



23
SE-M

Colorado State Parks & Wildlife

OHV Grant Committee

RE: OPHIR CREEK PARKING LOT EXPANSION PROJECT.

The Sangre Snowrunners work hard year-round as a liaison between the OHV community and our local US Forest Service & State Parks to keep areas open and work on an improved parking facility and trails for all outdoor enthusiasts.

The current parking lot area has become an increasingly problematic area with the parking of vehicles and trailers. As visitors park on the side of road, block private driveways and/or private land. This parking lot is a multi-use sport parking area 365 days of the year.

It is a popular recreational area for OHV enthusiast, ATV/UTV, motorcycles and snowmobile users.

Without adequate parking there is not enough room for vehicles pulling trailers to turn around safely and for people trying to unload their OHV, ATV/UTV, motorcycles and snowmobiles once they are already parked.

If a vehicle gets too close to the edge while trying to turn around, they end up getting stuck, blocking the whole area until they get help to free their vehicle and/or trailer.

With the expanded parking lot area, this will be a safer, larger area for all outdoor enthusiasts & their vehicles year-round!

The larger area could also be used as a staging area in case of an emergency.

Without a genuine partnership between the OHV community, the Forest Service & Colorado State Parks/Wildlife and Sangre Snowrunners, people would not be able to enjoy our favorite recreation area!

Please show your support and approval of The Sangre Snowrunners Snowmobile Club with their grant application for the OPHIR CREEK PARKING LOT EXPANSION PROJECT.

Sincerely,

Les Lewis

President,



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

Name of Project: Ophir Creek Parking Lot Renovation	Date of Application: 11/29/23
--	--------------------------------------

(Please limit the project name to 5 words or less)

Total Project Cost: \$103,423.00 <i>(round off to the nearest \$1)</i>	Grant Request: \$90,773.00 <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: Sangre Snowrunners Snowmobile Club	
Mailing Address: PO Box 523, Westcliffe, CO 81252	
Telephone: 719-250-1389	Email: lcgroomer@yahoo.com

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 *Project Contact* changes.

Name: Lester C Lewis	Title: President
Mailing Address: 2125 Chautard Dr, Pueblo, CO 81005	
Telephone: 719-250-1389	Email: lcgroomer@yahoo.com
Is this the primary contact for this grant: YES XX NO	

PROJECT CLOSE-OUT CONTACT This is the person responsible for submitting receipts for project spending and close-out. Please notify us if *Project Contact* changes.

Name: Lester C Lewis	Title: President
Mailing Address: 2125 Chautard Dr, Pueblo, CO 81005	
Telephone: 719-250-1389	Email: lcgroomer@yahoo.com

GRANTS & AGREEMENTS SPECIALIST (USFS only) or BUDGET CONTACT (BLM only)

Name:	Title:
Mailing Address:	
Telephone:	Email:

PROJECT LOCATION

Nearest Town or City: San Isabel

County(ies): Custer

Provide a point of reference for mapping purposes (i.e. a google searchable landscape feature):

Highway 165 near mile marker 11 in the San Isabel National Forest

Township/Range/Section: 23 South/69 West/of the 6th Principal Meridian, Colorado

State Senate District #: 60

State Representative District #: 3

LAND OWNERSHIP

1. Provide the name/s of the property owners: Pike-San Isabel National Forests & Cimarron & Comanche National Grasslands (PSICC)

2. The trail corridor is controlled by: Fee Simple Lease Easement License
 Right-of-Way Land Acquisition Ownership to be obtained Other (explain):**TRAIL SYSTEM INFORMATION** (List the number of miles for each type of OHV trail in your area)Miles of Singletrack: 52 Miles of 50" or less: 34 Miles of Full-sized: 209**TRAIL USER INFORMATION** (Please check all that apply to the work planned for this project) All-Terrain Vehicle Side x Side Full Sized 4X4 Motorcycling Four-Wheeling Accessible Access**PROJECT INFORMATION** (Please check all activities that apply to this project.)

Include detailed information for each in the Project Scope of Work.

 Trail Maintenance Travel Plan Implementation ***New Trail Construction** miles / ft. _____
(Approved through Travel Mgt Decision) Resource Protection & Improvement ***Major Re-Route** miles / ft. closed _____
(that will require new or additional *environmental* miles / ft. added _____
approvals) Signs Youth Corps Restoration/Rehabilitation (existing corridor) Planning Visitor Contacts & Law Enforcement Capital Equipment Education 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 the categories listed below.)

% of Budget 100%	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.)
	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.)
	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: Ophir Creek Parking Lot Renovation	Project No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Project Sponsor: Sangre Snowrunners Snowmobile Club	Application Year: 2024-2025
Project Contact: Lester C Lewis	Application No.: (to be completed by CPW)
Total Project Cost: \$103,923.00	Grant Request: \$90,773.00

Project Description: Please write a brief description of your project and the expected accomplishments. Be sure to include Who, What, When, and Where. This is your scope of work. (This section is not for project background, benefits or anything other than the actual work to be accomplished. Please address this information in question #2 of section D, Project Selection Criteria.)

Remove all instructional text (below) and replace it with information specific to this project request

WHO?

The OHV, UTV/ATV, motorcycle and snowmobile communities.

WHERE?

The location of this parking lot is near the junction of FS roads 360 & 364 in Custer County. The area is overseen by the San Carlos Ranger District; who have already conducted the proper land surveys, engineering and habitat research to ensure the location is safe for renovation.

WHAT? Expansion of the current parking lot will protect the surrounding natural habitat from people illegally parking. It will increase the number of recreational users who visit the area. The parking lot needs to be safer. The current situation leads to people double parking and blocking each other in. Expansion of the current parking lot will improve the safety of parking year-round. See photos of OHV, ATV/UTV and campers parking native habitat.

Explain what you are going to do or accomplish. What is the goal or the reason for your project? To increase the amount of parking for year-round use. To avoid parking illegally on surrounding areas and damaging the habitat. This could be used as an alternate stage area for an emergency and/or wildfire location if needed in this area. Also, it will prevent visitors from blocking homeowner driveways.

List your deliverables in a series of short sentences or statements of work. Break down the project into a list of specific activities to be completed. These should be quantifiable items that correspond to the categories on your budget page. Include quantity or quality as part of your description of work to be performed. How long? How many? How many feet? How many miles? What materials will be used? Is a specific standard or guideline being used?

- 1) Expanding the current parking lot by approximately half an acre.
- 2) Resurface and grade parking area.
- 3) Soil stabilization matting and reseeding.
- 4) Haul in fill material and resurfacing material.
- 5) Signage

WHEN? When will you be working on the project? When will you start project? When will you be done? What is the project timeline?

Project will start when funds are available. Weather permitting summer of 2024.

Projected time line is 75 days.

Project should be completed end of summer or fall of 2024.

Program Funding Acknowledgement – By State Trails Committee Policy, project sponsors are required to acknowledge and credit the OHV grant program for funding received. Please describe how your project will provide that acknowledgement (i.e., signs, logo's, kiosks, etc.) Please incorporate the *Colorado Registration Dollars at Work* logo within that acknowledgement.
A sign at the trailhead, list on the CSA snowmobile club website and Facebook page.

Budget Form

Project Name: Ophir Creek Parking Lot Renovation

Date Project will be Completed: By Fall 2025

Project Sponsor: Sangres Snowrunners Snowmobile Club

****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)	\$ 90,773		\$ 90,773.00
Other Funding Sources <small>List other sources of project funding, here, and for what the funding will be used. (insert more lines if needed)</small>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Example: To provide additional Salary, Materials, and/or Equipment	\$ 12,650.00	\$ -	\$ 12,650.00
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
USE OF GRANT FUNDING <small>List uses of grant funding (only) below</small>	TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT		\$ 103,423.00

I. Personnel Costs
Identify as: Salary/wage, benefits, *travel, training, outfitting costs, personal protection equipment, etc. Non-Profit organizations will be required to purchase

Club Member/Employee Name or Title	\$ Per Hr		Total Cost
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -
<small>For CPW use only: Approximate number of workhours</small>	#DIV/0!	Category Total	\$ -

II. Project Materials/Supplies
Identify as: Signs, rock, lumber, paint, nails, printing, maps/guides, education materials, etc.

	Price Per	Quantity	Total	
Erosion control material	\$ 1,098.00	1	\$ 1,098.00	\$ 1,098.00
Stump disposal	\$ 540.00	1	\$ 540.00	\$ 540.00
Fill material 1840 tons \$16,560 & Finish Material 1 1/2" - crushed stone \$4335	\$ 20,895.00	1	\$ 20,895.00	\$ 20,895.00
			Category Total	\$ 22,533.00

III. Equipment
Identify as: Trail Dozer, ATV, motorcycle, chainsaws, field equipment rentals, equipment fuel and repairs, fleet vehicle operations, etc.

Equipment, labor & for placing, grading, sloping & compacting fill & finishing	\$ 31,000.00	1	\$ 31,000.00	\$ 31,000.00
Site porta potty	\$ 2,360.00	1	\$ 2,360.00	\$ 2,360.00
Trucking of fill material and finished material	\$ 34,880.00	1	\$ 34,880.00	\$ 34,880.00
			Category Total	\$ 68,240.00

III.A. FLEET Equipment
Identify as: Crew Fleet Vehicles/Trucks monthly FOR & USE, Fleet Equipment monthly USE.

	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
			Category Total	\$ -

IV. Volunteer Support
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.

Provide labor and tools to remove trees and brush within the construction boundary.	\$ -			\$ -
	\$ 3,950.00	1		\$ 3,950.00
Provide labor and tools to place soil stabilization fabric, drainage socks, and seeding on finished slopes of the project	\$ 8,700.00	1		\$ 8,700.00
			Category Total	\$ 12,650.00

V. Insurance
(Non-profit organizations only)

Kagan & Sons has GL insurance	\$ -			\$ -
			Category Total	\$ -

VI. Grant Administrative Costs (Non-profit organizations only)
Identify as: administrative costs, office supplies, postage, phone charges, computer & printer supplies, etc. (Up to 5% of amount spent)

	\$ -			\$ -
	\$ -			\$ -
			Category Total	\$ -

* Non-profit organizations that reimburse travel expenses will be required to use OHV Program Travel Forms - provided upon request

Note: Any changes to the budget must have pre-approval from the Program

Total	\$ 103,423.00
--------------	----------------------

C-1

FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION and LAND MANAGER APPROVAL

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

Project Name	Ophir Creek Parking Lot Renovation	Project Sponsor	Sangres Snowrunners Snowmobile Club
--------------	------------------------------------	-----------------	-------------------------------------

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:

Pike and San Isabel National Forests Land and Resource Management Plan Date: 11/18/1984

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

Date and title of document:

Ophir Creek Snowmobile Parking Lot Expansion Decision Signed: 11/30/2020

If not, please state reason and the estimated date when NEPA will be complete. [No funds will be distributed until any required NEPA documentation is completed.]

For more information contact:

Destiny Chapman, San Carlos District Ranger, 719-269-8701

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

Destiny Chapman, San Carlos District Ranger

Print or type Land Manager's Name and Title

 , District Ranger
Land Manager Signature and Title

11/10/2023

Date



DECISION MEMO
OPHIR CREEK SNOWMOBILE PARKING LOT EXPANSION
U.S. FOREST SERVICE
PIKE AND SAN ISABEL NATIONAL FORESTS, CIMARRON AND
COMANCHE NATIONAL GRASSLANDS
SAN CARLOS RANGER DISTRICT
CUSTER COUNTY, COLORADO
NEI/4, SECTION 8, T23S, R69W, 6TH P.M.
PALS # 58878

DECISION

The Ophir Creek Snowmobile Trail System is a popular area for winter motorized recreation in southeast Colorado. The trail system provides groomed trail access to Deer Peak and upper Greenhorn Mountain portion of the San Carlos Ranger District. Trailhead parking use has increased over the years along with changes in vehicle and trailer size by snowmobile users. The San Carlos Ranger District received a proposal to enlarge the current parking area below the winter closure gate on the Ophir Creek Road National Forest System Road 360 (NFSR 360).

The project area is identified in the Pike and San Isabel National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan as Management Area 7A: Wood Fiber Production and Utilization, which emphasizes productive tree stand management on lands available, capable, and suitable for production of a variety of commercial and noncommercial wood products. Roadbed-natural recreation opportunities are provided along Forest arterial and collector roads. Semi-primitive motorized recreation opportunities are provided on those local roads and trails that remain open, and semi-primitive nonmotorized opportunities are provided on those that are closed.

Based on the results of public scoping and the project analysis I have decided to authorize the expansion of the Ophir Creek Snowmobile Parking Lot. My decision incorporates project specific design features in Appendix A.

This activity falls within a category of actions which normally do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment and may be categorically excluded from documentation in an environmental impact statement or environmental assessment.

This category of actions is identified in 36 CFR 220. 6(e)(3): Approval, modification, or continuation of minor special uses of NFS lands that require less than five contiguous acres of land. This category of action(s) is applicable because this project would amend the Sangre Snow Runners special use permit approving the approximate 0.5-acre parking area adjoining NFSR 360. Therefore, I am categorically excluding the described project from documentation in an environmental impact statement or environmental assessment.

I find that there are no extraordinary circumstances that would warrant hunger analysis and documentation in an environmental impact statement or environmental assessment. I considered

resource conditions identified in agency procedures that should be considered in determining whether extraordinary circumstances might exist:

- Federally listed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat, species proposed for Federal listing or proposed critical habitat, or Forest Service sensitive species United States Fish and Wildlife Service concurrence was received on November 2, 2020, for the determination of "may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect" for one Federally threatened species analyzed for this project: Canada lynx.

There are no records or habitat for any federally endangered, threatened, or proposed plant species, or any Regional Forester sensitive species. The proposed project will have no effect, direct, indirect or cumulative, on rare plant species.

- Floodplains, wetlands, or municipal watersheds. Design criteria have been included to ensure that soil health and water quality are protected. There will be no significant impacts to riparian, wetland, municipal watershed, floodplain, or soils resources from this project.
- Congressionally designated areas such as wilderness, wilderness study areas, or national recreation areas —^o There are no congressionally designated areas within the project area.
- Inventoried roadless areas or potential wilderness areas There are no inventoried roadless areas or potential wilderness areas within the project area.
- Research natural areas — There are no research natural areas in the project area.
- American Indians and Alaska Native religious or cultural sites No such sites are present in the project area.
- Archaeological sites, or historic properties or areas No such properties or areas were identified in the project area.

INTERESTED AND AFFECTED AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS AND PERSONS CONTACTED

This action was originally listed as a proposal on the Pike and San Isabel National Forests, Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands Schedule of Proposed Actions in September 2020 and updated periodically during the analysis.

FINDINGS REQUIRED BY OTHER LAWS AND CONSISTENCY WITH LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

This project is consistent with the Pike and San Isabel National Forests Land and Resource Management Plan as required by the National Forest Management Act. This project is also consistent with other laws and regulations.



APPEAL OPPORTUNITIES

This decision is not subject to appeal or objection.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW OPPORTUNITIES

This decision is not subject to administrative review!

IMPLEMENTATION DATE

This decision may be implemented immediately upon signature.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

For additional information concerning this decision, contact: John Baumchen, District Recreation/Lands/Minerals Program Manager, San Carlos Ranger District, 3028 East Main, Canon City, Colorado, 81212, 719-269-8702; john.baumchen@usda.gov.

Destiny C. Pman

1/31/2020

Destiny C Pman
District Ranger
San Carlos Ranger District
Pike and San Isabel National Forests
Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands

Date

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410# or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

¹ The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014 (PL. 113-76; January 17, 2014) directs that the 1992 and 2012 legislation establishing the 36 CFR 215 (post-decisional appeals) and 36 CFR 218 (pre-decisional objections) processes shall not apply to any project or activity implementing a land and resource management plan that is categorically excluded under NEPA. The Agricultural Act of 2014 (PL. 113-79; February 7, 2014) repealed the Appeals Reform Act (P.L. 102-381) and directs that the pre-decisional objection process established in the Consolidated Appropriation Act of 2012 shall not apply to categorically excluded projects or activities-

**APPENDIX A
PROJECT SPECIFIC DESIGN FEATURES**

The following design features are included in my decision and provide for consistency with the Forest Plan and other guidance. The design features will minimize potential effects to the applicable resources and will be incorporated into the trail development.

Soils, Hydrology, Engineering and Fisheries

- Avoid soil disturbing actions, such as trail building, during periods of heavy rain or wet soil.
- Do not operate equipment when conditions will result in rutting of soils.
- Ensure parking lot is properly compacted and free of debris. Ensure the fill slope of the parking lot is at a sustainable slope to reduce soil movement. Engineering plans for the final parking lot will be approved by USFS personnel (Roads Engineer, District Ranger) before construction is allowed to begin.
- Install erosion control as necessary to minimize erosion from the fill slope of the parking lot. This may involve the placement of erosion matting, wattles, slash, or other erosion control features. Revegetate slope as quickly as possible after construction. Erosion control will need to be applied and monitored until vegetation has been established on the fill slope. This may involve the installation of erosion control over several growing seasons.
- Snow will not be plowed over the edge of the parking lot if it has the potential to reach riparian vegetation. (Until the extent of the parking area is known it is hard to predict if this will happen.)
- Snow will be plowed so that there is no surface disturbance of the parking area and the drainage structures are not impacted. If the parking surface is removed, replace surfacing materials with similar quality material and repair damage as soon as practicable.
- Provide areas where water can flow through snow berm to avoid concentration of snowmelt runoff on fill slope, to dissipate water and to minimize sediment delivery to the stream.
- Discontinuing use of the parking area and snow removal when use would likely damage the parking surface or drainage features.
- Design the parking area so that the toe of the parking lot fill is at least 100 feet from the stream where possible.

Wildlife

- Avoid conducting vegetation treatment/cutting during the core nesting season (May 15 to July 15) for migratory birds such as the olive-sided flycatcher and Virginia's warbler in order to prevent nest destruction and/or mortality/injury to nesting birds. Alternatively, if conducting above vegetation removal activities within in the 5/15 to 7/15 window, conduct nest searches by a qualified wildlife biologist in any trees/shrubs to be removed

(one week or less prior to removal of them) to confirm no species such as olive-sided flycatcher, Virginia warbler, or other migratory birds are nesting in them.

Recreation

- Minimize private land conflicts by planning and signing for summer, camping and UTV use.

Attachment A



San Isabel National Forest

San Carlos Ranger District

Ophir Creek Snowmobile

Parking Lot Expansion Project

Custer County, Colorado

6th Principle Meridian

T. 23 S., R. 69 W., Sec 8



- Parking Lot
- National Forest
- Non-FS
- Roads Open To All Vehicles, Yearlong
- Roads Open To Highway Legal Vehicles Only, Seasonal



Map Disclaimer: This map is intended to depict physical features as they primarily appear on the ground and may not be used to determine the ownership, legal boundaries, legal jurisdiction, including jurisdiction over title or title or easement restrictions that may be in place on either public or private land. Obtain permission before entering private lands, and check with appropriate power toward officials for restrictions that may apply to public lands. Limits, roads and trails within the boundaries of the National Forest may be subject to restrictions on motor vehicle use. Obtain a Motor Vehicle Use Map or inquire at the local Forest Service Office for motor vehicle access information. Motor vehicle use or may not be depicted on the map, and user should exercise due caution. This map may not be suitable for navigation. For more information, contact the Pikes & San Isabel National Forest & Contreras National Public Lands Office, 11719/1551-1422.

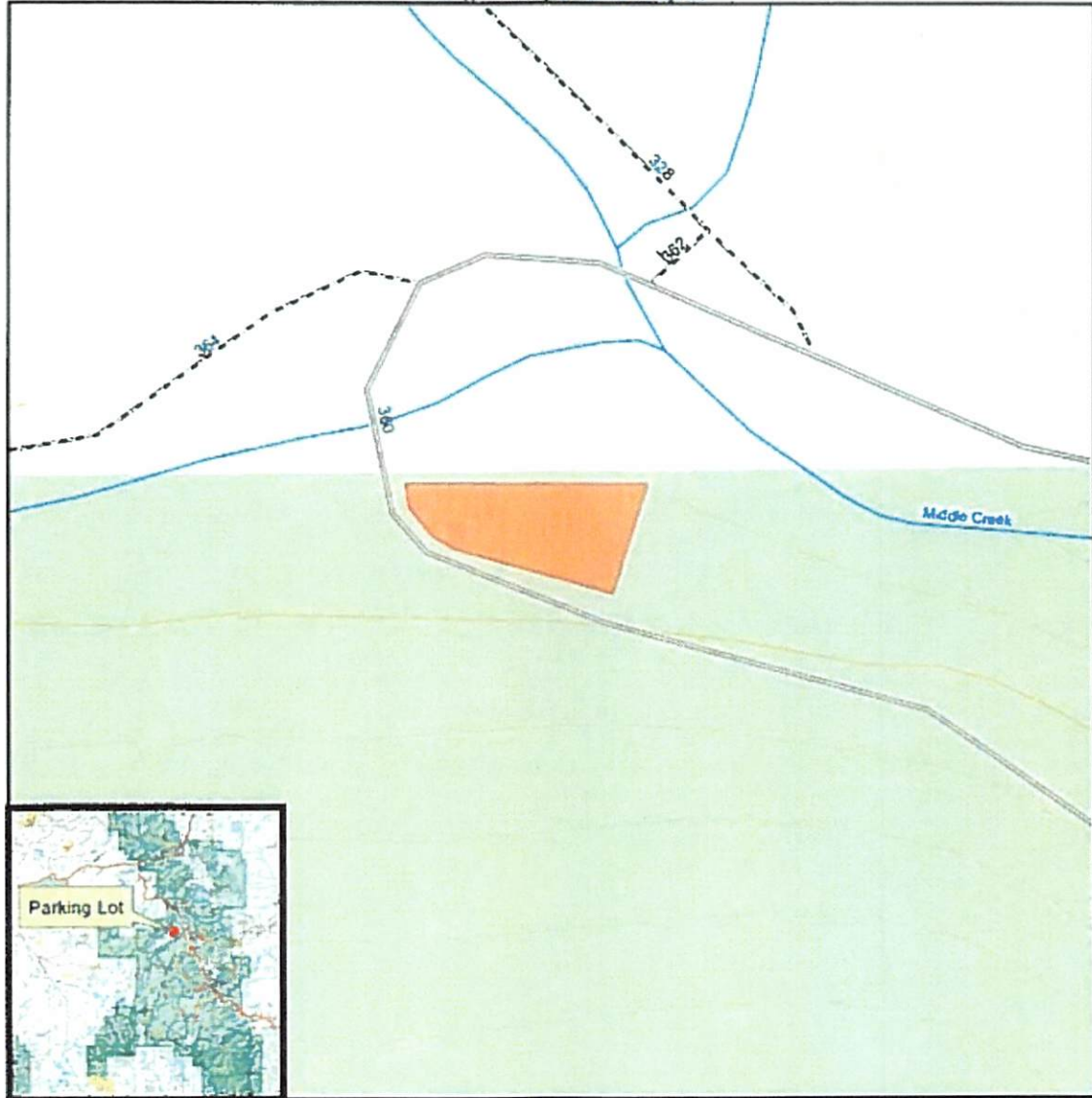
Map Creation Date 7/22/2020





Attachment B
San Isabel National Forest
San Carlos Ranger District
Ophir Creek Snowmobile
Parking Lot Expansion Project

Custer County, Colorado
6th Principle Meridian
T 23 S., R. 69 W., Sec 8



- Parking Lot
- National Forest
- Non-FS
- Roads Open To All Vehicles, Yearlong
- Roads Open To Highway Legal Vehicles Only, Seasonal



Map Disclaimer: This map is intended to depict physical features as they generally appear on the ground and may not be used to determine the ownership, legal boundaries, legal jurisdiction, including jurisdiction over roads or trails, or accurate coordinates that may be in place on either public or private land. Obtain permission before entering private lands, and check with appropriate government offices for restrictions. Part may apply to public lands. Lands roads and trails within the boundaries of the National Forest may be subject to restrictions on motor vehicle use. Obtain a Motor Vehicle Use Map or inquire at the local Forest Service Office for motor vehicle access information. Nature hazards may or may not be depicted on the map, and users should exercise due caution. This map may not be suitable for navigation. For more information, contact the U.S. San Isabel NF, Custer & Comanche Nat. Parks, CO 81143-1402.

Map Creation Date: 7/22/2020

D-1

PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

Carefully read and provide answers to each of the following four criteria (four page maximum):

All applicants must respond to the following selection criteria questions. You are allowed the space below each question to fill in your answer. If you have an answer that does not fill the entire page, do not feel obligated to fill the space. This application will be scored on a 100 point basis. The maximum number of points that can be awarded for each question is shown in parentheses. Each project will be reviewed by outside reviewers and State Trails staff, and projects will be ranked according to reviewer and staff scores. Failure to provide a response to any question (unless otherwise noted) will reduce your project's score. Please reference all attachments.

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

Describe the objectives of your project and how it will benefit, and protect riding opportunities while protecting resources in the project area. (**Use the following as a guideline for describing your project**)

- What specifically will the project accomplish?
Parking lot expansion for OHV, UTV/ATV, motorcycle and snowmobile parking. At this time depending on how people park their trailers you can only get approximately 4 to 5 vehicles and trailers in the parking lot before blocking other people in or blocking the road. Other people park on the road making it a one-way road. By expanding the parking lot, it will allow more spaces for vehicles and trailers. More people would use the trail system if there was adequate and sufficient parking.
- How will the project protect or improve riding opportunities?
With an expanded parking lot, it would keep people from parking on the natural landscape and damaging it with their vehicles and trailers.
- Will it provide essential maintenance to keep OHV riding opportunities available? Please describe maintenance history for this specific area.
Sangre Snowrunners Snowmobile Club maintains the trails year-round.
- Describe how this project will foster and promote a satisfactory and challenging riding opportunity for OHV enthusiasts?
More organized and safe trailhead for visiting OHV, ATV/UTV and motorcycles who can't find and/or get to the trailhead. By expanding the parking lot this encourages returning OHV visitors to enjoy the beauty of the trails.
- Why is this project a priority at this time?
By providing an expanding parking lot it prevents people from parking on county roads, private land and blocking driveways.
- Provide an estimate of how many and what types of OHV enthusiasts will benefit from the project?
An estimate of 50 to 100 people a week.
It will benefit surrounding counties, Custer, Pueblo, Fremont, El Paso and Huerfano.
This will benefit OHV, ATV/UTV and motorcyclist enthusiast.
- Describe how this project will provide long term value and sustainability?
Fight for Life had an issue finding an area to land on this summer, to pick up an injured person. An expanded parking lot would help in the event someone is injured in the future emergency responders. The parking lot area will be there for years to come for trail riders and first responders as a staging area and/or any event that would take place in the mountain area.

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

Provide evidence of support for this project from trail users, agencies, local governments, community groups, or individuals and attach letters or petitions to your application packet. Applicants need to demonstrate that the project has a broad spectrum of support. Letters from the following entities are encouraged: relevant political subdivisions with jurisdiction over the project area, conservation organizations, user groups who frequent the area, and community organizations. The program places a higher value on the quality of supporting correspondence submitted rather than the quantity of support letters received. **(Use the following as a guideline for describing your project)**

- Describe all agencies, groups, clubs or organizations who are partners on the project. Will the project utilize volunteers or youth group services?
US Forest Services is a partner of this project. Volunteers will be from the Sangre Snowrunners Snowmobile Club.
- Are you aware of any controversy this proposed project has caused, if at all, in the local community?
**Fremont Motorsports is endorsing the expansion of the parking lot area.
The Sangre Snowrunners Snowmobile Club are OHV, UTV, ATV and motorcycle enthusiasts that have trail rides year-round.**
- Create a narrative or a list that includes the amounts and sources of additional (non-grant) funds, in-kind services, materials, and any other items that will be used as leverage in your project:
 - Donations, contributions, materials and other ways that this project will be leveraged
 - Describe the types of funds that will be contributed to the project
 - Itemize any funds received from other grants or sources
 - Provide your total project cost, including the total amount of all grant funds, use of volunteers, donations, and any additional contributions mentioned in your narrative

The Sangre Snowrunners Snowmobile Club will provide labor and tools to remove trees and brush within the construction boundary. Also, provide labor and tools to place soil stabilization fabric, drainage socks, and seeding on finished slopes of the project and the signage for the trailhead. Estimated cost to be \$12,650.

The total estimate for the project including the grant is \$103,423.

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

(25 points):

Describe the principal objectives that will be accomplished by this project (e.g., new trail construction, trail relocation or major re-route, trail maintenance, restoration/rehabilitation or any other grant eligible activity). Include as many components as are applicable. Show how the project aids in the protection or improvement of the environment by addressing existing problems, and avoiding or minimizing impacts through the implementation of the project. ***(Use the following as a guideline for describing your project)***

- Will the project construct or improve drainage structures to prevent erosion or repair damage from excessive runoff, or harden and/or bridge stream crossings and wet areas?
Improve runoff and revegetate some areas that vehicles have been driving on.
- Describe any indirect benefits this project proposal will have on critical resources in the project area.
More OHV enthusiast visiting the area that would promote increased revenue for local business in Fremont, Custer and Pueblo counties when they are traveling to and from the trails.

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

Active and effective OHV management is based upon the implementation of travel management plans, broad public awareness, compliance, enforcement and providing adequate recreation opportunities. Describe how the project will promote active OHV management and improve OHV use for the benefit of public land visitors. To receive a full score of 25 points for this category the project must incorporate at least one of the following components. (**Use the following as a guideline for describing your project**)

Travel Management:

- Will this project employ one or more travel management measures such as educational tools, signage, control structures, methods to reduce conflicts among user groups, visitor contacts and/or increased compliance efforts to improve adherence to OHV regulations and designations? If so, explain those measures.
- Include information as to how the project will enhance and promote multiple-use trails.
- Will the project assist in monitoring or closing or rehabilitating off-trail, non-system OHV routes in compliance with TMPs or MVUMs or address damaged or closed routes pursuant to an MVUM? (e.g., repair, or the placement or replacement of signage, fencing, and trail barriers or reseeding, resurfacing, decommissioning, or re-contouring trails, etc.). If so, explain how.
- Describe how this project is consistent with the long-term plans of the land management agency with jurisdiction over the project area?

Education

- Describe the educational components of the project and how this will specifically benefit OHV riders, as well as other area visitors and residents. Note, the most effective educational efforts are those targeted to “on the ground” user education in the field encouraging responsible use through educational materials such as signs, brochures, maps, kiosks, and field contacts.

By expanding the parking area this would provide a permanent place for trail signs, map of trails and trail regulations.

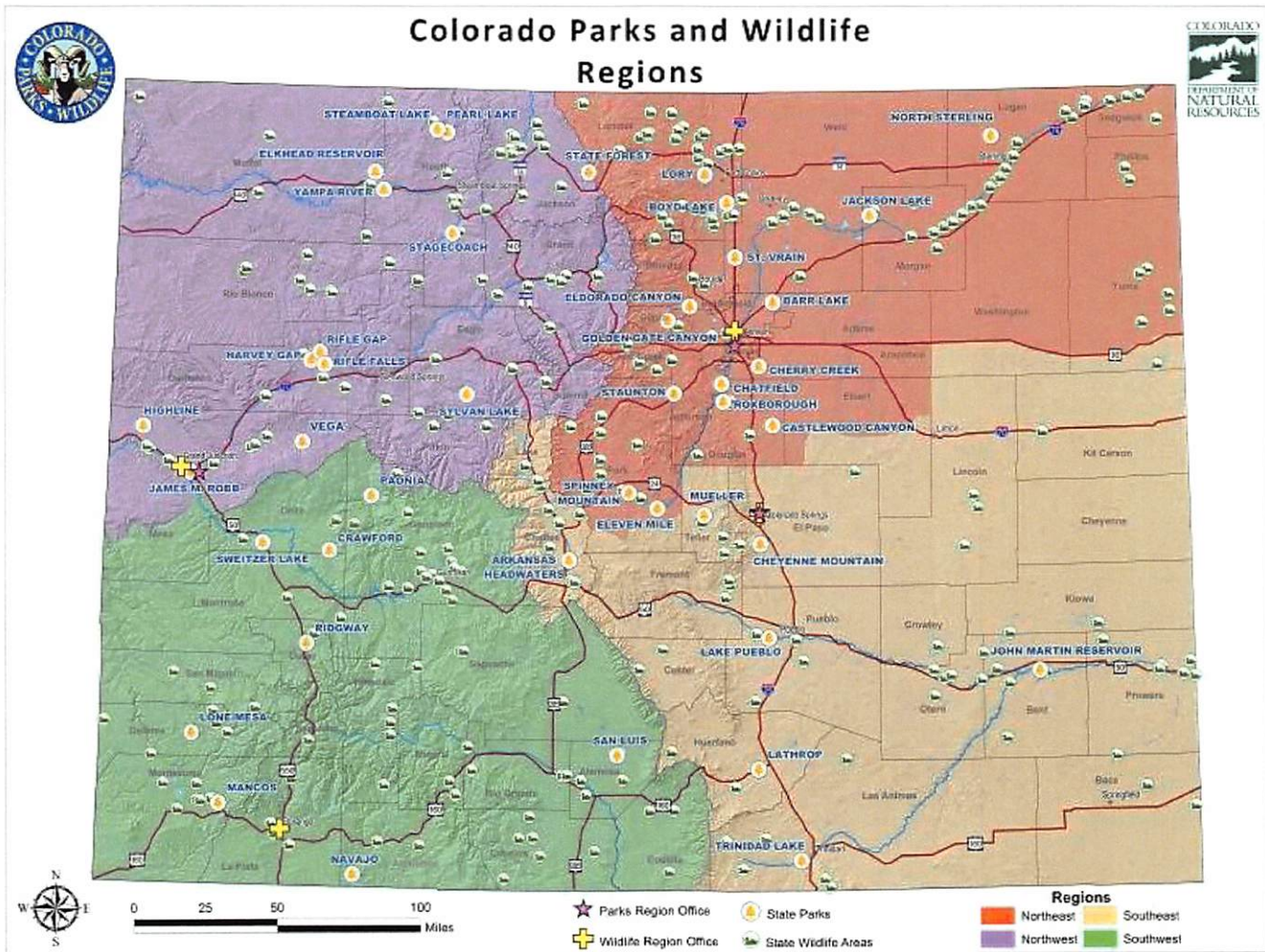
- Explain how this project will encourage responsible use through education.
By having posted signage for trail user to read so they can follow regulations for trail area.
- Does this project use or provide educational tools such as maps, signs, brochures, kiosks, or patrols to educate riders? If so, explain.
Yes, by using signage for trail users to read.

E-1 Vicinity Map & E-2 Project Site Maps

Maps being requested include:

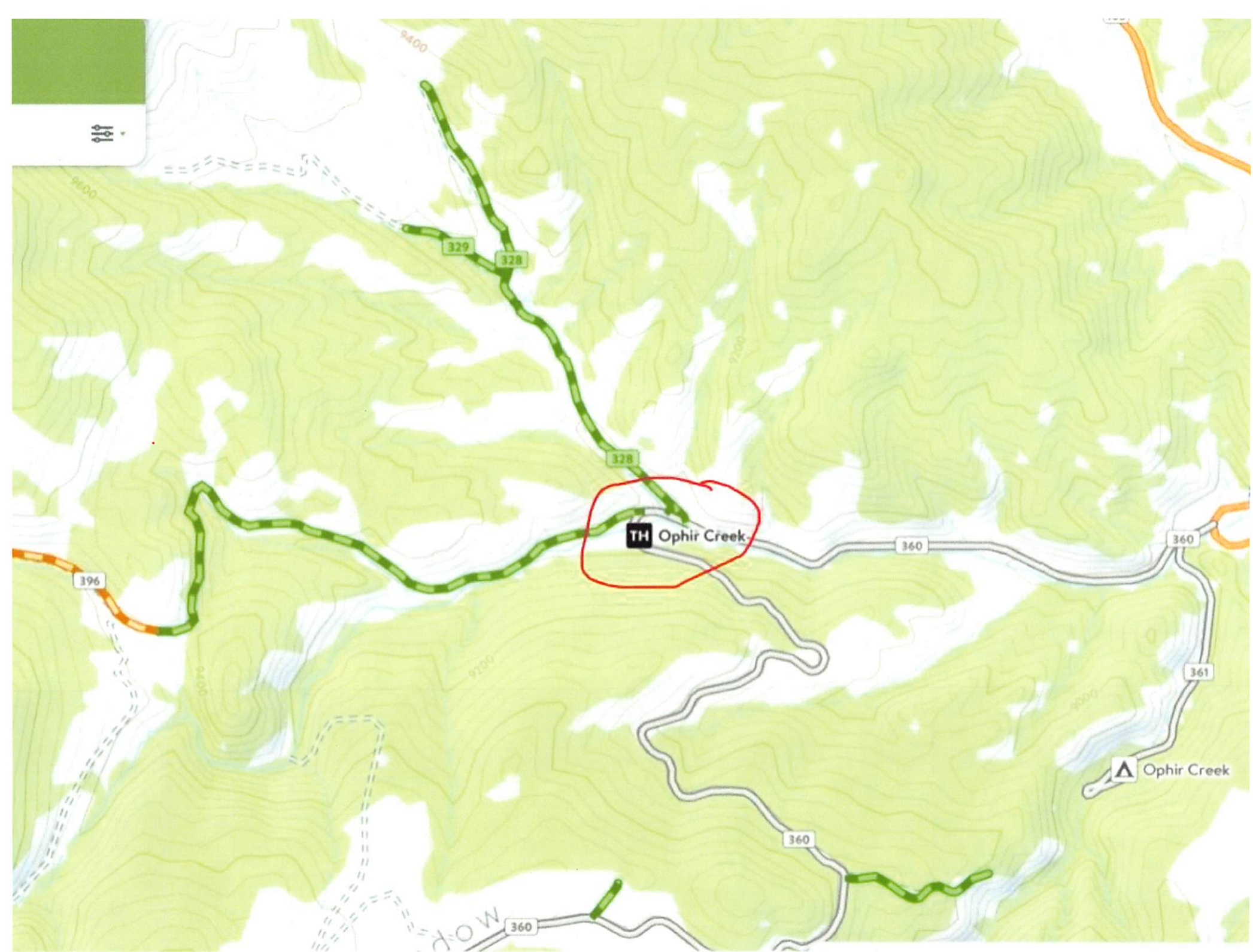
- “General area” (vicinity) map. (E-1)
- A drill-down of that map that shows the *specific* “project vicinity”. (E-2a)
- Another drill down map showing specific trails and/or work area (highlighted). (E-2b)

E-1 Vicinity Map: Please mark the vicinity where the project is located on the map below.



E-2 Project Maps: Please provide a map identifying the specific trail-work area or project site.
(Make 12 copies to include in your application packet)

1:24,000 scale map OR a Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM)
That clearly shows roads, trails, streams, management area boundaries, and other significant natural and developed features in the vicinity of the project.

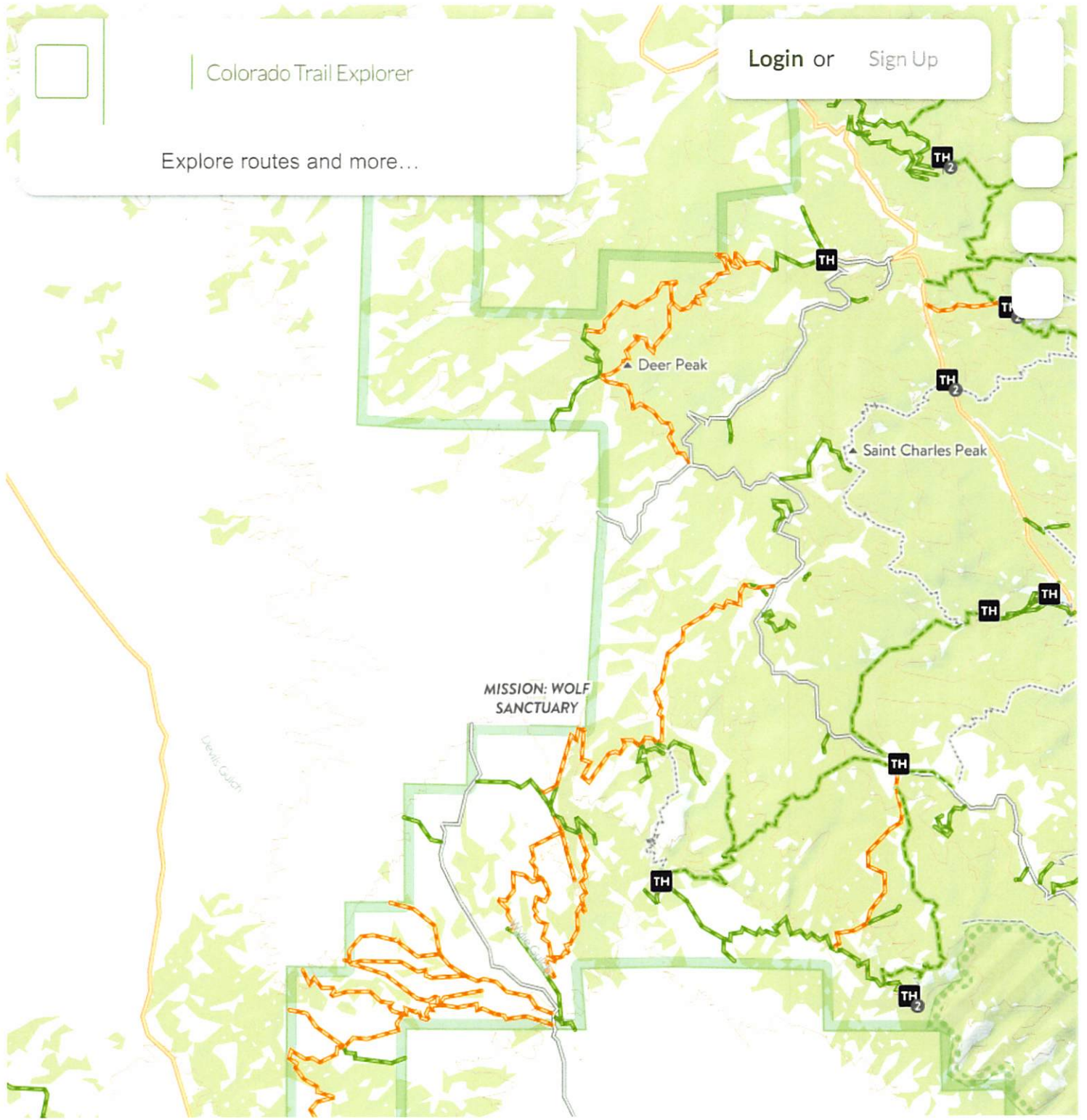




Colorado Trail Explorer

Explore routes and more...

Login or Sign Up



(F) Project Illustration

Photographs, Drawings, Engineering Plans, Diagrams

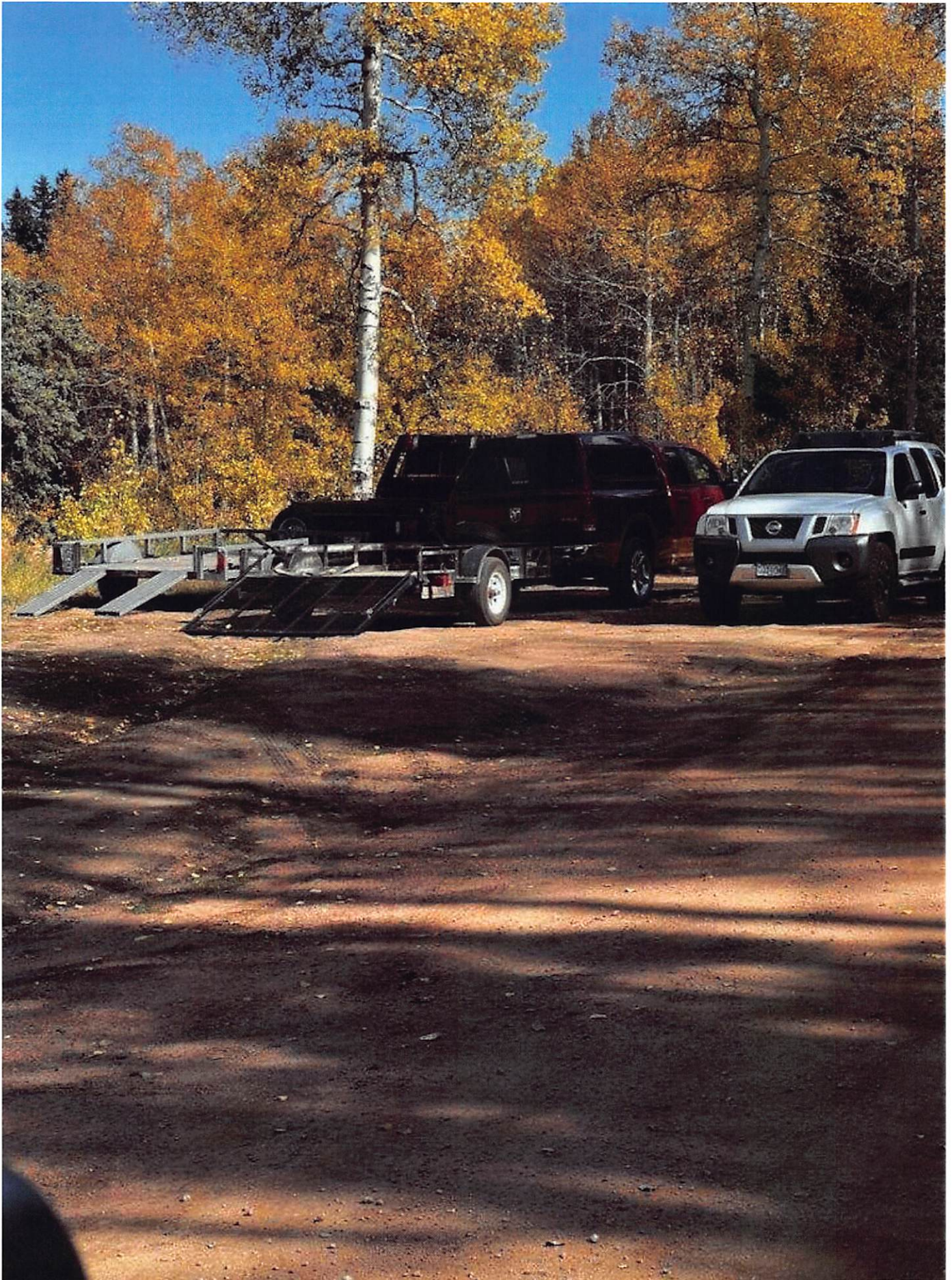
Provide project illustrations or photos to further demonstrate the needs of the project.

Items to consider including may be:

- Photos (4-6) of the project area or photos of another project's outcome that illustrates what you will do for this project





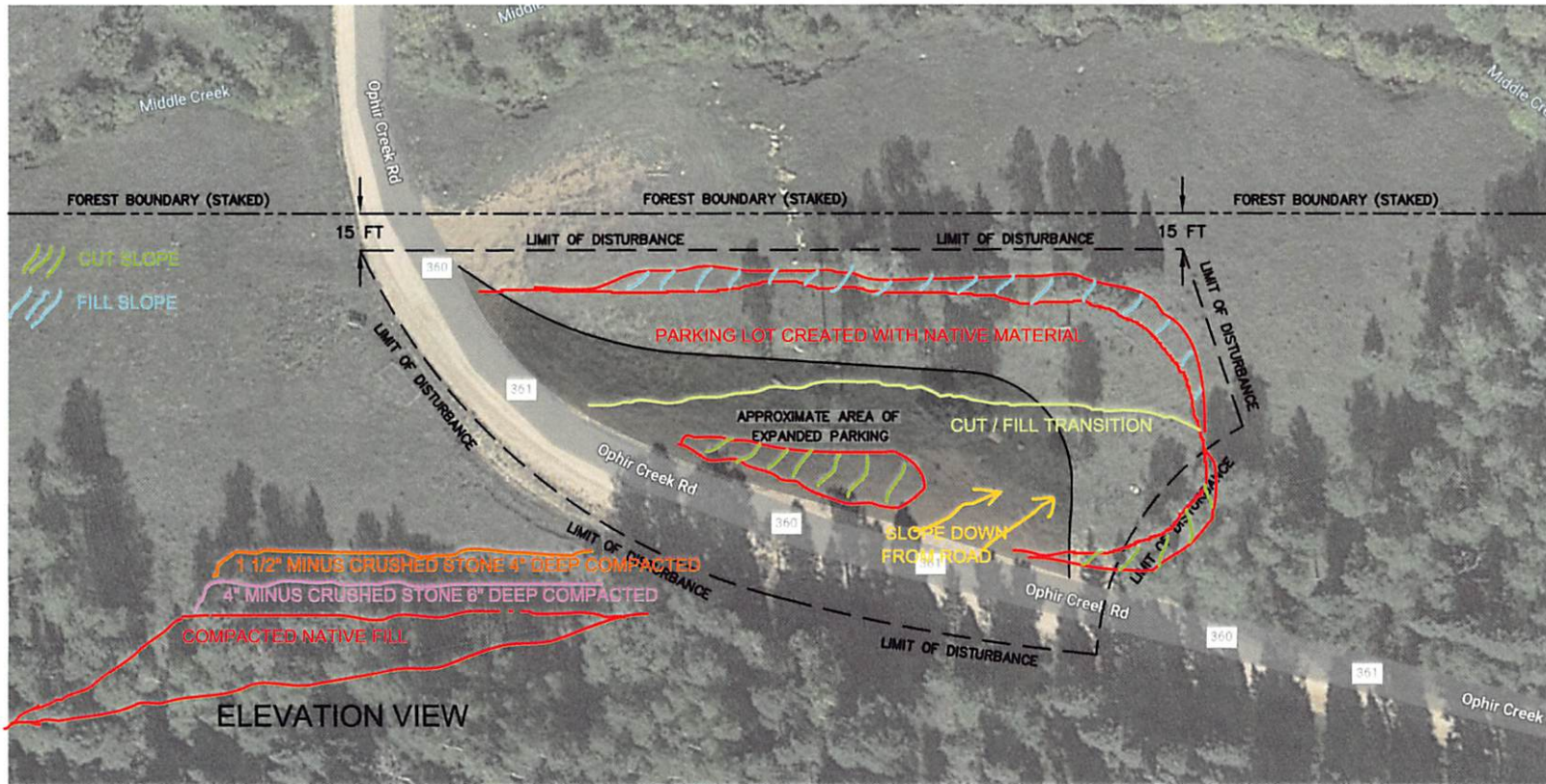




OHV riders from Wyoming visiting trailhead



- Engineering drawings of the project
[Attached](#)
- Diagrams/plans of the project
[Attached](#)



ELEVATION VIEW

NOT TO SCALE

SITE PLAN



CONSTRUCTION NOTES:

- ① EXISTING PARKING AND TURN-AROUND SURFACE MAY BE RE-GRADED AND SURFACED WITH ANY SURPLUS AGGREGATE
- ② AGGREGATE SURFACE COURSE SHALL BE COMPRISED OF A SIX INCH LIFT OF CLASS 5 AGGREGATE, EVENLY GRADED AND UNIFORMLY SLOPED
- ③ FILL MATERIAL BELOW AGGREGATE SURFACING MAY BE ANY SUITABLE INORGANIC FILL CONTAINING 20% CLAY MAX., COMPACTED TO 80% R.D.
- ④ GRUBBING SHALL INCLUDE REMOVAL OF ALL LIVING AND DEAD WOOD GREATER THAN 3 INCHES IN DIAMETER WHERE FILL IS TO BE PLACED. STUMPS SHALL BE CUT AS CLOSE TO FLUSH WITH THE GROUND AS POSSIBLE. RETAIN LIVING TREES WHERE FILL DEPTH IS LESS THAN 3 FT.
- ⑤ SLASH FROM GRUBBING SHALL BE SCATTERED ON TOP OF EROSION CONTROL MATTING ON FINISHED FILL SLOPES. THE MAJORITY OF SLASH SHALL BE PLACED PERPENDICULAR TO THE SLOPE, NOT MORE THAN 18 IN. DEEP. TRIM BRANCHES TO MAXIMIZE SOIL CONTACT WITH SLASH. SLASH EXCEEDING THE 18 IN. DEPTH MAY BE PILED IN THE BACK CORNER OF THE NEW PARKING AREA FOR BURNING BY THE PSICC.
- ⑥ EROSION MATTING SHALL BE INSTALLED ON ALL FILL SLOPES AND AREAS OF DISTURBED SOIL EXCEEDING 5 PERCENT SLOPE. EROSION MATTING SHALL BE JUTE OR OTHER NATURAL FIBER APPROVED BY THE PSICC, AND SHALL BE INSTALLED PER CDOT M-208-1.
- ⑦ TRAFFIC FLOW ALONG NFSR 360 SHALL NOT BE IMPEDED DURING ANY PART OF THIS WORK.



United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

PROJECT NAME

OPHIR CREEK EXPANDED PARKING AREA

SAN CARLOS
RANGER
DISTRICT

PIKE-SAN ISABEL
NATIONAL FORESTS &
CIMARRON AND
COMANCHE NATIONAL
GRASSLANDS (PSICC)

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION (R2)

DRAWING TITLE

SITE
PLAN

DATE

16 FEBRUARY 2022

ARCHIVE NO.

DESIGNER

A. KEENER

DWG SHEET NO.

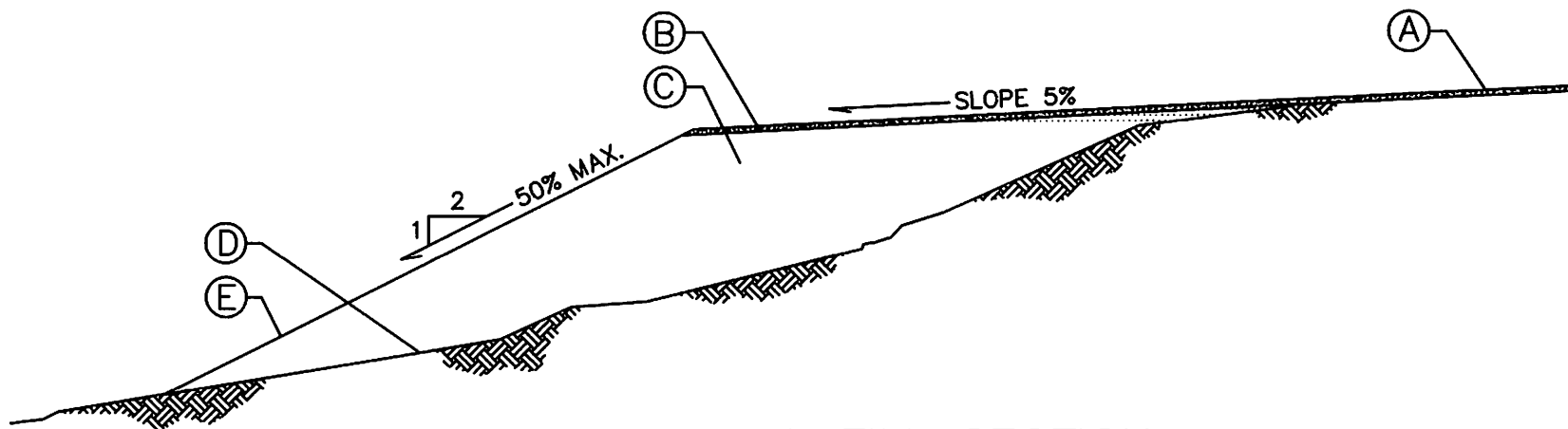
G-01

DRAWN

CHECKED

PROJECT NO.

SHEET 1 OF 4



TYPICAL FILL SECTION

KEYED NOTES:

- Ⓐ EXISTING PARKING SURFACE
- Ⓑ AGGREGATE SURFACE COURSE
- Ⓒ FILL MATERIAL
- Ⓓ GRUB SITE PRIOR TO FILLING
- Ⓔ INSTALL EROSION MATTING ACROSS ENTIRE FILL SLOPE

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS:

- MAX. MAXIMUM
- FT FEET
- NFSR NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM ROAD
- IN. INCHES
- R.D. RELATIVE DENSITY
- CDOT COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
- PSICC PIKE-SAN ISABEL NATIONAL FORESTS & CIMARRON AND COMANCHE NATIONAL GRASSLANDS

ESTIMATED PROJECT QUANTITIES

MATERIAL	QUANTITY	MATERIAL	QUANTITY
CLASS 5 AGGREGATE	135 TONS	JUTE EROSION BLANKET	3,000 FT ²
FILL MATERIAL	1,700 TONS	EROSION MESH STAPLES	2,600



United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

PROJECT NAME

**OPHIR CREEK
EXPANDED
PARKING AREA**

**SAN CARLOS
RANGER
DISTRICT**

**PIKE-SAN ISABEL
NATIONAL FORESTS &
CIMARRON AND
COMANCHE NATIONAL
GRASSLANDS (PSICC)**

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION (R2)

DRAWING TITLE

**TYPICAL FILL
SECTION AND
ESTIMATED
QUANTITIES**

DATE

16 FEBRUARY 2022

ARCHIVE NO.

DESIGNER
A. KEENER

DWG SHEET NO

G-02

DRAWN

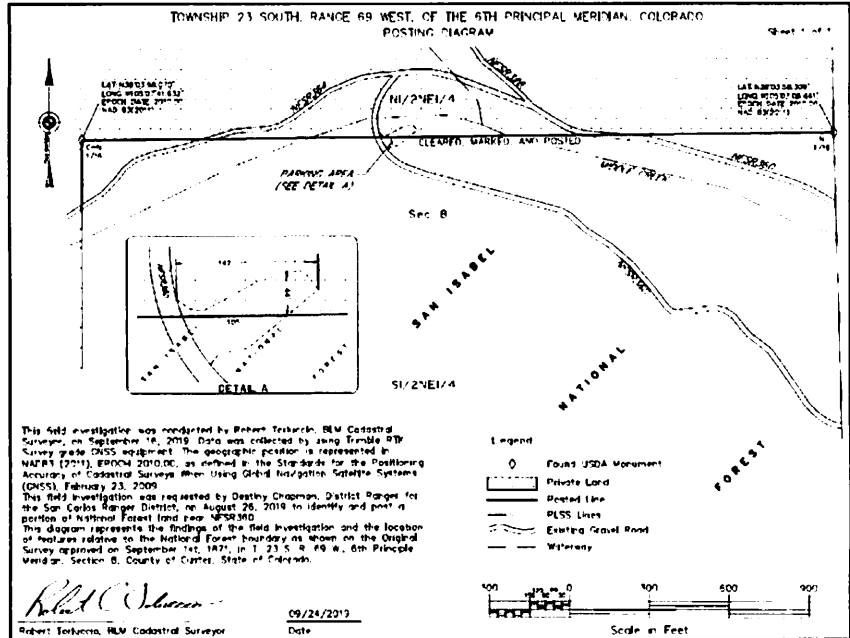
CHECKED

PROJECT NO

SHEET 2 OF 4

GENERAL NOTES:

- ① ALL WORK SHALL TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE LIMITS OF DISTURBANCE SHOWN ON SHEET G-01. SOILS AND VEGETATION OUTSIDE OF THESE LIMITS SHALL NOT BE DISTURBED.
- ② IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PARTY PURSUING AND EXECUTING THIS WORK TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE LAWS AND REGULATIONS. IN PARTICULAR, THE PROVISIONS OF 29 C.F.R. 1904 AND 1926 (OSHA) FOR WORKER AND PUBLIC SAFETY, AND THE MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE STANDARDS (MUTCD) FOR SIGNAGE AND VEHICLE CONTROLS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY ALONG THE TRAVELED WAY OF NFSR 360. THE PARTY PURSUING THIS WORK SHALL PROVIDE THE PSICC A TRAFFIC CONTROL PLAN FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL NO LESS THAN 14 CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO BEGINNING ANY WORK ON SITE.
- ③ THESE DOCUMENTS ARE PROVIDED TO ASSIST THE PURSUING PARTY IN PROCURING FUNDS AND RESOURCES, AND TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC INTEREST. THESE DOCUMENTS ARE NOT INTENDED AS A BASIS FOR CONTRACT OR TO SERVE AS CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS. IT SHALL BE THE DUTY OF THE PURSUING PARTY TO COORDINATE ALL ACTIVITIES NECESSARY FOR COMPLETION OF THE WORK.
- ④ IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF THE WORK, OR AT THE ONSET OF ANY DELAY IN WORK EXCEEDING 14 DAYS, THE PURSUING PARTY SHALL CLEAN-UP THE SITE TO ALLOW FOR ALL PUBLIC USES, AND SHALL DEMOBILIZE EQUIPMENT.
- ⑤ THE PURSUING PARTY SHALL PROTECT AND INDEMNIFY THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS REPRESENTATIVES FROM ANY DISPUTE OR VIOLATION.
- ⑥ IT SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PURSUING PARTY TO PROPERLY IDENTIFY AND RESPECT ALL PROPERTY BOUNDARIES.
- ⑦ THE PURSUING PARTY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR LOCATING AND PROTECTING ALL UTILITIES ON AND AROUND THE SITE.
- ⑧ DURING THE COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION, THE PURSUING PARTY SHALL MONITOR PROGRESS AND ADJUST MATERIAL ORDERS ACCORDINGLY.



United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

PROJECT NAME

**OPHIR CREEK
EXPANDED
PARKING AREA**

**SAN CARLOS
RANGER
DISTRICT**

**PIKE-SAN ISABEL
NATIONAL FORESTS &
CIMARRON AND
COMANCHE NATIONAL
GRASSLANDS (PSICC)**

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION (R2)

DRAWING TITLE

**GENERAL NOTES
AND SURVEY**

DATE

16 FEBRUARY 2022

ARCHIVE NO

DESIGNER

A. KEENER

DWG SHEET NO

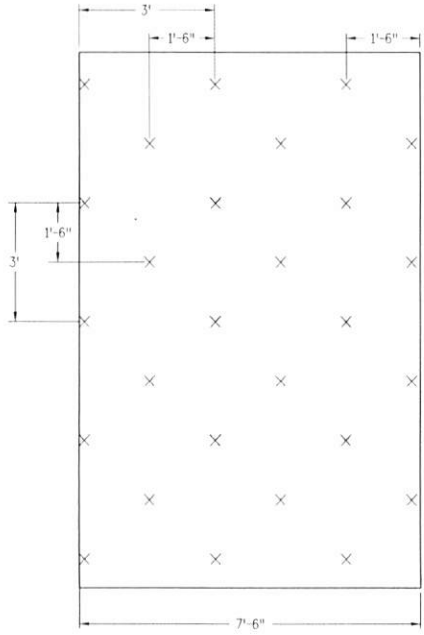
G-03

DRAWN

CHECKED

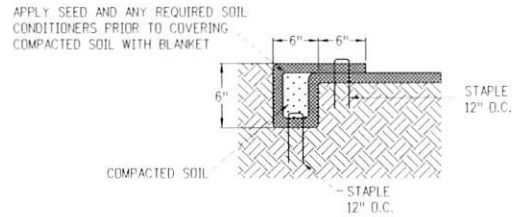
PROJECT NO

SHEET 3 OF 4



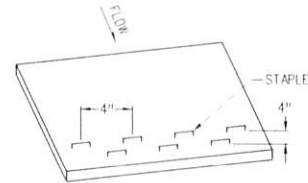
TYPICAL STAPLE PATTERN FOR SLOPE APPLICATION

SEE SUBSECTION 216.04.



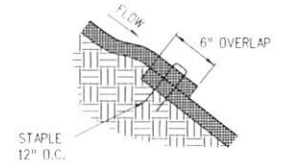
ANCHOR TRENCH SECTION (A)

TO BE USED AT THE UPSLOPE AND DOWNSLOPE ENDS OF BLANKET ACROSS THE ENTIRE WIDTH OF SLOPE UNLESS SLOPE RUNS INTO RECEIVING WATER. (SEE DOWNSLOPE END STAPLE CHECK).



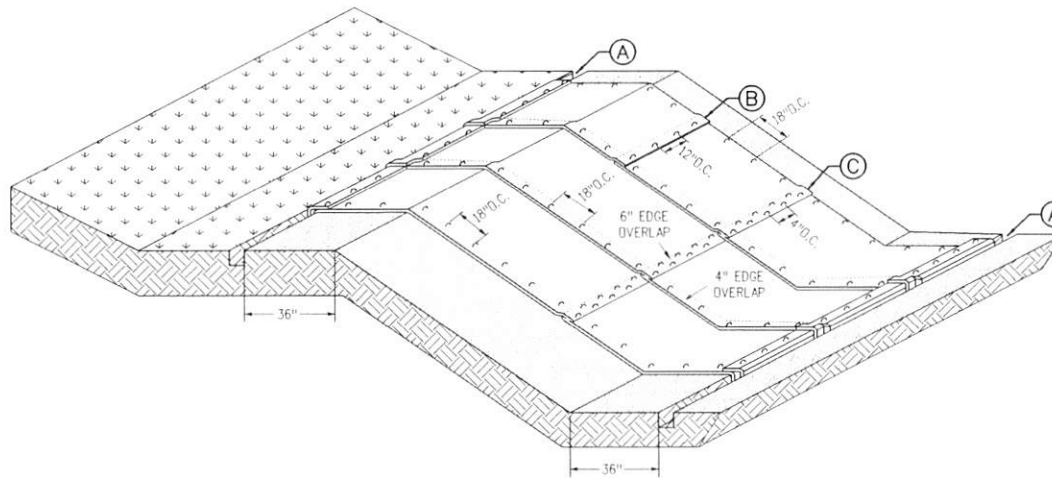
DOWNSLOPE END STAPLE CHECK

TO BE USED WHEN SLOPE RUNS INTO A RECEIVING WATER AND CANNOT BE EXTENDED 3 FEET BEYOND SLOPE.



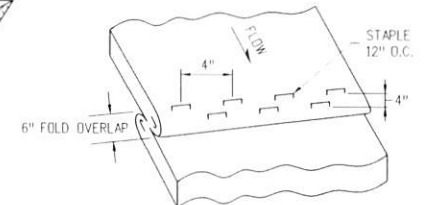
CONSECUTIVE ROLL OVERLAP SECTION (B)

TO BE USED WHEREVER ONE ROLL OF BLANKET ENDS AND ANOTHER BEGINS WITH THE UPHILL BLANKET PLACED ON TOP OF THE BLANKET ON THE DOWNHILL SIDE.



SOIL RETENTION BLANKETS/TURF REINFORCEMENT MATS (TRM) SLOPE APPLICATION

IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 216.



STAPLE CHECK SECTION (C)

NOTES:

1. Z SHAPED FOLD TO BE USED ON SLOPE EVERY 35 FEET MAXIMUM.
2. STAPLE CHECK LOCATIONS SHOULD BE AT LEAST 15 FEET FROM THE BOTTOM OF SLOPE.

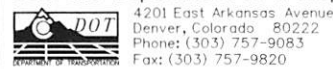
Computer File Information

Creation Date: 07/04/12	Initials: DD
Last Modification Date: 07/04/12	Initials: LTA
Full Path: www.coloradodot.info/business/designsupport	
Drawing File Name: 2080105012.dgn	
AD Ver.: MicroStation V8	Scale: Not to Scale
	Units: English

Sheet Revisions

Date	Comments

Colorado Department of Transportation



Project Development Branch DD/LTA

TEMPORARY EROSION CONTROL

Issued By: Project Development Branch on July 4, 2012

STANDARD PLAN NO.

M-208-1

Sheet No. 5 of 12

(G) Letters of Project Support

Provide up to six (6) letters of support from entities that are supporting the project in ways other than cash or in-kind contributions. Letters should come from at least three of the categories listed below. Letters must be current, and must document the need and demand for the proposed project. Please note, identically worded form letters do not sufficiently fulfill this requirement. All letters must be included with the application. Letters mailed directly to the State Trails Program will not be accepted as letters of support for the application, rather they will be treated as public comments on the project as proposed.

- Adjacent land owners
- Federal, county, city and private land owners
- Individual users or user groups
- Partners and/or cooperators

FREMONT Motorsports

Fremont Motorsports
600 E. Main
Florence, CO 81226
719-784-9633

11/15/2023

Dear Colorado State Parks Dept,

I am writing to express our strong support of the much needed make over at the Ophir Creek Trail Head on behalf of Fremont Motorsports. Fremont Motorsports is the only Powersports Dealer selling New Motorcycles, ATV's and Side by Sides serving both Fremont and Custer County.

Our local trail riding areas are of great importance to not only our business, but all local businesses located around them. Everything from Gas Stations, Restaurants, Grocery Stores and many other locally owned small businesses profit from the riders brought to us by these trail riding area's.

The Ophir Creek trail riding area is a very unique trail system due to its diversity. During the summer it accommodates ATV's, Side by Sides, Off-Road Motorcycles, Hikers, Bikers and many more. In the Winter season it can accommodate Snowmobiling, Nordic Skiing, Snowshoeing and many other winter activities. Since the Covid Pandemic we have seen a huge spike in all off-road enthusiasts which has put a great strain on the parking/trail head area's of our local riding trails. Ophir Creek is a prime example that if someone comes to visit the riding area but has no where to park, cant get to the trail head or any other issues they may not come back. Any funds to fix some of the issues this fantastic riding area has would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Ryan Lawson

Ryan Lawson

*Sangre Snowrunners
Snowmobile Club*

Colorado State Parks
Attn: Tom Metsa
OHV Program Manager
13787 S. Hwy 85
Littleton, CO 81025

RE: OPHIR CREEK PARKING LOT EXPANSION PROJECT.

I am writing this letter of support for The Sangre Snowrunners Snowmobile Club in their grant application for the OPHIR CREEK PARKING LOT EXPANSION PROJECT.

The Sangre Snowrunners work hard year-round as a liaison between the motorized community & our local Forest Service & State Parks to keep areas open & work on an improved parking facility & trails.

As an outdoor enthusiast who utilizes the current parking lot area, I can tell you that it has become an increasingly problematic area with the parking of vehicles.

Without adequate parking during the winter there is not enough room for vehicles pulling trailers to turn around safely & for people trying to unload snowmobiles once they are already parked.

If a vehicle gets too close to the edge while trying to turn around, they end up getting stuck, blocking the whole area until they get help to free their vehicle.

This area is also popular with cross-country skiers & they are also trying to find a safe place to park.

This parking lot is a multi-use sport parking area 365 days of the year.

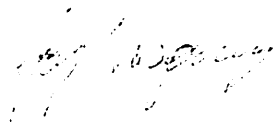
It is a popular recreational area for hikers, equestrians, OHV users, hunters, & many others who all use the current parking lot & are facing the same problems.

With the expanded parking lot area, this will be a safer, larger area for all outdoor enthusiasts & their vehicles year-round!

I value the relationship between the Sangre Snowrunners, the Forest Service & the Colorado State Parks for without a genuine partnership, we would not be able to enjoy our favorite recreation area!

I highly support Sangre Snowrunners Snowmobile Club in their grant application for the OPHIR CREEK PARKING LOT EXPANSION PROJECT.

Sincerely,



Forestdale Ranch
1400 County Road 364
Wetmore CO 81253

November 27, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: Support Letter for Sangres Snowrunners Grant application Parking Area

The parking lot expansion project for the Ophir Creek area at the junction of 360 and 364 would help prevent outdoor enthusiasts from blocking our access to and from our residence on 364 which is a one lane road. We live at our residence year-round which outdoor enthusiasts may not realize.

It would also reduce the vehicle trailer traffic on the one lane road to our residence.

This improvement would be more convenient for the recreationalist by allowing an easy space to load and unload ATVs, UTVs and Snowmobiles in a safe area to turn around.

Thank you for considering this improvement in the Ophir Creek Recreational Area.

Scott and Sue Schoultz
Forestdale Ranch
P.O. Box 14
1400 County Road 364
Wetmore CO 81253
303-979-6074

*Sangre Snowrunners
Snowmobile Club*

Colorado State Parks
Attn: Tom Metsa
OHV Program Manager
13787 S. Hwy 85
Littleton, CO 81025

RE: OPHIR CREEK PARKING LOT EXPANSION PROJECT.

I am writing this letter of support for The Sangre Snowrunners Snowmobile Club in their grant application for the OPHIR CREEK PARKING LOT EXPANSION PROJECT.

The Sangre Snowrunners work hard year-round as a liaison between the motorized community & our local Forest Service & State Parks to keep areas open & work on an improved parking facility & trails.

As an outdoor enthusiast who utilizes the current parking lot area, I can tell you that it has become an increasingly problematic area with the parking of vehicles.

Without adequate parking during the winter there is not enough room for vehicles pulling trailers to turn around safely & for people trying to unload snowmobiles once they are already parked. If a vehicle gets too close to the edge while trying to turn around, they end up getting stuck, blocking the whole area until they get help to free their vehicle. This area is also popular with cross-country skiers & they are also trying to find a safe place to park.

This parking lot is a multi-use sport parking area 365 days of the year. It is a popular recreational area for hikers, equestrians, OHV users, hunters, & many others who all use the current parking lot & are facing the same problems.

With the expanded parking lot area, this will be a safer, larger area for all outdoor enthusiasts & their vehicles year-round!

I value the relationship between the Sangre Snowrunners, the Forest Service & the Colorado State Parks for without a genuine partnership, we would not be able to enjoy our favorite recreation area! I highly support Sangre Snowrunners Snowmobile Club in their grant application for the OPHIR CREEK PARKING LOT EXPANSION PROJECT.

Sincerely,



11/22/2023

Colorado State Parks Department

I am writing you today in regards to the Ophir Creek Trailhead. As a small business serving Southern Colorado offering outdoor recreational vehicles, I'd like to share the impact of serving this off highway population:

The Ophir Creek Trailhead is a popular destination for local, state and out of state enthusiasts. As you know it's accessed from the Pueblo, Florence, and Colorado City gateways that all enjoy robust restaurant, hotel, sundry and many other types of commerce from these enthusiasts. The O C T is very highly regarded and known for all types of outdoor recreationist getting along and enjoying the great Colorado outdoors

My concern is the parking area could possibly send the enthusiasts elsewhere as parking is very limited, affected greatly by weather, and not easily understood where someone arriving for the first time should park

I highly recommend that this commerce gateway is supported with a parking improvement project. Not only will it relieve congestion with some clear parking areas for all types of recreation, it would be an investment in the communities that serve this portion of Colorado creating easy off road access helps everyone when looking for opportunity to enjoy our great state

If you have any questions or if there is anything I could provide, please contact me at your convenience

Thank you.

Jeremy Hamm
Owner
SoCo Powersports, LLC
719-252-4624 Cell
jeremyhamm@esolon.com

SoCo Powersports, LLC

Tel 719-545-5490

4106 Outlook Blvd
Pueblo, CO 81008

www.socopowersports.com



File Code: 1580
Date: November 28, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Metsa:

The San Carlos Ranger District supports the Sangre Snowrunners Snowmobile Club's grant application to construct a larger parking area on National Forest System lands in the Ophir Creek area. The Sangre Snowrunners has had a special use permit with the San Carlos Ranger District for at least 20 years covering about 78 miles of trails and trail segments for snowmobile use and grooming in the Ophir Creek and Greenhorn area in Southern Colorado.

The Sangre Snowrunners has identified a need to improve the parking situation at the bottom of Ophir Creek Road (National Forest System Road 360) where snowmobilers park and take off from. These improvements are needed to alleviate congestion as space is limited but trucks and trailers seem to get larger each year. There are also safety concerns with the limited amount of parking space currently available. I signed a decision memo on November 30, 2020, that approved expansion of the existing parking area by approximately 0.5 acres. This expansion will help manage congestion of this parking area and will facilitate mitigation of safety concerns with parking in the current tight area during snowmobile season, and will also provide better parking opportunities for summer recreationists who may be accessing the Little Froze Road (National Forest System Road 364) via off-highway vehicles.

Sincerely,

DESTINY CHAPMAN
District Ranger



(H) Trail Crew Work Plan (Good Management or reoccurring crews)

Provide a trail crew work plan for the **2024 work season**

Consider including specific details, such as:

- List 5 of your most important goals for this work season
 - 1) Expansion of park lot.
 - 2) Designated signage area.
 - 3) Improvement of water drainage.
 - 4) Revegetation of work corridor.
 - 5) Resurface of parking lot.
- Anticipated work the crew will be focused on (e.g. clearing corridor, building drainage systems, tread repair, turnpike repair, etc.)
Working with contractor on EPA regulations and placement of signage.
- Planned location/names of the trails the crew will work on
Ophir Creek Trail parking lot.
- Time of year you anticipate the work will be done
Project should be completed end of summer or fall of 2024 if funds are available then.
- Planned volunteer workdays/events
Coordinated with contractor.
- Collaboration efforts with OHV user groups / partners (involvement with potential projects)
At this point only the Sangre Snowrunners Snowmobile Club is participating in the project at this point in time.
- Describe any issues encountered during the 2023 season and your plan to overcome them
No issues other than the weather.