



# CATS End of Year Report - 2020

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The Colorado Addicted Trailbuilders Society is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization based out of the Loveland/Fort Collins area which is devoted to designing, building and repairing the various recreation trails found in Northern Colorado. We partner with city, county, state & national agencies to help provide the manpower and skill required to help keep their trails managed and open to the public. All members of the organization are volunteers (no paid positions), who share a common bond with their love for the outdoors. Our members come from various backgrounds and ages ranging from seven years old to seventy years old.

## Highlights for 2020

The Colorado Addicted Trailbuilders Society (CATS) finished its eighth year in Northern Colorado and celebrated its fourth full year as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization in 2020.

COVID-19 and the Cameron Peak wildfire severely impacted the CATS 2020 trail season resulting in the cancellation of over half of our planned projects and forcing the CATS to run projects at a reduced number of attendees. In total the CATS only hosted 28 day/weekend projects and focused the majority of our efforts for the city of Loveland. More detailed statistics can be found throughout this report broken by the various agencies which we worked with.

## Membership

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the rules/restrictions in effect the CATS did not actively recruit members in 2020. Instead, our focus was on maintaining the current members and making sure that all were given the proper tools and equipment to remain safe and healthy while on the trail.

## Partnership

We partnered with WRV & OMBA on multiple events (including the WRV university and project at Curt Gowdy/Lory State Park) in 2020 and continued to communicate with members of WRV and OMBA to develop best practice safety processes for navigating the pandemic. Though there were no significant collaborative events we look forward to continuing support and collaborating the WRV and OMBA into the future as we explore what the future holds.



## Equipment

Due to the reduction in projects most of the CATS tools were lightly used which means no major repairs or replacements were needed in 2020. The only major upgrade to the CATS arsenal of tools was the acquisition of a griphoist which will help CATS better execute on heavy rock work in the future.

*Below is a condensed overview of the projects/locations CATS worked in 2020:*

## Loveland Natural Areas – 654 Hours, 26 Events

The CATS assisted the city of Loveland with maintenance and building of trail throughout the city. Below are just a few places we worked:

- Began the new .9 mile Sunset Vista trail (set to open in spring 2021)
- Built steps and alternative route at Viestenz-Smith to allow easier access to the river from the east parking lot
- Built a connector trail at Meadowbrook to help with access to the main trail
- Repaired a section of Boise Trail that was lost due to an eroding shoreline, and built new trail to access the river.
- Added crusher to Boedecker Bluff trail to help prevent future erosion.



## Colorado Parks and Wildlife - 246 Hours, 2 Events

CATS hosted two weekend events at State Forest State Park in 2020, the second of which just days before the Cameron peak fire flare up.

- During the first weekend project the CATS focused on building a major rock wall turn on the Ruby Jewel trail and assisted the NOCO sawyers with moving and setting the Ruby Jewel bridge.
- During the second weekend the CATS focused on completing some rock work that was needed to open the trail and assisted with placing a second log to complete the bridge.





Colorado Addicted Trailbuilders Society

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## Closing

The 2020 season was hard for many volunteer organizations, including CATS. Luckily, the main impact to the CATS was limited to just the number of projects we hosted, as our operating costs are extremely low. As we continue down the road of a new normal the CATS will continue to adjust and drive for improvement to our operations and execution. The 2021 season we see some additional adjustments as we try to bring back the social aspect of the organization while remaining committed to keeping our volunteers safe and healthy.

Hope to see you on the Trail.