

## Trail Use Changes at Apex Park FACT SHEET

**What:** Change in management approach to address visitor experience, safety and trail user conflict as a result of different user speeds. Implementation will consist of directional traffic for bicyclists on odd-numbered calendar days over three segments of trail, construction of two new segments of trail and installation of trail features to add interest and moderate speed.

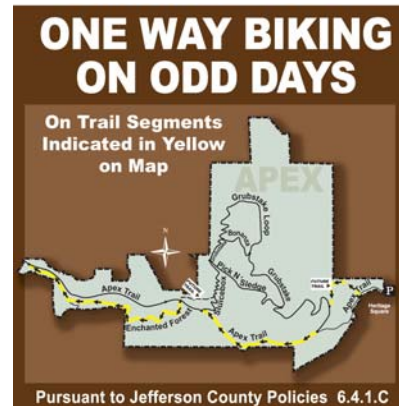
**When:** Roll out March 15, 2010

**Where:** Apex Park (map) near Golden, CO  
One way biking on odd days along Enchanted Forest Trail, a segment of Apex Trail, and a portion of new trail (to be located on the east side of the park).

Another stretch of new trail will also be constructed to alleviate congestion between the Enchanted Forest and Sluicelox junctions. Trails crews will be constructing trail features to add interest and moderate speed on selected segments of trail, with all construction completion expected by July 2010.

**Why:** Increased reports of conflict, safety incidents and user concerns.

**See the signs:** Beginning March 15, 2010 these signs will be in the park to direct users to the location of the odd-day, one-way biking segments.



### Details

To improve the visitor experience, address safety and reduce conflicts at Apex Park, a new management approach will begin March 15, 2010. The process to determine the best approach involved a high level of public input beginning in May 2009 and concluded with a decision by the Open Space Director that was announced in October for implementation in 2010.

The management involves an increased outreach effort; odd-numbered day, directional travel by bicyclists; construction of two new trail segments and the installation of trail features to add interest and slow traffic along portions of specific trails.

#### Phases:

Initial implementation of the management changes at Apex involves four separate components. The first is expanded educational efforts and outreach to communicate the management changes. Visitors can expect special events, increased volunteer and staff presence at the Park and informational materials at the kiosk and on the Web site.

The second phase includes designation through signage, mapping and Web site posting of directional travel for bicyclists on odd-numbered calendar days over one section of Apex Trail, all of Enchanted Forest Trail and an alternative trail access onto the Park that has yet to be constructed (see attached map). This designation will take effect on March 15, 2010. Although strengthened enforcement may also be required, visitor education will be the emphasis during this period of transition.

User group representatives from the Trail Use Task Force and Park neighbors will join staff to preview alignment efforts for the new construction. Installation of trail features such as curves, gates, stiles, boulders, etc., along portions of the trails where visitors tend to travel faster will either be implemented in advance of, or coincide with, trail construction activities as the third component.

The fourth component involves construction of new trail segments to include the odd-day, directional biking trail into Apex Park and a short segment of trail to alleviate congestion on upper reaches of Apex Trail between the junctions of Sluicebox and Enchanted Forest trails. Construction should be completed by July 2010.

#### Trail User Expectations:

Although all trails remain multiple use, all trail users can anticipate some type of change to their experience at Apex Park.

On even-numbered days no directional restrictions will apply. Experiences will be altered as trail users learn and adapt to the new management approach as well as encounter trail features and new directional signage in the Park.

The greatest change for users will be on odd-numbered days with one-way biking movements on designated trails and all users making adjustments to the new use patterns. In an effort to make speeds more compatible, hikers and equestrians will be encouraged to use the trails where one-way bike movement has been designated.

**[See map on last page](#)**

