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The Ranch Wrangler

June 19, 2009

Everyday we anticipate summer's arrival but it has been slow getting here; with its delay we have enjoyed an extended spring. Several inches of rainfall have boosted the water levels in our state reservoirs and the cooler temperatures have left fresh snow atop Mt. Sopris, but we had only minimal high water along the Roaring Fork River. We have an abundance of wild flowers, two juvenile bald eagles and the usual geese, ducks and birds. Three trumpeter swans have been there this spring and they are quite a sight.

Have I made you want to come and see for yourself?

2009 Annual Homeowners Meeting

This is an unofficial notice of the 2009 Annual Homeowner's Meeting to be held on Saturday, August 1st. We have already received a few RSVPs. Please let us know if you plan to attend the meeting and barbeque, as we must guarantee the number of lunches for the caterer. Speaking of the food, Big Mama's will be providing barbequed pork and chicken, fresh corn on the cob, coleslaw, iced tea and lemonade.

Again we would ask that if you wish to bring something, an appetizer or desert would be wonderful. It has been reported that several past board members really like deviled eggs.

This year, the Board of Directors election is to fill two positions for a three year term. Currently 2 homeowners have indicated their candidacy to the Nominating Committee. If you still wish to run for the Board, Please contact the Nominating Committee soon in order to be placed on the ballot.

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We will be sending out the meeting agenda, candidates' election information, and the ballot and proxy statement in the next few weeks.

Fishing Advisory Committee

At the last public meeting of the Fishing Advisory Committee (FAC) there was significant discussion regarding the amount of stream bank maintenance being done. Some felt that too much mowing and brush trimming was being done, to the detriment of bug life and fish cover. Others felt that recent work being done by Ranch staff was excellent in providing easy fishing access. As a result of this discussion, the FAC walked the streams with our stream consultant to get his recommendations. Clearly, there is a middle ground between a completely wild setting resulting from almost no bank mowing and trimming, and a "park" setting with banks mowed to a golf course condition. The Board has now designated the FAC to advise Ranch staff on stream bank maintenance. It is not possible to define a "recipe" for maintenance everywhere on the ranch, because the local conditions vary too much. Nevertheless, the goals will be to maintain the south-side vegetation wherever possible to provide shade and canopy, to separate the walking paths, which are predominately on the north-side, from the water edge by a narrow buffer of grass, to cut windows in this buffer at appropriate points for fishing access from the bank, and to keep the height of the buffer to 3 to 4 feet so that it can be fished over easily, it will provide line of sight relief so as to better stalk fish and it will minimize the impact on fishing by those passers-by on foot, bike or horse.

In the last two weeks, Rick and Gustavo have cut almost all streamside paths. Trimming of the water edge grass buffers began on Sopris at the Bailey Bridge going east to Twin Bridges and will continue over the next couple of weeks to completion of all remaining stream banks. Please take the time to observe this first trimming and offer comments and suggestions to the FAC, as very shortly, the banks will need trimming again! Community feedback is key to the success of this maintenance project!

Residents who have comments or suggestions about stream bank maintenance should contact any of the members of the FAC that will take the input under advisement and follow up as appropriate. In this way, the Ranch staff will have a single source of direction on this matter.

Golf Course News

The much needed bunker renovation project is nearing completion, so aim your shots for the bunkers and experience the fun afforded by improved sand conditions! They are great! You will notice no rakes in the bunkers. Past experience shows very few players 'rake out' after themselves and rakes often find themselves damaged, displaced or in a pond! The bunkers will

be mechanically raked twice a week. Local rule suggestion: if you find your ball in a previously used bunker area', simply lift, smooth and place your ball...no penalty.

In the coming weeks, you will experience minor course disruptions as Tom begins the task of rewiring ailing sections of the irrigation system. Conditions have deteriorated to the point that even Tom's magical healing hands can no longer keep the electrical bandaids working. This new electrical system will be an integral part of the larger project of replacing the entire irrigation system and *may* even delay that eventuality by some number of years.

Golf clinics are now in session Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6PM. Tuesday sessions will concentrate on first time participants, while Thursday sessions will be reserved primarily for those players who have previous clinic experience. Drop by the golf shop, or call Nancy to make your reservations. Limit 6 per session. (963-4410)

In the meantime, as the weather stabilizes, get out and enjoy the fruits of the labor by Tom & crew! The course is in wonderful shape!

Common Recreational Area

As the Ranch at Roaring Fork is developing master plans and capital expenditure schedules, the Board of Directors is interested in completing a Management and Reforestation Plan for the 360 acres of open space between State Highway 82 and the Roaring Fork River. The Ranch property suffered a devastating wildfire one year ago and it desires to develop a plan to renew the open space with native vegetation and/or enhance natural processes. Because of the diverse pressures being felt on the open space, the Ranch also desires to complete a guiding document for future management and maintenance decisions being made on the open space area. The open space serves many functions from a wildlife sanctuary to passive and active recreation. There are wooded areas, open pastures, river and stream frontage, wetland and riparian areas.

Historically, management and maintenance decisions have been made on an ad-hoc basis. The recent development of new fishing habitat has placed people more routinely in areas they had not historically been. Additionally, a substantial amount of mature vegetation was killed by the wildfire.

The RRF will be seeking a consultant to develop a process that would involve residents and determine future management and maintenance practices, as well as, set acceptable levels of human disturbance. This Plan should include goals for each functional area including, but not limited to, facilitate maintenance goals, biological management goals, reforestation and revegetation goals and recreational use goals. Management/maintenance objectives and activities would need to be developed to support these goals using input provided by residents and by the acting Board of Directors.

Recycling Update

Waste Solutions, our trash and recycling provider has informed us that we can co-mingle the following items:

Plastic: Bottles & containers (#1 - #7)
Glass: Bottles & Jars (please discard all tops and lids)
Aluminum: Foil & Cans
Metal Cans
Newspaper and Magazines

Remember that the Ranch at Roaring Fork receives trash service every Monday except if Christmas falls on a Monday, then we would have service the following day. You can call them directly to arrange for any special pickup needs (970) 963-1842.

July Board of Directors Meeting

Please note that the July regular Board meeting is rescheduled for 4pm, Monday, July 6th. We must always mention that you can see the past meeting minutes, financials as well as Wranglers, want ads and much more historical Ranch information.

Well now, be talkin' to ya soon,