



To: Snyderville Basin Cemetery District Board Members

From: Dana Jones, *District Director* 
Prepared by Maddie Nelson, *Open Space Supervisor*

Date: March 19, 2025

Re: Proposed Site Relocation for the Snyderville Basin Cemetery District within the RTS Property

The RTS property is co-owned by Summit County (33% ownership) and Basin Recreation (66% ownership) and is managed and maintained by Basin Recreation. The RTS property is highly valued by the public for its multi-use trail system, including access for hiking, mountain-biking, and Nordic skiing. The property is preserved as recreational open space, and is important habitat for wildlife such as moose, coyotes, badgers, and American kestrels.

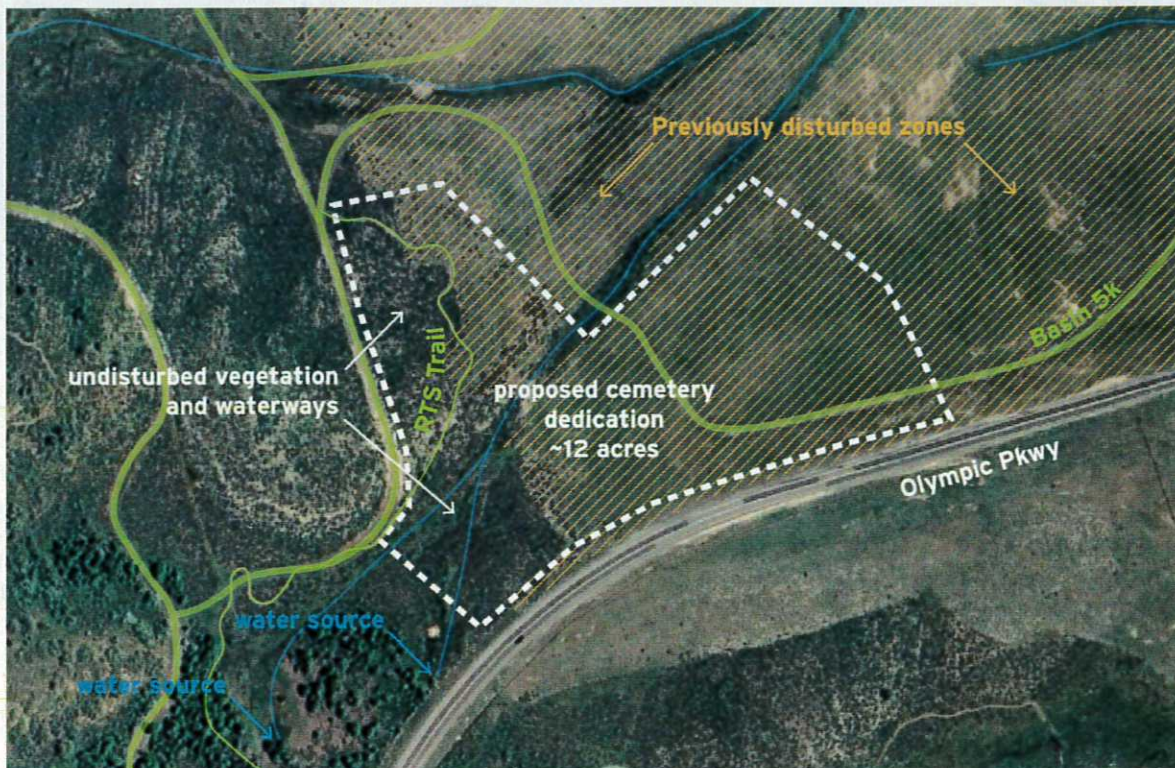
The Snyderville Basin Cemetery District (SBCD) has identified an approximately 12-acre area within the RTS property as its “preferred site” for a cemetery that would service the Snyderville Basin. As stakeholders and partial owners of the Property, Basin Recreation has had representation in both the SBDC board meetings and advisory committee meetings as of January 2025. Within these meetings, Basin Recreation and other stakeholders have voiced concerns about impacts to the existing multi-use trails, Nordic ski trail, and wildlife habitat that are within the boundaries of the proposed cemetery location.

Within the boundaries of the “preferred site” that have been shown to Basin Recreation as of March 12th, 2025 (Map 1, attached), approximately 700 linear feet of existing single-track trail and 750 linear feet of Nordic ski trail would fall within the SBCD boundary. Discussions within Basin Recreation and with other stakeholders in the community about impacts on trail users have led to the conclusion that any existing portions of trail that fall within the boundaries proposed by SBCD would need to be re-routed at a cost to the Cemetery District to avoid conflicting interests between trail users, SBCD staff and visitors.

Basin Recreation officially recommends that SBCD shift their proposed western boundary line approximately 300 feet down the hill towards the east. Basin Recreation is not seeking to reduce the total acreage of the proposed SBCD site, merely to avoid impacting the existing trail system and the sagebrush habitat on the hillside.

The costs of impacting the existing trail system and the habitat far exceed any benefit to SBCD. The hillside does not provide any useable area for internments or infrastructure and is steep and susceptible to erosion, especially if the vegetation is disturbed in any way. Basin Recreation does not endorse the boundaries of the “preferred site” that include any portion of the hillside or drainage area and as a majority owner of the proposed property Basin Recreation requires that SBCD consider an alternative boundary that does not include the hillside or drainage area. Basin Recreation has provided a preferred cemetery dedication boundary (Map 2).

Map 1: Sensitive Habitat and Hillside Area Map



Map 2: SBSRD preferred dedication

