368,947</td>
<td>99,959</td>
<td>202,066</td>
<td>151,192</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>6,021,598</td>
<td>174,719</td>
<td>358,252</td>
<td>2,500,949</td>
<td>130,089</td>
<td>222,412</td>
<td>173,375</td>
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<td>171,719</td>
<td>397,768</td>
<td>2,598,829</td>
<td>214,066</td>
<td>239,172</td>
<td>203,307</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>6,558,865</td>
<td>185,792</td>
<td>422,083</td>
<td>2,755,981</td>
<td>226,338</td>
<td>253,344</td>
<td>214,791</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>94,929,746</td>
<td>2,916,634</td>
<td>6,090,161</td>
<td>80,195,192</td>
<td>924,581</td>
<td>37,135,250</td>
<td>1,082,661</td>
<td>2,677,994</td>
<td>1,463,579</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% Total   40.84%  1.16%  2.63%  33.14%  .74%  17.16%  1.41%  1.58%  1.34%
173 volunteers donated 19,805 hours of service to Larimer County Department of Natural Resources.

5,175 people participated in 142 activities including guided hikes, school field trips, campground programs, community events, trailhead tables, trainings and more.

From monitoring wildlife to hosting campgrounds to building trails, volunteers add tremendous capacity to Larimer County Department of Natural Resources. Thank you to our amazing volunteers for their service!

GETTING TO KNOW OUR VISITORS

In 2018, Larimer County Department of Natural Resources and Colorado State University concluded a two-year visitor study that took place at three properties managed by Larimer County: Horsetooth Mountain Open Space, Red Mountain Open Space and Horsetooth Reservoir.

Using a variety of research methods, the department gained valuable insights into the numbers of visitors, who is visiting and what types of experiences these people are having. The study will serve as one of several sources for informing management decisions on these properties.

Here are some fun facts the department learned from the study. For a full copy of the visitor study report, visit larimer.org/naturalresources.

Primary Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Horsetooth Mountain</th>
<th>Red Mountain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hiking</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Biking</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horseback Riding</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trail Running</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking Dog(s)</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>0%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife Viewing</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Dogs are not allowed at Red Mountain Open Space.

Estimated Annual Visitation

- Horsetooth Mountain: 855,000 Visitor Days
- Red Mountain: 224,000 Visitor Days
- Horsetooth Reservoir: 21,000 Visitor Days

OVERALL SATISFACTION

Rating of “GOOD OR EXCELLENT” AT HORSETOOTH MOUNTAIN AND RED MOUNTAIN OPEN SPACES

98% +

Research Partners

Larimer County Department of Natural Resources

1800 S. County Road 31

Loveland, CO 80537

(970) 619-4570
larimer.org/naturalresources

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT: 2018 BY THE NUMBERS

TOP SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS OF 2018

- Posted to Twitter on Aug. 13, 2018, reaching 5,139 people
- Posted to Instagram on Feb. 2, 2018, garnering 95 likes
- Posted to Facebook on May 16, 2018, reaching 55,860 people