

CLEAR SPRING RANCH OPEN SPACE CTR- LEISURE Division only - PENDING APPROVAL

Date: Saturday, OCTOBER 14, 2023, (or TBD)

Location: south of the city of FOUNTAIN, Colorado, 80817.

Directions: I-25, south of Colorado Springs, take exit 123, go east, follow signs, -about 1/4 miles.

Description: A NEW Front Range, EASY PEASEY Ride!

Clear Spring Ranch is a new El Paso County Open Space Park within a working hay farm. It contains an unlinked segment of the future Front Range Regional Trail which will eventually go from New Mexico to Wyoming. The trail follows along the west side of Fountain Creek as it meanders toward the Arkansas River, passing through wonderful old growth cottonwood groves, meadows, and alongside lush hay fields, with Pikes Peak looming on the horizon and the hills of Fort Carson to the west. If our timing is lucky, the cottonwoods will be ablaze in their gold fall glory! Currently, the trail is 4 + miles long, and ends at the creek's fish ladders on the north and the railroad bridge on the south. It is on very flat terrain, with groomed gravel fines surface, and wide, so you'll have plenty of opportunity to relax, enjoy the views, and high-five your fellow riders on the out and back 8.5 mile jaunt. Because it is such an easy trail, there will be more opportunity to move out than you usually get riding in the mountains- it is a dream trail for gaited horses! We will probably time it accordingly, but still in the allotted LeD pace of under 4.5 mph overall. Fall is a lovely time of year for a ride in the "banana belt" of Fountain.

The level gravel trailhead parking lot has limited trailer space (10 or so rigs). We are hoping to get access to a larger field. If not, we will have to limit entries to what can come in 12 trailers. Big rigs with many horses would be good. Please plan to buddy up if you can. We will keep information up to date on RMS and websites, but the parking issue may cause us to have a wait list.

Entry Fees: TBD - will be on RMS when the ride opens for entry.

Entry payment in full, by check, will be requested, but anyone on a waitlist will have their checks held until they get in. Please register on RMS once the ride is opened, but generic paper entries will be accepted, and we can then enter them into RMS by proxy. Cancellation refunds will be offered up to 2 weeks before the ride, less \$15 admin fee. Please mail full entry payment to: Pam Galchutt, 3360 Schilling Ave, Monument, CO 80132

Management:

Dayna Morgan, 719-481-9409; dayna.morgan139@gmail.com. (volunteers)

Pam Galchutt, 719-235-3514; pam.galchutt@gmail.com (entry info and help)