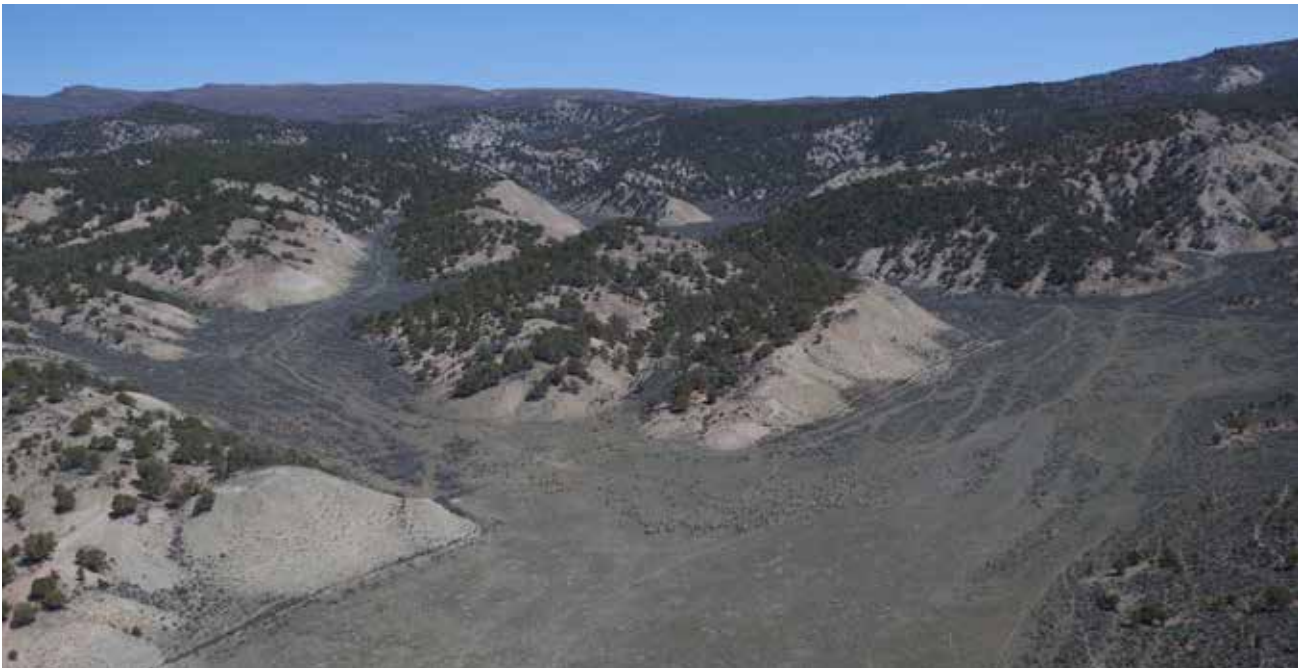


*Join our Amazing Team!*

## **OPEN SPACE DIRECTOR**

Hiring Range: \$98,446 - \$157,518



**EAGLE COUNTY, COLORADO**



**EAGLE COUNTY**

[www.eaglecounty.us](http://www.eaglecounty.us)

# THE DEPARTMENT

→ Exciting times are ahead for the Open Space Department with a great deal of support from the public and Board of County Commissioners to focus on expanding the County's Open Space Program.

In 2018, voters overwhelmingly approved the extension of our property tax to 2040, generating between \$4 and 5 million annually. We plan to spend approximately 75% of our budget on acquisitions, and recognize that the makeup of the program and staffing needs may change over the next several years based on the types of properties acquired.

The Open Space Program is funded by a dedicated 1.5 mill levy tax on property which the residents of Eagle County approved through a ballot question in November 2002. The Open Space Resolution established the program in 2003. Land purchased through the Open Space Program must be located within Eagle County and may be used for passive recreation.

The department consists of 3 full-time employees and 1 seasonal employee, and includes an Outreach and Education Specialist, Ranger and Natural Resource Specialist, seasonal Open Space Ranger Technician and the Director. Over the past 16 years, with the help of many partners, the open space program has acquired or helped to conserve about 13,000 acres of land, directly contributing to the quality of life of our residents.

The Open Space Program is supported and directed by the Open Space Advisory Committee. The Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC) was created to evaluate and fund projects that would permanently preserve lands of significant scenic, cultural or environmental quality within the county. Using specific Open Space Criteria, OSAC members evaluate potential open space properties and provide recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners regarding land acquisitions, site improvement plans and organizational development of the Open Space Program.



# THE POSITION

→ We are excited to announce that we have reclassified this position from a Manager to a Director level position based upon the increased budget responsibility, expanding open space portfolio and focus on acquisitions in the next 20 years. This position truly has a great opportunity and responsibility to expand the program and make a difference in the community.

The Open Space Director is responsible for leading a team of three employees to acquire and manage open space within Eagle County and educate residents about the program. The main focus of this position will be to help acquire new open space in the coming years while supporting the team in preserving the current open space.

This position will identify potential open space acquisitions for preliminary consideration by the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) and preserve the open space once approved. This position will also serve as a liaison between the BoCC, Open Space Advisory Committee and other involved conservation agencies. Finally, the Director will help coordinate site development, management and maintenance of County open space.

## Qualifications

The ideal candidate has ten plus years of experience in land conservation with extensive experience in land acquisition, real estate transactions, conservation easements, partnership development, conservation funding strategies, natural

resource management and restoration, federal and state land policy, land use planning, and recreation resource management. The ideal candidate also has a bachelor's degree in Conservation, Natural Resources, Public Land Management, or a closely related discipline from an accredited college or university, or any equivalent combination of education, training and experience which produces the required knowledge, skills and abilities.

Additionally, a successful candidate has demonstrated leadership abilities, solid management skills and success in developing and leading strategic projects with proven results; Will promote an open, inclusive work environment that emphasizes learning, cooperation, teamwork, trust and accountability; And should have considerable experience in community relations, organizational change, strategic planning and implementation efforts, budget and human resource management along with a comprehensive knowledge of open space principles, practices, methods, trends and local, state and federal laws governing open space.

## Compensation & Benefits

The hiring range for this outstanding opportunity is \$98,446 - \$157,518 depending upon the qualifications of the selected candidate. Eagle County also provides a generous benefits package, including comprehensive and low cost medical, dental and vision insurance, wellness incentives and 401(a) with 6% employer contribution.

# THE COMMUNITY

→ Eagle County, Colorado is located on the western slope of the state, approximately 100 miles west of Denver via Interstate 70. Tourism and real estate drive the economy, and the ski industry is a crucial component of the region's vitality. The majority of Eagle County's residents live along the I-70 corridor in the Eagle River Valley, with an additional population center located in the Roaring Fork Valley in the southwest corner at the convergence of three counties. The county's 2019 population was estimated at nearly 55,000 residents, and although considered rural, Eagle County is the 14th most populous of Colorado's 64 counties.

Living and working in Eagle County offers a diversity of recreation, cultural and educational activities suited for all. Outdoor recreation opportunities abound in Eagle County. Paved and unpaved trails connect many of the towns and natural landmarks and allow for easy access to hiking, biking and horseback riding. World-class skiing and snowboarding can be found at both Vail Mountain and Beaver Creek Resort. Rafting, fishing and kayaking take place on the area's many streams and rivers. A wide variety of cultural offerings attract locals and visitors, ranging from internationally acclaimed dance and symphony performances to outdoor concerts, rodeos, food festivals and celebrations of the area's ranching heritage. The County is home to various educational institutions offering quality learning from Pre-K through 4-year post-secondary degree programs.

For more information about Eagle County, visit: <http://vailvalleymeansbusiness.com/data-center/>



## LIFESTYLE

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## THE ORGANIZATION

→ Eagle County Government is a vibrant, forward-thinking organization with aligned priorities captured in a strategic plan that leverages both strengths and opportunities. Our values of creativity, respect, engagement, accountability, team, excellence and service drive our culture and mission to create a better Eagle County for all.

Eagle County Government is a full-service county, with 500 full-time equivalent employees spread over more than 30 departments. The organization is led by a three-member Board of Commissioners elected on a partisan basis to staggered four-year terms, with the authority to appoint the county manager, county attorney and various board and commission members. Other elected officials include the Assessor, Clerk & Recorder, Coroner, Sheriff, Surveyor and Treasurer/Public Trustee.

Sustainability is a core value and Eagle County works to continuously improve our environmental performance. We are committed to protecting wildlife habitat, protecting clean air and reducing greenhouse gas emissions and much more.

Eagle County's finances are healthy, with a 2020 operating budget of \$134M. Eagle County's strong fund balance reserves, low debt and excellent credit rating illustrate the organization's commitment to fiscal stewardship.

# THE APPLICATION

Applicants are encouraged to apply by Wednesday, January 29, 2020, but the position will remain open until filled.

To apply, please complete an online application and include a cover letter and resume on the Eagle County website at: <http://www.eaglecounty.us/jobs>.

**Eagle County Talent Manager:**

Jackie Huffman, SPHR  
Jackie.Huffman@eaglecounty.us



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