

# Regulations to Help Us Serve You

This open space is managed for a variety of habitats. These regulations protect you and the natural resources of the open space.

- ◆ **Know Before You Go** ~ dogs are not permitted ~ day use area only ~ no camping ~ make sure you have water, trash bags, etc., before you leave the trailhead
- ◆ **Stay on Trails** ~ stay on designated trails for safety and to protect wildlife and resources
- ◆ **Pack It Out** ~ follow Leave No Trace principles and pack your trash out
- ◆ **Leave what you find** ~ leave plants, rocks and historical items as you find them so that the next person can enjoy them
- ◆ **Be Fire Safe** ~ no fires, no fireworks, no campfires, etc.
- ◆ **Keep Wildlife Wild** ~ do not approach wildlife or livestock
- ◆ **Be Kind** ~ share the trail ~ yield to others especially if they are riding horses
- ◆ **All special events** ~ apply online for special permits at <https://www.larimer.gov/naturalresources/specialusepermits>
- ◆ **Hunting restrictions** ~ (970) 619-4570 or [www.larimer.gov/naturalresources](http://www.larimer.gov/naturalresources)

## Tips

- ◆ Carry plenty of water and extra food.
- ◆ Watch the weather closely. Fast-moving storms and high winds are common.
- ◆ Red Mountain Open Space is closed during the winter and is open to the public from March 1 to Nov. 30.

# Larimer County's Open Lands Program

Larimer County's Open Lands Program is funded by a ¼-cent Help Preserve Open Spaces sales tax. This tax started in 1996 following a citizens' initiative to acquire and manage open spaces. The Open Lands Program works with willing landowners to preserve and protect properties through fee simple and conservation easement transactions. The future of OUR open spaces is up to you! Being a good steward of the land and shopping locally are a few ways you can help.



## Respect the Past

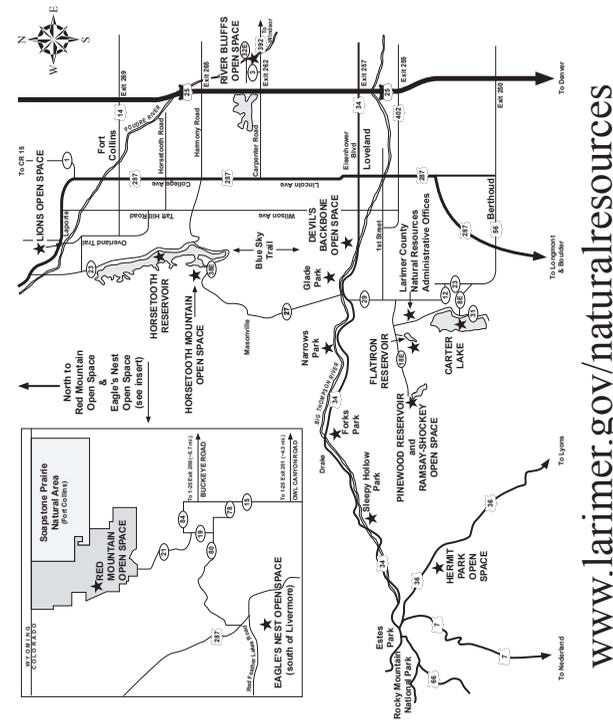
Never touch the artifacts left on this land by Indigenous Peoples and their ancient ancestors. Indigenous Peoples with ties to this area believe that the individuals who made the artifacts still use them, and collecting disrupts the connections between their ancestors and the land.

Moving an artifact means a significant amount of scientific information is lost. If you find an artifact, take a photo, mark it on the map or take GPS coordinates, and contact Larimer County Department of Natural Resources at (970) 619-4570.

 Check **COTREX** for trail conditions, alerts, and closures: [trails.colorado.gov](http://trails.colorado.gov)

## Larimer County's Parks and Open Spaces

- Big Thompson Parks
- Carter Lake
- Devil's Backbone Open Space
- Eagle's Nest Open Space
- Flatiron Reservoir
- Hermit Park Open Space
- Horsetooth Mountain Open Space
- Horsetooth Reservoir
- Lions Open Space
- Pinewood Reservoir
- Ramsay-Shockey Open Space
- Red Mountain Open Space
- River Bluffs Open Space



[www.larimer.gov/naturalresources](http://www.larimer.gov/naturalresources)

# Red Mountain Open Space

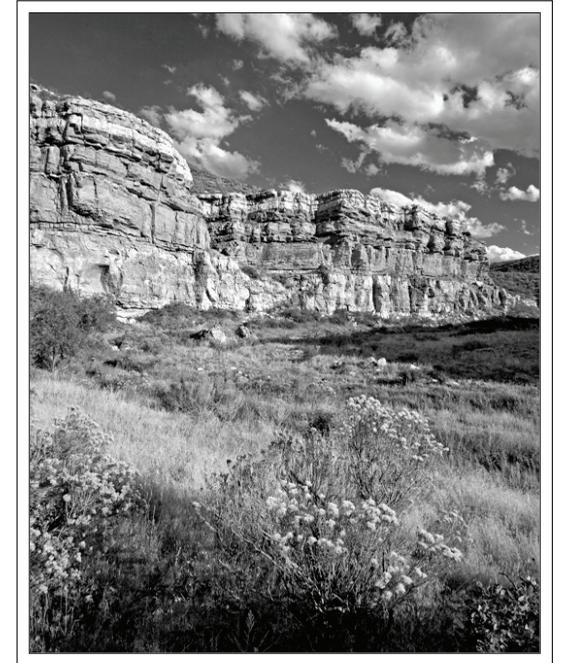


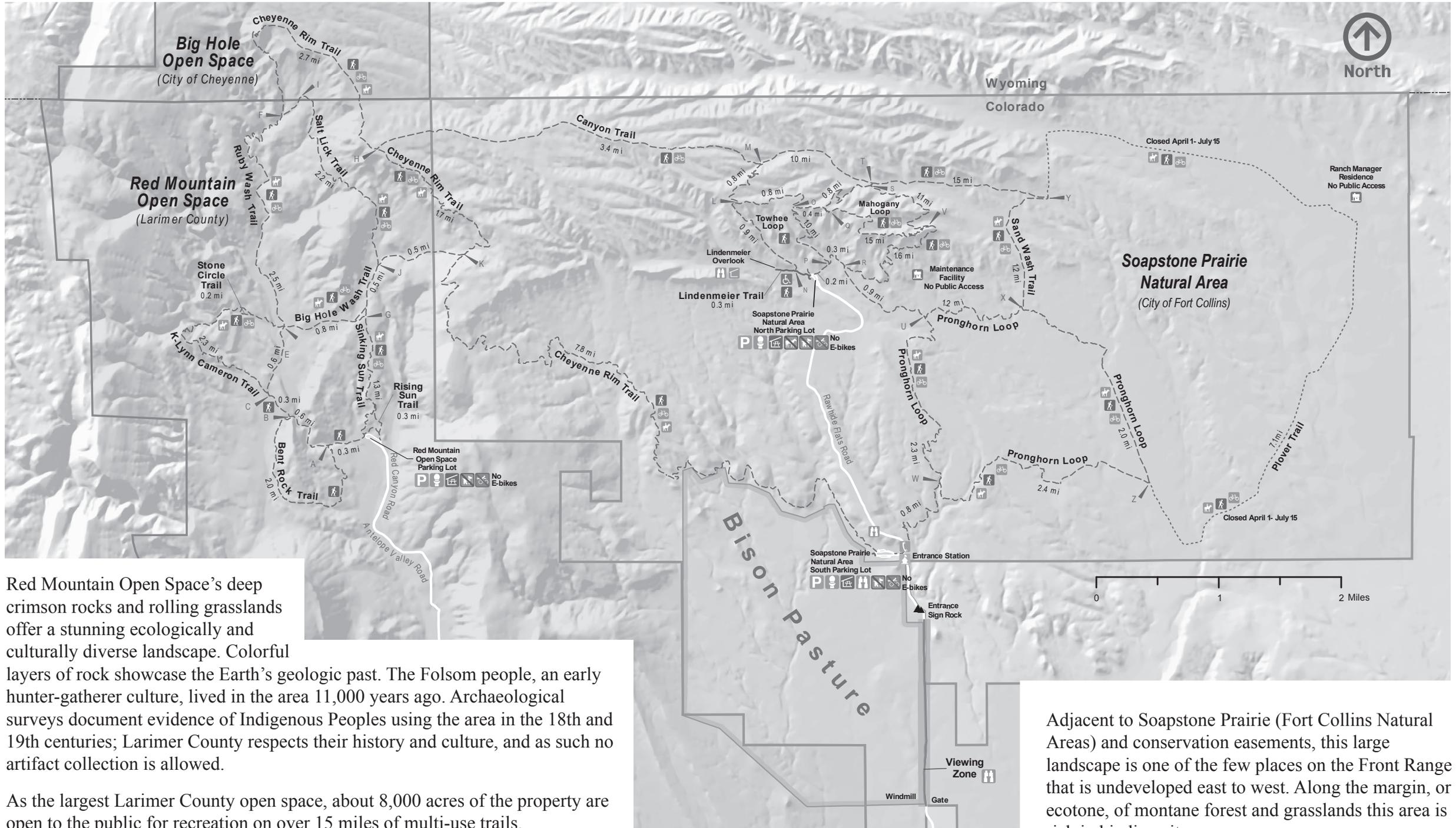
Photo: John Fielder



# Department of Natural Resources

Department of Natural Resources  
1800 S. County Road 31  
Loveland, CO 80537  
(970) 619-4570

8/24/2023



Red Mountain Open Space’s deep crimson rocks and rolling grasslands offer a stunning ecologically and culturally diverse landscape. Colorful layers of rock showcase the Earth’s geologic past. The Folsom people, an early hunter-gatherer culture, lived in the area 11,000 years ago. Archaeological surveys document evidence of Indigenous Peoples using the area in the 18th and 19th centuries; Larimer County respects their history and culture, and as such no artifact collection is allowed.

As the largest Larimer County open space, about 8,000 acres of the property are open to the public for recreation on over 15 miles of multi-use trails.

Adjacent to Soapstone Prairie (Fort Collins Natural Areas) and conservation easements, this large landscape is one of the few places on the Front Range that is undeveloped east to west. Along the margin, or ecotone, of montane forest and grasslands this area is rich in biodiversity.