

# Goals, Objectives and Recommendations

## MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE IN THE BOISE FOOTHILLS: GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This section of the plan focuses on management and maintenance of both the resources and uses of the Foothills. Funding, cooperation, and consistency in planning efforts are key to the success of this plan. Therefore, the recommendations presented in this section focus on the groundwork that is involved in maintaining the Foothills as a safe public space. Five key management goals are identified in this section:

- Develop funding proposals to supplement limited resources for programs and projects recommended by this plan.
- Enhance the public involvement process and environmental education programs.
- Preserve existing public lands and create connectivity between these properties.
- Acquire additional open space as appropriate to agency mission and function.
- Ensure public safety and wildfire concerns are met through cost-effective and coordinated efforts in the Foothills.

## Pursue and Develop Funding Sources recommendations

GOAL	OBJECTIVES	RECOMMENDATIONS
Develop funding proposals to supplement limited resources for programs and projects recommended by this plan.	#1 Provide staffing and funding to support activities and programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek funding for staff and support activities through cost-saving, supplemental funding programs and projects.</li> </ul>
	#2 Develop a cost-effective plan to fund maintenance and development of lands, trails, and facilities provided for public use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a 10-year Capital Improvement Plan for the Foothills and research potential new impact fees.</li> <li>• Encourage the creation of a fund or trust managed by the Friends of the Foothills and the Idaho Community Foundation.</li> </ul>

Ongoing recommendations in blue

## Establish a Public Involvement and Education Process recommendations

GOAL	OBJECTIVES	RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>Establish a public involvement and education process.</p>	<p>#1 Provide public outreach for education and volunteer programs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide public information and encourage citizen involvement in plan implementation, land acquisition, and resource management.</li> <li>• Continue to evaluate, develop and update lesson plans for public and private schools that incorporate the concepts of this plan.</li> <li>• Involve neighboring communities in public forums to promote consistency in planning efforts, design, educational opportunities, and public awareness.</li> <li>• Identify members of the business community to actively engage in the implementation of the Open Space Plan.</li> <li>• Promote volunteers to actively engage in the implementation of the Open Space Plan</li> <li>• Continue public education programs about protection and restoration of open space; environmental challenges; responsible stewardship; and citizen involvement in addressing these issues.</li> <li>• Continue to work with environmental education groups to use public open space areas for environmental instruction.</li> <li>• Enhance year-round education programs for the Foothills.</li> <li>• Establish partnerships with public and private landholders, community land trusts, conservation organizations and “friends” groups throughout the</li> </ul>

	<p>#2 Provide one location for such information as education, upcoming events, and volunteer programs.</p>	<p>region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Use the Jim Hall Foothills Learning Center to house open space operations, enforcement personnel, environmental educators, maintenance staff, and natural resource specialists. This site will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Serve as the information center for the Foothills, where maps, electronic files, and other information could be stored, updated, and disseminated.</li> <li>○ Serve as an education facility to provide education and environmental awareness programs and demonstration projects about such topics as Firewise and xeriscape landscaping.</li> <li>○ Provide a location for reporting criminal activity, ecological observations, trail-related issues, maintenance issues, and other concerns.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p>#3 Establish an interpretive program focused on creating resource awareness.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Identify social trends and how they relate to natural resource management.</li> <li>● Develop programs to address social trends.</li> <li>● Develop a series of themes for specific purposes, such as at Table Rock or on trail loops. Interpretive signage could be developed for the following themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Table Rock</li> <li>○ Military Reserve</li> <li>○ Boise River Wildlife Management Area</li> <li>○ Castle Rock</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Shoshone tribes</li> <li>○ Overland Stage Services</li> <li>○ Rocky Canyon Toll Road</li> <li>○ Unexploded ordinance</li> <li>○ Boise Fires of 1959 and 1996</li> <li>○ Fire rehabilitation</li> <li>○ Poisonous plants</li> <li>○ Noxious and invasive plants</li> <li>○ Wildlife in the Foothills</li> <li>○ Trailing sheep</li> <li>○ Urban interface</li> <li>○ Geothermal resources</li> <li>○ Watershed</li> </ul>
	<p>#4 Increase coordination and administration efforts among agencies for public involvement and education.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Organize annual meeting amongst public agencies representatives and partners to heighten awareness of public involvement and education efforts.</li> <li>● Schedule annual open house to highlight accomplishments, upcoming projects and opportunities for future public involvement.</li> </ul>

Ongoing recommendations in blue

## Preserve Existing Public Lands as Public Open Space recommendations

GOAL	OBJECTIVES	RECOMMENDATIONS
Preserve existing public lands and create connectivity between these properties.	#1 Facilitate the transfer of ownership from state lands to other public agencies to preserve open space.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a prioritized list of Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) parcels with ranked resource values and uses for potential sale or exchange.</li> <li>• Work with other public land agencies to identify possible receiving agencies for IDL parcels.</li> <li>• Initiate further group discussion with public land agencies on future land ownership scenarios to meet this objective.</li> </ul>
	#2 Provide resources as necessary to expedite the land transfer process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify specific resources to be allocated to facilitate land transfer of IDL parcels state including planning, funding, staffing, and mediation.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Educate and build partnerships with local NGOs, interest groups and citizens to create momentum to conserve IDL parcels as public open space.</a></li> </ul>
	#3 Institute additional measures to ensure public open spaces are preserved for future generations as public open spaces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage City of Boise leadership to take steps to have third-party conservation easements on all properties where Foothills Levy Funds have been utilized for long-term open space conservation.</li> <li>• Pursue third-party conservation easements on all City of Boise owned properties in the Foothills.</li> </ul>
	#4 Acquire public access to existing public open space parcels where compatible with other resource values.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Work with private landowners to acquire access easements for recreational connectivity.</a></li> </ul>

Ongoing recommendations in blue

## Acquire Additional Open Space as Appropriate to Agency Mission and Function recommendations

GOAL	OBJECTIVES	RECOMMENDATIONS
Acquire additional open space as appropriate to agency mission and function.	#1 Establish a permanent Foothills Council consisting of public and citizen representatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a composite map identifying lands acceptable for protection using criteria that represents environmental, recreational, and visual resource values outlined in the Foothills Open Space Plan.</li> <li>• Educate the public about the mixed ownership (public and private) across the Foothills.</li> </ul>

Ongoing recommendations in blue

## Ensure Public Safety and Wildfire concerns are met recommendations

GOAL	OBJECTIVES	RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>Ensure public safety and wildfire concerns are met through cost-effective and coordinated efforts in the Foothills</p>	<p>#1 Have emergency management services continue mutual-aid efforts to protect public safety through shared resources to enforce laws and managing wildfire concerns.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urge agencies to continue to support and fund cooperative agreements for fire protection and law enforcement.</li> <li>• Ensure cooperation amongst local governments and fire protection districts evaluate the costs and benefits of acquiring specialized fire suppression equipment and funding supplemental staff during the peak fire season.</li> </ul>
	<p>#2 Continue to improve interagency coordination, cooperation, and communication to advance public safety and wildfire concerns.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage public agencies to communicate regularly with public safety and law enforcement representatives and medical personnel serving the Foothills.</li> <li>• Provide assistance with emergency response needs and communications as needed, such as gate keys, staging areas, and special trail equipment.</li> <li>• Stay engaged with Army Corp of Engineers on mapping, detection, education and mitigation of unexploded ordinances in the Foothills.</li> <li>• Consider use of trails as potential locations for firebreaks when needed.</li> <li>• Encourage agencies to work collectively when seeking funds for wildfire mitigation projects within the Foothills.</li> <li>• Update 2012 Wildfire Mitigation MOU every 5 years and meet semi-annually with MOU signators to prioritize project ideas and discuss funding</li> </ul>

		options.
	#3 Educate the community about public safety and wildfire concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage homeowners within the Wildland Urban Interface to create defensible space.</li> <li>• Provide resources to encourage neighborhoods to become Firewise communities.</li> <li>• Create and post signage educating Foothills users about wildfire concerns and wildfires role in the Foothills environment.</li> <li>• Provide non-emergency contact information (police, fire, agencies and Ridge to Rivers) at designated R2R trailheads and in a variety of media formats.</li> </ul>

Ongoing recommendations in blue