Eagle Mountain City

Natural Open Space & Wildlife Habitat Management Plan

2025

EAGLE MOUNTAIN
UTAH
1996

Prepared for

City of Eagle Mountain City, Utah Planning Department

3726 E Campus Dr., Suites H
Eagle Mountain, UT 84005

Prepared by

Nathan Shumway

Environmental Planning Intern.

Nshumway@eaglemountain.gov

Todd Black

Wildlife Biologist &
Environmental Planner.

Tblack@eaglemountain.gov

With Support from

City staff, Eagle Mountain City residents, and conservation organizations

TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Tables

List of Figures

List of Appendices

Executive Summary

Eagle Mountain City's 2025 Natural Open Space & Wildlife Habitat Management Plan establishes a framework for the stewardship, restoration, and sustainable use of over 1,000 acres of publicly owned natural open space. Developed in response to the city's rapid growth and increasing development pressure, this plan provides the strategic direction necessary to protect native ecosystems, enhance wildlife corridors, reduce wildfire risk, and support community recreation for future generations.

Rooted in ecological best practices and informed by local data, stakeholder engagement, and community input, the plan emphasizes conservation, connectivity, and community resilience. Additionally, this plan is aligned with broader city planning goals, particularly the preservation of scenic beauty, open space amenities, and habitat for wildlife.

Key objectives of the plan include:

- Preserving wildlife habitat and migration corridors, with a focus on the mule deer population and native flora and fauna.

- Mitigating wildfire risks via fuel reduction, green strips, and partnerships with fire agencies.

- Enhancing public access through thoughtful recreational design while protecting sensitive ecological zones.

The plan outlines a series of site-specific management strategies, covering areas such as detention ponds, pedestrian corridors, natural parks, and utility rights-of-way. It also proposes innovative programs, including goat grazing for noxious weed control and collaborative trail stewardship initiatives that reflect the community's creative and hands-on approach to land care.

This plan marks a significant step forward in Eagle Mountain City's commitment to environmental stewardship, adaptive management, and community well-being. Rooted in the community's strong connection to outdoor recreation, open landscapes, and local wildlife, it reflects a shared desire to preserve what makes Eagle Mountain unique. Through actionable objectives—such as protecting wildlife corridors, managing invasive species, reducing wildfire risk—this plan provides the foundation for long-term stewardship. By aligning ecological protection with community values, Eagle Mountain ensures its natural open spaces remain a source of pride, identity, and enjoyment for generations to come.

Natural Open Space & Wildlife Habitat Management Plan.

Eagle Mountain City, Utah

May 2025

INTRODUCTION

Purpose and Need

Eagle Mountain City is experiencing rapid population growth, having increased by more than 30% between 2020 and 2023 (US Census 2024), with projections indicating continued expansion in the coming decades. As one of Utah's fastest-growing communities, this growth brings increased demand for housing, infrastructure, and recreational opportunities. With this growth comes increased use and expectations for public areas and natural open spaces. These areas will experience increased visitation, recreational use, and greater community interest in preserving scenic, ecological, and recreational values. While greater use supports community health and quality of life, it also places added pressure on native landscapes, wildlife habitats, and the ecosystem services they provide. Without proactive planning and coordinated management, these areas risk ecological degradation, compromising their long-term value to the community.

This Natural Open Space & Wildlife Habitat Management Plan (hereafter "the plan"), provides a clear framework to guide the responsible stewardship of Eagle Mountain City's natural open space areas. It outlines the strategies and tasks necessary to manage these spaces in a way that supports both ecological function and community needs. The plan emphasizes the essential role of wildlife and habitat in maintaining watershed health, biodiversity, and the city's natural character. It aims to ensure that

natural resource protection and land stewardship efforts keep pace with urban growth, and that future generations can continue to benefit from the city's open space network.

More specifically, this plan is intended to:

1. Document existing conditions and resource management issues, particularly those that affect wildlife habitat.

2. Identify and prioritize tasks and strategies to address resource management concerns and maintain the integrity of the city's natural resources for long-term ecological and community benefit.

Coordination with Previous Plans

This plan aligns with existing citywide planning efforts. It supports and advances the goals set forth in the 2020 Eagle Mountain City Parks, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan and the 2018 Eagle Mountain City General Plan.

2020 Eagle Mountain City Parks, Trails, & Open Space Master Plan

The 2020 Parks, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan serves as an update to the 2011 version, developed in response to Eagle Mountain's rapid growth. Its primary goal is to provide a long-term vision for enhancing and maintaining the city's parks, trail systems, and open spaces to meet the needs of a growing community.

A key focus of the 2020 plan is the preservation of natural, cultural, and historic features, including hillsides, ridgelines, wildlife corridors, and other ecologically significant areas. This current management plan directly supports those objectives by outlining specific strategies for conserving the city's most sensitive natural resources and key open spaces, while emphasizing the strong recreational amenities that Eagle Mountain offers to its community. By protecting the integrity of these landscapes, the city safeguards ecological functions while enhancing access to trails, scenic views, and outdoor experiences that residents value.

2018 Eagle Mountain City General Plan

The 2018 Eagle Mountain City General Plan also provides a foundational framework for this plan. It emphasizes the importance of creating "*Meaningful Open Space and Amenities*", supported by two core guidelines:

1. Preserve Eagle Mountain's scenic beauty, vistas, and wildlife habitat.

2. Invest in beautifying parks and open space areas.

In Part Two of the General Plan—Implementation Goals, Strategies, and Objectives—the following directive further reinforces the relevance of this management plan:

"Protect the open space and natural areas valued by Eagle Mountain residents for scenery, public health, city character, and wildlife habitat values."

This plan responds to that directive by offering a detailed framework for the long-term stewardship of natural open space and wildlife habitat, ensuring that these values remain integral to Eagle Mountain City's growth and identity.

Timeline of Plan Development

The development of Eagle Mountain City's Open Space Management Plan has been a collaborative effort aimed at creating a sustainable and strategic approach to managing the city's natural open spaces. Key milestones in the planning process include:

- **January 2024 – Partnership with Utah State University (USU)**: Eagle Mountain City partnered with Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning at Utah State University to develop a strategy for drafting and implementing an Open Space Management Plan.

- **October 2024 – Establishment of the Open Space Division:** The City Council approved the creation of an Open Space Division under the Parks and Recreation Department. This new division was tasked with overseeing the management, maintenance, and conservation of city-owned open spaces, ensuring a dedicated focus on environmental stewardship and recreation planning.

- **April 2025 – Presentation of Draft Plan to Planning Commission and City Council:** A draft of the Open Space Management Plan was presented to the Eagle Mountain City Planning Commission and City Council for review. This stage allowed for initial feedback and recommendations before finalizing the plan for adoption and implementation.

- **May 2025 – Plan Implementation:** Implementation of the plan will begin promptly at the start of the summer working season, following city council approval.

Future steps will involve continued refinement of the plan based on community input, guidance from city leadership, and evolving best management practices, ensuring a long-term vision for Eagle Mountain City's open spaces.

Goal of the Plan

The goal of this plan is to provide a strategic framework for the conservation, restoration, and sustainable management of Eagle Mountain City's natural open spaces. It prioritizes the protection of native ecosystems, the enhancement of wildlife habitat, and the maintenance of ecological connectivity to support long-term biodiversity. Equally important is the city's commitment to balancing environmental stewardship with outdoor recreation—ensuring that natural areas remain ecologically functional while continuing to serve the community's recreational and cultural values.

Objectives of the Natural Open Space and Wildlife Habitat Management Plan

To achieve this goal, the plan outlines the following primary objectives:

- **Develop site-specific management strategies and monitoring protocols** tailored to the conditions, constraints, and ecological value of each open space area in Eagle Mountain City.
- **Preserve and enhance wildlife habitat** to support native species and maintain landscape-scale ecological functions, such as habitat connectivity and movement corridors.
- **Ensure long-term ecological integrity** by maintaining and improving the structural and functional health of open space areas, enabling them to support essential roles like stormwater absorption, biodiversity protection, and scenic preservation.
- **Promote sustainable outdoor recreation** by integrating trail access and passive recreation opportunities in ways that do not compromise ecological health or habitat integrity.
- **Apply adaptive management practices** to assess ongoing conditions, track ecological health, and adjust management strategies over time in response to monitoring and changing environmental conditions.
- **Encourage a balanced relationship between people and nature** by fostering community awareness, volunteer engagement, and stewardship initiatives that support open space values.

Definitions

Natural Open Space—also referred to as "unimproved" or "undeveloped" open spaces under Eagle Mountain's zoning and as "conservation open space" in the [2020 Parks, Trails, and Open Space Plan](#)—denotes publicly owned parcels preserved in their natural state. Characterized by native vegetation, undisturbed ecosystems, and minimal human alteration, these areas are managed to protect ecological features such as plant communities, individual flora, and fauna, as well as wildlife habitats while providing opportunities for passive recreation, education, mitigation, and conservation. By designating land as a natural open space, Eagle Mountain City seeks to preserve its natural heritage, support biodiversity, and maintain the overall ecological health of the watershed, (HUC 54 Cedar Valley).

Improved and Developed Open Space—generally referred to as "open space" in Eagle Mountain City's zoning and "recreation open space" in the 2020 Parks, Trails, and Open Space Plan—refers to land that has been intentionally developed or altered for public use and enjoyment, incorporating landscaping, infrastructure, and amenities that enhance its functionality, accessibility, and aesthetic appeal. Unlike Native Open Space, which is preserved in its natural state, Improved Open Space is actively managed and maintained to support a variety of recreational, social, and community activities. It often includes features such as manicured lawns, walking paths, playgrounds, sports fields, and picnic areas, making it an integral part of Eagle Mountain City's community fabric. Areas of improved open space will not be addressed in this plan and all goals, tasks, and strategies are addressed in the Parks Trails and Open Space plan of 2020.

Assets: refer to the physical resources owned, managed, or maintained by Eagle Mountain City to support municipal functions and services. These assets can be categorized into three primary types:

- **Buildings:** City-owned structures such as offices, maintenance facilities, and other buildings that support city operations and services.
- **Equipment:** Tools, vehicles, and machinery necessary for maintaining infrastructure, open space areas, and city services (e.g., maintenance vehicles, landscaping tools, monitoring equipment).
- **Open Space Property:** City-owned parks, natural open spaces, utility corridors, and designated conservation lands that require management for recreation, habitat conservation, or infrastructure protection.

Objectives: are the specific, measurable goals that guide the implementation of the management plan. They define what the city aims to achieve through its policies, programs, and management efforts.

Tasks: Tasks are detailed, actionable steps that implement each strategy. They describe who is responsible, the timeline, necessary resources, and performance indicators. Tasks are the operational components of the plan and will be tracked using the city's asset tracking software (© OpenGov).

METHODS—DATA COLLECTION

Data Gathering Methods

To develop an informative and effective plan, data was gathered using two primary methods: site visits and in-person interviews with city management professionals. Site visits were conducted across open space parcels in Eagle Mountain to assess existing conditions, identify key challenges, and evaluate opportunities for improvement. These field assessments provided firsthand observations of vegetation health, wildfire risks, ecological integrity, and accessibility concerns.

In addition to field assessments, in-person interviews were conducted with city professionals from multiple departments to gain insight into the operational challenges of open space management. These conversations provided valuable information on resource constraints, funding needs, maintenance priorities, and coordination efforts among city entities. The combination of field assessments and staff expertise resulted in a comprehensive understanding of Eagle Mountain City's open space management needs.

Community Engagement

- **Public Survey**

During the summer of 2024, a public survey was administered to Eagle Mountain residents, yielding 1,059 responses. The primary purpose of this survey was to gauge the importance of open spaces within the community, identify which areas residents frequent, understand how they access these spaces, determine their reasons for visiting, and assess visitation frequency. The feedback gathered from this survey has been instrumental in shaping community engagement strategies and ensuring that the open space management plan aligns with public needs and priorities. Results from this survey can be viewed in the appendix section of this plan (See Open Space Survey).

- **Resident Employee Interviews**

A series of interviews was conducted with residents who also serve as employees of Eagle Mountain City. These individuals offered a distinct perspective on open

space management by drawing on their dual roles—both as community members and as professionals responsible for overseeing and maintaining these areas. Their insights proved to be invaluable for understanding how open spaces are used, the challenges associated with managing them, and the opportunities that exist for improving their long-term stewardship. Through these conversations, the plan was able to integrate on-the-ground knowledge of daily operations with a resident-focused viewpoint, ultimately enhancing the relevance and practicality of the open space management strategies.

NATURAL OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT AREAS

Surrounding Lands

Eagle Mountain City is in northwestern Utah County, nestled in the western foothills of the Cedar Valley. The city is geographically positioned between two significant public land areas managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). To the east lies the Lake Mountains Range, a rugged and ecologically important landscape that supports outdoor recreation and wildlife habitat. To the west, the Oquirrh Mountains, also managed by BLM, offer a mix of undeveloped terrain and historic mining sites. Directly north of the city is Camp Williams, a military training ground operated by the U.S. Department of Defense and Utah Army National Guard, which restricts public access and influences regional land use patterns.

Eagle Mountain City Open Space Overview

Within the city's boundaries, natural open space areas are distributed across a variety of settings. This network of lands, totaling over 1,000 acres, consist of both formally designated and functionally undeveloped areas that serve ecological, recreational, and infrastructural purposes. Key categories of open space include:

- **Wildlife Corridor Overlay Zone**
- **Natural Washes including Tickville Gulch**
- **Utility Rights-of-Way (ROW)**
- **Natural Parks**
- **Detention and Retention Ponds**
- **Pedestrian Corridors**
- **City Utility Sites**

In the northern portion of Eagle Mountain, open spaces such as natural parks and areas zoned under the Wildlife Overlay Zone are located between the North Bench neighborhood and Camp Williams. Running south from this area is Tickville Gulch, an

ephemeral drainage corridor originating in Camp Williams that flows through Eagle Mountain and into Utah Lake via Saratoga Springs. Tickville Gulch passes through a mosaic of land uses, including residential neighborhoods, commercial areas, and city parks, making it a high-priority area for both conservation and recreation planning.

Additional natural parks exist within the Ranches and Gateway neighborhoods. These city-managed parcels are often adjacent to land owned by the BLM and the Utah State Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA), creating important interface zones for coordinated land management. The city also manages a prominent utility right-of-way (ROW) that runs north to south, supporting power, gas, and communication infrastructure. While development is restricted in this corridor, it presents opportunities for passive recreation and habitat connectivity.

The Eagle Mountain City Council retains the authority to expand the open space network, change the status of the open space, and/or dispose of entire or portions of non-significant zoned open space parcels in accordance with city code and long-term planning priorities. (see City Code 3.30.060)

Lastly, there are privately-owned parcels within Eagle Mountain that are zoned under the Wildlife Overlay Zone but remain under private management. Although the city does not hold jurisdiction over these lands, it can encourage responsible stewardship and seek voluntary partnerships with landowners to align private management practices with broader conservation objectives (see Eagle Mountain City code 17.49).

DOD
Property of Camp Williams

N

Legend

- Eagle Mountain Boundaries
- Eagle Mountain City Open Space
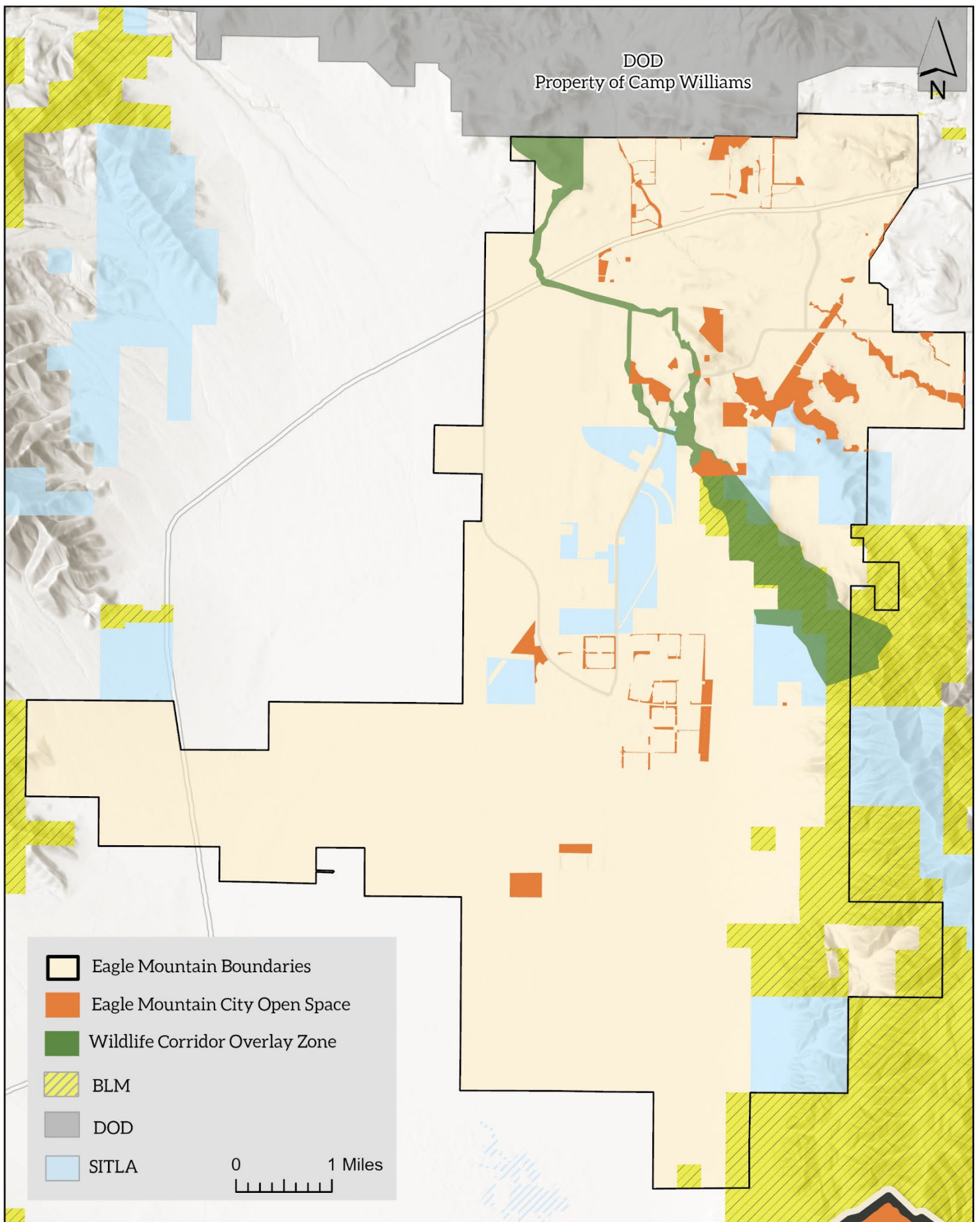- Wildlife Corridor Overlay Zone
- BLM
- DOD
- SITLA

0   1 Miles

Figure 1. Natural Open Space & Wildlife Habitat Overview

Natural Open Space Management Plan | Eagle Mountain City | 2025

EAGLE
MOUNTAIN
UTAH
19 96

PHYSICAL FEATURES

Soil Profile

Eagle Mountain City sits atop predominantly well-drained, alkaline soils characteristic of the semiarid Central Basin and Range region. These soils often exhibit loamy to sandy textures and may include deposits derived from ancient lakebeds, such as those of Lake Bonneville. Although generally suitable for native vegetation, they can be prone to erosion and compaction—particularly on slopes or where human recreation is intense. Proper soil management, including erosion control measures, is essential to maintaining soil stability.

Water Resources

Eagle Mountain City is an arid municipality with no permanent bodies of water or perennial streams within city boundaries . However, the city is influenced by three distinct watersheds: the Dry Creek–Jordan River Watershed, the Tickville Gulch Watershed, and the Mannon Canyon–Fremont Canyon Watershed (see Watersheds in Appendix). These watersheds play a crucial role in shaping the landscape, as they occasionally transport water through Eagle Mountain during heavy storms or seasonal snow melt. While not a consistent water source, these intermittent flows contribute to erosion patterns, vegetation growth, and water management considerations within the city's open spaces.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Vegetation and Habitat Types

Eagle Mountain is situated in the semiarid desert of the Great Basin Ecosystem, characterized by low annual precipitation, cold winters, and elevated temperature variability. Vegetation across this high-desert landscape typically includes various bunch grasses that are adapted to the scarcity of water and several species of sagebrush, including Basin big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata subsp. Tridentata*), Mountain big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata subsp. vaseyana*), & Wyoming big sagebrush (*artemisia tridentata subsp. wyomingensis*). In addition, pinyon pine (*Pinus, monophylla*), juniper (*Juniperus, osteosperma* and *Juniperus, scopulorum*), rabbitbrush (*Ericameria, nauseosa spp.*), sagebrush, and mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus ledifolius Nutt.*) can be found throughout the area, each having evolved specific traits—like deep root systems or resinous leaves—to cope with the region's arid conditions and temperature extremes. This blend of hardy species shapes the ecological framework of

Eagle Mountain, influencing everything from soil stability and erosion control to wildlife habitat and water availability. (see Central Basin and Range Ecoregion)

Table 1. Summary of Plant Communities

Habitat Type	Approximate Acres
Intermountain Mixed Sagebrush Shrubland	7,448
Pinyon Pine & Juniper Woodland	1,822
Semi-Desert Grassland	80.5
Inter-Mountain Curl Leaf Mahogany Woodland	75

Intermountain Mixed Sagebrush Shrub Lands

The Sagebrush shrubland community is the dominant native plant community in Eagle Mountain City and can be found throughout all open space categories occurring on both hillsides and valley floors. This community is dominated by multiple species of sagebrush and less prevalent shrub species including rubber rabbitbrush (*Ericameria, nauseosa*), black greasewood, (*Sarcobatus vermiculatus*) and four-wing saltbush (*Atriplex, canescens*). This community is relatively undisturbed except for impacts from invasive weeds, fires, and existing recreation trails.

Pinyon Pine & Juniper Woodlands

The pinyon pine & juniper woodlands generally occur on hillsides within the wildlife overlay open spaces as well as the Utility ROW. This community is dominated by an overstory of pinyon pine (*Pinus, monophylla*) and Rocky Mountain juniper (*Juniperus, scopulorum*). Other prevalent shrub species include multiple species of sagebrush, mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus, montanus*), and antelope bitterbrush (*Purshia, tridentata*). Herbaceous understory cover is sparse in this community and is dominated by Sandberg bluegrass *(Poa, secunda),* blue bunch wheatgrass (*Pseudoroegneria, spicata*), and western wheatgrass (*Pascopyrum, smithii*). This community is relatively undisturbed except for impacts from existing trails.

Semi-Desert Grasslands

A semi-desert grassland is generally found in the lower elevation valleys and consists of arid drought resistant bunchgrass like blue grama (*Bouteloua, gracilis*) and galleta (*Pleuraphis, rigida*), interspersed with scattered shrubs such as sagebrush and four-wing saltbush (*Atriplex, canescens*).

Intermountain Curl Leaf Mahogany Woodlands

This plant community is dominated by the curl-leaf mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus, ledifolius Nutt.*) shrub or small tree, typically found in the arid, higher elevation regions in Cedar Valley. It is characterized by its dense, twisted branches, small leathery leaves that curl under, and distinctive long, feathery, plume-like fruit, and typically grows on dry rocky slopes and dry, well-drained soils with minimal vegetation due to its high drought tolerance; this woodland provides critical habitat for wildlife particularly mule deer (Odocoileus, hermionus) in this harsh environment (see Appendix Item B: LandFire Data Map)

Noxious Weeds

A critical component of this plan focuses on vegetation management, particularly controlling noxious weeds. In Eagle Mountain City, these species are identified in compliance with the State of Utah's official noxious weed list, pursuant to Utah Noxious Weed Act (Utah Code 4-17-101 et seq.) and Utah Administrative Code R-68-9-3. Additionally, this plan incorporates local regulations established under Eagle Mountain City Code 8.07.020, titled "Weeds and Other Refuse." By adhering to both state-recognized guidelines and local ordinances, the city ensures its weed management efforts align with broader regulatory and conservation goals of the county and state.

Table 2. Noxious Weeds

Common Name	Scientific Name	UT State Classification	Treatment Notes
Bur Buttercup	*Ceratocephala, testiculata*	(not classified)	USU Extension
Cheatgrass	*Bromus tectorum*	(not classified)	USU Extension
Field Bindweed (Wild Morning Glory)	*Convolvulus* spp.	Class 3	USU Extension
Jim Hill Mustard	*Sisymbrium, altissimum*	(not classified)	MSU Extension
Annual Kochia	*Kochia, scoparia*	(not classified)	USU Extension
Phragmites (Common Reed)	*Phragmites, australis*	Class 3	USU Extension
Puncturevine (Goat Head)	*Tribulus, terrestris*	Class 3	USU Extension
Russian Olive	Elaeagnus, angustifolia	Class 4	USU Extension
Russian Thistle	*Salsola, tragus*	(not classified)	USU Extension
Scotch Thistle (Cotton Thistle)	*Onopordum, acanthium*	Class 3	USU Extension
Spotted Knap Weed	*Centaurea, stoebe*	Class 2	USU Extension
Tamarisk (Saltcedar)	*Tamrix, ramosissima*	Class 3	USU Extension

Wildlife & Wildlife Habitat

General Wildlife

Eagle Mountain City has demonstrated a strong and ongoing commitment to protecting wildlife, habitat, and especially the migratory paths of its mule deer herd. Since 2018, collaborative efforts between residents, conservation groups, and government agencies have resulted in significant investments in habitat protection and mitigation. One of the most important outcomes is the establishment of the Wildlife Corridor Overlay Zone, detailed in Chapter 17.49 of the city code. This regulatory tool protects a critical mule deer migration route, recognizing its ecological value for both wildlife and the broader landscape.

By preserving large areas of open space and habitat, the city supports local wildlife populations while also enhancing residents' access to natural areas. These spaces offer recreational opportunities, support mental and physical well-being, and strengthen the community's connection to nature.

The city's ability to expand wildlife overlay zones as conditions change allows for flexible, adaptive management. This approach ensures the city can respond to future conservation needs while balancing growth and development. Integrating habitat protections into the General Plan and the Parks Trails and Open Space Plan signals a long-term commitment to conservation as a core part of land use planning.

This strategy reflects a clear understanding that healthy ecosystems support biodiversity, enrich community life, and help preserve the unique natural character of Eagle Mountain City.

RECREATION RESOURCES

Eagle Mountain City provides numerous opportunities for outdoor recreation, with trails serving as the primary recreational amenity within its open space areas (see Appendix Item: Recreation Resources). Hiking and mountain biking are especially popular, particularly in and around the Mountain Ranch Bike Park, which features a growing network of singletrack trails for various skill levels. Beyond the bike park,

many trails extend across city-owned open space and connect to adjacent lands managed by the BLM, SITLA, and private landowners, offering expansive recreational access throughout Cedar Valley.

While many of these trails are well-established through regular use, the majority currently lack formal designation, signage, or maintenance protocols. An official off-road trails plan, anticipated in 2026, will address these gaps and provide guidance for long-term planning, design, and stewardship of Eagle Mountain's trail network.

Eagle Mountain City recognizes outdoor recreation as a core element of community's identity and is committed to the longevity and quality of its recreational resources. This includes preserving trail access within natural open spaces and promoting year-round recreational use, such as hiking, biking, equestrian activity, and wildlife viewing—while balancing the need for resource protection. As growth continues, Eagle Mountain aims to ensure that all residents have access to sustainable, outdoor recreation opportunities that enhance the quality of life, reflecting the city's core values.

FIRE RISK ABATEMENT

Eagle Mountain City is in a high desert environment where wildfire risk is a growing concern due to dry conditions, caused by rising temperatures and more frequent droughts, as well as rapid urban expansion, and the presence of flammable vegetation (see Land Fire Map). Additionally, climatic conditions are expected to exacerbate wildfire risks by increasing the frequency of high-temperature days, reducing soil moisture levels, and altering vegetation composition. Given that the city does not have a formal wildfire management plan, proactive measures must be taken to reduce fuel loads, implement strategic firebreaks, and utilize fire as a vegetation management tool. This section describes how controlled fire will be used to mitigate invasive weed proliferation and outlines wildfire risk abatement strategies that will be taken by the Open Space Division in collaboration with the Unified Fire Authority (UFA), Utah Fire Forestry and State Lands (UFFSL), as well as the surrounding land managers such as the BLM and Camp Williams.

According to **Utah State Code 65-8-202.5**, a municipality shall abate the public nuisance caused by wildfire on forest, range, watershed, and wildland urban interface land within the boundaries of the municipality if the land is: (a) privately owned; or (b) owned by the municipality.

Wildfire Risk Abatement Strategies - Collaboration with UFA, UFFSL, & BLM

Eagle Mountain City will work closely with the UFA, UFFSL, BLM, and Camp Williams to develop and implement wildfire risk reduction strategies. This partnership will focus on:

- Conducting wildfire risk assessments for city-owned open space.
- Identifying high-risk areas requiring immediate intervention.
- Establishing fuel load reduction strategies tailored to Eagle Mountain City.

Reducing Fuel Loads Near Homes

Mitigating wildfire risk requires reducing flammable vegetation in open spaces near residential areas. Key tasks include:

- Removing dead vegetation, dry grass, and noxious weeds near structures.
- Promoting the use of fire-resistant plants and materials along property lines.
- Utilizing prescribed grazing as a method to control overgrowth (see Goats for Ecological Management of Noxious Weeds)

Green Strips and Fuel Breaks

Strategically placed green strips and fuel breaks are critical components of Eagle Mountain City's wildfire mitigation strategy, serving to slow or stop the spread of fire and protect both natural resources and adjacent development.

Green strips are areas of fire-resistant vegetation—typically grasses and forbs—that remain green and low in flammability during the fire season. These vegetated buffers are designed to reduce fire intensity and spread by creating zones with limited fuel.

Fuel breaks are cleared or modified strips of land where flammable vegetation has been reduced or removed entirely. These areas serve as physical barriers to slow or redirect the movement of wildfires and provide safe access for firefighting operations.

Eagle Mountain City will use a combination of green strips and fuel breaks to reduce the risk of wildfire impacts on the community and private property. Green strips will be used along wildlife corridors and city-installed wildlife fencing to protect ecological assets and reinforce natural buffer zones. Fuel breaks will be prioritized at high-risk areas along the interface of natural open space and residential development.

Plant species recommended for green strips include:

- Crested wheatgrass (*Agropyron cristatum*): a fire-resistant grass that stabilizes soil and reduces fuel loads.

- Falcata and ranger alfalfa (*Medicago sativa var. falcata*): drought-tolerant plants that remain green in hot, dry summers.
- Forage kochia *(Bassia prostrata)*: a hardy, fire-resistant shrub suitable for planting near fences and along property lines.

While specific fuel break widths will vary depending on vegetation type, topography, and adjacent land uses, the City will follow industry best practices to ensure fuel breaks are wide enough to be effective in slowing fire spread. Property owners interested in fire-safe landscaping around their homes are encouraged to consult the National Fire Protection Association for guidance on defensible space and home hardening techniques.

Fire as a Vegetation Management Tool - Targeting Invasive Species with Prescribed Burns

Noxious weeds pose a significant threat to native ecosystems and fire safety. For example, Phragmites, an aggressive invasive species found throughout storm water drainage areas and detention ponds in Eagle Mountain. The city will integrate prescribed fire as part of a broader management strategy to control noxious weeds and reduce the risk of wildfire hazards. Controlled burns will:

- Reduce noxious weed biomass, limiting their ability to spread.
- Facilitate native vegetation recovery by opening space for desired plant species.
- Enhance wildlife habitat by improving plant diversity.

Wildfire History in Cedar Valley

Since the early 2000s, Cedar Valley has experienced numerous wildfires, collectively burning several thousand acres across a mix of public and private lands. These incidents have been driven by a combination of human activity, flammable vegetation, and prolonged drought conditions. Wildfires in and around Eagle Mountain have threatened residential areas, prompted evacuations, and raised concerns about emergency preparedness and vegetation management.

This history underscores the need for proactive wildfire mitigation strategies, including the creation of fuel breaks, control of invasive species, and coordinated efforts with fire authorities. Moving forward, Eagle Mountain City will continue to work with agencies such as the UFA, UFFSL, and the BLM to reduce wildfire risks and enhance community resilience.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Implementing this plan requires identifying and prioritizing tasks to ensure effective stewardship of the city's natural resources. These prioritized tasks should be reviewed annually to establish yearly work programs, taking into account budget limitations and staffing capacity. Some tasks will be completed within the first few years, while others will be implemented in short- or long-term phases based on complexity and available resources.

The site-specific management strategies that follow are not intended to be exhaustive or fixed. Objectives and tasks within each open space category will be refined and updated regularly as new data is collected, environmental conditions evolve, and best management practices (BMPs) are developed or improved. This adaptive approach ensures that management actions remain responsive, evidence-based, and aligned with both ecological goals and community needs.

Timing recommendations are defined as follows:

- **ST (short term) –** To be completed within 1 year.
- **LT (long term) –** To be initiated or completed within 5–10 years.
- **O (ongoing) –** To be completed on a continuous or annual basis indefinitely.

Priority recommendations are defined as follows:

- **H (high Priority) –** Tasks that are critical to the protection of resource values and should be addressed first.
- **M (medium Priority) –** Tasks that are important but not urgent, and typically meet multiple objectives.
- **L (low Priority) –** Tasks that support a specific goal but are not essential to immediate resource protection.

Jump to Section

- Wildlife Migration Corridor Overlay Zone
- Tickville Gulch Management Area
- Utility Right-of-Way
- Natural Parks

- Mountain Ranches Bike Park
- Pedestrian Corridors
- Detention Pond Management Areas
- Utility Areas
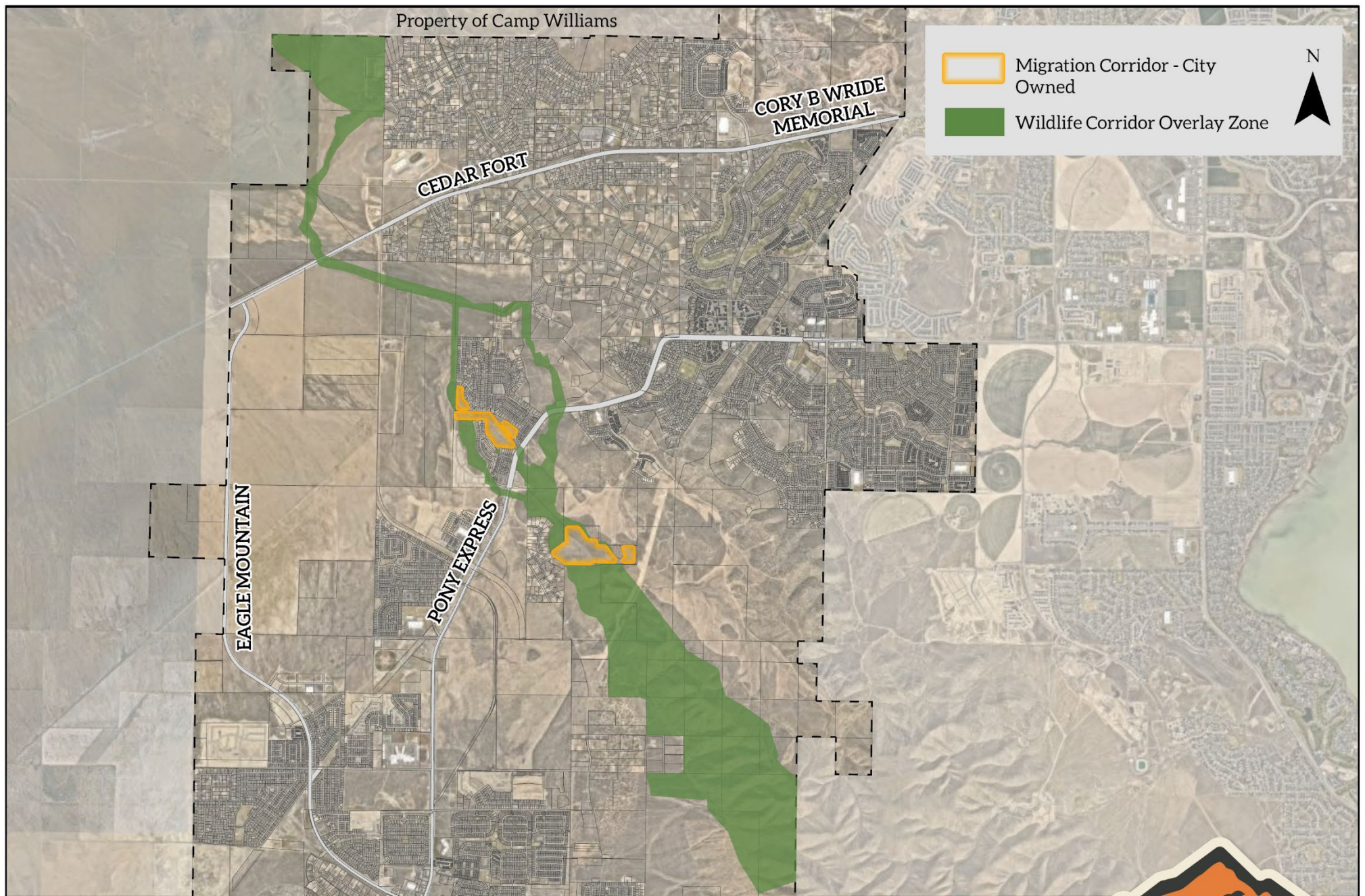
Figure 2. Migration Corridor Management Area Overview

Natural Open Space Management Plan | Eagle Mountain City | 2025

Legend:
- Migration Corridor - City Owned
- Wildlife Corridor Overlay Zone

Property of Camp Williams

CORY B WRIDE MEMORIAL

CEDAR FORT

EAGLE MOUNTAIN

PONY EXPRESS

Legend:
- Migration Corridor - City Owned
- Wildlife Corridor Overlay Zone

N

Lone Tree

PONY EXPRESS

Turtle Hill

Figure 3. Migration Corridor Management Area

Natural Open Space Management Plan | Eagle Mountain City | 2025
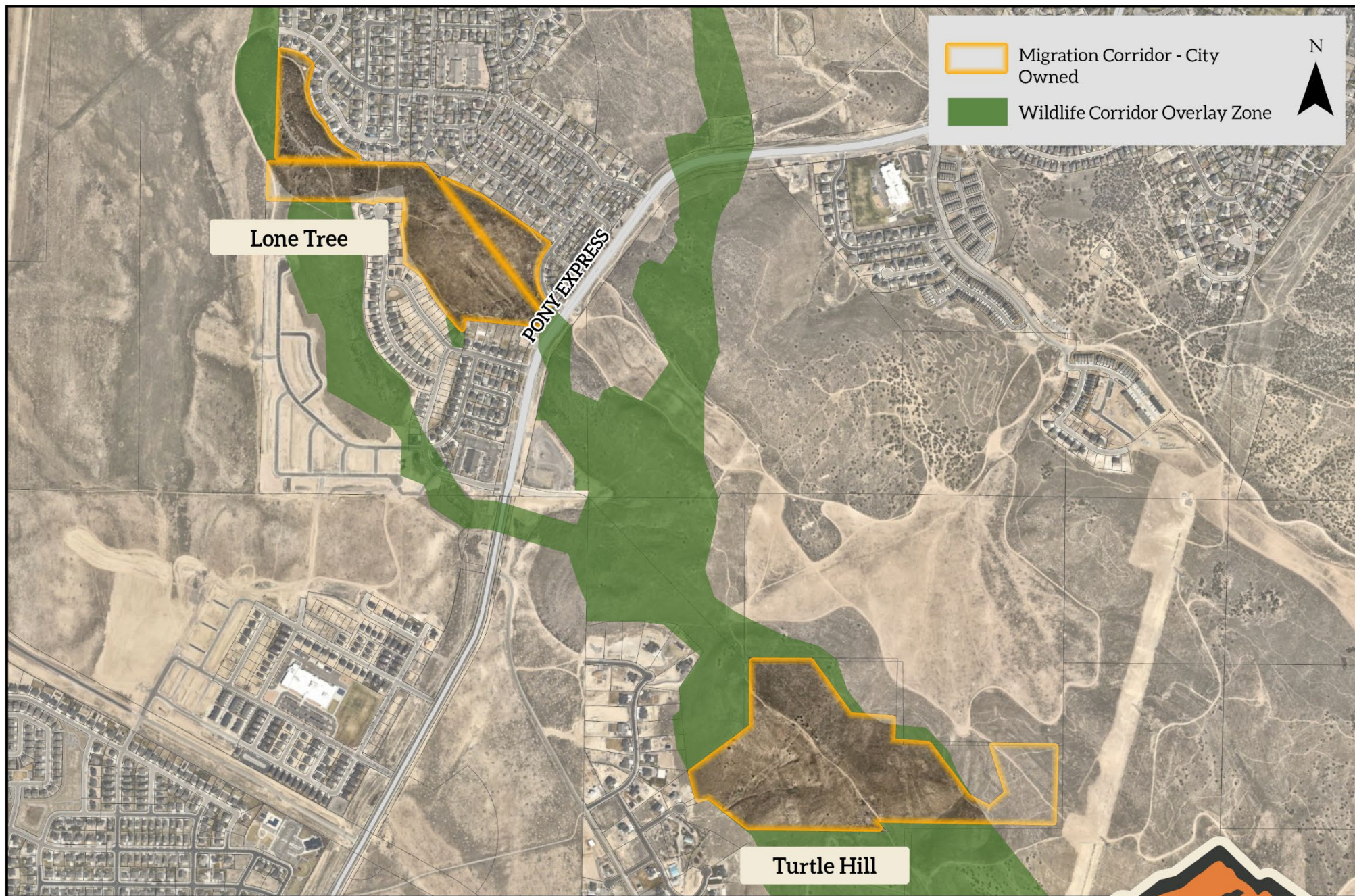
EAGLE MOUNTAIN
19 96
UTAH

Wildlife Corridor Overlay Zone

Overview: Eagle Mountain City has established a wildlife corridor overlay zone ([Eagle Mountain City code 17.49](#)) to ensure the safe and natural movement of mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) and other wildlife species between critical habitats. This corridor, identified by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) in 2017 and referenced in the [Utah Wildlife Action Plan](#) in response to [Secretarial Order 3362](#), also supports broader regional and state initiatives such as the [Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative](#), the [Great Salt Lake Sentinel Landscape](#), and the [West Traverse Sentinel Landscape](#). These initiatives provide essential partnerships and frameworks that align conservation efforts with habitat connectivity and sustainable land use throughout northern and western Utah. This wildlife corridor is also referenced in the [Eagle Mountain City Future Transportation Plan](#) as well as the upcoming new city master plan.

The corridor accommodates approximately 2,000 migrating mule deer each year ([see Migration Corridors](#)). Spring migration typically occurs between March 15 and April 30, while fall migration happens between December 1 and January 15. Crucially, knowledge of these migration routes is passed from mother to offspring, perpetuating established pathways across generations.

The corridor is a collaborative effort involving Eagle Mountain City, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, the Bureau of Land Management, the Utah Department of Transportation, and private organizations such as the Eagle Mountain Nature and Wildlife Alliance and the Mule Deer Foundation. By implementing these conservation efforts, it helps to mitigate the impacts of urban development on wildlife populations and ensuring continued ecological connectivity in fragmented landscapes.

To ensure adequate movement space for migrating wildlife, the corridor will maintain a minimum width of 330 ft where it crosses private land ([as per code 17.49](#)) . On city-owned, SITLA, and BLM-managed lands, the corridor will be established to the maximum width practicable based on topography, ecological conditions, and adjacent land uses. Currently, the city owns 97.7 acres of land within this migration corridor, split between four parcels (see figure 3 above).

Additional Purposes: The mule deer migration corridor offers residents recreational opportunities by incorporating a non-motorized, single-track trail system which will run alongside or through this enclosed corridor.

Focus Issues: Noxious weeds, particularly Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), and elevated wildfire risk threatening adjacent private property.

Management Objectives

1. Assess and determine current conditions (ecological state) of all city-owned parcels located within the designated mule deer migration corridor.
2. Make a visual assessment to determine if the sites are in poor, fair, good, or excellent condition.

3. Upon making a designation of conditions, work to implement various strategies and tasks using best management practices to improve habitat quality and ecological function within the corridor. The goal is to move each area toward a higher/better ecological condition (see below). Note that these tasks may be modified over the duration of this plan. This task list will be incorporated into © OpenGov such that they can be reported on and tracked over time.
4. Work to continue with collaborative efforts and partners to implement management objectives.

Table 3. Migration Corridor Management Tasks

Management Tasks	Timing	Priority
Vegetation & Wildlife Habitat Management		
Assess current condition of open space parcels in and immediately adjacent to the Critical Mule Deer Migration Corridor.	ST	H
Make an assessment of the value and significance of the parcel to the city.	ST	H
Monitor / Survey the entire length of the Migration Corridor three times a year, identifying sites garbage, erosion, invasive plant species, and unpermitted recreation.	O	H
Fuel Management		
Create green strips or fuel break between corridor and adjacent property boundaries.	LT	M
Recreation & Visitor Management		
Observe that Deer fence is secure, especially around public access points.	O	H

Figure 4. Tickville Gulch Management Area

Legend:
- Tickville Gulch - City Owned
- Tickville Gulch - Private Property
- City Boundaries

Reach 4
Reach 3
Reach 2
Reach 1

Property of Camp Williams
CORY B WRIDE MEMORIAL
CEDAR FORT
PONY EXPRESS
Saratoga Springs

N

Natural Open Space Management Plan | Eagle Mountain City | 2025
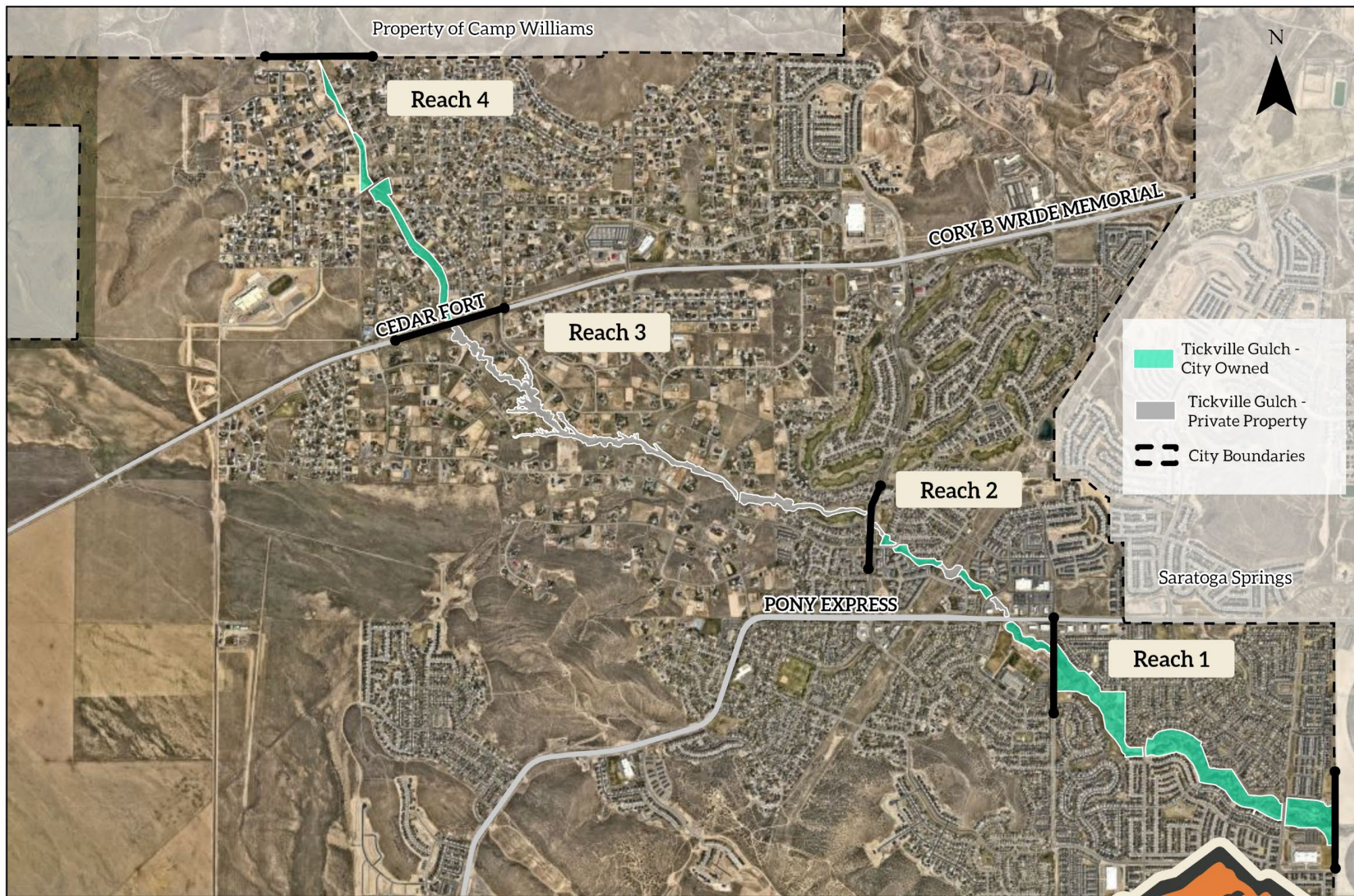
EAGLE MOUNTAIN UTAH
19 96

Tickville Gulch Management Area

Overview: Tickville Gulch is a natural, undeveloped drainage corridor that runs continuously through Eagle Mountain City, originating in Camp Williams and flowing southeast through a mix of residential, commercial, and open space areas. The gulch spans 81.2 acres of city-owned land and remains largely intact, with minimal interruptions from road crossings or development (see Figure 4 above).

Primary Purpose: The primary function of Tickville Gulch is to serve as a natural drainage basin for stormwater and snowmelt. As an ephemeral waterway, the gulch channels run off during and immediately following significant precipitation events, helping to reduce the risk of localized flooding, control erosion, and manage sediment transport. This natural drainage capacity plays a vital role in protecting downstream infrastructure and maintaining the hydrologic balance within the city's stormwater system.

Additional Purposes: Tickville Gulch also functions as a secondary wildlife corridor and provides ecological connectivity across developed portions of the city. In addition, it offers outdoor recreation opportunities through informal trails that follow the length of the gulch, as well as wildlife viewing for residents seeking passive engagement with natural open space.

Focus Issues: Tickville Gulch faces several challenges that undermine its ecological function and stormwater management role. Unauthorized and improper recreation is a major concern, as it leads to significant bank erosion, disrupting the integrity of the drainage pathway and flow of water. Additionally, the spread of invasive weed species, specifically phragmites, Russian olive, and salt ceder tamarisk, throughout the gulch compromises native vegetation, potentially altering water flow dynamics and diminishing the area's ecological function. Encroachment from adjacent residential backyards further exacerbates these issues by reducing the available natural corridor and increasing the potential for habitat fragmentation. Addressing these challenges and mitigating these issues is essential to preserve Tickville Gulch's capacity to manage stormwater effectively and serve as a vital wildlife corridor for Eagle Mountain City.

Management Objectives

1. Assess and determine current conditions (ecological state) of all city-owned lands within the Tickville Gulch Management Area.
2. Make a visual assessment to determine if the sites are in poor, fair, good, or excellent condition.
3. Upon making a designation of condition, work to implement various strategies and tasks using best management practices to improve ecological health, stabilize banks, and restore the gulch's stormwater and wildlife corridor functions. The goal is to move each area toward a higher/better ecological condition (see below). Note that these tasks may be modified over the duration of this plan. This task list will be incorporated into © OpenGov such that they can be reported on and tracked over time.

Table 4. Tickville Gulch Management Tasks

Management Tasks	Timing	Priority
Vegetation & Wildlife Habitat Management		
Assess current condition of open space parcels in and immediately adjacent to Tickville Gulch.	O	H
Make an assessment of the value and significance of the parcel to the city.	ST	H
Monitor / Survey the entire length of the Tickville Gulch three times a year (after spring runoff, after summer storm season, after first frost), identifying sites garbage, erosion, invasive plant species, and unpermitted recreation.	O	H
Remove all invasive species within and on surrounding land of Tickville Gulch.	LT	M
Seek funding opportunities to address ecological health and safety issues.	LT	M
For bank stabilization, transplant and seed native vegetation within and on banks of the wash's length.	LT	M
Fuel Management		
Assess current conditions of open space parcels regarding their fuel type, fuel loads, and ecological condition.	O	H
Recreation & Visitor management		
To prevent further erosion, permanently obstruct all recreational activity from within the wash. This will require the installation of gates and barricades at all Tickville entrances.	LT	M

Future Opportunities

- Tickville Gulch Natural Park Concept Plan
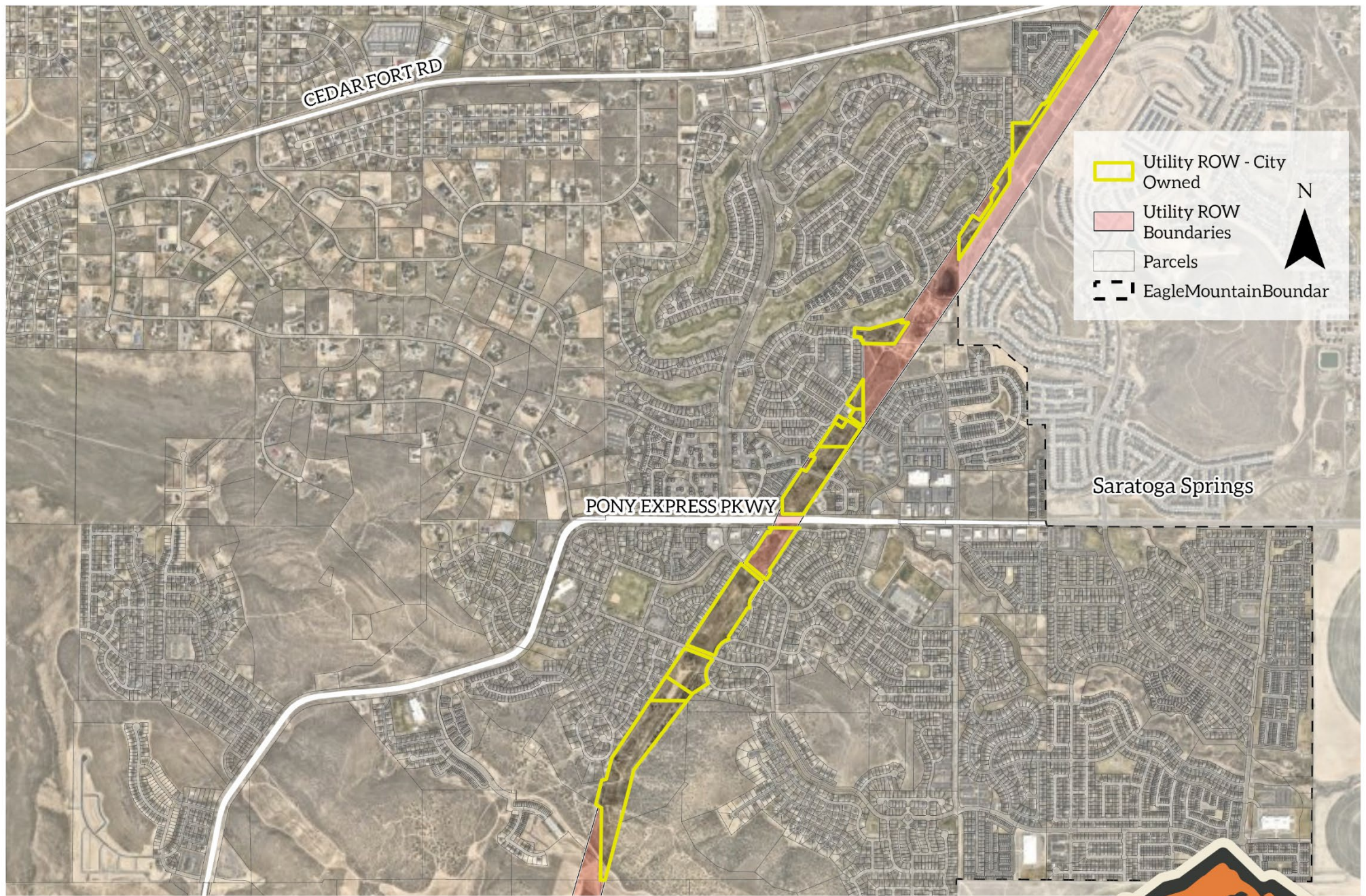
Figure 5. Utility Right-of-Way Management Areas

Natural Open Space Management Plan | Eagle Mountain City | 2025

Legend:
- Utility ROW - City Owned
- Utility ROW Boundaries
- Parcels
- EagleMountainBoundar

CEDAR FORT RD

PONY EXPRESS PKWY

Saratoga Springs

N
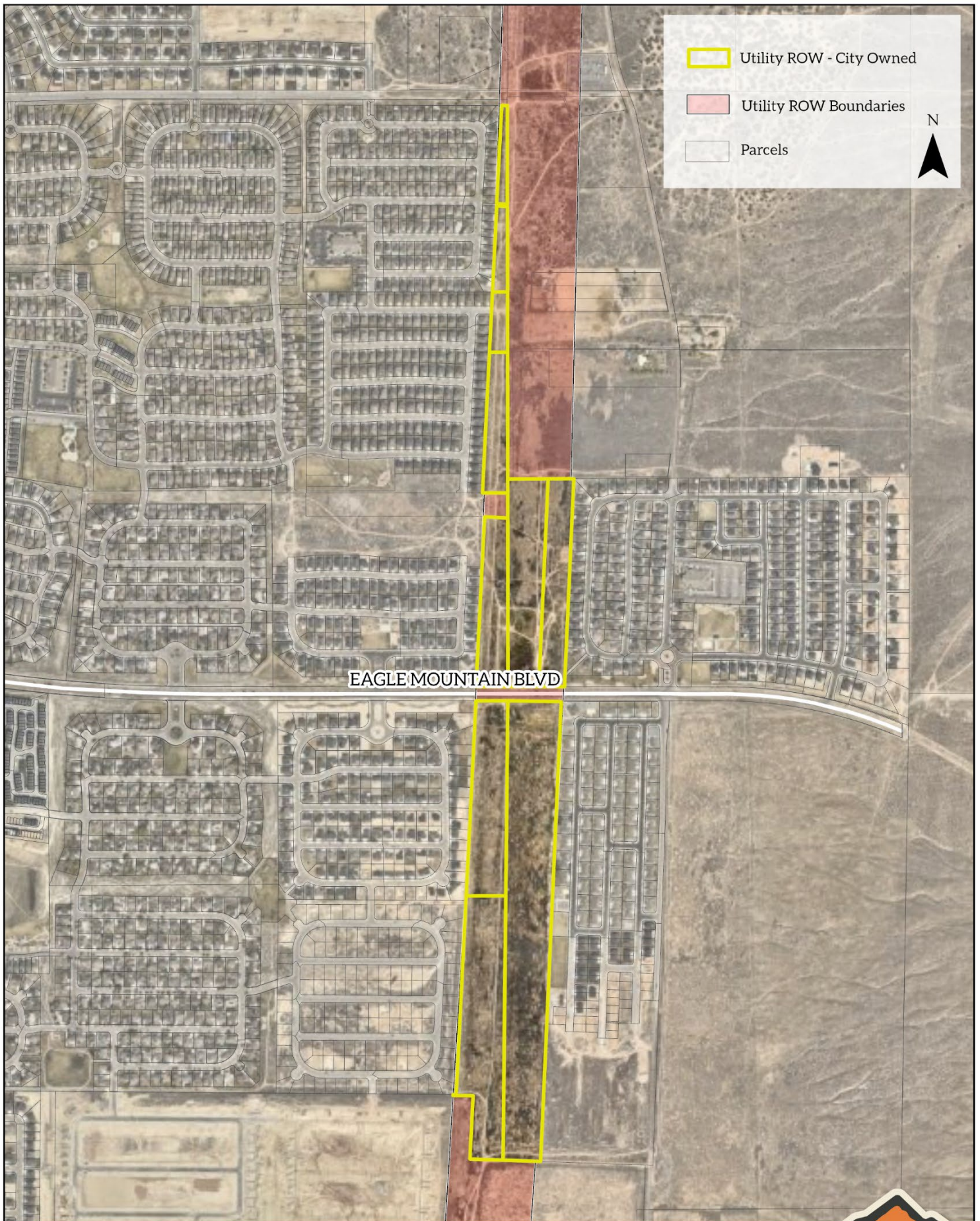
Figure 6. Utility Right-of-Way Management Area

Legend:
- Utility ROW - City Owned
- Utility ROW Boundaries
- Parcels

EAGLE MOUNTAIN BLVD

N

Utility Right-of-Way

Overview: A utility right-of-way (ROW) is a legally designated strip of land that provides utility companies with the right to access, construct, operate, and maintain utility infrastructure such as power lines, pipelines, water lines, sewer lines, and communication cables. These rights-of-way parcels are established through an easement, which grants the utility company the necessary legal rights to use the land while allowing the city to retain ownership of the property. Utility rights-of-way are essential for the efficient and reliable delivery of utility services while ensuring safety and accessibility for maintenance and repair operations. Currently, the city owns and manages 112.4 acres of land within a utility ROW (see figure 5 & 6 above).

Primary Purpose: The primary purpose of the Utility ROW in Eagle Mountain City is to support the installation, operation, and long-term maintenance of critical public utility infrastructure. This includes ensuring access for utility providers to perform inspections, repairs, upgrades, and emergency response activities. The ROW is managed to maintain the functionality and reliability of essential utilities lines such as electricity, gas, and telecommunications.

Additional Purposes: Additionally, a Utility ROW serves as a break in development, allowing for wildlife habitat, fuel breaks, and native vegetation to grow. The ROW also serves as a travel corridor for active and motorized recreation travel on official trails.

Focus Issues: The Utility ROW currently faces several issues from a management perspective, including large patches of invasive weeds, homeowner encroachment, unpermitted recreational use, garbage dumping, and fire hazards along property lines.

Management Objectives

1. assess and determine current conditions (ecological state) of all natural/native ROW open spaces within the city.
2. Make a visual assessment to determine if the sites are in poor, fair, good, or excellent conditions.
3. Upon making a designation of conditions, work to implement various strategies and tasks using best management practices to implement upon these areas and make improvements to move areas to a higher/better ecological condition (see below). Note these tasks are likely to be modified over the duration of this plan. This task list will be incorporated into © OpenGov such that they can be reported on and tracked over time.

Table 5. Utility ROW Management Tasks

Management Tasks	Timing	Priority
Vegetation		
Assess current conditions of open space ROW parcels	O	H
Make an assessment of the value and significance of the parcel to the city.	ST	H
Determine management strategies/best management practices to move to desired condition.	ST	H
Fuel		
Identify problem areas with noxious weeds	ST	H
Create green strips or fuel breaks between city owned sections of the ROW and adjacent private property	LT	M
Recreation & Visitor -		
Gate and fence or block all unauthorized vehicle entry points to the utility ROW	LT	M
Designate official trails within the ROW – close unofficial trails	LT	M

Future Opportunities for the Utility Right-of-Way

Eagle Mountain City recognizes the potential for the utility right-of-way (ROW) to serve multiple community needs beyond its primary function of supporting infrastructure. Thoughtful planning and management of this space could provide valuable recreational, transportation, and public safety benefits while minimizing conflicts between different land uses. Future opportunities for utilizing the ROW include:

- Paved Multi-Use Commuter Trail & Fire Break: A paved commuter trail could extend the length of the city within the ROW, offering a dedicated route for pedestrians and cyclists. This trail would also serve as a strategic fire break, reducing wildfire risks by creating a buffer between ROW vegetation and adjacent private properties. To prevent conflicts with motorized recreation, this paved trail would be designed as a separate, non-motorized corridor.

- Regional trail system. Work with The Mountain Association of Governments (MAG) to work towards a connecting regional trail system. A grant has been awarded to the Eagle Mountain City to start in 2027 towards this effort.

- Unpaved Motorized Recreation Trail: A double-track dirt trail could be established within the ROW to accommodate motorized off-road recreational vehicles. Wherever feasible, this trail would align with the existing unpaved utility access road, minimizing new ground disturbance while providing a designated route for riders exiting the city's boundaries.

- Semi-Truck Parking Areas: Eagle Mountain City is exploring options for designated overnight parking for residents who own semi-trucks. Sections of the ROW with minimal wildlife

habitat value could be evaluated for potential use as truck parking areas, helping to address community demand while ensuring environmental and safety considerations are met.

- Community Stewardship & Volunteer Projects: The ROW presents opportunities for community engagement through volunteer-based projects. The city will explore ways to integrate ROW improvements, such as habitat restoration, trail maintenance, and fire mitigation efforts, into broader open space initiatives. These projects will be coordinated through city programs and local volunteer groups, aligning with general open space management guidelines.

By incorporating these future opportunities, the ROW can evolve into a multifunctional corridor that balances infrastructure needs with recreation, safety, and community benefits.
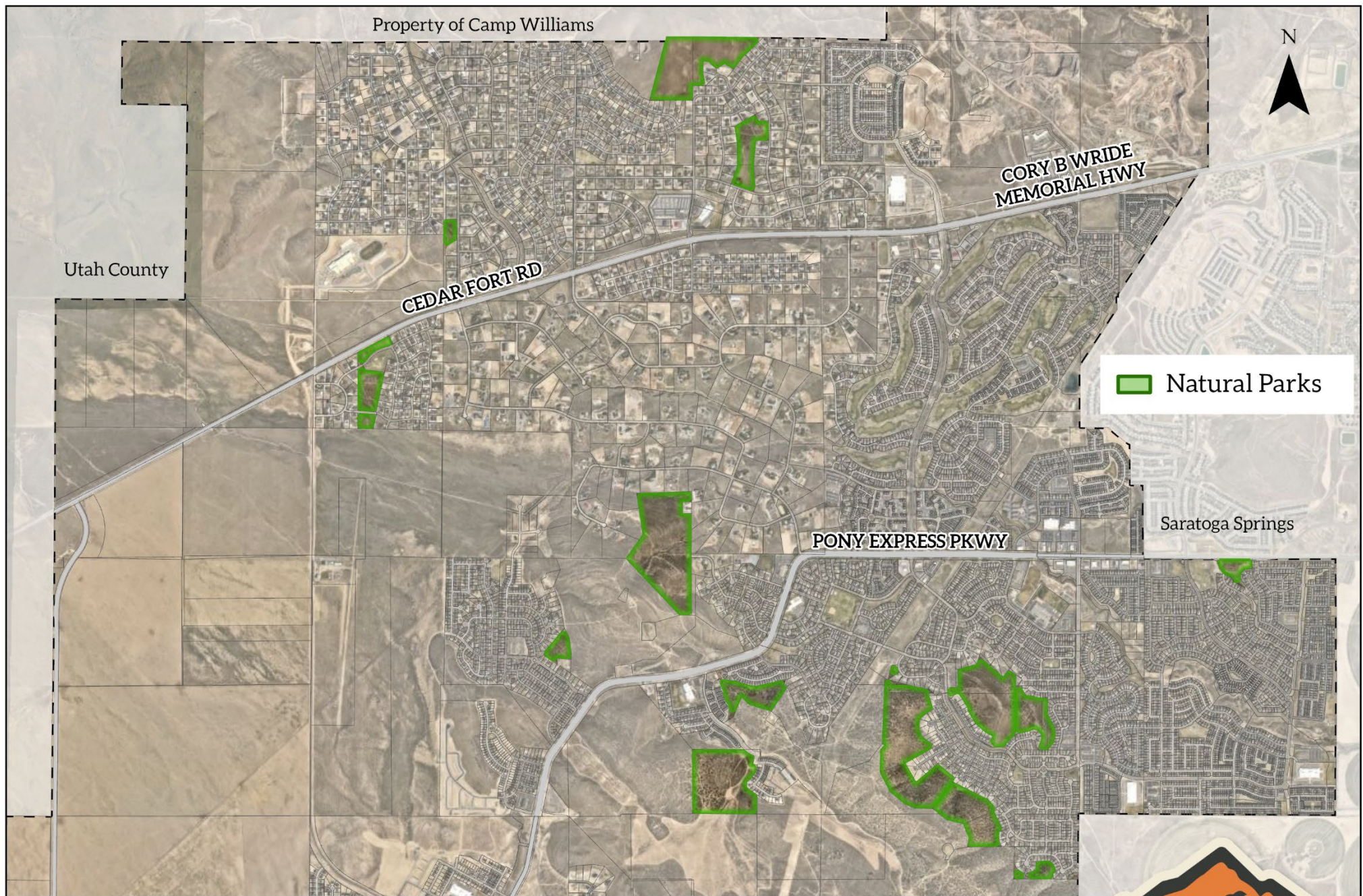
Figure 7. Natural Parks Management Area

Property of Camp Williams

Utah County

CORY B WRIDE MEMORIAL HWY

CEDAR FORT RD

Natural Parks

PONY EXPRESS PKWY

Saratoga Springs

EAGLE MOUNTAIN UTAH 19 96

Natural Parks

Overview: Natural Parks in Eagle Mountain City are a specialized type of open space that remains undeveloped and are managed with the intent to preserve the city's most sensitive natural areas. These parcels are typically located on hillsides, ridgelines, and other locations that support native vegetation and wildlife. The natural park system currently encompasses 360.4 acres across 29 city-owned parcels (see Figure 7 above).

Primary Purpose: The primary purpose of Natural Parks is to preserve wildlife habitat and protect vital ecological functions. These areas support biodiversity, provide erosion control on steep slopes, contribute to stormwater absorption, and enhance the scenic and aesthetic character of the city. Most parcels are protected from development under Eagle Mountain City's Mountain Top and Hillside Slope Ordinance (Code 15.80.020), which restricts construction and grading in sensitive topographic areas.

Additional Purposes: Natural Parks also serve as valuable community resources by offering outdoor recreation opportunities that are compatible with habitat protection. These areas provide space for low-impact activities such as hiking, mountain biking, equestrian use, and wildlife viewing. By maintaining passive recreation opportunities within a natural setting, the city supports resident health and well-being while fostering a stronger connection to local landscapes. As the city continues to grow, Natural Parks will remain essential for balancing access to open space with conservation priorities.

Focus Issues: Natural Parks in Eagle Mountain face several challenges that compromise their effectiveness as protected habitats. One major concern is the heightened wildfire risk, which is exacerbated by dense vegetation that extends up to residential property lines. Additionally, there is significant encroachment through property-take from the city. Addressing these issues is essential to preserve the integrity of wildlife habitats and maintain the balance between urban development and environmental sustainability.

Management Objectives

Create educational and recreational access to all city-owned natural parks.

1. Remove all invasive plant species from within the natural parks.
2. Create a fire break that is at least 10ft wide, between all city-owned parcels and adjacent private properties.
3. Gate and fence or block all unpermitted vehicle entry points to the natural parks.
4. Designate official city trails within the natural parks – close any unofficial trails.

Table 6. Natural Parks Management Tasks

Management Tasks	Timing	Priority
Vegetation Management		
Assess current condition of open space/potential natural park parcels	O	H
Make an assessment of the value and significance of the parcel to the city.	ST	H
Use various BMPs to removal invasive plant species from within the natural park open areas such as burning, herbicides, grazing, and mowing.	LT	M
Recreation & Visitor Management		
Designate official city trails with the natural parks – close any unofficial trails	LT	M

Future Opportunities: Natural parks in Eagle Mountain City are currently zoned as open space. The city is working towards the creation of a specialized Wildlife Overlay / Natural Area zoning code that will be applied to these areas, safeguarding their preservation. An additional opportunity exists to create single track trail networks across these parcels, creating opportunities for passive recreation in the community.
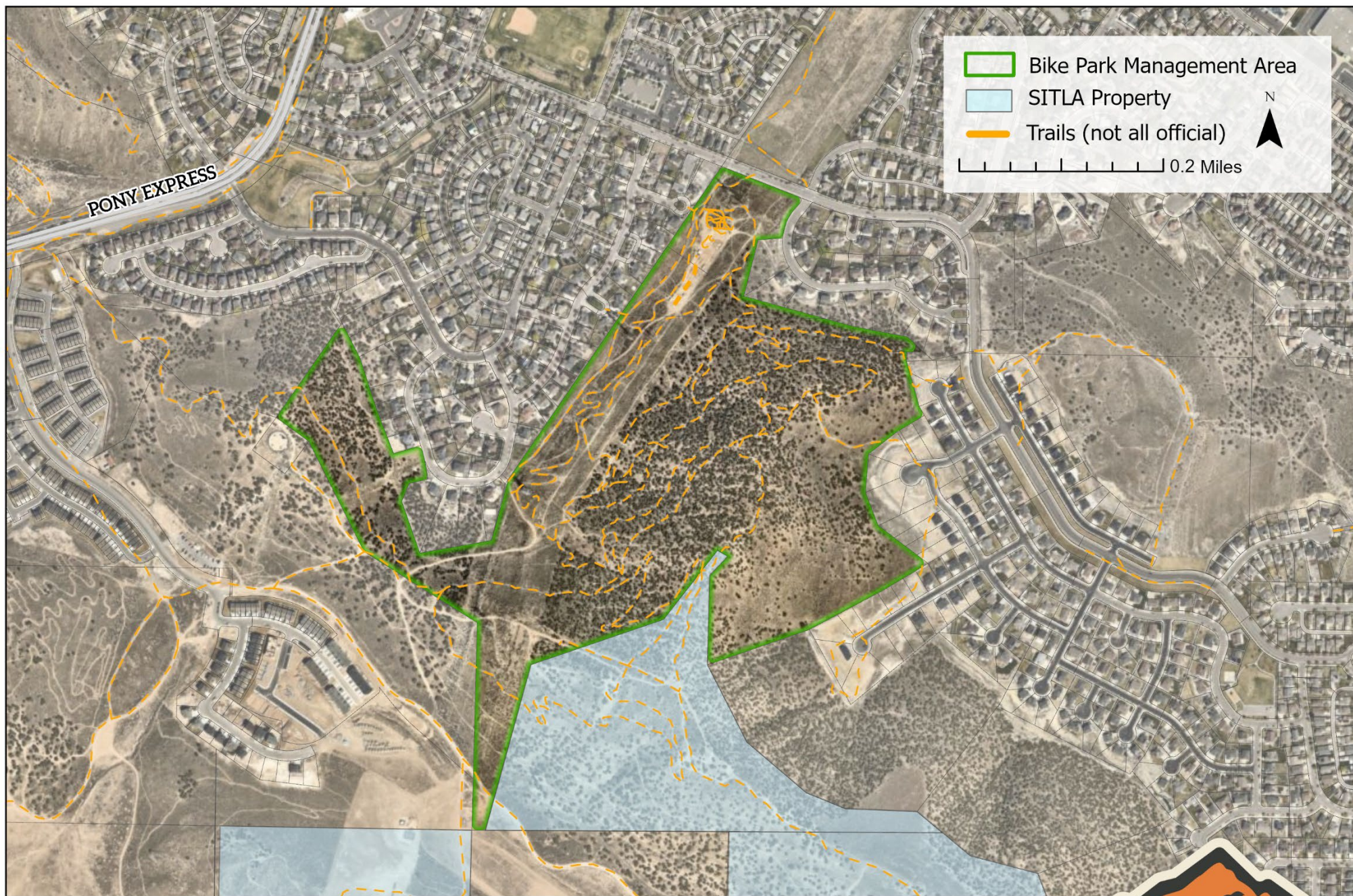
Figure 8. Mountain Ranches Bike Park Management Area

Bike Park Management Area
SITLA Property
Trails (not all official)

N

0.2 Miles

PONY EXPRESS

EAGLE MOUNTAIN
UTAH
19 96

Mountain Ranches Bike Park

Overview: Mountain Ranches Bike Park is a popular outdoor recreation asset located within the Utility Right-of-Way (ROW) corridor in the Ranches neighborhood. The park is situated primarily on a 62-acre city-owned parcel, with trail systems extending into adjacent BLM and SITLA-managed lands to the south (see Figure 8 above). The site plays a central role in Eagle Mountain's outdoor recreation lifestyle, holding cultural significance for local residents.

Primary Purposes: The primary function of this site is to accommodate utility infrastructure. The corridor houses buried gas lines as well as overhead power and telecommunications lines. Due to legal and physical constraints associated with the utility ROW and the City's Mountain Top and Hillside Slope Ordinance (Code 15.80.020), the area is restricted from development. These constraints preserve the land in an undeveloped condition while allowing essential access for utility maintenance and service operations. In all cases, utility needs take precedence over any secondary uses.

Additional Purposes: Due to its undevelopable status, the site has been adopted for community recreation, particularly mountain biking. The park features a network of trails that accommodate a range of skill levels and are managed in partnership with the Lake Mountain Trails Association. This site contributes meaningfully to the city's recreation system by offering open space-based biking opportunities that also promote physical activity, community engagement, and outdoor enjoyment.

Focus Issues: One of the primary issues at Mountain Ranches Bike Park is the presence of unsanctioned trails. The city plans to conduct a comprehensive trail audit to determine which trails will be formally adopted and managed as part of the official trail network. This work will be addressed in the city's forthcoming Trails Master Plan. Other challenges include the presence of invasive weeds and the elevated wildfire risk posed by dense vegetation along the park's boundary with nearby residential development.

Management Objectives

1. Assess and determine current conditions (ecological state) of all city-owned land within the Mountain Ranches Bike Park.
2. Make a visual assessment to determine if the site is poor, fair, good, or excellent condition.
3. Upon making a designation of condition, work to implement various strategies and tasks using best management practices to improve ecological function, focusing specifically on vegetation management, invasive species control, wildlife habitat preservation, and wildfire risk abatement. The goal is to move the site toward a higher/better ecological condition (see below).

Trail management within the park will be overseen by the Lake Mountain Trails Association, in partnership with Eagle Mountain City. Their continued stewardship is essential to maintaining this important community recreation asset. Note that management tasks may be modified over the duration of this plan. All tasks will be incorporated into © OpenGov such that they can be reported on and tracked over time.

Table 7. Eagle Mountain Bike Park Management Tasks

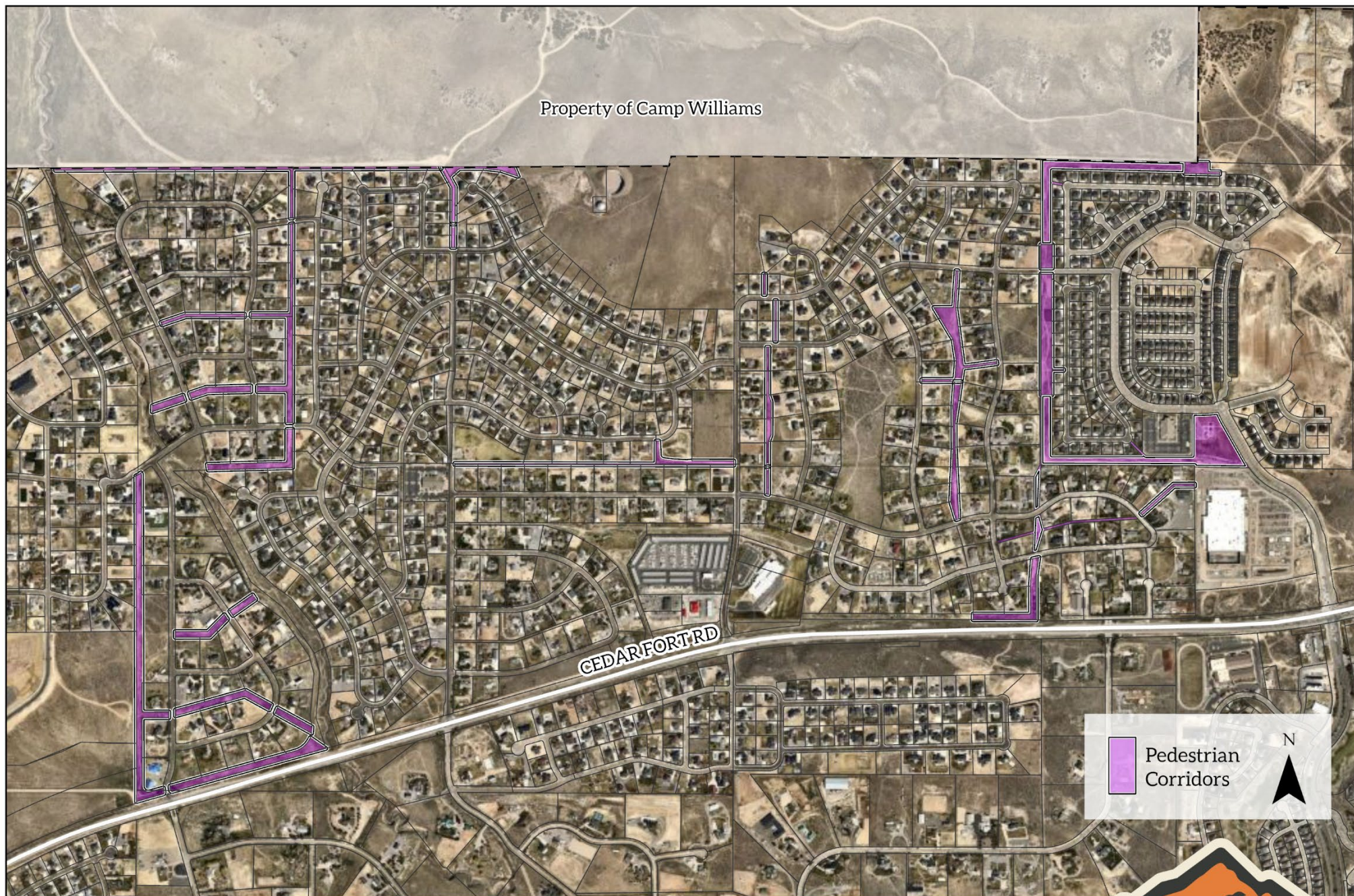| Management Tasks	Timing	Priority
Vegetation Management		
Assess current condition of open space/potential natural park parcels	O	H
Make an assessment of the value and significance of the parcel to the city.	ST	H
Recreation & Visitor Management		

Property of Camp Williams

CEDAR FORT RD

Pedestrian Corridors

N

Figure 9. Pedestrian Corridors Management Area
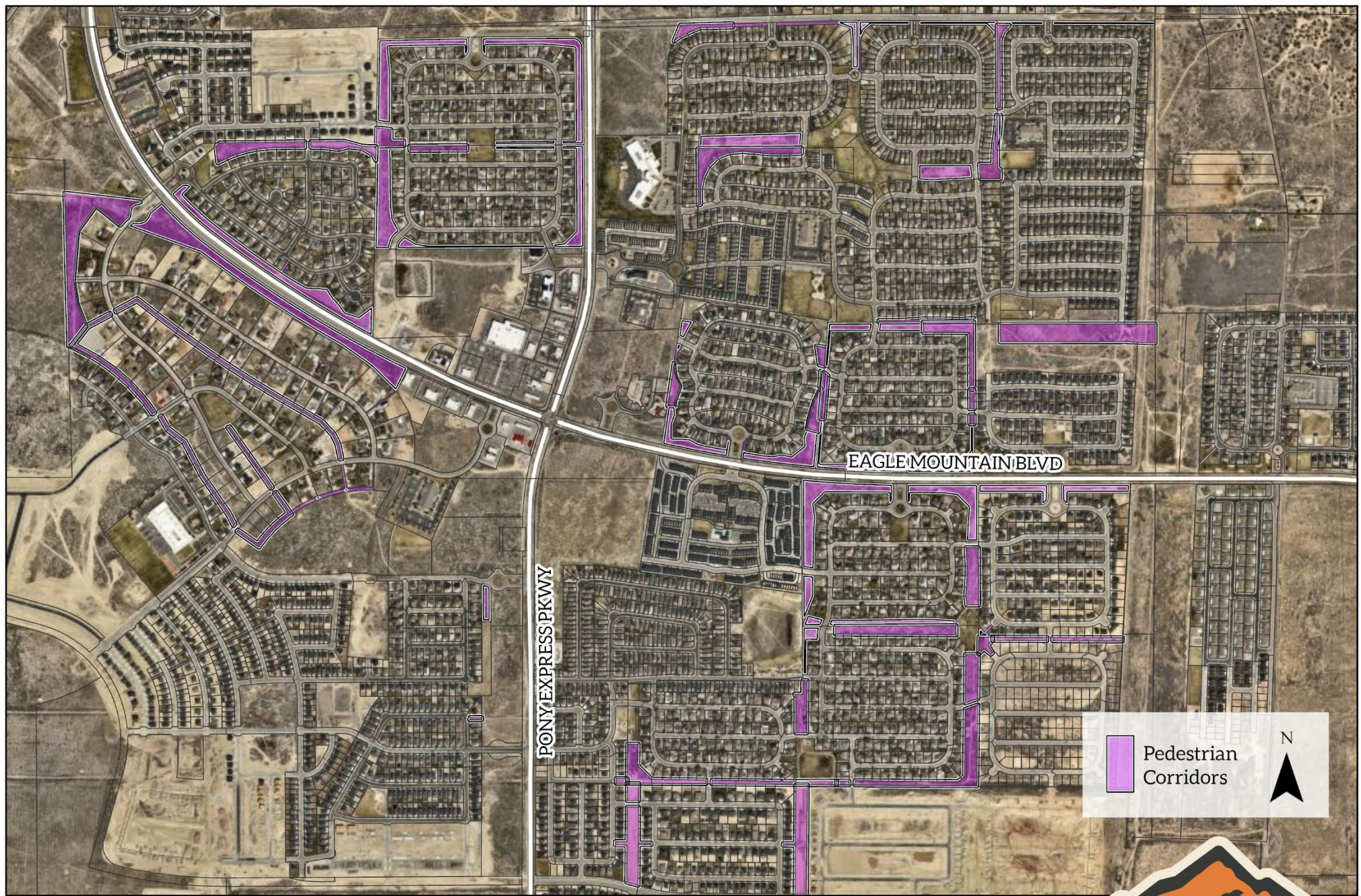
EAGLE MOUNTAIN
19 96
UTAH

Figure 10. Pedestrian Corridors Management Area

Pedestrian Corridors

Overview: Eagle Mountain City's pedestrian corridors are linear open space areas totaling 118.8 acres that run through and between residential neighborhoods. These corridors help shape the city's green infrastructure by preserving continuous pathways through developed areas and linking neighborhoods to parks, trails, and other open spaces. Many include paved shared-use paths and serve as important physical and visual connectors in the city's growing suburban fabric (see Figures 9 & 10 above).

Primary Purpose: The primary function of pedestrian corridors is to provide trail connections between residential areas and to serve as access points to the city's larger open space network. These corridors are intended to accommodate non-motorized use such as walking or biking, while ensuring safe and convenient passage throughout the community. In addition to their recreational value, pedestrian corridors support emergency response operations by allowing emergency vehicles to access open space parcels and neighboring homes where standard road access may be limited. Their layout and function contribute to walkability, safety, and accessibility across the city.

Focus Issues: Pedestrian corridors in Eagle Mountain face several management challenges. These include the lack of proper wayfinding signage, the presence of invasive weeds, unauthorized recreation and dumping, and encroachment from neighboring properties. In areas where pedestrian corridors abut residential backyards, the city will offer leasing options for non-permanent features such as landscaping or shed placement to reduce conflicts and preserve corridor function.

Management Objectives

1. Assess and determine current conditions (ecological state) of all city-owned pedestrian access corridors.
2. Make a visual assessment to determine if the sites are in poor, fair, good, or excellent condition.
3. Upon making a designation of condition, work to implement various strategies and tasks using best management practices to manage invasive weeds, improve corridor aesthetics, and enhance ecological function and user experience. The goal is to move each corridor toward a higher/better ecological condition (see below). These tasks may be modified over the duration of this plan. All tasks will be incorporated into © OpenGov such that they can be reported on and tracked over time.

Table 8. Connecting Corridors Management Tasks

| Management Tasks	Timing	Priority
Vegetation Management		
Assess current condition of pedestrian corridor parcels	O	H
Make an assessment of the value and significance of the parcel to the city.	ST	H
Eradicate all invasive weed species.	LT	M
Access & Signage Management		
Install wayfinding signage at all corridor entrances informing the public of directions as well as city ordinances and permitted recreation uses.	LT	M
Gate and fence all corridor entrances leading to additional open space parcels, obstructing unpermitted motor vehicle entry.	LT	M
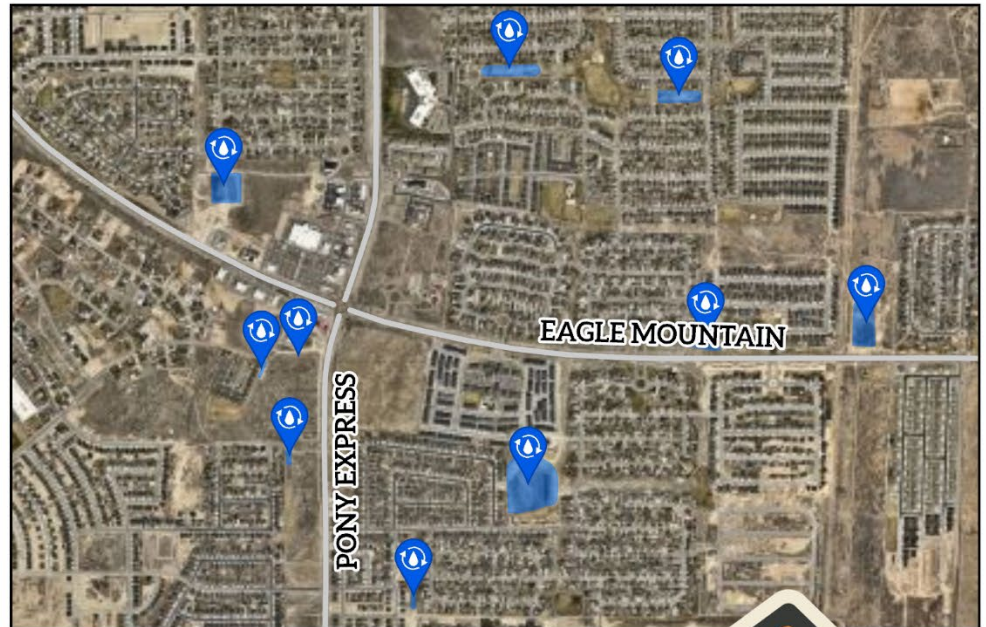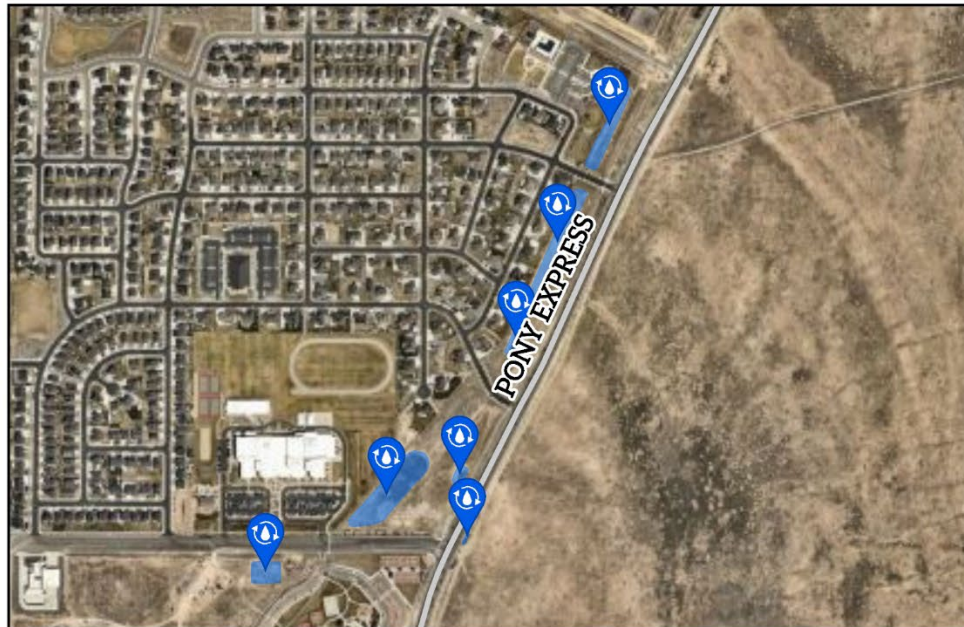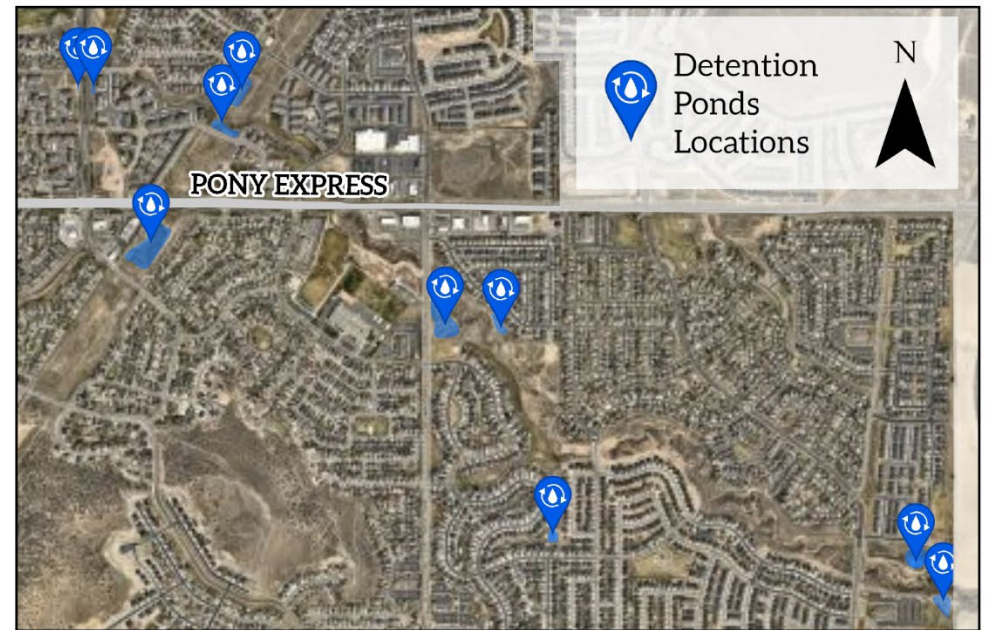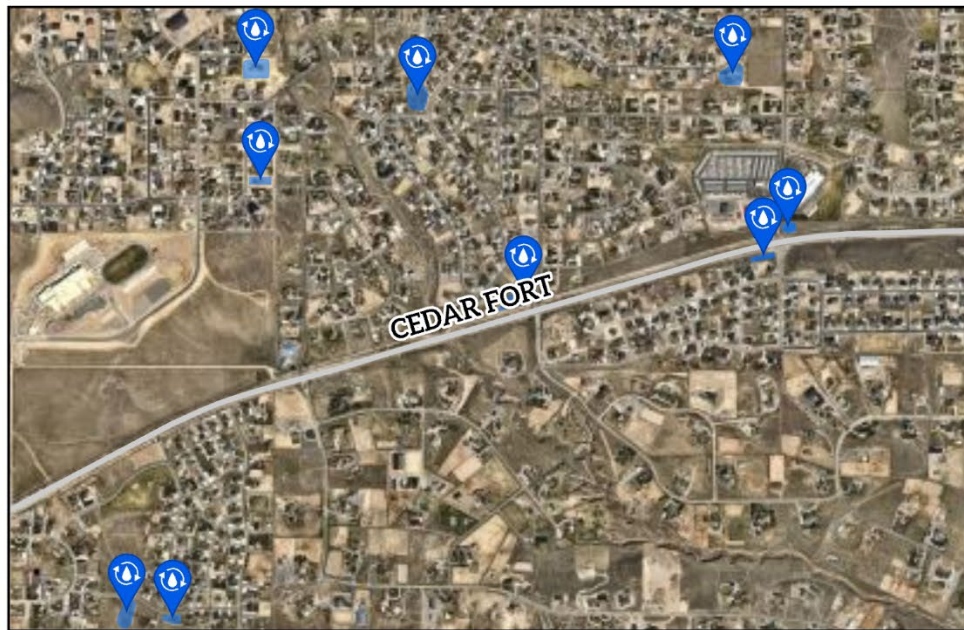
Figure 11. Undeveloped Detention Pond Management Areas

Detention Pond Management Areas

Overview: Eagle Mountain City manages a network of detention ponds located throughout the community. These basins are predominantly undeveloped, meaning their floors are compacted soil rather than concrete or gravel, and are often surrounded by vegetative buffers. While engineered for stormwater control, these spaces also serve secondary ecological functions by supporting vegetation and contributing to landscape connectivity. Their appearance and maintenance levels vary, creating a need for coordinated stewardship between city departments.

Primary Purpose: The primary function of detention ponds is to temporarily store and control stormwater runoff during and after precipitation events. These ponds reduce peak runoff volumes, mitigate downstream flooding, and release water slowly—either through infiltration, evaporation, or controlled discharge. Unlike retention ponds, detention ponds are designed to drain completely between storms and do not maintain a permanent water body. In Eagle Mountain, these facilities are jointly managed: the Storm Water Department ensures ponds fulfill hydrologic performance standards, while the Open Space Division is responsible for vegetation management, erosion control, and ecological enhancement within and around the pond basins.

Focus Issues: Many detention ponds in Eagle Mountain have become overrun with invasive and noxious plant species, including undesirable shrubs and trees. These conditions hinder stormwater function, degrade habitat potential, and increase fire and maintenance risks. Additional concerns include unauthorized recreation, soil erosion, and illegal dumping. Improving pond conditions requires coordinated intervention to balance functional performance with ecological value.

Management Objectives

1. Assess and determine current conditions (ecological state) of all city-managed detention ponds that fall under Open Space oversight.
2. Make a visual assessment to determine if the sites are in poor, fair, good, or excellent condition.
   Upon making a designation of condition, work to implement various strategies and tasks using best management practices to address invasive species, stabilize soils, and support the dual functions of habitat preservation and stormwater management. The goal is to move each pond site toward a higher/better ecological condition (see below). Note that these tasks may be modified over the duration of this plan. All tasks will be incorporated into © OpenGov such that they can be reported on and tracked over time.

Table 9. Detention Pond Management Tasks

Management Tasks	Timing	Priority
Vegetation Management		
Assess the current condition of Detention Pond Management Areas.	O	H
Make an assessment of the value and significance of the parcel to the city.	ST	H
Utility & Parameter Management		
Gate and fence perimeters of all undeveloped detention ponds to obstruct unauthorized recreation and motor vehicle entry.	LT	L

Water Tank 1

CORY B WRIDE
MEMORIAL HWY

CEDAR FORT RD

Well Site 1

Water Tank 2

Well Site 2 & 3

Water Tank 3

EAGLE MOUNTAIN BLVD

Water Tank 4

PONY EXPRESS PKWY

Water Tank 5 & 6

Evaporation Ponds

Utility Sites

Figure 12. Utility Sites Management Area Overview

Natural Open Space Plan | Eagle Mountain City | 2025

Property of Camp Williams

Water Tank 1

Water Tank 2 & 3

PONY EXPRESS PKWY

N

Water Tank 4

Water Tank 5 & 6

EAGLE MOUNTAIN BLVD
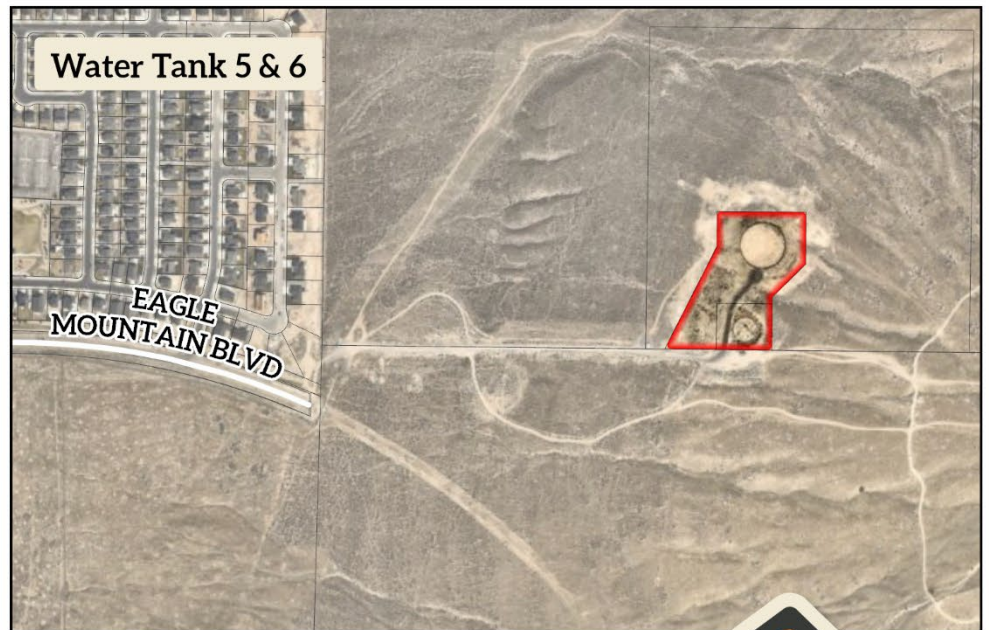
Figure 13. Water Tanks Utility Management Area

Natural Open Space Management Plan | Eagle Mountain City | 2025

EAGLE MOUNTAIN UTAH 19 96

Figure 14. Well Sites Utility Management Area

Natural Open Space Management Plan | Eagle Mountain City | 2025

Figure 15. Evaporation Ponds Utility Management Area

Natural Open Space Management Plan | Eagle Mountain City | 2025

Utility Areas: City Water Tanks, Well Sites, & Evaporation Ponds

Overview: Utility Sites form a critical component of Eagle Mountain City's infrastructure, supporting both the municipal water supply and wastewater management systems. This section focuses on three key utility types: **water tanks, well sites, and evaporation ponds.** Together, encompassing 360.4 acres of natural open space (see figure 13-16 above), these utility sites play a vital role in ensuring the reliable operation of essential services while safeguarding public health and environmental quality. Effective management of these areas requires coordination across multiple city departments to ensure best management practices (BMPs) are applied. To enhance efficiency and avoid duplication of effort, the city will use OpenGov software to track management tasks, maintenance activities, and ecological stewardship efforts.

Water Tank Site Overview: Water tanks serve as storage facilities that maintain a consistent supply of potable water, stabilize system pressure, and provide emergency reserves. Currently there are seven water tanks, split between five sites in Eagle Mountain City. These sites are small city-owned parcels, all located on slopes and hillsides, and contain either buried or above ground water tanks that store water for future residential use. These water tanks include a fenced off perimeter. These management areas are accessible by dirt roads and are adjacent to private property.

City Wells Site Overview. The well site typically includes a drilled well, a pump system, and associated infrastructure to withdraw, treat, and deliver groundwater to the city's water distribution system. These sites are critical components of a city's water supply network, providing a reliable source of potable water for residential, commercial, and industrial use.

Evaporation Pond Overview: A city utility evaporation pond is an engineered basin designed for the disposal of wastewater through the process of natural evaporation. The pond allows for the concentration and eventual removal of wastewater, often from treatment processes, stormwater runoff, or industrial effluents, by harnessing natural evaporative forces.

Utility Areas Focus Issues: While the land surrounding Eagle Mountain City's utility sites—such as water tanks and well sites—is classified as natural open space, it is not actively managed for ecological health. These areas are primarily composed of native vegetation and undisturbed soil, maintaining characteristics of a natural landscape. However, the disturbed ground created by utility infrastructure, construction activities, and maintenance access routes has made these sites highly susceptible to invasive weed infestations. Without proactive management, invasive species can rapidly establish, outcompeting native plants, degrading habitat quality, and increasing long-term maintenance challenges. These unmanaged conditions not only threaten local biodiversity but may also create infrastructure and maintenance concerns. Addressing invasive weed control through coordinated management strategies is essential to maintaining the ecological integrity of these utility sites while ensuring their continued function within the city's infrastructure network.

Management Objectives

1. Assess and determine current conditions (ecological state) of all city-owned utility sites, including areas surrounding water tanks, wells, and evaporation ponds.\
2. Make a visual assessment to determine if the sites are in poor, fair, good, or excellent condition.
3. Upon making a designation of condition, work to implement various strategies and tasks using best management practices to reduce invasive species, stabilize disturbed ground, and preserve the native landscape surrounding utility infrastructure. The goal is to move each site toward a better ecological condition (see below). These efforts will be tracked and managed through © OpenGov to improve transparency, reduce duplication, and ensure long-term stewardship. Note that tasks may be modified over the duration of this plan.

Table 10. City Utility Sites Management Tasks

Management Tasks	Timing	Priority
Vegetation Management		
Assess condition of open space / utility site parcels	O	H
Make an assessment of the value and significance of the parcel to the city.	ST	H
Eradicate all invasive plant species from Water Tank Management areas.	LT	M
Keep the water tank entry area free of all vegetation and debris.	ST	M
Plant native trees and shrubs in open space around fenced areas to provide bank stabilization and to beautify the area.	LT	L
Create and manage pollinator gardens.	LT	L
Utility & Parameter Management		
Create 3ft wide foot paths all the way around fenced area on both inside and outside to allow for tank maintenance and to maintain integrity of fence.	LT	M
Stretch fences to perimeter city property to prevent improper use of city property	LT	L
Control the spread of problematic animal species such as voles.	LT	M

Future Opportunities: An opportunity exists to create pollinator gardens around the fenced areas of the water tanks and within some of the larger fenced enclosures. An additional opportunity exists to introduce wetland vegetation around evaporation ponds. Vegetation can provide wildlife habitat as well as beautify the surrounding area.

A persistent issue facing Eagle Mountain City's natural open space parcels is the spread of invasive plant species. Traditional management methods, such as mowing and herbicide application, can be labor-intensive, costly, and reliant on fuel and chemicals. An effective and sustainable alternative is targeted goat grazing. Goats are well-suited for this role, as they consume a wide variety of vegetation, including problematic invasive species.

How It Works

Targeted goat grazing will be implemented through a rotational grazing system, using the following key steps:

Goats grazing noxious Weeds. – *Ecological Landscape Alliance*

1. **Site Preparation:** Before goats are introduced, the Open Space Division will install temporary electric fencing to contain the herd and prevent overgrazing.

2. **Grazing Period:** The goats will remain in the enclosed area for 4-7 days, depending on vegetation density and site conditions. During this period, goats will consume invasive species, suppressing weed growth.

3. **Next Site Setup:** While grazing occurs, a second containment area will be prepared. Once the first site is completed, the herd will be moved to the next treatment area.

4. **Follow-Up Weed Control:** After grazing, the Open Space Division may apply targeted herbicides to remaining stems to limit regrowth. Reseeding with native species may follow, depending on conditions.

5. **Ongoing Monitoring:** Each treated area will be monitored to assess regrowth and determine whether additional grazing cycles are necessary.

Benefits of Goat Grazing

Utilizing goats for invasive plant management offers numerous ecological, economic, and operational advantages, including:

- Reduced fuel use by limiting the need for gas-powered mowing
- Lower labor costs compared to mechanical removal or herbicide application
- Support for local agriculture by contracting with local livestock operators
- Improved soil health, as goat droppings enrich soil organic matter

- Selective grazing, as goats often consume invasive species while leaving native plants intact
- Wildfire risk reduction through the removal of dry, combustible vegetation

Considerations & Management Best Practices

While effective, goat grazing must be carefully managed to avoid overuse and ensure long-term results. Best practices include:

- **Repeated grazing cycles may be necessary** – Many invasive species require multiple defoliation cycles before they are fully suppressed.

- **Grazing timing is critical** – Best results occur when grazing happens before invasive plants go to seed, limiting their ability to spread.

- **Monitoring prevents overgrazing** – Overuse can damage desirable plant species and soil structure, requiring careful scheduling and rotation.

By integrating targeted grazing into the city's noxious weed management strategy, Eagle Mountain City can reduce chemical inputs, support ecological restoration, and improve the health of its open spaces.

Goat Grazing Study Overview (2025–2028)

Eagle Mountain City is launching a three-year study (2025–2028) to evaluate goat grazing as a sustainable method for invasive weed management across various city-owned open spaces, including detention ponds, utility rights-of-way, and native open space parcels. The study will use a rotational grazing system at 21 selected sites (covering approximately 60 acres) and track the impacts of goat grazing on weed suppression, soil health, and ecosystem resilience. The research will follow a structured methodology, including pre- and post-grazing ecological assessments, rotational stocking of 50–75 goats per site, and post-treatment evaluations to measure vegetation recovery and invasive species reduction. The study also incorporates public education initiatives, volunteer engagement, and collaborations with conservation organizations and academic institutions to refine grazing strategies over time. The outcomes of this project will help determine the viability of integrating targeted goat grazing into Eagle Mountain City's long-term open space management plan while reducing reliance on mechanical and chemical weed control methods.

REFERENCES

Population Data

United States Census Bureau, Quick Facts: Eagle Mountain City

Noxious Weeds

State of Utah Noxious Weeds List

 2025 State of Utah Noxious Weeds List

 Eagle Mountain City Code 8.07.020

A Well-Designed Goat Grazing Plan Can Reduce Noxious Weeds – USU Extension

Fire Management

Preparing homes for Wildfire, National Fire Protection Agency

Wildfire History Tracker – USU Extension

Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat

Central Basin and Ecoregion

Wildlife Migration Initiative: Secretarial Order 3362

Utah State Code 65-8-202.5

Landfire.gov

Landscape Plants for Eagle Mountain, Utah

Soil Data

Soils of Utah

Landscape Plants for Eagle Mountain, Utah

APPENDICES

Mule Deer Migration Corridors

- high use
- medium use
- low use
- EagleMountainBoundaries

2 Miles

N
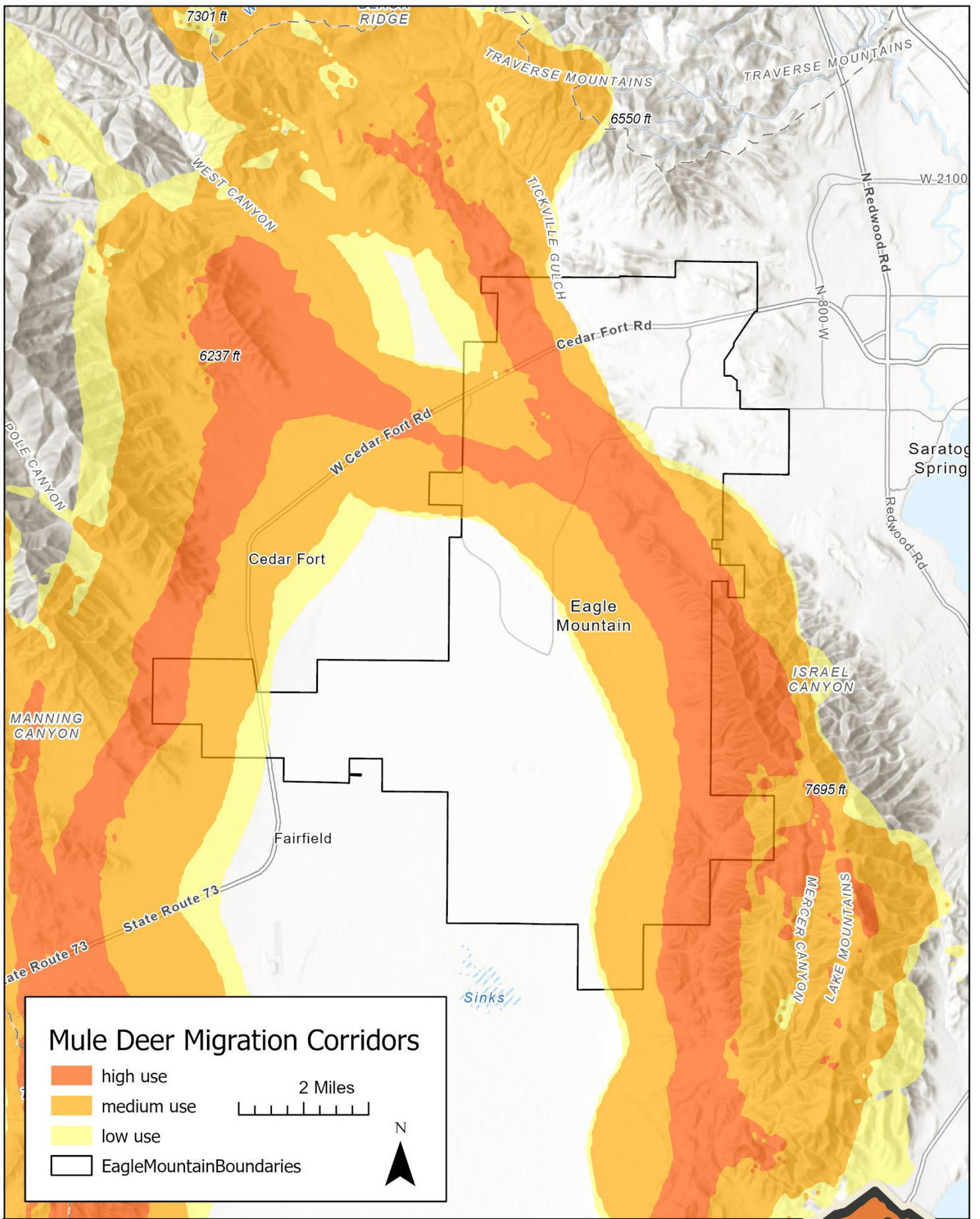
Appendix A. Mule Deer Migration Corridors Near Eagle Mountain City

EAGLE MOUNTAIN UTAH
19 96

Legend

🟩	Great Basin Pinyon-Juniper Woodland
🟩	Inter-Mountain Basins Curl-leaf Mountain Mahogany Woodland
🟫	Inter-Mountain Basins Big Sagebrush Shrubland
🟨	Inter-Mountain Basins Semi-Desert Grassland
🟧	Rocky Mountain Subalpine-Montane Mesic Meadow
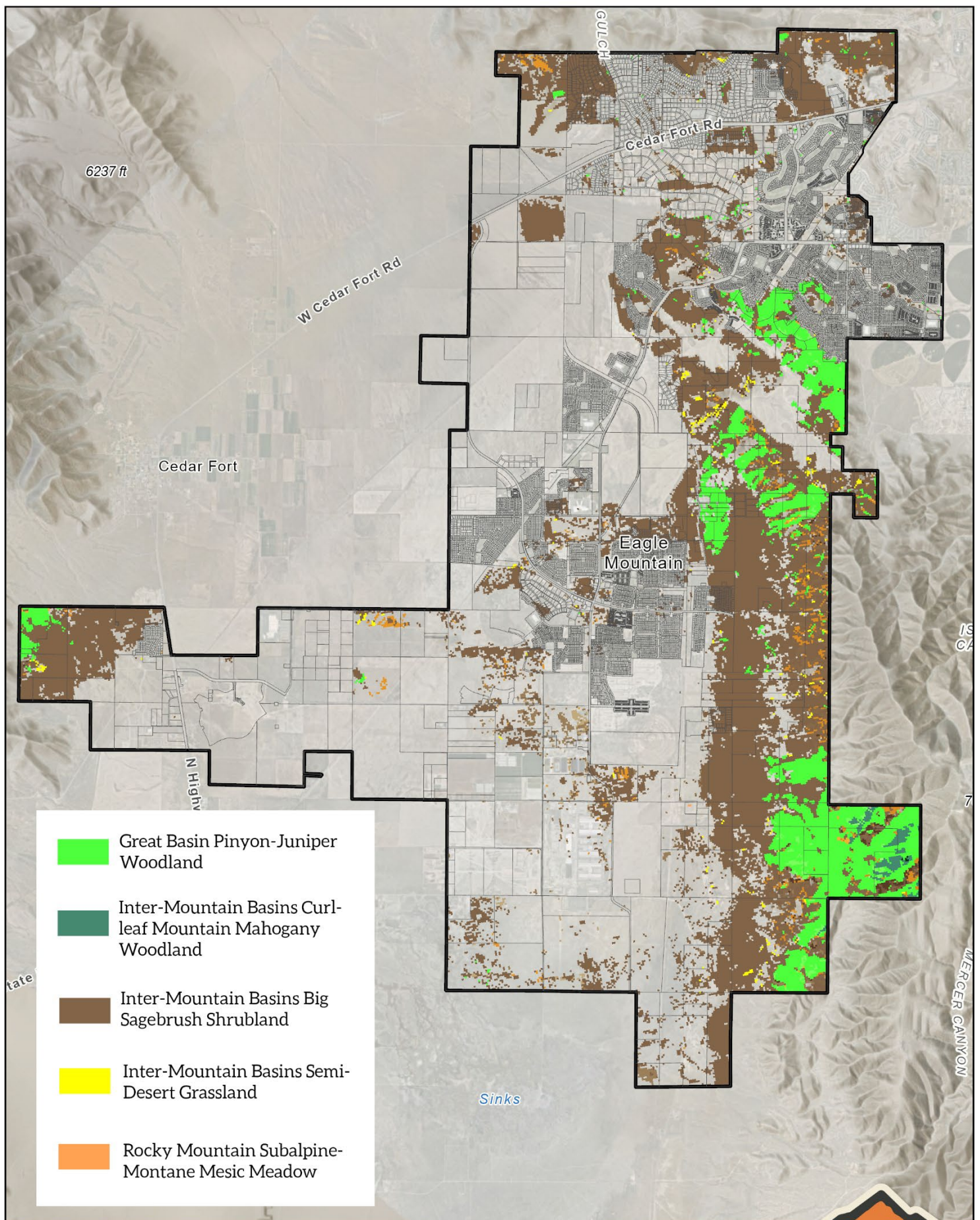
Appendix B. Land Fire Data - Vegetation Communities

Natural Open Space Management Plan | Eagle Mountain City

EAGLE MOUNTAIN
19 96
UTAH
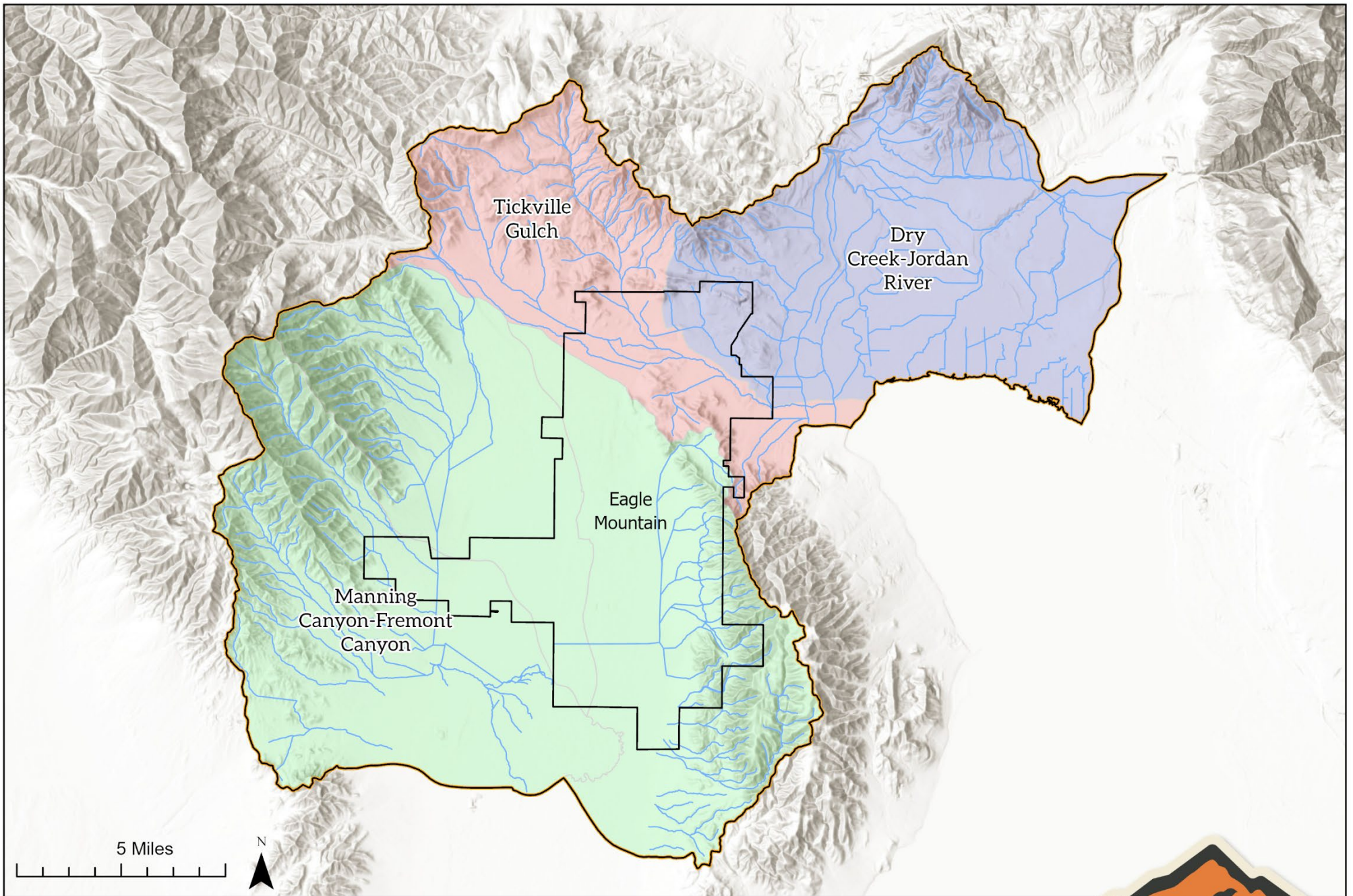
Appendix C. Cedar Valley Region Watersheds

Tickville Gulch

Dry Creek-Jordan River

Eagle Mountain

Manning Canyon-Fremont Canyon

5 Miles

N

EAGLE MOUNTAIN
19 96
UTAH

Saratoga Springs

N

Single Track
Paved Shared Use
Road-Concurrent
Natural Open Space
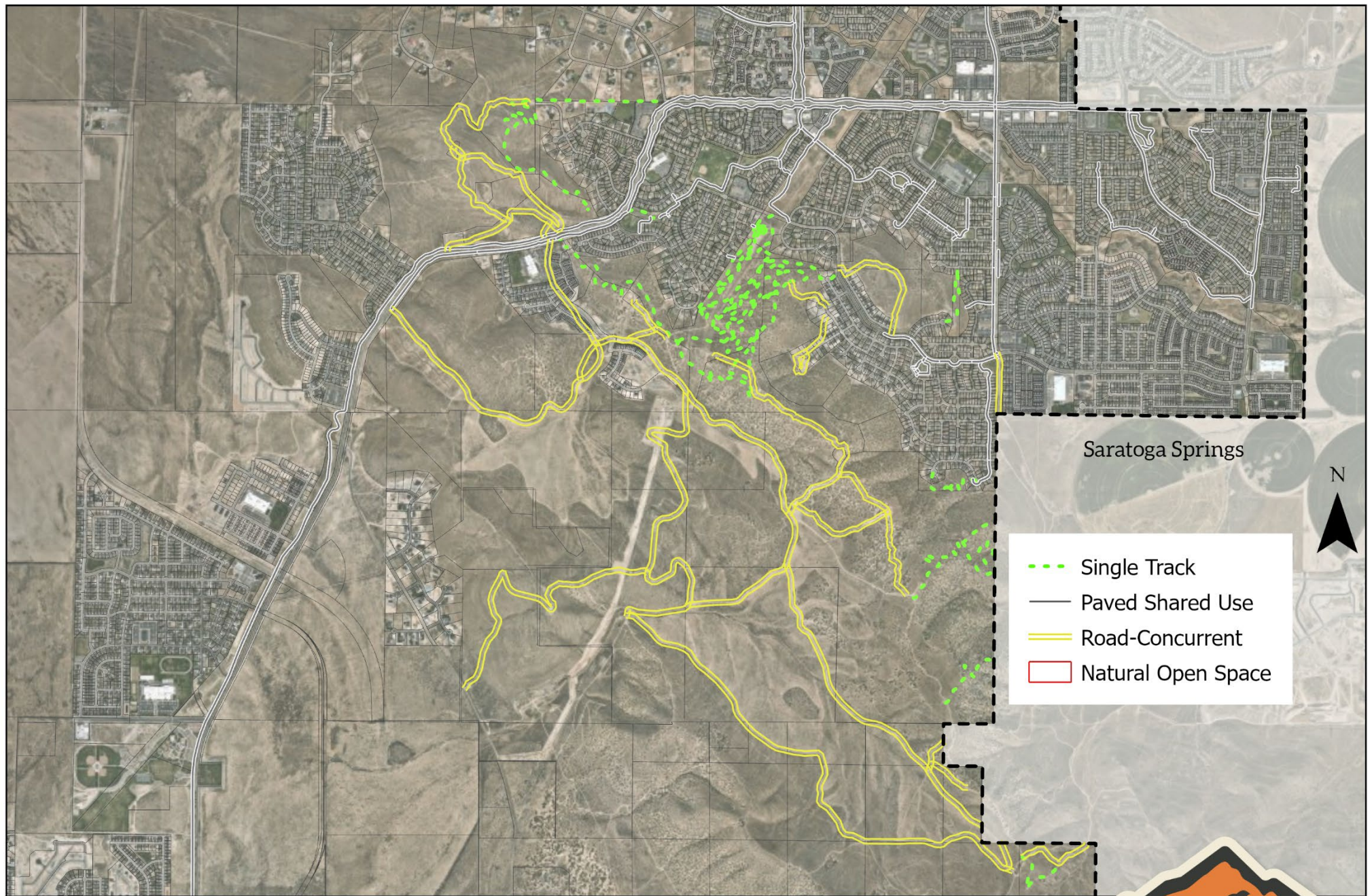
Appendix D. Recreation Resources

Natural Open Space Management Plan | Eagle Mountain City | 2025

EAGLE MOUNTAIN
19 96
UTAH

Appendix E - Noxious Weed Removal BMPs

Bur Buttercup (*Ceratocephala, testiculata*)

(Bur buttercup lateral habit - USDA Forest Service, Wikimedia Commons)

(Bur buttercup -Bonnie Million, National Park Service, Bugwood.org)

1. Prevention & Early Detection

- Hand-pull plants before seed maturation to prevent reseeding.

- Monitor disturbed areas for early infestations.

2. Mechanical & Cultural Control

- Shallow tillage or hoeing is effective for young plants but must be repeated.

- Apply a 3-inch mulch layer in planting beds to suppress seed germination.

3. Chemical Control

- Apply post-emergent broadleaf herbicides to actively growing plants for effective control.

4. Long-Term Management

- Monitor and remove new growth annually to prevent reinfestation.

- Combine multiple control methods for sustained suppression.

Cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*)

(Cheatgrass growth habit - Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org)

(Cheatgrass growth habit - Tom Heutte, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org)

(Cheatgrass seeds (K. George and James Sebastian, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org)

1. Prevention & Early Detection

- Hand-pull plants before seed maturation to prevent reseeding.

- Maintain healthy plant cover to reduce establishment in disturbed areas.

2. Mechanical & Cultural Control

- Apply a 3-inch mulch layer in planting beds to suppress seed germination.

3. Chemical Control

- Post-emergent herbicides (e.g., glyphosate, imazapic) should be applied to actively growing plants before seed set.

4. Long-Term Management

- Monitor and remove new growth annually to prevent reinfestation.

- Replant treated areas with competitive native grasses to suppress cheatgrass regrowth.

Field Bindweed / Wild Morning Glory (*Convolvulus* spp)

(Field bindweed growth habit - Howard F. Schwartz, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org)

(Field bindweed leaves - Robert Videki, Bugwood.org)

(Field bindweed flowers - Phil Westra, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org)

1. Prevention & Early Detection

- Monitor and remove plants early before seed maturation.

- Prevent soil disturbance, which encourages root spread.

2. Mechanical Control

- Frequent hand-pulling reduces seed spread but does not eliminate underground roots.

- Repeated mechanical removal of aboveground growth depletes energy reserves but requires persistence.

3. Chemical Control

- Apply post-emergent systemic herbicides (e.g., glyphosate, 2,4-D) to actively growing plants.

- Multiple applications are often required to target underground structures.

4. Long-Term Management

- Monitor treated areas regularly and re-treat as needed.

- Encourage competitive vegetation to suppress regrowth.

Jim Hill Mustard (*Sisymbrium, altissimum*)

(Mary Ellen (Mel) Harte, Bugwood.org)

(Mary Ellen (Mel) Harte, Bugwood.org)

1. Prevention & Early Detection

- Monitor disturbed areas (grasslands, roadsides, streambanks) for early infestations.
- Establish and maintain perennial vegetation to outcompete mustard.

2. Mechanical Control

- Hand-pull plants before seed production to prevent spread.
- Mowing can reduce seed production but must be timed before seeds mature.
- Tillage and cultivation can control mustard in suitable areas before seed set.

3. Chemical Control

- Apply herbicides to young, actively growing plants for best control.
- Selective herbicides: 2,4-D, dicamba work well on small plants.
- Metsulfuron (Escort): Effective pre- or post-emergence for long-term control.

4. Long-Term Management

- Reduce soil disturbances to prevent establishment.
- Monitor and re-treat infested areas as needed.

Annual Kocha (*Kochia, scoparia*)

(Annual kochia growth habit - Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org)

(Annual kochia flowers - Pedro Tenorio Lezama, Bugwood.org)

1. Prevention & Early Detection

- Hand-pull plants before they set seed to prevent spread.

- Apply a 3-inch mulch layer in planting beds to suppress seed germination.

2. Mechanical Control

- Shallow tillage or hoeing is effective for young plants but must be repeated as needed.

3. Chemical Control

- Post-emergent herbicides should be applied directly to actively growing plants for best control.

4. Long-Term Management

- Monitor treated areas annually to prevent reinfestation.

- Combine multiple control methods for sustained suppression.

Phragmites (*Phragmites, australis*)

(Phragmites stand at the USU Botanical Center ponds at Kaysville, Utah. extension.usu.edu)

(Phragmites stand at the USU Botanical Center ponds at Kaysville, Utah. extension.usu.edu)

1. Prevention & Early Detection

- Monitor wetland and riparian areas for early infestations.

- Limit soil disturbance and nutrient runoff, as these conditions favor Phragmites growth.

- Maintain water depths above 12 inches or fully dry soils to reduce establishment.

2. Mechanical Control

- Mowing or cutting can reduce growth but must be done weekly from mid-summer to late fall.

- Cut below the waterline (3–5 inches) to drown rhizomes when possible.

- Remove and properly dispose of plant material to prevent regrowth from stems or seeds.

3. Chemical Control

- Apply herbicides (glyphosate or imazapyr) from July to October before a killing frost.

- Use aquatic-approved formulations (e.g., Rodeo, AquaNeat, Aquastar, or Habitat).

- Best method: Spray the leaves directly or apply via cut-stem injection.

4. Long-Term Management

- Plan for a multi-year approach, as control may take 2–3 years or more.

- Remove dead plant material after herbicide treatment to promote native plant regrowth.

- Monitor treated areas annually and apply follow-up treatments as needed.

Puncturevine / Goat Head (*Tribulus, terrestris*)

(*Puncturevine - Howard F. Schwartz, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org*)

(*Puncturevine seedling - Phil Westra, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org*)

(*Puncturevine burrs - Forest and Kim Starr, Starr Environmental, Bugwood.org*)

1. Prevention & Early Detection

- Hand-pull plants before seed maturation; rake or sweep up fallen burrs to prevent spread.

- Reduce soil compaction through aeration, as Puncturevine thrives in compacted soil.

2. Mechanical & Cultural Control

- Apply a 3-inch mulch layer in planting beds to suppress seed germination.

- Regularly monitor disturbed areas where Puncturevine is likely to establish.

3. Chemical Control

- Pre-emergent herbicides: Apply before seeds germinate to prevent new growth.

- Post-emergent herbicides: Directly target young seedlings in planting beds.

4. Long-Term Management

- Monitor treated areas regularly to prevent re-establishment.

- Integrate multiple control methods for sustained suppression.

Russian Olive (*Elaeagnus, angustifolia*)

(Russian Olive at Intermountain Herbarium. extension.usu.edu)

1. Prevention & Early Detection

- Monitor riparian areas and lowland fields to prevent early infestations.
- Avoid planting Russian olive in windbreaks or landscaping to prevent spread.

2. Mechanical Control

- Cutting alone is ineffective; regrowth will occur unless treated.
- Mowing seedlings can slow the spread but does not eliminate established trees.
- Girdling (removing bark around the trunk) can weaken trees but is slow acting.
- Bulldozing removes trees but disturbs soil, promoting regrowth.

3. Chemical Control

- Best method: Cut trees and immediately apply herbicide to stumps (glyphosate or triclopyr) to prevent regrowth.
- Burning stumps after cutting may improve control but should be used cautiously.

4. Long-Term Management

- Monitor treated areas annually to prevent resprouting.
- Replant native riparian vegetation to restore habitat and prevent reinvasion.

Russian Thistle (*Salsola, tragus)*

(*Photo courtesy of Mary Ellen (Mel) Harte,*
https://www.forestryimages.org/)

(*Phil Westra, Colorado State University,*
Bugwood.org)

1. Prevention & Early Detection

- Monitor and remove young plants before they mature and produce seeds.

- Minimize soil disturbance and maintain healthy vegetation cover to reduce establishment.

2. Mechanical Control

- Hand-pulling: Effective on small plants.

- Tillage: Light tillage disrupts seedlings but must be repeated.

- Mowing: Only effective before flowering to prevent regrowth and seed dispersal.

3. Chemical Control

- Best applied in spring when plants are actively growing.

- Selective herbicides: 2,4-D, dicamba for broadleaf control.

- Non-selective herbicides: Glyphosate kills all vegetation; best for spot treatments.

- Organic options: Acetic acid or clove oil but require multiple applications.

4. Long-Term Management

- Prevent seed dispersal by collecting and properly disposing of mature plants.

- Restore treated areas with native grasses to prevent reinfestation.

- Monitor yearly and adjust control strategies as needed.

Scotch Thistle (*Onopordum, acanthium*)

1. Prevention & Early Detection

- Monitor disturbed areas and remove young rosettes before they mature.

- Prevent seed production; each plant can produce up to 40,000 seeds that remain viable for years.

- Maintain healthy vegetation cover to reduce establishment.

2. Mechanical Control

- Hand-pulling & digging: Effective on young plants; remove entire taproot.

- Mowing: Must be before flowering to prevent seed dispersal; may require repeated cuttings.

- Tillage: Useful in open areas but must be repeated to prevent regrowth.

3. Chemical Control

- Best applied in early spring or late fall to seedlings and rosettes.

- Effective herbicides include:

   o Aminopyralid, metsulfuron, clopyralid – Best for selective control.

   o Dicamba + 2,4-D mix – Effective before bolting.

   o Glyphosate – non-selective; best for spot treatments.

4. Cultural & Biological Control

- Maintain native grasses to outcompete thistle.

- Avoid overgrazing, which weakens desirable plant cover.

- No widely effective biological control exists, but goats can graze young plants.

5. Long-Term Management

- Monitor treated areas annually and remove seedlings.

- Integrate multiple methods (mechanical, chemical, and cultural) for long-term success.

Spotted Knap Weed (*Centaurea, stoebe*)

(Rob Routledge, Sault College, Bugwood.org)

(Rob Routledge, Sault College, Bugwood.org)

1. Prevention & Early Detection

- Monitor and remove rosettes before they bolt and seed.
- Avoid soil disturbance, which encourages knapweed establishment.

2. Mechanical Control

- Hand-pulling: Effective for small patches if the entire root is removed.
- Mowing: Reduces seed production but must be repeated annually.

3. Chemical Control

- Best applied in spring or early fall at the rosette stage.
- Selective herbicides: Clopyralid, aminopyralid, picloram for long-term control.
- Glyphosate: Effective for spot treatments but non-selective.

4. Biological Control

- Introduce weevils and beetles that target seeds and roots:
  - Larinus minutus, Cyphocleonus achates reduce seed production and weaken plants.

5. Long-Term Management

- Replant treated areas with competitive native grasses to prevent regrowth.
- Monitor yearly and adjust strategies as needed.

Tamarisk / Salt Cedar (*Tamarix ramosissima Ledeb*)

(Steve Dewey, Utah State University, Bugwood.org)

(Steve Dewey, Utah State University, Bugwood.org)

1. Prevention & Early Detection

- Monitor riparian areas for early infestations, as Saltcedar rapidly colonizes disturbed soils.

- Avoid planting Saltcedar for erosion control or windbreaks due to its high-water consumption and invasive nature.

2. Mechanical Control

- Cutting alone is ineffective; regrowth occurs unless combined with herbicide treatment.

- Burning, drought, or flooding do not effectively kill Saltcedar.

3. Chemical Control

- Apply herbicide (e.g., triclopyr or imazapyr) directly to cut stumps to prevent regrowth.

- Foliar spraying is effective but must be done carefully to avoid non-target damage.

4. Long-Term Management

- Monitor and retreat regrowth annually, as complete eradication requires multiple treatments.

- Restore treated sites with native riparian vegetation to prevent reinfestation.

How important is open space to you?

1059 Responses

Extremely Important 68%

721

Not at all important

Slightly important 2%

6

25

59

Moderately important 6%

248

Very Important 23%

● Extremely Important ● Very Important ● Moderately important ● Slightly important ● Not at all important
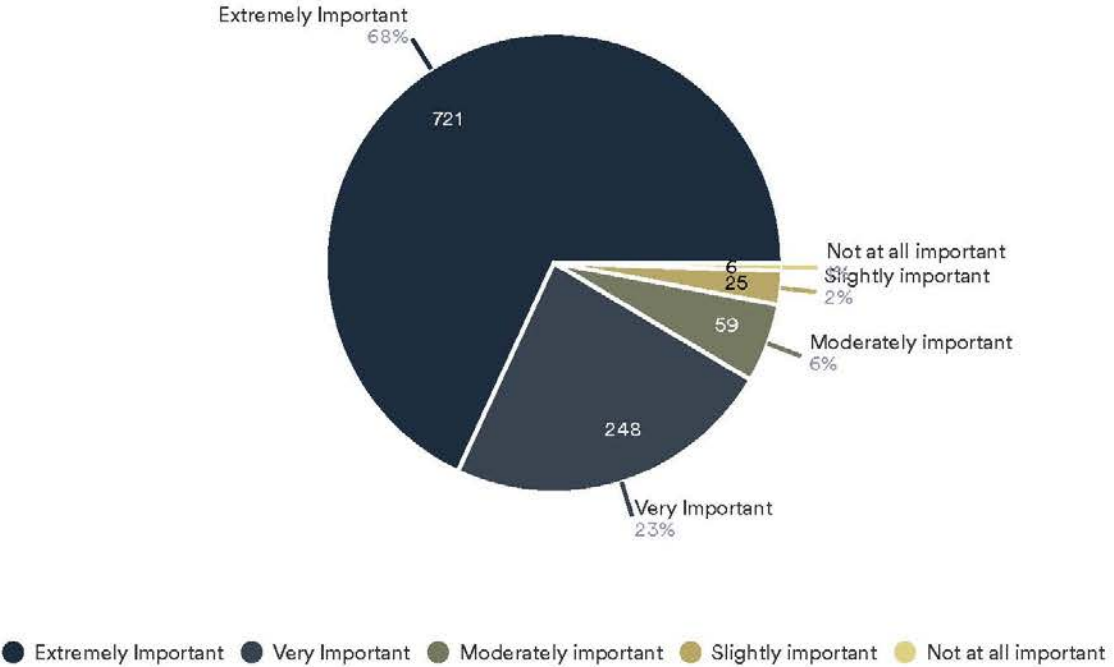
Does proximity to open space have a positive or negative impact on your household's quality of life?

1059 Responses

Extremely positive
79%
832

Extremely negative
3
I don't live near open space
8
Somewhat negative
12
1%
38
Neither positive nor negative
4%

162

Somewhat positive
15%

● Extremely positive ● Somewhat positive ● Neither positive nor negative ● Somewhat negative ● I don't live near open space ● Extremely negative
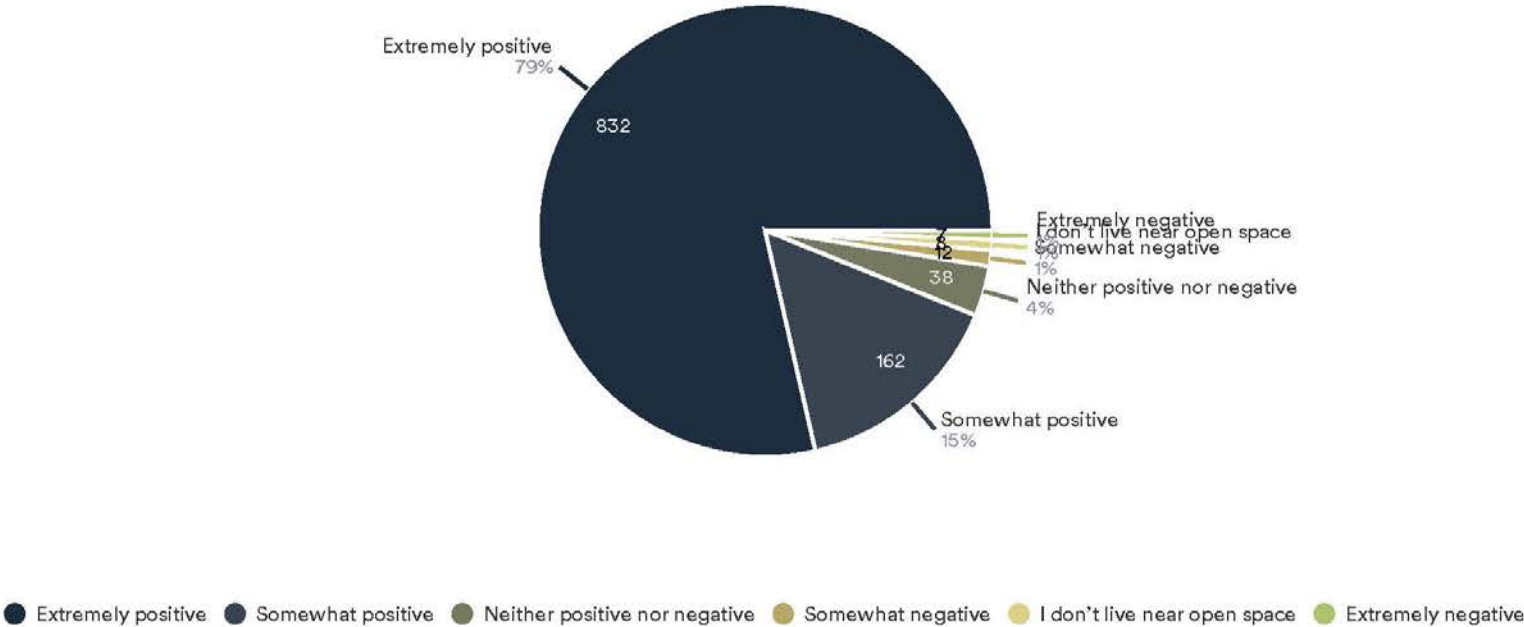
What type of transportation do you use to access open space areas?

1055 Responses

Data	Response	%
On foot	400	38%
Car	317	30%
Dirt bike / four-wheeler	145	14%
Bicycle	143	14%

How far do you have to travel to access open space areas?

1056 Responses

Bar chart showing:
- Less than 1 mile: 51%
- 1-2 miles: 28%
- 3-4 miles: 11%
- More than 5 miles: 5%
- 4-5 miles: 4%
- Other entries: 0%

Legend: Less than 1 mile, 1-2 miles, 3-4 miles, More than 5 miles, 4-5 miles, Other entries
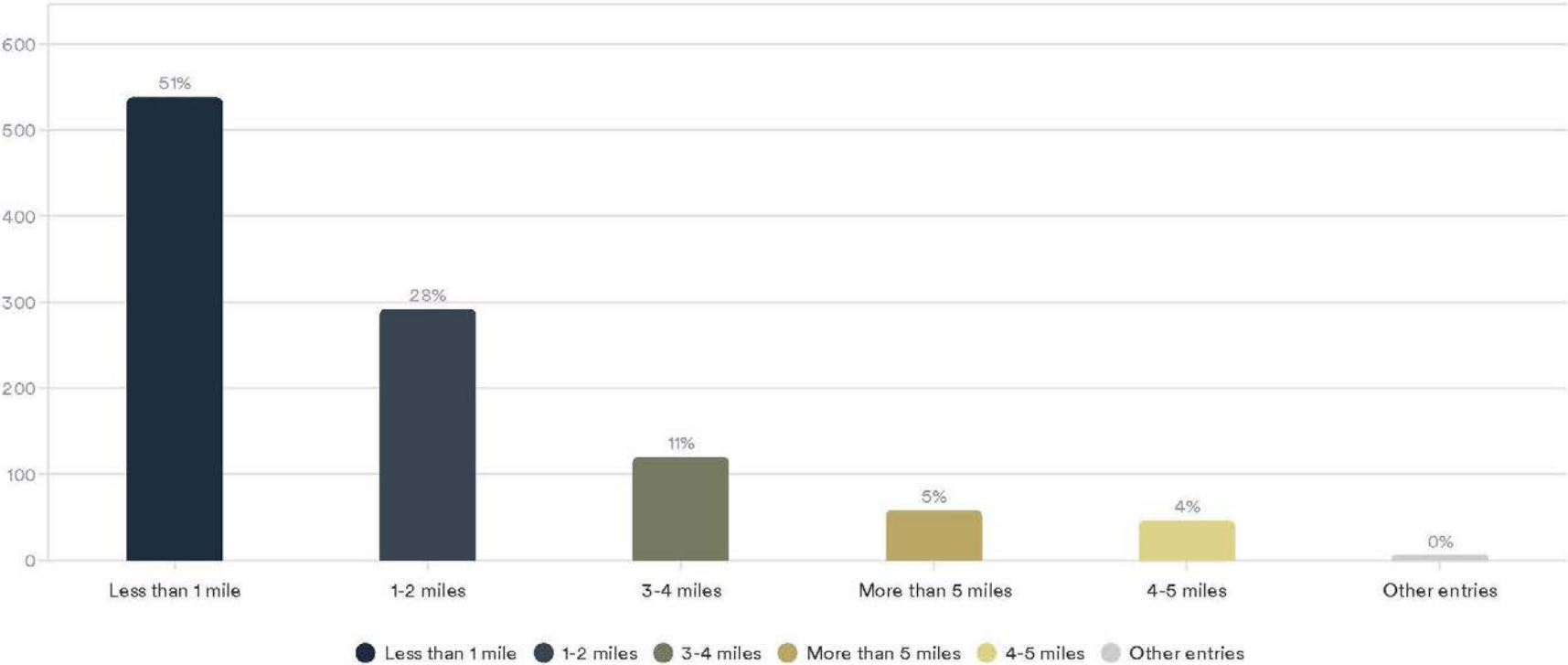
What types of open space do you visit the most? Select Two

2470 Responses- 1 Empty

Data	Response	%
Improved city parks with grass and amenities	624	25%
Natural open space areas (natural parks)	488	20%
Paved running/walking/biking trails	477	19%
Public Land (Bureau of Land Management or State Institutional Trust La...	416	17%
Unpaved running/walking/biking trails	409	17%
Golf Course	56	2%

Best Response

Improved city parks with grass and amenities

25%
Percentage

2470
Responses

How often do you visit city owned natural open space areas?

1059 Responses

	More than once a week	Once a week	Once a month	4-11 times a year	1-3 times a year	Never
%	31%	26%	17%	13%	10%	3%
Count	325	271	183	138	111	31

Legend: ● More than once a week ● Once a week ● Once a month ● 4-11 times a year ● 1-3 times a year ● Never

Eagle Mountain 2024 Open Space Survey
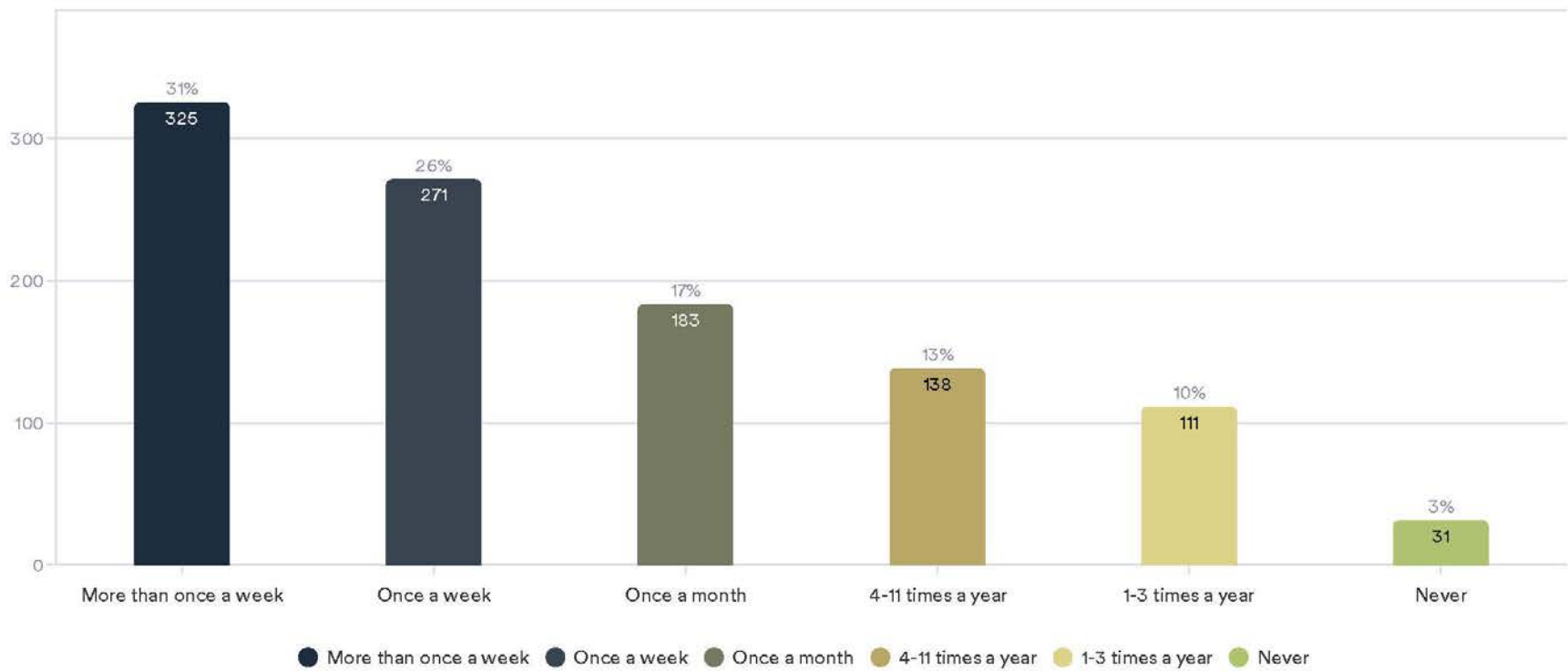
What natural open spaces do you visit? Select up to Three

2392 Responses- 1 Empty

Best Response

Lake Mountain

27%
Percentage

2392
Responses

Data	Response	%
Lake Mountain	648	27%
BLM land within city limits	561	23%
Eagle Mountain Bike Park	394	16%
Turtle Peak	303	13%
Tickville Gulch	210	9%
Three Warriors Petroglyph	125	5%
None	13	1%
Other entries	139	6%

How often do you visit nearby Public Lands (Bureau of Land Management / State Institutional Trust Lands) - See Image Below

1059 Responses

Bar chart data:

Category	Percentage	Count
1-3 times a year	23%	246
4-11 times a year	20%	209
Once a month	20%	208
Once a week	14%	152
More than once a week	14%	150
Never	9%	94

Legend: ● 1-3 times a year ● 4-11 times a year ● Once a month ● Once a week ● More than once a week ● Never
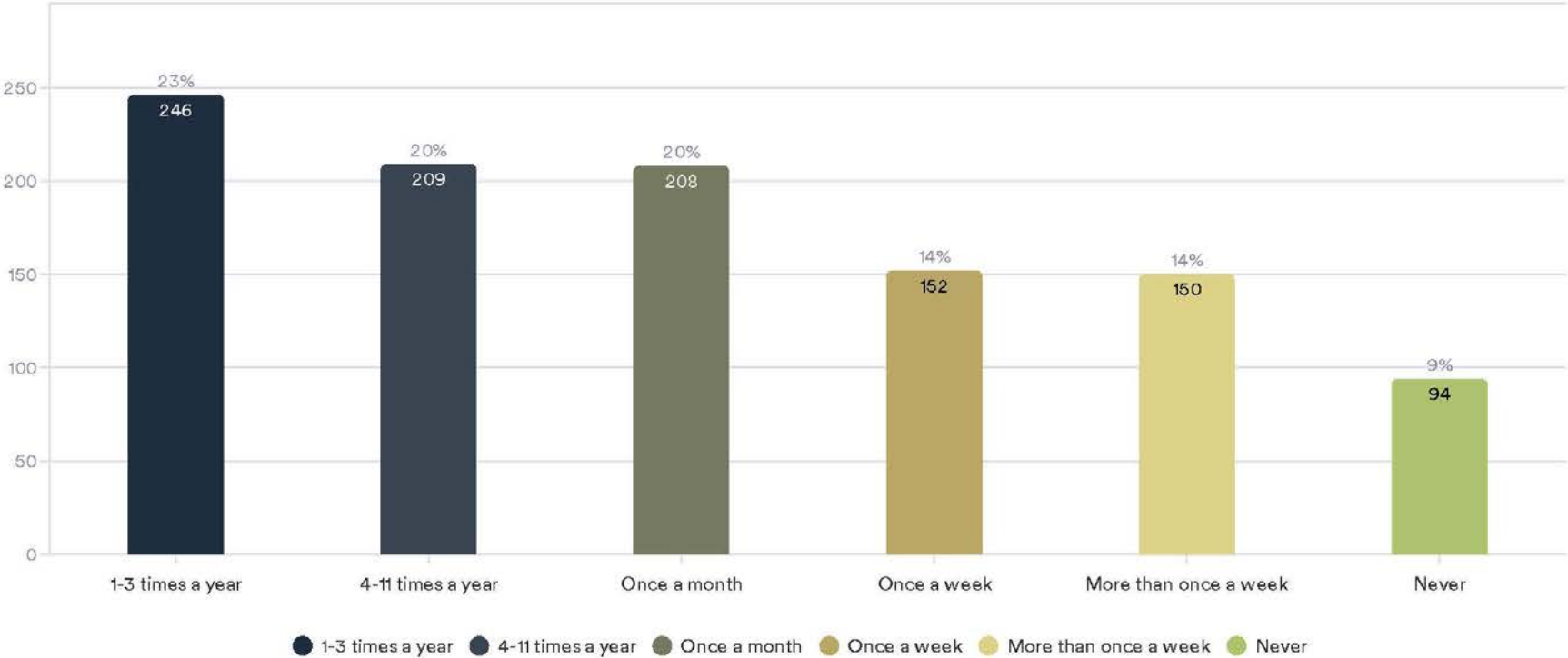
How often do you use paved running / biking trails?

1059 Responses

● More than once a week	● Once a week	● Once a month	● 4-11 times a year	● 1-3 times a year	● Never

Bar chart values:
- More than once a week: 36% / 384
- Once a week: 21% / 223
- Once a month: 15% / 157
- 4-11 times a year: 12% / 127
- 1-3 times a year: 9% / 99
- Never: 7% / 69
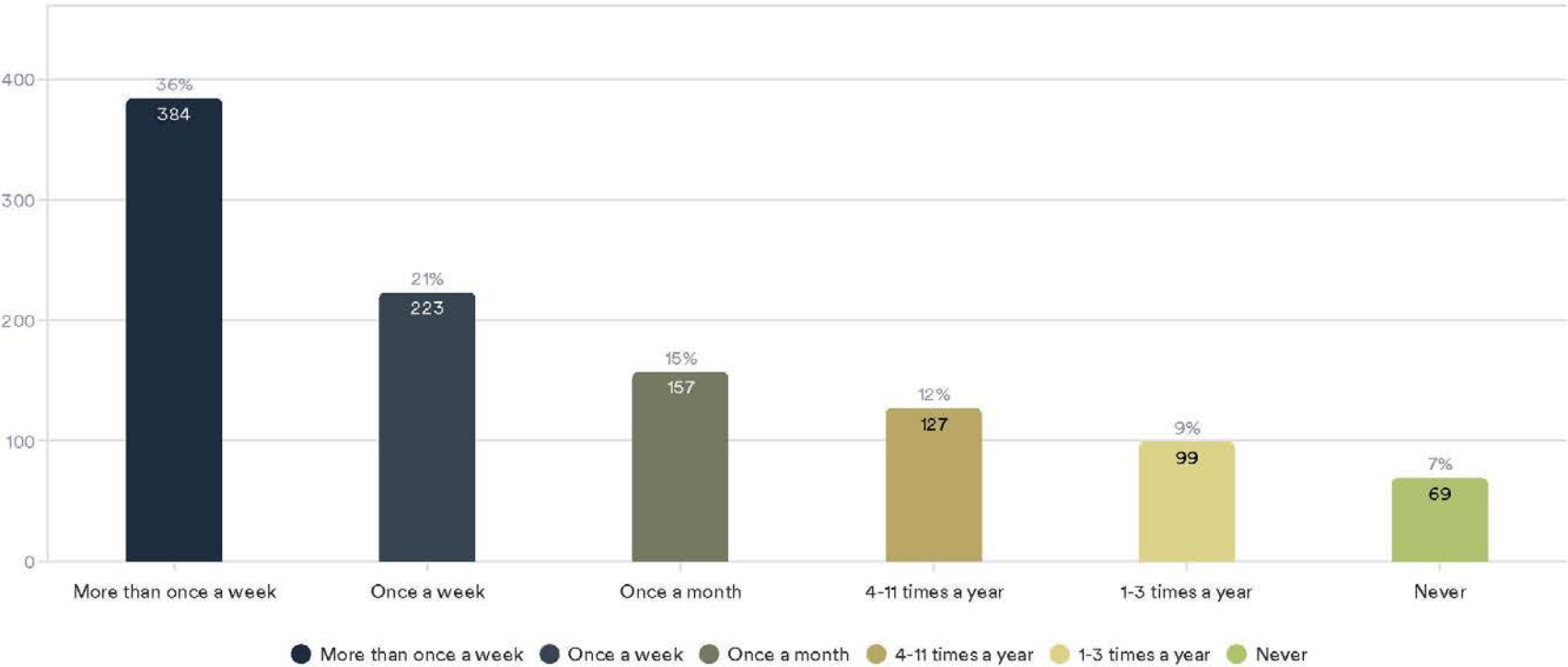
How often do you use unpaved running / biking trails?

1059 Responses

Category	Percent	Count
More than once a week	22%	228
Once a week	18%	193
Once a month	17%	177
1-3 times a year	16%	174
4-11 times a year	15%	161
Never	12%	126

Legend: ● More than once a week ● Once a week ● Once a month ● 1-3 times a year ● 4-11 times a year ● Never
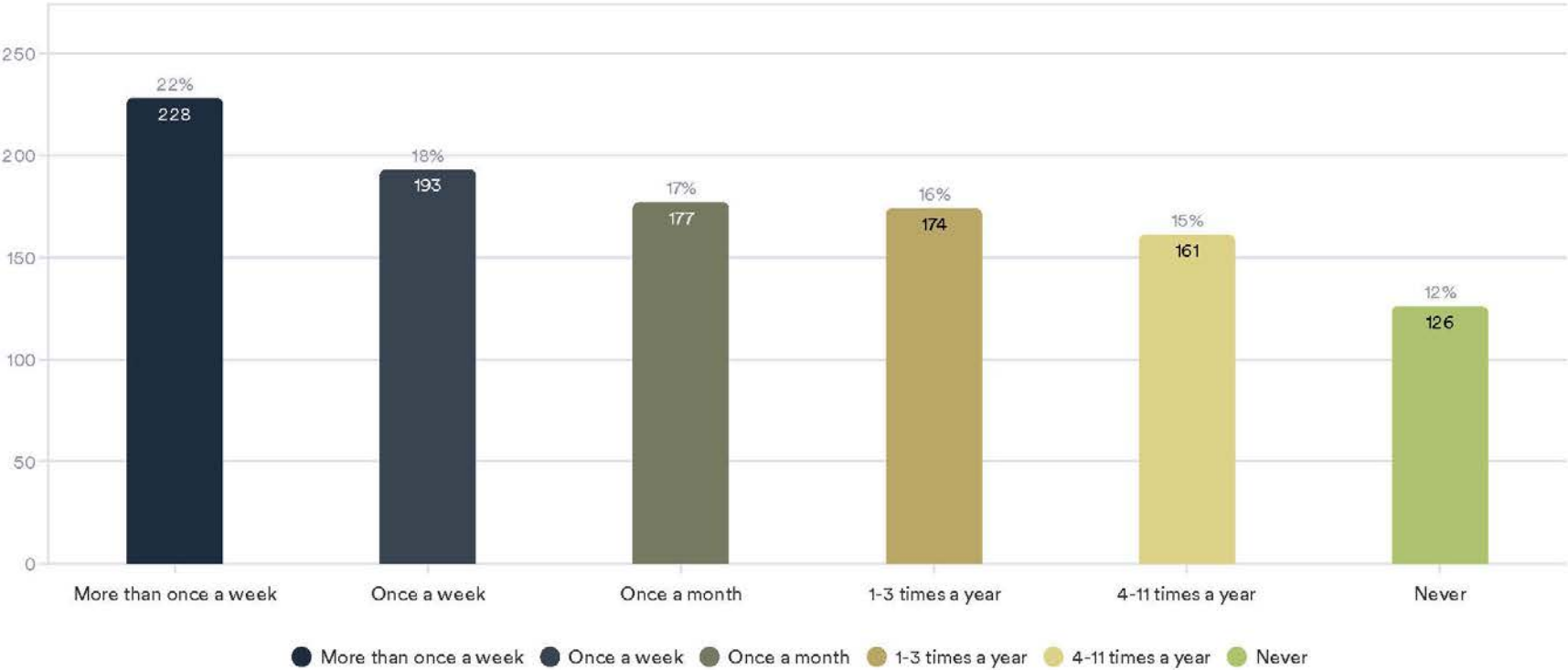
Do you visit open space for any of the following reasons? Select your top 3

3174 Responses

Best Response

To enjoy nature

30%
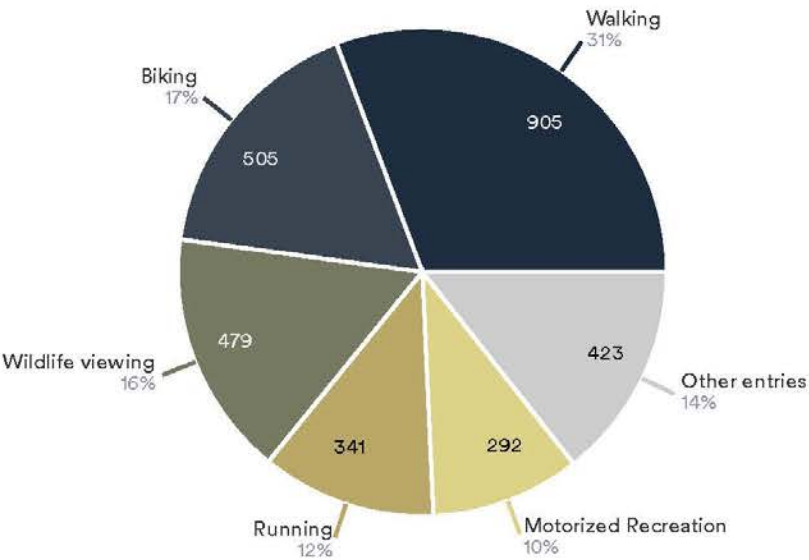Percentage

3174
Responses

Data	Response	%
To enjoy nature	967	30%
For recreation	901	28%
To get exercise	866	27%
To enjoy the company of others	271	9%
For education / to learn about nature	87	3%
For spiritual / religious reasons	61	2%
Other entries	21	1%

Do you visit open space for any of the following activities? Select your top 3

2945 Responses

- Walking 31% — 905
- Biking 17% — 505
- Wildlife viewing 16% — 479
- Running 12% — 341
- Motorized Recreation 10% — 292
- Other entries 14% — 423

Which general area in Eagle Mountain City do you live? See Map Below

1059 Responses

Area	Count	Percent
2	215	20%
5	198	19%
4	179	17%
8	170	16%
1	133	13%
Other entries	164	15%

What is your gender?

1059 Responses

Female
59%

624

Other
0%
Prefer not to answer
3%

4
30

Male
38%

401

● Female ● Male ● Prefer not to answer ● Other
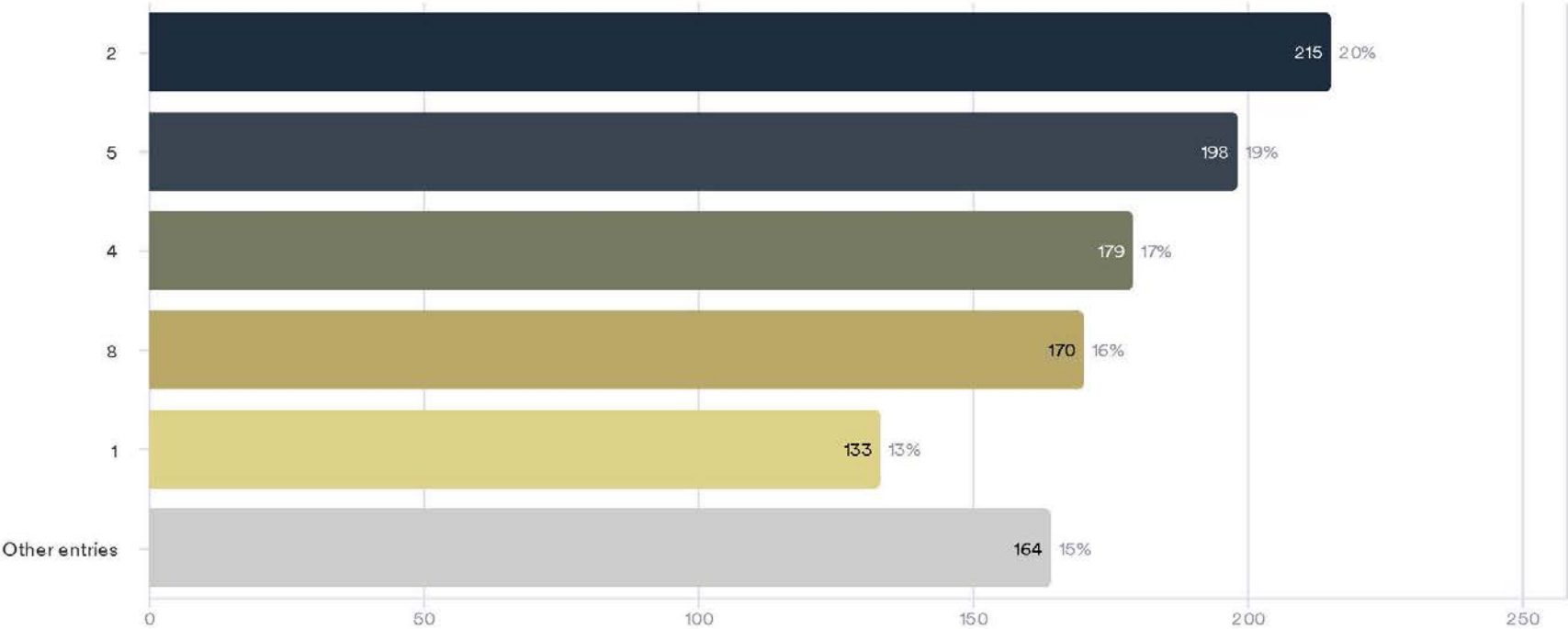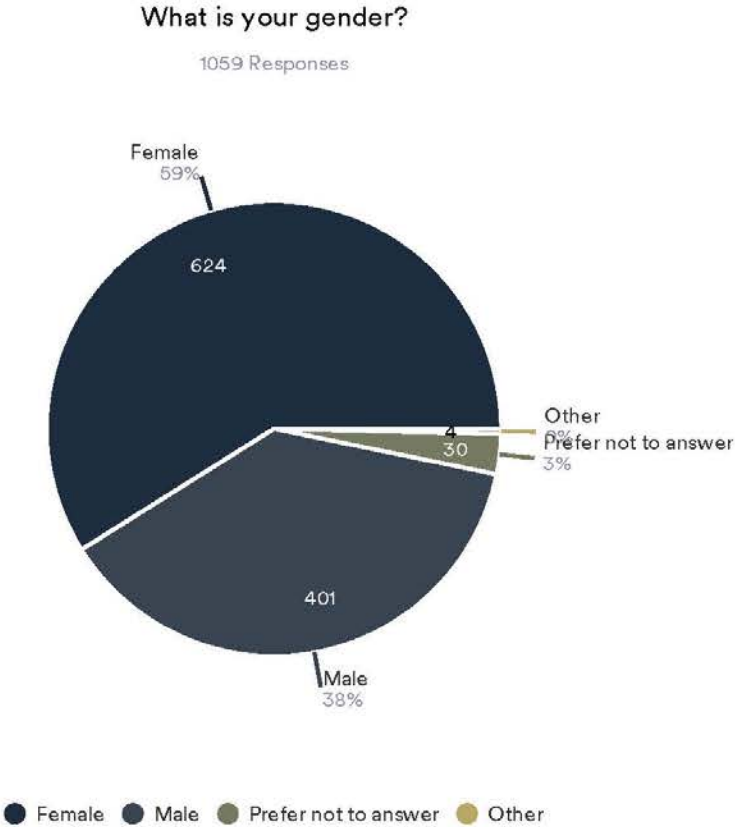
What age group do you belong to?

1059 Responses

- 34-45 years old — 43% — 452
- 25-34 years old — 25% — 265
- 45-64 years old — 23% — 243
- Other entries — 4% — 43
- Over 64 years old — 3% — 28
- 18-25 years old — 3% — 28
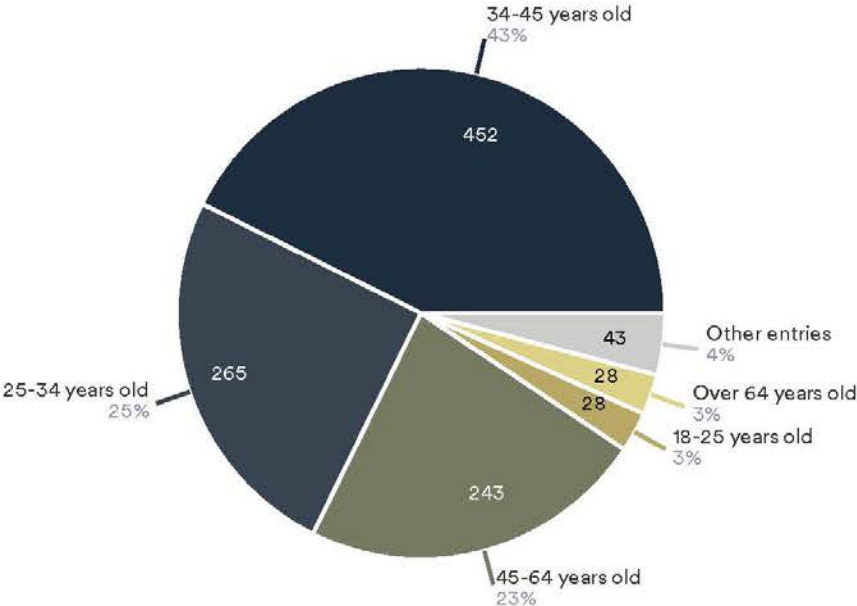
What category best describes your race or ethnicity?

1059 Responses

White/Caucasian
86%
906

Other entries
0%
10

Other
1%
15

Asian
1%

Hispanic or Latino/Latina
5%
50

Prefer not to answer
7%
71
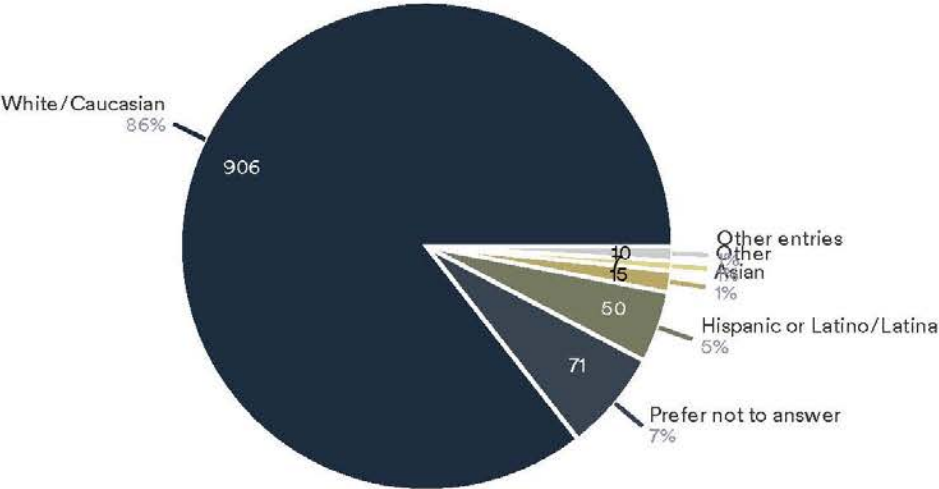
What is the highest level of education you have received?

1059 Responses

- 4-year degree — 37% — 389
- High school or GED — 20% — 208
- 2-year degree — 19% — 206
- Post 4-year degree — 17% — 183
- Prefer not to answer — 5% — 58
- Less than high school — 1% — 15

Legend: 4-year degree · High school or GED · 2-year degree · Post 4-year degree · Prefer not to answer · Less than high school
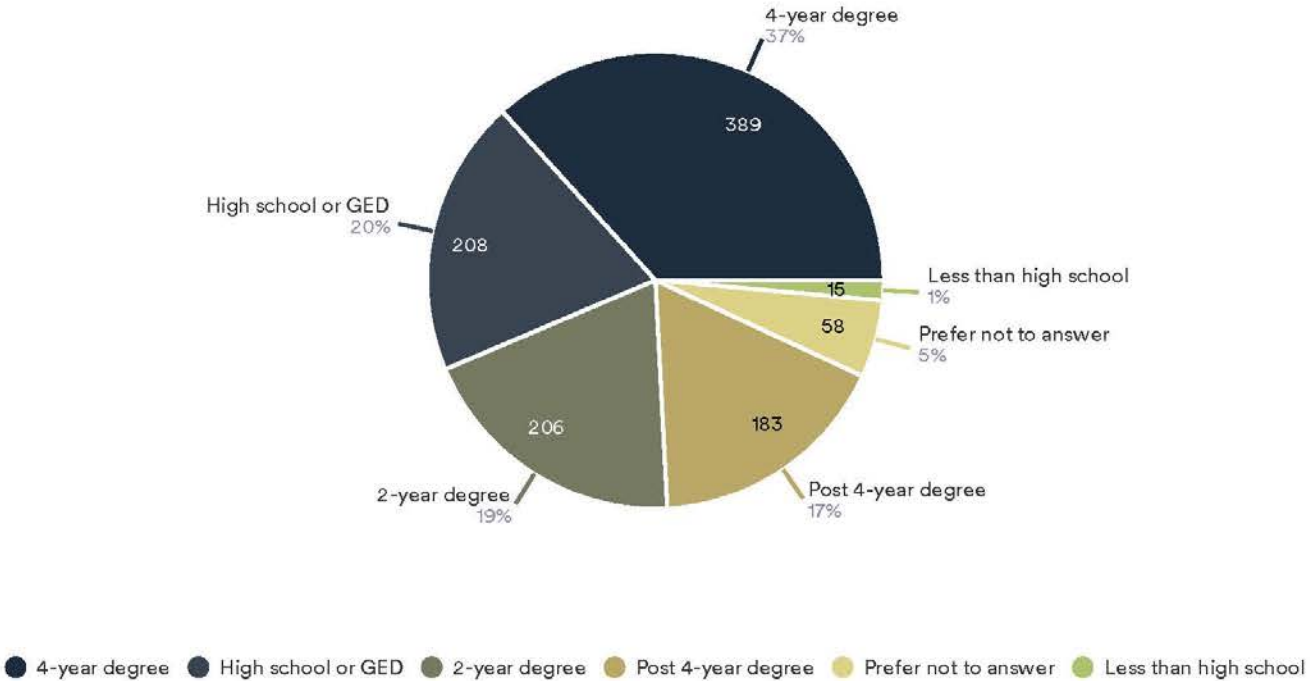
Which of the following best describes your employment status?

1059 Responses

- Employed 64% — 678
- Homemaker 17% — 177
- Self-Employed 10% — 101
- Retired 4% — 38
- Prefer not to answer 3% — 32
- Other entries 3% — 33
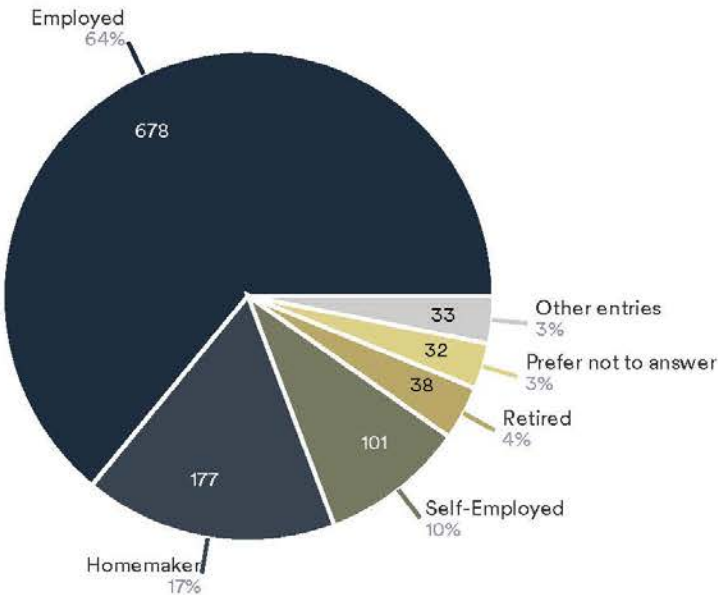
Which category best represents your household's annual gross income?

1059 Responses

$100,000 - $199,00
50%
534

Less than $25,000
1%
10

$25,000 - $50,000
4%
45

$200,000 or more
11%
115

$50,000 - $99,000
22%
232

123

Prefer not to answer
12%

Legend:
- $100,000 - $199,00
- $50,000 - $99,000
- Prefer not to answer
- $200,000 or more
- $25,000 - $50,000
- Less than $25,000
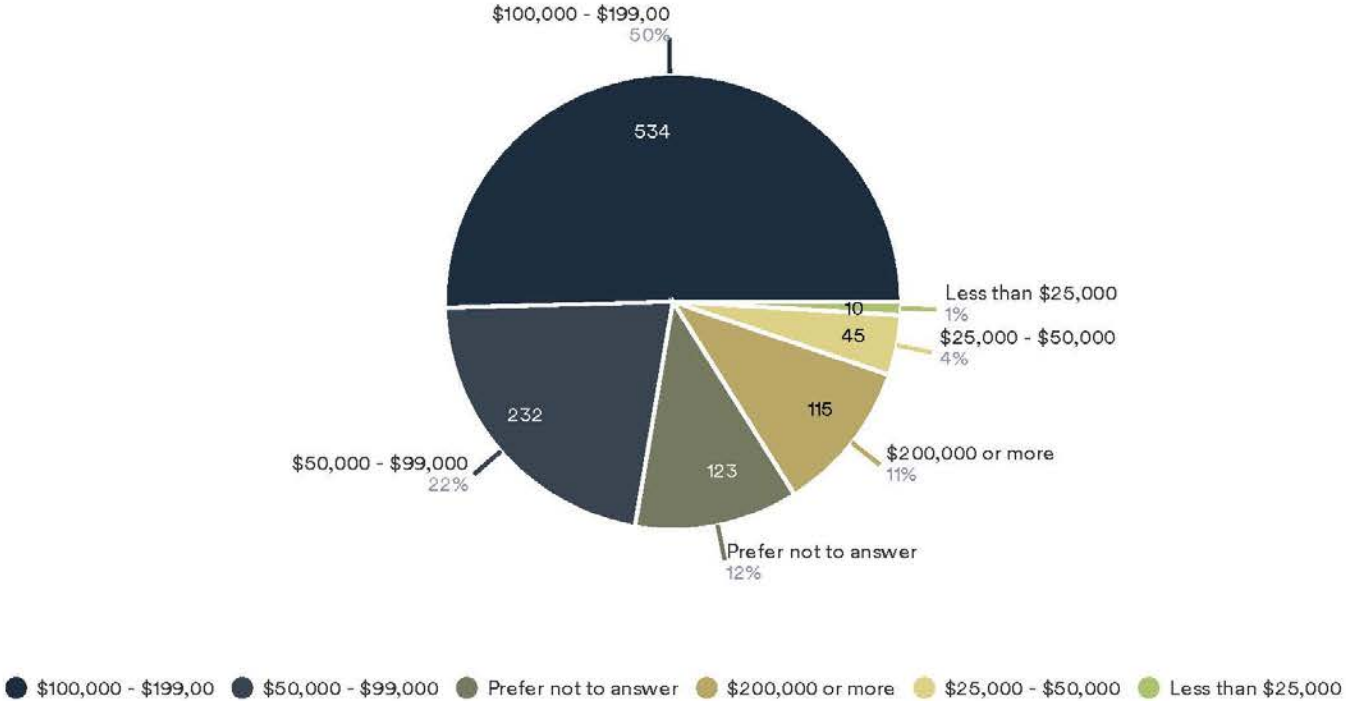
How many children, if any, live in your household?

1059 Responses

- 1-2 — 36% — 385
- 3-4 — 36% — 381
- No children — 16% — 168
- 5-6 — 6% — 65
- Prefer not to answer — 4% — 44
- 6+ — 2% — 16

Legend: 1-2 · 3-4 · No children · 5-6 · Prefer not to answer · 6+
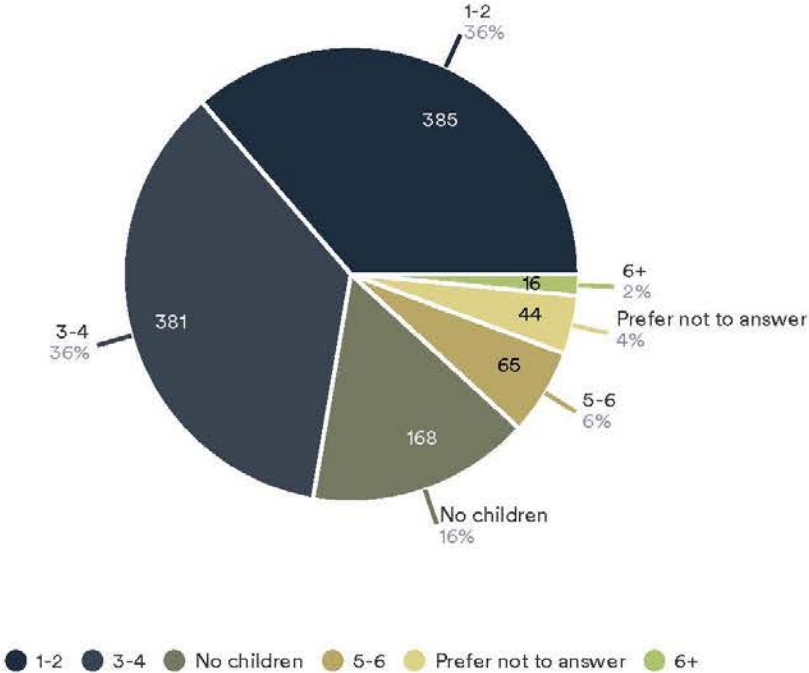
Report End

Eagle Mountain 2024 Open Space Survey