EVERY YEAR, WHEN THE CALENDAR FLIPS, WE START GETTING THE QUESTION: WHEN CAN I START MY THRU-HIKE, BIKE OR RIDE? And every year we caution: Don’t start before July 1 unless you’re willing to risk struggling through miles of deep snow. Summer may come in May and June to much of the rest of the country, but in Colorado’s high country (the average elevation of The Colorado Trail is 10,300 feet) it’s a completely different story. In low-snow years, the Trail may be clear a bit earlier than July 1, but in snowy years, it could be a week or two later.

It’s an unusual year when Trail users encounter no snow at all, particularly on north-facing or shaded areas where it may cling year round. But those stretches are generally short and easily manageable. Last year’s above-average snowfall and late snowmelt not only pushed back start dates for many, but also created conditions that presented major obstacles along several sections of the CT. Debris from several large avalanches made navigation difficult and some areas nearly impassable. Despite the valiant efforts of hundreds of volunteers and Forest Service workers to clear the Trail, some areas remain challenging.

While it’s difficult to accurately predict what the rest of the winter holds for Colorado, by the end of February snowpack across the state was at or above normal. Breckenridge Ski Resort, near the Trail in the Ten Mile Range in Segment 7, recorded its snowiest month on record in February. That said, lower-elevation Segments 1-3 are commonly clear of snow by late May or early June.

The Colorado Trail Foundation endeavors to keep Trail users posted on the latest conditions on its website (ColoradoTrail.org) and Facebook and Instagram pages, and on other sites such as the Colorado Trail Thru-Hike 2020 Facebook group, where users trade information on the Trail conditions they encounter.

That includes extraordinary Trail obstacles such as unusual downed trees and avalanche debris. Last year, avalanches caused extensive damage to the Trail at the end of Segment 7 near Copper Mountain Ski Area, near Cottonwood Pass Road in Segment 13, and in the Elk Creek area in Segment 24.

Jerry Brown, of Durango, a seven-time completer and official mapmaker of The Colorado Trail, said he’s never seen anything like the devastation caused by avalanches last year around Miles 9 and 13 of Segment 24. Enormous piles of broken trees were strewn like pick-up sticks up to 20 feet deep and covering entire hillsides, completely burying the Trail. Altogether, the debris fields cover about a third of a mile – about five football fields in length – of Trail.

Last summer, Brown was among several volunteers who assisted Connie Wian, the Adopter of that portion of the Trail, in flagging a passable route through the area and clearing what could be cleared. While hikers and other Trail users have described the detours as “challenging, but doable,” they remain impassable to stock animals, including horses and llamas, and it could be several seasons before stock-passable sections can be reestablished. The challenges are compounded by the relative inaccessibility of the area and the fact that it lies within the Weminuche Wilderness, where power equipment cannot be used.

— Continued on page 3
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S UPDATE

Because the Trail passes through 11 U.S. Forest Service ranger districts and several county parks, other unforeseen closures are also possible. San Juan County, originating from the county seat of Silverton at the southern end of the Trail, currently is prohibiting backcountry recreation.

It is possible that the pandemic will impact our work as well. More trail crews and trail crew scheduled to begin in May may have to be postponed or canceled. The best course of action seems to be to reassure us to our members and Trail users informed through our website (ColoradoTrail.org), social media, and email alerts. We are posting regular updates on our website blog, which is accessible by clicking the “blog” button at the top of the page.

Regardless, it’s likely that “social distancing” will be a new policy throughout the Trail season. And please practice good hygiene on the Trail (always good advice) and if you have any health concerns at all, let caution be your guide.

Do not want to sound too discouraging. In fact, we remain optimistic that this will be another great summer on the CT for those who take a flexible approach and make adjustments to their planning accordingly. In these times of uncertainty, the rejuvenating and healing power of the outdoors is more important than ever. Whether it’s one day or six weeks, enjoy your time on The Colorado Trail.

HAPPY TRAILS,
Bill Manning
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Adams Retires, New Operations Manager to Come on Board

When The Colorado Trail Foundation went looking for its first full-time field operations manager, it was as Brent Adams came made. A retired civil and environmental engineer, longtime CFT volunteer, and experienced trail builder, he perfectly fits the mold of the type person the Foundation was seeking.

It has been a monarch made in high-country heaven. Spend time with Adams on the Trail and the passion he brings to the job is evident. It’s a quality he shares with his wife, Anne Englert, a former engineer, and when Adams began his “second career” and co-leads several crews each summer. Now, going into his sixth season, Adams has decided that he’s ready to fully retire so that he and Anne can better pursue their own outdoor adventures. The piles are unstable as well. He 65-mile stretch of the Trail in Wisconsin. In 2009, he also has access to the Tower of York, Maine, responsible for maintaining trails, park grounds and support facilities that have more than 10,000 acres of cooperatively managed forest, wetlands, ponds, and streams in the Mount Agamenticus Region. He has also worked as conservation skills instructor for the Student Conservation Association since 2013, leading weeklong trail workshops for 100-plus trail crew members in New Hampshire, New York and Massachusetts. Radatz earned a bachelor of science degree in Natural Resource Management from Michigan State University in 2009. He also has an associate’s degree in Applied Science.

The self-described “trail nerd” grew up in Michigan and has spent the last decade leading crews all over the country, including stints on the Pacific Crest Trail in California, the Appalachian Trail in Maine, and the Ice Age Trail in Wisconsin. In his off-time, he enjoys taking his golden retriever Solstice hiking and also has a deep love for grilling and smoking large quantities of meat.

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Bill Manning
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Save the Dates

We hope you’ll mark your calendars and join us at one or all of our events for Friends of The Colorado Trail this year:

Annual Friends Picnic, Sat., Sept. 12, 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Bear Creek Lake Park, Lakewood. Food and drinks provided. Last year’s event drew 270 participants, our largest picnic gathering ever.

Salida SteamPlant Events Center in downtown Salida.

Food and drinks provided.

Holiday Reception, Thu., Dec. 3, 4:00 p.m., American Mountain Center, Golden. Food and drinks provided.

- CONTINUED FROM THE COVER

For the foreseeable future, with the debate on how to proceed with the pandemic, the Foundation has decided to curtail their summer travel plans or postpone them altogether. It’s quite possible that some shutdown orders may still be in effect as well, such as the one affecting the northern terminus of the Trail at Wagoner Canyon. The canyon was closed March 18 until further notice by Denver Water, which controls the right of way through the canyon. A road through the canyon parallels the South Platte River where it flows from Strontia Springs Reservoir, which supplies water to Denver metro area. Denver Water cited concerns for employees from those using the canyon for recreation. Fortunately, the closure affects only the first 6.7 miles of the Trail and alternatives are available.

EFFECT OF CORONAVIRUS ON THE COLORADO TRAIL, UNCERTAIN

With news related to the coronavirus pandemic changing so rapidly, it’s impossible to predict its impact on The Colorado Trail this upcoming trail season – particularly since the peak usage time of July through September is still months away.

Our best hope is that the virus will run its course by then and that there will be no effect at all. But that’s not very realistic as events that seemed unlikely but did happen before become the new normal. It’s likely that many will curtail their summer travel plans or postpone them altogether. It’s quite possible that some shutdown orders may still be in effect as well, such as the one affecting the northern terminus of the Trail at Wagoner Canyon. The canyon was closed March 18 until further notice by Denver Water, which controls the right of way through the canyon. A road through the canyon parallels the South Platte River where it flows from Strontia Springs Reservoir, which supplies water to Denver metro area. Denver Water cited concerns for employees from those using the canyon for recreation. Fortunately, the closure affects only the first 6.7 miles of the Trail and alternatives are available.

- ARTICLE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

Tread Lines is the newsletter of the Colorado Trail Foundation. It is published twice a year.

The Colorado Trail, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, draws almost entirely from private sector individuals and companies. Our mission is to keep The Colorado Trail in good condition, maintaining and improving it by private sector individuals and companies. The Colorado Trail Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation funded almost entirely by private sector individuals and companies.

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**Executive Director’s Update**

**Because the Trail passes through 11 U.S. Forest Service ranger districts and several sports nearby, other unforeseen closures are also possible. San Juan County, originating from the country side of Silverton at the southern end of the Trail, currently is prohibiting backcountry recreation. It is possible that the pandemic will impact our work as well. Maintenance crews and trail crews scheduled to begin in May may have to be postponed or canceled. The best course of action seems to be to reason as we go and to do our utmost to keep our volunteers and Trail users informed through our website (ColoradoTrail.org), social media, and email alerts. We are posting regular updates on our website blog, which is accessible by clicking the “blog” button at the top of the page. Regardless, it’s likely that “social distancing” will be a personal choice throughout the Trail season. And please practice good hygiene on the Trail (always good advice) and if you have any health concerns at all, let caution be your guide. We don’t want to sound too discouraging. In fact, we really believe that the healing power of the outdoors is more important than ever. But it’s up to all of us to do our utmost to keep our volunteers and Trail users informed and to continue taking care of the Trail.”

**save the dates:**

**We hope you’ll mark your calendars and join us at one or all of our events for Friends of The Colorado Trail this year:**

**Annual Friends Picnic, Sat., Sept. 12, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.: Bear Creek Lake Park, Lakewood. Food and drinks provided. Last year’s event drew 270 participants, our largest picnic gathering event in the Colorado Trail Foundation.**

**Upper Arkansas Friends Gathering, Sat., Oct. 17, 5-7:00 p.m., Salida SteamPlant Events Center in downtown Salida. Food and drinks provided.**

**Holiday Reception, Thu., Dec. 3, 4-7:00 p.m., American Mountaineering Center, Golden. Food and drinks provided.**

**When The Colorado Trail Foundation went looking for its first full-time field operations manager, we found it as Brent Adams came aboard. A trained civil and environmental engineer, longtime CTF volunteer, and experienced trail builder, he perfectly fits the mold of the person the Foundation was seeking. It has been a match made in high-country heaven. Spend time with Adams on the Trail and the passion he brings to the job is evident. It’s a quality he shares with his wife, Anne Engler, a former environmental engineer when Adams began his “second career” and who co-leads several crews with him each summer. Now, going into his sixth season, Adams has decided that he’s ready to fully retire so that he and Anne can better pursue their own outdoor adventures. That has led the Foundation on a talent search and replacement that looks just as fantastic as Adams was five years ago. Darin Radatz, the longtime field operations manager in New Hampshire, N.H., with his partner, Emily Lord, is a natural resource professional with more than a decade of experience in trail building and crew training and supervision. Most recently he has served as Trails, Grounds, and Facilities Supervisor for the Town of York, Maine, responsible for maintaining trails, park grounds and support facilities with more than 15,000 acres of cooperatively managed forest, wetlands, ponds, and streams in the Mount Agamenticus Resource Region. He also has worked as conservation skills instructor for the Student Conservation Association since 2013, leading backpacking trail workshops for 100-plus trail crew members in New Hampshire, New York, and Massachusetts.

Radatz earned a bachelor of science degree in Natural Resource Management from Michigan State University in 2009. He also has an associate’s degree in Applied Science. The self-described “trail nerd” grew up in Michigan and has spent the last decade leading crews all over the country, including stints on the Pacific Crest Trail in California, the Appalachian Trail in Maine, and the Ice Age Trail in Wisconsin. In his off-time, he enjoys taking his golden retrievers Solstice and loking and also has a deep love for grilling and smoking large quantities of barbecued food.

Darin Radatz
Executive Director

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**Darin Radatz**

**Adams Retires, New Operations Manager Come on Board**

**Empowersik Hiking, Mountain Biking, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

“Adams’ engineering background was especially valuable to the CTF during the planning and construction of the Field Operations Center from 2014 through its completion in 2018. The half-million dollar project, the largest in the 40-year history of the Foundation, consists of a 1,600-square-foot office, maintenance and equipment storage facility and a 2,900-square-foot trailer storage building. The FOC provided the Foundation its first permanent home for the tons of equipment needed to build and maintain the Trail. While Adams is retiring as field operations manager, he won’t be cutting his ties to the Stewardship of this organization. “I won’t be leaving the CTF, never to be heard from again,” he said. “And I will continue to lead some trail crews, keep our Adopter program in section (segment 26) and I will be joining the CTF Board at some point after I no longer an employee.”

That’s great news for the Foundation and for the future of The Colorado Trail.”

**- CONTINUED FROM THE COVER**

For the foreseeable future, when the debit cards will continue to present a barrier, according to CTF Executive Director Bill Manning: “The jobs are unfillable as well. He emphasizes the need to slow down and hike cautiously through such areas and encourages the use of trekking poles to improve stability and balance. Manning said it is possible that more work may be needed in Segments 7 and 8. Late-season rain last year was undermining the temporary paths across the top of the debris, creating hazardous sink holes. A better assessment will be made after this spring’s melt off.
Work With Us in 2020

Work is rarely this much fun.
We’re talking about The Colorado Trail Foundation’s Volunteer Trail Crews, which combine rewarding work maintaining and upgrading the Trail, fresh air in Colorado’s backcountry, and the good company of others who share your passion for the outdoors. Crews vary in length from one to eight days and include both base camp and backpack options. Participants must be at least 16 years of age (unless approved by the crew leader) and in good physical condition. No previous trail building experience is required and equipment is provided. Complete information about this summer’s 18 crews is available at ColoradoTrail.org. You can register through the mail or online at ColoradoTrail.org.

This year’s crews are:

**CREW 0120, MORRISON CREEK I, May 17-22 (6 days), Leader Cindy Johnson, $75.** This base camp crew will work in Segment 3 of the CT at 7,800 feet. Crew members will help build a 1,500-foot realignment to replace an eroding section of trail in the popular Buffalo Creek area. A high-clearance vehicle is recommended.

**CREW 0220, GUNSEY CREEK, June 6 (1 day), Leaders Brent Adams and Anne Englert, $15.** This National Trails Day crew will work at 10,000 feet in Segment 6 to stabilize a section of trail being undercut by Gurnsey Creek. A high-clearance vehicle is recommended.

**CREW 0320, NORTH FORK LOST CREEK, June 20-21 (2 days), Leaders Brent Adams and Anne Englert, $35.** This crew will rese the trailhead bridge over North Fork Lost Creek and rebuild a 15-foot log bridge in Segment 12 to replace the existing bridge and improve stream crossings in the Cochetopa Creek valley in the remote La Garita Wilderness in Segment 20. Camp will be a moderate five-mile hike from the trailhead. This will be a challenging, high-altitude (12,000 feet) crew.

**CREW 0420, MORRISON CREEK II, May 17-22 (6 days), Leader Brooks Lord, $75.** This women-only, base camp crew will work at 10,000 feet in Segment 6 to stabilize a section of trail being undercut by Gurnsey Creek. A high-clearance vehicle is recommended.

**CREW 0520, JEFFERSON LAKE, June 26-29 (4 days), Leader Cindy Johnson, $60.** These women-only, base camp crew will reconstruct a deteriorated turnpike near Jefferson Lake at 10,000 feet in Segment 6.

**CREW 0620, FREMANTHE CREEK, July 11-15 (5 days), Leader Ed Pfromer, $40.** This backpack crew will help build a 15-foot log bridge in Segment 12 to replace the existing bridge and improve the stock crossing on Fremantle Creek in the Collegiate Peaks Wilderness. This will be a challenging, high-altitude (11,500 feet) crew. A 4-wheeler vehicle is recommended.

**CREW 0720, HANCOCK I, July 11-18 (6 days), Leader Glenn Kepler, $75.** This base camp crew will continue building new trail above the old railroad grade near the ghost town of Hancock to move the Trail off of a 4-wheeler drive road. This will be a challenging, high-altitude (11,800 feet) crew. A high-clearance vehicle is recommended.

**CREW 0820, COCHETOPA CREEK, July 18-24 (7 days), Leader Loren Woods, $40.** This backpack crew will continue drainage work and improve stream crossings in the Cochetopa Creek valley in the remote La Garita Wilderness in Segment 20. Camp will be a moderate five-mile hike from the trailhead. This will be a challenging, high-altitude (12,000 feet) crew.

**CREW 0920, HANCOCK II, July 19-23 (5 days), Leaders Scott Smith and Laura Beiser-Smith, $75.** This base camp crew will continue the work of Crew 0720 and 0920.

**CREW 1020, HANCOCK III, July 25-Aug. 1 (8 days), Leader Dave Fitzwater, $75.** This base camp crew will continue the work of Crews 0720 and 0920.

**CREW 1120, ILLINOIS CREEK I, July 30-Aug. 3 (5 days), Leaders Dave Landers and Daniel Zier, $40.** This challenging, high-altitude (12,000 feet) backpack crew in Segment CW02 will continue building new trail in the Collegiate Peaks Wilderness to move the Trail off of the motorized Timberline Trail. A high-clearance vehicle is recommended.

**CREW 1220, ILLINOIS CREEK II, Aug. 5-7 (5 days), Leader Doug Buttry, $40.** This crew will continue the work of Crew 1120.

**CREW 1320, WEST LIME CREEK, Aug. 9-13 (5 days), Leaders Brent Adams and Anne Englert, $40.** This backpack crew will help build a 40-foot turnpike and make other trail improvements on this popular section of the CT near Molas Pass. Volunteers will hike in 7 miles to this challenging, high-altitude (12,000 feet) crew in Segment 25.

**CREW 1420, CATARACT CREEK, Aug. 17-22 (7 days), Leader Paul Smith, $40.** This backpack crew will help build a realignment of the existing Trail at 10,500 feet in Segment 8 to stabilize a section of the Trail with his son Kyle in 2017, of Louisville, who bike-packed the Trail with his son Kyle in 2017, on a backpack crew, and Brooks Lord, of Denver, on a backpack crew.

**CREW 1520, MINERS CREEK I, Aug. 21-26 (6 days), Leader Greg Speights, $45.** This will be a new type of crew: a vehicle-supported hike-in, with a moderate hike of approximately 4.5 miles and 1,500 feet of elevation gain. It will begin construction on a realignment of an unsustainable section of the Trail in the Miners Creek drainage at 10,500 feet in Segment 7.

**CREW 1620, COTTONWOOD PASS, Aug. 25 (1 day), Leaders Brent Adams and Anne Englert, $15.** This crew will construct back-and-fall fence, install signs, and rebuild social trails on this popular section of the Trail at 12,300 feet in Segment CW03.

**CREW 1720, MINERS CREEK II, Aug. 26-31 (6 days), Leader Daniel Zier, $45.** This crew will continue the work of Crew 1520.

**CREW 1820, HEADWATERS HILL, Aug. 28-Sept. 1 (5 days), Leader Diana Brinol, $40.** This challenging backpack crew will work at 11,500 feet in Segment 16 building turnpike on an extended muddy section of the Trail south of Marshall Pass.

**Crew Numbers Remain Strong.** The numbers are in on last year’s trail crews and things on the CT are looking good, according to Field Operations Manager Brent Adams.

Registration was excellent for nearly all of the 15 crews, he said, with larger attendance among the longer crews, which tend to draw older volunteers. Altogether, more than 8,400 volunteer hours were logged over 81 crew days.

In an attempt to attract younger volunteers and families, Adams has been placing more emphasis on shorter crews of from one to five days, both backpack and basecamp. Ten of this year’s 18 crews fall into that category. Adams expects volunteers this summer to make up some 9,000 hours of work over the 91 scheduled crew days.

Several of this year’s crews have been scheduled back-to-back at the same location, making logistics easier for both staff and crew leaders. A new type of crew “vehicle supported hike-in,” will start on a remote in the Miners Creek area west of Breckenridge in Segment 7. Of the 18 crews, 10 are working to move trail off of motorized areas.

Two new leaders will lead crews this year: Ed Pfromer, of Louisville, who bike-packed the Trail with his son Kyle in 2017, on a backpack crew, and Brooks Lord, of Denver, on a backpack crew.
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Complete information about this summer’s 18 crews is available at ColoradoTrail.org. Crews are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. You can register through the mail or online at ColoradoTrail.org.

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CREW 0320, NORTH FORK LOST CREEK, June 20-21 (2 days), Leaders Brent Adams and Anne Englert, $35. This crew will reset the trailhead bridge over North Fork Lost Creek and rebuild a turnpike in the Lost Creek Wilderness in Segment 4. A high-clearance vehicle is recommended.

CREW 0420, MORRISON CREEK II, June 21-27 (7 days), Leader Brooks Lord, $75. This crew will complete the work begun by Crew 0120 and rehab the abandoned trail section.

CREW 0520, JEFFERSON LAKE, June 26-29 (4 days), Leader Cindy Johnson, $60. This women-only, base camp crew will reconstruct a deteriorated turnpike near Jefferson Lake at 10,000 feet in Segment 6.

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ONE JOINS, FOUR DEPART BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Colorado Trail Foundation welcomed a new board member in October and three months later bid farewell – sort of – to four others.

Blair Johnson, of Columbine Valley, was elected to a four-month term during a board meeting in Durango in October and to a full three-year term in January in Golden. Johnson has a long history of outdoors and environmental activism. He was president of the board of the Colorado Environmental Coalition (now Conservation Colorado) for eight years; has been a member of the Earthjustice Council since 2014; served in the dual positions of Rocky Mountain regional public lands outreach manager for the National Wildlife Federation and communications director for Sportmen for Responsible Energy Development; and was a member of the board of the Greater Yellowstone Coalition for two years. At Janus Capital Group, where Johnson was senior vice president of corporate communications, he was involved, among other things, in philanthropic giving and community outreach.

The retiring board members are George Miller, John Lipe, Jo Myers and Steve Tick.

Thankfully, Miller, of Manitou Springs, won’t be going far. The longtime volunteer operations manager for the CTF and namesake of the Foundation’s George Miller Field Operations Center in Poncha Springs was unanimously elected president emeritus of the board and will continue offering his expertise in the future. Miller began serving on the board in 1994 after working as a trail crew leader and assisting with the trekking program in the early ’90s. He is a past president of the Foundation as well.

For Lipe, of Castle Rock, it was his second stint on the board. He served from 2009 to 2012 and then from 2017 through 2019. He is better known to many Friends of the Trail as a longtime trail crew leader. He also is an Adopter of a section in Segment 14 and was honored for his work by the Forest Service, which named an area at the base of Mount Shavano Lipe Meadow.

Myers, of Salida, joined the board in 2017. An avid outdoors person, she lives not far from the midpoint of the CT. She has worked on trail crews, with CT Adopters, and served on the Operations Committee as the CTF’s Field Operation Center got up and running in nearby Poncha Springs.

Tick, of Evergreen, an attorney, offered legal advice and counsel during his term on the board, which began in 2017. A Trail completer, he served on the Foundation’s Finance Committee.

TRAINING FOR ADOPTERS – AND OTHERS

Field Operations Manager Brent Adams, or his successor Darin Radatz, will be offering daylong training sessions for Trail Adopters and their helpers – as well as those who are interested in becoming Adopters.

All new Adopters are required to attend one of the sessions, which outline Adopter duties, with a focus on trail maintenance skills and safety. Existing Adopters are also encouraged to sign up, not only to refresh their skills, but to share their expertise and experience with others. All of the trainings are free and lunch is provided.

The dates and locations of the trainings are:

- May 2 in Segment 28 (near Durango);
- May 17 in Segment 4 (near Bailey);
- May 30 in the Arkansas Valley (near the midpoint of the CT).

Contact the CTF office for more details. ctf@coloradotrail.org (303) 384-3729

Adopt-A-Trail Program
(By the Numbers)

83 — Number of Adopter sections on the CT

266 — Number of volunteers who helped on Adopter sections in 2019

3,535 — Number of volunteer hours logged in 2019

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**TRAINING FOR ADOPTERS — AND OTHERS**

The Colorado Trail Foundation welcomed a new board member in October and three months later bid farewell — sort of — to four others.

Blair Johnson, of Columbine Valley, was elected to a four-month term during a board meeting in Durango in October and to a full three-year term in January in Golden. Johnson has a long history of outdoors and environmental activism. He was president of the board of the Colorado Environmental Coalition (now Conservation Colorado) for eight years; has been a member of the Earthjustice Council since 2014; served in the dual positions of Rocky Mountain regional public lands outreach manager for the National Wildlife Federation and communications director for Sportsmen for Responsible Energy Development; and was a member of the board of the Greater Yellowstone Coalition for two years. At JAMUS Capital Group, where Johnson was senior vice president of corporate communications, he was involved, among other things, in philanthropic giving and community outreach. The retiring board members are George Miller, John Lipe, Jo Myers and Steve Tick.

Thankfully, Miller, of Manitou Springs, won’t be going far. The longtime volunteer operations manager for the CTF and namesake of the Foundation’s George Miller Field Operations Center in Poncha Springs was unanimously elected president emeritus of the board and will continue offering his expertise in the future. Miller began serving on the board in 1994 after working as a trail crew leader and assisting with the trekking program in the early ’90s. He is a past president of the Foundation as well.

For Lipe, of Castle Rock, it was his second stint on the board. He served from 2009 to 2012 and then from 2017 through 2019. He is better known to many Friends of the Trail as a longtime trail crew leader. He also is an Adopter of a section in Segment 14 and was honored for his work by the Forest Service, which named an area at the base of Mount Shavano Lipe Meadow.

Myers, of Salida, joined the board in 2017. An avid outdoors person, she lives not far from the midpoint of the CT. She has worked on trail crews, with CT Adopters, and served on the Operations Committee as the CTF’s Field Operation Center got up and running in nearby Poncha Springs.

Tick, of Evergreen, an attorney, offered legal advice and counsel during his term on the board, which began in 2017. A Trail completer, he served on the Foundation’s Finance Committee.

**ONE JOINS, FOUR DEPART BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Hundreds of Colorado Trail supporters help the Foundation each year by volunteering, donating, or purchasing something from the CTF’s online store. Here are ways you can help us fulfill our mission:

DONATE ONLINE: You can donate on the ColoradoTrail.org website. Click the Donate button at the top of the page to give using a credit card or PayPal.

Or better yet . . .

MAKE IT A RECURRING GIFT: Check the “Make This a Recurring Donation” box on the donation page to make an automatic monthly or annual contribution.

COLORADO GIVES DAY: Held each December, this program is aimed at increasing contributions to more than 2,000 nonprofits in the state, including the CTF. Watch for alerts from us about this year’s date. For more information, go to ColoradoGives.org.

AMAZONSMILE: Through its AmazonSmile philanthropic program, Amazon contributes a half percent of eligible purchases to the buyer’s designated charity. Go to Smile.Amazon.com and select The Colorado Trail Foundation to initiate the contributions when you buy through Amazon.

CTF STORE: Purchase any Trail-related item – maps, guidebooks, clothing, tools and commemoratives – from the CTF’s online store and the profits from the sale goes to the Foundation. Click the “Shop” button at the top of any page on ColoradoTrail.org.

LEGACY GIVING: Help ensure that the Trail will be here for future generations by including The Colorado Trail Foundation in your will or living trust. Your financial advisor, attorney or accountant can help you set up a charitable gift to the Foundation in the form of cash, stocks, bonds, or from proceeds of insurance policies or the sale of property. You can also designate the CTF as a beneficiary of an insurance policy, IRA or pension plan.

IRA REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS. Donate all or a portion of your RMD directly to the CTF and receive an exclusion from taxable income without having to itemize deductions. Consult your tax professional about making a “qualified charitable distribution.” The CTF will provide the transfer account info to you or your investment advisor.

THANK YOU!