



# Cloud City Wheelers 2022 IMPACT REPORT



## **The Cloud City Wheelers**

**Mission: To Create, Enhance, Preserve, and Promote trail opportunities in Leadville and Lake County, Colorado.**

Since 2007 The Cloud City Wheelers have been building and maintaining trails in the central mountains of Colorado. Not just for cyclists, these trails provide locals and visitors to Leadville/Lake County with unique outdoor recreation opportunities adding to the quality of life and to the economic vitality of the Upper Arkansas River Basin.

## Some words from our Executive Director...



It gives me great pleasure to see the amount of work we've been able to accomplish since that first meeting in a living room on 5th Street in 2007. Since then we have grown the Leadville Winter Mountain Bike Series into the premier fat bike series in the state and added year round trail opportunities to our region with the addition of groomed singletrack in the winter. We've built over 25 miles of trail mostly within 3 miles of downtown Leadville with 14 miles of trail built since taking the Executive Director role in 2018.

2022 brought our community one of our most productive years ever, as we welcomed back some of our amazing trail builders Scott Giffin and Michael Wilks along with some great new hands and a new excavator (Thanks Trail 100 Legacy Foundation) that helped build 3.5 miles of new directional trails on private property (3 years of planning and negotiations) let's not forget the start of our new and very much improved Huck Finn Park. Because of our AMAZING members, supporters, partners, and donators (YOU) we were able to build the new pumptrack after 3 years (2020 doesn't count) of local fundraising and grant writing efforts. We did this while we maintained our existing trails and worked with our land management agencies to decrease the maintenance backlog on our local system trails.

One more thing we did this year was tweak our mission to better reflect what we do. We changed our mission from providing cycling opportunities to TRAIL opportunities as we see our efforts benefitting a wide range of trail users; we build trail so all types of users can get outside and have fun. Our Leadville/Lake County community relies on groups like ours to step up where others can't, to build and maintain community assets and infrastructure that help increase our important quality of life and to add to the economic vitality of our rural mountain county. We are able to do all this because of YOU: our members, our donors, our local businesses, our volunteers, our racers, our community.

Thank YOU for making this happen and for supporting the Cloud City Wheelers!

See you on the trails,

Sterling Mudge CCW // Executive Director

# TRAIL MAINTENANCE

In 2022 The Cloud City Wheelers worked all over Lake County on trails located on Lake County Land, Colorado Mountain College Land, United States Forest Service Land, Private Land, and State Land. This maintenance is vital to the longevity of our trails as we see use increase throughout our area.



## TRAILS MAINTAINED

- BOULDERS
  - SWOOP
  - PERMA GRIN
  - GIDDY UP
  - AND AGAIN
  - WHERE THE HECK AM I?
  - SLIP N SLIDE
  - WEDGIE
  - WHEELERS WAY
  - GOLDDIGGER
  - COLD FEET
  - ELK RUN
  - UPPER DECK
  - OLD CHUB
  - COLORADO TRAIL
  - TURQUOISE LAKE TRAIL
  - TERMINAL
  - KETTLE
  - RIFT
  - BODFISH
  - FALLEN TREE
  - NATURE TRAIL
  - LATERAL
  - MOACHE
  - INTERLAKEN TR.
  - CONTINENTAL DIVIDE TRAIL
- BACK 9
- CANDYLAND
- YAKETY YAK
- SWAMP ANGEL
- ← TURQUOISE LAKE TR. →



## WINTER FUN!

**Unlike a lot of surrounding areas where the trails rest for the winter and inside work takes over, our work ramps up. We hosted over 500 racers in the 2022 Leadville Winter Mountain Bike Series and groomed over 300 miles of the Timberline Trail System providing Leadville with the best winter singletrack system in the state. In addition to that we added an additional 1.75 miles of winter only trail to an already awesome system!**

# NEW TRAILS!



**After 3 years of negotiations regarding easements and land use we broke ground on our first trails located on property otherwise closed to the public. These new trails are the closest singletrack to town as they leave from the Landfill Rd. and travel up to the Swamp Angel tailings pile overlooking the Yak Treatment Plant and Leadville. The new trails aptly named Yakety Yak and Swamp Angel are directional trails helping to eliminate any user conflict caused by speed and two way traffic. The trails were made possible through funding from Climax Molybdenum, The Leadville Trail 100 Legacy Foundation, and The Life Time Foundation.**

**The Wheelers built all these trails (3.5 mi.) for under \$40,000. The average construction cost of trail in Colorado is \$30,000 /per MILE!**



# NEW TRAIL COUNTERS

Year	Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	ADT†	ADT†x365	Days with data
2022	Boulders @ MB					0*	0	0*		2,384*	1,157	382	520*	18.651	6,808	146
	Leadville Junction							0*	1,252*	1,265	1,453*			41.506	15,150	77
	Perma Grin					1,860*	1,393	2,232	3,214	2,901	1,022	488	668*	59.614	21,759	197
	Yakety Yak											97*	83*	3.105	1,133	38

**In May we invested in new trail counters and installed them on a range of trails to get a better sense of how many people use our trails. This data will help us plan better for future trails and guide us for better management of our existing trails.**



# NEW PUMPTRACK!

After 4 years of grant writing and \$100,000 of local fundraising we started work on the new and improved Huck Finn Park this summer. Working with many community partners we were able to build the highest pumptrack in the world. Work will continue summer 2023 to complete the park with the addition of dirt jumps, technical features, a shade structure and many more exciting features.

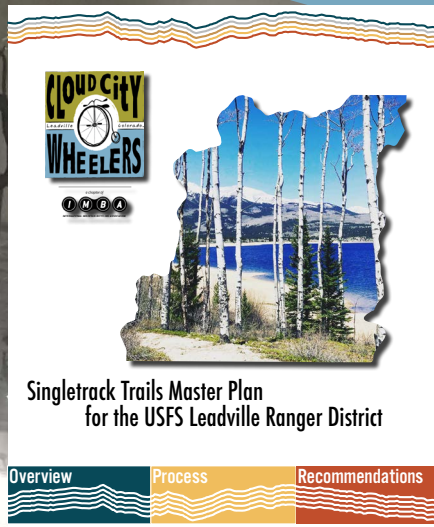


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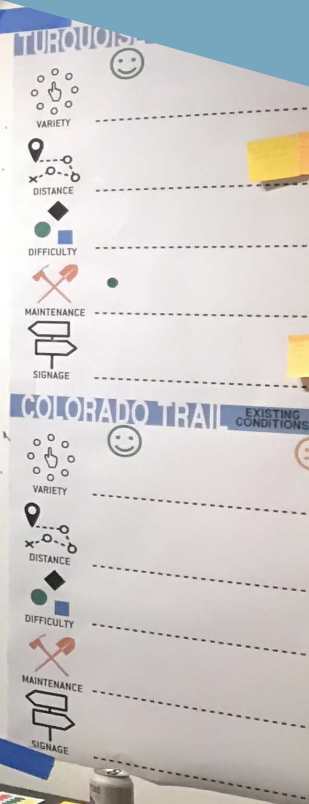
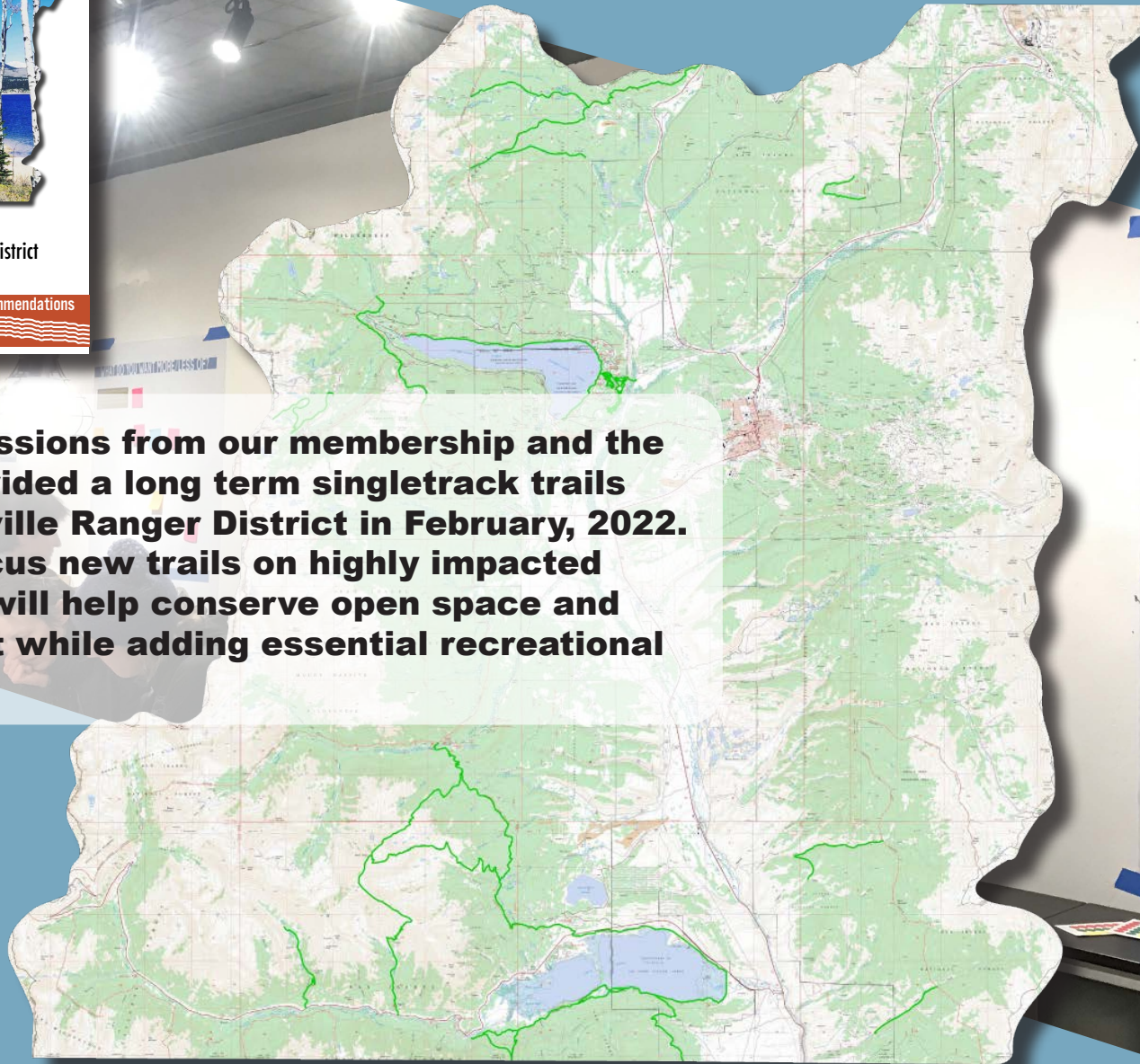




# LONG RANGE PLANNING



**After multiple input sessions from our membership and the general public we provided a long term singletrack trails plan to our local Leadville Ranger District in February, 2022. This plan strives to focus new trails on highly impacted recreation areas that will help conserve open space and protect wildlife habitat while adding essential recreational trail opportunities.**



# EVENTS

2022 Saw the return of our flagship events the Leadville Winter Mountain Bike Series and Pedal for the Park and also the addition of a new favorite: The Wheelie Cool Art Gala! These events serve as important fundraisers but more importantly help us get our amazing community together for fun times!



2022 LEADVILLE WINTER MOUNTAIN BIKE SERIES

PRESENTED BY KARTA AND FCL

supported by

- COLORADO CUP JAN. 22
- TENNESSEE PASS NIGHT JAM FEB. 5TH
- MINERAL BELT MAYHEM MAR. 5TH
- FATTY PATTY 50K MAR. 19TH
- EAST SIDE EPIC APRIL 9TH

CLLOUDCITYWHEELERS.COM/RACE

BIKE-A-THON

PEDAL FOR THE PARK

BENEFITS HUCK FINN BIKE PARK

WHEELIE COOL ART GALA

APRIL 16TH

FREIGHT 7-10PM

# MEMBERS

The heart and soul of any community based trails group are it's volunteers and supporters. Our membership has grown from 75 in 2018 to 300 in 2022.

We can't do it without our members!

**MONDAY FUNDAY  
RIDE**



**LADIES  
RIDE**



**TUESDAY  
RIDE**



# PARTNERSHIPS

We're fortunate to have such strong partnerships with local and national groups and organizations. **BIG THANKS** to all our great partners!



COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE



LIFE TIME FOUNDATION



FREEMOUNT-McMORAN FOUNDATION



# WHO WE ARE



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Heather Lindh- Chair**  
**Justin Ernst- Vice Chair**  
**Bryan Dallmann-Treasurer**  
**Craig Gooch- Secretary**  
**Brian Feddema**  
**Doug Yeakel**  
**Jim Newell**

## STAFF

**Sterling Mudge- Executive Director**

## 2022 TRAIL CREW

**Scott Giffin- Crew Lead**  
**Michael Wilks**  
**Josiah Horning**  
**Jesse Yelverton**  
**Jamie Seiffer**  
**Duncan Kerr**

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**EIN # 45-4248458 THE CLOUD CITY WHEELERS ARE A NON PROFIT AND A COLORADO ENTERPRISE CONTRIBUTION PROJECT**  
**ANY CONTRIBUTION OVER \$200 MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A 25% STATE TAX CREDIT**