

# Public Engagement Summary

## *Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge*



*Elk in Rock Creek* © Dave Showalter

### ***Thank you for your engagement and feedback.***

In the fall of 2016, we launched a public engagement process in order to solicit input from the public on how to shape future Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge visitor experiences and to ensure transparency with regards to our agency's plans to improve and open the Refuge.

We designed the engagement effort to build broader public awareness of how and why the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manages national wildlife refuges, the work that has been done at Rocky Flats NWR (e.g., clean up, remediation, and restoration), and the management and visitor use opportunities that will occur in the future on the Refuge.

We hosted 4 public forums that addressed a number of topics including trails, interpretation, exhibits, habitat management, and risk communication. All forums were well attended and we are thankful to all who participated. In addition to the forums, we also led the public and media on refuge tours, updated our website with additional maps and information, including this [fact sheet](#) developed by our partners, and built up a database of interested individuals and organizations.

On the map that follows, you will see that we have made several minor changes to our plans for the Refuge based on input collected through the engagement process.

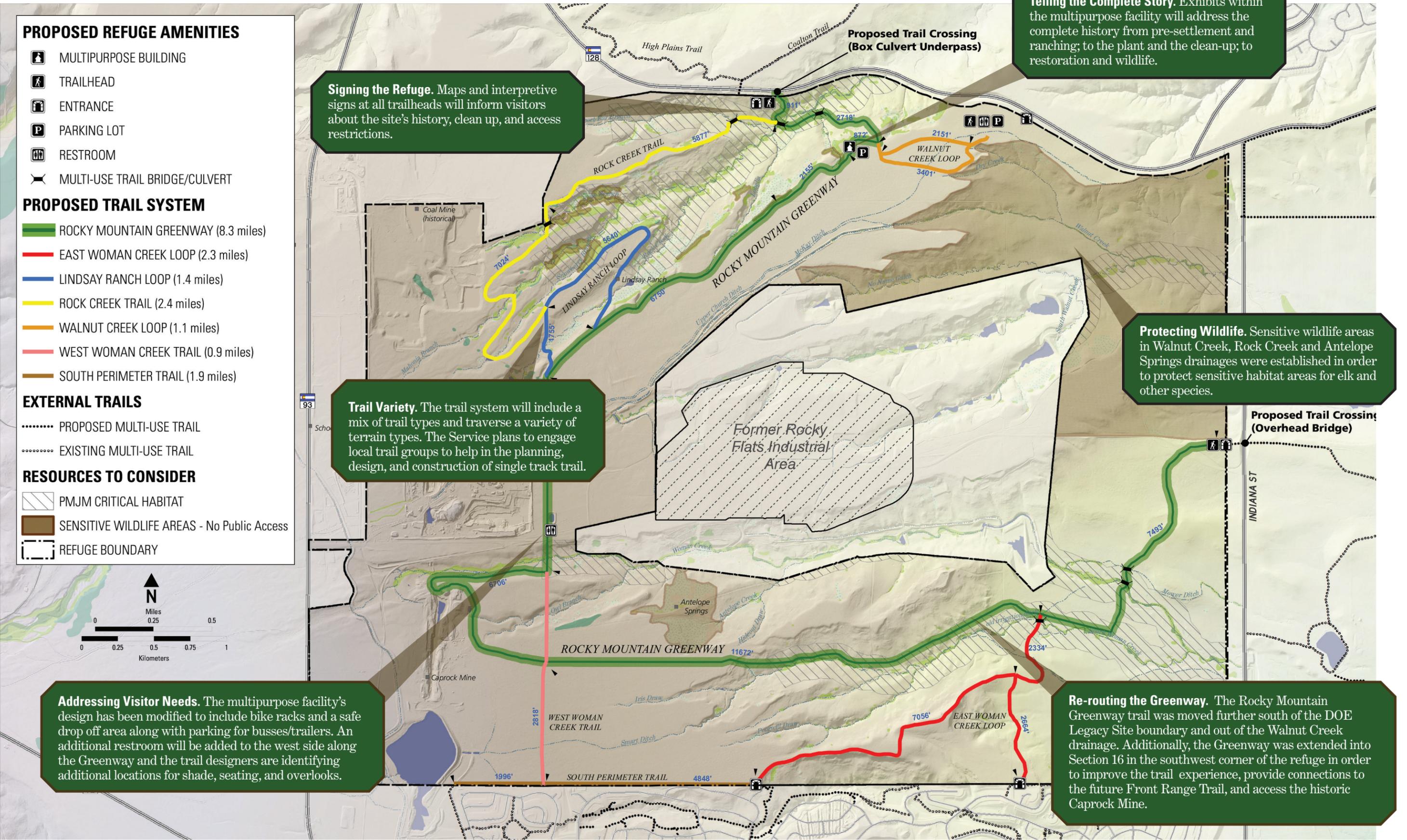
We are thankful for your ongoing involvement and look forward to opening the trail system on the refuge this summer. We encourage you to stay engaged. Look for news and updates on our twitter feed ([@USFWSRFL\\_alert](#)) and feel free to contact us at [rockyflats@fws.gov](mailto:rockyflats@fws.gov).

Sincerely,

***/s/ David Lucas***

David Lucas  
Project Leader, Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR Complex

**We heard you and we have incorporated your feedback into the plans for Rocky Flats NWR. Here's how...**



## ***The trail system at Rocky Flats NWR will be opened to public use in Summer 2018.***

In anticipation of the summer opening and the construction of additional visitor facilities, the Service is currently working on the following:

- Coordinating additional sampling with Jefferson County. While there have been hundreds of soil, air and water samples already collected and the Service did it's own confirmatory sampling of the refuge in 2006, the agency is committed to additional soil sampling to confirm results. This confirmatory soil sampling will be done in the areas where construction activities are planned.
- Conducting additional environmental compliance.
- Planning and designing the trail system. In 2019, the Service will be working with US Federal Highways on the final design and construction of the Greenway and it's trailheads. Beginning in the summer of 2018, the Service will begin collaborating with local trail groups on the planning and design of other trails in the system.
- Updating designs for the new multipurpose building and the interpretive exhibits. Also designing informational and directional signs for the trails and trailheads.
- Building refuge bird and wildlife lists for visitors.



*Rock Creek drainage.*

## ***Please stay connected.***

Follow us on Twitter ([@USFWSRFL](https://twitter.com/USFWSRFL) [Alert](#)). We'll be using Twitter to post updates, alerts, and refuge-related news and photos. We will also post updates and additional information on the [refuge's website](#). Additionally, monthly guided refuge tours will resume in the spring and you can find information about signing up for a tour on our website.



*Woman Creek drainage.*

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