



**2024-2025
Off-Highway Vehicle Program
State Trail Grant Application**

Name of Project: Farris Creek Bypass Trail Reconstruction		Date of Application: 11/1/2023
<i>(Please limit the project name to 5 words or less)</i>		
Total Project Cost: \$ 52,500.00	Grant Request: \$ 34,000.00	
<i>(round off to the nearest \$1)</i>	<i>Amount Requested (round off to the nearest \$1) must match the Project Budget Form.</i>	
PROJECT SPONSOR (Name and Address for entity legally responsible for project)		
Organization Name: Gunnison Ranger District, USFS		
Mailing Address: 216 N. Colorado St., Gunnison, CO. 81230		
Telephone: (970) 641-0471	Email: gregory.austin@usda.gov	
OFFICIAL USE ONLY – UEI # (IF REQUIRED):		
https://sam.gov/content/duns-uei		
PROJECT CONTACT This is the person with day-to-day responsibility for the managing the project, ensuring the contract scope of work will be fulfilled. Please notify us if <i>Project Contact</i> changes.		
Name: Greg Austin	Title: Trails Manager	
Mailing Address: 216 N. Colorado St., Gunnison, CO. 81230		
Telephone: (970) 641-0471	Email: gregory.austin@usda.gov	
	Is this the primary contact for this grant: YES	
PROJECT CLOSE-OUT CONTACT This is the person responsible for submitting receipts for project spending and close-out. Please notify us if <i>Project Contact</i> changes.		
Name: Same as project contact info	Title:	
Mailing Address:		
Telephone:	Email:	
GRANTS & AGREEMENTS SPECIALIST (USFS only) or BUDGET CONTACT (BLM only)		
Name: Amanda Marr	Title: Agreements Specialist	
Mailing Address: USDA Forest Service, 1617 Cole Boulevard, Building 17, Lakewood, CO. 80401		
Telephone: 605-515-8812	Email: amanda.marr@usda.gov	

PROJECT LOCATION	
Nearest Town or City: Crested Butte	
County(ies): Gunnison	
Provide a point of reference for mapping purposes (i.e. a google searchable landscape feature): Point Lookout near Crested Butte, Colorado	
Township/Range/Section: R85W, T14S, Sec(s) 10, 11, 14	
State Senate District #: District #5	State Representative District #: District #3
LAND OWNERSHIP	
1. Provide the name/s of the property owners:	
2. The trail corridor is controlled by: <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Simple <input type="checkbox"/> Lease <input type="checkbox"/> Easement <input type="checkbox"/> License <input type="checkbox"/> Right-of-Way <input type="checkbox"/> Land Acquisition Ownership to be obtained <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (explain): USFS	
TRAIL SYSTEM INFORMATION (List the number of miles for each type of OHV trail in your area)	
Miles of Singletrack: 401	Miles of 50" or less: 136 Miles of Full-sized: _____
TRAIL USER INFORMATION (Please check all that apply to the work planned for this project)	
<input type="checkbox"/> All-Terrain Vehicle	<input type="checkbox"/> Side x Side
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motorcycling	<input type="checkbox"/> Four-Wheeling
	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Sized 4X4
	<input type="checkbox"/> Accessible Access
PROJECT INFORMATION (Please check all activities that apply to this project.) Include detailed information for each in the Project Scope of Work.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trail Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> Travel Plan Implementation
<input type="checkbox"/> *New Trail Construction miles / ft. _____ (Approved through Travel Mgt Decision)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource Protection & Improvement
<input type="checkbox"/> *Major Re-Route miles / ft. closed _____ (that will require new or additional environmental approvals) miles / ft. added _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Signs
	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Corps
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restoration/Rehabilitation (existing corridor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visitor Contacts & Law Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> Capital Equipment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Acquisition or Other
* New Trail Construction & Major Re-Route: Trail location(s) must be indicated on project map and detailed description of trail work plans must be provided in Project Selection Criteria, Section D-1, #3 Resource Protection, Enhancement & Restoration	
TRAIL ACTIVITIES SUMMARY (Based on your project description and budget, provide the percentage for each of categories listed below)	
% of Budget	Program maintenance (e.g., erosion controls, water bars and culverts, trail clearing and brushing, trail hardening and trail tread repairs, bridge construction and repairs, trailhead improvements and maintenance, crew wages, etc.)
90%	
5%	Enforcement, Education & Visitor Contacts (e.g., patrols, enforcement, education and visitor contacts, wages, safety contacts, equipment, etc.)
	Planning & Travel Plan Implementation (e.g., planning, engineering, maps, inventorying, travel management signs & installation, decommission non-system routes, rehabilitation, new construction, wages, monitoring, etc.)
5%	Equipment /Materials/ Signs/ Youth Corps/Miscellaneous (e.g., equipment maintenance and repair, personnel training, certification in the use of specialized equipment, program coordination, etc.)
100%	Total: (Note: Percentages should add to 100 %)

SCOPE OF WORK – Project Description:**Project Name: Farris Creek Bypass Trail Reconstruction****Project No.:**
(to be completed by CPW)**Project Sponsor: Gunnison Ranger District, USFS****Application Year: 2024-2025****Project Contact: Greg Austin****Application No.:**
(to be completed by CPW)**Total Project Cost: \$ 52,500.00****Grant Request: \$ 34,000.00****Project Description:****WHO?**

The USDA Forest Service, Gunnison Ranger District would be responsible for the project. The project is located on Public Lands managed by the Forest Service. It is planned that work will be accomplished by U.S. Forest Service force account trail crew personnel with possible help from either Western Colorado Conservation Corp. (WCCC), Crested Butte Conservation Corp. crews or other non-profit trail crew personnel if needed. Volunteers may also help accomplish the project.

WHERE?

The project is located on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison National Forest, Gunnison Ranger District all within Gunnison County, Colorado. This agency and Ranger District are responsible for managing the land which the project is located and is responsible for the Farris Creek Bypass Trail #409.5A. The project is north of Gunnison and southeast of Crested Butte, Colorado. The Farris Creek Bypass Trail is the **MAIN motorized access trail** to the Double Top area Trail system coming from Crested Butte. The Double Top system is between the Brush Creek and Cement Creek drainages southeast of Crested Butte. The condition of Trail #409.5A varies along its entire length. (**See maps**).

WHAT?

Farris Creek Bypass Trail is approximately 2.7 miles long. The primary goal is to reconstruct the trail to a more sustainable condition and to slow continued deterioration. Currently the trail has fall-line sections of trail with multiple parallel braids that keep getting created over time. Two primary tasks of this project will be minor trail realignments with grade reversals and armoring of trail to harden the trail surface where needed. Total cumulative trail realignment is estimated to be approximately ¼ mile. Trail hardening with rock or block will also be implemented at turns or where soil conditions require armoring. Restoration of multiple trail braids and abandoned trail sections will be accomplished with check dams and trench backfill techniques.

WHEN?

Work will primarily be performed in one or two four to five-month field season(s) as two seasons would be available for the Ranger District to complete all work and spend the funding on the trail reconstruction project. If awarded, funding and implementing the work would take place in portions of the 2025 and or 2026 summer field seasons. This trail crew will also be splitting their field seasons finishing or starting other grant funded projects so the work could occur over portions of those two summer field seasons.

Program Funding Acknowledgement:

If funding is awarded the project will be acknowledged in several ways. On a daily basis, "*Trail Work Ahead*" signs will be placed above and below the working trail crews that will be working on the *Farris Creek Bypass Trail Reconstruction* project. The signs include the blue and white Colorado Parks and Wildlife "***Colorado OHV Registration Dollars at Work***" sticker as part of the sign. The signs state that the project is being funded by the Colorado State OHV Registration Fund. Also, the sticker will be prominent on some of the trail crew's equipment. Examples include the motorized power carriers that are used by crews. The sticker is also prominently displayed by the Ranger District's Good Management trail crew. The trail crew members at times will also be wearing the CPW provided OHV Trail Crew shirts that give acknowledgement to the Colorado OHV Registration Program. The project will also most likely get mentioned or covered in the local newspapers as previous Gunnison Ranger District grant projects have been featured. Credit to the Colorado Parks and Wildlife "*OHV Registration Dollars at Work*" is also featured at some of the Ranger District's informational kiosks. The State's annual brochure covering funded projects would also acknowledge the project and the State OHV Grant Program. Lastly, as we partner with college volunteer groups, youth corp. or other organizations, acknowledgement of the funding program will be promoted. This promotion will educate users and volunteers on the importance of OHV Registration and how much the funding supports great trails.

Budget Form

Project Name: Farris Creek Bypass Trail Reconstruction

Date Project will be Completed: Nov. 2026

Project Sponsor: Gunnison Ranger District

ITEMS LISTED IN THE BUDGET BELOW SHOULD BE SPECIFIC AND CORRESPOND TO THE PLANNED ACTIVITIES INDICATED IN THE PROJECT DESCRIPTION (SCOPE OF WORK) IN YOUR GRANT APPLICATION. (Round amounts off to nearest dollar)

PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES <small>List all sources and amounts of project funding in this section (insert additional lines if needed)</small>	CASH	In-Kind (Non-Cash) Contributions	TOTAL
OHV Grant Funding (amount of requested OHV grant funds only)			\$34,000.00
Other Funding Sources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
U.S. Forest Service	\$ -	\$ -	\$16,000.00
Volunteers (Estimated Value)	\$ -	\$ -	\$2,500.00
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
USE OF GRANT FUNDING <small>List uses of grant funding (only) below</small>	TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT		\$ 52,500.00

I. Personnel Costs <small>Identify as: Salary/wage, benefits, travel, training, outfitting costs, personal protection equipment, etc.</small>			
Employee Name or Title/Grade	\$ Per Hr		Total Cost
GS-5 Forestry Technician	\$18.60		\$5,952.00
GS-4 Forestry Technician	\$16.62		\$5,318.40
GS-4 Forestry Technician	\$16.62		\$5,318.40
GS-4 Forestry Technician	\$16.62		\$5,318.40
GS-3 Forestry Aid	\$14.81		\$4,739.20
Field Per Diem			\$5,500.00
	1,728.30	Category Total	\$ 32,146.40

II. Project Materials/Supplies <small>Identify as: Signs, rock, lumber, paint, nails, printing, maps/guides, education materials, etc.</small>			
Misc Supplies, Block, pins,	Price Per	Quantity	Total
	\$ -		\$800.00
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
		Category Total	\$ 800.00

III. Equipment <small>Identify as: Trail Dozers, ATV/UTV, motorcycle, chainsaws, winches, field equipment rentals, equipment fuel, repairs, and operations, etc.</small>			
Power Carrier/OHV Fuel, Repairs of equipment, etc.	\$	-	Total
	\$ -		\$1,000.00
	\$ -		\$ -
		Category Total	\$ 1,000.00

III.A. FLEET Equipment <small>Identify as: Crew Fleet Vehicles/Trucks monthly FOR & USE, Fleet Equipment monthly USE.</small>			
	\$	-	Total
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
		Category Total	\$ -

IV. Contracted Services <small>Identify as: Youth Corps, NEPA, planning, engineering, construction contractor/subcontractor costs</small>			
	\$	-	Total
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
		Category Total	\$ -

V. Volunteer Support <small>Identify as: For Volunteers Only Safety education, safety gear (gloves/goggles), outfitting, per diem (meals or mileage when travel required by and identified in project scope of work), non-monetary awards or recognition.</small>			
	\$	-	Total
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
		Category Total	\$ -

*\$33,946.40 Rounded to \$34,000.00

Total	\$ 33,946.40
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G. P. Arlin PROJECT MANAGER 11/2/2023 *

C-1

FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION and LAND MANAGER APPROVAL

The applicant is responsible for securing all necessary permits, licenses, clearances, SHPO, and environmental analysis documentation necessary to comply with local, state, and/or federal laws.

Project Name Farris Creek Bypass Trail Reconstruction Project Sponsor Gunnison Ranger District

As the official responsible for management of the land on which the project will be accomplished, I agree to the following:

- 1. The project as described in this application has my approval.
2. The project is located on federal public lands and is in conformance with the appropriate Forest Management Plan, BLM Resource Area Management Plan or other decision document titled:

Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan Date: 9/23/1991

- 3. A decision has been issued as part of the NEPA environmental review process.

Date and title of document:

6/30/2010 Record of Decision, Gunnison National Forest Travel Management, Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison National Forest

If a decision has not been issued as part of the NEPA environmental review process, please state the reason why. No funds will be distributed until any required NEPA documentation is completed.

For more information about the NEPA environmental review process, contact:

Greg Austin, Gunnison Ranger District Trails Manager, 970 641-0471

- 4. The next planning process that may affect this project is planned for (date).

Dayle Funka 11/1/2023
Land Manager's Name and Title

DAYLE FUNKA, District Ranger

D-1

PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

FARRIS CREEK BYPASS TRAIL RECONSTRUCTION Gunnison Ranger District

1. Need for & Benefit of the Project (25 points):

This grant request proposes to reconstruct and realign segments of National Forest System Trail #409.5A, *Farris Creek Bypass Trail*. Realignment of fall-line sections of trail, hardening/armoring of trail and obliteration/restoration of multiple trail braids and abandoned sections of trail will be accomplished. Reconstruction of the trail aims to create long term sustainability.

Trail riding opportunities for motorcycles and other users will be improved if a sustainable single-track trail is re-established. Construction of sustainable grades and grade reversals with a flowy riding experience going either uphill or downhill will accomplish this. Reconstruction of the Farris Creek Bypass Trail aims to accomplish this as well as restore and obliterate ugly multiple braid sections of trail. Aesthetics of the trail and the land will be improved. Natural resource protection will be improved.

The *Farris Creek Bypass trail* has been maintained over the years by the district's Good Management Trail Crew and many years ago by the Forest's Trail Dozer. Many of the machine-built drainage structures are still evident and will be maintained. The trail is a priority at this time because it is the primary single-track motorcycle access trail to the Double Top trail system particularly for users coming from the Brush Creek drainage and Crested Butte.

The primary goal and *benefit* of this grant proposal is to **improve user experiences, maintain sustainable trail** and to **protect natural resources**.

2. Partnerships, Support and Leverage (25 points):

A Broad spectrum of support exists for this project. Not only do motorized user groups or vendors support this project but the local mountain bike organizations/non-motorized trail organizations have provided letters supporting the project. All these groups are interested in protecting natural resources and improving user experiences on the *Farris Creek Bypass Trail #409.5A*.

The following is a list of supporters and or partners for this project:

- *Gunnison Motorsports
- *Gunnison Trails
- *Crested Butte Mountain Bike Association (CBMBA)
- *Gunnison OHV Alliance of Trail Riders (GOATS)
- *Trails Preservation Alliance (TPA)
- *Sun Sports Unlimited

Six letters of support are attached to the Application.

In the letters of support some of our partners have stated the following things as being important to this project:

"As in years past, the TPA continues our support of OHV trail work within the GRD as this District has repeatedly shown a notable commitment to multiple-use, motorized recreation and specifically support to motorcycle and motorized single-track recreation."

"The Gunnison Ranger District trail crews are well versed professionals that know how to make these improvements and provide for sustainability and positive resource improvements. We highly support the District's efforts and desire to do the much needed maintenance and resource improvements on this trail that is dear to the motorized and non-motorized user community in the Gunnison Ranger District."

Other support will come from volunteers. The **GOATS** in particular will help with the project. Also, the **Crested Butte Conservation Corp. (CBCC)** may work along-side Forest Service Trail Crews. College student volunteers from Western Colorado University (WCU) may also help with project implementation. The GOATS continue to support our trails by clearing trails and most recently provided help with realignment of the Doctor Park Trail #424 for the second consecutive year near Matchless Mountain on the Gunnison Ranger District.

The Forest Service will provide project oversight, supervision, hiring of personnel, vehicles, trailers, pack stock and equipment for the project as needed. The Forest Service will also provide grant administration as well as procurement/purchasing duties as related to the project. Grant closeout will be provided by the Forest Service. The Forest Service will also be providing any natural resource specialists or grant agreement specialists that are needed to support grant implementation.

Leverage Total:	Project oversight, supervision, hiring, Procurement, project planning, Grant Administration, vehicles, trailers, equipment, Livestock, etc. (FS Funds)	\$16,000.00
	Volunteer Work Days (Value Estimated) (Various user or local groups, etc.)	<u>\$2,500.00</u>
	Total Leverage	\$18,500.00

As stated earlier, acknowledgement and credit to the OHV grant program will be accomplished in a number of ways. **The primary means of acknowledgement will be the daily posting of "Trail Work Ahead" signs placed above and below the working trail crews that will be working on the Farris Creek Bypass Trail Reconstruction Project.** The signs include the blue and white Colorado Parks and Wildlife "*Colorado OHV Registration Dollars at Work*" sticker as part of the sign. The signs state that the project is being funded by the Colorado State OHV Registration Fund. Also, the sticker will be prominent on some of the equipment used by the *Farris Creek Bypass Trail Reconstruction Crew* such as the motorized power carriers that are used by trail crews. The grant program is also acknowledged at other locations on the Ranger District and by our Good Management trail crew. Crews also continue to educate all users that funding has been made possible by the State OHV registration program.

3. Resource Protection, Enhancement and Restoration relative to eligible OHV grant activities

(25 points):

The project meets the current and draft Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest Land Use Resource Management Plan guidelines. The project is also consistent with the signed 2010 Gunnison National Forest Travel Management Plan Record of Decision. This grant proposal and reconstruction project intends to protect and enhance resources and restore damaged and heavily braided fall-line trail if awarded funding starting in 2025. Restoration of ugly multiple trail braids is a major component of this project. This project will minimize natural resource impacts which currently is not occurring on the *Farris Creek Bypass Trail*. Natural resource protection will be enhanced with realignment, hardening and heavy maintenance. Restoration of the Farris Creek Bypass Trail is a priority and will provide a quality OHV riding opportunity and enhanced user experience. The presence of OHV trail use on public lands and the image of motorized recreation will be improved by this project.

4. Travel Management Plan Implementation, Education and Enforcement (25 points):

Travel Management:

This project is consistent with the 2010 Gunnison National Forest Travel Management Plan. This trail is managed primarily for motorcycles and primarily used by motorcycles and mountain bikes. However, hikers and equestrians are other allowed uses. The trail will continue to be managed this way for the foreseeable future. Trail reconstruction and minor realignment of the trail can only enhance the trail for motorized recreation as well as improve non-motorized recreation experiences. By improving trail #409.5A and providing an enhanced motorized trail, travel management compliance in the area is more likely to attain a high standard. Currently because of the fall-line sections of trail users are creating new adjacent trails. Users will continue to use and stay on trails if segments of this trail are reconstructed and realigned.

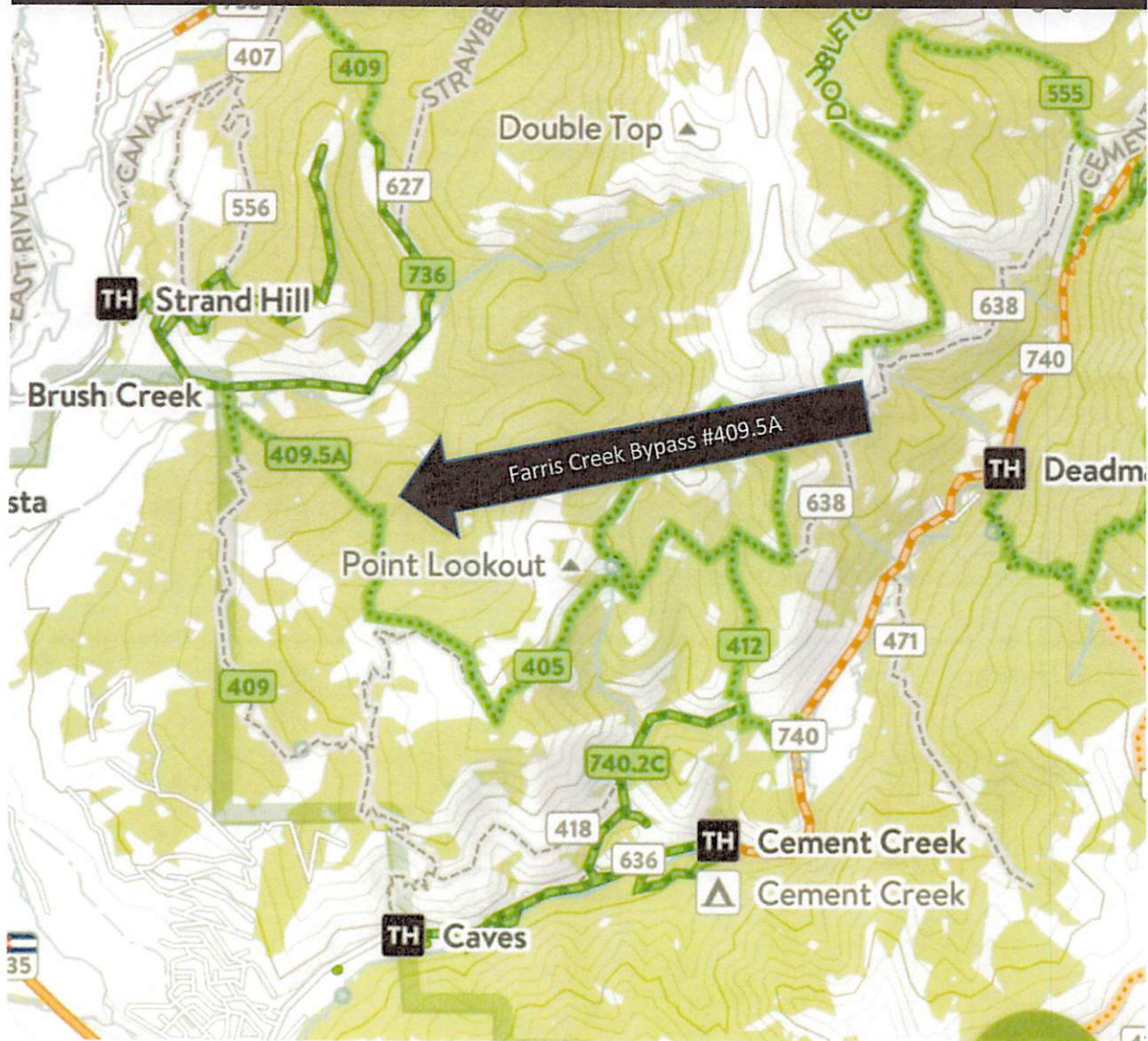
Education

Education of forest users will occur by trail crew members and land managers in the field making public contacts and interacting with trail users. The education will include how OHV registration fees are making their way back to the ground by applying the funds towards resource protection, resource restoration, trail reconstruction and heavy maintenance. Trail maintenance on the ground speaks volumes more than any other thing that Colorado Parks and Wildlife funds thru the trail grant program. This type of project demonstrates how OHV registration fees benefit the public and Public Lands. The district's Good Management Program will also bring attention to this project at special events hosted by the Forest Service and partners promoting "Stay the Trail" user ethics and responsible single-track trail use. The USFS will continue to post Travel Management, Tread Lightly and Stay the Trail user messages at visitor kiosks along with periodic displays of the Colorado "*OHV Registration Dollars at Work*" stickers or posters calling attention to the OHV Program.

Enforcement and Compliance Activities:

As mentioned above under Travel Management, OHV regulations and staying on designated routes should be enhanced by this project. Compliance with OHV regulations and the Motor Vehicle Map (MVUM) will benefit by providing trails that motorcycle users want to ride. It is estimated that approximately 5% of project time will be spent on education, enforcement and compliance activities. This occurs primarily by trail crew personnel making visitor contacts while they are being observed by the public reconstructing the trail included in this project.

Farris Creek Bypass Trail Reconstruction

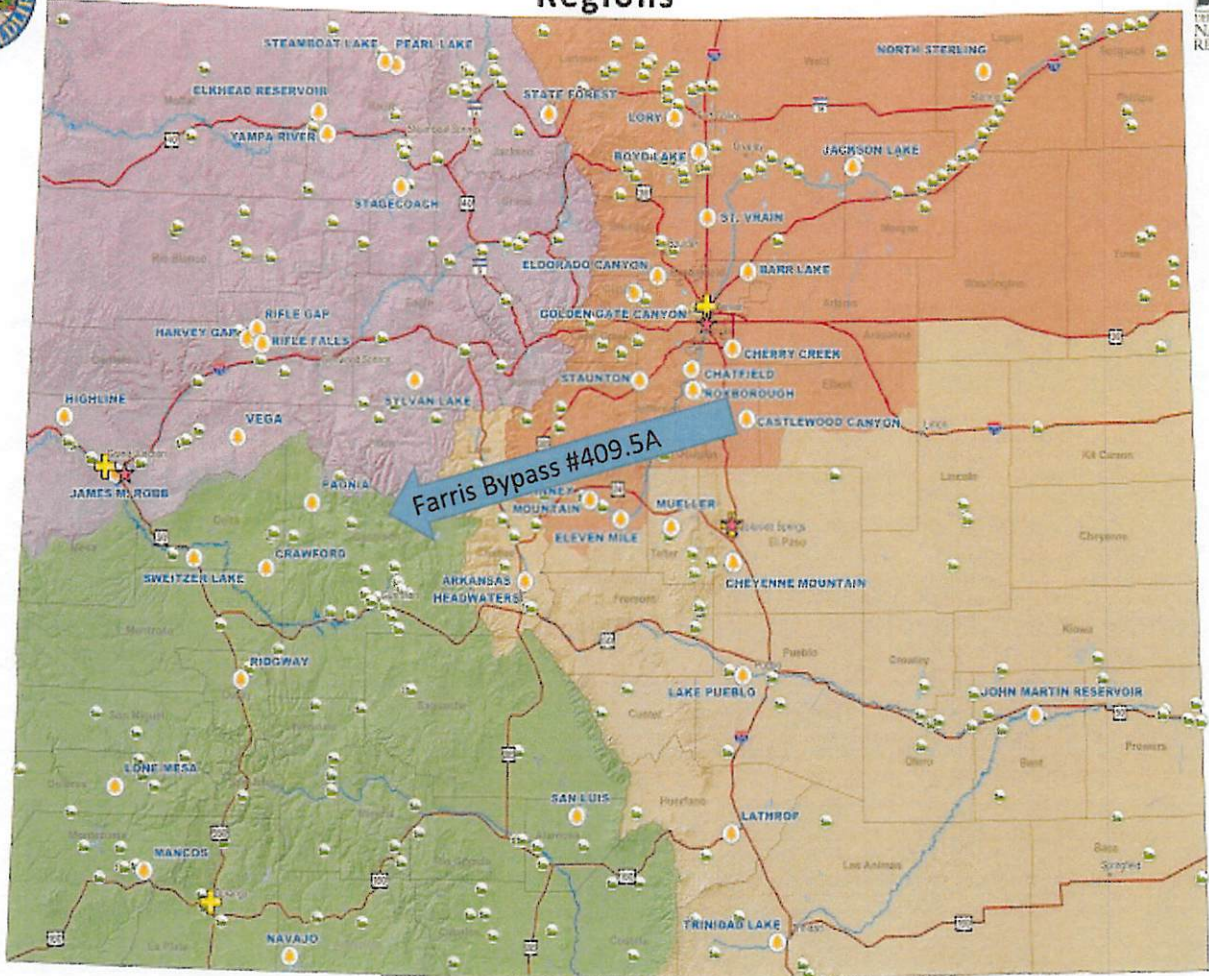


Farris Creek Bypass #409.5A Trail Reconstruction
Gunnison Ranger District MVUM



Farris Creek Bypass #409.5A Trail Reconstruction

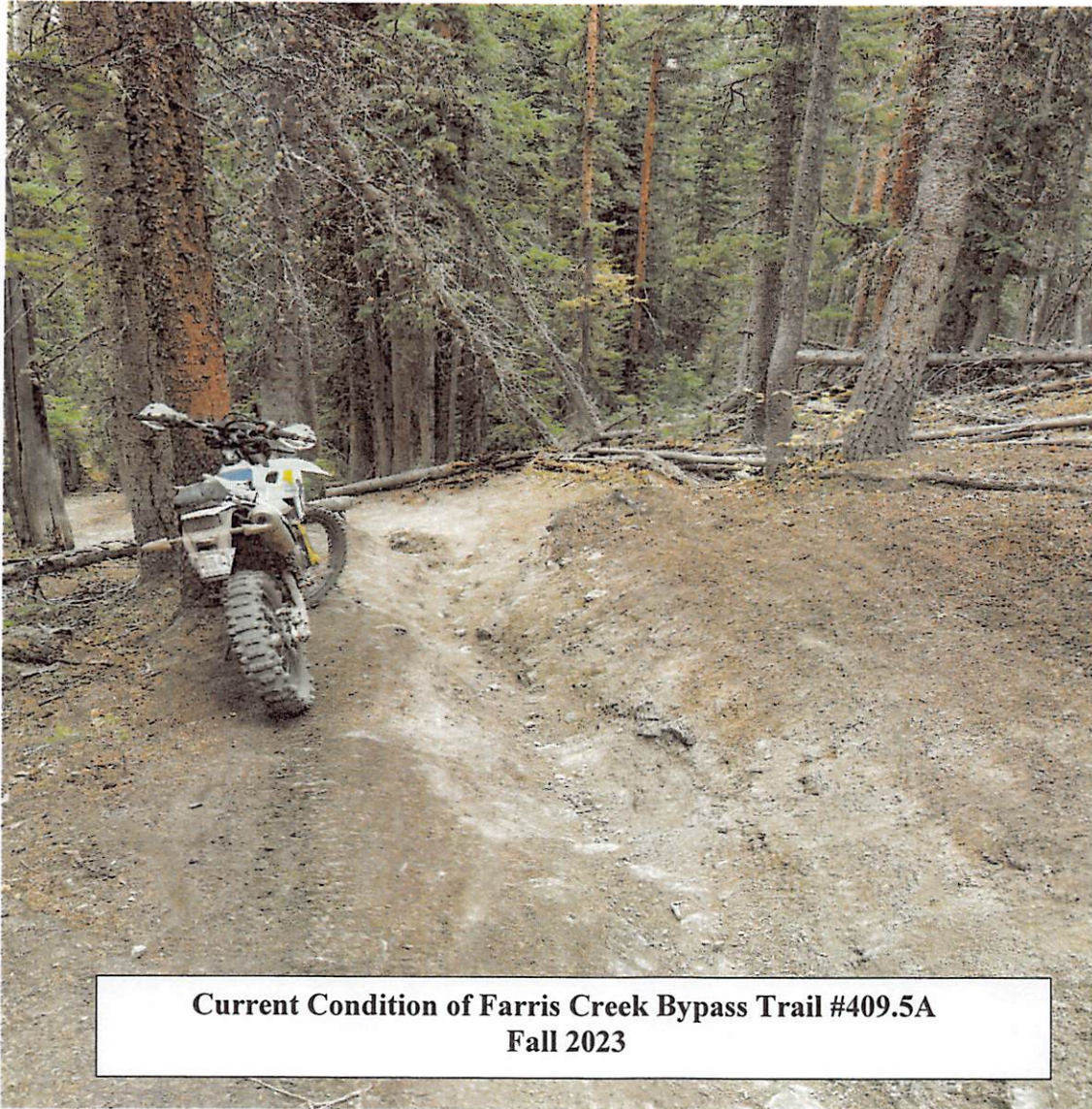
Colorado Parks and Wildlife Regions



- ★ Parks Region Office
 - ⊕ Wildlife Region Office
 - ⊙ State Parks
 - ⊙ State Wildlife Areas
- Regions**
- Orange: Northeast
 - Yellow: Southeast
 - Purple: Northwest
 - Green: Southwest

(F) Project Illustrations

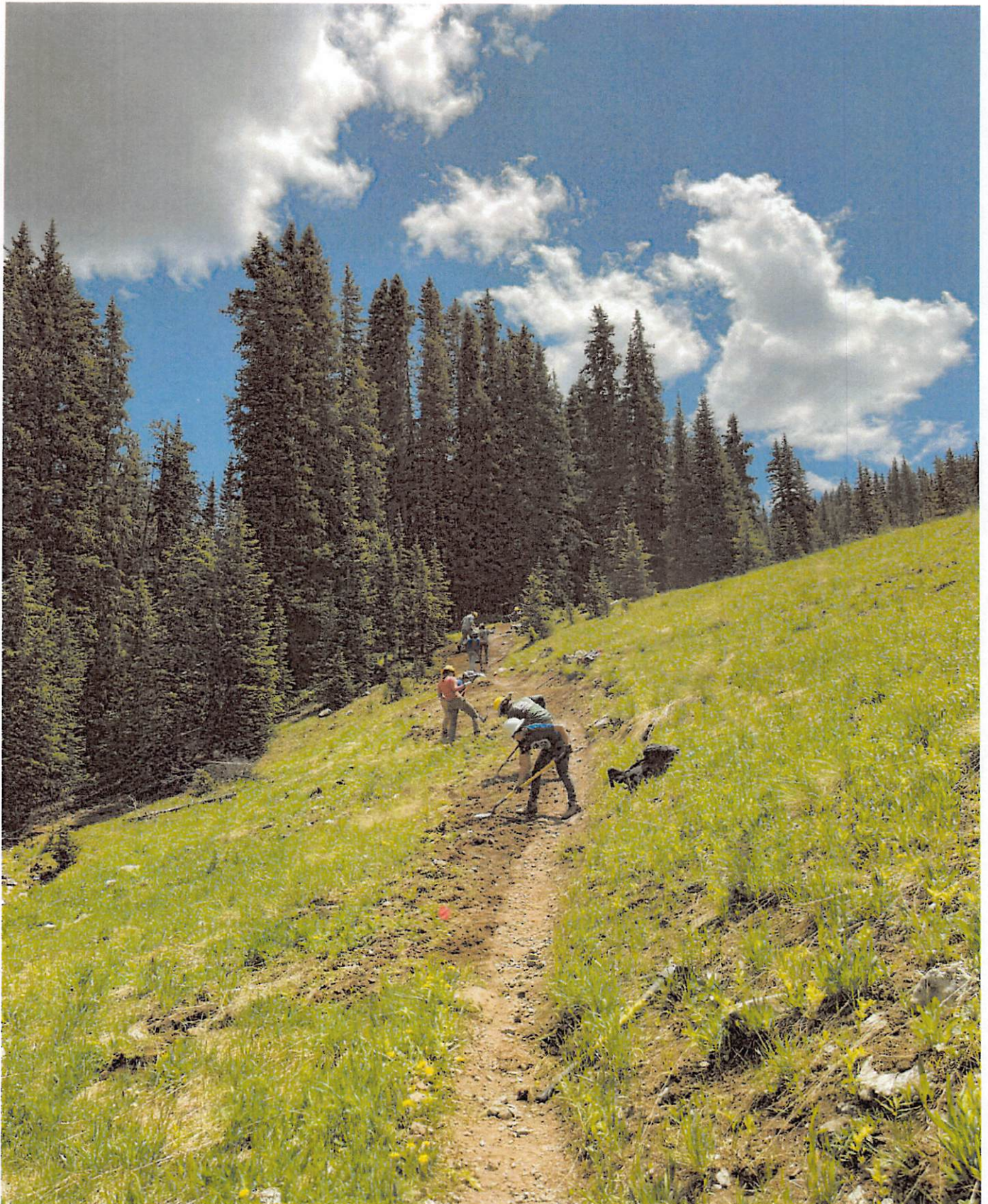




**Current Condition of Farris Creek Bypass Trail #409.5A
Fall 2023**

CPW "Dollars At Work" Sticker on
The Gunnison Ranger District





Doctor Park Trail #424, Reconstructing and Improving Tread

Letters of Project Support

500 W. Hwy 50 #105
Gunnison, CO 81230
(970)641-7377 Tel
(970)641-9077 Fax

**GUNNISON
MOTORSPORTS Inc.**

November 2, 2023

Colorado Parks & Wildlife
Tom Metsa – OHV Program Manager
13787 S. Hwy 85
Littleton, CO 80125

Re: Farris Creek Bypass Trail Reconstruction

Dear Mr. Metsa,

On behalf of Gunnison Motorsports Inc., I am writing this letter to support the Farris Creek Bypass Trail Reconstruction Project,

National Forest System Trail (NFST) #409.5A also known as Farris Creek Bypass Trail is approximately 2.7 miles long. This trail is managed as a motorized single-track trail. It is the primary motorized access trail from Crested Butte to access the Double Top trail system between Brush Creek and Cement Creeks. In addition to motorized vehicles, hikers, bicyclists and equestrians also use the trail. The condition of the trail varies along its entire length, however, 1 or 2 particular fall-line sections need to be re-aligned to more sustainable grades with grade reversals to improve trail sustainability. Some of the tread has been straightened out due to improper clearing, high speeds or short-cutting. Crews will re-establish tread to more sustainable locations and re-establish grade reversals. More trail armoring with rock may also occur.

This project is important as it is intended to protect natural resources, improve user experience and highlight the State OHV Trail Grant Program.

We support this project and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Fritz Kadlec, owner



November 7, 2023

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Tom Metsa - OHV Program Manager
13787 S. Highway 85
Littleton, CO 80125

Re: Farris Creek Bypass Trail Reconstruction

Dear Tom Metsa,

I am writing in support of the Gunnison Ranger District's grant application to fund heavy maintenance and trail reconstruction work on the Farris Creek Bypass Trail #409.5. I am the Executive Director of Gunnison Trails, a 501c3 non-profit trail advocacy organization located in Gunnison, Colorado. Gunnison Trails formed in 2006 to assist our local land managers with trail maintenance and to educate users on responsible trail-based recreation in the Gunnison Valley. We work closely with our partners at the Gunnison Ranger District to maintain motorized and non-motorized trails on the Gunnison National Forest, and we strongly support the much needed maintenance on trail 409.5.

Trail 409.5 is an immensely popular trail with relatively easy access from Crested Butte. For hikers, trail runners and mountain bikers, 409.5 is easily accessed from the Strand Hill network of singletrack and makes for a fantastic loop when combined with trail 409 and the Point Lookout trail. For motorized users, 409.5 is the primary access trail for the Double Top trail system, providing further connectivity to trails in Cement Creek, Spring Creek and Taylor Park. 409.5 is a critical trail link between the Brush Creek and Cement Creek drainages.

While 409.5 receives annual maintenance, there are sections of the trail that are badly cupped and braided and are in need of re-alignment. There are several fall-line sections of 409.5 where mountain bikers and moto riders carry significant speed, and the braided and rutted state of the trail is becoming hazardous. Additional drainage and grade reversals are needed along portions of the trail that have become straightened and are now carrying water and leading to further erosion.

409.5 is a must-do trail for many riders and hikers. While its popularity can be attributed in part to the connectivity the trail provides, 409.5 also offers an amazing trail experience. It traverses alpine meadows, dense stands of conifer and aspen and offers outstanding views of Mt. Crested Butte and the Elk mountains. Gunnison Trails is excited to see trail 409.5 prioritized for heavy maintenance work and we strongly support the Gunnison Ranger District's application to the State. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Tim Kugler
Executive Director, Gunnison Trails

November 9, 2023

Colorado Parks & Wildlife
Tom Metsa – OHV Program Manager
13787 S. Hwy 85
Littleton, CO. 80125



Re: Support for Farris Creek Bypass Trail 409.5a Reconstruction

The Crested Butte Mountain Bike Association (CBMBA) is in support of the Gunnison Ranger District's OHV Trail Grant application for Trail #409.5A. Trail 409.5A is the only motorized connection between the Cement Creek drainage and the Brush Creek drainage in the 'close to town' area between Crested Butte and Cement Creek (Crested Butte South). Other trails that connect the two drainages are very much further up the drainages, and require many miles, more elevation, and more connections to make them happen.

409.5A is a well-loved 'local' trail that incorporates the best of access and expert level riding for both motorized and non-motorized users. It provides the closest access to the 'Brush Creek' side, or Town of CB side to the lower Cement Creek area and network of motorized trails, in addition to the non-motorized trails.

From the Farris Creek Trail and Road #9409, 409.5A is the direct link to the most highly sought after and used motorized trails in the Crested Butte trails network. Hikers also frequent the trail, and use it as a direct link between trail networks.

With the addition of e-bikes to the motorized network, 409.5A also provides legal access for this growing user group, and this trail is used both directions. Sustainable re-routes to prolong and sustain the resource, as well as provide better user experiences are very much needed. Deeply rutted fall line sections, and riparian alignments need modern and progressive maintenance re-routes and improvements. Surface hardening and trail armoring, along with grade reversals and water mitigation will greatly improve the resource sustainability.

The Gunnison Ranger District trail crews are well versed professionals that know how to make these lasting improvements and provide for sustainability and positive resource improvements. We highly support the Districts efforts and desire to do the much needed maintenance and resource improvements on this trail that is dear to the motorized and non-motorized user community in the Gunnison Ranger District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Ochs', written over a faint background watermark of a person riding a mountain bike.

David Ochs – Executive Director
Crested Butte Mountain Bike Association - *Since 1983*
dave@cbmba.org - 970.349.7324



Colorado Parks & Wildlife
Tom Metsa – OHV Program Manager
13787 S. Hwy. 85
Littleton, CO 80125

11/10/2023

RE: Farris Creek Bypass Trail Reconstruction

To Whom it may concern:

Farris Creek Bypass Trail (known locally as #409.5A) is located near Crested Butte, Colorado. It is a 2.7-mile-long mixed use singletrack trail that provides access to the Double Top Trail System for both motorized singletrack users and non-motorized users. This trail is extremely popular for both mountain bike riders and motorcycle riders. As the trail has gained popularity and seen increased use over the last few years, portions of the trail have deteriorated rapidly. There are several sections of the trail that need re-aligned to keep the trail sustainable. Realignment of several of the trail sections will ensure long term sustainability and create a more enjoyable experience for users of all types.

We, the Gunnison GOAT's, support the Forest Service Request for funding for the Farris Creek Bypass Trail Reconstruction Project. Improvement and care for our trails, strong partnership, and proactive natural resource planning efforts are crucial to keeping our multi-use trails sustainable and enjoyable. As such, we hope you will fund this valuable grant proposal.

Sincerely,

Geoff Heller

President

Gunnison Valley OHV Alliance of Trailriders

gunnicbgoats@gmail.com



November 8, 2023

Off-Highway Vehicle Grant Program
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
13787 South Highway 85
Littleton, CO 80125

SUBJECT: Letter of Support OHV Grant Application, Gunnison Ranger District – Farris Creek Bypass Trail Reconstruction

Dear Mr. Metsa and members of the State Trails Committee, OHV Subcommittee:

Please accept this letter from the Colorado Trails Preservation Alliance (TPA) as a letter of support for the Gunnison Ranger District's (GRD) OHV Grant application for the reconstruction of Farris Creek Bypass Trail, National Forest System Trail (NFST) #409.5A. The TPA is an advocacy organization created to be a viable partner to public lands managers, working with the United States Forest Service (USFS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to preserve the sport of motorized trail riding and multiple-use recreation. The TPA acts as an advocate for the sport and takes the necessary action to ensure that the USFS and BLM allocate a fair and equitable percentage of public lands access to diverse multiple-use trail recreational opportunities.

The TPA supports this grant application submitted by the GRD for the reconstruction of the Farris Creek Bypass Trail. This motorized single-track provides the primary motorized access trail from Crested Butte to the Double Top trail system between Brush Creek and Cement Creek. This project will address non-sustainable trail sections through realignment, the use of more sustainable trail tread grades, grade reversals and improved trail design. The TPA endorses the value in protecting natural resources and enhanced rider experiences proposed through these improvements.

As in years past, the TPA continues our support of OHV trail work within the GRD as this District has repeatedly shown a notable commitment to multiple-use, motorized recreation and specifically support to motorcycle and motorized single-track recreation.

Sincerely,

Chad Hixon
Executive Director
Trails Preservation Alliance



Farris Creek Bypass Trail Reconstruction

We at Sun Sports Unlimited support the request for a grant to improve the Farris Creek Bypass Trail #409.5A. Our employees are all motorized single-track riders and see the high number of locals and tourists that use the trail systems as well. This section of single-track gives access to the popular Double Top trail system between Brush and Cement Creek. There are a couple sections of the trail that would benefit from some improvement. A grant funding the restoration and re-alignment of some fall-line sections would greatly improve the experience for motorized and non-motorized users, as well as improve trail sustainability by protecting natural resources. Sun Sports supports this grant request so that this popular access trail can continue to be sustainably used by all recreationalists.

Brinley Benson

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