

soft surface trails and trail connections in and around the Vail area that warrant further study and community discussion. Referred to as “trail ideas”, each is described in detail below and each is depicted on the Conceptual Trails Plan. Trail ideas discussed below include both the possibility of new trail development and possibility of closing existing trails.

Trail ideas were derived from the analysis of Vail’s existing trail system, input received during community scoping sessions and with input from technical experts, agencies and other stakeholders. A summary of community input on trails is found in the appendix. The purpose of the Conceptual Trails Plan is to provide a vision for improvements to Vail’s trail system. A great deal of additional evaluation, planning and design is necessary before final decisions can be made on which, if any, of these trail ideas are constructed. It is very likely that with further study some trails depicted on the Conceptual Trails Plan will be dropped from consideration due to design challenges, environmental or wildlife impacts, cost, public input or other factors. A matrix summarizing

each of these trail ideas is found below.

### **Parameters for defining the Conceptual Trails Plan**

Trail ideas evolved throughout this planning process. Initially twenty-one new trail ideas were identified. Each of these were evaluated based on the vision for Vail’s Trails and key themes that came out of the small group meetings and the trails workshop. The following parameters were used to determine the trail ideas to be included in the Conceptual Trails Plan:

- The trail is located such that it may be feasible through design, construction, or management to minimize, mitigate, or eliminate adverse impacts on wildlife.
- The trail be designed and constructed to be safe for all intended uses or the trail improves the safety of the trail system.
- The trail improves or expands recreational opportunities for one or more user group.
- The trail improves neighborhood connectivity or provides beneficial linkages between existing trails.

When considering these parameters, ten trails were eliminated from consideration. In most cases

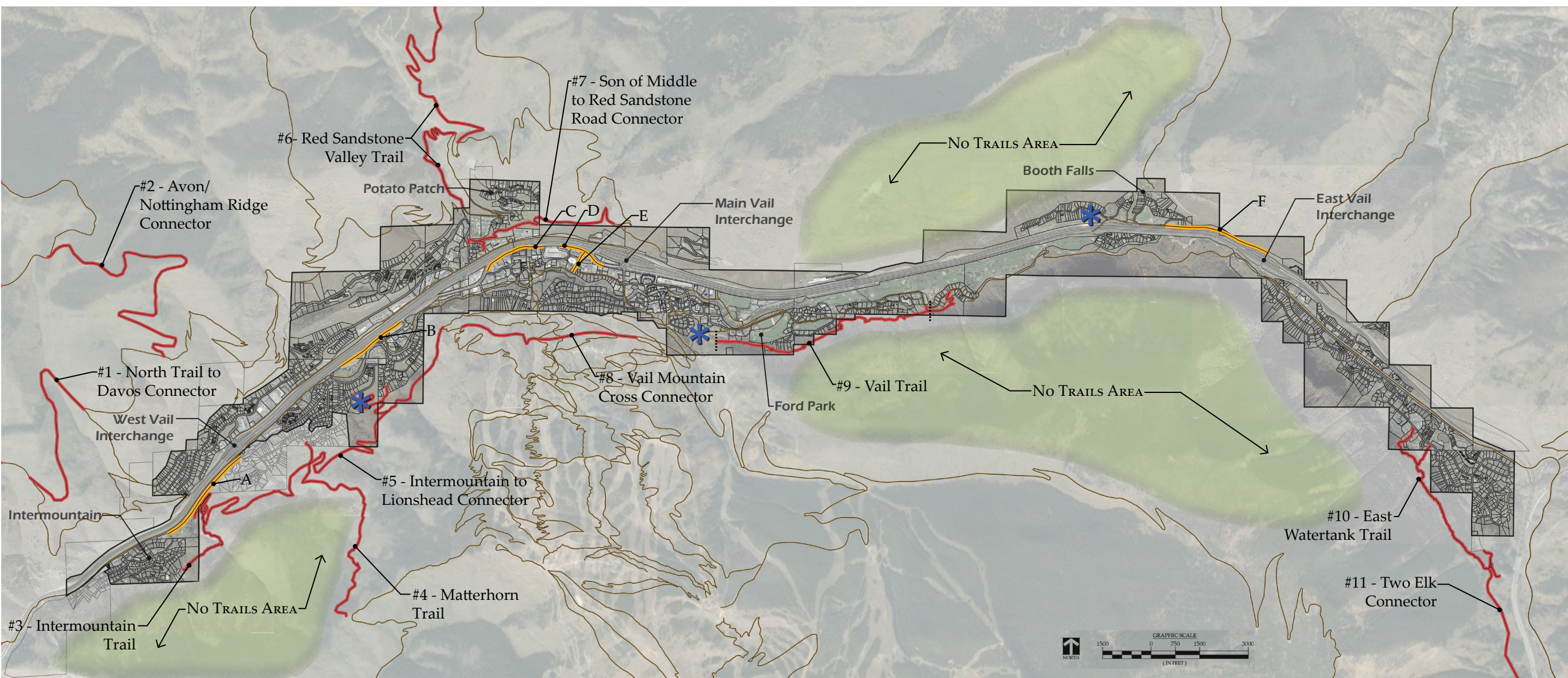
trails were eliminated due to their potential for wildlife impacts. The removal of these trails is not intended to suggest that other trail ideas will not affect wildlife resources. Wildlife and environmental analysis for all trail ideas shall be completed as an element of making final decisions on any new trail development. Wildlife considerations relative to trail ideas are discussed further in the Description of Trail Ideas and Opportunity and Process for Evaluation of New Trails sections below.





A plan depicting all trails originally considered and trails dropped from consideration is found in the Appendix. The Conceptual Trails Plan is found on the following page. Each of the eleven trail ideas are discussed below. Follow-up actions necessary for the Town to address prior to the future development of any new trail are described in Chapter 5 Action Plan and Chapter 6 Implementation.

It should be noted that this planning effort did not attempt to identify all minor trail improvements that could establish other pedestrian connections to improve walkability throughout the Town. An example of this could be a new trail along Middle Creek done in conjunction with the redevelopment of the

2017 Open Lands Plan Update -Summary of Trail Ideas					
#	Trail Name	Suggested User Group	Suggested Ability Level	Supports Trail Vision	Issues/Concerns
1	North Trail to Davos Connector	Multi-use	Intermediate	Diversity, Connectivity	Wildlife
2	Avon/Nottingham Ridge Connector	Multi-use	Intermediate/Difficult	Accessibility, Diversity, Connectivity	Wildlife, Easements
3	Intermountain Trail	Hiking-only	Intermediate	Accessibility, Diversity, Connectivity	Wildlife
4	Matterhorn Trail	Hiking, Mountain Biking	More Difficult	Sustainability, Connectivity, Diversity	Wildlife, Safety, Sustainability
5	Intermountain to Lionshead Connector	Multi-use	Intermediate	Accessibility, Diversity, Connectivity	Wildlife, Easements
6	Red Sandstone Valley Trail	Multi-use	Intermediate	Accessibility, Diversity, Connectivity	Wildlife
7	Son of Middle Creek to Red Sandstone Road Conne	Multi-use	Intermediate	Accessibility, Diversity, Connectivity	Wildlife, Easements, Terrain
8	Vail Mountain Cross Connector	Multi-use	Beginner/Intermediate	Accessibility, Diversity, Connectivity, Sustainability	Wildlife, Easements
9	Vail Trail	Hiking-only	Intermediate	Accessibility, Diversity, Connectivity, Sustainability	Wildlife, Easements, Terrain, Hazard Areas
10	East Water Tank Trail	Hiking, Limited Mountain Biking	More Difficult	Accessibility, Diversity, Connectivity, Sustainability	Wildlife, Terrain
11	Two Elk Connector	Multi-use	Intermediate	Accessibility, Diversity, Connectivity, Safety	Wildlife, Terrain, Easements





-  Existing Trails
-  Trail Ideas and Suggestions
-  New Paved Paths
-  Potential Children's Bike Facilities

# CONCEPTUAL TRAILS PLAN



Evergreen Hotel. These types of improvements, while not identified in this Plan, may over time be implemented by the Town.

## DESCRIPTION OF TRAIL IDEAS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Below are descriptions of the eleven trail ideas depicted on the Conceptual Trails Plan. When relevant, factors unique to these trails ideas to be considered in the subsequent study of these trail ideas are also provided. Trails are numbered sequentially from west to east, numbering does not reflect trail priorities.

### #1. North Trail to Davos Connector:

Proposed multi-use trail to connect segments of the North trail to the Davos Trail to create a moderate loop trail from West Vail.

- User groups: Multi-use
- Ability Level: Intermediate
- Supports Vision Goals: Diversity, Connectivity
- Issues/Concerns/Process: wildlife analysis, USFS approval

### #2. Avon/Nottingham Ridge Connector:

Proposed multi-use trail to connect the North Trail to the existing Nottingham Ridge Trail and future Traer Creek development in Avon. This connection is identified in the current White River National Forest Travel Management Plan.

- User groups: Multi-use
- Ability Level: Intermediate/Difficult
- Supports Vision Goals: Accessibility, Diversity, Connectivity
- Issues/Concerns/Process: Wildlife analysis, coordination with Traer Creek Development Company, Town of Avon, USFS approval

### #3. Intermountain Trail:

Existing social trail provides intermediate soft-surface hiking opportunity for the Intermountain neighborhood. The upper reaches could be adopted/improved as a hiking-only trail while the lower reach could provide hiking/biking access to Trail Opportunity #5.

- User groups: Hiking-only
- Ability Level: Intermediate
- Supports Vision Goals: Accessibility, Connectivity, Diversity
- Issues/Concerns/Process: Steep terrain, safety, wildlife analysis, USFS approval

### #4. Matterhorn Trail:

Existing social trail connects Eagles Nest/Game Creek Trail down to the Matterhorn neighborhood. If formally approved by USFS, trail should be realigned in sections to improve sustainability and connected to Trail #5. Potential wildlife impacts from this trail need to be evaluated comprehensively with Trails #3 and #5. An outcome of this analysis could be to take steps to close the Matterhorn Trail.

- User groups: Hiking, mountain biking
- Ability Level: More difficult
- Supports Vision Goals: Sustainability, Connectivity, Diversity
- Issues/Concerns/Process: Steep grades, safety, wildlife analysis, USFS approval

### #5. Intermountain to Lionshead Connector:

Proposed multi-use trail to connect the Intermountain Trail (#3) to Hank's Hideaway on Vail Mountain with several neighborhood trailheads to provide access. The alignment could pass through recent timber cuts as a way of reducing environmental impacts.

- User groups: Multi-use
- Ability Level: Intermediate
- Supports Vision Goals: Accessibility, Diversity, Connectivity,
- Issues/Concerns/Process: Wildlife analysis, evaluate private property impacts, USFS approval

### #6. Red Sandstone Valley Trail:

Proposed multi-use trail connecting Vail to existing and proposed trails in the forest north of Vail. This soft-surface trail parallels Red Sandstone Road and Piney Lake Road to provide a much safer alternative by providing trail users an alternative to Red Sandstone Road. This trail, if deemed feasible from a design and wildlife impact standpoint, will need to be "tight" to Red Sandstone Road in order to minimize habitat fragmentation and impacts from trail use.

- User groups: Multi-use
- Ability Level: Intermediate
- Supports Vision Goals: Accessibility, Diversity, Connectivity,
- Issues/Concerns/Process: Wildlife analysis, USFS approval

### #7. Son of Middle Creek to Red Sandstone Road Connector:

This trail connects the Son of Middle Creek trail to Red Sandstone Road through Town of Vail and USFS land above Red Sandstone School. This connector creates an intermediate loop with the North Trail and provides

a loop alternative between Lionshead and Vail Village on the north side of I-70.

- User groups: Multi-use
- Ability Level: Intermediate
- Supports Vision Goals: Accessibility, Diversity, Connectivity
- Issues/Concerns/Process: Terrain, private property impacts, wildlife analysis, Town of Vail approvals, USFS approval

#### **#8. Vail Mountain Cross Connector:**

Potential soft-surface trail across the lower reaches of Vail Mountain utilizing existing trail where feasible. Requires planning process and approvals with Vail Resorts and USFS.

- User groups: Multi-use
- Ability Level: Beginner/Intermediate
- Supports Vision Goals: Accessibility, Diversity, Connectivity, Sustainability
- Issues/Concerns/Process: Wildlife analysis, evaluate private property impacts, USFS approval

#### **#9. Vail Trail:**

Existing social trail provides intermediate soft-surface hiking and limited biking between Vail Village and the Golf Course Clubhouse. The trail currently crosses into USFS and private property and should be formalized with the property owners. *Trail improvements are needed to address sustainability and accessibility. This trail is recommended to be a hiking-only trail. Any work to improve this trail should maintain the width and informal, organic character of the existing trail.*

- User groups: Hiking-only
- Ability Level: Intermediate
- Supports Vision Goals: Accessibility, Sustainability, Connectivity, Diversity
- Issues/Concerns/Process: Steep terrain, hazard areas, private property, wildlife analysis, USFS approval

#### **#10. East Water Tank Trail:**

Existing social trail provides intermediate soft-surface hiking and limited biking for the East Vail neighborhood. *Wildlife implications of this social trail will need to be evaluated to determine whether this trail should be formalized or whether steps should be taken to close the trail. If efforts are made to formalize this trail, the narrow width and scale of the existing trail should be maintained, particularly with the westernmost leg of the trail given steep terrain in this area.*

- User groups: Hiking, limited mountain biking
- Ability Level: More difficult
- Supports Vision Goals: Accessibility, Sustainability, Connectivity, Diversity
- Issues/Concerns/Process: Steep terrain, wildlife analysis, USFS approval

#### **#11. Two Elk Connector:**

This new soft-surface trail would connect the lower reach of the Two Elk Trail with East Vail, eliminating the need to access the Vail Pass bike path. The trail would align low on the hillside south of I-70 and improve a long loop-trail for the Vail area. *Wildlife implications of this trail will need to be evaluated.*

- User groups: Multi-use
- Ability Level: Intermediate
- Supports Vision Goals: Safety, Accessibility, Diversity, Connectivity
- Issues/Concerns/Process: Terrain analysis, private property impacts, wildlife analysis, USFS approval



## OTHER TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

### Trail Improvements from the 1994 Plan

Many of the trail and trail system improvements identified in the '94 Plan have been completed. A number of improvements that have not been implemented, such as the Vail Trail, the South Trail and a loop trail network around the Town are included in the Conceptual Trails Plan. Below are uncompleted improvements from the '94 Plan, most of which should still be considered for implementation:

#### **Vail Mountain Access**

The Town should continue to work with Vail Resorts to improve trailhead information, signage, etc. at Golden Peak, Vail Village and Lionshead. The potential to expand the trail system on Vail Mountain should also be discussed with Vail Resorts.

#### **Neighborhood Trailheads**

The '94 Plan identified trailhead improvements that would provide trail connections to existing neighborhoods. The location and design of these connections should be evaluated as a part of the design process for potential new trails.

#### **Paved Shoulders on Vail Valley Drive to Sunburst Drive**

The '94 Plan suggested paved shoulders along Vail Valley Drive to provide a safer connection between Vail Village and the Gore Valley Trail. The potential for this path has been studied and due to narrow right-of-way and existing improvements, this path is not considered to be feasible. As an alternative, traffic calming measures for this road will be studied as part of the update to the Town's Transportation Master Plan.

### Paved Trails

The following trail segments would connect existing, paved multi-use trail segments to enhance non-motorized connectivity. Refer to the Conceptual Trails Plan for the location of these trails:

Intermountain to West Vail Interchange (#A)

Donovan Park to Westhaven Drive (#B)

West Lionshead Circle to East Lionshead Circle (#C)

Lionhead Parking Structure to Vail Municipal Complex (#D)

South Frontage Road to Meadow Drive Connector (#E)

Vail Mountain School to East Vail Interchange (#F)

### Youth Facilities

Two ideas are suggested for improving bike opportunities for children:

#### **Kids Bike Park/Pump Track**

A series of short loops, dirt piles, jumps, etc designed for younger kids. This idea was raised multiple times during community input meetings. Potential locations include the Booth Creek area next to the I-70 berms and Golden Peak.

#### **Single Track Loop**

A short loop trail on the upper bench of Donovan Park designed as beginner hiking and kids mountain biking.

### Trail Maintenance

The need for significant maintenance to three existing trails was identified:

#### **North Trail (Buffehr Creek to Cortina Lane)**

Existing multi-use trail has several eroded/poorly constructed trail sections. Recommend working with the USFS to improve/reconstruct those sections as needed.

#### **North Trail (Red Sandstone Road to Buffehr Creek Road)**

Existing multi-use trail has several eroded/poorly constructed trail sections. Recommend working with the USFS to improve/reconstruct those sections as needed.

#### **Buffehr Creek Trail**

Existing multi-use trail could be improved with several short realignments to improve usability and sustainability. Recommend working with the USFS to improve/reconstruct those sections as needed.

### Accessible Trails

Vail's parks, playgrounds, public buildings and other public facilities are designed to be inclusive of varying ability levels. Whether a person's ability is affected by age or physical disability, the Town strives to provide "accessible" public amenities. When designing new trails or evaluating

existing trails, accessible paved and soft-surface trails should be considered as part of the process.

Paved trails are evaluated using criteria from the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG). The U.S. Forest Service evaluates trails through the publication, Forest Service Trail Accessibility Guidelines (FSTAG), which allow for varying levels of accessibility that are correlated with user experience for a given trail type. Accessibility should be addressed as part of any subsequent work on a comprehensive trail plan as described in Chapter 4.

## TRAIL TYPES AND STANDARDS

A variety of improvements to Vail's existing system of trails and paths are contemplated by this Plan. Hiking-only trails, multi-use trails, beginner level trails, paved trails and wide shoulders are examples of these trail and path improvements. Standards for the design and construction of paved and soft-surface trails will vary depending on the type of trail, intended user groups, terrain and other considerations. Design standards will be one of many factors in determining the feasibility of future trail improvements. A summary of trail and path types along with relevant design standards are found in the appendix of this Plan.

## REGIONAL CONTEXT OF VAIL'S TRAILS

The Regional Context Plan on the following page depicts existing trails and trail ideas in a broader context and how trails proximate to Vail interface with outlying trails and with neighboring communities. The Regional

Context Plan also depicts potential trail improvements located outside of the area covered by the Conceptual Trails Plan.

## PROCESS FOR EVALUATION OF TRAIL IDEAS

The process for studying the potential development of any new trails will involve a number of steps, the first of which will be direction from the Town Council for staff to prepare a more detailed plan for potential trail improvements. Like the Open Lands Plan update process, this detailed trail planning process will involve public input and will essentially take the Conceptual Trails Plan to a higher level of detail. It is anticipated that this trail planning process will involve revisiting the need for and potential benefits of each trail idea, defining trail alignments and other design considerations, and understanding trail construction and maintenance costs. In addition, site-specific environmental (soil and geologic conditions, vegetation and wetlands, etc.) and wildlife analysis will be completed in order to understand the potential impacts of any new trail that is under consideration. Only after this additional planning and analysis will the Town make decisions on whether to pursue the development of any new or alteration/adoption of existing trails.

### Wildlife Analysis

A major element of the next phase of work in evaluating the feasibility of new trail development will be the completion of a detailed, comprehensive environmental analysis, a key element of which will be an evaluation of how trails could impact wildlife resources. It is anticipated that this evaluation will be completed by a consultant retained by the Town and that the evaluation will among other things evaluate existing wildlife resources and

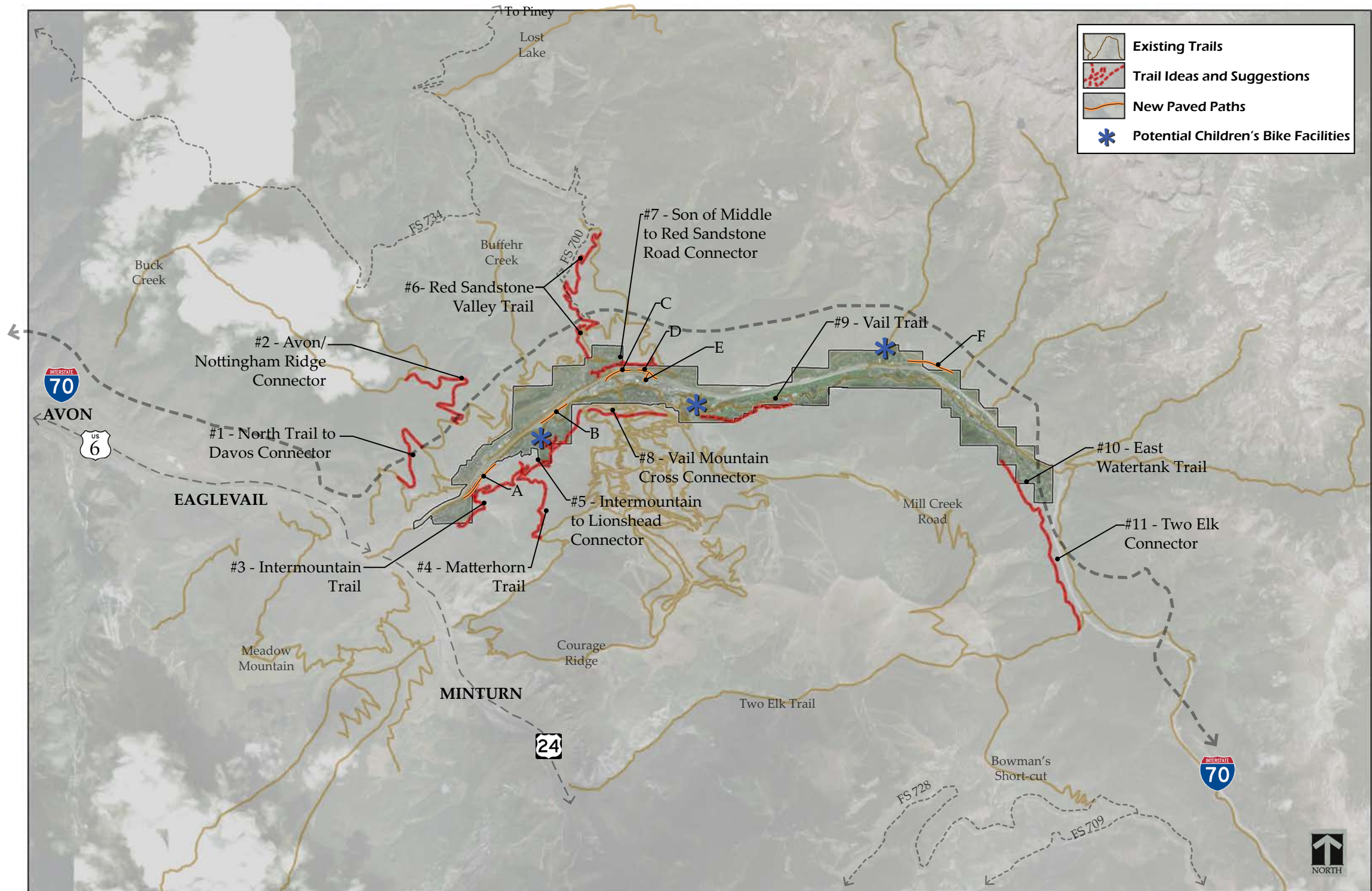
habitats, assess potential impacts that may result from trail development, and identify whether it is feasible to implement measures that could minimize, mitigate, or eliminate such impacts. The goal of this analysis is to provide a comprehensive evaluation of all new trail ideas and existing and social trails in and around Vail. The findings of this analysis will assist the Town in future decision-making regarding the potential development of any new trail ideas and whether to formalize or take steps to close existing social trails.

CPW will play a significant role in this process by providing baseline information and by providing referral comments during this process.

The findings of this environmental analysis and specifically the wildlife evaluation will be a major factor in the Town's decisions on whether to proceed with any new trail development. Ultimately the Town Council will decide how to balance the community's desire for recreational trails with the community's desire that trails be sensitive to wildlife and other environmental considerations. The purpose of the wildlife evaluation is to provide the Town with information necessary to understand how new trails may impact wildlife, and where a trail may present impacts whether measures can be implemented to mitigate them. While the Town Council will make decisions on trails at the local level, the USFS will be the ultimate decision-maker on any trails located on USFS lands. Information from this environmental analysis will be included in formal applications to the USFS.

The environmental and wildlife evaluations described above should be coordinated with the ecological/biodiversity study discussed in





# REGIONAL CONTEXT PLAN

## Chapter 2.

### USFS Process

Each of the twelve trail ideas depicted on the Conceptual Trails Plan are located entirely or in part on USFS land. As such, these trails will involve review by the USFS.

The review of proposals for new trails on USFS lands involves two steps. The USFS process evaluates trails under the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process. The first step with the USFS involves submittal of a proposal that includes a comprehensive, Town-wide trails plan. This Town-wide trails plan will define trail alignments very broadly with 200-yard wide corridors and will identify user groups, trail levels and trail standards. The trails plan will also involve coordination with entities proximate to Vail so that trail planning can be integrated with that of other communities. Environmental information in accordance with the NEPA process is also required and all USFS processes include opportunities for public input. Following USFS review of this initial step, if approved the second step with the USFS involves detailed design of proposed trails and more a detailed NEPA process. As compared with step one which involves the comprehensive trail system, with step two individual trail segments can be proposed for approval and construction.

A comprehensive outline of the USFS process is found in the appendix.

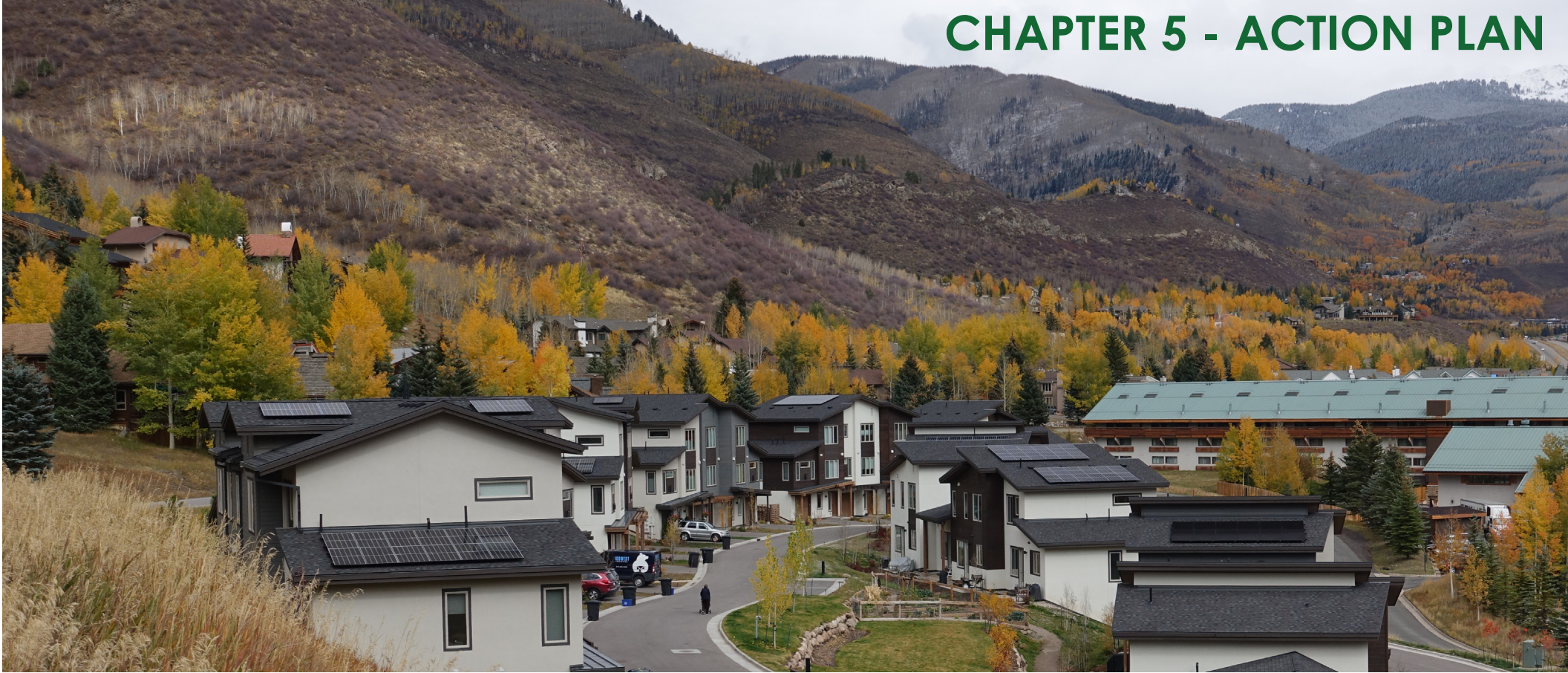
## EASEMENTS FROM PRIVATE LAND OWNERS

Many of the new trail ideas within the Town will require the Town to obtain easements from private land owners. Chapter 5 – Action Plan identifies privately owned parcels where easements would be necessary to develop trail segments within the Town boundary. Seven such actions are recommended. Refer to Chapter 5 Action Plan for information on these easements.

### Potential Collaborations

A number of the trails identified on the Conceptual Trails Plan are located outside of the Town's boundaries and would implement more regionally-oriented trail improvements. Examples of these include the potential adoption of the Matterhorn Trail and the Avon/Nottingham Ridge Connector. It is possible that the Town could facilitate new trail development on Vail Mountain by pursuing collaboration with Vail Resorts. It is likely that if these trails are to be developed, they will involve the Town collaborating with other jurisdictions and organizations. Refer to Chapter 6 Implementation for additional discussion on the implementation of trail improvements.





The Action Plan from the '94 Plan “provides a framework for obtaining and protecting open lands as well as creating trail linkages in a logical and comprehensive manner”. The Action Plan chapter of the '94 Plan addressed protection techniques for open lands, established priorities for action, and provided land use recommendations for Town-owned lands and for improvements to the Town’s trail system. The most significant element of the Action Plan is a comprehensive list of recommendations for the acquisition of properties or easements necessary to implement the goals of the Plan. Referred to as Action Items, these acquisitions were recommended to protect environmentally sensitive lands, to facilitate the development of trails, to obtain land needed for community-oriented uses and to simplify the Town’s boundary with adjacent United States Forest Service lands.

The Action Plan from the '94 Plan identified fifty-one parcels for acquisition or for obtaining easements. Since 1994, thirty of these Action Items have been completed and another eight Action Items have been partially completed. Thirty of the fifty-one Action Items were recommended to protect environmentally sensitive lands and sixteen were for trail development or for access to Gore Creek. Thirty-six of the Action Items were High Priority Items and twenty-five of these high priority items have been completed. The Town has been quite effective in the implementation of Action Items from the '94 Plan. A plan depicting the status of Action Items from the '94 Plan is found in the appendix.

The updated Action Plan on page 42 identifies **twenty-seven** Action Items that are recommended to implement improvements and recommendations described in Chapters 2, 3 and 4 of this Plan. Like the '94 Plan, these Action Items recommend the acquisition of land or easements necessary to further the Town’s goals for the protection of environmentally sensitive lands, trail development and land needed for community-oriented uses. [Refer to Chapter 6 Implementation for information on other follow-up actions recommended to implement the goals of this Plan.](#) Each of these Action Items are discussed in greater detail below.



## 2017 Action Plan

The **twenty-seven** Action Items are shown two ways – all Action Items are identified on the Town-wide Action Plan found on the following page and each Action Item is depicted on more detailed maps along with a description of the Action Item. Descriptions address the purpose for the action, whether the action involves the acquisition of land or easements, the relative priority for the action and other information regarding the parcel and the recommended action. There are four different categories of Action Items:

### Action Items from '94 Plan

Of the fifty-one Action Items from the '94 Plan, thirty-eight were either implemented, partially implemented, addressed alternative ways or the Action Item has been deemed to no longer be feasible. An example of an Action Item being implemented alternative ways is the Town acquiring an easement for the development of a trail in lieu of the Action Plan recommendation for outright purchase of the parcel. An example of an Action Item no longer being feasible is a vacant parcel that was recommended for acquisition but was developed before it could be acquired.

### Action Items to Protect Environmentally Sensitive Lands

**Fifteen** Action Items are recommended to protect environmentally sensitive lands. These items focus on land located adjacent to Gore Creek or its tributaries, lands with access challenges, steep terrain and wildlife resources. The Action Items that address parcels located along water courses and are intended to reinforce the Town's initiatives to improve water quality and protect wetlands and riparian

habitat. Strategies for Action Items involve the outright purchase of land, working with land owners to re-zone property or to establish conservation easements to limit the development of the land or other techniques to protect these lands.

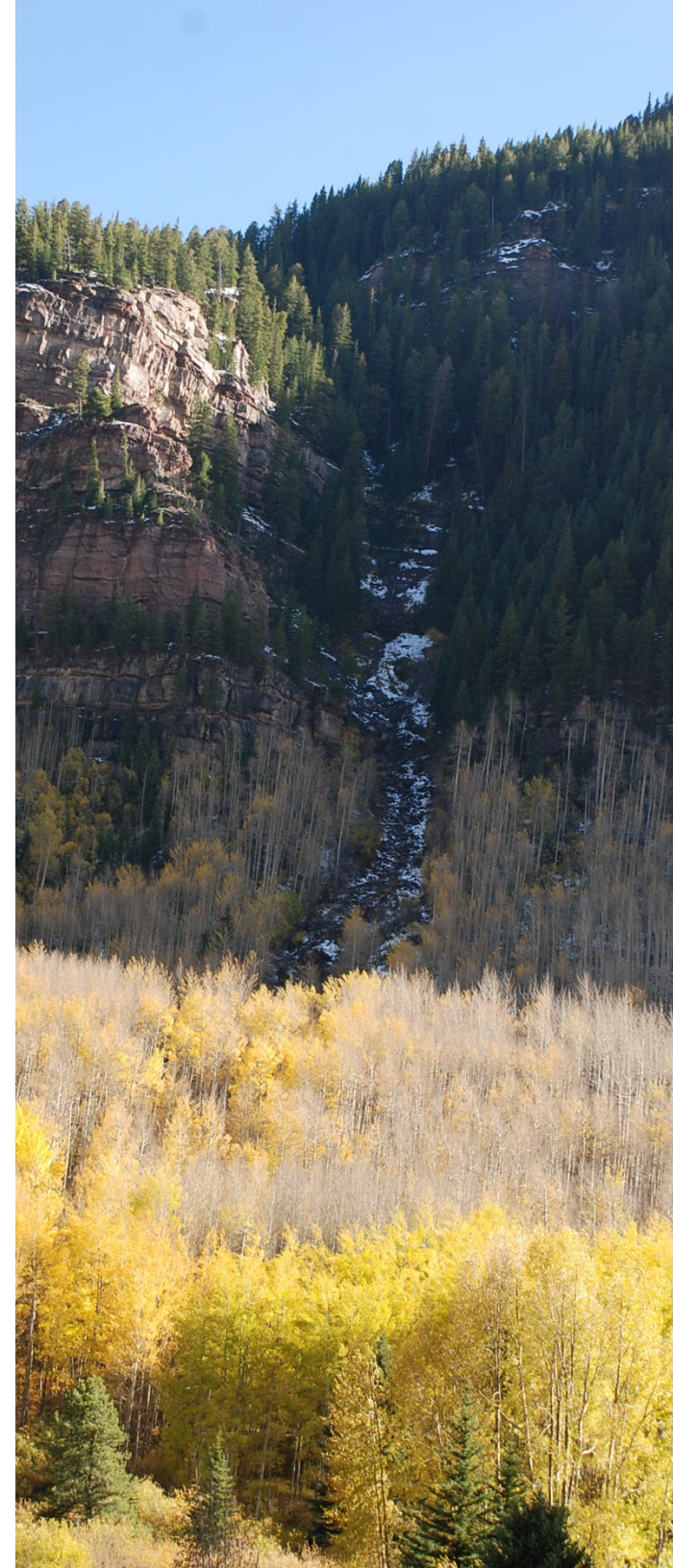
### Action Items to Implement Trail Improvements

**Seven** Action Items are recommended to facilitate the development of new recreation trails or to improve the Town's trail system. Strategies for these Action Items involve either the acquisition of land or easements.

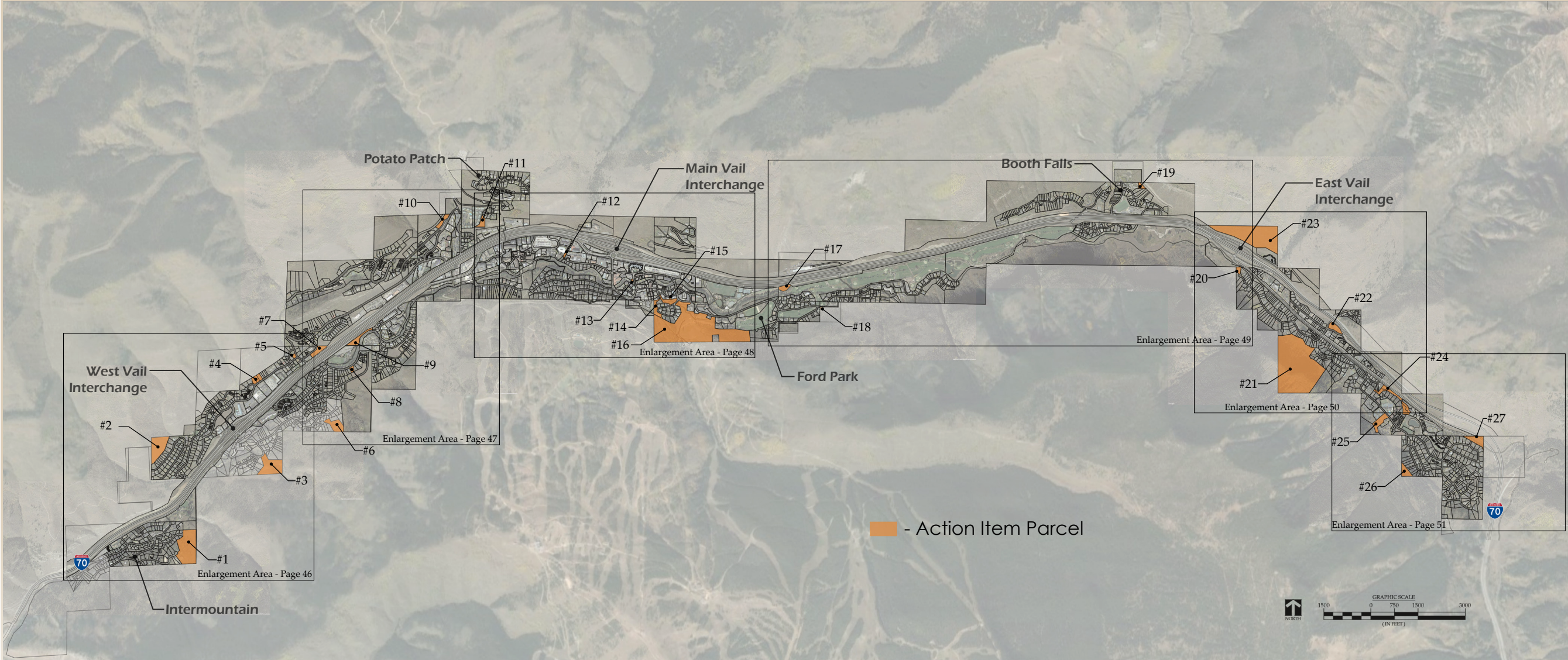
### Action Items to Address Town/Community Facility Needs

**Six** parcels are recommended for acquisition to provide land for public facilities or community needs. **Four** of these Action Items are sites that could potentially be developed with **workforce** housing and **two** parcels **that will** clarify ownership of a Town road.

Action Items listed above total more than **twenty-seven** because some Action Items address multiple goals. A matrix summarizing all recommended action items is found in the appendix.

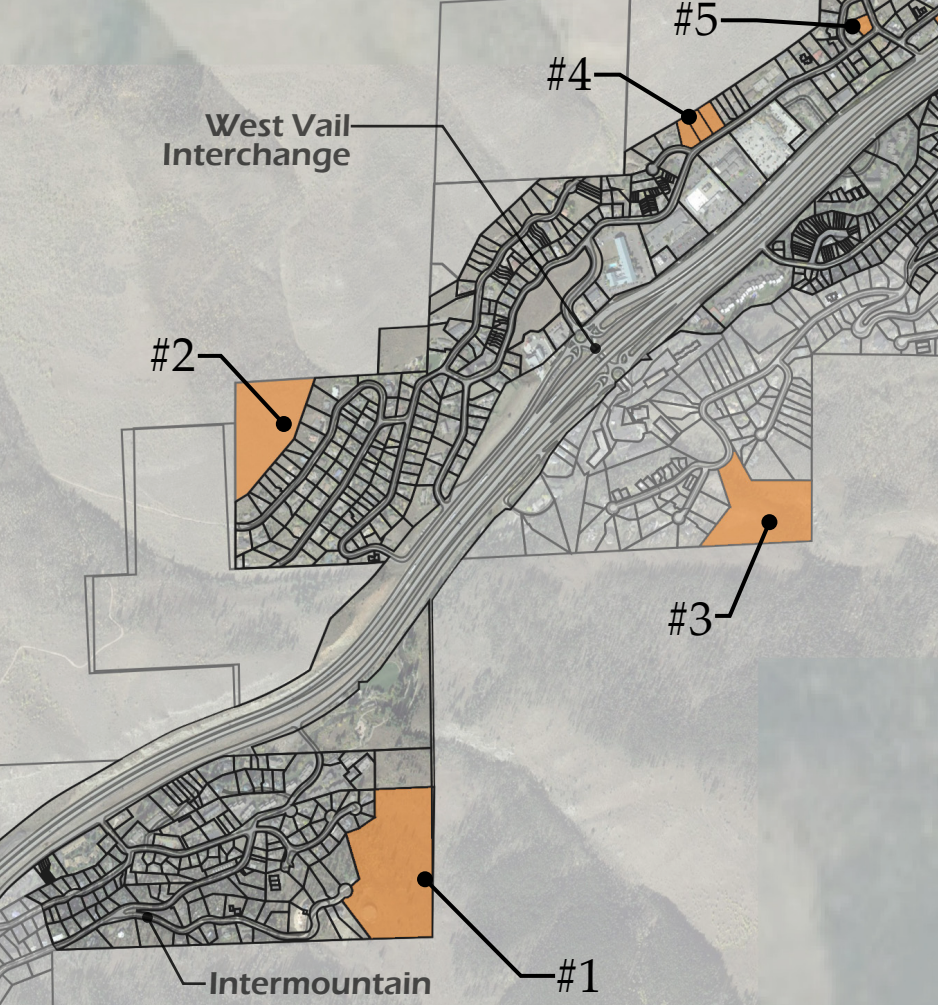






# ACTION ITEMS





## ACTION ITEMS

Below are descriptions of the **twenty-seven** recommended Action Items. Action Items are numbered sequentially from west to east, the numbering of Action Items does not imply priority for implementation.

### ACTION ITEM #1

**Purpose** - Establish connection from Intermountain neighborhood to future soft surface trail.

**Action** - Obtain trail easement.

**Other Information** - Parcel is owned by the Eagle River Water and Sanitation District. A water tank is located on the site.

**'94 Action Plan** - This parcel was Action Item #6 from the '94 Plan.

### ACTION ITEM #2

**Purpose** - Protect environmentally sensitive land from development.

**Action** - Acquire parcel or work with land owner on conservation easement or other measures to eliminate development potential.

**Other Information** - This 6.3 acre site is characterized by very steep terrain and currently has no legal access. Development potential is limited. Parcel is located outside of Town boundary. While the primary purpose for acquiring this parcel is to protect it from development, the slope and southern aspect of the parcel could make it a viable location for a solar farm. Environmental implications from a solar farm, such as slope stability and impacts to wildlife (likely involving the USFS) would need to be evaluated and viable access to the site (likely involving the USFS) would need to be established as a requisite for pursuing this idea.

**'94 Action Plan** - This parcel was Action Item #2 from the '94 Plan.

### ACTION ITEM #3

**Purpose** - Establish trail connection from Highland Meadows neighborhood to future soft surface trail.

**Action** - Obtain trail easement.

**Other Information** - Parcel is privately owned. Action Item #6 could provide neighborhood connection if this easement cannot be obtained.

**'94 Action Plan** - N/A

### ACTION ITEM #4

**Purpose** - Public facility or community use/**workforce** housing.

**Action** - Acquire parcels.

**Other Information** - Site consists of three parcels zoned Two-family Primary/Secondary Residential that comprise 1.53 acres. Steep terrain on north half of these parcels will limit development potential. **Refer to Chapter 3 - Town Owned Lands and Use of Lands for more information.**

**'94 Action Plan** - N/A

### ACTION ITEM #5

**Purpose** - Protect creek corridor land from development.

**Action** - Acquire parcel or work with land owner on conservation easement or other measures to eliminate development potential.

**Other Information** - This .31 acre parcel is zoned Two-family Primary/Secondary Residential. Bufferhr Creek and associated riparian habitat bisects the site and floodplain impacts the site.

**'94 Action Plan** - N/A





#### **ACTION ITEM #6**

**Purpose** - Establish trail connection from Highland Meadows neighborhood to future soft surface trail.

**Action** - Obtain trail easement.

**Other Information** - Parcel is privately owned. Action Item #3 or the upper bench of Donovan Park could provide neighborhood connections if this easement cannot be obtained.

**'94 Action Plan** - N/A

#### **ACTION ITEM #7**

**Purpose** - Public facility or community use/**workforce housing**.

**Action** - Acquire parcel.

**Other Information** - This 1.76 acre parcel is zoned Public Accommodation and has Special Development District approval for a hotel and **workforce housing** project. The Town remains supportive of the approved development plan. Only if or when it is clear that the approved project (or a similar mixed-use housing and hotel project) is not viable, should the Town consider acquisition of this parcel. Refer to Chapter 3 - Town Owned Lands and Use of Lands for more information.

**'94 Action Plan** - N/A

#### **ACTION ITEM #8**

**Purpose** - Protect land from development and maintain wildlife movement corridor.

**Action** - Acquire parcel or work with land owner on conservation easement or other measures to eliminate development potential. Prior to pursuing purchase of this parcel monitoring of the site (with game camera) should be done to better understand how wildlife may use this parcel.

**Other Information** - This .46 acre parcel is zoned Two-family Primary/Secondary Residential. Big game are commonly seen crossing parcel to access Gore Creek.

**'94 Action Plan** - N/A

#### **ACTION ITEM #9**

**Purpose** - Public facility/**park expansion** or **workforce housing** project.

**Action** - Acquire parcel

**Other Information** - This 3.0 acre parcel has three tennis courts that are owned and managed by the Hotel Talisa ownership group. In the event the ownership group were interested in disposing of this parcel, the Town's acquisition could allow for the development of a small **workforce housing** development or expansion of Donovan Park. Refer to Chapter 3 - Town Owned Lands and Use of Lands for more information.

**'94 Action Plan** - N/A

#### **ACTION ITEM #10**

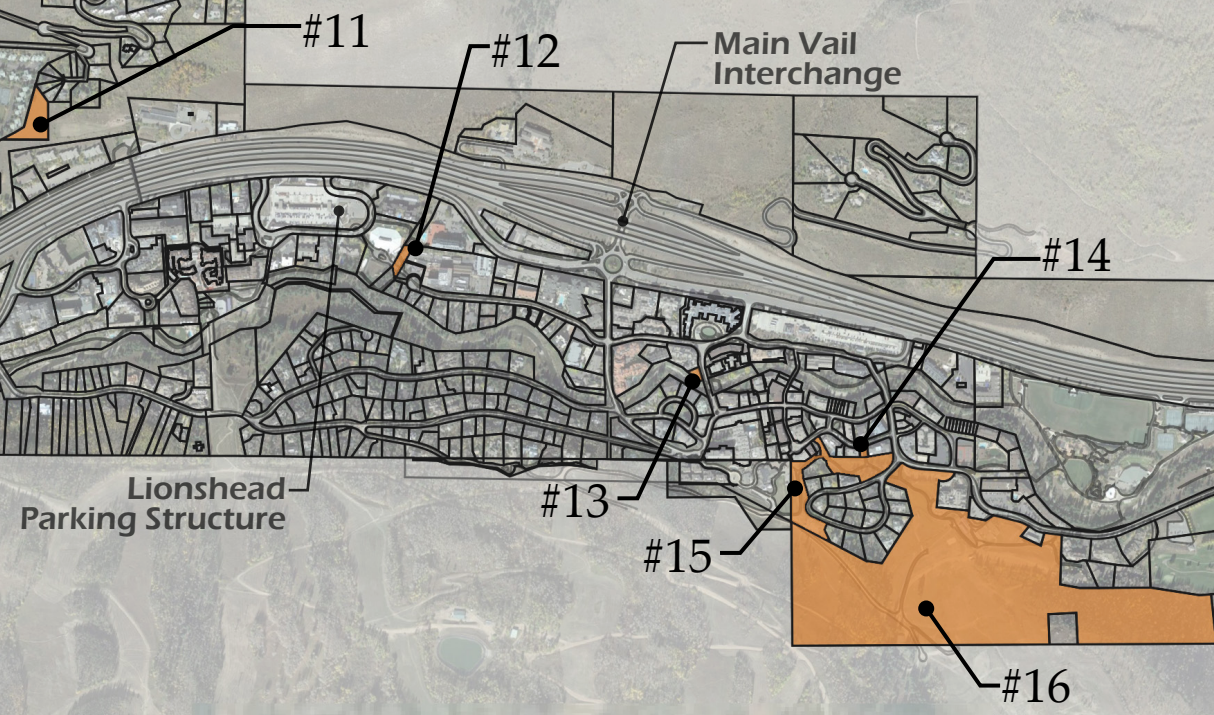
**Purpose** - Protect environmentally sensitive land from development.

**Action** - Acquire parcel or work with land owner on conservation easement or other measures to eliminate development potential.

**Other Information** - This vacant 1.39 acre site is zoned Agricultural and Open Space, is characterized by steep terrain and within a rockfall hazard zone. Development potential is limited.

**'94 Action Plan** - This parcel was Action Item #14 from the '94 Plan.





### **ACTION ITEM #11**

**Purpose** - Establish trail connection.

**Action** - Obtain trail easement.

**Other Information** - This 1.3 acre parcel is privately owned. The Town of Vail owns land on either side of this parcel. Easement on this parcel would provide trail design flexibility in responding to surrounding terrain.

**'94 Action Plan** - This parcel was Action Item #18 from the '94 Plan.

### **ACTION ITEM #12**

**Purpose** - Protect environmentally sensitive land from development.

**Action** - Acquire parcel or work with land owner on conservation easement or other measures to eliminate development potential.

**Other Information** - This vacant .32 acre parcel is owned by the ERWSD. It is zoned Outdoor Recreation. Middle Creek runs through the parcel and both West Meadow Drive and the Gore Valley Trail cross through the southern portion of the parcel.

**'94 Action Plan** - N/A

### **ACTION ITEM #13**

**Purpose** - Protect environmentally sensitive lands.

**Action** - Acquire parcel **or work with land owner on conservation easement or other measures to eliminate development potential.**

**Other Information** - This .11 acre parcel is privately owned and zoned Public Accommodation. The parcel is within the Gore Creek floodplain.

**'94 Action Plan** - This parcel was Action Item #22 from the '94 Plan.

### **ACTION ITEM #14**

**Purpose** - Establish trail connection.

**Action** - Complete research to confirm if easement has been obtained for this trail. If not, obtain trail easement for existing paved recreation trail..

**Other Information** - This .10 acre parcel is privately owned and zoned Agricultural and Open Space.

**'94 Action Plan** - This parcel was Action Item #24 from the '94 Plan.

### **ACTION ITEM #15**

**Purpose** - Establish trail connection.

**Action** - Complete research to confirm if easement has been obtained for this trail. If not, obtain trail easement for existing paved recreation trail..

**Other Information** - This 3.28 acre parcel is privately owned and zoned Agricultural and Open Space.

**'94 Action Plan** - This parcel was Action Item #23 from the '94 Plan.

### **ACTION ITEM #16**

**Purpose** - Establish trail connection.

**Action** - Complete research to confirm if easement has been obtained for this trail. If not, obtain trail easement for existing paved recreation trail..

**Other Information** - This 47.9 acre parcel is privately owned and zoned Ski Base/Recreation-1.

**'94 Action Plan** - This parcel was Action Item #25 from the '94 Plan.





#### **ACTION ITEM #17**

**Purpose** - Protect environmentally sensitive lands.

**Action** - Acquire parcel.

**Other Information** - This parcel is privately owned. It was to have been included in the Town's purchase of land where the Vail Golf Club was subsequently developed, but was not conveyed as a part of that transaction. The parcel includes wetlands and the Gore Creek corridor.

**'94 Action Plan** - N/A

#### **ACTION ITEM #18**

**Purpose** - Maintain access to Vail Valley Drive.

**Action** - Acquire portion of parcel that includes Town roadway.

**Other Information** - This parcel is owned by the United States Forest Service.

**'94 Action Plan** - N/A

#### **ACTION ITEM #19**

**Purpose** - Protect environmentally sensitive land from development.

**Action** - Acquire parcel or work with land owner on conservation easement or other measures to eliminate development potential.

**Other Information** - This vacant .59 acre site is privately owned and zoned Low Density Multi-family. The parcel is characterized by very steep terrain, is within a rockfall hazard zone and has limited access potential. Development potential is very limited.

**'94 Action Plan** - N/A

#### **ACTION ITEM #20**

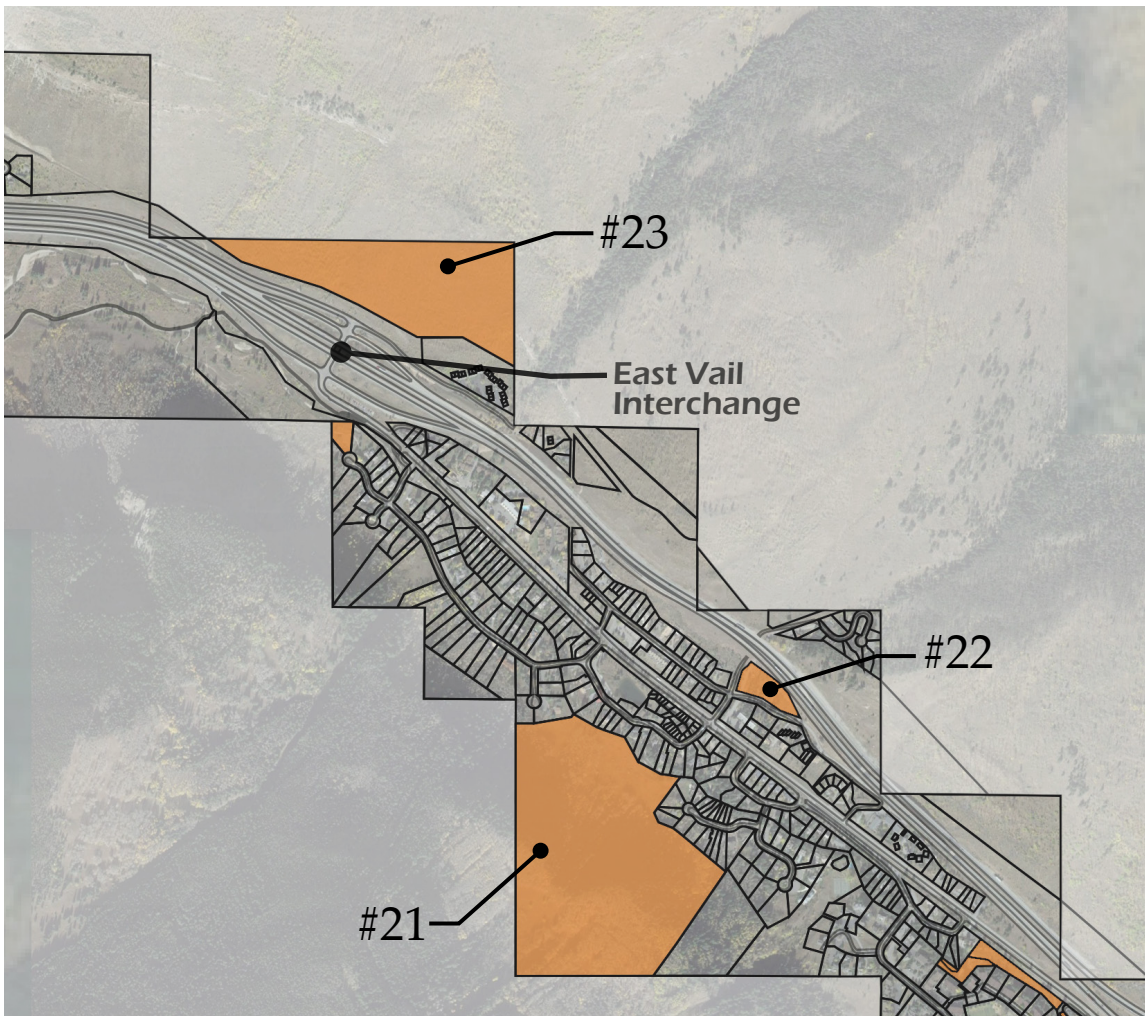
**Purpose** - Protect environmentally sensitive land from development.

**Action** - Acquire parcel or work with land owner on conservation easement or other measures to eliminate development potential.

**Other Information** - This privately owned, vacant .65 acre site is zoned Two-family Primary/Secondary Residential. The parcel is within the Gore Creek floodplain. Development potential is very limited.

**'94 Action Plan** - This parcel was Action Item #38 from the '94 Plan.





#### **ACTION ITEM #21**

**Purpose** - Protect environmentally sensitive land from development.

**Action** - Acquire parcel or work with land owner on conservation easement or other measures to eliminate development potential.

**Other Information** - This privately owned, vacant parcel is 45.2 acres and zoned Agricultural and Open Space. The parcel has no legal access and is within avalanche, debris flow and rockfall hazard areas.

**'94 Action Plan** - This parcel was Action Item #44 from the '94 Plan.

#### **ACTION ITEM #22**

**Purpose** - Protect environmentally sensitive portion of parcel, potential development of workforce housing project.

**Action** - Acquire parcel.

**Other Information** - This 1.78 acre parcel is owned by the Colorado Department of Transportation. Bighorn Creek bisects the parcel and the parcel is impacted by a debris flow zone. Refer to Chapter 3 - Town Owned Lands and Use of Lands for more information.

**'94 Action Plan** - N/A

#### **ACTION ITEM #23**

**Purpose** - Protect environmentally sensitive land from development and or mitigate development impacts on environmentally sensitive land.

**Action** - Acquire parcel if not developed by the land owner. If a development application is submitted and approved, work with the land owner to establish a conservation easement on the approximate 17 acres of Natural Area Preservation property, and further mitigate for wildlife and other environmentally sensitive issues on the approximate 5 acres of developable property.

**Other Information** - If the land owner were to decide not to develop this land at their sole discretion, the Town should take steps to acquire the property or work with the land owner to protect the land from development. This approximate 23 acre parcel is within bighorn sheep range and should be evaluated for habitat and rockfall hazards. The parcel had been incorrectly identified as unplatted open space in the 1994 Open Lands Plan. During the process of updating this plan, the land owner was confirmed, and applied for and received approval for subdivision and rezoning of the parcel to approximately 17 acres Natural Area Preservation and approximately 5 acres Housing.

**'94 Action Plan** - This parcel was Action Item #2 from the '94 Plan.





#### **ACTION ITEM #24**

**Purpose** - Protect environmentally sensitive land from development.

**Action** - Acquire parcels or work with land owners on conservation easement or other measures to eliminate development potential.

**Other Information** - This Action Item includes four privately-owned parcels, each of which are located almost entirely within the Gore Creek Corridor.

**'94 Action Plan** - N/A

#### **ACTION ITEM #25**

**Purpose** - Protect environmentally sensitive land from development and potential trail development.

**Action** - Acquire parcel or work with land owner on conservation easement or other measures to eliminate development potential.

**Other Information** - This 2.94 acre parcel is owned by the Mountain Meadow Condominium Association. The parcel is within debris flow, rockfall and avalanche hazards areas

**'94 Action Plan** - N/A

#### **ACTION ITEM #26**

**Purpose** - Protect environmentally sensitive land from development.

**Action** - Acquire parcel or work with land owner on conservation easement or other measures to eliminate development potential.

**Other Information** - This vacant 1.9 acre site is privately owned. The parcel is characterized by very steep terrain, is within avalanche and rockfall hazard zones and has limited access potential. Development potential is very limited.

**'94 Action Plan** - N/A

#### **ACTION ITEM #27**

**Purpose** - To maintain access to Bighorn Road

**Action** - Acquire parcel.

**Other Information** - The parcel is owned by the Colorado Department of Transportation.

**'94 Action Plan** - This parcel was Action Item #50 from the '94 Plan.





# CHAPTER 6 - IMPLEMENTATION

The Open Lands Plan provides a general framework for the implementation of actions to achieve goals for the acquisition and protection of environmentally sensitive lands, the use and management of Town lands and Town and community facilities and trails. Some recommendations, such as the acquisition of specific parcels or easement are very specific. These recommendations are outlined in Chapter 5 Action Plan. Other recommendations, referred to as Implementation Steps are addressed at a more general level and involve things like the implementation of a program or a study necessary to make final decisions on if or how to proceed with implementing the goals of this Plan. An example of a follow-up study is the need to complete a detailed environmental and wildlife analysis in order to make final decisions on recreation trails. These types of general recommendations are described in preceding chapters of this Plan. This chapter summarizes the major Implementation Steps recommended by this Plan, suggestions on how these recommendations can be addressed, the potential for collaborations and potential funding sources. At the conclusion of this chapter is a matrix summarizing all Implementation Steps. It is recommended that Town Staff meet with the Town Council on an annual basis to define priorities and establish a work program for implementing the goals of this Plan.

## ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS

Chapter 3 – Environmentally Sensitive Lands identifies parcels to be acquired and/or protected from development and addresses methods for the protection of such lands.

### Action Items from Action Plan

The Action Plan identifies fifteen privately-

owned, environmentally sensitive parcels for acquisition and protection. Refer to Chapter 2 Environmentally Sensitive Lands and Chapter 5 Action Plan for additional information on these parcels. The first step in implementing these Action Items is for Town staff to work with the Town Council to establish a work program and priorities for Action Items to be addressed. Once priorities are determined, the initial step will be for staff to initiate dialogue with land owners to gauge their interested in working with the Town on the acquisition of their property or on other steps to protect the land from development (e.g. conservation easement, re-zoning, etc.).

### Land Acquisitions

The '94 Plan identified techniques for the acquisition of environmentally sensitive lands and for the acquisition of lands for public purposes or community use. These techniques remain valid today:

- **Acquire fee interest** - This traditional method involves paying fair market value to a willing seller for full fee interest in the land. A purchase using terms or installments could be beneficial to both the Town and the seller.
- **Tax Sale** - If or when the opportunity presents itself, acquiring land via tax sale would be a very cost effective way for the Town to acquire property.
- **Donations** - While closely related to benefits from a conservation easement (see below), a private landowners donation of land or development rights to the Town could provide tax benefits to the land owner.



- **Bargain Sale** - This is a combination of a donation and sale of land or development rights. Bargain sales are considered when a land owner cannot afford to donate the entire value of a property.

Funds generated by the Town's RETT are one potential source of revenue for land acquisitions. Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) programs are another potential funding source. GOCO programs include grants for conservation easement transaction costs and grants for open space acquisitions. The Eagle County Open Space Program is another source of funding that should be pursued.

### **Conservation Easements on Private Land**

Conservation easements limit development opportunities and protect privately-owned lands from development in a way that can be beneficial to the land owner and to the Town. The benefit to the Town is that a conservation easement would protect the land without the Town expending funds to purchase the land in fee. The land owner may realize tax benefits for the donation of the conservation easement. There are also funding sources available for landowners to assist with implementing a conservation easement. The Town could collaborate with a land owner and land trust on conservation easements. For example, the Town could purchase land outright then work with a land trust to obtain grants (to offset the purchase price) in exchange for placing a conservation easement on the land. The Town could also assist a land trust in acquiring a conservation easement by providing funding to reimburse the land owner for the value of the development rights they will be giving up.

These and other opportunities should be explored by the Town.

### **Designated Open Space and Conservation Easements**

This Plan discusses two approaches for how the Town can protect Town-owned open space parcels – the Designated Open Space process and conservation easements. Twenty-six Town-owned parcels are eligible to be dedicated as Designated Open Space. In addition, this Plan identifies four parcels for consideration of conservation easements. It is recommended that Town Staff initiate a detailed evaluation of these parcels and prepare recommendations for which parcels, if any, warrant being dedicated as Designated Open Space and which parcels, if any, may warrant protection via a conservation easement. This effort *should* be supported by a citizen's task force. The findings of this evaluation would then be presented to the Designated Open Space Board of Trustees who would make decisions regarding any recommendations to the Town Council regarding both Designated Open Space parcels and conservation easements.

## **PUBLIC FACILITIES AND COMMUNITY NEEDS/USE AND MANAGEMENT OF TOWN LANDS**

### **Workforce Housing**

The Action Plan identifies *four* parcels of land for potential acquisition for the development of *workforce* housing and Town facilities. Town staff should initiate dialogue with these land owners to gauge their interest in selling their land. If the landowner(s) have an interest in selling and upon direction from the Town Council, conceptual site/development feasibility studies should be completed

to better understand the development potential of these parcels. The Vail Housing Authority can play a role in these evaluations and assist in the acquisition of the potential housing parcels.

### **Public Facilities and Community Needs**

There were a number of public facilities and community needs that were discussed during the preparation of this update. An expanded snow dump, solar farm, disc golf course, and event or performing arts centers are some examples of these. While specific locations for these and other facilities are not provided by this Plan, it is assumed that one or more of these ideas may be pursued if or when directed by the Town Council.

### **Management of Lands for Biodiversity**

The protection, preservation *and enhancement* of vegetation, aquatic resources, riparian and wildlife habitats *and other natural resources* found on Vail's open lands is an important community priority. Understanding these resources and making sound decisions regarding the use and management of Town lands is an objective of this Plan. *It is recommended that a comprehensive study of Vail's open space lands* be completed, monitoring of these resources be initiated and programs for enhancing *these lands* be implemented. *Understanding the existing condition and health of the natural landscape is necessary to establishing a "baseline" for the ongoing monitoring of these natural resources.* This effort should be completed by an ecological-oriented consulting firm with the underlying objectives of inventorying these natural resources and developing programs to enhance the biodiversity of these lands.

It will also be important to understand how the management and use of Town open lands effects these **natural** resources. Formal policies for the management of Town lands **should be an outcome of this effort**. Management policies for the Town's open space lands **should be adopted by the Town Council after completion of studies described above and in Chapter 3 – Town Owned Lands and Use of Town Lands**.

### **Routine Maintenance of Town Open Lands**

The Town's Public Works Department currently manages Town-owned open lands. This effort should be formalized to establish a comprehensive program for the routine maintenance of lands that includes, among other things, periodic inspection of lands, weed control and vegetation management, maintaining of signs and other facilities, clearing of litter, maintaining drainage, etc. Appropriate staff and budget should be established to implement this program. Management programs should be refined based on the findings and policies that may result from the bio-diversity study described in the preceding section.

## **RECREATIONAL TRAILS**

This Plan identifies twelve ideas for potential improvements to the soft surface trail system in and around Vail. These ideas include the potential for new trails, the adoption, or formalization of existing social trails **or the closure of social trails**. These trail ideas and the process for further study and for obtaining approval from the USFS for new trails, easements necessary for new trails and the

potential for collaboration with other organizations are discussed in Chapter 5 – Trails.

### **Wildlife Enhancements**

In response to the existing condition of wildlife resources in the Gore Valley and the value the Vail community places on wildlife, it is recommended that prior to the development of new recreation trails, that the following steps be taken in an attempt to improve wildlife resources:

- Better define Trail-Free zones depicted on the Conceptual Trails Plan
- Public Education
- Enforcement of Seasonal Trail Closures
- Habitat Enhancement

The Town should initiate dialogue with CPW and USFS on these initiatives.

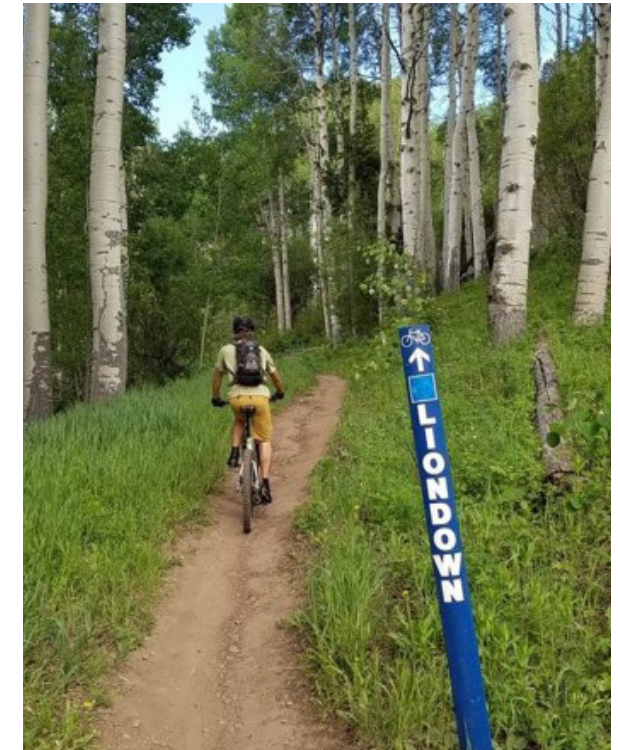
### **Action Items from Action Plan**

The Action Plan identifies the need for seven easements or land acquisitions that would be necessary to implement Trail Ideas. No action is necessary on these Action Items until environmental and wildlife evaluations are completed and decisions are made on future recreation trails. Decisions on easements and land acquisitions will be made at a later date.

### **USFS Trails and Trailheads**

Eight trailheads within the Town of Vail provide access to trails on USFS lands. A number of these trails are new or have been improved in recent years. In many cases the current use of these trailheads is significant, to the point where the trail experience is compromised and there are issues with congestion at the trailheads. This is particularly true with the Booth Falls trail and others in East Vail. The Town should initiate dialogue with the USFS to discuss options for addressing the use of these

trails and implementing necessary management programs.



### **Vail Resorts and Vail Mountain Trails**

Vail Resorts manages a network of interpretive, hiking and biking trails on Vail Mountain. A number of these trails extend into the Town of Vail. Vail Mountain trails represent a significant percentage of the soft surface recreational trails located proximate to or accessible from the Town. While Vail Resorts has no immediate or long-term plans to expand their system of trails, the Town should continue dialogue with Vail Resorts regarding any future trail improvement plans. Coordination with Vail Resorts will be needed on Trail #5 Intermountain to Lionshead Connector and Trail #8 Vail Mountain Cross Connector, both of which are located partly or



entirely on Vail Mountain. In addition to trails identified on the Conceptual Trails Plan, the Town should initiate dialogue with Vail Resorts on the potential development of new trails, particularly trails located on the front side of Vail Mountain. Trails on the front side of Vail Mountain have the potential to link directly into Town, making them accessible to both residents and guests. In addition, the USFS review process for trails on the front side of the Vail Mountain would potentially be less rigorous given Vail Resorts current use permit.

### Trail Maintenance

The Town of Vail currently maintains all paved and sanctioned soft-surface trails within its boundaries. In addition, the Town maintains the Gore Valley Trail between the Intermountain neighborhood and Highway 6/24 in Dowd Junction. Other trails within the greater Vail network are managed by the USFS, CDOT, ECO Trails and Vail Resorts. Any new soft-surface trails outside of Town boundaries may require that the Town become more active in trail management and trail maintenance. The Town should explore maintenance collaborations with Eagle County Adopt-a-Trail (a USFS and Vail Valley Mountain Bike Association program), Friends of Eagles Nest Wilderness, Vail Resorts EpicPromise and the Colorado Youth Corps,

### Trail Use/Education and Outreach

During community input sessions many concerns were expressed about the Town's existing trail system. Among these concerns were improving the quality of signs and wayfinding, trail etiquette (specifically conflicts with different user groups and overcrowding at



popular trails). These concerns can be addressed by a combination of improved signage and community outreach programs.

### Signage

- An evaluation of all directional signs should be completed and as deemed necessary a program for improving these signs should be implemented,
- Provide trail maps at all trailheads,
- Adding signs on multi-use trails at switchbacks and blind spots alerting users to be aware of other trail users, and
- Adding informational signs at trailheads to address topics such as wildlife considerations or trail closures, alerting users to trails being open to multi-use and information on the ability level of the trail.

### Outreach Program

Establishing outreach programs to provide information on Vail's trails was considered a viable way to improve the trail experience for all trail users. Outreach programs could provide information on:

- Trail etiquette, specifically with regards to respecting other users on multi-use trails,
- Wildlife or other seasonal closures,
- Trail maps, information on ability levels, etc.,
- Encouraging the use of under-utilized trails in the area (to disperse users from over-crowded trails), and
- Proper planning for trail use (clothing, food and water, emergency supplies).

Information addressing these and other topics could be provided to trail users via local bike shops, the Town's visitor centers, the Town's web page and by local hotels.

## CONCLUSION

As an element of the Town of Vail Comprehensive Plan, the 2018 Open Lands Plan Update addresses opportunities for the acquisition and protection of sensitive lands, provides recommendations on the use of Town lands and outlines steps to take in evaluating existing and future recreation trails. The Plan provides the Vail Town Council and the Vail community with a framework for future actions and decision-making regarding each of these topics. While in many regards the Plan provides fairly explicit direction, the Plan is a master plan document and as such the Plan is general in nature. As noted throughout the Plan, much additional work, analysis and community involvement will be necessary prior to making future decisions.

This Plan is an update to the 1994 Open Lands Plan. It is recommended that this Plan be re-visited in the next five to ten years.



<b>SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED IMPLEMENTATION STEPS</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE PARTY</b>	<b>REVIEW AUTHORITY</b>
<u>Work Program</u> - Town staff to meet annually with the Town Council to define priorities and establish a work program and budget for implementing the goals of the Open Lands Plan.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works	Town Council
<b><u>Environmentally Sensitive Lands</u></b> <u>Designated Open Space Board of Trustees</u> - Assign members to, and reconvene, this Board.	Environmental/Community Development	Town Council
<u>Designated Open Space</u> - With assistance from a Citizens Task Force, analyze the 26 parcels that currently qualify to be Designated Open Space and make recommendations on which parcels, if any, should be considered for designated. Evaluate the Designated Open Space process to identify potential Charter amendments that could improve the effectiveness of the program.	Community Development, Public Works	Designated Open Space Board of Trustees, Town Council
<u>Conservation Easements</u> - With assistance from a Citizens Task Force, evaluate the appropriateness of establishing conservation easements on Town-owned lands and identify lands that could benefit from protection by conservation easement.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works	Town Council
<u>Action Plan</u> - Reach out to owners of environmentally sensitive lands identified for acquisition or protection on the Action Plan, monitor the availability of such parcels.	Environmental/Community Development	
<b><u>Town-Owned Lands and Use of Lands</u></b> <u>Biodiversity</u> - Initiate a comprehensive study of lands containing important biodiversity values, such as vegetation, aquatic resources, riparian and wildlife habitat, to understand existing conditions to identify programs for the enhancement of these resources. Develop formal policies for the management of Town-owned lands for biodiversity. <u>Maintenance of Town-owned Lands</u> - Develop a program for maintenance of the Town's open lands, open space and trails. Identify funding requirements for such programs.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works; Consultant	PEC, Town Council
<u>Wildfire and Safety</u> - Coordinate the efforts of Vail Fire & Emergency Services to manage vegetation to minimize the potential threat of wildfire in and around Vail with other Town management efforts.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works, VFES	
<u>Action Plan</u> - Reach out to owners of parcels identified for acquisition on the Action Plan, monitor the availability of such parcels.	Environmental/Community Development	
<b><u>Trails</u></b> <u>Public Education</u> - Implement a public education program addressing how trail use affects wildlife, the importance of respecting trail closures, and how to be respectful and sensitive to wildlife resources when using trails.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works, Community Information Officer	Town Council
<u>Wildlife Habitat Enhancement</u> - Work with Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the United States Forest Service to collaborate on programs to enhance wildlife habitat.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works	Town Council
<u>Seasonal Trail Closures</u> - Work with Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the United States Forest Service to improve compliance with seasonal closures via education, enforcement and installation of gates at trailheads.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works	
<u>Trails Plan</u> - Initiate a comprehensive trails plan process to include the evaluation and further study of trail ideas identified in this Plan and a comprehensive environmental and wildlife analysis to be used in future decision-making regarding any new trail development.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works, Consultant	Town Council
<u>Trail-free Zones</u> - As an element of the comprehensive environmental and wildlife analysis, refine the recommended trail-free zones identified on the Conceptual Trails Plan and coordinate with the United States Forest Service on actions that could be taken to establish trail-free zones.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works, consultant	Town Council
<u>Action Plan</u> - As may be necessary depending upon the outcome of detailed trail planning, reach out to owners of parcels identified for the acquisition of easements necessary for trail development.	Environmental/Community Development	
<u>Collaborations</u> - As may be appropriate, coordinate with other organizations such as Vail Resorts and Eagle County on the planning and evaluation of potential new trails.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works, Consultant	
<u>Community Outreach</u> - Establish outreach programs targeted to both locals and visitors to provide information on trail use, trail etiquette and trail opportunities in the area.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works, Community Information Officer	Town Council
<u>Signage and Wayfinding</u> - Evaluate existing signage, wayfinding and maps and prepare a comprehensive program for improving signage.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works, consultant	PEC, Town Council
<u>Existing Trailheads</u> - Work with the United States Forest Service on the maintenance and management of existing trails and trailheads. Involve other stakeholders in this effort.	Environmental/Community Development, Public Works	Town Council

# APPENDIX

- 1994 Open Lands Plan
- Status of Action Plan Parcels and Trails from the '94 Action Plan
- Summary of Action Items
- Summary of Real Estate Transfer Tax Ordinances
- Designated Open Space procedures
- USFS Process
- Trail Types and Standards
- Conceptual Trails Plan/Trails Dropped from Consideration
- Colorado Parks and Wildlife - Wildlife in the Gore Valley
- Colorado Parks and Wildlife - Wildlife Influence Area Maps
- Trail Scoping Session Minutes - September 2017
- Summary of 2018 Wildlife Forum