



September 2, 2020

Dear Friend,

Thank you so much for your interest and enthusiasm in our 26th National Public Lands Day (NPLD) event in Grand County, to be held on **September 26, 2020**. As you might have noticed, this year is a bit different. But different doesn't mean gone – NPLD 2020 in Grand County will just be a bit smaller and quieter than usual.

This packet includes information about this year's event, including descriptions on the projects we're going to be working on, and an introduction to a special event in the evening.

The Overview:

The biggest change this year is that there will be no centralized event. While these have always been a wonderful start and end to the day, these gatherings aren't possible this year. We hope to be able to return to a similar structure next year. The inability to gather means that we will not be providing breakfast or dinner this year. We strongly encourage that all volunteers eat a good breakfast and bring a lunch to the project site.

For 26 years, residents and visitors to Grand County have loved and cared for our local public lands, and everyone appreciates all the great, hard work you have done. We thank each and every person who volunteers through NPLD. We hope you join us again next year to make our public lands more accessible and enjoyable by all.

Event questions? Please contact:

- Sean Burke, Field Program Manger at Headwaters Trails Alliance
(970) 726-1013 or sean@headwaterstrails.org
- Jeremy Krones, Executive Director at Colorado Headwaters Land Trust
(970) 887-1177 or jeremy@coloradoheadwaterslandtrust.org

If you are unable to attend this year's event but would still like to contribute, donations can be sent to:

Headwaters Trails Alliance
PO Box 946
Granby, CO 80446-0946
<https://headwaterstrails.org/>

Projects

Grand County has the distinction of being NEEF's largest, longest, continuously running event. Our success is because of you and others like you who have contributed tremendous support in donating time, money, materials, labor and food every year. We have accomplished so much in 25 years with your assistance. All of us here in Grand County extend our appreciation for your continued support and hope to see you again on September 26th for our 26th NPLD event.

One of the reasons our site is so popular is because we provide a variety of work sites to accommodate everyone's passion. This year we have four (4) project work sites. A brief description of projects is listed below.

Please indicate your preference in the registration form: <http://bit.ly/npldgc2020>

❖ **Rendezvous Trail System [HTA]:** Work will include minor tread work & trail widening, corridor clearing, brush/slash removal and possible planking of bridges. Skill rating: EASY TO DIFFICULT

❖ **Sherman Creek Trail [USFS]:** Project will be performing finishing work and fully commissioning a new motorized trail in the Stillwater Pass Area. Work may consist of hammering, shoveling, brushing, lopping, clearing, Skill Rating: EASY TO MODERATE

❖ **Strawberry/Phases [BLM/HTA]:** Project will involve the construction of a bridge over a drainage on a new trail built for hikers and mountain bikers. Additional work to be done includes trail brushing, outsloping/insloping drainage, lopping, and clearing. Skill Rating: EASY TO DIFFICULT

❖ **Upper Colorado River Cleanup [BLM]:** Join the BLM in the 11th Annual River Cleanup, clearing trash and debris along a 19 mile stretch of the Colorado River in three sections, beginning at Pumphouse Recreation Area to Two Rivers. All work is accessed by floating the river. Space is available for approximately 50 volunteers who do not have their own boats with pre-registration highly recommended. If you are providing your own boat, then pre-registration is not necessary. Volunteers can meet at Pumphouse Recreation Area. This is a family-friendly work site. Participants are encouraged to bring their own boats, PFDs, and/or paddles. For more information or to pre-register, contact John Monkouski at (970) 724-3040. Skill rating: EASY TO MODERATE

As you know, this year's event is going to be a bit different than usual. While we will still have our four projects, we must cap each project at 12 participants. That means that we will let everyone know well in advance if they will be able to participate in NPLD this year. We know this is disappointing, but we hope to return next year with full force!

You may also find general event information by visiting the national website at: www.publiclandsday.org or the USDA Forest Service website at: www.fs.usda.gov/arp.

The Day of the Event Schedule (Saturday, September 26th)

Please be at your site location by **9:00am**. Projects will run most of the day; you will be put in touch with a project coordinator in advance of NPLD.

At 6:30pm there will be a special public lands discussion on Zoom. Details will be announced.

We are taking safety seriously. That is why only those who pre-registered will be allowed to participate in the projects, and only 12 volunteers will be allowed at each project. We also strongly encourage you to take the necessary precautions regarding COVID-19.

What to Wear

The work sites are in high, mountainous areas so be prepared for cold, warm, wet or dry weather! NPLD will not be postponed or rescheduled unless weather conditions are severe. Dress in layers and avoid cotton fabrics. You should pack rain gear, work gloves, insect repellent, sunscreen, sunglasses, a hat, a long-sleeved shirt, work pants (no shorts), medicine if necessary, and work boots (no open toes or sneakers). Please bring plenty of food and water.

Safety

Safety is always our first concern. We will avoid putting you in hazardous situations, but please keep in mind our area has plenty of potentially dangerous situations, such as deadfalls. Be aware of your surroundings at all times while navigating our trails.

Look up, Look down, Look around

The work sites are somewhat remote and all are at or above 8,500 feet in elevation. If you have a condition that restricts your activity, please let your crew boss know. There are a wide variety of tasks to be done and we will find something appropriate for you. If one of the Crew Leaders or Safety Officers feels that you are poorly equipped or are physically unsuited for arduous work, we reserve the right to ask you to perform tasks that minimize risk or leave the site altogether.

For safety and liability reasons, there are age limits for volunteers. For those over 18 years of age, your signature at the time of registration is sufficient. For those 16 to 18 years old, we need a co-signature of a parent or guardian to work on the trails. Children

between the ages of 12 and 16 may accompany their parents or guardians, but they must be under direct supervision and will not be covered by any of the agencies in the event of illness or incidental injury attributable to the work project. Due to the nature of physical maintenance on the projects, we cannot assume the responsibility for children under the age of 12.

Other Information

Please leave your pets, horses, llamas, and other animals at home for the day. Pets may create unsafe conditions at the work sites and may not be welcomed by other volunteers. In addition, please leave skateboards, roller blades, and other recreational equipment at home, hotel or campsite. Even though it is fun to “play” during lunch with this equipment, the use also creates a safety hazard in some areas.

The Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Headwaters Trails Alliance and other partners will supply you with tools, hard hats, goggles, and other protective gear depending on your trail work duties.

Please bring your own sack lunch.

Please be on time!

We strongly encourage that everyone drive themselves to their project sites. However, there might be limited space at certain locations so please park responsibly.

Additional Information

The Interagency Fee Council has once again issued a special national, interagency free coupon in appreciation to all NPLD participants. The coupon is awarded to each volunteer, 16 years or older, upon registering at any participating NPLD event site on September 26, 2020. The coupons are valid for one day of entrance or day-use fees at participating federal land management agencies where the America the Beautiful Interagency Annual Pass is accepted (a list of agencies is shown on the coupon). The coupon is not valid at any concessionaire managed sites that do not honor the Interagency Pass and cannot be used as a “discount” towards any annual or interagency pass purchase. Volunteers may use the voucher as “cash” at day-use areas having an envelope/fee tube setup where they would normally purchase a daily pass. Coupon holders may also redeem the voucher at any District office, visitor center, fee or entrance station, or by mailing the coupon to the federal land agency to exchange for a normal one-day pass for their favorite area. The coupon must be used by September 26, 2021.