

JULY NEWSLETTER



Happy July! Temps are on the rise, monsoon season has been in full effect (hooray rain!), & the Tour de France is entering the big mountains (my favorite stages)! Speaking of big mountains, our local high country is looking great with wildflowers in full bloom. Getting up high is a great way to beat the heat; just be sure to be prepared & keep an eye on that weather! Here's what we're up to this month:

Upcoming Events:

Social Mountain Bike Ride w/ Black Burro

- Thurs. 7/21, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, at Black Burro Bikes. We're partnering with Black Burro Bikes for a social mountain bike ride on some of our favorite local trails. We'll meet at the shop for an approx. 90 minute, no-drop ride. After the ride, we'll be enjoying happy-hour prices on drinks at the shop, as well as some raffle prizes from Ergon Bikes, Velo Bling Designs & BVSC!

Trail Work Day

- Sat. 7/30, 7:00 am - 12:00 pm. We will be completing some restoration work on Vitamin B. If you're interested in helping out, click [HERE](#) to join the Trail Maintenance Crew. After you sign up, we'll send you the specific details for the day. Experience is always great, but not necessary. Just bring a pair of work gloves & a willingness to sweat a bit. We'll take care of the rest!
- August work day is scheduled for Sat. 8/27.

Bells for Bikes Bike Rodeo

- Sun. 8/21, 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm, at Avery Parsons Elementary. Get those bikes ready for back to school! We'll be handing out bells, playing bike-themed games, & Black Burro will be doing bike safety checks & helmet fittings. Come any time between 3:00 - 6:00!

Other Happenings:

The “Ramsour Loop” Trail has been approved by BLM! This trail has been in development for some time now (trail building is NOT a fast process), but we’re excited that things are continuing to move forward. Although approved, it will still take some time before we can break ground - the approved route is fairly close to a handful of historical areas, meaning that we need to be diligent in working with BLM to ensure that the route is followed 100% accurately before breaking ground. Please know that we are as excited as anyone to break ground, & we are doing everything in our power to start construction as soon as possible. We also want to give a huge shout-out to our former Executive Director, Craig Piefer, for all the work he put into getting this trail approved. It takes a lot of time, effort, & community to get a trail approved, & Craig played a huge role in continuing this process, mapping & re-mapping the route to ensure its approval. Once construction begins, he’ll be out there swinging a pick as well!

Survey results are in! Thank you to all of those that submitted your thoughts & feedback, & congratulations to Jesse for winning the BVSC swag bag! We received a lot of great feedback, & I’d like to briefly address some of those comments:

- Trail building - This is our #1 priority. We were fortunate enough to receive some grants a few years ago, which provided us with the opportunity to build 9 miles of new trails. We are continuing to apply for grants, which can help offset the cost of trail construction. We are also working with land management agencies to ensure that the trails we are proposing are viable & sustainable without disrupting wildlife or the environment. These proposals include looking to other areas around the BV area (e.g. west of town, the Fourmile Rec Area, etc.) as well. We are exploring all types of trails, but would certainly like to create a “beginner” trail that will allow users to build confidence & gain access to other areas. We also hear the calls for flow downhill trails - it is certainly something we are looking at as well. Trails can take 3-5 years to complete, so while you may not always see new trails being built, we’re continually working on proposals!
- Overcrowding, overuse, & safety concerns were also brought up. We believe that by continuing to expand our trail system, with trails created for all users, we can help alleviate this problem. Looking to establish new trail systems in other areas in the BV area could also help with this. We will also continue to promote safe & courteous use of our trails through education & awareness. We want to ensure that all trail users have a fun & positive experience on our trails! Remember, we’re all out there for essentially the same reason - to enjoy the outdoors - so be kind to one another!!

- Trail maintenance - Our goal is to build a Trail Maintenance Team to ensure that trail work & restoration is occurring on a regular basis. Sign up for the Trail Crew [HERE](#). We are also working with the Town of BV & local land management agencies to ensure that our trails remain in tip-top shape. If you see any areas that need maintenance, please report them to us through our website.
- E-bikes - We are continuing to work with local land management agencies as the policies & regulations for e-bikes continue to develop. Our main priority is to ensure the safety & enjoyment of all trail users & we will continue the dialog as these policies continue to evolve.

Wow, that was a lot. And really, there is more - like I said, we received A LOT of quality feedback. This is simply a brief summary of our main takeaways & common issues.

We are partnering with BLM & the town of BV to help resolve some of the parking/camping issues along CR 304. There is currently a camping plan in development, so current work will be fairly minimal until that plan is finalized, but we'll be working to clean up some of the parking/camping areas along the road, adding some signage & buck & rail fencing. Our goal is to ensure that these sites do not continue to grow unchecked, & to protect trail users from motorized vehicles on the road.

BVSC custom Primal Wear socks are now available in our online store! These performance socks are not only stylish (you gotta look good out there!), but they're also great for running or riding. Don't want to pay shipping? We offer local pickup at the Trailhead! View our store [HERE](#).

Finally, we just want to send a huge "thank you" to you, our supporters, & to our sponsor businesses, especially those 1% donors (The Trailhead, Eddyline, Louie's, & BV e-Bikes). Without you this wouldn't be possible & we're excited to continue the process of creating & maintaining a world-class trail system!! Thank you!!

Did You Know?

To help minimize user conflict, remember to practice good trail etiquette when out enjoying the trails. Being courteous & respectful can help all trail users have a fun & positive experience, and yielding to other users allows you to stop & enjoy the amazing views our trails have to offer!

Trail Etiquette:

- Uphill users have the right of way. Be courteous & use common sense!
- Always yield to horses. Try to move to the downhill side of the trail (being above the animal can spook it) if possible.

- Music - make sure you can hear your surroundings. If you use earbuds, it is recommended you only use one, or keep your music at a volume that allows you to hear approaching trail users & animals. If you use a bluetooth speaker, please be respectful of those users that are out there to enjoy the quiet sounds of nature, not Naughty by Nature (yep, a '90s hip-hop reference, you're welcome).
- Trash - pack it in; pack it out.
- Stay on the trail. Cutting switchbacks can cause erosion, which can lead to washouts on established trails. Going off trail can also be harmful to local wildlife living in the area.
- Be nice to one another!! In the words of Jackie Moon - "everybody love everybody!!"

Thanks for all of your support!



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