



Treasured Landscapes

Camp Hale Collaborative Restoration Continues

Collaborative efforts led by the [National Forest Foundation \(NFF\)](#) continue on the [White River National Forest](#) and the Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger District for the Camp Hale-Eagle River Headwaters Restoration Project.

A stakeholders meeting was held at the NOVA Guides property adjacent to the project on Wednesday, July 24th. Groups represented at the meeting included the [Eagle River Watershed Council](#), various Front Range water municipalities, [Colorado Parks and Wildlife](#), [Trout Unlimited](#) and many other private, nonprofit, and government agencies. The group discussed everything from new possibilities of stream locations, land-use and management issues, historic preservation of the Camp Hale site, to habitat enhancement possibilities. ***“No one else has a site quite like ours,”*** said Dave Neely Eagle-Holy Cross District Ranger from the White River National Forest. ***“Although Camp Hale presents unique challenges, it also is a great opportunity to work through a collaborative process towards building consensus among many different stakeholders which will make the end result much more meaningful to the community.”***

The site is most notably known for its establishment in 1942 as a primary winter and mountain warfare training camp during World War II that housed up to 17,000 troops. ***“Camp Hale is an amazingly unique site with a variety of overlapping uses, not to mention an incredibly rich history,”*** said Marcus Selig, Director of the Colorado Program for the [National Forest Foundation](#). ***“Because of this, NFF believes it is crucial that we work with a wide array of community stakeholders to develop a shared vision for the area’s future. Through this collaborative effort, we hope to create broad support for science-based ecological restoration activities that promote sustainable use of the area and honor its history.”***

The camp was deactivated in 1964 and returned to the [USDA Forest Service](#) for management. Through collaborative efforts the stakeholders will create a shared vision for the appropriate restoration actions for the site. This vision is expected to include both historic preservation and restoration of the critical watershed and ecosystems that can be embraced by the surrounding communities.

Note the same group of trees in photos taken 70 years apart.



Camp Hale was selected as a [Treasured Landscape](#) by the [National Forest Foundation \(NFF\)](#) as a place that would benefit from restoration work. Through collaborative efforts stakeholders will create a shared vision of restoration actions that address historic preservation and restoration of critical watershed and ecosystems.

During World War II, Camp Hale was home to the 10th Mountain Division trained to fight in mountainous, winter conditions. Camp Hale was the only site in U.S. military history developed specifically for winter warfare training. (Photo courtesy of Western History/Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library). Remnants of the camp still exist.

USDA FOREST SERVICE ● ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

- COLORADO: Arapaho Roosevelt NF & Pawnee NG ● Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, & Gunnison NFs
- Pike-San Isabel National Forests and Cimarron-Comanche NGs ● Rio Grande NF ● San Juan NF ● White River NF
- NEBRASKA: Nebraska & Samuel R. McKelvie NFs ● SOUTH DAKOTA: Black Hills NF
- WYOMING: Bighorn NF ● Medicine Bow-Routt NFs & Thunder Basin NG ● Shoshone NF

