



PRESS RELEASE

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Belvoir Ranch tours conclude for season

Visitors excited about plan for the future.

Cheyenne, November 21, 2007 – The City of Cheyenne has concluded its public tours of the Belvoir Ranch and Big Hole properties for the season. Over 70 individuals took advantage of the opportunity to find out more about this spectacular community resource while learning about the history and resources held by the property.

The tours have been offered as a part of the public participation process for the Belvoir Ranch Master Plan, which is currently under development. The 18,800-acre property was originally purchase as a potential location for a landfill site, and for municipal water development. The plan includes placeholders for those uses while exploring a variety of other use and management options that would benefit the Cheyenne community.

Many visitors were excited about the property's potential. One of the principle ideas identified in the Belvoir Ranch Master Plan includes using the property as a living classroom for local schools. Trent Morrell, a Geosciences Instructor at Laramie County Community College noted that property is exciting in many ways. "I look forward to the continuing planning process for the ranch," says Morrell, who is excited about the ranch and the opportunities for bringing "quality educational experiences to Cheyenne's students." During the coming months, the City will explore options for getting more students involved with the future of Belvoir Ranch.

The second phase of the plan, Structure, is now available in draft form on the web at www.belvoirranch.org. This section describes the public's vision for the property, while establishing best management and development practices for the many uses that could be developed on the site. Earlier this year, the Snapshot Atlas for the property was completed posted to the website. It includes a background analysis and short reports on many topics related to existing conditions on the ranch.

Future steps in the planning process include developing policies to help guide future decision makers as they consider developing the many uses envisioned for the property. These policies are intended to provide elected officials with detailed recommendations that will aid them in balancing the diverse interests and stakeholders who are interested in the project. A final section of the plan will focus on implementation strategies and a financial analysis geared toward bringing the community's vision to reality.

If you missed this season's tours of the property, a waiting list is available for people who would like to be contacted when the tours kick off again next spring. For those who can't wait to view the property, a virtual tour is available at the plan's website so you can see the property from the comfort of your own home.

For more information, or to get waitlisted for next season's tours, call 307.637.6281.

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ABOUT BELVOIR RANCH MASTER PLAN

The Belvoir Ranch Master Plan will shape the use and development of an area encompassing 18,800 deeded acres and 3,400-acres of leased State Land sections. The project includes the Belvoir Ranch, purchased by the City in 2003 with the primary goal of developing municipal water resources and siting of a landfill. Additionally, the project includes the Wyoming portion of the Big Hole, an area unmatched in the region for its unique environment, cultural resources, and natural beauty. Purchased in 2005 in conjunction with partners from The Nature Conservancy and Larimer County, Colorado, the Big Hole serves as a bridge between protected lands in Wyoming and 33,264-acres of Open Space and protected lands in Northern Colorado. For more information on participating in the Belvoir Ranch Master Plan process, visit our website at www.belvoirranch.org.

ABOUT CHEYENNE, WYOMING

The City of Cheyenne is the northern anchor of the rapidly growing Rocky Mountain Front Range. Just 90-minutes from Denver, Cheyenne is the State Capital of Wyoming and home to the recently announced National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) Supercomputer. Cheyenne's mission is to be a 'Community of Choice' where people from all walks of life can live and thrive. Located at the intersection of Interstates 80 and 25, Cheyenne is experiencing significant growth, with a population approaching 60,000. For more information, call 307.637.6000.