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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Construction Began this Week on South Canyon Bike Trails**

GLENWOOD SPRINGS, CO – The City of Glenwood Springs began construction this week on three new single-track mountain biking trails in South Canyon on this week in conjunction with the Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association (RFMBA). The City will improve and/or construct approximately 5.5 miles of trails for biking, hiking, and running, utilizing the historic road bed for portions of the trail.

Three soft surface trails are expected to open for recreational use by June of this year. The three trails will include the following: a shared, beginner foot and bike path that crosses South Canyon Creek, a one direction mountain bike-focused trail intended for descending on moderate slopes, and a shared, intermediate trail with views of Horse Mountain ridge.

Mayor Mike Gamba believes the new South Canyon bike trails “will be a welcomed addition to the City’s recreational trails as they provide residents and visitors even more options for enjoying their time outdoors in Glenwood Springs.”

This property was originally used for coal mining from 1885 until the 1950s when the City bought the land. The bike trail project includes interpretive signage which will relay the significance of South Canyon’s coal mining history to Glenwood Springs and the State of Colorado.

The City is actively partnering with neighboring municipalities and local bike-focused agencies on a number of initiatives designed to promote and enhance Outdoor Recreation offerings in and around Glenwood Springs. Colorado is #1 in the nation for recreation based visits. Statewide, outdoor recreation contributes over \$34.5 billion in annual economic activity and creates 313,000 jobs, with the greatest amount of economic output from recreation in the Northwest Region, which the City of Glenwood Springs is a part of.

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