

# GEORGETOWN SILVER PLUME HISTORIC DISTRICT PUBLIC LANDS COMMISSION

c/o Clear Creek County Administration

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Clear Creek County, Clear Creek Ranger District USFS, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, History Colorado,  
Town of Georgetown, Town of Silver Plume, Historic Georgetown Inc.

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## Georgetown Silver Plume National Historic Landmark District Public Lands Commission Annual Report 2018

The year of the campground! Early in 2018, the Clear Creek Ranger District announced that the closure of dispersed camping along the Guanella Pass Road was going to take effect in March. Dispersed camping along the road had created severe erosion and litter problems. The HDPLC was concerned that displaced campers would flock to the social camping sites in use along the base of the Leavenworth Creek Rd toward Waldorf. The lands in that area are owned by Historic Georgetown Inc, History Colorado, Town of Georgetown and Clear Creek County under the management of the Open Space Commission.

**Upper Silver Dale:** Working from the Upper Silver Dale Management Analysis developed by Bill Mangle of ERO Resources and Commission's summer and fall field trips, eight sites were



chosen for designation as dispersed camping sites. The establishment of the sites was a team effort. The Clear Creek Ranger District donated the standard USFS fire rings, OSC donated the carsonite signs. The HDPLC designed and funded the sign and frame. The County trails crew under the direction of James Kovaly put it all together in time for the summer season. The sites were used successfully throughout the summer and fall with little to no damage.

**Lower Silver Dale:** Work in the Lower Silver Dale Non-Motorized Recreation Area included the placement of wayfinding signs on the trails with colors representing the degrees of difficulty.

**HDPLC Trails:** Thanks to the maintenance of the Trails Crew and local volunteers the HDPLC trails: 7:30 Mine Road, Argentine Central, Rutherford, Silver Creek and Silver Dale are in good

condition. The Trails Crew has recommended an additional trail, the Raspberry, for mountain biking on Town of Georgetown lands which the County crew would build and maintain. The Town has expressed support when required easements are obtained.

**Waldorf Basin:** The roof on the Santiago Mill is complete. The Mill Stewards were the proud recipients of a Volunteer Service award from the Arapaho Roosevelt Forest for their five years of monitoring summer visitation at the Mill. The Stewards plan to continue their efforts. USFS and Trout Unlimited presented the ongoing plans for water quality remediation efforts at the Waldorf Millsite. The Millsite is the townsite of the former Town of Waldorf. It will have an archaeological assessment in the summer of 2019 from which a plan for interpretation will be developed.

**County Rec Core group:** The Commission worked with the County Rec Core group in the review of the trails map now available through the CCC Tourism Board. A work plan for the county Trails crew including maintenance of HDPLC trails was approved. The Commission continues to work with the County on revisions to the use regulations currently contained in Ordinance 4 to provide a consistency with OSC and the County. The HDPLC participated in the County Recreation Review will remain active in that coordination effort.

**Guide Permit:** The Commission was approached for a guide permit for HDPLC trails. An annual permit system was designed for any paid guided experience. Applications are available in the Town of Georgetown and Clear Creek County offices.

Members and friends honored Lee Behrens for 30 years of service to the HDPLC Commission.



L to R: Greg Jarvis, James Kovaly, Tom Elliott, Lisa Leben, Smoky Anderson, Paul Boat, Lee Behrens, Patti Hestekin, Jim Blugerman, Frank Young, Cindy Neely, Robert Graham, Mark Rodman

HDPLC meetings are held at 9:00 am at the Georgetown Town Hall on the third Wednesdays of January, March, May, September and November. The public is welcome.

